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NOTE

From: Presidency
To: Council

Subject: Taking stock of the Council conclusions on 26 November 2012 on cultural governance
- *Information by the Presidency*

1. The Council conclusions on cultural governance, adopted on 26 November 2012¹, foresaw a stock-taking exercise to take place in 2015. The aim of the exercise was to assess how Member States and the Commission responded to the invitations addressed to them regarding the following topics: evidence-based policy making including cultural statistics, research on culture, mainstreaming of culture, public-private partnerships and participatory governance.
2. The stock-taking exercise took place in the Cultural Affairs Committee between January and March 2015. It was initiated by a background paper² which contained a set of questions on each topic to be answered by Member States and the Commission.
3. On the basis of the written and oral comments, the Council General Secretariat prepared a summary³ of the main trends in the follow-up to the invitations contained in 2012 Council conclusions on cultural governance at both national and European levels.

¹ OJ C 393, 19.12.2012, p. 8.

² doc. 17117/14

³ doc. 6814/15

4. In addition, the Presidency prepared a note⁴ that contains suggestions for future work in the areas covered by the 2012 Conclusions. The suggestions, which received a broad support in the Cultural Affairs Committee, are reproduced in the Annex to this note. They can be taken into account by Member States, the Commission and future Council Presidencies in determining the direction and content of any further initiative.
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⁴ doc. 6911/15

**Taking stock of the Council conclusions of 26 November 2012
on cultural governance**

Presidency suggestions for future work

The 2012 Council conclusions on cultural governance have foreseen a stock-taking exercise to take place in 2015. The conclusions invited Member States and the Commission to take a certain number of actions to promote on the one hand, evidence-based policy making and on the other hand, to promote synergies and develop integrated strategies. More specifically the invitations concerned the following five areas:

1. Cultural statistics
2. Research on culture
3. Mainstreaming of culture
4. Private-public partnerships
5. Participatory governance

The stock-taking exercise took place during the Latvian Presidency. The summary of the main trends in the follow up to the invitations set out in the 2012 Council conclusions can be found in document 6814/15.

Generally it seems that there is an overall agreement that these invitations are still relevant. Whilst progress has been achieved across all areas, there is also a room for a further work and the possibility for the Member States and the Commission to achieve even better results together.

The feedback received from the Member States and the Commission suggest that a further work could be carried out in the following areas:

1. In the area of **cultural statistics**:

Member States could continue with the implementation of the *ESS-net recommendations* and focus on data collection on the creative industries. Given Eurostat's crucial role in coordinating work in the statistical domain at EU level, Eurostat could deliver statistics on cultural employment and international trade in cultural goods and advance work on statistics on enterprises in the cultural sector, international trade in cultural services, cultural participation and expenditure. Eurostat could also collect data in specific cultural sub-sectors to allow for better comparability at sub-sectorial level.

As far as *satellite accounts* on culture are concerned, Member States could continue to exchange best practices and experience, including with Eurostat, also with a view to agreeing a common EU approach to satellite accounts.

2. In the area of **research on culture**:

Member States could reflect on a *dissemination strategy* for the results of cultural research, which could include a regular production of short, updated and user-friendly research summaries. The Commission platform on research and innovation policies and systems (ERAWATCH)⁵ could also be used to inform about cultural-related research. Member States could also consider to *coordinate* research activities in order to build a comprehensive body of evidence, for instance by setting up specific bodies in charge of cultural-related research. Interdisciplinary research could also be considered in order to reinforce knowledge transfer.

The Commission and Member States could raise awareness among the research community about existing *databases* of research institutions and projects in the area of culture with the aim of encouraging professional networking across the EU and stimulating transnational research, such as for instance CORDIS⁶.

⁵ <http://erawatch.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

⁶ CORDIS (<http://cordis.europa.eu>) is the Commission's primary public repository and portal to disseminate information on all EU-funded research projects and their results in the broadest sense. It also gives a possibility to look for EU research partners. The webpages currently exist in 6 languages.

3. In the area of **mainstreaming of culture:**

Member States could further develop systemic *cross-sectorial cooperation* among ministries, for instance via mixed working groups, in order to promote mutual understanding among the sectors involved. The development of an *entrepreneurial mind-set* in artistic education by creating links between arts educations and local creative entrepreneurs and SMEs could be considered. Together with the Commission, Member States could keep *raising awareness* among politicians that culture and creativity is a key issue for the economy and social policy and that economy and social policy is a key issue for culture.

4. In the area of **private-public partnerships (PPPs):**

Bearing in mind that PPPs are a complementary source of funding, Member States and the Commission could include, where relevant, good practice on PPPs when working on topics identified under the Council Work Plan for Culture 2015-2018. Furthermore, Member States could be invited to share their experience and best practice on PPPs in the cultural and creative sectors, if they exist, or on PPPs used in other sectors. Possible guidelines for successful PPPs in cultural and creative sectors could also be considered.

5. In the area of **participatory governance:**

Member States could establish or continue to carry on structured dialogue with civil society. The Commission, when identifying topics for consultations with European civil society, could consider the priorities set up in the Work Plan for Culture 2015-2018 in order to enrich the debate of the OMC expert groups.