



EUROPEAN
association
Historic Towns & Regions

**BUREAU AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Friday 29TH AUGUST 2003**

VERONA, ITALY

Report of Meeting

Annual Report

1. The Annual Report covering the period April 2002 – August 2003 was fully considered and agreed. Delegates in approving the Annual Report specifically noted and where appropriate agreed: -
 - ❑ The delivery of an interesting and diverse programme of conferences in 2002 and 2003 in partnership with other organisations spanning Russia, England, Italy, Finland, Malta and Turkey.
 - ❑ The strengthening of relations with the Council of Europe .
 - ❑ The establishment of closer working relations with Europa Nostra
 - ❑ The developing role of the Secretariat in providing support to member associations and cities.
 - ❑ The planned visit to Slovenia by the English Historic Towns Forum and the visit by the Finnish Association of Historic Towns to England.
 - ❑ The establishment of the INHERIT group of cities and support for its work programme as a major priority for 2004 and beyond.
 - ❑ Submission of a proposal under the INTERREG III C programme to be submitted in Spring 2004.
 - ❑ Participation by EAHTR as a partner in the ITEACH/TECHNE network of excellence and the CULT-STRAT specific targeted research project.
 - ❑ The development during 2002-3 of membership, both in terms of new members and the growth of members within National Historic Towns Associations.
 - ❑ The establishment of EAHTR as a company limited by guarantee under UK law on 8th April 2002.

Council of Europe

2. Richard Hartley, Secretary to the Council of Europe Congress of Local Regional Authorities of Europe set out the basis for continuing financial and other support by the Council of Europe as from January 2004. Including: -
 - ❑ Free use of meeting rooms in Strasbourg and Paris for EAHTR business e.g. Bureau Meetings

- ❑ Wherever necessary, English and French interpretation associated with such meetings.
 - ❑ Secretary General travel and subsistence expenses associated with meetings of CLRAE Committees when relations with EAHTR were discussed.
 - ❑ Financial and other support in organising historic town conferences jointly with EAHTR e.g. a major symposium to be held in Norwich in 2004.
3. Mr. Hartley also indicated that the Council of Europe would: -
 - ❑ Assist the expansion of EAHTR by asking National delegates to the Council of Europe to consider forming National Associations of Historic Towns within their country where these did not already exist.
 - ❑ Look to EAHTR to assist the Council of Europe e.g. nominating expert speakers and/or contributing to the delivery of CLRAE priorities
 4. He asked that EAHTR, in working with Europa Nostra, should seek to ensure that, wherever possible, the interests of Council of Europe countries not within the European Union be taken account of, particularly in relation to exploring any possibility of extending the award scheme.
 5. The General Assembly welcomed the report of the Council of Europe and thanked Richard Hartley for his work in supporting the development of EAHTR.

Future Priorities

6. The General Assembly agreed that the 3 main priorities for EAHTR in 2004 should continue to be: -
 - ❑ Strengthening the network,
 - ❑ Promotion and publicity, and
 - ❑ Developing the work programme.
7. Mikhail Stoliarov, representing Mr Kamil Iskhakov, Mayor of Kazan and President of the Russian Congress of Historic cities, congratulated EAHTR on its work and achievements but noted that it was working within a very small overall budget. He, on behalf of Mr. Iskhakov, suggested that the role of cities within the network needed to be strengthened. He believed that the Constitution should be changed to give cities full membership in order to encourage participation by Mayors and strengthen the financial commitment of cities to EAHTR.
8. Considerable discussion took place on the implications of this proposal and the need to strike a balance with the role of National Associations. The President indicated that a review of the constitution was appropriate after some 3 years since it was introduced and that the work of INHERIT bringing individual cities into the network was already a start to the role of cities being given greater emphasis.
9. It was agreed that the Secretary General would: -
 - ❑ Review and evaluate the contribution and role of National Associations as currently envisaged within the constitution
 - ❑ Explore the potential role and contribution of cities and consider whether constitutional changes needed to be made to secure their more active involvement. Review the financial basis of EAHTR to evaluate proposals for improvement

- ❑ To evaluate and recommend any other appropriate changes to the constitution in the light of its first three years of operation.

