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THE ARCHITECTURAL POLICY OF ESTONIA

*Passed at the Parliamentary sitting 22.10.2002, protocol no.
43, item no. 5*

With the development of a market economy the responsibility of the state increases in areas susceptible to change, like planning, architecture, and construction. Today's existing constructed environment will last for decades, but current government policy, and the lax administrative control by local governments of planning and development cannot guarantee its social and aesthetic merit. At the same time there is the ever-increasing need to design larger spatial units – whole suburbs, units of infrastructure, and the connections that link them.

In developed European countries architecture is recognised as an integral part of culture and the life environment. In the architecture policies of the member countries of the European Union, architecture is treated as part of the culture and the economy. It is considered, not only as a part of the artistic or cultural heritage, but also as a professional service provided for society in the form of designing the built environment. The resolution of the European Council on 12 February 2001 emphasises the importance of a well-designed urban and rural environment. Important documents in this regard include the Torremolinos Charter (1983), which drafts the principles and regulations for regional and spatial planning, and the Granada Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (1985). Estonia joined this Convention in 1995. In Estonia, the effect of these documents on environmental protection, sustainable development and architectural heritage is already evident in the wording of the government environment strategy, and in the laws governing cultural heritage and sustainable development. It is also evident in the implementation of Agenda 21. Estonia's participation, since 1998, in European, the Europe-wide architectural competition for architecture and urban design, has played a vital role in bringing attention to Estonian architecture.

The government is aware that Estonia needs a state architectural policy, which would act as a guide for the development of a new environment, based on the needs of the state and its citizens, and at the same time preserving its architectural heritage for future generations. Until now, the term environment has been used primarily in reference to the natural environment. However the aim of this document is to extend its meaning to the urban environment, where approximately 70% of Estonians live.

The State

The State, being responsible for ensuring the basic rights of its citizens, is accountable for the human habitation environment. According to the constitution, Estonia's national wealth consists of its natural environment in the form of its natural resources. The built environment has, until now, been overlooked in Estonia's legislature. The administration of the environment on a national basis is fragmented between different departments. Planning and environmental protection is in the hands of the Ministry of the Environment. Regional development and local government is partly handled by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and partly by the minister for regional development. Construction and housing administration is the responsibility of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, while heritage conservation is the domain of the Ministry of Culture. The development of the built environment requires the coordination of several disciplines, such as regional development, landscaping, the architectural and structural design of buildings, as well as the renovation and restoration, supervision, sustainable use, and conservation of the architectural heritage.

The county councils mediate the aims of the national architectural policy and sustainable planning principles for the municipal governments through their planning activities. County governors are responsible for the drawing up and official supervision of planning and development in the county. It is not possible to competently carry out these tasks without an architect. Therefore the re-

establishment of the position of municipal architect should be considered. At present only seven county councils employ an architect.

The state, as an owner of property and a client, can be an example to others. Who designs important public buildings must be decided by local or international competitions. The state would then be responsible for implementing the winning design, by providing the necessary resources. It is in the interests of the state to have fair competition, a public interested in architecture, an international image for the architecture of Estonia, and competitive architects.

Architectural heritage forms a substantial part of the built environment. State-funded restoration and conservation of cultural and architectural heritage is one of today's priorities. The architectural heritage of Estonia has received international interest, and is becoming increasingly important as a tourist attraction. The state considers it a necessity to raise the interest of institutions and individuals in the conservation and restoration of the memorials within their care. The first step in this direction has been the re-establishment of the Heritage Board, and the inauguration of national heritage programmes.

A secure, effective and well-designed environment is everybody's basic right. This the state guarantees through legislation and administration.

The aim of architectural policy is to treat the built environment as part of Estonia's national wealth, and to maintain and increase its value.

To this end the state encourages cooperation between its various ministries such as those of the environment, economic affairs, roads and communication, internal affairs, culture, agriculture, education, social affairs and finance, as well as with municipal government institutions, the private sector, the third sector, and its architects.

In order to negotiate the administrative boundaries and establish a balance, the state considers it necessary to create an architectural council, which would hold a long-term view of appropriate planning, design and construction and which would coordinate the tasks of the different offices and institutions in a joint project. The council would make sure that the different aspects of each project (environment, roads, railways, energy, residential areas, etc.) affecting the built environment took into account the spatial aspect and appraised the planning and architectural solution as a whole.

The State, through the creation of new laws, intends to take more responsibility in the planning, design and construction process than it has to date.

Local Government

The ultimate authority and responsibility for planning, design and construction has been delegated by the state to local government through the planning and building law. Local government can institute and implement the rules (building regulations, etc), long-term programmes, and strategies for planning and architectural design. They can coordinate planning activities by procuring planning services or executing the planning themselves. Since the planning and building law came into force, general planning has been implemented, or is in the process of being drawn up, for 30 towns and cities and 110 rural municipalities. Fourteen county plans have already been completed.

Only a few of Estonia's 247 local governments have the resources to implement the planning and construction responsibilities assigned to them by law. Only the largest towns have an architect on the city council, and only every fifth county has one on its county council. The situation is no better when it comes to construction specialists. A solution must be found which would enable smaller towns and parishes to jointly employ planners, architects and construction specialists.

