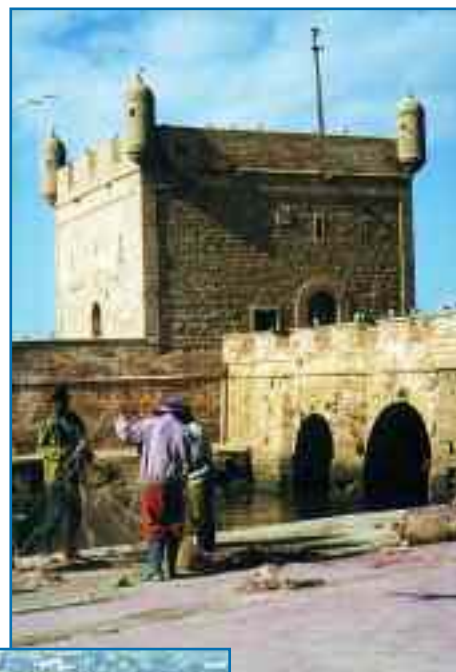


International Seminar
24-26 November 1997
Essaouira, Kingdom of Morocco

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND FRESHWATER RESOURCES: SMALL COASTAL CITIES

PROCEEDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



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- All the members of the Welcoming Committee
- All the members of the Permanent Secretariat of the Seminar

PREFACE

On the eve of the 21st century, much of the world's population is concentrated along the borders of the sea, and these numbers are expected to rise dramatically during the coming decades. Of the world's 23 megacities, 16 are in the coastal belt. Many of the Earth's most diverse, complex and productive ecosystems are coastal, and as coasts have always served as crossroads for human population movement and cultural exchange, they have come to harbour intricate social and cultural mosaics. Despite this enormous ecological and socio-cultural wealth, coastal resources are nonetheless finite and rapidly increasing pressures have made many coastal areas flashpoints for conflict.

Addressing the diverse problems facing coastal regions and small islands is a transdisciplinary challenge requiring the careful formulation of policies for integrated action. In response to these needs, the UNESCO endeavour 'Environment and Development in Coastal Regions and in Small Islands' (CSI) was launched in 1996. Its goal is to serve as a platform for cross-sectoral action in order to assist Member States towards coastal development which is environmentally sound, socially equitable and culturally appropriate. The 'CSI info' series provides an informal vehicle to disseminate information to stakeholders, coastal managers, decision-makers and other actors confronted with coastal region and small island problems.

The present volume contains the proceedings from an international seminar entitled 'Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities' which took place in Essaouira, Kingdom of Morocco, from 24-26 November 1997. The seminar brought together cities of the north African coast with cooperating cities of the northern Mediterranean and northern Europe, along with UNESCO and national and local counterparts. The Essaouira case, highlighted during the seminar, provides a starting point for an expanding network which is linking together urban centres facing similar social and environmental challenges. Key amongst these issues are limited freshwater resources, rapid demographic expansion and a deteriorating urban environment.

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FOREWORD

The most recent United Nations Conferences – on Environment and Development (UNCED), Cairo 1994, Copenhagen 1995, and Istanbul 1996 (Habitat II: the Second UN Conference on the Human Habitat) – have exposed the fundamental problems concerning the major challenges of the 21st century: population growth and redistribution; the expansion of large cities, particularly coastal cities; the availability of fresh water (in quality and quantity) to meet the needs of the human population; management of social transformations and the fight against poverty.

Some indications were thus formulated with a view to attaining an equilibrium between the use of natural resources and socio-economic development in such a way that the consumption to meet present needs does not penalize future generations. The various indications arising from these international conferences have stressed the importance of an interdisciplinary approach integrating socio-economic and cultural components into land and natural resource management. These indications should be rapidly applied to resolve the problems of human development in the context of certain fragile environments. Among these fragile environments, coastal zones must be given especial attention. In these areas, the problems mentioned above are linked and additive. They are zones at risk which require special measures with respect to land use and natural resource exploitation, and in the management and development of urban areas.

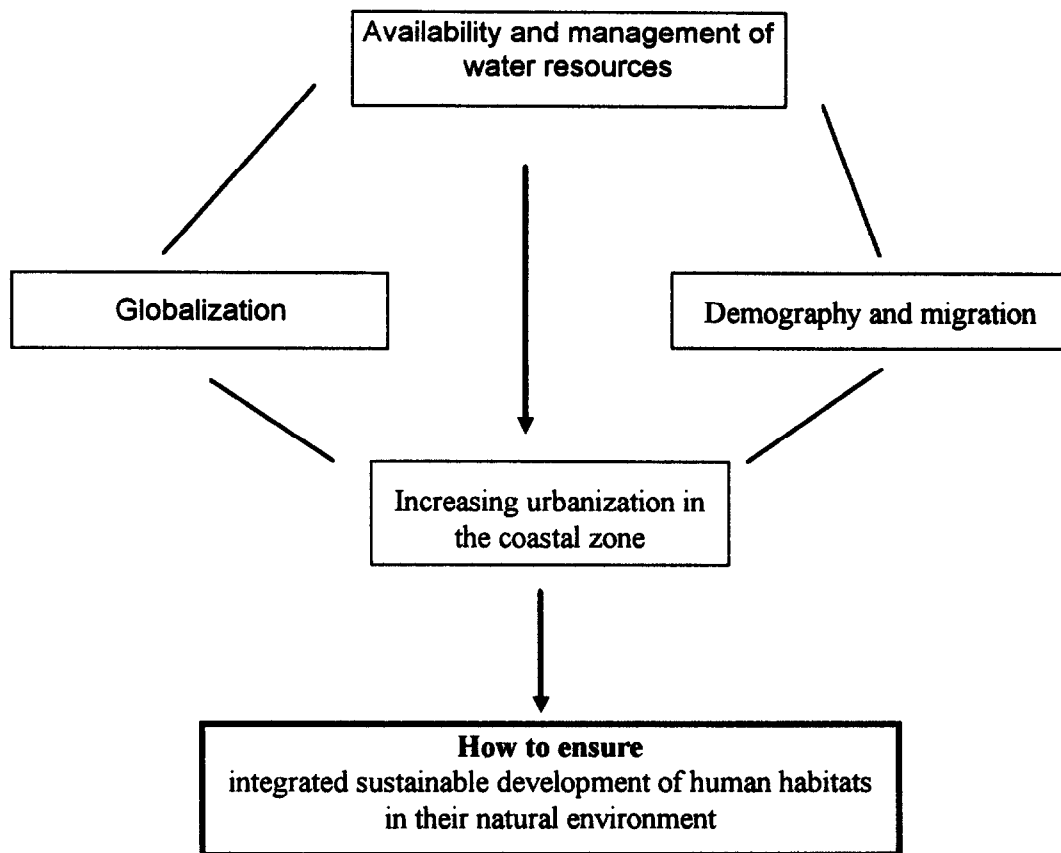
An integrated approach to land management in the coastal zone should therefore take into account the recommendations of global conferences, bearing especially in mind forecasts of population growth and migration which estimate that, in 2025, 75% of the world population will live within 60 km of the sea. To achieve this, adequate strategies should be established to equilibrate and harmonize the development of human habitats in these zones so as to avoid overpopulation of the major coastal cities, pollution of the marine environment and water resources.

The socio-economic and cultural implications of water-resource management and protection of the natural environment will allow definition of the possibilities open to decision-makers to resolve problems related to the quantity and quality of water needed for human habitats in the coastal zone in the 21st century.

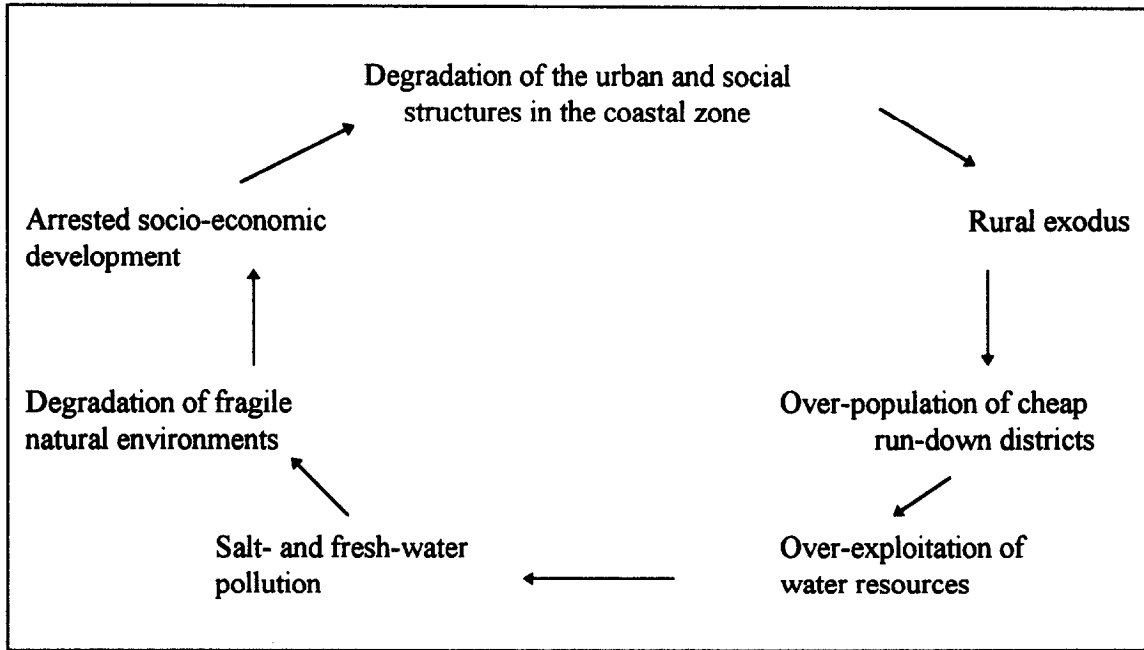
The problems are all the more complex when the urban area under consideration is a regional capital or a megalopolis. Many studies and special programmes exist already to evaluate the problems of large coastal cities and to propose guidelines on solving these problems to the municipal authorities concerned, especially in the Mediterranean through the European Union (EU) or the major inter-city organizations (FMCU, OVPM, Megalopolis)*.

In contrast, the town councils of small towns are very often ignored by the national and international bodies, although the recent world conferences mentioned earlier stress the importance of providing support for rural and lightly urbanized areas so as to avoid adding to the problems in the major cities.

* FMCU: Fédération mondiale des cités unies. OVPM: Organisation des villes du patrimoine mondial



In some regions, small coastal towns have succeeded in surmounting their problems in the integrated management of their urban development, whereas others experience the inexorable accumulation of these problems as their populations grow and rural immigrants overpopulate some run-down districts.



In the framework of the UNESCO programme "Integrated Coastal-Zone Development", launched in 1996, the project "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities" was created in the light of the aforementioned context. The project has the following general objectives: the management of natural resources, the protection of the environment and support for the development of small coastal towns and cities. To achieve this, it aims to avoid: the over-population of major coastal cities; the pollution of water resources and of the marine environment; and the acceleration of rural migration to the major cities.

1. INTRODUCTION

In June 1996, the 14th meeting on salt-water intrusion into coastal aquifers (SWIM: Salt Water Intrusion Meeting), held in Malmö, Sweden, gave UNESCO an opportunity to invite hydrologists, urban sociologists, socio-economists, geographers, architects and urban planners to conceive a strategy for preventing or stopping the degradation of cities of socio-cultural interest whose centres are by the sea, while preserving, by a more rational management, the water resources necessary for their existence.

The poor management of water resources has certain impacts on the socio-economic development of coastal towns and reduces their chances of conserving their cultural identity and historic urban heritage. For a long time now, water-management specialists have attempted, with very little success, to pass a message to urban planners, architects and mayors of coastal towns.

Today, experts in social science and land-use and coastal-zone management still do not have available to them specific methods for the management of coastal-zone development in terms of water resources. A town is a complex natural and social ecosystem and should be managed as such. It is no longer possible to isolate the coastal towns from their hinterlands, as has been commonly done hitherto. The environmental conditions often have an influence on the strategies and politics of development. They are undissociable from economic development and are, in fact, the foundation thereof. The local communities have much to gain from environmental improvement; the policies aimed at creating a stable environment favour an improvement in the standard of living, attract people and businesses and generate employment.

The protection of a historic urban landscape of international value is, however, an undertaking the seriousness of which largely exceeds the vagaries of local politics. Any discussion of the protection of this sea-front heritage should take into account life in the hinterland, at least on a regional scale.

How can small and medium coastal towns play a leading role in the orientation of our societies towards a more ecologically sustainable future and towards local policies that are more respectful of the environment? To develop an adequate policy, it is important first to analyse their characteristics and the range of advantages that underly their competitiveness.

In the follow-up to the recommendations of the Malmö meeting, a new project "*Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities*" was incorporated into the UNESCO intersectorial activity "*Environment and Development in Coastal Regions and in Small Islands*" (CSI).

Two intergovernmental programmes of the Social and Human Sciences Sector and of the Science Sector of UNESCO — "Management of Social Transformations" (MOST) and the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), respectively — provide support to this new interdisciplinary project which benefits moreover from the experience of the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO in the field of protection of the natural cultural heritage, and the logistical support of the UNESCO Regional Operations Offices.

This project will contribute to the implementation of the recommendations of the UN Conferences on the Environment and Development (Rio, 1992), on Population (Cairo, 1994), on Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995), and on the Human Habitat (Istanbul, 1996).

2. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The UNESCO project *"Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities"*, having noted the recommendations of the the global conferences of Rio, 1992, and Habitat II, 1996, and bearing in mind:

- the recommendations made by the experts and the UNESCO interdisciplinary working group at Malmö (SWIM-14, Sweden, June 1996)
- indications given in the Declaration of the Symposium on Water, the City and Urban Planning, supported by UNESCO (Paris, April 1997)
- the priorities set by the Member States to the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrographic Programme (Phase 5, 1996-2001)
- the priorities set by the Intergovernmental Council of the MOST Programme, and the recommendations of the United Nations agencies following Habitat II, on the eradication of poverty and the management of rural migration to large cities
- the strategy and actions of the CSI programme for 1998-1999 and beyond, adopted at the CSI meeting of specialists (Paris, 25-27 November 1996)

and under the supervision of the Steering Committee of specialists in the natural, social and human sciences, *should contribute to the sustainable development of historical small and medium towns in coastal areas, by improving the conditions and quality of life of their inhabitants, while protecting the freshwater resources on which their development depends.*

The objectives of the project are:

2.1 Creation of a network of small and medium coastal towns

In the first phase, the project attempts to establish a network of coastal towns on either side of the Mediterranean and in northern Europe. It will help the municipalities to develop a mechanism for the circulation of information, and will serve as a focal point for inter-city co-operation.

