

MINUTES  
OF THE 3RD OWHC REGIONAL CONFERENCE.  
REGIONAL SECRETARIAT OF SOUTH EUROPE AND THE  
MEDITERRANEAN.

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In the setting of the 7th International Colloquium of the OWHC held in Rhodes (Greece), at 10:00 am on 25th September 2003 the following people met representing the World Heritage Cities of South Europe and the Mediterranean which form part of the OWHC:

In attendance:

- Rosa Aguilar Rivero, Mayor of Córdoba
- Marcelino Ferrero Márquez, Córdoba Councillor for Tourism
- Luis Rodríguez García, Córdoba Deputy Mayor for Culture
- Alfonso Ceballos León, Córdoba Mayoralty Cabinet Chief
- Rafael Pérez de la Concha Camacho, Regional Co-ordinator
- Francisco Muñoz Carreras, Regional Secretariat RIO Officer
- Xico Tarres i Marí, Mayor of Ibiza/Eivissa
- Lourdes Costa Torres, Ibiza/Eivissa Councillor for Tourism
- Angela Moreno Manzano, Toledo Councillor
- Concepción Domínguez, Segovia Councillor
- Rafael Becerra Anet, La Laguna Councillor
- Urbano Medina Hernández, La Laguna Councillor
- Antonio Magalhaes, Chairman Municipal Chamber of Guimaraes
- Alejandra Gesta, Advisor, Guimaraes
- Miguel Lima, Évora Councillor
- José Emilio Guerreiro, Évora Technical Officer
- Patrice Beghain, Lyon Mayor's Assistant
- Bruno Delas, Manager of Historic Site of Lyon
- Manolis Dim. Grillis, Deputy Mayor of Patmos
- George Giannopoulos, Mayor of Rhodes
- Lee Minaidis, Rhodes Councillor
- Joseph Spiteri, Vatican City
- Sonsoles Guillén Ruiz de Ayúcar, Secretary Group of World Heritage Cities of Spain

The Mayor of Córdoba welcomed the attendants to the 3rd Regional Conference for South Europe and the Mediterranean of the OWHC during the General Assembly of the OWHC in Rhodes, and expressed the appreciation and congratulations of all to the Mayor of Rhodes and Lee Minaidis for the magnificent Assembly and the warm hospitality given by the city.

The Mayor of Córdoba read out the conclusions adopted in April of this year in the Second Regional Conference, held in Córdoba (Appendix I)

The Mayor of Évora confirmed that his city accepted co-ordinating the Funding Commission, for which he requested the support and collaboration of all cities to inform of cases where searching for funding had been carried out. He also confirmed that the 4th Regional Conference would be held in Évora in the spring of 2005.

The Councillor for Lyon expressed his concern over the lack of participation from Italian cities, stating the need to get them involved by presenting proposals which they cannot reject. He made the offer of the city of Lyon organising a workshop on the matter.

The Councillor for Patmos stated that this was the first time his city had come into contact with this Regional Secretariat, and requested all documentation and background material. He stated his city's adhesion to the Region, which will be formalised soon.

The Mayor of Córdoba welcomed Patmos to the Region and confirmed that they would be sent all the necessary information. She stated that she agreed with the Lyon proposal and suggested directing all efforts towards achieving adhesion from all the missing cities and to design a workshop in Lyon in 2004 so as to arrive in Évora in 2005 with some of the work already done.

She also suggested the possibility of providing opportunities to collaborate with the business community.

The representative from Lyon accepted this meeting in his city and stated that efforts would be made to convince Paris, though it is true that that city has many similar commitments.

The Councillor for Segovia considered the issue of town planning highly interesting, and asked the city of Lyon what the Town Planning Commission had done up to now. He considered the cultural exchange and meeting of young people that was taking place in this colloquium to be highly important, as they will be able to exchange their experiences.

The Mayor of Évora stated that his city was in favour with the agreement to work towards adhesion from the rest of the cities. He

said that it was a generalised problem in the OWHC, and not just in this Secretariat, and as such work should be done to improve this. He said that four or five projects should be chosen which some cities already have in place, in order to exchange them amongst everyone. He stated that Évora is currently carrying out a General City Plan, and that it was now time to work on Heritage from a new and innovative perspective.

The Mayor of Córdoba gave information on the French cities which had yet to adhere, calling attention to Paris. She called on the Mayor of Lyon to take the appropriate measures with the non-adhered French cities, and also requested collaboration from the Portuguese cities. She stated that all the Spanish and Greek cities had adhered, whereas in Italy many have yet to do so. She proposed a visit to Italy by various mayors in order to contact these cities personally. She therefore commended the Regional Secretariat Co-ordinator to undertake the necessary steps to organise a meeting with the Association of Italian World Heritage Cities in Naples to request the incorporation of those not yet adhered.