If the local government does not have a comprehensive planning policy, there is a risk that the environment could be spoiled by individual plans which do not take into account the overall vision for the whole region, or by temporary buildings

erected due to lack of resources. In larger administrative centres it is not possible to ensure optimal planning and a constant architectural competence by outsourcing planning services. State government and local government, by assuming responsibility, should be able to fully realise the long-term goals set in building projects and planning programmes. Therefore it would be expedient in larger towns to form a planning and architecture committee to advise the city council.

Local governments need the support of the state government in initiating and managing environmental projects, including architectural projects.

The basis for the successful functioning of local government is the understanding that planning is an effective tool to balance the development of the natural and built environment. Municipalities have to realise that one of their most important missions is to promote good architecture and planning that improves the quality of the environment. Therefore the municipal government must make sure that all the groundwork in planning and construction is professionally done. At the same time they must raise public awareness, and make sure that the public is involved in the planning process.

Private Investors, the Third Sector and the Public

The client has the right to go ahead provided he does not jeopardise lives or infringe on the rights of others. This is ensured by adhering to building regulations and conforming to appropriate standards. The duty of government and municipal councils is to avoid unnecessary bureaucracy and wasting of time in the planning and building process. The public sector must work hand in hand with the private sector to ensure that the interests of both are served and investment opportunities realised, thus increasing the potential to create a quality environment. The government acknowledges the private sector as a worthy partner in creating quality architecture.

In developing large sites, the local government and the private investors occupying the site should unite in their efforts to achieve a comprehensive

solution for the whole site. Development of the site piecemeal by private investors should be avoided. A combined effort would result in the most effective use of resources, at the same time taking into account the needs of the residents. We assume that all investors wish to participate in the creation of good architecture. Frequently however, the client is motivated foremost by money. Investing in architecture may seem at first nebulous and unprofitable. An inaccurate grasp of the problem, misconceptions, and lack of resources could also be a hindrance to good architectural and environmental solutions. The client has to be guided and educated in the benefits of architectural design. Therefore it is important to create appropriate educational opportunities that provide guidance, and which encourage the exchange of ideas.

The state supports institutions that endeavour to popularise architecture, such as the Museum of Estonian Architecture and academic and popular publications dealing with architecture. However, in this respect, the government would like a more diverse approach from the media and also from the architectural profession itself, an approach that is directed at the general public.

The private investor, the third sector, and the general public are all part of the public sector, and all have a responsibility in creating a built environment of quality, that is aesthetically pleasing. The government is prepared to do its part in raising the architectural and environmental awareness of the public sector.

The Architects

The Union of Estonia Architects, founded in 1922, represents all qualified architects in Estonia. The architect is a specialist whose professionalism is determined by the education available. Educational policy has to support architectural policy. The government wants to bring Estonia's architectural schooling into line with current European requirements. This would mean that Estonian diplomas would be accepted, and thus guarantee Estonian architects

the right to practice in the rest of the European Union. It is important to provide continuing education and training opportunities for architects already qualified.

In higher education in Estonia, a broadening tendency is evident in architecture and related subjects. Beside building-focused architectural studies, it is now possible to study town planning and landscape architecture. Keeping in mind Estonia's small size it is important to coordinate training in a way that avoids unnecessary duplication as well as excessively narrow profiling.

The quality of education provided in higher institutions depends on the professionalism of the teachers. The government can help raise the standard of teachers by providing academic scholarships and encouraging research at the universities in architecture, town planning, building technology and materials. Opportunities must be created for international academic experts to contribute to architectural teaching. An architect's relation to society is not only a matter of aesthetics – it also has a social dimension. The latter is provided by the confidence of the government and a society that recognises the architect as a creator of the living environment enabling him to use his expertise in taking part in the developmental processes. Architects have a great responsibility towards society. The quality of the environment depends on the professional competence and integrity of the architect as the designer of the environment. This means that the architect is obliged to constantly develop his professional expertise. In order to improve the built environment the architect has to take a more active role in raising the awareness of the general public, and fostering an understanding and interest in a well-designed environment.

The state considers it necessary to align Estonia's architectural schooling with international norms, thus ensuring the recognition of Estonian diplomas abroad. The government supports the raising of the qualifications of lecturers in architecture and building, and encourages lecturers from abroad to come to Estonian universities.

Architects are often involved in large capital investments, and with this comes great responsibility. The importance of the architect as designer of the spatial environment and shaper of social development has to be recognised, taken into account, and put to good use.

Implementation of the Architectural Policy

The Aims of the Architectural Policy:

- To consider the built environment as part of Estonia's national wealth and to conserve and increase its value.
- To create the conditions for designing a safe and harmonious built environment that meets the needs of the society.
- To increase the public's awareness of their responsibility in the living environment, by popularising architecture and educating the public about architectural aims.
- To encourage spatial planning, the creation of quality architecture, and high quality construction.
- To nurture architectural education and research in architecture, planning, town planning, building technology and materials.
- To recognise the architectural heritage as one aspect of national cultural history and improve its conservation with appropriate measures.

To achieve the aims of the architectural policy, greater cooperation is needed between the state, local government and non-government organisations. Current strategies have to be revised and, if necessary, changes implemented.

A detailed programme has to be worked out in order to achieve the aims of the architectural policy.

**The programme for
Implementing the Architectural
Policy 2004–2008**

*Passed at the Parliamentary sitting 17 June 2004, protocol
no. 25, item no. 3*

THE PROGRAMME FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ARCHITECTURAL POLICY 2004 – 2008

A committee of experts was formed on 23 December 2002 in accordance with Government regulation no. 874-K to work out a detailed programme.