A Web site will be created to facilitate inter-city communication. Documents and case studies will be prepared and published, as well as scientific articles designed to enhance knowledge on the development of small and medium towns and the management of water resources in coastal areas. To facilitate the sharing of knowledge and know-how, the project will help the towns to organize seminars, meetings, training mechanisms for managers and municipal technical staff to strengthen the municipalities' means of action, temporary exchange of young technicians, the search for technical and financial support for the implementation of operational projects in those towns where a case study is being conducted.

2.2 Inter-city partnership agreements

Technical partnership remains a new idea to many decision-makers, at the national level and especially at the regional and local level. The possibility of establishing technical partnership agreements opens up new perspectives to local authorities that wish to take initiatives in decentralized co-operation. The partnership mechanism amongst coastal towns can facilitate co-operation and allow the greatest possible advantage to be taken of the know-how of urban developers, patrimony specialists and civil authorities through the ministries of culture, public works, and the environment.

The UNESCO project will offer suggestions for the drafting of inter-city partnership agreements. It will help towns to evaluate their problems, to decide possible solutions, to mobilize financial resources and to find potential partners. It will co-ordinate and supervise field operations through the Regional Offices and the National Commissions of UNESCO; it will reinforce local and district associations, encourage the use of historic buildings for social purposes for the benefit of the inhabitants, with the aim of reducing urban poverty in town centres.

2.3 Training programmes

The project will support the development of the modalities of training of young professionals in the context of the project on the *integrated development of small and medium coastal towns*. Training courses will cover particularly water-resource management, urban development, socio-economic development, the revitalization and re-utilization of the urban patrimony etc. UNESCO Chairs in these subjects could be created in one or several pilot sites.

2.4 Conduct of case studies

The objective of the project is to improve and support the implementation of operational projects in the towns of certain countries bordering the Mediterranean that are the object of case studies. Demonstration projects, in which the public can observe tangible results, often constitute the most effective method of communication with decision-makers.

2.5 Support for North-South and South-South co-operation

The project supports North-South and South-South co-operation, to facilitate technical information exchange, in situ experiments, and the search for financial support for local, regional, national and international co-operation (in the private and public sectors).

2.6 Studies and research

The project will support the small and medium coastal towns that wish to revitalize their town centres while ensuring the proper management of their specific natural resources, bearing in mind that coastal urban development is often subordinate to the proper management of existing water resources. The project will provide example of salt-water intrusion, land subsidence, the management of urban and underground water, revitalization and re-utilization of the urban historical buildings for habitation, socio-economic replacement activities, socio-cultural facilities, reinforcement of municipal

capabilities, the impact of tourism on traditional and historical communities in coastal areas. It will encourage the multiplication of interdisciplinary research work and will indicate or find the information required for taking the necessary decisions.

The project will support integrated research and will set up interdisciplinary groups that will co-operate with national authorities, with officers of coastal municipalities and with local planners and managers under the ægis of a Steering Committee composed of experts in the various scientific fields concerned and from the international programmes MOST and IHP:

- coastal erosion
- natural-resource management
- land-use development (revitalization of the traditional urban fabric; socio-economic support to disadvantaged populations)
- sociology
- geography
- history
- architecture
- engineering

3. FIRST CASE STUDY UNDERWAY: THE TOWN OF ESSAOUIRA, ANCIENT MOGADOR (MOROCCO)

The first town chosen for a case study raised a number of problems common to many ancient coastal towns. A first identification mission to Essaouira was carried out by UNESCO in October 1996, in co-operation with the Provincial Governor, the President of the Municipality, the Cellule Agenda 21 of the United Nations Centre for the Human Habitat, Essaouira. As a result of this first mission, effective identification of the problems was achieved, based on:

3.1 Existing data

- The monographs prepared by the UNDP and the Ministry of the Environment with the support of French bilateral co-operation (April 1996)
- Results of the first Summer University of Essaouira (September-October 1996)
- Data contained in the Urban Pact of Agenda 21 (UNCHS/Essaouira)
- The monographs on water resources prepared by the Ministry of Public Works (June 1996)
- The study of coastal erosion and the ramparts, prepared by the architect Andrea Bruno (September 1996).

3.2 Results of expert missions sent by UNESCO and French bilateral co-operation to Essaouira between January and October 1997:

- Socio-economic development and water management (Karim Sebti and Valérie Bertrand, May 1997)
- Coastal erosion (W. Rosenthal, May 1997)

- Evaluation by the expert M. Lamel for ICOMOS following the demand for the inscription of the town of Essaouira on the World Heritage list
- Degradation of the ramparts (Alain Charles Perrot, Chief Architect, Historical Monuments and Buildings, Paris, August 1997; François Ropert, Ministry of Transport and Public Works, August 1997).

3.3 Indications given by recent meetings

- Recommendations of the second Summer University of Essaouira (18-21 September 1997)
- Recommendations of the Steering Committee of the UNESCO project (Paris, 25-26 September 1997).

With the co-operation of the various Ministries, UNESCO was able to identify the priority problems and the actions to be taken with the various local, regional and international partners, with a view to obtaining a diagnosis and to drawing the attention of international co-operation to the problems of follow-up of the town of Essaouira. In particular, the priority problems of the development of the town were presented by UNESCO in a promotional brochure sent to various municipalities of coastal towns in northern Europe and the Mediterranean, with the aim of sparking a spirit of co-operation amongst towns suffering from, or having overcome, the same problems of urban development in the coastal zone.

4. THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR – ESSAOUIRA 24/26 NOVEMBER 1997

Bearing in mind the urgent actions to be taken and given the assembled information, at the request of the Moroccan authorities, a seminar was organized by UNESCO from 24 to 26 November 1997, with the Province and the Municipality of Essaouira, the Ministries concerned and the UNCHS/Agenda 21. It was attended by representatives of the municipalities of small and medium coastal towns, potential partners for Essaouira, experts from the various scientific domains concerned, and local and international non-governmental organizations.

See: *Annex 1: Programme of the seminar* and
Annex 2: List of participants

4.1 Opening ceremony

The UNESCO seminar "Urban Development and Water Resources: Small Coastal Cities" was inaugurated on 24 November 1997 in the Grand Hall of the Province of Essaouira, in the presence of some 300 participants, including the mayors or representatives of the various municipalities, hydrologists, oceanographers, sociologists, economists, architects and Moroccan and international urban planners.

The ceremony was presided over by Monsieur André Azoulay, Economic Advisor to His Majesty King Hassan II, in the presence of Monsieur Amine Belcadi, Governor of the Province of Essaouira; Monsieur Tahar Afify, President of the Municipal Council of

Essaouira; Monsieur Ali Kazancigil, Director of the Division of Social and Human Sciences on behalf of the Assistant Director-General for the Social and Human Sciences, Madame Francine Fournier; Madame Aziza Benani, Secretary of State for Culture, and Monsieur Abdelaziz Meziane Belfkih, Minister of Agriculture, Equipment and Environment. Welcoming speeches and addresses were made in plenary (see *Annex 3*).

4.2 Municipalities present at the seminar

Following the opening ceremony, the first day of the UNESCO international seminar was dedicated to the presentation of past and current experiences in the towns that are potential partners in the project. These presentations were given by the mayors or their direct representatives, from the following towns (see the corresponding statements in *Annex 4*):

- **Saint-Malo**, France, by Monsieur René Couanau, deputy mayor
- **Alghero**, Italy, by Doctor Carlo Sechi, mayor
- **Sciaccia and Licata**, Italy, by the architect Antonio Cellura, Governor of the Province of Agrigento
- **Alexandria**, Egypt, by Monsieur Ahmed Hassan, the mayor's representative
- **Saïda**, Lebanon, by Monsieur Ahmad Kalash, the mayor
- **Tunis**, Tunisia, by Monsieur Ben Messaoud, Director of the Urban Environment and Monsieur Zoubeïr Mouhli, representing the Association de Sauvegarde de la Médina de Tunis
- **Odense**, Denmark, by Monsieur Borge Lund Jensen, Odense Water Ltd.
- **Esberg**, Denmark, by Monsieur Sigfred Lindvig, representative of the town
- **Omišalj**, Croatia, by Madame Jelisava Antolic, representing the municipality
- **Kotor**, Montenegro, by Madame Svetlana Lalic, representative of the Kotor Regional Water Supply Agency
- **Taglio di Po**, Italy, by Monsieur Vincenzo Melone, mayor

5. TOWNS THAT ARE POTENTIAL PARTNERS IN THE PROJECT

Whether on the north or the south side of the Mediterranean, the towns that are potential partners in the project and that were present in Essaouira have, as small and medium historic towns, many things in common, whether from the geophysical or socio-economic standpoints. A brief account of each of them helps in understanding the reason for one of the focal points of the project, which is that of the creation of a co-operation and exchange network of these towns.

5.1 Essaouira

A small blue and white town exposed to wind and tide, Essaouira, the ancient Mogador, is a fortress overlooked by small forts and encircled by a series of walls pierced by many gates. The site of Mogador has been known since antiquity. The discovery of fragments of pottery and ceramics going back to the 7th century BC, on the surrounding islands in the bay of Essaouira less than a kilometre from the coast, shows that the Phoenicians used Essaouira as a stopover. The Carthaginians created Tamusiga in the 5th

century BC as a commercial centre, and towards the end of the 1st century BC the Numidian King of Mauretania, Juba II, set up the first gentian-violet factories, the celebrated dye obtained from the shells of the mollusc *Murex* which was abundant there.

In the 11th century AD, Mogador was the port of Souss, which served the whole of southern Morocco, but it was only in the 18th century AD that the town and port were built facing the island and surrounded by the first ramparts. In 1765, the Alaouite Sultan Sidi Mohammed Ben Abdallah decided to construct the greatest port in his empire, and he confided the works to the geometer and architect Théodore Cornut, a disciple of Vauban, of Avignon, with the mission to build a commercial town with a port protected from inclement weather even at neap tide. He was dismissed later, but his quadrilateral layout is still visible today; for some, it recalls the town of Saint-Malo, which was designed by Vauban. A Genoese architect designed the "scala" built on the western rampart looking seawards. A British architect, who later converted to Islam, had his name, "Ahmed El Euli" engraved on the jetty.

Around 1780, there were a dozen trading posts at Mogador employing about a thousand Europeans (Britons, Frenchmen, Dutchmen, Italians, Portuguese, Germans and Danes). The port was the *raison d'être* of the construction of the town and the pivot of its existence, since everything was organized around it. The British established private schools there and encouraged the local population to speak English. French culture developed in parallel, thanks to the Universal Israelite Alliance, which built schools throughout Morocco, including Mogador in 1867. From 1912 onwards, when Morocco became a protectorate, the French influence became predominant. A 1930s' style centre was built outside the ramparts and near the beach, with a post office and a tax office, a church and a few villas. The French left when Morocco ceased to be a protectorate, some 44 years later.

Since its creation in 1765, Mogador found itself at the crossroads of several cultures and civilizations: the Berber Haha-speaking tribes to the south, and the Arab-speaking Chiadmas to the north. The town was inhabited by these populations and other families from the hinterland.

With 60,000 inhabitants, Essaouira is today the main town in a province of half a million inhabitants. As a coastal town, the ancient Mogador has a number of serious problems (uncontrolled coastal erosion, a decrepit and insufficient water-supply system, and a serious shortage of drinking water), which require urgent attention. As in other old towns, Arab quarters and historic town centres in certain Arab countries, Essaouira also suffers from such ills as overpopulation, building decay, breakdown and inadequacy of public facilities. Historic districts, as well as their social fabric, have been endangered by the introduction of modern models of urban organization. And the rural population migrates towards this small population centre.

Essaouira remains, nevertheless, a magic window onto the Moroccan cultural patrimony, and a centre of artistic creation. Writers and artists from all over the world have been attracted to it (Orson Welles, Tennessee Williams, Antoine Saint-Exupéry, Madame de Stael, and more recently, Erik Orsenna, Scott Simons, Patrice Chéreau, Leonard Cohen, Cat Stevens, The Rolling Stones and many others).

5.2 Alghero

Situated on a very windy peninsula of Sardinia, the town of Alghero is built on rocks and is encircled by ramparts. Once a fishing port and a Catalan island of the 14th century AD, its *raison d'être* is tied to the sea. Its cultural heritage and its architecture are rich in Aragon Gothic elements. Today, it has 40,000 inhabitants most of whom have very deep roots; the town benefits from being a tourist attraction which has been the key ingredient of its socio-economic development since the 1960s.

As any other town on the coast, Alghero suffers from strong coastal erosion which is easily seen from the variations in the beach to the north of the town and from the degradation of the town walls. For this reason, Alghero makes a good subject for a comparative case study with Essaouira. The similarities (historical, geographical, environmental and developmental) between the two towns are striking.

5.3 Esbjerg

A new town founded in 1868, Esbjerg is the "capital" of western Denmark. Situated on the southern coast, which is the only tourist and recreation area of Denmark, it is the fifth largest Danish town, with a population of about 83,000 inhabitants.

Esbjerg has a very varied architecture, resulting from the "borrowing" by its ancestors of various details from several European cities. It remains today an important cultural centre.

Its strategic position on the North Sea explains the fact that Esbjerg is both a very active international commercial port and a major fishing port. Thanks to its commerce and its recent economic growth, the town of Esbjerg is a remarkable model of urban cultural and economic development.

5.4 Kotor

The town of Kotor, in Yugoslavia, is situated on the coast of Montenegro. It has about 25,000 inhabitants. The coast of Montenegro, with its typical landscape and wild nature, has been recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage site. Kotor was inscribed on the list in 1979.

The region is divided into two principal zones: the Bay of Boka Kotorska and the seashore. The Bay of Boka Kotorska (Mouth of Kotor) is a large, independent basin comprising the Bays of Topla (on the seaward side), Tivat (in the middle) and Kotor (on the landward side). The town of Kotor is on the south-eastern bank of the Bay of Kotor, at the foot of Mount Loveen.

Thanks to its exceptional biological and geographical conditions, Man appeared early in this area which has seen a succession of diverse civilizations and cultures. The old vestiges date from the Neolithic Period, although prehistoric drawings have been found there, as well as Roman mosaics, and churches of the 6th, 12th and 13th centuries AD. Kotor, which is an ancient medieval fortress rich in historic monuments, is built in a triangular form surrounded by a defensive wall which fully reflects its cultural heritage.

The principal economic activities of Kotor and the Montenegro region are, as for all coastal towns, tourism and fishing, even if today agriculture and industry have made considerable progress. One of the factors limiting economic growth in the region, however, is the water supply; the distribution system is very old and small.

