



EUROPEAN  
a s s o c i a t i o n  
Historic Towns & Regions

**Bureau Meeting - 9<sup>th</sup> September 2008**  
**The City Council offices**  
**Targoviste**

**Report**

**Present**

Gabriel Boriga, Mayor of Targoviste & Vice-President of ALZIAR  
Louis Roppe, President, EAHTR  
Alexander Bartling, Principal Administrator, Congress of Local and  
Regional Authorities, Council of Europe  
Fikret N. Uccan, Turkish Association of Historic Towns  
Brian Smith, Secretary General, EAHTR  
Carmen Stefanescu, Secretary General, ALZIAR  
Paul Voicu, Calin Hedviga & Alexandra Baietan, Alba Iulia  
John Price, Walled Towns Friendship Circle  
Sam Howes, English Historic Towns Forum  
Eija Muttonen-Mattila, Finnish Association of Historic Towns  
Ian Walters, Project Officer, EAHTR

**Apologies**

Dubravaka Suica, Mayor of Dubrovnik  
Connie Van Nes, Federation of Historic Cities of the Netherlands

**1. Report of Bureau – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

1.1 The Report of the Bureau meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> October was accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

**2. Matters Arising**

2.1 Brian Smith reported the details of the new core funding for EAHTR, from the CULTURE Programme 2008 to 2010.

**3. Annual Report 2008**

3.1 The Annual Report covers the period from October 2007 to September 2008. Brian Smith drew attention to the main items described in the document and its appendices. The actions arising are set out below.

- 3.2 The INHERIT report has been widely disseminated and there was also the need to develop more specific guidelines as the next steps. Part of this work might be to involve selected cities to trial the guidance.
- 3.3 The final report of the CULT-STRAT project will be available later in the year and EAHTR will endeavour to prepare a short set of guidelines in collaboration with the Project Coordinator.
- 3.4 As regards the Walled Towns Friendship Circle, there will be a Symposium in Turkey in 2009 and it may be possible to have an EAHTR presence alongside this event. John Price said that the reorganisation of local government in Cheshire in 12 months time may affect the way that WTFC operates in future. However, WTFC wants to work in collaboration with EAHTR, in ways to be discussed and agreed.
- 3.5 Further to the Dubrovnik Symposium of 2006, EAHTR is progressing the work on sustainable tourism. Brian Human has been appointed to work on the Council of Europe report for the Spring Session March 2009 and to act as lead expert on an EAHTR working group to develop sustainable tourism guidelines.
- 3.6 As regards the current year's CULTURE 2008 activities, it was suggested that EAHTR should focus on practical short term initiatives that also brought together people. The work programme for 2009 has to be prepared and submitted by 11 November 2008. The Secretary General advised that EAHTR should focus on practical short/medium term initiatives rather than commit to leading a further long term project, like INHERIT, at this stage.
- 3.7 The recent pattern for historic town visits has been for EAHTR to organise with a member association 1 such visit for about 20 people from another association every 2 years. Eija Muttonen-Mattila said that it was still the expectation that the Finnish Association would have a study visit to England sometime in the near future. However, it was suggested that EAHTR should also consider an international visit with 2/3 places allocated to each member association. Alexandra Baietan suggested a study visit to Transylvania to cities such as Alba Iulia and Sighisoara, possibly in 2010. The Secretary General will be looking at options for a historic towns visit during 2009.
- 3.8 As regards the HerO project, EAHTR has agreed a contract with the partners to provide technical support and dissemination. The Secretary General will be attending the inaugural meeting of partners in Regensburg in September 2008 and will report further to the next Bureau meeting.
- 3.9 In relation to future Symposia, it was agreed to progress work on the proposed Symposium in Bydgoszcz in September 2009 and the joint one in Istanbul in the spring of 2010.
- 3.10 Regarding city & corporate membership, the proposed revised membership fees for individual cities were agreed, subject to an extra size category for towns

and cities up to 5000 population and for which the fees would be €50, €75 and €100, according to the country category.

3.11 In relation to the accounts, it was noted that the expenditure figure of €115,454 for 2007 is the basis for the CULTURE funding in 2008 and that the EAHTR budget for 2009 will be prepared in October.

3.12 The Bureau approved the Annual Report, which will be posted on the EAHTR website and also sent to all members.

#### **4. Bureau Elections**

4.1 It was agreed that the Finnish, English and Romanian Associations be appointed for a further 2 years and that the Walled Towns Friendship Circle should also be appointed for another 2 years. It was also agreed to re-elect Mrs Suica, as one of the town and city representatives.

#### **5. Any Other Business**

5.1 None.

#### **6. The Next Meeting**

6.1 It was agreed that the next Bureau meeting would be held in late March 2009 and that Valetta should be asked to host the event.