Tõnu Laigu, the President of the Union of Estonian Architects, was appointed chairman of the committee. Members of the committee: Andres Alver, architect; Heli Aru, Chairman of the Division for Higher Education Policy at the Ministry of Education and Research; Lia Gailan, Chief Specialist from the Construction and Housing Department of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication; Veljo Kaasik, architect and Chairman of the Architectural Council of the Ministry of Culture; Heikki Kalle, Chairman of the Association of Estonian Planners; Margus Koot, architect; Jüri Lass, Deputy Head of the Planning Department of the Ministry of Environment; Ülar Mark, architect and representative of the Union of Estonian Architects; Heldur Meerits, member of the Architectural Council of the Ministry of Culture; Natalja Nikolajeva, secretary of the Division for Crime Prevention in the Ministry of Justice; Ebe Nõmberg, Counsellor for the Arts in the Ministry of Culture; Anton Pärn, Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture; Jüri Soolep, Dean of Architecture at the Estonian Academy of Arts; Meeli Truu, architect; and Igor Ligema, Deputy Head of the Department of Local Government in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Subsequently, Andres Levald, architect and Estonian delegate to the European Architectural Council, was also invited to join the committee. Jaan Kurm, development analyst, directed the work of the committee.

The basis for the work programme was architectural policy resolution no. 43 and its aims, passed at the Parliamentary sitting on 22 October 2002. As the work progressed the aims of the policy were broadened, revised, and reworded.

During the year, regular meetings of the expert committee took place. A number of seminars, consultations, and interviews with organisations and specialists in specific fields were organised. The agenda has been circulated for approval to various ministries and organisations. In revising the programme all those aims and anticipated outcomes which met with the approval of all committee members were retained intact.

The implementation of the programme is co-ordinated by an architecture committee, which reports to the minister of culture. The funds allocated for implementation of the programme are determined in the annual state budget.

INTRODUCTION

A built environment that is judiciously developed so as to remain in concordance with the existing local heritage, along with a well-considered urban milieu and sustainability of the natural environment, is a prerequisite for quality of life.

In joining the European Union, Estonia has become part of a global spatial system. Since the natural and built environment of Estonia is now an integral part of this entity, a cohesive approach is necessary in dealing with architecture and the urban environment.

Constant urban growth and the changes to infrastructure associated with it, affects the environment of the whole of Estonia. Such an integrated and holistic approach, with the support of the general public both now and in the future, may be the only way can we retain our identity in a world of growing globalisation. Estonia's architectural policy and the specific programme for 2004 –2008 provides a feasible basis for this.

This architectural policy agenda is the first comprehensive documentation of the measures necessary for the creation and preservation of a quality built environment in Estonia. The agenda is inevitably influenced by the current situation, and thus will at some point have to be revised. Yet at the same time it formulates important principles and contains directives for long-term action.

Tõnu Laigu

Chairman of the Programme Committee

Veljo Kaasik

Chairman of the Architectural Council of the Ministry of Culture

THE AIMS OF THE ARCHITECTURAL PROGRAM

<i>Aims</i>	<i>Measures</i>	<i>Anticipated outcomes</i>	<i>Collaborators</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
1. Increase the architectural administrative effectiveness of national and local government under the guidance of experts.	<p>1.1 Legislative measures:</p> <p>1.1.1. defining “built environment”</p> <p>1.1.2. increasing the planning powers of municipal governments</p> <p>1.1.3. coordinating spatial planning, municipal development plans and the budget</p> <p>1.1.4. taking part in shaping EU legislation in the field of architecture</p> <p>1.1.5. amending national and municipal development plans to conform to Estonia’s architectural policy.</p>	<p>Changes in legislation guarantee that the concerns and welfare of the public are taken into account.</p> <p>New laws help to create a quality built environment by ensuring a balanced and sustainable use of resources.</p>	KM ¹ , JM, KKM, SM, MKM, SoM, HTM, RM, ELL, EMOL, EAL, EPÜ, EPBL, MKA	2004–2008
	1.2. Bringing the Public Procurement Act and other public procurement regulations into line with the commendable practice of organising architectural competitions. Working out new guidelines for organising such competitions.	A regulated system of public procurement and architectural competitions guarantees quality solutions in planning the built environment.	EAL, JM, KKM, MKM, SM, SoM, RHA, RKV, KULKA	2004–2006

<i>Aims</i>	<i>Measures</i>	<i>Anticipated outcomes</i>	<i>Collaborators</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
	1.3. Expanding architectural representation within the structure of the Ministry of Culture.	Guarantees the implementation of the architectural policy, and makes sure its work program is put into practice at the national level by facilitating co-operation between the public, the private and the third sector.	KM, JM, KKM, SM, MKM, RM, EMOL, ELL, EAL, EPÜ, EPBL	From 2005
	1.4. Formation of an architectural committee reporting to the minister of culture.	Ensures that the minister is better able to advise the government and shape public opinion.	KM, JM, KKM, SM, MKM, RM, EMOL, ELL, EAL, EPÜ, EPBL	2004–2006
	1.5. Architectural communication programme.	Long-term joint projects will come about which develop and preserve the built environment, shape public opinion and earn recognition for their merit in Estonia and internationally.	EAL, KM, EAM, EMOL, ELL, EPÜ, EPBL, EI, EKA, MKA, SM, KULKA	2004–2008
	1.6. Provide state funding which would enable municipal governments to jointly employ top architectural and construction specialists in their development projects.	Enables municipal governments to use the services of leading specialists, vital in creating a quality built environment.	KKM, SM, RM, JM, ELL, EMOL, EAL, EPÜ, EPBL	2005–2008
2. Support architectural studies, research and further education.	2.1. Research the state of the architectural profession and education in Estonia and assess how they compare with other EU countries.	A study of the architectural profession and education in Estonia, and recommendations for bringing the existing system up-to-date and in line with EU guidelines.	EKA, TTÜ, TÜ, TTK, EPMÜ, HTM, EAL	2005–2008

