

LUXEMBOURG PRESIDENCY
CULTURAL PROGRAMME

Work schedule for cultural affairs



*Présidence luxembourgeoise
du Conseil de l'Union européenne*

Work schedule for cultural affairs (rolling agenda)

Under the Dutch Presidency, the ministers for culture established a work schedule for cultural affairs which will guide the work of the 25 Member States during **2005** and **2006**. The Luxembourg Presidency will be the first to test this rolling agenda, for which five priorities have been established:

- (1) “as part of the Lisbon process: research into the role of creativity and culture industries, including the audiovisual sector, in economic growth; (culture tourism and the culture industries, including the audiovisual sector)”: the Luxembourg Presidency will deal with issues relating to culture tourism and the culture industries in specialised seminars.
- (2) “coordination of digitisation in order to provide citizens with unrestricted, lasting and safe digital access to Europe’s cultural heritage, to support development towards a digital Europe through the rapid broadcast of cultural information and to help establish an information economy”; the Luxembourg Presidency will be involved with drawing up an action plan
- (3) “updating of the European Culture portal in order to improve artists’ mobility, collection mobility and cross-cultural dialogue”: the Commission will put forward a master plan in the first six months of 2005
- (4) “Collection mobility (works of art, collections and exhibitions). A committee of museology experts will be responsible for formulating recommendations to facilitate the mobility of European collections; the problems addressed will include: insurance (compensation) and norms relating to loan agreements and guidelines, registration, digitisation (please refer also to the Lund Action Plan)”: an ad-hoc report will be submitted by the committee of experts appointed under the Dutch Presidency
- (5) “Mobility of persons: solutions must be found to the obstacles caused by taxation systems”: a report will be ready in the first six months of 2006

Culture 2007

The Luxembourg Presidency will proceed to consider the substance of the application in the first reading of the “Proposal of the European Parliament and the Council to establish the Culture 2007 programme (2007-2013)”. The aims of this programme are to promote the cross-border mobility of people working in the cultural sector and the cross-border movement of art works and to facilitate cross-cultural dialogue. It is intended to replace the present programme, Culture 2000. The introduction of the programme will be based on three lines of action:

- Direct financial assistance to experimental or special projects involving lasting cooperation;
- Promotion of bodies active in cultural fields at European level;
- Support for analysis and informational activities, as well as the collection and distribution of information in the field of cultural cooperation. The budget proposed by the European Commission is EUR 408,000,000. Because this matter is entangled with discussions on the financial perspectives, the Luxembourg Presidency will be better able to move the Council in the direction of the programme, it being understood that the budget question can only be resolved once agreement on the financial perspectives has been reached.

European Culture Capitals:

- Nomination of the jury members for 2010 and, possibly, naming of the European Culture Capitals 2009,
- Proposal modifying the decision taken in May 1999 setting out the procedure of naming the European Culture Capitals: first reading.

UNESCO draft convention on the protection of diversity of cultural content and artistic expression:

In full expectation of the adoption of this international convention during the UNESCO General Conference in October, the Luxembourg Presidency will become involved on two fronts. It will:

- work on the adoption of a code of conduct which will facilitate relations between the Commission and the Member States in the implementation of the Commission's mandate for negotiation;
- closely monitor the negotiations held within UNESCO.