All attendants also immediately agreed on constituting the Work Commissions, for both technical and political matters.

The Mayor of Córdoba also explained that the Mayor of Puebla had requested to make a brief address to the attendants of the Regional Conference. It was unanimously decided that this would not be appropriate.

Finally, the Mayor read out the conclusions adopted during this 3rd Regional Conference:

1. It is confirmed that the city of Évora will co-ordinate the Funding Commission.
2. It is confirmed that the 4th Regional Conference is to be held in Évora (Portugal) in the spring of 2005.
3. All efforts are to be made regarding cities not yet adhered to the Secretariat, with a workshop in Lyon to be organised for 2004 to work on this matters, so as to arrive in Évora with some of the work already done.
4. The Regional Co-ordinator is entrusted with taking measures to organise a meeting with the Association of Italian World Heritage Cities in Naples, in order to request the adherence of those which have not yet done so.

5. Immediate need to constitute the Work Commissions in both technical and political aspects.
6. Strengthen cultural exchanges between cities in the Region.
7. Provide facilities to allow participation with the business community.
8. Reiterate the agreement adopted in the 2nd Regional Conference to make international conferences itinerant between the cities in the Region.
9. The city of Patmos (Greece) is now adhered to the Regional Secretariat.
10. Gratitude for the hospitality shown by the Mayor of Rhodes and congratulations for the organisation to Councillor Lee Minaidis, Chairwoman of the Organising Committee.

With no further business to discuss, the session was brought to a close at 11:35 am on the aforementioned day.

Rafael Pérez de la Concha Camacho  
 OWHC REGIONAL CO-ORDINATOR  
 SOUTH EUROPE AND MEDITERRANEAN CITIES

#### APPENDIX I

REPORT BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARIAT  
SOUTH EUROPE AND MEDITERRANEAN  
7th Symposium of the OWHC in Rhodes, 25th September 2003

#### A. Composition of the Region and current situation of the Regional Secretariat.

The Region of South Europe/Mediterranean is made up of 57 World Heritage Cities from seven countries, the Vatican City with the Holy See acting as Observing Member. Only the cities in bold belong to the Secretariat, having delivered their official adhesion.

France (3/8): Amiens, Carcassonne, Lyon, Mont San Michel, Nancy, Paris, Provins and Strasbourg.

Greece (1/2): Chora and Rhodes.

Italy (9/23): Assisi, Caltagirone, Capriate San Gervasio, Catania, Ferrara, Florence, Matera, Militello Val di Catania, Modena, Modica, Naples, Noto, Palazzolo Acreide, Pienza, Ragusa, Rome, San Gimignano, Scicli, Siena, Urbino, Venice, Verona and Vicenza.

Malta (0/1): La Valleta.

Portugal (3/5): Angra do Heroísmo, Évora, Guimarães, Oporto and Sintra.

Spain (15/15): Alcalá de Henares, Aranjuez, Ávila, Baeza, Cáceres, Córdoba, Cuenca, Granada, Ibiza, Mérida, Oviedo, Salamanca, San Cristóbal de la Laguna, Santiago de Compostela, Segovia, Toledo and Úbeda.

Request for adhesion from pending cities. Adhesion may be presented today by signing a document provided by the Regional Co-ordinator.

## B. Urge payment of quotas to OWHC in order to receive the 15% refund to the Regional Secretariats by the General Secretariat.

1. Refund in 2001: €7,207
2. Refund in 2002: €6,244

The City Council of Córdoba provides €30,050 each year, as well as the personal infrastructure to ensure a working Secretariat.

## C. Follow-up of Projects approved at the Secretariat Constitution Meeting (Córdoba, September 2001).

1. Creation and permanent update of a database of the Region's cities.  
STATUS: Completed.

2. Edition and distribution of the minutes of the Constitution of the Regional Secretariat.  
STATUS: Completed.

3. Creation of a Region website.  
STATUS: Completed.

4. Catalogue guide of the Region's cities.  
STATUS: Underway.

5. Attendance at various conferences in representation of the OWHC.  
STATUS: Completed (Guadalajara, Salamanca, Cuenca).

6. Information cards on the Regional Secretariat.  
STATUS: Completed.

An updated second edition has been produced for this Symposium.

7. Visit to Córdoba by the architect Manuel F. Chowell Zepeda, Director of City Protection and Vigilance. Municipality of Guanajuato, Mexico.  
STATUS: Completed.

8. Presentation of the World Monument Fund in Spain.

STATUS: Completed.

9. Co-ordination Meeting with all Regional Secretariats.

STATUS: Completed.

Budapest, September 2002; Rhodes, September 2003 (this morning).

10. Active information and dissemination of OWHC activities among the Region's cities.

STATUS: Completed.