5.5 Odense

An ancient town of Denmark, Odense celebrated its millennium in 1988. The town inspired the stories of Hans Christian Andersen and was the town of the God Odin, a Viking divinity of the 7th-13th centuries AD. Today it is the capital of the Island of Funen on the eastern side of the Danish peninsula.

The town was built on the north bank of the river of the same name, a few kilometres from the mouth of the Odense fjord. The River Odense is the largest watercourse on the island and makes a major contribution to the life and development of the town's port.

The port of Odense is a well developed commercial centre which was the source of a rapid growth in its population in the 19th century. This population growth was due to the numerous changes that the town boundaries underwent during this period. The town spread more and more along the river banks, absorbing several smaller, isolated towns.

With a population today of more than 185,000 inhabitants, Odense is the third-largest town of Denmark, and it is estimated that its population will have reached 470,000 inhabitants by the end of this century.

One of the characteristics of Odense is impressive greenness, which is due to the fact that it was built on the river banks. It is nicknamed the "Garden City", free of pesticides and chemical fertilizers.

So it is an ecological town, yet it is also an important industrial centre, especially in terms of waste-water treatment. It has one of the most technically advanced treatment plants.

5.6 Omisalj

Omisalj is a small town in Croatia, on the Island of Krk, the largest island in the Adriatic. It lies in the north-western part of the island on a cliff 85m high.

The earliest traces of human settlements in the town date from 3000 years ago. Since then, each epoch has left its mark and has made of Omisalj a real historical and cultural treasury. At the beginning of the 1st century AD, the Romans built the town of Fulfinum in the Bay of Sepen, below Omisalj, and its vestiges have been preserved to this day. This archæological site has not been sufficiently explored or excavated so far. Besides Fulfinum, the remains of an ancient Christian Basilica can be seen; their beauty merits especial attention. The building dates from the 5th-6th century.

At the start of the 1960s, Omisalj took a kind view of the development of tourism, which assumed an astonishing importance, until the undesired arrival of industry. It was its

very favourable geographical situation (Omislj is the closest point to the mainland) and its proximity to the town of Rijeka, which is an important economic and cultural centre; these circumstances have provided the necessary and advantageous conditions for the construction of major industrial complexes and an airport in the vicinity of Omislj. These installations now occupy half of the hinterland and more than half the coastline. This massive development of industry has caused, in the last twenty-five years, a permanent conflict between industry, on one hand, and tourism and urban planning, on the other. It is obvious that that has consequences for the economic, social, cultural and, above all, environmental aspects of the town's development.

At present, the town of Omislj is trying to engage itself in the elaboration of new development strategies within the conceptual framework of sustainable development. It has to face several constraints, however:

- water supply and waste-water treatment
- marine pollution
- social and cultural development (intergenerational conflicts, unemployment etc.)
- the problem of historical cultural heritage which is not being preserved
- environmental protection.

5.7 Saida

Situated in the southern part of the Lebanese coastline, the town of Saïda is very much a Mediterranean town. The ancient town has inherited and been enriched by many cultures, currents and civilizations. Today, it retains the image of the ancient Sidon, in spite of the ravages of war in the 1980s, as a frontier of two cultures: the West and the East.

The architecture of the town still gives glimpses of the influences of the Crusades, the Mamelukes, the Maanites, and the Italians. Until the 19th century, the town retained the memory of its Phoenician ancestors, remaining a city turned towards the sea where the port was the centre of the town's life. It was only at the beginning of the 20th century that economic development brought to the ancient town, which remained medieval in appearance, a new town of wide avenues.

With a population of 80,000 inhabitants, Saïda today lives from fishing and tourism.

5.8 Saint-Malo

Built over the centuries on a rocky island facing the open ocean, Saint-Malo has, for more than two thousand years, been the "capital of the seas". It occupies one of the most beautiful maritime sites of France, in Brittany, and is a unique place, synonymous with history and discovery, and the point of departure of great explorations.

Since the Middle Ages, Saint-Malo has been a sea fortress. Cramped inside its medieval ramparts from the 12th century, this privateer town has a rather special history. It was partly destroyed by a fire in 1661 and reconstructed in the following years by Vauban who gave the town a layout and a structure that were quite original. It was in his image that Théodore Cornut, a disciple of Vauban's, built the town of Essaouira.

Many forts were built on the islands off the coast and the area within the town walls was greatly increased. But during the Second World War, Saint-Malo was again destroyed. The ramparts and the castle escaped destruction, but more than three-quarters of the intramural town were destroyed. On the rubble, the "great reconstruction" was undertaken and, faithful to its history, the Saint-Malo of today rose from the ashes.

The history of Saint-Malo is also the history of its port, witness to so many departures for the unknown. It is precisely because of its seamen, adventurers and merchants sailing for India, China, Africa and the Americas, that the prosperity of the port and of the whole town were extraordinary, especially in the 17th and 18th centuries. Saint-Malo is also the history of Surcouf and Douguay-Trouin, famous privateers who brought much prestige to the town and a spirit of adventure that still pervades most of the Malouins.

After many generations, of which the main concern was to win land from the sea, the fishermen of Saint-Malo have given ground to the merchant navy, and the municipality is building a hydraulic system to preserve coastal-water quality. This is essential for a famous seaside town where the population increases from 50,000 to 200,000 in the summer and the beaches receive over 850,000 sea- and sun-bathers.

Water treatment poses serious problems. The water-treatment plan has, as its first objective, dealing with the frequent floods and the rain water, which are known for their adverse effects on the environment. The town has now adopted a very ambitious project to restructure the water-treatment network, to create water-entrapment basins, and the renovation or creation of selective pumping stations. This project could contribute valuable information to the programme envisaged for Essaouira .

5.9 Sciacca

The town of Sciacca is on the south coast of Sicily, in the Province of Agrigento; it is an archæological site of rare beauty. It was an important spa during the Roman Empire, but underwent considerable evolution, economically and architecturally, when under Arab domination. Even today, the characteristics of Arab towns are reflected in some districts.

It is only since the Middle Ages, however, that the town reached its apogee: fortresses, churches, convents were built throughout the 13-15th centuries. An unparalleled urban development continued through to the 18th century. For many years, Sciacca had a major strategic function, to control the Sicily channel

Today, Sciacca, which has a very mild and sunny climate, is still a spa town and lives mainly from tourism and handicrafts.

5.10 Licata

The Licata region in the south of Sicily is a very important archæological site, witness to the passage of several civilizations. It has a particular geography, with the sea on one side and a river on the other two sides, which made it a naturally fortified site from the very beginning.

It is this geographical situation that has made Licata a centre of attraction since antiquity. Rich in the archæological and architectural legacy of many civilizations, the town

owes its birth and its early flowering to the Greek civilization. It was only several centuries later that the medieval town, the vestiges of which are still visible today, became superposed on the ancient Greek structure. Licata retains, among others, important baroque monuments, as well as several works of art by Sicilian artists.

5.11 Taglio Di Po

Taglio di Po is one of the most important centres of the Venetian regional park of the Po delta, which spreads over an area about 80km long. The town has 8500 inhabitants.

The origin of its name is most curious. It means “a cut of the Po”. The town was thus named by the Venetians of the 17th century, from the delta of the river and especially in memory of the lagoon (and its dangers) on which the town was built.

Many significant examples of Venetian architecture of the 17th century are displayed around the town and in the rest of the Po delta, especially large palaces, old summer residences of the Seigneurs of the period (Villa Ca' Zen, Ca' Nani, Ca' Vedramin).

Taglio di Po's economy is based on agriculture, flourishing because of the Po, which is a veritable source of wealth for the whole region.

Also, the local community has a very modern and well developed water-supply network covering almost entirely the urban area, especially as far as the sewage is concerned. Ecotourism is also a rapidly growing sector.

As these brief descriptions show, these towns, potential partners in the project under discussion, have in common a very rich cultural and historical past, a strategic coastal location, commercial, artisanal fishery and touristic activities. Some of them have overcome urban development problems within their context, whereas others are experiencing some greater difficulties. From this, the successful experience of certain towns, if not used as a model, could at least provide certain methods of analysis and handling of the problems of the other towns.

Who would be in a better position to help a coastal town than another coastal town with the same difficulties? Following Habitat II, municipalities have been recognized by the United Nations as equal partners. During the working sessions of the seminar, this idea was shown to be correct and useful contacts were established amongst the representatives of the municipalities present at Essaouira.

6. WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

November 25 was dedicated to work and the presentation of projects to the different Working Groups. The sessions were distributed according to the following themes:

Working Group 1 : Water-resource management in historical maritime centres

Working Group 2 : The impacts and consequences of coastal erosion

Working Group 3 : Socio-architectural revitalization of the historical urban fabric

Working Group 4 : Tourism and replacement socio-economic activities

Working Group 5 : Integrated approach to development

A group of recommendations and concrete proposals on the future of the town of Essaouira and on the identification of inter-town partnerships were drafted at the end of each Working Group session.

A certain number of recommendations and specific supplementary actions were drawn up at the second session of the Project Steering Committee, held at UNESCO , Paris, 30-31 March 1998. This meeting allowed those responsible for the project, the members of the Steering Committee, the experts who took part in the seminar in Essaouira, and the representatives of the two towns (Alghero and Saint-Malo) in partnership with Essaouira to assess the development of the project and to determine a reference frame and a working method for the various actions underway.

6.1 Working group 1 : Management of Water Resources in the Coastal Zone

Chairman:

Mr. Abdelaziz El Hebil, Director of the Hydraulic Zone of Tensift

Rapporteurs:

Professor Giovanni Barrocu, University of Cagliari, Representative of the Italian Committee of the IHP

Dr. Kees R. Menardi, Netherlands National Institute of Public Health and Environment

UNESCO Follow-up:

Alice Aureli, International Hydrological Programme

6.1.1 General Recommendations

In the framework of the recommendations of the conferences of Rio 92 and Istanbul 96, Working Group 1 recommends, above all:

- (i) **The application of an *integrated management of water resources as a working methodology in the Essaouira region.*** The participants recommended considering the city in the context of its natural environment so as to integrate management of the historical urban environment into that of the natural resources on which the social and economic development of Essaouira depends. Accent was particularly placed on the integrated management of surface water resources, subterranean water resources, treatment of waste water and the impact of liquid discharges into the sea.
- (ii) **The participation of the local community and the civil society in decision-making.** Given the sustained methodological effort through the UNESCO project, the participants in Working Group 1 stressed the importance of the participation of the local population and civil society in decision-making. The experience of Saint-Malo in this regard was considered as being of great interest, and it was suggested that it could

be shared with Essaouira and other cities in a spirit of partnership within the network of small coastal cities created during this seminar.

Following the general recommendations stated above, the Working Group then decided that certain urgent priority actions were necessary:

- The cleaning and rehabilitation of the sewerage system and the wastewater and rainwater drainage system;
- The treatment of wastes prior to their discharge into the sea (the lack of management and upkeep of the wastewater drainage network has a serious negative impact on the marine environment, especially with respect to the fishery, on buildings and monuments, on the living conditions of the inhabitants of the old town);
- The creation of a partner service of the municipality with an autonomous technical and financial capacity, charged with wastewater treatment;
- The support of UNESCO for all the initiatives to train municipal and provincial technicians, through training programmes at universities or service agencies;
- Encouragement of the exchange of experience through the network of partnership cities and the provision of on-the-spot expertise and consultations, especially with urban planners and urban hydrologists;
- Identification of a pilot area to develop a programme of public awareness and local participation in the management of urban water resources.

For the technician training programme, the following themes were considered:

- management and monitoring of the city sewers
- wastewater treatment
- impact of the infiltration of water into the buildings

To make such projects operational, it is necessary to analyse specifically the real possibilities for financing. In this regard, UNESCO could help Essaouira's partner cities to present proposals for the various projects to the European Community, bilateral co-operation agencies, and various other agencies and development banks.

The seminar judged it necessary to define the work tools and methods that would ensure the integration of the management of the city with that of the natural resources available. The development of an integrated approach methodology for the historical coastal cities of Europe and the Mediterranean was considered to be the main component of the project now underway. The participants in the Working Group 1 called on UNESCO to support the execution of the following studies, which were also considered to be of equal priority:

- effects of seawater intrusion
- identification of indicators for the integrated management of the urban and environmental resources.

Considering the amount of data available in Essaouira, Working Group 1 recommended, as suggested by the Monographs on the water resources, prepared by the Ministry of Public Works, the collection of all existing and supplementary data, with a view

to elaboration of a rigorous operational programme for the adequate management of the water resources.

The rehabilitation of the drinking-water supply network and the wastewater drainage system in the old town is therefore considered to be a leading priority or of equal importance with the building and historical monument rehabilitation measures and the implementation of new money-making activities.

Several proposals and offers were made by the towns present at the Working Group 1. These proposals will be the subject of discussions between the Essaouira authorities, the project technicians and the representatives of the coastal towns. These proposals were submitted to UNESCO for transmission to the competent authorities for the preparation of possible bilateral agreements.

Following the second session of the Steering Committee, the following proposals were made:

- The town of Alghero, represented by Mr. Dettori, offered to organize a first training course for two technicians from Essaouira, in the integrated management of urban water, with the company responsible for water in Rome or in Alghero. Alghero can thus make available to Essaouira a computer programme on water management adaptable to the town of Essaouira. Essaouira should select two candidates and propose dates for the training. The same proposition was made by Professor Aureli for the town of Sciacca, and by Mr. Pottier for the town of Saint-Malo.
- The water companies for the above-mentioned towns should send to the municipality of Essaouira a summary of their field of action to allow it to propose candidates for training.
- Mr. Ben Messaoud, Urban Environment Director for the city of Tunis, proposed to send to the municipality of Essaouira a copy of the Tunisian law governing the pre-treatment of industrial waste water (especially those from the tanneries) prior to their discharge into the drainage system; this law was envisaged having in view the sensitization of the industrialists to the problems of wastewater treatment.
- It would then be desirable for Essaouira to receive a specialist in the effects of infiltration of waste water and drinking water on buildings, to make a diagnosis and propose solutions. The town of Saint-Malo could identify such a specialist in the technical services of the town, to undertake a one-week mission to the old town of Essaouira.

6.2 Working group 2: Impact and Consequences of Coastal Erosion

Chairman:

Mr. Abdelslam Messoudi, Director of Operations of the Port of Mohammedia

Rapporteurs:

Professor Wolfgang Rosenthal, Oceanographer, Member of the UNESCO project Steering Committee

Professor Arno Schmid, President of IFLA (International Federation of Landscape Architects)

UNESCO Follow-up:
Dirk Troost, Chief CSI

6.2.1 General Recommendations

In the framework of the UNESCO project Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities, and in the light of the recommendations of the conferences of Rio 92 and Istanbul 96, Working Group 2 proposed *the design of a project on the restoration of the historical north ramparts of the town of Essaouira and the specific analysis of the local environment to explain the causes and consequences of the main damage to these ramparts*. The Chairman, rapporteurs and discussion leaders examined in detail the present state of degradation of these ramparts and drew up a number of proposals and priority actions to be undertaken.

