



Expert Meeting on Landscape Management in the Mediterranean

(Dubrovnik, 8 -10 January 2006)

REPORT



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REPORT of the Expert Meeting on Landscape Management in the Mediterranean

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Background information

1. The diversity of Mediterranean landscapes contributes to local and regional identity, reflecting the past and present relationships between the man and his natural and built environment. Very rich cultural landscapes have been developed through many millennia when different human populations, cultures, and religions flourished around the Mediterranean and developed coastal landscapes as a result of land transformations in order to produce food, build living habitats, art, etc. Nowadays, however, increasing threats to cultural identity, heritage and landscape diversity of the region due to external (e.g. globalisation) and internal factors (e.g. rapid urbanisation of coastal areas with consequent impacts on traditional socio-economic structures) can be witnessed constantly. As a result, natural and cultural (man-made) landscapes have deteriorated significantly in several coastal areas.

2. The Barcelona Convention states that "Contracting Parties shall commit themselves to promote the integrated management of coastal zones, taking into account the protection of areas of ecological and landscape interest and the rational use of natural resources." Also, other implementation documents put landscape management as an objective, such as MAP Phase II Action Plan and Priority Fields of Activities (1995), where countries commit themselves "to promote nature, and protect and enhance sites and landscapes of ecological or cultural values". A plethora of other international organisations have issued legal instruments having some bearing upon landscape, either directly or indirectly, such as UNESCO, Council of Europe, and EU. The European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, adopted in 2000) is the latest one entirely devoted to landscape, which has recently come into force.

3. Coastal landscapes of the Mediterranean have never been studied or elaborated in the MAP projects *per se*. Landscape was taken into account only indirectly, through proposals of various documents (plans, strategies, programmes), in projects oriented to local level, such as Coastal Area Management Programme (CAMP), by using Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM) methodologies or by dealing with individual natural resources. However, the existing landscape-specific methodologies and concepts (such as landscape planning, vulnerability studies, and landscape characterisation) have not been introduced or taken into account. Also, knowledge of the landscape typology, i.e. variety of landscapes, is not adequate, nor are the main processes and forces influencing their transformation.

4. In order to bridge this gap, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, at their Ordinary Meeting in Catania in 2003, adopted the recommendation 'to undertake thematic studies with a view to developing relevant guidelines and action plans on the issue of coastal land and sea environment and the utilisation of its resources'. i.e. landscape management. The activity entitled "Landscape Management in the Mediterranean" is co-ordinated by PAP/RAC in the framework of ICAM. As a first step to meet the above request, PAP/RAC decided to organise an expert meeting.

5. Prior to this meeting two position papers were commissioned as background documents in order to:

- propose activities related to landscape management in the Mediterranean coastal areas, i.e. to prepare a sort of a policy paper to guide PAP/RAC in dealing with this topic (long-term ideas/philosophy on how to initiate/integrate landscape management as a MAP activity); and

- identify current landscape management practices in the Mediterranean and the main landscape types in order to get an overview of the situation of the Mediterranean coastal landscapes.
6. The two position papers prepared and distributed to the participants before the meeting are the following:
- Mediterranean Landscapes: A contribution to a better management; prepared by Mr. D. Ogrin, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, and
 - Mediterranean Coastal Landscapes; Management Practices, Typology and Sustainability; prepared by Mr. I.N. Vogiatzakis, G.H. Griffiths, L.F. Cassar and S. Morse, University of Reading, UK.
7. The meeting was held in the premises of the University of Zagreb, Centre for Advanced Academic Studies in Dubrovnik, Croatia, from January 8 to 10, 2006.