<i>Aims</i>	<i>Measures</i>	<i>Anticipated outcomes</i>	<i>Collaborators</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
	2.2. Develop and implement an international postgraduate course in urban design.	Complements university education in planning and ensures Estonia's competitiveness in the world.	EKA, EAL, HTM, TPÜ, TRK, TÜ, TTÜ	2005–2006
	2.3 Develop and implement a system of further education in architecture and planning. Create a programme for raising public awareness of architecture and planning.	Enables public servants, architects, construction engineers, builders and workers in related industries to keep abreast of changes in architectural planning theory and practice.	EKA, HTM, EAL, MKA, EAM, TRK, TTK, TTÜ	Pilot scheme 2005 Permanent from 2006
	2.4. Professional standards to be worked out, and a system of accreditation to be devised and implemented in architecture.	Professional standards and a system of accreditation ensure a high professional standard, and increases the responsibility of the designers of the built environment. At the same time these standards regulate the free flow of services, and market forces in Estonia and Europe thus helping to create a built environment of the highest quality.	MKM, RETTER, SM, EAL, EPÜ, EKA, HTM, SoM, KK	2004–2005
	2.5. Continued development and support for architectural publications.	Ensures the publication and distribution of Estonian publications dealing with architecture, architectural theory, architectural policy, monographs etc. in Estonia and in the international arena.	EKA, EAL, EAM, EVM, MKA, TRK, DOCOMOMO, KULKA	2004–2008
	2.6. Initiation and support for a study and a system of	Creates a premise for an overall, effective and consistent management	EKA, MKA, EAM, EVM, ETI,	2005–2008

<i>Aims</i>	<i>Measures</i>	<i>Anticipated outcomes</i>	<i>Collaborators</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
	analysis of the architectural sector.	of the built environment, and its sustainable development.	EAL, TTÜ, TRK, DOCOMOMO, KULKA	
	2.7. Initiation of and support for conservation and research projects of Estonia's architectural heritage. (Inventory, documentation and publication)	Ensures that Estonia's architectural heritage and contemporary architecture (eg. projects and competition entries etc.) are systematically documented, researched and publicised.	EAM, EKA, MKA, EVM, EAL, TRK, TÜ, DOCOMOMO, RA, PKÜ, SRIK, KULKA	2005–2008
3. Furthering international contacts in Estonian architecture.	3.1. Participation in international architectural competitions and exhibitions, participation in joint enterprises, initiation of joint projects.			
	3.1.1. Taking part in the Venice Architecture Biennale.	Brings Estonia's contemporary architecture and architectural thinking to an international forum; periodically every two years.	EAL, KM, EAM, KULKA	2004 and 2006
	3.1.2. Continue to participate in organising the Nordic and Baltic Architecture Triennial.	Ensures an exchange of international architectural information in Estonia via the architecture seminar and exhibition; periodically every three years.	MTÜ "Nordic and Baltic Architecture Triennial". EAL, EAM, KULKA	2005 and 2008
	3.1.3. Continue to participate in organising the international architecture competition EUROSPAN	Establishes the practice of taking part in international architectural competitions. Creates ideal opportunities for co-operation between Estonian and European cities, and the promotion of European lifestyles in public housing; 2-	EAL, MKM, KM, SM, KOVD, KULKA	2004–2006 Europan 8 2006–2008 Europan 9

<i>Aims</i>	<i>Measures</i>	<i>Anticipated outcomes</i>	<i>Collaborators</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
		2.5 year cycles.		
	3.1.4. Continue participating in the European architectural competition <i>Mies van der Rohe Award</i>	Provides an opportunity to show the best of contemporary architecture being built in Estonia at a Europe-wide architectural competition; periodically every two years.	EAL, EAM, KULKA	2004–2008
	3.2. Participating in the work of international organisations.			
	3.2.1. Architects Council of Europe. ACE	Estonian architects represented in the most important professional association of European architectural organisations. Best information network and forum for discussing architectural problems at the European level.	EAL	2004–2008
	3.2.2. International Union of Architects (Union Internationale des Architectes) UIA.	Estonian architects represented in the most important global association of professional architectural organisations. The best information network and forum for discussing architectural problems at the global level.	EAL	2004–2008
	3.2.3. European Association for Architectural Education EAAE	Estonian architectural education represented in the association of European institutes of architecture.	EKA	2004–2008
	3.2.4. <i>DOCOMOMO</i> . International organisation	Protection of the modern architectural heritage in Estonia and elsewhere in the	DOCOMOMO Estonian	2004–2008

