



Convention «Green City Europe»

[The French version is the original]

Preamble

GREEN CITY is a European initiative. Its aim is to improve the quality of life in the cities by more public and private green spaces. Green spaces have a lot of positive effects – for example concerning the well-being of people, the social co-existence in the society and the environment. These positive impacts are reflected in economical, ecological, and sociocultural values. GREEN CITY is an answer to the current social and political challenges.

The initiative GREEN CITY was set up in 2002 by Plant Publicity Holland on the occasion of the International Horticultural Expo Floriade in the Netherlands. In the following years, similar forums have developed in different European countries with different denominations: De Groene Stad in the Netherlands, Die Grüne Stadt in Germany and Cité Verte in France.

The subject of the present convention is the establishment of a European partnership to promote the cooperation of the national Green City initiatives. Their common philosophy is targeted on creating an awareness of the value of green spaces and on the motivation of people to commit to the green in order to promote the greening of cities in Europe. This happens by information of the responsible persons in economy and politics, as well as of the public on the wide range of positive effects of the vegetation and green spaces with regard to the quality of life, the well-being, the enrichment of social bonds, the dynamic sampling of the economy and the preservation of the environment.

The national founding partners of the convention „Green City Europe“are:

DE GROENE STAD, represented by PLANT PUBLICITY HOLLAND, based in Boskoop, Goudse Rijkweg 1, Boskoop 2771 AE, The Netherlands, acting by the president Jaap SPROS

STIFTUNG DIE GRÜNE STADT, based Kapellstr. 17a, 40479 Düsseldorf, Germany, acting by the president Peter MENKE

CITÉ VERTE, represented by VAL'HOR, based 44 RUE D'ALÉSIA, 75682 PARIS CEDEX 14, FRANCE, acting by the delegate president DOMINIQUE DOUARD

UK GREEN FORUM Mallshill, Roweltown, Carlisle, CA6 6LS, United Kingdom, acting by Mark LONG

GREENCITY ITALIA, via Varese 16, 20121 Milano, Italy, acting by Andreas KIPAR.

The international founding partner of this convention is:

ELCA, the European Landscape Contractors Association, based Alexander-von-Humboldt-Str. 4, 53604 Bad Honnef, Germany, acting by the president Antoine BERGER.

Article 1. Aim

The aim of the convention „Green City Europe“ is the creation of a better comprehension of the decision-makers and stakeholders with regard to the city as living space for people and as natural space. Vegetation plays a significant and positive role in the cities. Green brings quality of life, increases well-being, increases the dynamism in economy, and contributes to the preservation of the natural resource environment.

Article 2. Activities on national level

The signatories commit themselves to initiate and to organize activities in their countries, which will foster and support the aim of this convention. Each one will bear responsibility for the activities, which will be developed and organized in this spirit in his country.

Article 3. Exchange of information

The signatories commit themselves to share the ideas and information related to the promotion of the philosophy of “Green City”. Each partner assure to inform the other partners of national activities and to provide results in order to guarantee that the partnership “Green City” will show coherence on European level and that all may learn from each other.

To ensure this, collegial meetings will take place at least once a year under the patronage of the ELCA by turns in the countries of the partners. Place and date of the meeting will be agreed in common.

Article 4. Partnerships

The partners bear a European or an international importance. They pledge themselves to support the convention „Green City Europe“ and to promote the Green City with regard to their members.

Artikel 5. Management of the convention by separate contracts

If specific common activities requiring common funds are decided, separate contracts must be closed fixing the modalities of realization and financing. For this purpose, the partners will check very carefully the different possibilities of a co-financing, in particular the possibilities of European subsidies. Then the means of publication as well as the property rights have to be determined between the involved partners.

Article 6. Financial resources for the accomplishment

Each partner bears the travelling costs for his representatives as well as his organisation costs, the costs for the invitations and the arrangement of the meetings for which is responsible.

Article 7. Begin and duration of the convention

With the signature of the partners the present convention comes immediately into effect und is valid for an unlimited period. Each partner can annul the contract in observance of a 6 months term of notice counting from the day of receipt of the cancelation (certified mail with delivery confirmation) by all partners.

Artikel 8. Expansion of the convention to other partners

Upon common approval of the signatories, other partners – national or transnational partners – may join this convention.

Penned in Strasbourg on 26 October 2009

The national partners

For DE GROENE STAD
The PPH-President
Jaap SPROS

For DIE GRÜNE STADT
The foundation president
Peter MENKE

For CITÉ VERTE
The delegate president of Val´Hor
Dominique DOUARD

For UK GREEN FORUM
The delegate
Mark LONG

For GREENCITY ITALIA
The delegate
Andreas KIPAR

The international partner

ELCA
The President
Antoine BERGER