Participation

8. The workshop was attended by 17 participants from 8 countries: Albania, Croatia, France, Israel, Italy, Malta, Slovenia and UK. A complete list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.
9. The day prior to the official opening of the meeting a field trip was organised in order to introduce to the participants the main features of the coastal landscapes of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, as well as to present the main issues related to their protection, management and development. The participants had the opportunity to visit the bay of Rijeka Dubrovacka and the very rich cultural heritage related to summer villas of the Dubrovnik aristocracy from the previous centuries, as well as the developments and urban sprawl that took place over the last 30 years of the 20th century in the bay. The coastal villages of Slano and Trsteno were the following sites visited, followed by the town of Ston with its spectacular, highly dynamic landscape, currently under various developmental proposals that may have detrimental effects if not planned carefully. The Peljesac peninsula was interesting for its rural character and agricultural areas related to terraces planted with olive groves and vineyards, or being abandoned and reforested by natural processes. The visit was guided by Ms. B. Martinovic-Vukovic from the Department for Physical Planning and Environmental Protection of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting and introduction

10. On behalf of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, Mr. Z. Kulisic, Deputy Prefect, warmly welcomed the participants to Dubrovnik and its county, and thanked the organisers for choosing Dubrovnik as the venue of this important meeting. He stressed the very rich natural and cultural landscapes of the region and especially of its coastal areas that are very important economic and ecological assets that the county puts a lot of interest in. On the other hand, he underlined the main problems and issues that the county is aware of and to which they try to put priority, such as the very heavy pressures on the coast from urban development and especially the tourism sector, forest fires, abandonment of vast agricultural areas and so forth. In addition to that he mentioned the recent war that had severely damaged many natural habitats, cultural heritage and other assets that the county still needs to regenerate. He concluded his welcome speech by wishing the participants a pleasant stay in the town and success in the meeting.
11. Mr. I. Trumbic, Director of PAP/RAC, welcomed the participants to the expert meeting and wished them successful discussions during this important meeting that should trace the path for the new 'priority action' in the framework of ICAM at PAP/RAC. He briefly introduced the Centre and its main projects, with a particular reference to the ICAM Protocol, under preparation, which

should provide the legal base for better management of coastal areas in the Mediterranean region. He stressed the importance of landscape management in this regard and mentioned the two position papers that had been prepared before the meeting in order to guide the discussions. Mr. Trumbic, chairman of the first day of the meeting, concluded by introducing the proposed agenda of the meeting, which was adopted as presented in the Annex II of this report.

Agenda item 2: Background and Position Papers

12. Mr. M. Prem, Deputy Director of PAP/RAC, gave a presentation on the background to the landscape management activity of PAP/RAC. In the first part he introduced the organisational structure of the Mediterranean Action Plan and the role of PAP/RAC in this frame. He mentioned the main projects PAP/RAC deals with, such as the methodological component, specific studies related to ICAM, Coastal Areas Management Programme (CAMP), with examples of concrete project in recent years, and the main milestones of the ICAM Protocol. In the second part he focussed on landscape management, the rationale for the introduction of this activity in PAP/RAC, the steps undertaken until the meeting. He concluded by presenting the main objectives of the meeting. The objectives of the meeting were to present and discuss the position papers with a view of their relevance for launching the landscape management activity; to get an overview of landscape planning methodologies, tools, concepts and case studies; and to discuss and propose concrete activities for landscape management activity in the Mediterranean coastal areas.

13. The first position paper, entitled "Mediterranean Landscapes: A contribution to a better management" was prepared and presented by Mr. D. Ogrin, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. In the introduction he expressed acknowledgements to PAP/RAC and his hopes that this activity would be successfully realised. Also, he pointed out that landscapes were among the most important assets of the Mediterranean and, among the main problems, he was convinced that there was lack of common understanding of the concept of landscapes among the Mediterranean societies, as well as the current land development leading into landscape deterioration. After explaining the structure of the report he showed examples of the general landscape typology of the region and the main generators of landscape deterioration. Among these he gave examples of abandonment and modernisation of agriculture, development of tourism and uncontrolled urban development. With regard to methodologies he introduced a scheme for an integrated planning procedure as a generally accepted landscape planning methodology. He concluded by elaborating some examples of sustainable development models for the modernisation of agriculture, and by showing some examples of simulations of agricultural reconstruction, as well as some good and bad examples of tourism development.