(i) State of the ramparts

- ramparts and adjacent houses in a very advanced state of degradation
- crumbling of the foundations of the ramparts in various places
- rampart pavements in state of degradation
- departure of the population occupying the houses built against the ramparts, which entrains an increased need for habitation
- marine desertification and disappearance of a part of the coral reef constituting a natural protection for the ramparts
- decrease in the sediment stock in the vicinity of the ramparts
- run-off and infiltration of waste water and rain water into the mass of the ramparts
- lack of upkeep of the rampart pavements.

(ii) Technical and financial situation

- urgent action to plug the leaks has been taken
- there is no maintenance
- municipal budget increase to cover the cost of resettlement
- lack of capital to safeguard the ramparts
- lack of technical co-ordination amongst those involved

(iii) Causes of damage to the ramparts

- action of the sea (swell)
- chemical action of wastewater discharge on the ramparts and the rocks
- local wind action

Proposals and priority actions to be taken were thus decided. An order of priority was considered.

(i) Proposals and actions of top priority

- rational exploitation of the mission reports and the studies made by Messrs. Rosenthal, Ropert and Perrot, and by the LPEE (Public Test and Design Laboratory)

- necessity of technical co-ordination and concertation amongst those involved in the project to protect the ramparts
 - start as quickly as possible the restoration of the ramparts, including the protective barrier (breakwater)
 - exploitation of the experience of Saint-Malo
 - fill the cavities observed at the base of the ramparts
 - study the suitability of restoring the beach at the foot of the ramparts by the addition of sand
 - increase knowledge of the sea-level data (statistics and in situ measurements)
 - provide routine pH measurements of the sea water at the foot of the ramparts.
- (ii) Short-term actions**
- decide the means of protecting the ramparts (construction of a breakwater)
 - mobilize the funding needed for the implementation of the proposals and recommendations.
- (ii) Medium-term actions**
- avoid the discharge of waste water into the sea by the ramparts
 - inform the people inhabiting the houses along the ramparts
- (iv) Long-term actions**
- restoration of the old town under the integrated development project
 - protection of the benthic algae, which are overexploited but which help to maintain a certain stability of the sea bed along the ramparts.

At the second session of the Steering Committee, new proposals were put forward. Various scientific exposés on the problem of coastal erosion off the ramparts of Essaouira and the basic solutions available were evaluated by Professor Roland Paskoff, a specialist in coastal erosion and a new member of the Steering Committee, and Professor Wolfgang Rosenthal.

The following points were dealt with:

Breakwater:

- efficient but landscaping costs high
- confined shore water
- aggravated pollution
- very high cost

Infilling:

- the reconstitution of a beach denatures the environment; it would be necessary to maintain the sand in a zone subject to wave attack, which is impossible

Geotextile:

- these are not stable enough; problems and cost of installation

Rocky dyke at the foot of the ramparts:

- east inconveniences
- but disfigures the ramparts.

Proposals were made to prepare a joint mission of Professors Paskoff and Rosenthal to determine *the feasibility of placing large blocks of rock on the limestone rock platforms that are in the bay in front of the ramparts.*

This solution would be the most harmonious vis-à-vis the present environment; it would however be necessary to carry out simulations of major storms with a suitable computer programme to evaluate the effect of this new rock structure on the reduction of the wave impact on the ramparts.

It would also be necessary to verify whether these rocks would become projectiles during major winter storms. *A mission to follow up the work on the seaward side of the ramparts will be carried out in April by Mr. Perrot with ADEFRAM.*

6.3 Working group 3: Impact and Consequences of Coastal Erosion

Chairmen:

Mrs. Fouzia Imanssar, Director of the Rabat/Salé Urban Agency
Mr. Louis Pottier, Deputy Mayor of Saint-Malo

Rapporteur:

Mr. Serge Santelli, Urban Planner, teacher at the Paris School, Belleville

UNESCO Follow-up:

Mrs. Brigitte Colin, SHS/SRP/HH

6.3.1 General Recommendations

In the context of the objectives of the UNESCO seminar Urban Development and Water Resources: Small Coastal Cities, and especially objective No. 2 (identification of preferential areas for operational and co-operational partnerships between Essaouira and the municipalities present at the seminar) and No. 3 (reinforce and support ongoing actions undertaken by the local and national authorities to stimulate bilateral and multilateral co-operation in the safeguard of the environmental and socio-cultural identity of Essaouira, while ensuring its integrated development), Working Group 3 took into account the work of the Summer University of Essaouira of September 1997 and the presentation of projects identified by the various local public services and associations. It proposed to study the situation with Essaouira's potential partners attending the seminar, namely:

- the municipality of Saint-Malo (the urban-planning, cultural and patrimonial affairs services, and the town's museums)
- PACT ARIM International
- PACT ARIM Regional Ile-et-Vilaine (Brittany, France)
- ADEFRAM, Association for the Development of Franco-Moroccan Exchange
- School of Avignon, an international school for training in traditional building crafts
- ASM, Association for the Safeguard of the Old Town of Tunis.

Realistic prospects for co-operation amongst these various organisms and the local regional and national authorities charged with integrated development of the town of Essaouira (urban area and old town) were foreseen.

In particular, the following specific actions, taken in order of priority, should be supported; some of them have already been started:

(i) Actions initiated locally by the Agenda 21 Group in collaboration with the French Co-operation

- Restoration and upkeep of the north ramparts (seaward side) following the prescriptions of the report of Mr. Alain Charles Perrot, Chief Architect, Historic Monuments and Buildings, Paris. This project requires urgent action. Work was begun in the winter of 1998: two Compagnons du Devoir, two maâlems and ten apprentices have been assigned to the repair of the seaward side of the ramparts.
- Launching of the revitalization of the Kuwait Street block by ANHI and PACT ARIM International, given their experience in the Maghreb (Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria) and especially their understanding of the juridical and ownership constraints in the old towns.
- Setting-up, with ADEFRAM, of the training work-site to train young persons in the traditional building crafts during the rehabilitation of the former French Consulate and the restoration, following the craft rules, of the building that will serve later as a family-help centre.

(ii) Actions already started by the Moroccan authorities

- Actions, for the preparation of a sectorial development plan for the old town already launched by the General Directorate for Urban Planning, Architecture and Land-Use Development, of the Ministry of the Interior, as a complement to the Master Plan for Development and Urban Planning, should *take into account all the studies already made of the old town* in close concertation with the civil society, designers and historical monuments services. This document will be used as a Safeguard Plan to be included in the dossier that should be newly submitted to the World Heritage Centre for the inscription of the town in the World Heritage list.

(iii) Actions for which a partner is sought

- Conduct of a photogrammetric survey of the bridge and the Naval Gate, with a view to carrying out a study including costs of restoration, in concertation with the Ministry of Culture and the corresponding services of the municipality of Saint-Malo. A summary dossier of the work required for the rehabilitation of the bridge and the Naval Gate will be sent to UNESCO to obtain funds to carry out the urgent consolidation work.
- Acquisition from French, Portuguese or Spanish architects of a detailed and specific order book for carrying out the restoration of the ramparts built by Theodore Cornut.
- information and participation of the population in the work on the ground, with the existing associations. A space has been assigned to ENDA Maghreb in the Palais

de Justice. The actions taken by ENDA Maghreb are directed by Mr. Kamel El N'Dari, especially as regards the urban environment (eg, the fountains of the old town, the vegetable gardens of the green belt, improvement of the scalas, etc.). This NGO also has the task of informing and preparing the population.

- Incorporation and definition of the implementation of the project "Bibane El Madina" and the means of its execution by the inhabitants, notably through the prior conduct of a concrete study and experimental phase.

To ensure the success of an integrated approach to the development of Essaouira, which is already benefiting from offers of support from national and international partners, it seems desirable :

- to strengthen the juridical and administrative structure of the Planning and Urban-Action Centre's "Cellule Medina" in the framework of the Urban Pact No. 2 at the municipal level
- to create a regional structure with the power to carry out and to enforce the various decisions in the field of urban planning and development of the town, in concertation with the elected municipal and provincial officers. This structure should co-ordinate the contributions of the national and international partners in the various projects underway in Essaouira.
- that the various projects for Essaouira be supported at the governmental level to allow the implementation of the agreements with the potential partners, be they the municipalities, participants in the UNESCO project Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities, or the bilateral or multilateral co-operation agencies, NGOs, UN Specialized Agencies, etc.

At the completion of the second session of the Steering Committee, the reinforcement of certain actions was considered necessary:

- To give the greatest attention to *problems of rehousing of families* to facilitate the rehabilitation of the houses in the old town, as well as the work on the inventory of the state of all the buildings in the old town (20 students from the School Paris-Belleville under the direction of Mr. Santelli undertook the survey of 23 buildings in the old town, from 15 to 28 March 1998). *A map on a 1:500 scale should be drawn to show the identification of each building and its function, so that little by little a detailed survey of all the buildings could be achieved to:*
 - establish, prior to the presentation of the safeguard plan now being drafted by the architects of the Ministry of the Interior, a general diagnosis of the immediate rehabilitation possibilities, in the short and long term, for potential investors
 - evaluate the number of families to be rehoused as a function of the possibilities for the rehabilitation of the buildings
 - study, with the ANHI, the housing requirements
 - make the inhabitants aware of the need for upkeep of their houses.

- Take greater care in the training of the members of the "Cellule Medina" in the techniques of architectural surveying, knowledge and application of traditional materials and the preparation of projects on the re-use of ancient buildings. The training will be carried out with the services of Alghero, Saint-Malo, Tunis, as well as of ICCROM in Rome, the School of Avignon, and the architectural technical universities of Spain.

In accordance with the agreement being negotiated between Spain and UNESCO on co-operation between the technical architects and the UNESCO projects, the following actions will be taken this year:

- three Spanish students will be sent to Essaouira in July/August 1998 to continue the surveys;
- organization of a training course for two Moroccan architects from Essaouira in a Spanish university, for them to acquire experience in computer-assisted design.

6.4 Working groups 4 and 5: Substitute Socio-Economic Activities and Tourism: an Integrated Approach to Development

Chairmen:

Mr. Nour Eddine Ottmani, President of GERPE and Administrator of ASPDE
 Professor Giovanni d'Ayala, President of INSULA (NGO)
 Professor Floris Zuidema, Secretary of the IHP, The Netherlands

Rapporteurs:

Professor Maria-Luisa Gentileschi, Geographer, University of Cagliari
 Mr. Philippe Pypaert, UNESCO Office in Venice

Within the specific objectives of Working Groups 4 and 5, the Chairmen, Rapporteurs and Discussion Leaders examined the following projects:

- UNDP support programme on the environment in Essaouira
- creation of a Green Belt for Essaouira
- mobilization and participation of the civil society
- project on the development of alternative tourism.

Based on these salient points in the discussions in which national and international experts, representatives of the partner municipalities and of the local associations participated, numerous useful indications for the execution of actions, and several recommendations, were put forward.

6.4.1 General Recommendations

- (i) The participants in the seminar insisted on the need to adopt in an effective manner an *integrated approach to the development* of Essaouira, through a strategy of development of various sectors (tourism, fishery, agriculture, crafts) so as to diversify the possibilities of socio-economic development.

- (ii) They recommended the *rapid creation of a project co-ordination group*, with the aim of essentially guaranteeing an intersectorial and interdisciplinary analysis of all the project components.
- (iii) In the same perspective, the participants stressed the importance of the *development of a precise strategic framework for the project as a whole*, to which all activities should be referred (distribution of the resources in time and space).
- (iv) To ensure that the projects envisaged (under study or ongoing) truly contribute to the sustainable development of Essaouira, the participants strongly recommend that everything be done *to ensure an effective participation of the local population and activist groups of the civil society*, by studying and elaborating all useful modes for their integration into decision-making, from project conception to completion, via their evaluation.

These modalities should be translated into:

- improved information of the population about the project and actions underway; working documents and communications should be translated into Arabic
- special attention to be given to women, so as to make them become active in the project underway, and especially in the local associations
- re-examination of the role of associations, as links between the population and the international organizations.
- greater attention to the environmental education aspects, from intentions to practice.

In this effort to involve the local population, a central role will be played by Agenda 21 and ENDA-Maghreb.

6.4.2 Specific Recommendations

Specific recommendations emerged from the discussion and analysis of specific projects underway (green belt, mobilization of the population, development of alternative tourism, UNDP programme)

(i) The Green Belt

While insisting on the undeniable qualities of the project under consideration, and stressing the courage required to limit the expansion of the town, the participants nevertheless recommended that:

- the name “green belt” be replaced by the term “natural belt” of Essaouira
- the possible impact of the stabilization of the dunes and the construction of a dam on the Oued Ksorb on the sediment transport along the coast and on beach equilibrium be studied in detail
- a detailed hydrological study be undertaken together with the location and potential uses of lagoons foreseen in the project (collection of run-off water, freshwater ecosystem, eputation of waste water, irrigation reservoirs), but also with the risk of soil salination
- the interested population (eg, the Skala district) should be closely involved in all phases of evaluation, elaboration and execution of the proposals it contains

- that all solutions that would allow the recycling of waste water for irrigation of the natural belt should be studied and developed, and that, in this context, the use of renewable energy, especially wind energy, should also be encouraged.

(ii) Mobilization and participation of the population

Considering that the primary resource of Essaouira is its inhabitants and that they should be the primary beneficiaries of the development effort made, as well as being privileged participants, the participants in the seminar agreed that *the participation of the population of Essaouira in the ongoing process should be encouraged in accordance with the modalities of the local community itself. The participants therefore asked that the population be associated as closely as possible with the decision-making and with the execution of the projects under consideration.* To do this, their creativity should be stimulated, and the efforts aimed at the development of their capacities should be reinforced.