<i>Aims</i>	<i>Measures</i>	<i>Anticipated outcomes</i>	<i>Collaborators</i>	<i>Time frame</i>
	responsible for the documentation and conservation of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the modern environment.	world, in co-operation with other countries. Constant nomination and assessment of worthy buildings, and informing the public.	working party EAL, EAM, ELL, EMOL, MKA	
	3.2.5. International Federation for Housing and Planning IFHP	Promotion of interdisciplinary planning in Estonia in co-operation with other countries.	EPÜ	2004–2008
	3.2.6. International Confederation of Architecture Museums ICAM	Estonia participates nationally and regionally in the organization of world architecture museums and archives.	EAM	2004–2008
	3.2.7. Europa Nostra Pan-European federation of non-government and non-profit heritage organisations.	Promotion of architectural heritage in Estonia and collaboration with other countries.	MKA, EAM	2004–2008

1 Next steps:

DOCOMOMO – the Estonian working group for the International Organisation for Documenting and Protecting Modern Architecture, EAM – Estonian Architecture Museum, EAL – Union of Estonian Architects, EI – Estonian Institute, ELL – Association of Estonian Cities, EMOVL – Association of Municipalities of Estonia, EPBL – Estonian Association of Architectural and Consulting Engineering Companies, EPÜ – Association of Estonian Planners, EPMÜ – Estonian Agricultural University, ETI – Estonian Institute for Future Studies, EVM – Estonian Open Air Museum, HTM – Ministry of Education and Research, JM – Ministry of Justice, KK – The Estonian Qualification Authority, KKM – Ministry of the Environment, KOVd – Municipal Governments, KULKA – Cultural Endowment of Estonia, MKA – National Heritage Board, MKM – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, PKÜ – Association for the Protection of Wooden Architecture, RETTER – The National Register Of Entrepreneurs Operating In Spheres That Require Special Stipulations, RA – National Archives, RHA – State Procurements Board, RKV – AS State Property, RM – Ministry of Finance, SM – Ministry of Internal Affairs, SoM – Ministry of Social Affairs, SRIK – Sustainable Renovation Information Centre, TPÜ – Tallinn Pedagogical University, TRK – Tallinn School of Restoration, TTK – Tallinn College of Engineering, TTÜ – Tallinn Technical University, TÜ – Tartu University.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ARCHITECTURAL PROGRAMME

1. To increase the effectiveness of national and regional governments in giving direction to the architectural profession

1.1. Legislative measures:

1.1.1. Defining and evaluating the term “built environment”;

1.1.2. Increasing the role of local governments in planning and development;

1.1.3. Co-ordination of spatial planning, the regional government development plan and the budget;

1.1.4. Participating in formulating EU architectural legislation;

1.1.5. Supplementing state and regional government development programmes in accordance with Estonian architectural policy

The objective of the legislative measures is to further the public interest. Ascertaining public interests is a prerequisite for a balanced relationship between the public, private, and third sector. In architecture, cooperation between the public and private sectors (Public-Private-Partnership, PPP) is important, especially where large developments are concerned.

A separate domain involves the problems associated with the creation of municipalities on land currently under state control, should it become evident during planning that the land in question has been allocated for public use, or is needed for the development plans of the local government. It is imperative to clarify, at the national level, the criteria for land reform – whether this is still in process or already complete.

Only the core principles are outlined in this programme. To resolve these problems a task force of experts needs to be convened comprising, in addition to architects, also lawyers and specialists from various ministries and institutions. The task force will be formed by the Architectural Committee (1.3 in the programme).

1.2. Bringing the Public Procurement Act and other public procurement regulations in line with the time-honoured practice of organising architectural competitions. Develop new guidelines for organising such competitions. Guidelines for organising

architectural competitions, together with examples of the procedure, promote and encourage the organising of such competitions in the public as well as the private sector. To this end, good and effective examples are necessary.

Development plans in the public sector must be implemented via architectural competitions. Currently there is a discrepancy between the state procurement act and the time-honoured custom of architectural competitions. The main stumbling blocks are the prerequisites of anonymity, quality assurance, and judging criteria. To eliminate contradictions the state procurement act needs to be amended. It is also necessary to amend the regulations relating to public procurement which affect the built environment.

The Union of Estonian Architects will assist the government and regional institutions to organise architectural competitions, and competitions for proposals for state procurement, and will advise on implementation after the competition.

The main principles for amending public procurement are:

- Procurement of architectural services must be based on the quality of the design and its technical solutions – not on the price;
- A distinction must be made between procurement for planning and procurement for construction;
- The selection criteria must be brought in line with the nature of architectural services;
- It should be obligatory that winning designs in competitions for architecture and urban planning be realised and the proposed solutions accepted;
- Copyright needs better protection.
- There should be fair payment for the initial design process.

1.3. Broadening architectural representation in the structure of the Ministry of Culture

The position of architectural counsellor will be created in the Ministry of Culture. The task of the counsellor is to coordinate the work of the Architectural Committee in implementing the architectural programme, and to advise municipal and local governments in architectural policy matters, including planned investments in the built environment. The counsellor represents the state in architectural planning when dealing with municipal councils, the private sector, the third sector, and the general public.

1.4. The creation of an architectural committee under the minister of culture.

The architectural committee will replace the existing Architectural Council at the Ministry of Culture. The basic task of the committee is to advise the government, through the minister for culture, regarding the formulation of national strategies affecting the built environment, such as investment planning (e.g. policy and programmes for culture, the environment, public property, housing, construction, or public procurement). The task of the committee is to draft bills to amend existing laws, and to submit these to the government through the Ministry of Culture. The committee will then form a task force to consider matters dealing with architecture and planning (regulations, quality standards, architectural competitions, architectural guidelines, etc.)