14. Mr. I. Vogiatzakis, University of Reading, UK, presented the second position paper "Mediterranean Coastal Landscapes; Management Practices, Typology and Sustainability". In the introduction he elaborated on the main characteristics of the Mediterranean region, its coastal areas in particular. He spoke about the growing concern about the quality of landscapes and the increasing realisation of the need to manage all landscapes, not just those 'valuable' or beautiful. Among the needs in landscape management he underlined the need to develop tools that would improve our understanding of the processes operating at the scale of the coastal landscape, such as the definition of the spatial boundaries of coastal landscapes, development of a landscape typology, and the link between landscape types and sustainability. Also, he elaborated on the definition of a coastal landscape, and introduced some case studies related to landscape typology and sustainability, presented in more detail by the speaker to follow. Mr. Vogiatzakis concluded his presentation by presenting some of the most evident issues and malpractice related to the current landscape management, such as in agriculture, urban development, tourism, infrastructure and recreational activities.

15. Mr. L. Cassar, University of Reading, UK, a team member for the second position paper, demonstrated the practical application of the methodologies by showing three case studies: i) the Zouaraa in Tunisia where dunal system changes were studied, and where a dam construction and changes of hydrological regime resulted in dune instability and coastal erosion; ii) the Smir Lagoon in Morocco, an area comprised of a lagoon, coastal sand dunes and oued, where competing sectoral needs led to a dam construction, which induced changes in hydrology and consequently of the whole coastal landscape; and iii) the Collelungo in Sardinia, Italy, where the objective was to assess the state of health of the dunal landscape after the changes induced by afforestation with pine trees. This consequently resulted in a dune ridge regression and encroachment by pine forest. A participatory approach was applied.

16. In the discussion that followed three main issues were raised, namely the climate change, dunes, and the question of scale. With regard to the latter it was stressed that the issue of scale was very important at all stages of planning and management of landscapes, as it involves not only natural factors but socio-economic and cultural aspect as well. Also, it was added that the landscapes could be approached from a more general scale, such as regional, international or national and local. However, in any case it depends on the problem we intend to solve, and in most cases the scale within ICAM is mainly a subject of a local affair. With regard to a very sensitive landscape of dunes it was underlined that we need to apply a holistic approach whenever we plan changes in the landscapes, not only of this specific type; that understanding of eco- and socio-economic systems is crucial; and that EIA is not sufficient as instrument but SEA should also be applied. Whenever applicable, national legislation should be changed and amended to allow integration of landscape management in relevant procedures, such as land-use planning or land management. Climate change is recognised as a serious natural and man induced long-term process that will likely affect mostly the coastal landscapes. Therefore, the planning models should take into account this fact and anticipate possible changes to be adequately integrated into development alternatives.

Agenda item 3: Methodologies, tools and case projects

17. Ms. A. Maniglio Calcagno, University of Genoa, Italy, presented "Landscape Planning and the European Landscape Convention". She introduced the main principles and objectives of the European Landscape Convention, as adopted by the member countries of the Council of Europe, and which came into force in 2004. The structure of the Convention and its main Articles were introduced, such as definitions of landscape protection, management and planning; scope of this legal instrument; its aims and concrete obligations of the parties. Also, she introduced a project on Coastal Landscape Changes and Sustainable Tourism Development that intends to analyse and to master the existing link between the tourism development and coastal landscapes. As a result a new method and opportune strategies for sustainable tourism would be proposed. She illustrated landscape changes by the example of two small settlements in 1945 that constantly grew and by 1974 merged into one town occupying a vast territory. She was convinced that a lot of data existed and should be used to better plan the changes in the landscape. In a conclusion, Ms. Maniglio Calcagno stressed the obligation of the countries to integrate landscape planning into national legislation on physical planning due to the fact that in many Mediterranean countries landscape has not yet been recognised as an equal element of integrated management of coastal areas.

18. The presentation of "Mediterranean Forest Landscapes" was given by Mr. J. Bonnier, International Association for Mediterranean Forests, France. He began by stressing the role that forests have in the Mediterranean region owing to their specificities stemming from their biodiversity, their dynamics and high resilience. It is expected, he said, that in the future forests will take larger areas because of abandonment of agriculture. Also, there exist various management policies that can take various forms, from 'hard' protection to the spontaneous reconstitution, or from very heavy interventions to soft horticultural technologies. It is important, he stressed, to have a forest policy that takes into account the public and private interests and

various types of ownership. The forest ecosystem recovery is generally slow, especially under the climatic and geological conditions of the region, and especially after disasters such as wild fires. Therefore, the public awareness of the importance of forests is very important, and landscape management gives a good framework to integrate the management of forests, Mr. Bonnier concluded.