(iii) Tourism

The participants in the seminar unanimously recognized that the cultural, architecture, historical, and environmental characteristics of Essaouira constitute so many advantages that should allow the considerable development of tourism, which is vital to its economy. For its touristic potentialities to be an effective source of development for all, it was recommended:

- that special attention should be given to a concerted definition of a development strategy for this sector, leading to the *adoption of a Charter for Sustainable Tourism for Essaouira* drafted in the framework of the programme “Localizing Agenda 21”, to serve as an essential element of dialogue with the tourist operators
- that the choice of “monocultural tourism”, which is more risky, be avoided as far as possible in favour of integrated development of new forms of tourism that could drive the *development of related and interdependent sectors such as handicrafts, fishery, inland agricultural production*
- that, in this perspective, the responsible authorities for this sector seek firstly to assess the diffuse reality of experiments underway to reveal the interest of the tourist clientele in *alternative forms of tourism (watersports, ecotourism, cultural tourism).*

The importance was also stressed of considering such tourism, even in its alternative forms, as an industry requiring major public and private investment, so that the conditions for a harmonious development could be achieved. To this end, the participants in the seminar recommended that a detailed analysis be made of the constraints relating to the water cycle (supply, distribution, collection, epuration), especially as concerns the *old town, which is a major tourist attraction of Essaouira.*

(iv) Handicrafts

As for tourism, diversification of the local handicrafts was unanimously recognized as being a necessity. It was recommended, however:

- that, to the development of forms of “decorative” handicrafts, the conservation and/or development of “functional” forms of handicraft (boatbuilding, carpentry, agro-foods) should be added in support of the traditional economic activities of Essaouira
- that a “craftsmen's village” should be created right in the heart of the town, to provide the craftsmen not only the most suitable infrastructure for their activities but also the support required for their training, promotion and exchanges (re-use of the Spanish Consulate after rehabilitation).

In addition to the general and specific recommendations emanating from this workshop, a number of new issues were raised during the second meeting of the Steering Committee.

- Regarding **handicrafts**, the *University of Cagliari*, which is already working with the University of Marrakesh, could undertake a regional study on tourism in the province of Essaouira. *The University proposes to receive 2 or 3 trainees from Essaouira to evaluate the various alternatives developed in Italy, especially to produce quality objects of cultural value under the “Essaouira” label, as is already the case for objects in silver and thuya wood.*
- In the **fishery** sector, it is necessary to support all the various activities, from the small boatbuilding yard to the canneries, including all the artisanal activities connected with this field. *Some elements were discussed for the preparation of a project between Italy France and Morocco “Training of Youth for Fishing” to be presented to the EU for Essaouira (involving the towns of Alghero, Essaouira and Saint-Malo).*

The town of Saint-Malo offered to train technicians (mechanics and masterfishermen) in one of the town's schools: documentation on this school should be sent to Essaouira for the selection of the candidates likely to be able to follow this training. Also, it was proposed that specialists from Saint-Malo come to see the existing installations in the port of Essaouira and to submit their recommendations to the municipality.

- Regarding the **green belt project**, which was supported by all the experts, a dossier has been submitted to the EU by the municipality of Essaouira and the UNCHS. The project should also include the establishment of family vegetable gardens, with the NGO “ENDA Maghreb”.

Such a project, comprising water-retention basins, would provide a solution to the problems of flooding and water retention for the whole of Essaouira's urban area, as well as the enrichment of the buffer zone between the town and the surrounding wooded dunes. Essaouira has requested the support of the towns in the network to give their support to the dossier submitted to the EU.

- *The project Steering Committee*, in the light of the composition of the **Cellule Medina** (3 architects, Mr. Hbib, of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, and his team, Miss Messous, architect of the Ministry of Housing, and Mr. Massiri, in charge of the Cellule Medina) *recommended its reinforcement by specialists in socio-economics to be able to deal with all the problems of the old town.*
- *The Committee strongly recommended the creation of a Web site for Essaouira.* This site would put the town in direct communication with the other towns and partners, as

well as the institutions (universities and NGOs, among others). In this way, the partner towns, Alghero and Saint-Malo, could put on their own Web sites information on the touristic potential of Essaouira and photos of the town.

A request for the establishment of the Web site for Essaouira should be submitted to UNESCO by the local authorities, and for the **publication of a brochure on ecotourism**. The divulgation of this brochure in Europe could then be ensured by the towns participating in the project.

7. FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

During the seminar, more or less definite planning of concrete actions to be carried out for Essaouira was accomplished. More precisely, the municipalities represented, as well as the non-governmental organizations and the bilateral and multilateral co-operation agencies, suggested co-operative and mutual-aid actions for the ancient Mogador. The preparation for the implementation of these proposals will therefore be as follows:

Amongst the municipalities:

- creation of a Web site
- working meetings by theme
- preparation of scientific documents
- evaluation meeting with the Steering Committee

Amongst certain municipalities, ONGs and bilateral co-operation agencies:

- restoration of the ramparts
- restoration of the Jewish quarter
- training in urban water management
- training of the young in tourism, fishing and the management of drinking water
- training of municipal technicians in the integrated management of water resources in the coastal zone.

7.1 Implementation of inter-municipal activities

Saint-Malo:

fishing (navigation aspects), training of municipal managers, town museums, beach erosion and maintenance of the ramparts, removal of wastes from the historic centre

Alghero:

Training of technicians in the integrated management of urban water - a computer programme on water management will be made available; training of technicians in socio-architectural revitalization (exchange of architects).

University of Cagliari:

information on the "heritage classes"; regional study of tourism for the Province of Essaouira.

Kotor:

Assistance in presenting a dossier; back the inscription of Essaouira in the World Heritage list.

Tunis:

Through the Association de Sauvegarde de la Médina de Tunis, training of young architects in the techniques of revitalization of the historical fabric of town centres, especially the financial arrangements and temporary re-lodging.

7.2 Implementation of activities amongst certain Municipalities, NGOs and Bilateral Co-operation Agencies

Activities under ADEFRAM (Franco-Moroccan exchange), the School of Avignon, Pact Arim, French Embassy, UNESCO (headquarters)

- *Ramparts: urgent restoration work* (started in December 1997); a joint ADEFRAM - A.C. Perrot mission is planned for February 1998 to evaluate the early work.
- *Bab al Medina Gate project*: UNESCO will finance a mission of the School of Avignon to evaluate the implementation with the workmen of the ADEFRAM worksite for the French Consulate.
- International PACT ARIM meeting on *action on the Jewish quarter* foreseen for March/April 1998 (three Spanish student technical architects will be ready to prepare the architectural plans in July/August 1998); their first reports (the Portuguese church, the Jewish orphanage and the Jewish quarter - a socio-economic study - architectural plans and rehabilitation plans and study) will be translated into French. Their work will be published in March/April 1998 and transmitted to the UNCHS, the Governor of Essaouira, PACT ARIM International, the ANHI etc. to be taken into account in the projects on socio-economic and architectural revitalization.
- In the context of the work of these Spanish students, the **University of Madrid** would be ready to give training to three Moroccan Spanish-speaking architecture students from the Essaouira region (this point will be discussed directly with UNCHS, ANHI, PACT ARIM, ADEFRAM and the local authorities). Another Spanish architectural university might be able to send three students for the summer of 1998 to work with ADEFRAM, PACT ARIM, the School of Avignon and the UNCHS, with a view to elaborating the architectural plans and the projects on the revitalization of the French Consulate and of the buildings selected in agreement with the municipality and Agenda 21 (these prospectations have already been discussed with ADEFRAM). A co-operation agreement for this summer school-worksite is being drawn up by UNESCO and the Spanish technical architectural colleges.
- *Worksite training school*: the former Consulate of France will be rehabilitated and young candidates will be trained with a view to the creation of small building businesses.

A meeting will be organized jointly with Alghero, Licata/Sciaccia, Saint-Malo and Essaouira in May 1998 to launch the implementation of the concerted actions evoked in

November 1997 in accordance with the letters of invitation signed by the aforementioned towns and with the findings of the working groups.

8. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF UNESCO AND THE STEERING COMMITTEE

In the light of the outcome of the seminar, it would be highly desirable that *a Moroccan national entity be charged with the co-ordination of all these projects or proposals for co-operation so as to avoid the loss of energy and resources*. This entity should be composed of a representative of each ministry concerned and of the municipal offices responsible for the development of Essaouira (water management, coastal erosion, revitalization of the town centre, socio-economic structure and content, tourism, hotels, museums, handicrafts, sports, fishing, environmental protection etc.). *The person responsible for this entity should also ensure the sound management and administration of the co-operation, and be recognized at the local level (municipality, province) and at the national level* (ministries, specialized national institutions)*. This entity, "a public establishment of administrative character" could be a *national* agency administered by a representative council of the ministries involved, and provincial and municipal authorities.

UNESCO will look after maintaining permanent contact with Essaouira's partner towns, with the National Commission and the Permanent Delegation, for the implementation of the actions proposed, among others, under the Participation Programme 1998-1999 and the Regular Programme approved by the 29th session of the General Conference of UNESCO for the town of Essaouira.

9. CLOSING CEREMONY

The international seminar closed on 26 November after three days of very interesting exchanges and consultations. Following a morning devoted to analysis and discussion of agreement protocols between the municipalities present, and the definition of areas of intervention for each partner town, all the invited participants assembled at the beginning of the afternoon in the Grand Hall of the Provincial building to take part in the closing ceremony.

Statements of formal thanks were made by the various UNESCO representatives (*see the texts in Annex 6*) prior to the ceremony of the signature of the letter of intent on co-operation amongst the various municipalities and Essaouira. In the presence of Monsieur Amin Belcadi, Governor of the Province of Essaouira, and of Monsieur Tahar Afify, President of the Municipal Council, the representatives of the municipalities of Saint-Malo, Alghero, Saïda, Sciacca and Licata, Odense, Esbjerg, Kotor, Omisalj and Taglio di Po signed the agreement protocols presented in the following section.

* The experience in Mauretania, with the creation by the Prime Minister of the National Foundation for the Safeguard of Ancient Towns, which included the mayors of these towns, the representatives of the ministries concerned and which was directed by a national director recognized by all certainly contributed to the resurrection of these towns and their incorporation into the World Heritage list.

10 CO-OPERATION AMONG PARTICIPATING TOWNS

10.1 Creation of the network

In the framework of the UNESCO project "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities", the municipalities of Essaouira, Saint-Malo, Alghero, Sciacca and Licata, Saïda, Esbjerg, Odense, Omisalj, Kotor and Taglio di Po signed, on 26 November 1997, *a letter of intent on co-operation in the creation of a network of small and medium coastal towns.*

Within the priorities defined by the UNESCO seminar (Essaouira, 24-26 November 1997) and the Steering Committee of the UNESCO project

"URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND FRESHWATER RESOURCES: SMALL COASTAL CITIES"

The co-signatory municipalities, taking into account:

1. the fact that the management of natural resources cannot be isolated from socio-economic problems, and that the towns and surrounding rural areas must be considered as a whole
2. that the good management of local resources of fresh water is indispensable to the sustainable and balanced development of small coastal towns
3. that tourism is an important factor in development, as a new source of income
4. that the strengthening of the technical structures of the municipalities, their staff and their means must be considered a priority objective,

undertake to promote co-operation amongst the municipalities of the same size, exposed to problems in common, having cultural and historical similarities, with a view to substantially improving the living conditions of the inhabitants, and undertake also to promote the revitalization of historical town centres with marine waterfronts, to support traditional activities related to fishing, tourism, handicrafts, to enhance the socio-cultural identities of the communities, to ensure sustainable and balanced development of their towns for future generations.

This co-operation will be supported by UNESCO in the fields of training, especially of the young and of women, of sensitization of the town activators, of the establishment of scientific data banks on the problems encountered, for the creation of an Internet site "Small and medium coastal towns". The towns chosen for pilot case studies will be supported on the ground by the Regional Offices of UNESCO in the search for technical and financial assistance in the implementation of the operational projects.

The municipalities mentioned herebelow, by their signatures, express their intention to co-operate in the creation of a Network of Small and Medium Coastal Towns, under the ægis of UNESCO and call on the Organization to ensure the follow-up through the Steering Committee of the project "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities".

10.2 Co-operation Agreement between Essaouira and Saint-Malo

In the framework of the UNESCO project "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities", the municipalities of Essaouira and Saint-Malo signed, on 26 November 1997, in the presence of Monsieur Amin Belcadi, Governor of His Majesty the King in the Province of Essaouira and the representative of UNESCO in Morocco, *a letter of intent on co-operation in the creation of an exchange and co-operation programme.*

Under the UNESCO Project

"URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND FRESHWATER RESOURCES: SMALL COASTAL CITIES"

The Municipality of Saint-Malo,
France

The Province and Municipality
of Essaouira, Kingdom of Morocco

having in mind the need to promote strategies for urban development incorporating the recommendations of the Global Environment Summit (Rio, 1992) and of the Global Habitat Summit (Habitat II, 1996), namely:

- the sustainable management of water resources for towns and their surrounding rural areas
- the protection of the natural coastal environment
- the improvement in the living conditions of the inhabitants, especially in the historic town centres on a marine waterfront
- the support for micro-activities related to tourism, handicrafts, and traditional habitat construction
- the promotion of international socio-cultural activities
- the promotion of innovative local initiatives with women and young people to sensitize the population to the necessity of protecting their urban environment and their water resources
- the protection of the environment of the coastal zone, especially against land-based sources of pollution
- integrated management of the inhabited coastal zone and the application of protection measures to avoid or limit degradation of the shoreline and coastal erosion,

to make of their town a lasting natural and social ecosystem,

decide to elaborate jointly a programme of exchange and co-operation

in the fields of mutual interest to be defined on the basis of the recommendations of the Summer University of Essaouira (September 1997) and of the UNESCO seminar "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities" (November 1997).

10.3 Co-operation agreement between Essaouira and Alghero

In the framework of the UNESCO project "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities", the municipalities of Essaouira and Alghero signed, on 26 November 1997, in the presence of Monsieur Amin Belcadi, Governor of His Majesty the King in the Province of Essaouira and the representative of UNESCO in Morocco, a *letter of intent on co-operation in the creation of an exchange and co-operation programme*.