11. New administrative offices for the Regional Secretariat.

STATUS: Completed.

12. Dissemination of the Secretariat in specialised publications.

STATUS: Completed.

13. Invitation to the Syrian cities of Damascus, Bosra and Aleppo to form part of our Regional Secretariat.

STATUS: At administrative stage.

14. Support to disseminate the Colloquium in Rhodes.

STATUS: Completed.

15. Contest for radio hams.

STATUS: Completed.

16. Second Regional Conference of World Heritage Cities of South Europe and Mediterranean.

STATUS: Completed. (10/04/03)

The minutes are being drawn up and will be issued in the forthcoming weeks.

17. Teaching and training for professionals from the related sectors.

STATUS: Pending being undertaken.

18. Exchange of information on investment or marketing opportunities.

STATUS: Pending being undertaken → Funding Commission: Évora

19. Collaboration with the European Tourism Commission.

STATUS: Pending being undertaken → Funding Commission: Rhodes

D. Follow-up of the Conclusions adopted in the 2nd Regional Conference of Córdoba (10/04/03):

1. The Regional Secretariat of South Europe and the Mediterranean supports the candidacy of Córdoba as European City of Culture for 2016.
2. Simultaneous holding of various activities on the occasion of the OWHC Solidarity Day (08/09/03), co-ordinated by the Regional Secretariat.

NOTE: The event held in Córdoba was attended by over 300 people of all ages. The OWHC flag was raised on the Caballerizas Reales building, an exhibition was opened with the works from the 1st “Córdoba World Heritage” plastic arts competition, and prizes were given to the winners. All the children were given the game “Cordópolis”, Discover Your Heritage Through Play, which was developed as part of the Heritage and Youth Project, presented in this Symposium by Elena Fernández.

3. Creation and summons of the 1st “Surfing Through the World Heritage Cities of South Europe and the Mediterranean” Internet Competition.

NOTE: The competition conditions were approved during the Solidarity Day. Said conditions were sent to all cities to be presented and disseminated on this day.

4. Creation of the Cultural Agenda of the OWHC Regional Secretariat of South Europe and the Mediterranean.

NOTE: Forms have been sent to each city, though very few have been returned.

5. Promote and facilitate exchanges between our respective cities in the various fields (social, economic, tourist, cultural, town-planning, etc.).

NOTE: An exchange recently came about between Córdoba and Palazzolo Acreide. Last May a classical theatre group from a Córdoba school participated in the Palazzolo Acreide International Festival of Classical Theatre, and next October a theatre group from this city plans to make a return visit to Córdoba.

6. Constitution of the following Technical Commissions:

- a. Funding Commission (Portugal). In principle, Évora will be the co-ordinating city for this commission, although this will be put to the rest of the Portuguese World Heritage cities for their confirmation.
- b. Tourism Commission (Greece). This commission will be co-ordinated by Rhodes.
- c. Town Planning and Rehabilitation Commission (France). This commission will be co-ordinated by Lyon.
- d. Culture Commission (Italy). This commission will be co-ordinated by Naples. The Regional Secretariat of Córdoba (Spain) will co-ordinate the functioning, composition, objectives and programmes of all the commissions.

7. Development and Promotion of Cultural Tourism in World Heritage Cities of the Regional Secretariat of South Europe and the Mediterranean, by drawing up and implementing a Cultural Tourism Promotion Plan.

NOTE: Pending being undertaken by the Tourism and Culture Commissions and the Regional Secretariat.

8. Undertake joint actions to make International Conferences itinerant between all the World Heritage Cities of the Regional Secretariat of South Europe and Mediterranean, with the collaboration of the respective Conventions Bureaux.

NOTE: Pending being undertaken by the Culture Commission and the Regional Secretariat.

9. Third Regional Conference of the World Heritage Cities of South Europe and the Mediterranean of the OWHC to be held in the Portuguese city of Évora in the first quarter of 2005. Henceforth, these Regional Conferences will alternate between the location of the Regional Secretariat (Córdoba), and a city belonging to the secretariat, alternating equally between the various countries.

NOTE: Finalise details on these matters and fix definitive date and place.

### E. Co-ordination for voting on the Board of Directors

Candidates presented: Bath (United Kingdom); Bergen (Norway); Córdoba (Spain); Cuzco (Peru); Dakar (Senegal); Kazan (Russian Federation); Lamu (Kenya); Luxembourg; Lyon (France); Marrakech (Morocco); Olinda (Brazil); Puebla (Mexico); Rhodes (Greece); Santiago de Compostela (Spain) and Sousse (Tunisia).

### F. Co-ordination for voting on the Presidency

Candidates presented: Puebla and Rhodes.

### G. Co-ordination for voting on the location of the 8th Colloquium.

Candidates presented: Cuzco and Kazan.

APPENDIX II