19. Ms. M. Golobic, Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, presented "Landscape Planning: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools". She began with the elaboration of some definitions of landscape planning, and underlined some major components of the planning process, namely the creativity of a planner; understanding of the planning procedures and methodologies; knowledge and importance of interdisciplinarity; and conflict management. The latter is important because during the planning procedure conflicting interests have to be reconciled through the involvement of stakeholders and the public. She then presented remediation and prevention strategies of protective action, where the latter, through an optimisation process, represents the main focus of the landscape planning. This includes a plethora of approaches, such as vulnerability analysis, comparative studies of alternatives, SEA and EIA. By showing the planning procedure steps she stressed that these allowed for the integration of environmental concerns in development planning, where vulnerability analysis plays an important role in the analytical part of the planning procedure. The vulnerability analysis, as an *ex-ante* assessment of environmental vulnerability due to negative impacts of planned development, was further explained in more detail. She concluded with the introduction of the vulnerability analysis methodology based on map overlaying. The procedure includes sets of spatial data; identification of impacts in interaction matrix; definition and evaluation of impacts in vulnerability models; and elaboration of the final vulnerability map.

20. The need for participatory approach in spatial planning was the main topic of the discussion that followed the above presentations. All participants agreed on the fact that planning should be supported by the participatory process, i.e. involvement of public, various actors and stakeholders in the planning process, in order to allow to express their values, interests and so forth. This is quite different from just formal public hearings, legally binding in some countries, when the results or the final proposals of plans are presented to the public. Also, countries and their societies differ significantly for their readiness to participate, therefore these different situations have to be taken into account. It was also pointed out that the 20th century was characterised as the century of planning. And the most modern approaches in planning were those that effectively involved public participation. Especially with regard to landscape, as there exists no clear link between its qualities and values on one side and their promoters on the other. For example, developers are very tangible promoters of their ideas and objectives, and when conflicting interests have to be defended and negotiated, public participation is the approach to help define and defend wider societal values and objectives.

21. Mr. Vogiatzakis focused in his presentation on "Case study on landscape characterisation and typology" as a specific chapter from the second position paper. The aim was to establish a typology of Mediterranean coastal landscapes based on the available spatial environmental data, and to derive sustainability indicators (SIs) in coastal Mediterranean landscapes. He introduced the Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) methodology and the main variables to describe landscapes. He defined landscape character as a functional hierarchy of abiotic, biotic and cultural components of the landscape, which involves a desk study; mapping landscape types from layers of data such as soils, geology, climate, landform, land cover, land use, within the GIS; field survey to gather further information about the landscape; and finally classification and description to define and communicate landscape types. He presented some practical examples of landscape classification in Europe and a concrete application of the methodology to define the landscape types in coastal landscapes of Sardinia. In the conclusion, Mr. Vogiatzakis, explained a necessity to link LCA with SIs, and argued that similar landscape types were faced with similar development pressures and therefore required similar SIs. As a way forward he proposed to establish a pan-Mediterranean cartographic database on cultural and

physical attributes for the coastal area; to develop a complete typology for Mediterranean landscapes; to understand the link between landscape types and sustainability; and to develop suitable indicators of sustainability.

22. Mr. Cassar complemented the above presentation with a case study from the Gozo island, Malta, where SIs within a landscape ecology approach to conservation were applied by using participatory-expert based systems. He began with an elaboration of pros and contras of stakeholders' participation in such exercise and a detailed presentation of the characteristics of the island, such as its land-use, landscape units, threats and ecological assemblages. Participatory process, to derive indicators for protected areas and to define sites of highest ecological value, was the main method of work, where stakeholders were divided into focus groups. As a result the main pressures were identified and quantified, including tourism development, urbanisation, quarrying, hunting, dune degradation, pollution and coastal erosion.

