

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Adopted at  
the Council of Ministers for Culture from South-East Europe (CoMoCoSEE),  
24 April 2010, Cetinje (Montenegro)**

***On the implementation of the Ljubljana Process II:  
Rehabilitating our Common Heritage (RoCH)***

We, the Ministers of Culture involved in the *Regional Programme for Cultural and Natural Heritage in South-East Europe* (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”):

- Participating in the plenary meeting of the Council of Ministers of Culture of South-East Europe, organised under the chairmanship of Montenegro and attended by representatives from the Council of Europe, the European Commission, and the Regional Cooperation Council;
- Stating the importance of cultural heritage rehabilitation in contributing to both social and economic development, as well as fostering cultural diversity as a means of reconciliation and dialogue among cultures;
- Acknowledging the utmost importance of the practical impact of the Council of Europe and the European Commission joint action “Integrated Rehabilitation Project Plan / Survey of Architectural and Archaeological Heritage” (IRPP/SAAH), implemented since 2003;
- Recognising the IRPP/SAAH as a major management instrument based on a common methodology adapted to regional needs and specificities;
- Bearing in mind the Statement adopted in Ljubljana, 6<sup>th</sup> of November 2009 at the ministerial conference on "Rehabilitating our Common Heritage" under the auspices of the Slovenian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, concerning the continuation of the IRPP/SAAH after it comes to an end in November 2010;

Welcome the report presented by the Council of Europe, in co-operation with the European Commission, and have decided to:

1. Express our strong commitment to pursuing the cultural heritage rehabilitation process in South-East Europe through a transitional phase of three years under the auspices and management of the Regional Co-operation Council;
2. Endorse the *Ljubljana Process II: Rehabilitating our Common Heritage (RoCH)* project proposal submitted to this end in the document [AT(2010)099, 12 April 2010], which recommends:

- The creation of a "Regional Task Force for Culture and Society" by the Regional Co-operation Council;
  - The support of an international secretariat, created under the auspices of the Regional Co-operation Council;
  - The implementation of activities by "National Task Forces", set up in each very beneficiary country;
  - The continuing support for and follow-up of activities by the Council of Europe / European Commission, in order to ensure the full compliance of the project with the IRPP/SAAH principles.
3. Confirm our commitment to taking all the necessary steps and decisions to create "National Task Forces" and make them fully operational;
  4. Facilitate the transfer of RoCH mechanisms at the end of the three-year RoCH project, to become the permanent responsibility in operational terms of each the country of the region;
  5. Ask the Regional Co-operation Council to:
    - Undertake appropriate procedures relating to the European Union "Instrument for Pre-Accession", in order to secure funding for the project;
    - Prepare the "General Reference Framework" for the adoption at the Ministerial Conference, organised under the auspices of "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in September 2010.

Adopted in Cetinje on 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2010.