

## Specific Terms of Reference

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| <b>1. Committee Name</b> | <b>Committee of Experts on Transfrontier Co-operation (LR-CT)</b>         |
| <b>2. Committee Type</b> | Committee of Experts    Res(2005)47                                       |
| <b>3. Source of ToR</b>  | <a href="#"><u>Steering Committee on Local and Regional Democracy</u></a> |

### **4. Terms of Reference**

Having regard to:

the Action Plan of the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe that lays down, among the principal tasks of the Council of Europe, the strengthening of democracy, good governance and the rule of law, by developing, amongst others, transfrontier co-operation (Paragraph I.3. of the Action Plan).

Under the authority of the European Committee on Local and Regional Democracy (CDLR), and in relation with the implementation of project 2004/DGI/173 "Transfrontier Co-operation" of the Programme of Activities, the Committee is instructed to:

- i. to monitor the implementation of the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Co-operation between Territorial Communities or Authorities and its Protocols;
- ii. to make proposals for the elimination of obstacles, in particular of a legal nature, to transfrontier and interterritorial co-operation;
- iii. to facilitate the exchange of information and views on the experience gained, in particular good practice examples in the field of transfrontier and interterritorial co-operation.

### **5. Composition of the Committee**

#### **A. Members**

Governments of member states are entitled to appoint representatives of the highest possible rank and with particular work experience in the field of transfrontier and or inter-territorial co-operation.

The Council of Europe budget will bear the travel and subsistence expenses for one representative for each of the following 16 member states: Albania, Austria, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey.

#### **B. Participants**

- i. The Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe may send representatives to meetings of the Committee, at the charge of their administrative budget and without the right to vote.
- ii. The Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe may send representatives to meetings of the Committee, without the right to vote or defrayal of expenses.

#### **C. Other Participants**

- i. The European Commission may send representatives to meetings of the Committee, without the right to vote or defrayal of expenses.
- ii. States with observer status with the Council of Europe (Canada, Holy See, Japan, Mexico, United States of America) may send representatives to meetings of the Committee, without the right to vote or defrayal of expenses.
- iii. The following intergovernmental organisation may send representatives to meetings of the Committee, without the right to vote or defrayal of expenses:
  - Union économique Benelux.

#### **D. Observers**

The following non-governmental organisations may send representatives to meetings of

the Committee, without the right to vote or defrayal of expenses:

- Association of European Border Regions (AEBR);
- Assembly of European Regions (AER);
- International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP).

#### **6. Working Structures and Methods**

The Committee may have recourse to the services of consultants within the limits of available budgetary credits.

#### **7. Duration**

These terms of reference will expire on 31/12/2007.

[Note: maximum 3 years for subordinate bodies and preferably not more than 3 years also for Steering and Ad Hoc Committees]