23. Examples of case projects on landscape planning implemented in Croatia were presented by Ms. B. Anicic, University of Zagreb. First, she introduced her Department for Landscape Architecture of the Faculty of Agriculture and the emphasis of their courses, which is to prepare students to adequately contribute to landscape management in Croatia. She continued with the project on landscape characterisation for the whole country and showed photographs of some landscape types in coastal areas. Then, three international student workshops were introduced, namely in Rovinj, Dubrovnik and Krasic. The workshop in Rovinj was dedicated to town development and landscape in urban context, and as a result proposals for the urban master plan were prepared. In the Dubrovnik-Neretva County the starting point of the workshop was the alarming state of the landscape due to forest fires. Revitalisation options were developed for the areas in Zaton and Ljubac. The Krasic case dealt with various forms of modernisation of agriculture with the effort to holistically integrate the ecological and cultural values into the rural landscape.

24. The discussion can be summarised along two lines, namely the changes and processes related to agricultural landscapes, and the concrete proposals to PAP/RAC for the landscape management activities. With regard to the former, two diverse trends were mentioned, modernisation of agriculture on one hand and abandonment on the other. Both processes are reflected in the landscape and can have positive or negative implications on the landscape. Therefore, it is necessary to develop and put in practice instruments to keep the farmers on the land, which is related to the introduction of new technologies, and to support given to farmers in the form of subsidies. It is obvious that the financial support is crucial, and in this case, when the public budget is used for the changes and transformations of the rural landscape, the public has the right to say what kind of changes are acceptable, i.e. which landscape values are to be protected and to what extent transformations are positive in a certain socio-economic context. It is the duty of the experts to propose an optimal image of the landscape, but the society as a whole is to take the final decision. Therefore, participatory approaches in planning are very important. Currently, physical planning instruments seemed to be, to many participants, a powerful tool to influence the landscape change, bearing in mind the fact that physical plans at local level define mainly land-use but not structural elements of the landscape. In this context the EU Common Agricultural Policy was mentioned, that is the main driving force for changes of agricultural landscapes, and a need to better link existing policies with the planning instruments was proposed.

25. With regard to the concrete proposals to PAP/RAC the following suggestions were made:

- To develop case studies at local level as a package that would formulate the path to guide the landscape change. They should cover different situations (pressures from tourism, infrastructure, agriculture, etc.) and should be pro-active, i.e. focused on problem-solving rather than being descriptive and focused on data collection only;
- To introduce and/or develop landscape planning tools and methods, such as landscape characterisation, vulnerability studies, spatial analysis, SEA of spatial plans on the landscape;

- To develop education packages to improve awareness and knowledge about landscape values, on how to read the landscape for general public and specifically for schools, having in mind different levels of knowledge about the landscape around the Mediterranean;
- To prepare a region-wide atlas of the main landscape types and of the most specific and rare landscapes important for the preservation of Mediterranean identity.

26. Prior to the presentation of Ms. J. Green, Peace Corps Albania, on a case project in Albania, Mr. Trumbic introduced the overall framework, objectives and general activities of the project "Integrated Coastal Development Strategy and Plan" implemented in Albanian Southern coastal areas by PAP/RAC. Ms. Green explained that the assessment of the coastal landscape in that area made part of the analytical phase of the project, i.e. it is part of the Environmental Resources chapter of the study. The other two chapters are the Socio-Economic Development and Coastal Policy Making Framework. Eight coastal landscape zones were firstly defined, basically on the watershed basis. For each zone, the elements of the natural landscape were defined and described, as well as their importance for the sense of place and for the definition of the tourist potential. She showed examples of the main natural landscape types, related to landforms, water resources and vegetation, as well as cultural landscapes characterised by agricultural uses, designed landscapes, urban structures and built elements. An overview of the main ways of exploitation of natural resources was presented, which includes stone quarries, landfills, exploitation of native plants, agriculture, canalisation of rivers and streams, and fishing. As a result of this phase of the project a Landscape Inventory Map was prepared, which will, together with the Visual Sensitivity Analysis Map, be used in the next steps of the project implementation, mainly to propose the development strategy and plans for the studied area, she concluded.