Under the UNESCO Project

"URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND FRESHWATER RESOURCES: SMALL COASTAL CITIES"

The Municipality of Alghero
Sardinia, Italy

The Province and Municipality
of Essaouira, Kingdom of Morocco

having in mind the need to promote strategies for urban development incorporating the recommendations of the Global Environment Summit (Rio, 1992) and of the Global Habitat Summit (Habitat II, 1996), namely:

- the sustainable management of water resources for towns and their surrounding rural areas
- the protection of the natural coastal environment
- the improvement in the living conditions of the inhabitants, especially in the historic town centres on a marine waterfront
- the support for micro-activities related to tourism, handicrafts, and traditional habitat construction
- the promotion of international socio-cultural activities
- the promotion of innovative local initiatives with women and young people to sensitize the population to the necessity of protecting their urban environment and their water resources
- the protection of the environment of the coastal zone, especially against land-based sources of pollution
- integrated management of the inhabited coastal zone and the application of protection measures to avoid or limit degradation of the shoreline and coastal erosion;

to make of their town a lasting natural and social ecosystem,

decide to elaborate jointly a programme of exchange and co-operation

in the fields of mutual interest to be defined on the basis of the recommendations of the Summer University of Essaouira (September 1997) and of the UNESCO seminar "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities" (November 1997)

10.4 Co-operation Agreement between Essaouira and the Provinces of Sciacca and Licata

In the framework of the UNESCO project "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities", the municipalities of Essaouira and the Provinces of Sciacca and Licata signed, on 26 November 1997, in the presence of Monsieur Amin Belcadi, Governor of His Majesty the King in the Province of Essaouira and the representative of UNESCO in Morocco, *a letter of intent on co-operation in the creation of an exchange and co-operation programme.*

Under the UNESCO Project

"URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND FRESHWATER RESOURCES: SMALL COASTAL CITIES"

The Municipality of Sciacca and Licata
Province of Agrigento, Italy

The Province and Municipality of
Essaouira, Kingdom of Morocco

having in mind the need to promote strategies for urban development incorporating the recommendations of the Global Environment Summit (Rio, 1992) and of the Global Habitat Summit (Habitat II, 1996), namely:

- the sustainable management of water resources for towns and their surrounding rural areas
- the protection of the natural coastal environment
- the improvement in the living conditions of the inhabitants, especially in the historic town centres on a marine waterfront
- the support for micro-activities related to tourism, handicrafts, and traditional habitat construction
- the promotion of international socio-cultural activities
- the promotion of innovative local initiatives with women and young people to sensitize the population to the necessity of protecting their urban environment and their water resources
- the protection of the environment of the coastal zone, especially against land-based sources of pollution
- integrated management of the inhabited coastal zone and the application of protection measures to avoid or limit degradation of the shoreline and coastal erosion,

to make of their town a lasting natural and social ecosystem,

decide to elaborate jointly a programme of exchange and co-operation

in the fields of mutual interest to be defined on the basis of the recommendations of the Summer University of Essaouira (September 1997) and of the UNESCO seminar "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities" (November 1997).

10.5 Co-operation Agreement between Taglio di Po, Italy, and Omisalj, Croatia

In the framework of the UNESCO project "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities", the municipalities of Taglio di Po, Italy, and Omisalj, Croatia, signed, on 26 November 1997, in the presence of the representative of UNESCO in Morocco, and the representative of the UNESCO Office in Venice, *a letter of intent on co-operation in the creation of an exchange and co-operation programme.*

Under the UNESCO Project

"URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND FRESHWATER RESOURCES: SMALL COASTAL CITIES"

The Municipality of Taglio di Po
Veneto Region, Italy

The Municipality of Omisalj
Island of Krk, Croatia

having in mind the need to promote strategies for urban development incorporating the recommendations of the Global Environment Summit (Rio, 1992) and of the Global Habitat Summit (Habitat II, 1996), namely:

- the sustainable management of water resources for towns and their surrounding rural areas
- the protection of the natural coastal environment
- the improvement in the living conditions of the inhabitants, especially in the historic town centres on a marine waterfront
- the support for micro-activities related to tourism, handicrafts, and traditional habitat construction
- the promotion of international socio-cultural activities
- the promotion of innovative local initiatives with women and young people to sensitize the population to the necessity of protecting their urban environment and their water resources
- the protection of the environment of the coastal zone, especially against land-based sources of pollution
- integrated management of the inhabited coastal zone and the application of protection measures to avoid or limit degradation of the shoreline and coastal erosion,

to make of their town and their territory a lasting natural and social ecosystem,

decide to elaborate jointly a programme of exchange and co-operation taking into account the recommendations of the UNESCO seminar Urban Development and Water Resources: Small and Medium Coastal Towns (Essaouira, Morocco, November 1997)

This co-operation programme will deal with themes of mutual interest, as:

- the study, the protection, and the enhancement of the cultural heritage, material and immaterial
- the integrated management of water (supply, treatment, drainage and epuration)
- the study, protection, and the enhancement of the natural heritage, through education and the sensitization of all the societal activators in the field of development
- the development of a lasting tourism, along several lines (sea bathing, culture and ecology)

11. CONCLUSION

The UNESCO International Seminar on «Urban Development and Water Resources: Small Coastal Towns» took place in Essaouira (the ancient Mogador), Morocco, from 24 to 26 November 1997, with three hundred participants from several European, North African and Middle East countries.

This important meeting brought together specialists from several disciplines, technicians, managers and decision-makers to tackle jointly an issue which at the present time is a concern for officials of all coastal countries: integrated and sustainable development of coastal regions. During these three working days, emphasis was placed on defining new strategies for urban development in coastal zones, expressly aimed at supporting small and medium-sized towns and the preservation of their water resources.

The seminar provided an opportunity to identify fields of interest shared among these towns, and in particular among the municipalities and towns represented at Essaouira: Saint-Malo, Alghero, Sciacca and Licata, Alexandria, Saïda, Tunis, Odense, Esbjerg, Omisalj, Kotor and Taglio di Po. Letters of intent for mutual co-operation were signed, both in favour of the town of Essaouira and between all the towns represented at the seminar.

In the framework of thematic workshops it was thus possible to draw up a certain number of recommendations and solutions to encourage the town of Essaouira to continue its development efforts.

Actions already identified by local and national authorities were declared to be priorities for the development of the town. In particular the restoration of the ramparts was identified as the first and major action to be undertaken urgently.

Much attention was also paid to the national programme for the improvement of sanitation and drainage in certain parts of the medina: the renovation of the distribution network for drinking water and the evacuation and treatment of liquid waste were considered to be priority actions. The creation of a healthy environment for the inhabitants of the Medina is a fundamental requirement for the sustainable development of the town as a whole

The seminar suggested that programmes of public awareness and information should be developed. Indeed, the setting up of new and efficient equipment should be accompanied by programmes for awareness, education and transfer of know-how and knowledge.

General lines of orientation and recommendations emerged for ensuring the follow-up of the UNESCO project beyond the pilot case of Essaouira. UNESCO was encouraged to further its interdisciplinary approach and to develop more effectively the integration of socio-economic and natural scientific approaches.

It was recognized that the interdisciplinary approach developed by UNESCO in Essaouira, could be applied to other towns in the project. The interdisciplinary

methodology based on reflexion and knowledge crossing the boundaries of social and natural sciences, in particular water and ocean science, is a tool which allows a better understanding of the complex interactions which characterize the coastal environment. In this manner, strategies can be formulated which are adapted to case by case.

The seminar also underlined the importance of policies aimed at the protection and development of coastal zones. These should be capable of fulfilling the role of a «mediator» between the needs of the urban, industrial and agricultural sectors and the limits of sustainable natural resource use: wise water management should be recognized as an important factor for social development. Indeed, poor management of available water resources may represent a serious obstacle to the sustainable development of any human settlement.

The seminar encouraged UNESCO to be particularly attentive to development strategies in coastal regions, to assist municipalities to manage better urban growth and to foresee the concentration of migrant populations in large towns.

Urban development strategies in coastal zones should take into account information available from existing studies on the hydrological system dynamics of water resources in order to avoid conflicts between users, resource degradation and depletion. UNESCO should also develop training and information tools on the impact of urban growth on the quantity and quality of water furnished to the inhabitants of coastal towns and on the negative impacts that the degradation of this resource may have on the urban environment.

At the present time, water management and availability are issues of essential importance to urban areas in the coastal region. It is therefore necessary that a wide variety of specialists (other than hydrologists and water science experts), as well as local populations, become increasingly knowledgeable about water resources and their management.

It was thus recognized that one of the ways to balance the demand for water while avoiding overburdening the capacity of the coastal environment, consists of launching actions aimed at the development of small and medium-sized towns. Such actions should integrate their cultural and historic heritage, as the latter represents a potential source for new economic development and a vital element for the preservation of the cultural identity of populations.

The renovation of these small coastal towns should stem the flow of resident populations towards large towns and, furthermore, absorb part of the rural migration, thus bringing a shift in urban development which would relieve the large urban centres in the coastal zones.

UNESCO was encouraged to pursue this global approach to development which was initiated with the pilot case of Essaouira.

The small and medium-sized towns, situated far from large urban centres are generally forgotten in national development policies. Given their particular situation – in some way a meeting point of urban and rural realities - these towns do not fall into any of the urban, regional or rural policy frameworks. Regional development policies are very

often torn between agricultural policy and urban policy: the first supports rural activities while urbanisation neglects the small and medium-sized towns. This is explained in both cases by the fact that they are an intermediary phase prior to widespread urbanisation. Town policy in lightly urbanised regions should take into account different territorial characteristics such as the site, the size and the population density of the town and the variations of different migratory streams.

The territorial development of urban regions is today no longer considered by the national governments as an exclusively domestic question. Several factors point to a centrifugal development of the small and medium-sized towns with regard to the central government: the setting up of community, inter-regional and transnational town networks, the creation of a link with the international community, due to a stronger commercial situation, and an increased will to establish mechanisms for local development that favours endogenous development. Improved material for communication and information could reduce the disadvantages of isolated places by compensating the absence of direct contact with recourse to new communication technologies.

In the framework of the small and medium-sized towns, should be added the difficulties linked to the geographical context and its consequences.

The seminar, after evaluating the actions already underway and to be undertaken at Essouaria, recognized that the experience of certain towns gives grounds for hope for Essouaria. Proposals by international NGOs and bilateral co-operation agencies for technical assistance will also bring support in the framework of a plan of action for the safeguard and integrated development of the town.

Co-ordinated by UNESCO, letters of intent for co-operation, signed on 26 November 1997 by the partner towns, should lead to the implementation of technical aid for the town and allow funds to be mobilized for infrastructure and socio-economic renewal.

UNESCO, assisted by the international community and with the scientific support of the steering committee, will work alongside the town of Essouaria to set up a national co-ordination structure for activities relative to the transmission of basic values of the town to future generations.

Finally, the seminar made known their desire that errors from poor territorial development planning in certain coastal regions, might serve as an example of what not to do. In this way, small and medium-sized towns can follow a path to development, while at the same time conserving the traditional quality of their cultural and social life in a natural environment which is conserved and valued.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF THE SEMINAR

SUNDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 1997

Arrival in Essaouira. Welcome to the hotels.

3.00 pm Guided visit of Essaouira
by national experts to the strategic sites for the survival of Essaouira.

5.30 pm Dar Souiri : Tea Ceremony

MONDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 1997

8.30 am Integrated approach for development: THE CASE OF ESSAOUIRA

- Presentation of the Monograph on Essaouira prepared by the Ministry of the Environment by Mr. El Kébir Mdarhri Alaoui, Division of Observation and Studies.
- Presentation of the Master Plan for Essaouira prepared by the Ministry of Interior by Mr. A. Debbi, Architect of the Ministry of the Interior.
- Presentation of the recommendations by Essaouira Summer University (18/21 September 1997) by Mr. Nour Eddine Ottmani, President of ASPDE: Association for the Safeguarding, Promotion and Development of Essaouira.
- Presentation of UNCHS "Agenda 21" Project by Professor Vershure, Louvain University.

- Presentation of the Actions of the French Decentralised Co-operation by Mr. Jean Paul Fiorèse, Assistant Advisor for Culture of the French Embassy in Rabat.

Presentation of topics relating to freshwater resources and the urban historic fabric of Essaouira.

- Freshwater Resources : Mr. Abdelmajid El Hebil, Director of the Hydraulic Region of Tensit.
- Essaouira historic urban fabric : Mr. Abdelaziz Touri, Director of Cultural Heritage.

10.30 am Official Opening Ceremony

Statements by:

- Mr. Amine Belcadi, Governor of Essaouira Province
- Mr. Taher Afifi, President of the Municipal Council of Essaouira
- Mr. Abdelaziz Meziane Belfkih, Ministry of Agriculture, Equipment and Environment
- Mrs Aziza Bennani, Secretary of State for Culture.
- Mr. André Azoulay, Royal Advisor on Economics to His Majesty the King Hassan II
- Mr. Ali Kazancigil, Director of the UNESCO Division of Social Sciences, Research and Policy, Executive Secretary MOST Programme

Tea Ceremony

2.30 pm Presentation of UNESCO Project:

"Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities" within the framework for the interdisciplinary platform Coastal Regions and Small Islands (CSI): "Land, Sea and People: seeking a sustainable balance", by Mr. Dirk Troost, Chief of the UNESCO Programme on Coastal Regions and Small Islands.

- Integrated approach to development of coastal historical centres and sustainable management of natural resources.
- Project of Technical Cooperation Network between small coastal cities of northern Europe and southern Mediterranean ones.
- First study case: the specific problems of Essaouira.

3.00 p.m. Presentation of the Meeting Organization

The content and organization of plenary sessions and working groups will be presented by Mrs. Lamia Salman El Madini, UNESCO Representative in Morocco.

Introduction of Chairmen, rapporteurs and moderators of the working group sessions, and presentation of the specific topic of each working group:

Session 1: Freshwater resource management in historical coastal centres.

Session 2: Impacts and consequences of coastal erosion.

Session 3: Socio-architectural revitalization.

Session 4: Tourism and substitutive socio-economic activities.

Session 5: Integrated approach to development

Registration for working group sessions and assignment of national and

international participants by working group topics.

3.30 pm Presentation of experiences of the partners cities

- **Saint Malo**, by Mr. René Couanau, Deputy-Mayor of the City
- **Alghero**, by Dr. Carlo Secchi, Mayor of the City
- **Sciaccia and Licata**, by Mr. Antonio Cellura, Architect and Governor of Agrigento Municipality
- **Alexandria** by Mr. Ahmed Hassan, Representative of the Mayor of Alexandria
- **Saïda**, by Mr. Ahmad Kalash, Mayor of Saïda
- **Tunis**, by Mr. Zoubeir Mouhli, Representative of the Mayor of Tunis and member of the ASM Tunis
- **Odense**, by Mr. B. Lund Jensen, Odense Water Ltd
- **Esbjerg**, by Mr. Sigfred Lindvig, Representative of the Municipality
- **Taglio di Po**, by Mr. V. Melone, Mayor of the City
- **Omišalj**, Croatia, by Mrs. Jelisava Antolic, Representative of Omišalj Municipality
- **Kotor**, Montenegro, by Mrs Svetjlana Lalic, Representative of Kotor Regional Water Supply Agency

TUESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 1997

9.30 a.m. Working Group Sessions

The presentation of project documents for Essaouira will be held in the relevant working groups:

- **Waste drainage system**, Mr. Ahmed Hafedh, National Office for Drinking Water (ONEP) Marrakech.
- **Northern Walls and protection of the Mellah Area**, Mrs. Jalila Kadiri,

Ministry of High Education, Scientific Research and Culture.

