



Minutes Meeting NET-HERITAGE WP 4, Brussels, May 19th, 2010

Participants : Aurélie Audeval (France), Sylvie Max-Colinart (France), Emilio Cano Díaz (Spain), Barbara Vodopivec (Slovenia), Barbara Murovec (Slovenia), Eva Schandevyl (Belgium), Lutz Töpfer (Germany), Nina Schwab (Germany), Viktoria Piehl (Germany)

1. Morning: Meeting with Astrid Brandt-Grau and Michel Chapuis (European Commission)

The work already done for the organisation of a parliamentary event in Brussels was presented.

Possible locations such as the Committee of the Regions building or the two representations of the German federal States Bavaria and of North Rhine-Westphalia were presented to Mrs Brandt-Grau and Mr Chapuis. They suggested the representation of Bavaria as a good option, being very close located to the European Parliament. The atrium at the Committee of the regions building would be appropriate, too. All the locations have space to host up to 500 people. For the event, a number of 150 guests is planned.

Timing of the event: Taking into consideration that there is a meeting of all NET-HERITAGE partners in September and that start at the EP and other institutions after the summer break will be work intensive, a date in September could probably cause difficulties for NET-HERITAGE partners and politicians. Therefore it was discussed to better plan the event for October or November. A possible date will be individuated and discussed with the coordinator of NET-HERITAGE, Mrs Antonia Recchia.

- Due to the need to fix a location quickly the date should be defined at latest in the second week of June.

Framework of the event: Intention of the event is to present the achievements and the impact of the NET-HERITAGE project to European Parliamentarians. Mr Töpfer (Germany) proposed to present good practise studies, and to have well known scientists to present them. Mrs Audeval (France) suggested to present some of the results elaborated by the individual work packages at the event. Nonetheless, participants agreed that the way of presentation should not be too technical in order

to attract also a general public of politicians and non-experts. Mrs Cristina Sabbioni (Italy) was named as a potential and excellent speaker.

Regarding the general content that the event should have there was a lively discussion. Mr Chapuis suggested that it should be clearly defined in order to address politicians and to let them know the exact intentions of the NET-HERITAGE partners. He suggested to also refer to the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage. Mrs Brandt-Grau suggested to explain why science in cultural heritage would be so important and to refer to social and economic benefits (tourism, f.e.) which cultural heritage has to society. The representatives of the EC suggested that a declaration/memorandum of understanding could be released on the occasion. Mr Töpfer (Germany) suggested stressing that cultural heritage directly strengthens the European identity and is important for educational means.

- The participants agreed to elaborate a strategical aim of the event and a clear communication strategy within the first two weeks of June in close cooperation with the coordinator of NET-HERITAGE, Mrs Antonia Recchia.

Mrs Brandt-Grau and Mr Chapuis then reported on the progress of the Joint Programming Initiative. At its meeting of 3 December 2009, the Competitiveness Council recognised "Cultural Heritage, Climate Change and Security" (the title was later changed to "Cultural Heritage and Global Change: a new challenge for Europe") as an area where joint programming would provide a major added value to the current, fragmented efforts of Member States in the field of research. It therefore adopted conclusions recognising the need to launch a joint programming initiative (JPI) on the subject and inviting the Commission to contribute to its preparation. The Commission Recommendation on this subject was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 28.4.2010. Member States are invited to develop a vision and a strategic research agenda and to implement it. The Commission will act as a facilitator and report to the European Council and Parliament on the progress made. The Commission will also give financial support to the implementation of the governing structure of this JPI which will start at the end of 2010. The allocation of EC funding for cultural heritage research may be possible in the future, but should be complementary and coordinated with the Member States acting under the JPI.

JPI is an open process, based on a voluntarily commitment of the participating Member States and Associated Countries. Other Member States and associated or third countries may join in the future. An ERA-NET is an instrument which can be imbedded in a JPI. Until the end of this year clear framework conditions for the implementation of JPIs will be worked out by the Council with the help of the Commission.

2. Internal Work Package 4 Meeting

The status of work on each single deliverable was discussed. The first deliverable in WP 4 has to be completed by October 2010 (Spain). In the general discussion it was discovered that some partners feel the need to clarify or reformulate the DOW on their specific subtasks. This was underlined in face of the fact that the JPI poses a new reality which seems to render some deliverables obsolete. The participants agreed, that Milestone 4.1. should better be eliminated, or modified, as with the JPI it is already overtaken by reality. All partners agreed that open questions should be cleared soon.

- Each partner will send an interpretation of the work to do which is defined in the DOW of NET-HERITAGE to Mrs Schwab (Germany) until June 11th. Mrs Schwab then will contact the Coordinator with the open questions about the work to do.

Ideas for the brochure which will be written on the NET-HERITAGE project were presented by Mrs Schwab. The brochure will contain examples of best practise in cultural heritage sciences and will have a part in which it directly addresses politicians, proposing ideas for good politics for the future. The brochure will have only a few pages and be written in a not too technical language. It is supposed to be completed by end of June 2010. The German partner will provide the text in German and English. Partners can then translate the brochure.

3. Afternoon: Meeting with Sneska Quaedvlieg-Mihailovic, Secretary General of Europa Nostra, at the newly opened office in Brussels

Mrs Quaedvlieg-Mihailovic underlined her willingness to support the NET-HERITAGE project. She fully endorses the approach that excellence in science should be applied to save cultural heritage. Europa Nostra would be glad to support the parliamentary evening and make use of resources in terms of the organisation's network of experts in the field (politicians and journalists) and would make available it's expertise on planning such an event. Some well known European experts and prominent figures of the governing board of E.N. could be invited, Mrs Quaedvlieg-Mihailovic said. Participants agreed that by now, in order to shape the profiles of each organization, NET-HERITAGE and Europa Nostra will have their own events, and support each other mainly in the background. In the future common events could take place. Europa Nostra currently is planning a conference on cultural properties for December 9th 2010, which still has to be defined in a more concrete way.