27. Ms. Golobic presented three case projects on the practical application of the vulnerability analysis in Slovenia, namely a case where vulnerability study was applied to prepare spatial development and land-use strategies; a case of a comparative analysis of alternative proposals; and two cases where vulnerability analysis was applied in strategic environmental impact assessments (SEIA). The first case was related to the preparation of the land-use plan for the Municipality of Nova Gorica. The whole process of the vulnerability study was explained, and examples of vulnerability of the natural and human environment, as well as natural resources due to planned land uses were synthesised in vulnerability maps. In the second case she elaborated on a spatial analysis for wind turbines in the Primorska region by using the analysis of wind potentials for wind farms on one hand, and on the other the vulnerability of natural resources, human environment and visual qualities if the proposed locations for wind farms were put in place. Ms. Golobic explained the use of vulnerability analysis by showing two cases of SEIA, first, for the preparation of the Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia. Here, transport infrastructure, use of natural resources and development of settlements were the main planned categories for which vulnerability of natural and human environment were elaborated. The second was the SEIA for the proposed alternatives of the high-speed rail through SW part of Slovenia.

28. Ms. A. Braudo, Braudo - Maoz Landscape Architecture Ltd, presented the first case project from Israel, namely the Seaside Park in the Jaffa's landfill. The Jaffa landfill is an area of construction waste, which was dumped into the sea over the years, creating a 15-meter high eyesore. The project objective was to plan and design a public park on that degraded area. The work started by a detailed analysis of environmental and socio-economic situation of the site. Throughout the project public had been actively involved in the project implementation, she explained. Various groups were involved, such as business owners, religious groups, residents, youth, who had the opportunity to express their ideas and priorities for the park development. Later on, the park concept and a plan proposal were developed so as to include restoration of the beaches, open views towards the sea, promenade along the seashore, examples for planting and various recreational activities. She concluded by showing the terms for work performance and procedures, which were also prepared for the one-site operations.

29. The second case project from Israel "The coastline of Haifa – Shikmona shore and park" was presented by Ms. D. Greenstein, Greenstein - Har-Gil Landscape Architecture Ltd. The site was a part of the city coastline and the urban system that became one of Haifa's main urban open spaces. She said that among the major problems of that city area were its very longitudinal shape, disconnection of the urban structure with the sea due to dense infrastructure and poor 'green' connection with the inland areas via wadis. The area was analysed in detail in the first phase (ecological values, views, heritage), and on the basis of a programme and design goals defined afterwards, a general plan and sections of the park were prepared.

30. With reference to the presentation of the first position paper, Mr. Ogrin introduced the chapter on outstanding landscapes, as a concept that could be interesting for the Mediterranean countries. In this way the most valuable cultural landscapes, which are rare, typical, unique and important for the Mediterranean identity would gain a special status and be protected. The outstanding landscapes represent, according to his opinion, an evidence of the socio-economic circumstances of the related societies to which we owe the obligation to preserve for the future as universal assets of human civilisation. He presented some examples of such landscapes that would deserve this designation. However, the whole coastal areas of the Mediterranean should be analysed on the basis of the common criteria and a list with the description of these landscapes elaborated.

31. Mr. Ogrin continued with the presentation of proposals for landscape management activities in the Mediterranean countries, as the last chapter of his position paper. According to his suggestion, the activities of PAP/RAC could be developed along the following lines:

- Prepare an inventory, a survey of landscapes at the Mediterranean and national levels (landscape characterisation, map of endangered landscapes);
- Identify, classify and evaluate landscapes (landscape typology, outstanding landscapes);
- Make effort to integrate landscape planning into planning documents at all levels (national, sub-national and local), particularly in agriculture, water management, and tourism sectors;
- Elaborate national strategies for landscape management in coastal areas;
- Co-operate with "Natura 2000" and other nature conservation initiatives;
- Develop and promote landscape planning methodologies and tools (landscape analysis, vulnerability, integration of landscape analysis into SEA and EIA);
- Organise awareness campaigns, promotion actions, training courses and seminars on landscape perception, methods and management;
- Publish printed materials (brochures, atlases, posters);
- Organise workshops to demonstrate landscape management methods;
- Implement pilot projects to demonstrate in practice the above items, with a view to preparing guidelines and good practice guides.