- **Revitalization of the Medina**, Mr. Abdelaziz Belkeziz, Regional Director of the Agence Nationale de lutte contre l'Habitat Insalubre (ANHI), Marrakech.
- **Re-use of the ancient Danish Consulate**, Mr. Mostafa Hbib, Architect of Historical Monuments, Heritage Department, Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Culture.
- **Project "Bibane El Médina", mobilization of the Medina inhabitants for the enhancement of ancient doors**, Mr. Nour Eddine Ottmani, President of the GERPE (Groupement d'Etudes et de Recherches pour la Promotion d'Essaouira).
- **Project for the development of a substitutive tourism**, Mr. Abdellah Aboulhassani, Delegate for Tourism in Essaouira.
- **Mobilization and proposals of the civil society**, Mr. Nour Eddine Ottmani, President of the Groupement d'Etudes et de Recherches pour la Promotion d'Essaouira (GERPE) and Director of the Association pour la Sauvegarde, la Promotion et le Développement d'Essaouira (ASPDE),
- **UNDP Programme of Support for Essaouira's Environment**, Mrs. Khadija Belfkih-Kabbaj (UNDP).
- **Green belt**, Mrs. Kawthar Ghazouli, project consultant for UNCHS and the French Embassy.

Sessions will be composed of national and international experts, experts of the cities ready to co-operate with Essaouira, as well as representatives of UN Agencies, NGOs and National Authorities.

Working Group sessions will focus on:

Session 1: Freshwater resources management in coastal historical centres.

Chairmen:

- Mr. Abdelmajid El Hebil, Director of the Hydraulic Region of Tensit.
- Mr. Kees R. Meinardi, National Institute of Public Health and Environment

Moderators and rapporteurs:

- Mr. B.A. Saad, Egypt, National IHP Committee, Egypt,
- Mr. Gerard F.J. Jeurissen, Applied Geoscience International, The Netherlands
- Professor G. Barrocu, National IHP Committee, Italy,
- Mr. Youssef Amori, Director of ONEP

Session 2: Impacts and consequences of coastal erosion.

Chairman :

- Mr. M. Messaouidi, Director of Mohammedia Harbour
- **Moderators and rapporteurs**
- Mr. W. Rosenthal, UNESCO Consultant, Member of the German Society for Maritime Research
- Mr. M. Menioui, Professor of Oceanography, Mohammed V University
- Mr. M. Nagid Amzian, Director of the harbour of Tangiers

Session 3: Socio-architectural revitalization of the historic urban fabric.

Chairmen

- Mr. L. Pottier, Assistant Mayor of Saint Malo,
- Mrs. Faouzia Imanssar, Director of the Urban Agency of Rabat, Administrative Specialist in Urban Development at the ASPDE

Moderators and rapporteurs

- Mr. François Dubin, PACT
ARIM International
- Mr. Z. Mouhli, ASM of Tunis
- Mr. Serge Santelli, Architect Town-
Planner, Ecole de Paris, Belleville
- Mr. Pascal Canonge, Ecole d'Avignon
- Mrs. Jalila Kadiri, Chief, Technical
Interventions and Studies Division
- Mr. Gérard Fourestier, ADEFRAM
- Mr. Abdelaziz Belkeziz, General
Director of ANHI
- Mr. M. Hbib, Architect of Historical
Monuments
- Mr. Khalid El Assal, Architect
- Mr. Abdelakrim Lahkak, Agenda 21

**Session 4: Tourism and substitutive
socio-economic activities.**

Chairmen

- *Mr. Nour Eddine Ottmani, President
of GERPE and President of ASPDE*
- *Professor G. D'Ayala, Director of
INSULA (NGO)*

Moderators and rapporteurs:

- *Mrs. M.L. Gentileschi, Professor of
Geography, University of Cagliari*
- *Mr. Abdellah Aboulhassani, Delegate
for Tourism in Essaouira*

**Session 5: Integrated approach to
development**

Chairman

- *Professor Floris Zuidema, Secretary
IHP, The Netherlands*
- ***Moderators and rapporteurs***
- *Professor Arno Schmid, President of
IFLA*
- *Mrs Khadija Belfkih Kabbaj, UNDP
Representative*
- *Mrs. Kawthar Ghazoulit, Landscape
Architect Consultant Agenda 21,
French Embassy*
- *Professor Vershure, UNCHS*
- *Prof. Giovanni Campeol, City and
regional Planner, Venice University*

The various working groups will have to evaluate, according to their specific fields of competence, potential pilot projects for Essaouira, in order to find co-operation (bilateral or multilateral) in their fields of competence. Each Chairman will have to check that each working group scrutinizes methodological proposals and criteria for the implementation of projects in view of their use by other coastal cities. At the end of working sessions a chairman and a rapporteur will draft the minutes of the meetings.

**2.30 p.m. Follow-up of Working
Group Sessions**

Review of identified projects divided up according to the specific fields of intervention of each potential partner city with a view to the elaboration of letters of agreement on specific technical partnership between each town and Essaouira.

**5.00 p.m. Session on co-ordination
between chairmen,
moderators and
rapporteurs for the
evaluation of the working
group sessions.**

**WEDNESDAY, 26 NOVEMBER
1997**

9.00/11.00 am Plenary Session

Reading of the results of the workshops and restricted sessions on the potential co-operation agreements between the involved Municipalities and Essaouira.

Follow up of Session 5 : Integrated approach to development

President : Prof. G. Campeol and M. D. Troost, Chief of UNESCO CSI platform.

11.00 am/1.00 pm Restricted Session

of the Chairmen, moderators and rapporteurs of the working groups, the Representatives of the Municipalities of potential partner cities, the President of the Municipality and the Governor of the Province of Essaouira, and the representatives of ASPDE and UNESCO.

Analysis and discussion of potential technical partnerships and finalization of the specific fields of intervention for each partner city in favour of Essaouira.

4.00 p.m. Gathering of all the participants and guests at the Provincial Building (Grand Hall)

Closing Ceremony

Speeches by:

- Mr. Tahar Afify, President of the Municipal Council of Essaouira,
- Mr. F. Carrillo Montesinos, Director of UNESCO Office, Tunis, Regional Advisor for Social Sciences
- Mr Kacem Bensalah, Director ad interim of the UNESCO Office, Beirut

- Mrs Lamia Salman El Madini, UNESCO Representative in Morocco;
- The representatives of the partner cities.

Signature of the letter of intent on the creation of the small coastal cities network

Signature of the letters of intent on co-operation between the Municipalities of Saint-Malo, Alghero, Sciacca and Licata and Essaouira

Signature of the letter of intent on co-operation between the the towns of Taglio di Po (Italy) and Omisalj (Croatia) ;

Message de fidélité et d'attachement addressed to the Royal Cabinet by Mr. Saïd Berdouz, President of the Essaouira Provincial Assembly

Tea Ceremony

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MOROCCAN OFFICIAL PARTICIPANTS

- Mr. André AZOULAY, Royal Advisor on Economics to His Majesty the King Hassan II
- Mr. Driss KHALIL, Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Culture
- Mr. Amine BELCADI, Governor of Essaouira Province
- Mr. Tahar AFIFI, President of the Municipal Council of Essaouira
- Mrs Aziza BENNANI, State Secretary for Culture
- Mr. Abdelaziz MEZIANE BELFKIH, Ministry of Agriculture, Equipment and Environment
- Mr. Youssef AMORI, Provincial Director of the National Office for Drinking Water (ONEP)
- Mr. El Kébir ALAOUI MDAGHRI, Officer in charge of the Observatoire National des Etudes au Maroc (ONEM), Ministry of Agriculture, Equipment and Environment
- Mr. Abdelaziz BELKEZIZ, Regional Director of the Agence Nationale pour la lutte contre l'Habitat Insalubre (ANHI), Marrakech
- Mrs Naïma TABET, General Secretary of the Moroccan National Commission for UNESCO
- Mrs Naïma SEDRATI, First Advisor of the Moroccan Permanent Delegation to UNESCO
- Mr. A. DEBBI, architect in charge of the Master Plan for Urban Development (SDAU) of Essaouira, Ministry of the Interior
- Mr. Abdelaziz TOURI, Director of Cultural Heritage
- Mr. Abdelaziz EL HEBIL, Director of the Hydraulic Region of Tensit
- Mr. Ahmed HAFEDH, Chief Division, ONEP
- Mrs Jalila KADIRI, Chief Division for Studies and Technical Interventions, Direction of Cultural Heritage
- Mr. El Mostafa HBIBI, Architect of Historical Monuments in Essaouira
- Mr. Abdelkrim LAHKAK, Architect of the project "Agenda 21, Essaouira" of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS)
- Mr. Nour Eddine OTTMANI, President of the Groupement d'Etudes et de Recherches pour la Promotion d'Essaouira (GERPE) and Administrator for economics and studies, Association for the Safeguarding, Promotion and Development of Essaouira (ASPDE)
- Mrs Kawthar GHAZOULIT, landscape architect, Green Belt Project, UNCHS and French Embassy
- Mr. Mohammed JELLALI, General Director for Hydraulics, President of Moroccan National Committee for the International Hydrological Programme (IHP)
- Mr. Abdellah ABOUHASSANI, Delegate for Tourism in Essaouira
- Mrs Faouzia IMANSSAR, Director of Rabat Urban Agency and Administrator in charge of urban planning in the ASPDE

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTNER CITIES

SAINT MALO (France)

- Mr. René COUANAU, Mayor of St. Malo
- Mr. Louis POTTIER, Cultural Advisor to the Mayor, Member of the UNESCO project Steering Committee
- Mr. JUGANG, Advisor to the Mayor for Architecture and Urban Planning
- Mr. Philippe PETOUT, Museums curator

ODENSE (Denemark)

- Mr. Børge Lund JENSEN, Odense Water Ltd.

ESBJERG (Denemark)

- Mr. Sigfred LINDVIG, Esbjerg Municipality representative

SCIACCA et LICATA (Italy)

- Mr. Antonio CELLURA, Governor of the Province of Agrigento (Italy)
- Mr. MUGLIA, Advisor on Culture to the Province of Agrigento

ALGHERO (Italy)

- Mr. Fulvio DETTORI, Representative of the Mayor of Alghero

SAIDA (Liban)

- Mr. M. KALASH, President of Sida Municipality
- Mrs Haifa EL HAMIN, Architect of Hariri Foundation
- Mrs. Dima JAWAD, Engineer, Municipality of Saïda

TUNIS (Tunisia)

- Mr. Zoubeir MOUHLLI, Representative of the Mayor of Tunis, Architect of the ASM Tunis
- Mr. Ben MESSOUD, Director of Urban Environment

ALEXANDRIA (Egypt)

- Mr. B.A.SAAD, IHP, Egypte
- Dr. Ahmed HASSAN, Representative of the Mayor of Alexandria

OMISALJ (Croatia)

- Mrs. Jelisava ANTOLIC, Representative of the Municipality of Omisalj

TAGLIO DI PO (Italy)

- Prof. Vincenzo MELONE, Mayor of Taglio di Po

KOTOR (Yugoslavia)

- Mrs Svetjlana LALIC, Representative of the city of Kotor

INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS

- Professor Floris ZUIDEMA, Representative of IHP, The Netherlands, Member of UNESCO project Steering Committee
- Professor Maria Luisa GENTILESCHI, Department of Economic and Social Research, University of Cagliari, Member of UNESCO project Steering Committee
- Professor Serge SANTELLI, Architect/Town Planner, Professor at Institut français d'architecture, Paris, Member of UNESCO project Steering Committee.
- Professor Wolfgang ROSENTHAL, Oceanographer, Member of UNESCO project Steering Committee.
- Professor Arno SCHMID, President of the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)
- Prof. Aurelio AURELI, IHP, Italy
- Professor Giovanni BARROCU, University of Cagliari, IHP, Italy
- Mr. Gerard F. JEURISSEN, Applied Geoscience International Consultancy
- Mr. C. Kees R. MEINARDI, Hydrogeologist, National Institute of Public Health and Environment, The Netherlands
- Prof. Giovanni CAMPEOL, Landscape architect, University of Venice
- Professor Giovanni D'AYALA, President of INSULA (NGO)
- Professor Anne Marie LAULAN, President of MOST France Committee

REPRESENTATIVES OF NGOs, ASSOCIATIONS, PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SCHOOLS

- Mr. François DUBIN, President of PACT ARIM International for the Enhancement of Habitat
- Mrs. Nazira NAHRI, PACT ARIM International
- Mr. Jean-Yves Coulomb, PACT ARIM Ille et Vilaine
- Mr. Gérard FOURESTIER, President of ADEFRAM
- Mr. Pascal CANONGE, Ecole d'Avignon
- Mrs. Edith COMMISSAIRE, ADEFRAM
- Mrs. Marie Christine AULAS, Director of the Mission for the Development of Mediterranean exchange,
- Mr. Pierre BALAVOINE, Responsible for Sports, Le Touquet.

REPRESENTATIVES OF UN AGENCIES

UNCHS:

- Professor VERSHURE, Louvain University, Coordinator of the Belgian Consortium
- Mr. Filiep DECORTE, Cellule Agenda 21, Essaouira

WHO:

- MR. Taoufik Zeribi, WHO Representative in Morocco

UNDP:

- Mrs Khadija Belfkih-Kabbaj, UNDP Assistant Resident Representative

REPRESENTATIVES OF BILATERAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGENCIES IN ESSAOUIRA

FRANCE:

- Mr. Jean-Paul FIORESE, Assistant Advisor for Culture, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation of the French embassy

ITALY:

- Ambassador. Raimondo CELI, Italian General Consul in Casablanca

GERMANY:

- Dr. Halima Marouan HAMDOUCH, GTZ Advisor

BELGIUM:

- M. Patrick HOLLEBOSCH, Chief of Infrastructure Sector

CANADA:

- Madame Ginette LACHANCE, Agency Officer

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

- M. Tahar BERRADA, Advisor for Habitat at USAID

UNESCO STAFF

- Mr. Ali KAZANCIGIL, Director of Social Sciences, Research and Policy Division, Chief of UNESCO Delegation
- Mr. Francisco CARRILLO-MONTESINOS, Director of UNESCO Office in Tunis and Regional Advisor for Social Sciences
- Mrs. Lamia Salman EL-MADINI, Director of UNESCO Office in Rabat
- Mr. Kacem BENSALAH, Director of UNESCO Office, Beirut,
- Mr. Dirk TROOST, Chief of UNESCO CSI Programme
- Mr. Joseph KREIDI, Director of Operational projects, BEIRUT UNESCO Office.
- Mrs. Federica MENEGHETTI, Consultant for UNESCO project Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities
- Mr. A. CHORFI, Consultant for UNESCO project Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities, UNESCO Office, Rabat
- Mrs. Alice AURELI, Responsible for UNESCO project Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities, Water Science Division, UNESCO, Paris.
- Mrs. Brigitte COLIN, Responsible for UNESCO project Urban Development and Freshwater Resources: Small Coastal Cities, Division of Social Sciences, Research and Policy, UNESCO, Paris
- Mr. Philippe PYPART, UNESCO Office, Venice
- Mrs. Chifa TEKAYA, UNESCO Consultant
- Mrs. Ester Van der LAAN, Associate expert, UNESCO Office, Rabat

TEXTS OF ADDRESSES AT THE OPENING CEREMONY

Statement of His Excellency The Governor of Essaouira, Mr. Amine Belcadi

Monsieur le Conseiller de Sa Majesté Le Roi,
Monsieur le Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Équipement et de l'Environnement,
Madame le Ministre de la Culture,
Messieurs les Députés,
Messieurs les Maires,
Mesdames, Messieurs,

C'est avec un grand plaisir que je m'adresse à cette honorable assemblée réunie aujourd'hui à Essaouira pour lancer les travaux du Séminaire International organisé sous l'égide de l'UNESCO ayant pour thème : «Développement Urbain et Ressources en Eau : Cas des petites villes côtières».

