



EUROPEAN  
association  
Historic Towns & Regions

**REPORT OF BUREAU MEETING, WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
2004  
COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
55 AVENUE KLEBER, PARIS**

- Present:** Louis Roppe, President, EAHTR  
Antonella-Maria Cagnolati, Deputy Chief Executive, Council of Europe  
Jean Paul Chauvet, Council of Europe  
Mateja Hafner Dolenc, Secretary General, Slovenian Association of  
Historic Towns  
Ian Poole, Chairman, EHTF  
Per Haken Slotte, President, Finnish Association of Historic Towns;  
Dubravka Suica, Mayor of Dubrovnik  
Biserka Simatovic, Foreign Correspondent, City of Dubrovnik;  
Rassikh Sagitov, representing Kamil Iskhakov, Vice-President, EAHTR  
Harrie Jeurissen, European Network of Disaster Cities  
(for part of the meeting).  
Brian Smith, Secretary General, EAHTR
- Apologies:** Joseph Attard, President, Maltese Association of Historic Towns &  
Regions  
John Price, President, Walled Towns Friendship Circle  
Mark Stafleu, Acting President, Association of Historic Towns of The  
Netherlands  
Arnaldo Vecchietti, Director of Community, Policies Department, Verona  
Council  
Mehmet Ozhaseki, Mayor of Kayseri Metropolitan Municipality,  
Association of Turkey Historic Towns and Regions.

**1. Death of Mr Richard Hartley – Memorial Service 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005**

- 1.1 The President reported the sad death of Mr Richard Hartley. He, the Secretary General, members of the Bureau all paid tribute to the invaluable contribution that Richard Hartley had played in helping form the European Association of Historic Towns and Regions. His support and active involvement in the Association's affairs will be sadly missed. All members of the Board agreed that not only had the Association lost a staunch supporter and tireless advocate for historic cities, we had all lost a friend.

- 1.2 Antonella-Maria Cagnolati reported on the arrangements for the memorial service in Strasbourg and confirmed the Council of Europe's continued commitment to supporting and developing EAHTR. Richard Hartley was also a Director of EAHTR Limited, a company limited by guarantee, along with the President and the Secretary General. Antonella-Maria Cagnolati agreed to consider whether the Council of Europe wish to replace Richard Hartley on the Board. Jean Paul Chauvet, along with Antonella-Maria Cagnolati suggested several specific ideas for the future support of EAHTR, including raising the Association's profile within the Council of Europe, establishing a budget line and organising future symposia. Other specific suggestions suggested responsibility for EAHTR might move to the Cultural Committee and that the Committee's President, the Mayor of Innsbruck, Ms Hilde Zach, should be invited to be a member of the Bureau.

## **2. REPORT OF BUREAU AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY – 8<sup>TH</sup> AND 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

- 2.1 The report of the Bureau and the General Assembly were accepted as a complete record. The proposed campaign for cities was approved.

## **3. REVISED CONSTITUTION**

- 3.1 The Secretary General presented the changes now proposed to the constitution following the recommendations agreed at the General Assembly on 10<sup>th</sup> September. The Bureau agreed the proposed changes as accurately reflecting the views of the General Assembly.

## **4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE BUREAU**

- 4.1 The membership of the Bureau following the revisions to the constitution can potentially be enlarged up to twenty members, six from individual cities, six from national associations and eight from other bodies. The Bureau agreed to add new members as membership grew. It was agreed to invite the city of Verona to join the Bureau at this stage, as well as Professor David Arnold from the University of Brighton. Antonella-Maria Cagnolati agreed to confirm the Council of Europe representation as soon as possible.

## **5. BUDGET REPORT – PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- 5.1 The Secretary General presented the current financial position as set out in the Annual Accounts. The problem of late or non payment of subscriptions and the difficulties this created in the running of EAHTR was discussed in detail
- 5.2 The long standing problem of non-payment of the Russian Association of Historic Towns was also discussed. Mr Sagitov, representing Mr Iskhakov, Vice President of EAHTR, undertook to report back to the Russian Association and to underline the seriousness of the current position. The Secretary General stressed that the continued membership of the Russian Federation was important to EAHTR. A very successful joint conference had been organised in Kazan and Mr Iskhakov had been an active participant in the Association's affairs since its inception. It was important that the Russian Federation continued to be represented as part of EAHTR. He hoped that a resolution to the problem would be forthcoming. The Bureau agreed to consider the matter formally at its next meeting.

## **6. HISTORIC TOWNS VISITS**

- 6.1 Ian Poole reported on the successful visit by EHTF to Slovenia, organised by the Slovenia Association of Historic Towns. He confirmed that there would be a return visit to England by the representatives of the Slovenian Association of Historic Towns and the Estonian Historic Towns Association in late September 2005. Discussion also took place on the visit of the Finnish Association of Historic Towns which had been postponed from last year. It was agreed that the Finnish visit would be merged with the visit planned for September.

## **7. EUROPEAN PROJECTS**

- 7.1 The Secretary General reported on EAHTR's membership of the Epoch project and outlined the need to identify member cities interested in exploring the potential of technology in relation to the promotion of cultural heritage. A letter will be sent to members to invite interested cities' participation.
- 7.2 The Secretary General also reported on the Inherit project which had been the priority area of work for the Secretary General. This project had been submitted on 8<sup>th</sup> October and a decision was expected by 17<sup>th</sup> January 2005. The total cost of the project's activities is just over 1 million Euros. The application has been made for 636,000 Euros of EU funding.

## **8. 2005 SYMPOSIUM - GOTHENBURG**

- 8.1 The Secretary General confirmed that Gothenburg would be the location of the next Annual symposium. Arrangements were underway. This will also be the first symposium of the Inherit project.

## **9. MEETING WITH HARRIE JEURISSEN – EUROPEAN NETWORK DISASTER CITIES**

- 9.1 Harrie Jeurissen joined the meeting and explained the background to the proposed formation of the European Network of Disaster Cities. He was interested in the structure and constitution of the EAHTR as a model and thanked the Secretary General for providing background information. The Bureau answered Harrie Jeurissen's questions and agreed to provide whatever further assistance might be needed to help and support the establishment of a European Network of Disaster Cities.

## **10. FUTURE BUREAU MEETING.**

- 10.1 The Secretary General reported that the Mayor of Dubrovnik, Gradonacelnica Grada Dubrovnika has kindly agreed to host the next Bureau meeting in Dubrovnik, Croatia, in March/April 2005. This visit to Dubrovnik would also be an opportunity to look at the city as a venue for the next joint symposium between the Council of Europe and EAHTR in 2006.

**Brian Smith**  
**Secretary General**