32. In the first part, the discussion that followed focused on the outstanding landscape presentation. Two opinions were expressed. Some participants argued that cultural landscapes are exposed to changes due to natural progression and that we need to accept these changes. Keeping as they are would be something artificial especially if there is no direct economic interest behind. Majority of the participants, on the other hand, supported the idea that the outstanding landscapes represent very small areas where tradition and history of previous generations is encrypted in land and that it is our responsibility to protect and maintain them for the future as the evidence of the land management in certain natural and socio-economic circumstances. Being a cultural heritage of universal value we should maintain them as cultural monuments and mobilise resources to maintain the management practices, and define complementary uses such as for leisure, as a public space and alike.

33. The second part of the discussion was related to proposals for the landscape management activities. One mentioned a division of activities at two levels, namely within the physical planning system where we need to integrate components of landscape planning, such as

landscape valuation, vulnerability studies, landscape characterisation and typology; and secondly, at the application stage by developing pilot projects which should integrate participatory approach. With reference to the proposal to prepare a vulnerability study at the Mediterranean level, the problem of attributing values, which are a matter of change and closely dependent of societies' values, was put forward. As a better proposal of an activity at the Mediterranean level a participant suggested to prepare an overview of the state of the art of differences and common elements of landscape management policies in the countries of the region, which could serve as a starting point to exchange good practices. Or, similarly, to collect good and bad examples of landscape management and disseminate them among the Mediterranean countries.

34. Also, at a regional level, countries could define, for instance, three cases of outstanding and degraded landscapes on the basis of the commonly agreed criteria. This goes in line with the proposal to prepare a regional landscape typology and a list of outstanding landscapes, which should than be promoted for various purposes. Here, contacts with UNESCO and the Council of Europe should be established, as well as with the existing networks of landscape practitioners. An idea of creating a network of Mediterranean outstanding landscapes, of good and bad practices or future landscapes, such as wind farms or golf courses, already developed in some countries to exchange experience with the others, could be established.

35. Many participants supported the proposal to start the relevant activity at PAP/RAC by implementing a couple of pilot projects, which should be representative and complex enough to allow for solving problems by using the methodologies and approaches presented and discussed during the meeting, including involvement of public in participatory process. The complexity of the area would mean a representation of the main development problems and pressures around the Mediterranean, such as tourism, urban sprawl, infrastructure, forestry, agriculture and alike, in order to be of use for the exchange of experience with other countries, and to be used for the preparation of guidelines for landscape management at a later stage of this activity.

Agenda item 4: Conclusions and Recommendations

36. In the concluding remarks, Mr. Prem explained that all the suggestions expressed by the participants during the discussions would be taken into account as recommendations by the Centre when initiating the first concrete activities on landscape management. He stressed that the workshop had been positive and successful for PAP/RAC, that it had fulfilled the expectations and would help PAP/RAC plan future interventions. It was a good opportunity to share experience from various projects, and to get concrete ideas for further work on this topic. He said that a report of the meeting would be prepared and that participants would receive all the power point presentations on a compact disc with a hard copy of the report.

Agenda item 5: Closure of the Workshop

37. Mr. Prem thanked all the participants for their valuable inputs, especially those who contributed by presentations, as well as for the fruitful discussions, which provided very useful suggestions for the introduction of the landscape management activity in PAP/RAC.

38. The workshop was closed on January 10, 2006 at 13:00 hours.

ANNEX I

List of participants

INVITED EXPERTS:

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ANNEX II

Agenda

Sunday, January 8

09:00 - 14:00 Field visit;

Monday, January 9

09:00 - 11:45 Opening and Introduction
Background

Position Papers:

- Mediterranean Landscapes: A contribution to a better management
- Mediterranean Coastal Landscapes; Management Practices, Typology and Sustainability

Discussion

11:45 - 13:30 Landscape planning and the European Landscape Convention
Mediterranean forest landscapes
Landscape planning: concepts, methodologies, tools

Discussion

15:00 – 18:00 Case study on landscape characterisation/typology
Case studies; Sardinia, Gozo
Case projects in Croatia

Discussion

Tuesday, January 10

09:00 - 13:00 Case project in Albania
Case projects in Slovenia
Case projects in Israel
Outstanding landscapes

Proposals for Landscape Management activities in Mediterranean countries

Discussion

Conclusions and Recommendations
Closure of the Workshop