The committee has to analyse the present state of architecture and the inherent shortcomings (e.g. determine which municipal and local councils have no architect and work out a plan to provide such expertise).

The committee will implement and develop architectural policy.

1.5. The programme for communication in the architectural sector.

The communication programme involves the communication channels between the target groups regarding general information, collaborative projects and public relations.

The task of the communication programme is to educate the public and the private sector, and shape their understanding, regarding construction heritage, and the importance, merit, and essence of professional planning and design. It also involves establishing common ground between, on the one hand, architects, landscape architects, planners, interior designers and so on; and on the other hand, builders and property developers and so on – and the subsequent formulation of common objectives. The aim is to acquaint the general public with both heritage architecture and the finest examples of contemporary architecture (e.g. exhibitions, workshops, seminars), and disseminate information about architectural awards as well as the acknowledgment of achievements in architecture and sustainable development.

A systematic programme has to be compiled for disseminating architectural information – a programme that utilises both local and international channels. In implementing the communication programme, all forms of media should be utilised (print media, television, radio, the Internet etc.)

In short, the aim is to develop the built environment, shape public opinion, acknowledge achievements of merit in Estonia, and publicise these abroad.

1.6. Establish a national system of funding that would enable several municipal governments to jointly employ top architectural and construction specialists in their development projects.

It is not practical in small municipalities, where little large scale planning or development is undertaken, to employ a full-time architect or planner. Moreover, it would be difficult under current conditions to find a top specialist for such a position. One possible solution would be to create a national funding scheme that would enable several municipalities to jointly employ such specialists. Such a plan would motivate municipal governments to adopt a more rational course of action, and would raise the standard of architectural development and planning in smaller regions.

2. Support for architectural education, continuing education, and research.

2.1. Analyse the state of the architectural profession and architectural education in Estonia and assess how these compare with other EU countries.

This study would assess the current professional standard of architects and planners, whether they are being fully employed, the nature of their work, their standing, location, etc. It would also provide data for planning architectural education via an estimate of future needs, in terms of numbers and specific areas.

The study would establish the state of architectural education today, and would analyse and determine any changes that may be necessary. It would also provide valuable data for co-operation between the various institutions to ensure a rational use of the resources available for a common outcome. The study would also analyse the practice of specialising in various fields such as architecture, landscape architecture, planning and urban design, etc.

The study would provide valuable information for making amendments to architectural education in order to bring it up to contemporary standards. It would also provide a basis for developing architectural research.

The study would compare the educational level of Estonian architectural specialists and the standard and nature of their education. An assessment would then be made regarding co-operation with other European Union countries in the training of architectural specialists. The training of specialists would be regulated by professional standards.

2.2. Development and implementation of an international post-graduate course in urban design.

An international post-graduate course in urban design would make Estonia, in this respect, competitive in the international arena. One positive aspect would be the acquisition of quality instructors, including instructors from abroad.

Urban design is an interdisciplinary field of study that combines different aspects of urban development. In Estonia, there are large residential areas and abandoned industrial sites and their renewal requires the skills and knowledge of qualified urban designers. In close co-operation with municipal governments, schools and students would gain practical experience while generating new ideas for the government.

2.3. Establishing a system for further education in architecture and planning, and creating a programme for public education.

Advanced education in architecture would provide an opportunity for further training for public servants, architects and builders, and would increase interaction between the different disciplines.

The evidence of the shortcomings of the present system can be seen in planning conflicts, poor design and the mishandling of the architectural heritage.

2.4. Developing professional standards, and devising and implementing a system of accreditation in architecture.

Employment of qualified specialists in the public as well as the private sector would facilitate an improvement in the quality and standard of architecture, landscape design, planning and urban design.

Professional standards set the levels for the accreditation of architectural specialists and requirements in knowledge, skills, experience, values and personal attributes. Professional standards are the basis for compiling curricula and educational programmes. It is important to establish a comprehensive set of professional standards, which delineate the various fields of architecture (e.g. for architects, landscape designers, planners, etc.) and regulates their professional relationships. A system of regulating the professional standards of those employed within the architectural profession is also necessary. Employment in the architectural field has to be governed by a system of professional accreditation, and this must be implemented by an institution responsible for the advancement of the profession (e.g. The Union of Estonian Architects). An accreditation system would help avoid a situation where somebody does work that he or she is not fully qualified for, thus jeopardising the quality of the whole project. On the same grounds, the registration of architects in RETTER (The National Register Of Entrepreneurs Operating In Spheres That Require Special Stipulations) would have to be regulated, and criteria worked out for evaluating architectural practices as well as a system of quality assurance.

It is necessary, with the aid of professional standards and an accreditation system, to restrict unqualified persons from the European Union from working in the architectural profession in Estonia. At the same time the system has to ensure a free movement of architects and architectural services within the European Union.

2.5. Development and support of architectural publications.

The aim is continuing publication of architectural periodicals as well as publications dealing with architectural theory and policy, the dissemination of these throughout the European Union and other countries, and the translation and circulation of international architectural publications (e.g. strategies and documentary material) in Estonia.

