



CONFERENCE OF INGOs  
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONFERENCE DES OING DU  
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**AUTUMN SESSION**  
**SUSTAINABLE TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
CONF/TER(2008)SYN1

Strasbourg, 30 November 2008

**SYNOPSIS**

**OF THE MEETING ON 2 OCTOBER 2008**

**FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SUSTAINABLE TERRITORIAL  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The Sustainable Territorial Development Committee of the Conference of INGOs, meeting in Strasbourg on 2 October 2008, with Gérard Gréneron, European Council of Police Trade Unions (CESP), Vice-President of the Conference of INGOs, in the Chair, followed by Anne-Marie Chavanon, International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP), who was elected Chair during the meeting:

- **Adopted** the agenda of the meeting as it stood;
- **Appointed** two rapporteurs: Michèle Muhlmann Weill, European Democracy Forum, and Michel Julien, European Committee for Home-based Priority Action for the Child and the Family (EUROCEF), Chair of the Europe and Global Challenges Transversal Group.

**1. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair**

- **Appointed** two assessors to supervise the voting procedure: Marie-Pierre Magnillat, European Federation of Schools (FEDE), and Anna Rurka, European Committee for Home-based Priority Action for the Child and the Family (EUROCEF);
- **Elected**
  - o Anne-Marie Chavanon, International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP), **Chair**;
  - o Georg Mäschtig, European Association for Geographers (EUROGEO), **Vice-Chair**.

**2. Topics and working procedures of the committees**

- In the light of guidelines proposed by Anne-Marie Chavanon, **discussed and approved** the key sustainable territorial development issues to be dealt with by the committee:
  - Combination of ecological, economic, social and cultural factors;
  - Systematic consideration of human rights (access to resources, etc);
  - Interaction and indivisibility of the various tiers and types of governance and regions/territories.
- **Took note** of the work done by the previous NGO-Towns and Countryside and Environment groupings (presentation by their respective chairs, Robert Lafont, International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP), and Patrice Collignon, International Association "Ruralty-Environment-Development" (RED);
- **Agreed** to carry forward the ongoing activities of these groupings and ensure their continued representation in the various Council of Europe bodies;
- **Approved** Patrice Collignon's call for "official committee to committee" consultation by the other pillars of the Council of Europe;
- **Acknowledged** the need expressed by Robert Lafont only to address issues with the formal commitment of rapporteurs;

- **Requested** access to the working documents (restricted extranet) of the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress, which was needed for the committee's opinions;
- **Was informed** of the procedure for setting up sub-committees and working groups, subject to consultation of the Standing Committee;
- **Took note** of the initial topics proposed by the members:
  - Human rights and the sustainable use of natural resources (access to drinking water, energy needs, GMOs, biofuels);
  - The use of space and the protection of the natural heritage;
  - The choice of alternative energy sources and the consequences (biofuels, renewable energy sources, etc);
  - The issues of mobility and transport, the need for administrative reorganisation of territory, etc;
  - Environmental impacts on health (urban pollution, spatial planning, etc);
  - Human ecology (production of domestic waste, erosion of biodiversity, etc);
  - Education in sustainable development from primary school onwards;
  - Sustainable neighbourhoods, based on governance and the mobilisation of NGOs and residents, in particular in districts on the outskirts of major built-up areas, backing up European, national and local policies; local urban management and the dissemination of best practice in disadvantaged neighbourhoods;
  - Co-development.

### 3. Diary

- **Was informed** by Edith Wenger, European Environmental Bureau (EEB), of the possibility of taking part in the Parliaments for Water conference being held by the Parliamentary Assembly in Strasbourg on 6 November 2008.
- **Took note** of the invitation by Claude-Laurent Genty, International Confederation of Professional and Intellectual Workers (CITI), to a debate being held jointly, as part of the annual European week in Strasbourg, by the *Maison de l'Europe d'Alsace* and the *Café Babel*, on the subject of sustainable spatial development (at the *Artichaut* from 5 pm). Iamvi Totsi, International Confederation of Professional and Intellectual Workers (CITI), would represent her NGO and the Sustainable Territorial Development Committee at the meeting.

### 4. Appointment of representatives

- **Agreed**, pending the identification of members with new ranges of expertise within the committee, that it would be represented by:
  - o Robert Lafont at the CEMAT Symposium on the spatial dimension of human rights: a new culture of territory in Yerevan on 13 and 14 October and the 89th meeting of Senior Officials;
  - o Patrice Collignon in the activities concerning landscape to be conducted in 2008, in particular the conference of signatory states to the European Landscape Convention scheduled for March 2009;
  - o Edith Wenger at the Parliamentary Assembly's discussions to be held in Strasbourg on 6 November on the topic of Parliaments for Water;
  - o Anne-Marie Chavanon at the CDLR from 8 to 10 December and the Stakeholders' Platform for the Strategy on Innovation and Good Governance on 12 December;
  - o Edith Wenger and Patrice Collignon would take part, over the next three months, as representatives of the committee in all the activities at the other pillars in which they were already involved;
  - o Other representatives could be appointed as needs arose in between the meetings.

### 5. Agenda of the next meeting

- **Took note** that Agnès Nollinger, Secretary of the Parliamentary Assembly Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, and Marité Moras, Secretary of the Congress Committee on Sustainable Development, had already agreed to give presentations of the work of their two pillars, followed by an exchange of views. Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons (Directorate of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage) would also be invited to the same meeting or a subsequent one.

**6. Date of the next meeting:** Tuesday 27 January 2009, from 2.30 to 5.45 pm (Room 2)

Cc: President of the Conference of INGOs  
Members of the Standing Committee

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Secretary General of the Congress  
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of External Relations  
Director of Strategic Planning  
Director of Communication  
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights