



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-
GENERAL

Service Industries
Tourism Policy



BRUSSELS DECLARATION ON A EUROPEAN NETWORK OF DESTINATIONS OF EXCELLENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

1. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 The pilot project “European Destinations of Excellence” was launched in 2006 by the European Commission, as a means of initiating Community action in support of European tourism, with the aim to

- draw attention to the value, diversity and shared characteristics of European tourist destinations, and
- promote emerging destinations where the economic growth objective is pursued in such a way as to ensure the social, cultural and environmental sustainability of tourism.

1.2 On December 2007, the pilot project “European Destinations of Excellence” was transformed by the Budget Authority to a preparatory action

The aims of the preparatory action are to:

- enhance visibility of the emerging European tourist destinations of excellence, especially the lesser known,
- create awareness of Europe's tourist diversity and quality,
- promote all European countries and regions,
- help de-congestion, combat seasonality, rebalance the tourist flows towards the non-traditional destinations,
- award sustainable forms of tourism,
- create a platform for the exchange of good practices at European level,

- promote networking between awarded destinations which could persuade other destinations to adopt sustainable tourism development model.

Within the framework of the Agenda for a sustainable and competitive European tourism COM (2007) 621 final of 19.10.2007 the awarded destinations of EDEN 2007 and EDEN 2008 decided to launch a network which should serve :

- to create a platform for the exchange of good practices at European level
- to persuade other destinations in Europe to adopt sustainable tourist development models

1.3 The European Network of Destinations of Excellence for Sustainable Tourism is open to all awarded EDEN destinations and all other destinations which respect the sustainability criteria foreseen in the EDEN competition. They all commit themselves to sign the declaration and adopt sustainable patterns of tourism offer.

2. DECLARATION ON A EUROPEAN NETWORK OF DESTINATIONS OF EXCELLENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

2.1 The undersigning parties agree to collaborate with each other through the dedicated web-portal launched by the European Commission, to exchange experiences and good practices, with the support of the European Commission, through the organization of annual meetings to be held in one of the winning destinations and to provide a solid outcome of the Network actions and provide a conference conclusions after each of the conferences held.

2.2 The undersigning parties commit themselves to guarantee a constant exchange of information and knowledge on tourism development programs and research, and to ensure a constant exchange of experiences on the participation in the EDEN project. The destinations will promote support actions for developing areas to create sustainable tourism development and identify the best practice adopted by other destinations.

DESTINATIONS TO THE DECLARATION:

Runners-up of the EDEN 2007-2011 editions:

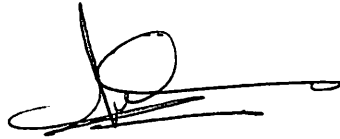
AUSTRIA

STEIRISCHES TERMENLAND Landlust

Helga Hauser

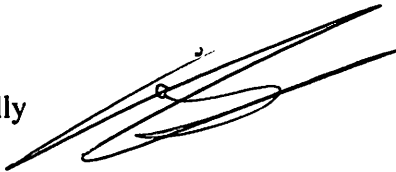
BELGIUM:

Les plus Beaux Villages de Wallonie



Parc naturel Haute-Sûre/Forêt d'Anlier

Silly



BULGARIA:

Lukovit



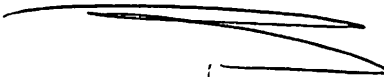
Sandanski



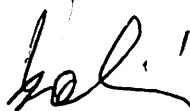
Sapareva Banya

CROATIA:

Etno village Kumrovec



Lastovo Islands Nature Park



Papuk Nature Park



Sinj - Alka The Tilting Tournament *Jelena Golob*

Tourist complex Cimper *Martina Blažinčič*

Veliko Trojstvo

CZECH REPUBLIC:

Polabí

ESTONIA:

Muhu Island *[Signature]*

Onion Route, Lake Peipus *[Signature]*

Vilsandi National Park ja Viidumäe Nature Protected Area *[Signature]*

GREECE:

Region of Attika

Smari *[Signature]*

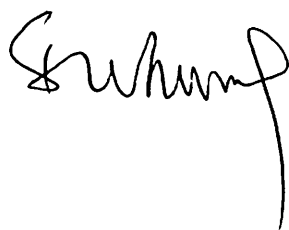
HUNGARY:

Orfui Turisztikai Egyesület



Veszprem and surroundings

Villány-Siklósi Borút



ICELAND:

Borgarfjordur eystri Municipality

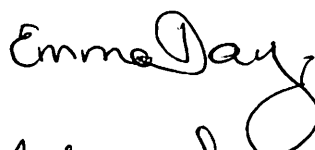


Norðurþing Municipality

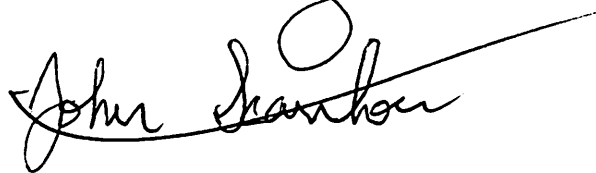


IRELAND:

Ballyhoura



Greenbox



Slieve League



Youghal



ITALY:

Agnone

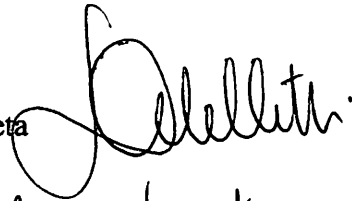


Area Mineraria "Porto Flavia"

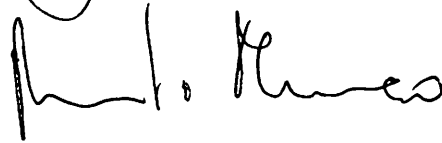
Elvira Gira
Stefano Dillo

Carbonia -Miniera di Serbariu

Comune di Sermoneta



Contursi Terme



Corciano

Furore



Parc Regionale Dei Colli Euganei

Antonella Nussa

Parco Nazionale delle Colline Metallifere Grossetane

Riserva Naturale di Montecasoli di Bomarzo



Schio – Vicenza

Helena Torzosa

Seggiano

Sistema fluviale (Velino-Nera) e lacustre (Piediluco-Ventina-Lungo-Ripasottile)

Valli del Mincio

Zoagli

LATVIA:

Cesis town

Valmiera town

LITHUANIA:

Alaušas lake, Sudeikiai

Biržai Regional Park

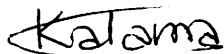
Dubysa Regional Park

Krekenava Regional Park

Kurtuvenai Manor



Neris Regional Park



Veisiejai Regional Park




Zypliai Manor Homestaed



MALTA:

Birgu



San Pawl il-Bahar

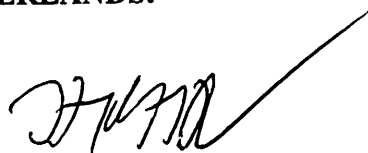
Santa Venera



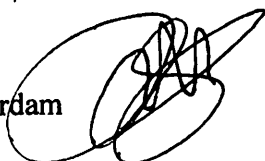
Xaghra Gozo

THE NETHERLANDS:

Ameland



Stelling van Amsterdam



POLAND:

„Międzyodrze - labirynty Doliny Dolnej Odry

Rudnik on the San

ROMANIA:

Buila – Vânturarița National Park



Cirlibaba, Suceava County



Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve



Dragus, Brasov County



Fagrasului Country



Marginimea Sibiului



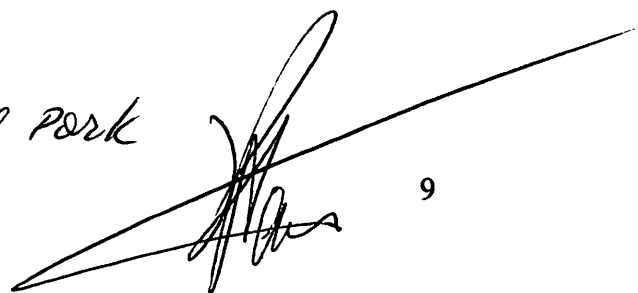
Perisani



Polovragi



MURES Floodplain Natural Park



Statiunea Techirghiol

Statiunea

Vânatori Neamt Nature Park

Buzau Land (winner 2007 edition)

Alba Iulia (winner 2011 edition)

SLOVENIA:

Bohinj

Bohinj

~~Kozjanski park~~

FROM POHORJE DO BOHORJE

Bohinj

Mežica

Sezona Tajnut Štrud Turat

Tolmin, Kobarid

Tolmin

Velenje

Urska Gaberica

Žice

Žice Park

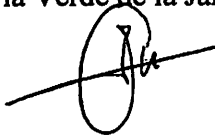
SPAIN:

Cardona

Fortaleza del Sol- Lorca



Via Verde de la Jara

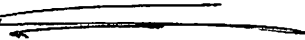


TURKEY:

Eskisehir Municipality



Mersin Silifke Municipality



Mersin Tarsus Municipality



Brussels, 23 October 2012