Among these:

1. Publication of the architectural magazine "Ehituskunst".

Estonian architects have for decades (since the revival in the 1970s) been fighting to restore architecture's position as an art form in Estonian society. With this in mind the Union of Estonian Architects started publishing the magazine "Ehituskunst" in 1981. This magazine is published in Estonian and English, and fills an important role in presenting Estonian architecture to the world. Its main aim is to popularise quality architecture and architectural theory.

2. Publication of the architectural magazine "Maja".

"Maja" features contemporary architecture and significant current events in this field, focusing on completed buildings, preliminary designs and competitions. The aim of the magazine is to propagate good design and architecture.

3. Translation, publication and distribution of the ACE (Architect's Council of Europe) white paper "Europe and Architecture Tomorrow". This white paper formulates Europe's architectural policy, provides recommendations for formulating and augmenting national and local architectural policy. This publication helps inform the general public in Estonia regarding European architectural policy.

2.6. Creation of and support for a system of analysis in the field of architecture.

Addressing the area of architecture in its entirety is helpful because it provides an understanding of the processes that occur in both the built environment and society in general. It also helps by highlighting developments regarding time and consistency, allows predictions to be made, provides suggestions for future activities and helps define the sectors upon whose activities the future of the built environment depends. A comprehensive study of the architectural profession addressing all these aspects would look at the present situation, the relevant structures, their component parts and their activities. The study would form the basis for recommendations of how to amend and develop the architectural profession in conjunction with other sectors of society. For optimal use of the available resources, the study has to ascertain priorities on a time scale and show whether the present resources and institutions are adequate.

2.7. Instigation of and support for conservation programmes and research projects for Estonia's architectural heritage (inventory, documentation and publication).

The documentation, inventorying, and conservation of folk and contemporary architecture (museums, archives) and the instigation of and support for programmes depends on the following measures.

Measures to be taken according to the conservation programme:

- Research and documentation of buildings with architectural merit to be carried out prior to demolition or reconstruction.
- Collection and preservation of designs, which have been entered in architectural competitions, including models.
- Collection and preservation of designs, including models and visual presentation material, for buildings of architectural merit, which have been designed by private firms.
- Collection and preservation of manuscripts, films, photographic material of architectural research, as well as publications, including articles.

Another fundamental problem in architecture is the lack of basic research into the built environment and architectural heritage. This heritage needs mapping, and an analysis of risk factors needs to be made.

Architectural heritage includes all buildings, sites and other man-made constructions, which are significant not only architecturally, but also culturally and environmentally. Their heritage value does not depend on age alone; they could also be from the Soviet era or the present day.

Studies would clarify the principles and priorities for the conservation of the architectural heritage, and establish measures to assure that this heritage (including building materials) is professionally recorded, conserved and protected.

They would also support the Estonian Academy of Arts and the Estonian Architecture Museum as research centres for the history of Estonian architecture, and the Estonian Open Air Museum, which focuses on researching and publicising Estonian folk architecture.

3. Furthering international contacts for Estonian architecture.

3.1. Taking part in international architecture competitions and exhibitions.

3.1.1. Taking part in the Venice Architectural Biennale.

Taking part in the Venice Biennale would mean that Estonian architecture is represented internationally every two years. Estonia last took part in the Venice Biennale in 2000.

The Venice Biennale is an interdisciplinary cultural event that includes visual art, architecture, dance, music, theatre and film. The Biennale itself comprises an international art exhibition and an international architecture exhibition, whereas *Mostra Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica*, or the Venice Film Festival, includes performances in dance, music and theatre.

3.1.2. Continued participation in organising the Nordic and Baltic Architecture Triennial.

The Nordic and Baltic Architecture Triennial has taken place since 1990. It is the only international architecture seminar taking place in Estonia on a regular basis, where the latest architectural ideas are discussed and examples of the best of Estonian and international architecture are presented. Leading architects from around the world are invited to this event, which comprises exhibitions, seminars and workshops, and is organised every three years.

3.1.3. Continued participation in organising the EUROPAN international architecture competition.

EUROPAN (refers to the organization as well as the international architecture competition) has been run in Europe since 1988. The EUROPAN architecture competition is aimed at European architects under 40, to encourage residential architecture and urban design. EUROPAN has earned the practical support of the European Commission under a number of cultural programmes. Other institutions such as the European Parliament, Regional Committees, and the Council of Europe have given moral support. Seven competitions have been organised so far, and EUROPAN 7 involved 68 cities and 19 countries.

Estonia has taken part in EUROPAN, which occurs in 2 to 2.5 year cycles, since 1997 (EUROPAN 5, 6, and 7).

Foremost, EUROPAN is important for establishing the practice in Estonia of taking part in international architecture competitions, providing new ideas for housing designs for specific districts, as well as creating cooperation between Estonian and European cities in the area of residential architecture.

3.1.4. Participation in the Mies van der Rohe architecture competition.

The Mies van der Rohe Award is a prize for contemporary architecture, awarded every two years by the European Union and the Mies van der Rohe Foundation to acknowledge Europe's best professionals in architectural design and technology. It helps focus public attention – both the general public and institutions – on the role of architecture in urban design and regional planning in general.

Estonia has been taking part in this competition since 1999 in order to bring attention to Estonia's best contemporary architecture.

