



SİVİL TOPLUM DESTEK EKİBİ CIVIL SOCIETY SUPPORT TEAM

Thematic Roundtable Meeting on “Environment” 10 June 2009 @ Merit Hotel Nicosia Meeting Minutes

Upon the decision made during the first meeting made on 26 May 2009, with 20 participants from 13 CSOs; the second meeting took place on 10 June 2009 at the Merit Hotel Nicosia at 15:00 hours. 21 people from 14 CSOs were present in the meeting. Below is the participant list:

Name-Surname	Organisation
Abdülkerim Karamanoğlu	ÇEKOVA
Adıgüzel Akdeniz	ÇAM-SEV
Ali Arensavaş	KEMA Foundation
Ali Korakan	EPA
Doğan Sahir	Green Action Movement
Ebru Deniz Tekman	Büyükkonuk Ecotourism Association/Friends of Karpaz
Ertaç Hazer	Green Action Movement
Gökhan Borhan	Lefke Foundation
Işık K. Oray	Cyprus Marine Science Foundation
Kemal Dirgen Tözer	Environment and Culture Association
Makbule Oktay	Lefke Environment and Promotion Association
Mehmet Ali Çelik	ÇEKOVA
Oytun Özbilgili	ÇAM-SEV
Orhan Aydeniz	KEMA Foundation
Osman Tuğrul	KEMA Foundation
Özgü Kaya	Lefke Community Centre
Özgür Yel	EPA
Teksen Köroğlu	Turkish Cypriot Medical Association
Tuğçe Karaderi	North Cyprus Underwater Association
Ulaş Oktay	Lefke Community Centre
Yasemin Çobanoğlu	Chamber of Environment Scientists

Meeting started with opening notes which included a summary of the prior meeting decisions. This was followed by a short introduction tour for the new comers. As in the programme, Jernej Stritih, the Deputy Team Leader of the Nature Protection Project (potential Natura 2000 Sites) in Cyprus, which is financed within the context of the EU Aid for the Turkish Cypriot community. This presentation provided an insight as to the context of the Project and ways of CSO involvement. The participants were able to ask questions on and/or provide opinions to the presentation.

Due to the reason that the presentation and the questions/answers part took more time than expected, it was decided to skip the “Opinions and discussion on the prioritized issues and compiling them under headings” part of the agenda and the heading proposals of the CSST was approved. Thus, the debate continued with the last



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item of the agenda.

In this part, the participants provided opinions regarding the headings proposed by the CSST. These were as follows:

- These headings do not include the protection of the cultural resources, and how the EU be of support to this issue
- These headings do not include the situation of the seas, protection of the live sea resources and sustainable fishing issues
- Do not include what should be done for the protection of the Caretta Carettas
- They do not include the forests issue separately
- Do not include the Dikmen dump area which is a major threat for public health
- CMC problem should be dealt with separately
- Environmental impact assessment is important
- Doe not include the energy policies
- The affect of environment problems on public health should be prioritized and dealt with

These proposals and opinions have been debated by the participants and the decision was made that they wanted to stick to the decisions and common points reached during the first meeting. Furthermore, the participants debated that, going over environmental problems one by one and into all different sectors within a 2 day conference is impossible and that the main headings decided upon covers most of these issues in a broader sense.

After this debate period, the Issues regarding the Conference started to be dealt with. In this part, some participants voiced opinions such as “a strong voice should come out of this conference” or “a solid decision should be reached”. Upon these needs, the decision was made that the second day workshops should be formatted in order to come up with an Acton Plan on an issue chosen by consensus. And after a short debate over what this issue could be, it came out as to be “ ***What can we do to have a public which has environment sensitivity, consciosness and awareness in North Cyprus and which techniques we can use?***”.

After identifying the aim and theme of the Workshop day, participants started to debate over the last panel of the first day, which has been spared for the CSOs. The debate was on the issues to be presented and who will be the presenters. The participants agreed altogether that in this panel, both the problems and the achievements should be presented. Regarding the problems, these issue proposals was brought forward:

- The already existing legislation is not implemented and not supervised
- The absence of a country wide physical plan
- The absence of a comprehensive environment policy
- Environmental impact assessments
- Decrees





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Also within the context of this problems part, participants talked about external barriers (ideological, political, etc) and internal barriers (ego-centrism, conflicts, etc).

As for the part on the achievements up to date, they talked about the successes of the CSOs both individually and also collectively.

After a consensus has been reached on the issues, the debate started over identifying the speakers for the panel. Most of the participant CSOs proposed themselves as speakers but due to timing problems, they decided to do a separate short meeting in the CSST office on 15 June 2009 at 16:30 hours.



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ANNEX I - MEETING PROGRAMME

SECOND THEMATIC ROUNDTABLE on “ENVIRONMENT” 10 June 2009 @ Merit Hotel Nicosia DRAFT PROGRAMME

15:00	Welcome and Opening
15:15 - 15:45	Introduction <i>For new participants</i> <i>Natura 2000 Project information sharing</i>
15:45 - 16:00	Summary of the First Meeting
16:00 - 17:00	Opinions and discussion on the prioritized issues and compiling them under headings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The making of “real” protection plans for both the environment and the cultural heritage in which all under and above ground resources including the water resources (sea, lake, rivers, etc) is utilized• The usage of these protection plans for developing the legal infrastructure and for implementation• The development of eco-tourism with the aim of protecting the village life; and cultural and natural values which is born from it• The inclusion of the civil society organisations to the processes and mechanisms in which the protection plans are prepared, laws are made and implemented• The necessity importance of working together and solidarity in influencing the decision makers• The barrier of property issue in protecting the cultural heritage• The importance of making the decision makers and implementing authorities to hear the voices and demands of the civil society and that there should be ways of achieving this. Sustaining the participation of consultants, general managers, parliament committee members in such meetings as much as possible• Institutions such as the EU could support the civil society organisations by promoting and pressuring the decision makers in doing what is necessary and to include them in the decision making





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At this point, the proposed headings by the CSST are as follows:

As Issues:

- Policy production & making, legislation/s and implementation/s
- Protection areas, their plans and laws
- Protection of the cultural heritage - *in a way to develop eco-tourism models*

As Methods:

- Working together in solidarity, advocacy and influencing the decision makers
- Participatory decision making processes which also include the civil society

17:00 - 17:30

Break

17:30 - 18:45

Issues regarding the Conference

Proposals of speakers, institutions, and session headings

Format of the conference

Duties and responsibilities

18:45 - 19:00

Summary and Closing



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