10. The General Assembly agreed the following priorities for future conferences: -

- ❑ Major International Symposium in September 2004 to be organised jointly with the Council of Europe and Norwich City Council and held in Norwich, UK in September 2004
- ❑ Seminars in 2004-5 as part of the CULT-STRAT and ITEACH European Projects - time and location to be agreed
- ❑ INHERIT Conference to be held in Gothenburg in 2005.
- ❑ Joint conference with Europa Nostra - time and location to be agreed
- ❑ Joint conference with Walled Towns Friendship Circle - time and location to be agreed.

11. The General Assembly in agreeing the Annual Report also agreed to give priority to further development of the web site and the newsletter, the planned Historic Towns visits, European projects, the INHERIT project and to respond to requests for assistance/ collaboration from the Council of Europe as well as member organisations.

Budget 2002 – 4

12. The General Assembly noted the actual expenditure in 2002 and agreed both a revised budget for 2003 and projected budget for 2004.
13. In agreeing the projected budget the General Assembly agreed small increases in expenditure on the website and on staff costs. It was noted that the European projects identified as priority may require additional staff time but that this would be funded on a self-financing basis wherever possible.

Subscription Rates

14. The General Assembly agreed a 10% increase in the subscription rates for Full members and other organisations and reduced rates to apply to Universities. The new rates are set out in Appendix 1.

Elections

Election of President

15. Dr Louis Roppe was elected to serve a second term to run for a period of up to 2 years, subject to any constitutional changes agreed in 2004.

Election of Bureau Members

16. The following members were elected to serve for a period of 2 years on the Bureau: -

- ❑ Kamil Iskhakov, Chairman of the Congress of Russian Historic Cities
- ❑ Joseph Attard, President, Maltese Association of Historic Towns

- ❑ Hans Magdelijns, Chairman, Federation of Larger Monumental Towns in The Netherlands
- ❑ Mateja Hafner Dolenc, Secretary General, Slovenian Association of Historic Towns
- ❑ Erdogan Bilenser, President, Turkish Association of Historic Towns

17. The General Assembly also agreed that: -

- ❑ CLRAE should consider the replacement of Roland Ries at their meeting in October and notify the Secretary General accordingly.
- ❑ Europa Nostra be invited to nominate a representative to serve on the Bureau

Election of Vice Presidents

18. Mr Kamil Iskhakov and Mr Per Haken Slotte were elected to serve as Vice Presidents of EAHTR for a period of up to 2 years subject to any constitutional changes agreed in 2004.

Conclusions

19. The President thanked everyone who had played a part in 2002-3 to make it a successful year for EAHTR. He congratulated the Secretariat for its work throughout the year and the Secretary General on his report, which he believed, clearly set out the significant progress made in the development of EAHTR.

20. He concluded by also congratulating members of the new Bureau on their election and looked forward to the further development of EAHTR in 2004 and beyond.

Brian Smith
Secretary General

Appendix 1 Subscription Rates

Current Full Membership Rates

ASSOCIATIONS OF HISTORIC TOWNS	CATEGORY (see table)			
	Min	A	B	C
0 - 20	600	450	300	
21 - 50	2,100	1,575	1,050	
51 - 100	4,500	3,375	2,250	
101 - 150	7,500	5,625	3,750	
151 - 250+	12,000	9,000	6,000	

Revised Full Membership Rates

ASSOCIATIONS OF HISTORIC TOWNS	CATEGORY (see table)			
	Min	A	B	C
0 - 20	660	495	330	
21 - 50	2,310	1,750	1,155	
51 - 100	4,950	3,700	2,475	
101 - 150	8,250	6,200	4,125	
151 - 250+	12,120	9,900	6,600	

Current Associate Member Rates – Other Organisations

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	CATEGORY (see table)		
	A	B	C
OTHER ORGANISATIONS	600€	450€	300€

Revised Associate Member Rates – Other Organisations

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	CATEGORY (see table)		
	A	B	C
OTHER ORGANISATIONS	660€	495€	330€

Current Associate Member Rates - Universities

Associate Members	CATEGORY		
	A	B	C
UNIVERSITY	350€	250€	150€

Revised Associate Member Rates - Universities

Associate Members	CATEGORY		
	A	B	C
UNIVERSITY	150€	100€	75€