3.2. Participation in the work of international organisations.

3.2.1. Architects Council of Europe (ACE).

The Architect's Council of Europe – ACE was founded in 1990 and, through 30 architectural organisations in the European Union and also most candidate countries, it represents 350,000 architects and the profession in general. Its aim is to create and maintain satisfactory legal, cultural, and financial conditions for European architects. ACE's main challenge is to influence the decision-making processes of institutions in order to safeguard the positive development of architecture in Europe. Its main priorities at the moment are to maintain standards in higher education (mutual recognition of diplomas guarantees standards among architects – Directive 85/384/EEC), formulate a policy for sustainable urban development, and establish the free movement of the work force.

The Union of Estonian Architects has been a member of the Architects Council of Europe since 2004. The main assembly of the council comes together twice a year. Two or three people from Estonia should participate in the working parties regularly.

Estonia plans to be represented in the European Forum for Architectural Policies. Architectural organisations and cultural institutions affiliated with architecture belong to this forum, which is an initiative of European inter-government co-operation, and works in close co-operation with ACE.

3.2.2. International Union of Architects (UIA).

The International Union of Architects (Union Internationale des Architectes – UIA) was founded in 1948, and its aim is to represent architects from all over the world irrespective of nationality, race, religion, specialist area, or which architectural school they belong to. Its members are architectural associations, which represent architects living and working in 92 countries. The UIA is one of the largest non-government organisations funded by the UN, representing more than 1.5 million architects.

The UIA's main aims and objectives are:

- To improve the quality of life through architecture, especially in developing countries;
- To promote the education of architecture and urban design;
- To promote co-operation between architectural organisations and other related industries;
- To represent the architectural profession internationally, interacting with organisations such as UNESCO, UNIDO, WHO, WTO, who all recognise it as the sole such organisation in the world;
- To represent the profession in dealings with other national and international architecture organizations; and,
- To co-operate with other non-government organisations in developing interdisciplinary contacts.

Through BAUA (The Union of Baltic Architects Associations), the Union of Estonian Architects has also been a member of UIA since 1993. BAUA is in region II together with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Palestine, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Syria, Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Yugoslavia.

The UIA's worldwide congress takes place every three years. Between two and five people from Estonia should participate regularly in its working groups.

3.2.3. European Association for Architectural Education (EAAE).

Established in 1975, the EAAE has grown into an institution which plays an increasing role in monitoring architectural education, and the work of related government departments, according to the European model.

The EAAE is an international non-profit organisation, which endeavours to disseminate ideas and foster communication between various experts in the field of architectural education and research – its aim being to raise the standard of education in urban design.

Throughout Europe, the association has more than 100 institutes as active members. These represent almost 5000 teaching staff and scholars, and more than 100,000 architecture students, including undergraduates and those with doctorates. The organisation, which encourages worldwide associate membership, has created a network whereby the members are able to obtain information about other schools, and discuss important questions at conferences, workshops and summer schools. The association publishes and distributes its papers, awards and architectural prizes, and provides a data base for its members.

The Estonian Art Academy architecture faculty was an observer member In 1999, and became a full member of this organisation in 2000.

3.2.4. International Organisation for the Documentation and Conservation of Buildings, Sites and Neighbourhoods of the Modern Movement – DOCOMOMO.

In 1992, at the second conference of DOCOMOMO in Dessau, Germany, the Estonian working group was formed. DOCOMOMO is an international organisational network documenting and protecting 20th century architecture (*Documentation and Conservation of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the Modern Movement*).

The Estonian DOCOMOMO working team has compiled a list of the best examples of 20th century architecture in Estonia and these have been nominated for the international DOCOMOMO register.

3.2.5. International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP).

The International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) is a worldwide network of professionals representing the broad field of housing and planning. The aim of this organisation, which represents both national associations and private citizens, is to improve housing and planning, promote networking on an international level, and to promote discussion between experts, politicians and other interested parties. Meetings on many levels are organised, such as the annual IFHP Congress, summer schools on various topics and ongoing working teams.

The Estonian Association of Planners has been a member of IFHP since 2003. Its aim is to promote interdisciplinary and interactive planning in Estonia.

3.2.6. International Confederation of Architecture Museums (ICAM).

ICAM is an international organization for architectural museums and related institutions, both national and regional. ICAM is affiliated with the International Council of Museums (ICOM). In addition, ICAM has special links with the International Council of Archives.

The International Confederation of Architectural Museums represents architecture museums and archives, and other related institutions. It was founded in Helsinki in 1979 and has over 100 members. The Estonian Architecture Museum has been a member since 1991.

The aims of ICAM and its members are:

- To conserve architectural heritage;
- To promote quality and protection of the built environment;
- To foster the study of architectural history in the interest of its future;
- To stimulate public interest in architecture; and,
- To promote the exchange of information and professional expertise.

3.2.7. EUROPA NOSTRA – Pan-European federation of non-government and non-profit heritage organisations.

EUROPA NOSTRA was formed in 1963 and comprises more than 200 non-profit

cultural heritage organisations, 100 local and municipal governments and about 1000 private members from 35 European countries. The Danish crown prince is its president.

The main aim of Europa Nostra is to protect and promote the natural environment and architectural heritage of Europe, and to ensure excellence in urban and rural design. Amalgamated with the International Castles Institute in 1991, Europa Nostra's logo features seven elements which symbolise natural and architectural heritage, namely a mountain, a river, a tree, a cathedral, a church, a castle and a row of houses.

The Estonian Architecture Museum has been an official member of EUROPA NOSTRA since 2003.