Qu'il me soit permis, à cette occasion, de remercier l'UNESCO pour avoir pensé à notre ville pour la tenue de ce séminaire et mobilisé autant d'énergies, d'efforts et de volontés afin de susciter un partenariat actif en faveur d'Essaouira.

Je remercie Monsieur Ali Kazancigil, Directeur à l'UNESCO pour sa présence parmi nous et pour son précieux soutien.

Mes remerciements à Madame Salman El Madini, représentante de l'UNESCO à Rabat pour l'attention particulière qu'elle porte à notre ville.

Je saisis également cette occasion pour rendre hommage au soutien précieux et permanent de Monsieur le Conseiller Royal André Azoulay.

Qu'il me soit également permis d'adresser mes remerciements à Monsieur Abdelaziz Meziane Belfquih, Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Équipement et de l'Environnement, ainsi qu'à Madame Aziza Bennani, Secrétaire d'Etat à la Culture pour nous avoir honoré de leur présence à cette cérémonie d'ouverture.

Bienvenue aux maires et responsables des villes côtières qui sont présents parmi nous, ainsi qu'à tous les participants nationaux et internationaux. Essaouira leur souhaite un séjour agréable et fructueux.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

La Ville d'Essaouira, ville côtière aux multiples facettes a l'honneur d'abriter aujourd'hui une prestigieuse rencontre.

En effet, de par sa situation géographique, avec sa façade atlantique et ses alizés, son passé chargé d'histoire et son architecture, Essaouira est une ville authentique, particulière certes, mais à l'équilibre fragile.

Son patrimoine forestier, ses richesses halieutiques, ses dunes de sable et son microclimat font que celle-ci dispose d'un patrimoine écologique important que nous devons de préserver et de sauvegarder pour les générations à venir.

L'élaboration d'une monographie environnementale a constitué une initiative fort louable qui contribuera davantage à la sensibilisation de toutes les parties concernées.

En effet, les axes prioritaires ont été clairement définis :

- Sauvegarde et mise en valeur des monuments historiques;
- Mise en place d'un système d'assainissement liquide et solide adéquat;
- Protection des forêts de thuya;
- Mise en place des structures d'accueil pour un tourisme de qualité et adapté aux spécificités de la ville.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Vous conviendrez sans aucun doute que cette ville a des atouts et des potentialités qui ne demandent qu'à s'exprimer. Ce séminaire sera l'occasion de débattre de problèmes similaires, d'échanger des expériences communes, et sera, je l'espère, le début d'un partenariat fructueux.

C'est pour nous une fierté que notre ville ait été choisie pour la tenue de ce Séminaire.

Puisse Dieu le tout puissant couronner de succès vos travaux et consolider les liens fraternels entre les villes côtières du Monde.

Merci de votre attention.

Statement by Mr. Ali Kazancigil, Director of the Division of Social Sciences, Research and Policy, Executive Secretary of the MOST Programme

Monsieur le Conseiller,
Messieurs les Ministres,
Madame le Secrétaire d'état,
Messieurs les Maires,
Mesdames, Messieurs,

Voici un an, l'UNESCO a tenu à apporter sa contribution spécifique à la Deuxième Conférence des Nations Unies sur les Etablissements Humains, HABITAT II, accueillie dans ma ville natale d'Istanbul, en y poursuivant le débat sur le thème "Humaniser la ville" et l'idée que l'Homme est l'élément central de toute réflexion sur la ville, son devenir et sa préservation.

Aujourd'hui, grâce à l'initiative de la Province et de la Municipalité d'Essaouira, soutenue par Monsieur André Azoulay, le Conseiller de sa Majesté le Roi Hassan II, nous allons essayer de faire un pas de plus dans l'analyse du problème spécifique du développement urbain intégré pour les petites villes côtières et dans la recherche de solutions adaptées pour ces petites villes choisies comme "cas pilote", tout en bénéficiant des expériences déjà réalisées dans d'autres villes qui soutiendront le réseau de coopération et d'entraide entre ces municipalités en charge de faire face au grand défi de la coexistence urbaine à l'aube du XXIème siècle.

Pour donner des réponses satisfaisantes, il est souhaitable de formuler un diagnostic en temps utile sur la base d'études, d'analyses et de supports sur la situation urbaine en zone côtière, les agressions perpétrées contre l'environnement et les citoyens. De tels processus étant potentiellement irréversibles, nous devons agir, avoir le courage d'agir, tant que le traitement peut encore éviter d'en arriver au stade de l'irréversibilité.

Cette persévérance de L'UNESCO à se préoccuper de la ville, cette attention prioritaire qu'elle lui porte, s'explique par une réalité urbaine, qui est souvent accablante et incontournable.

Quelque 60% de la population mondiale vit à moins de 60 km de la mer, et cette proportion atteindra probablement 75% vers l'an 2025. Les migrations des ruraux vers les villes côtières accroissent la pression qui s'exerce sur un écosystème naturel côtier fragile. La dégradation des centres historiques est souvent due à une mauvaise conjoncture économique – elle va de pair avec la détérioration des systèmes d'approvisionnement en eau et du traitement des eaux usées.

Les villes, lieux de civisme, d'urbanité, de civilisation et de démocratie doivent rester des lieux de solidarité, et de lien social, où chacun lutte contre la pollution, la rupture sociale et la désagrégation de l'identité culturelle. La ville doit permettre de conjuguer les droits de l'homme et la participation des citoyens.

Nous devons faire face à la complexité des problèmes urbains actuels en comptant, certes, sur nos ressources et notre imagination, mais aussi en tirant partie de l'expérience des autres, de ceux qui ont su trouver des réponses appropriées et efficaces dans des villes présentant des situations et des difficultés analogues. L'expérience est toujours une forme de réussite et d'échec qui a l'avantage de nous faire gagner du temps, en nous évitant d'emprunter des chemins qui, dans des circonstances similaires, ont conduit les autres à l'échec.

Messieurs les Maires et les Représentants d'Alghero, d'Alexandrie, d'Essaouira, de Licata, de Sciacca, de Saïda, de Tunis, De Taglio di Po, d'Omialj, d'Odense, de Saint-Malo et de Kotor, je vous remercie de profiter de la plate-forme du projet UNESCO « Développement urbain et ressources en eau : petites villes côtières » pour échanger des données, des expériences et des hypothèses de travail, de voir plus loin que la simple réalité d'ici et de maintenant.

On ne peut transformer la réalité que si on la connaît: si elle est complexe, il faut la connaître dans toute sa complexité.

Nous sommes, à l'UNESCO, convaincus que les villes sont le cadre privilégié des relations individuelles et collectives : tout en restant fidèles à notre statut d'Organisation intergouvernementale, nous voulons nous rapprocher des citoyens pour les aider à promouvoir un développement viable dans un monde en paix où le droit de disposer d'un habitat urbain adéquat, qui est désormais partie intégrante des droits de l'homme, est effectivement réalisé.

Pour avancer vers cet objectif nous pensons à l'UNESCO qu'il est fondamental de s'appuyer sur les municipalités, en la personne de leurs maires.

Les objectifs et les activités relevant des domaines de compétence de l'Organisation, l'éducation, la science, la culture et la communication doivent être accessibles à tous les citoyens par l'intermédiaire de la ville.

Dans le cadre des activités sur la ville de l'UNESCO, le Secteur des sciences sociales et humaines, ainsi que le Secteur des sciences naturelles se sont alliés pour lancer un réseau de petites villes côtières partenaires dans la recherche de solutions durables pour assurer leur développement intégré, mettant l'accent plus particulièrement sur l'amélioration des conditions de vie, le développement socio-économique, la protection et la mise en valeur du patrimoine naturel et culturel, ainsi que la bonne gestion des ressources naturelles.

Le 22 mars dernier, à quelques kilomètres d'Essaouira, le Directeur Général de l'UNESCO a célébré à Marrakech, la Journée Mondiale de l'eau. Eau et civilisation sont indissociables : les villes anciennes de Mauritanie ont pu survivre, grâce à la découverte de nouvelles ressources en eau. La découverte de ces nouvelles ressources a freiné l'exode vers les grandes villes côtières de la Mauritanie.

Pour Essaouira, comme pour d'autres petites villes côtières, les infiltrations d'eau salée dans les ressources en eau douce et dans le bâti historique accélèrent la dégradation des conditions de vie des plus démunis. L'eau douce est une ressource limitée, essentielle à la vie, c'est un trésor naturel, faisant partie du patrimoine commun de l'humanité. Dans de nombreuses régions du monde, les objectifs du développement socio-économique sont définis dans l'optique de la résolution des problèmes de l'eau. A cet égard, le choix de politiques, à tous les niveaux, doit s'appuyer davantage sur les données scientifiques, et s'opérer avec la participation des scientifiques, comme d'ailleurs des citoyens concernés.

La civilisation présuppose une interaction dynamique avec la nature: l'éducation, à tous les niveaux, est essentielle pour promouvoir un nouveau comportement vis-à-vis de l'eau, source potentielle d'un partage constructif de nos connaissances et de nos ressources. L'une des fonctions de la chaire UNESCO sur l'eau, créée récemment au Maroc, sera de soutenir les projets opérationnels dans lesquels la gestion partagée de l'eau aura une phase centrale.

L'UNESCO stimule et encourage la rigueur scientifique dans les sciences sociales comme dans les sciences naturelles. Grâce aux soutiens de deux grands programmes intergouvernementaux, le Programme Hydrologique International (PHI), et le programme de la Gestion des transformations sociales (MOST), le projet «Développement urbain et ressources en eau: petites villes côtières» mobilisera les réseaux de réflexion et de

formation propres à fournir des réponses rapides et appropriées aux responsables de municipalités chargées d'assurer le développement durable des petites villes côtières dans le cadre de la plate-forme intersectorielle « Zones côtières et petites îles ».

Nous sommes réunis à Essaouira pour rassembler nos expériences et nos connaissances pour soutenir l'effort engagé par les autorités locales, régionales et nationales en faveur d'Essaouira, ancienne Mogador, dont le charme historique ne doit pas nous faire oublier les demandes de sa jeunesse, attachée à sa ville, pour laquelle des solutions adaptées et durables doivent être mise en œuvre.

L'expérience et l'assistance des villes partenaires permettront certainement d'identifier des champs préférentiels de coopération entre elles et la municipalité Essaouira, mais l'effort conjugué des volontés nationales et du soutien de la coopération internationale ne pourront qu'assurer la continuation dans la durée de ces échanges. Déjà au XVIème siècle, la cité de Mogador était cosmopolite, les Européens se mêlaient aux différentes tribus berbères : la cité était, et est toujours, un carrefour de plusieurs civilisations et de plusieurs cultures. Fenêtre magique sur le patrimoine culturel marocain, Essaouira attire toujours des artistes et écrivains du monde entier. A ce titre, elle fait déjà partie du patrimoine de l'humanité, de par sa notoriété, même si elle n'a pas encore reçu formellement le label de ville du patrimoine. Mais cela ne devrait pas tarder.

Messieurs les Maires,
Messieurs, Mesdames les scientifiques et techniciens,

Je vous remercie d'avance de la contribution que chacun d'entre vous apportera à cette réunion, qui sera, j'en suis persuadé, la pierre angulaire sur laquelle va reposer la mise en œuvre d'une coopération étroite entre municipalités partageant les mêmes problématiques et les mêmes aspirations.

Je souhaite remercier les autorités marocaines qui ont déployés tant d'efforts pour permettre la tenue de ce séminaire international et en particulier, Monsieur André Azoulay, Conseiller de sa Majesté le Roi Hassan II, Monsieur Amin Belcadi, Gouverneur de la Province d'Essaouira et Monsieur Taher Afifi, Président de la Municipalité d'Essaouira, mais aussi Monsieur Idris Khalil, Ministre de l'Enseignement Supérieur, de la Formation des Cadres et de la Recherche Scientifique et Président de la Commission nationale marocaine pour l'UNESCO, Monsieur Abdelaziz Meziane Belfkih, Ministre de l'Environnement et du Territoire, et Madame Aziza Bennani, Secrétaire d'État à la Culture.

Ce séminaire n'aurait pas pu avoir lieu non plus sans l'assistance de la Cellule 'Agenda 21', du Centre des Nations Unies pour les Etablissements Humains représenté ici par M. Filiep Decorte. Je profite aussi de cette occasion pour souligner le travail remarquable réalisé par la Représentante de l'UNESCO au Maroc, Mme Salman El Madini qui soutient ce projet depuis un an et sans laquelle nos collègues du siège à Paris n'aurait pu réunir, ici, à Essaouira, les Maires des villes venus de l'Europe et de la Méditerranée.

Messieurs les Maires, je vous remercie de votre solidarité envers Essaouira, qui mérite toute notre attention et tous nos efforts : faisons ensemble que les citoyens des villes dont vous avez la charge se sentent solidaires des citoyens de cette magnifique cité qui nous reçoit avec une chaleureuse amitié.

Statement by Mrs. Naïma Tabet, General Secretary of the Moroccan National Commission for UNESCO

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Des contraintes m'ont empêché de partager avec vous un événement d'une telle importance. Elles ne me privent cependant pas d'exprimer des sentiments de bonheur, de satisfaction et de fierté que me procure la tenue de ce séminaire .

Il s'agit du bonheur éprouvé par le chercheur et le responsable de recherche scientifique que je suis, en voyant s'établir, à travers ce projet des ponts entre les différentes disciplines scientifiques, après des époques de rupture et de cloisonnement. Ces disciplines sont certes parvenues à des résultats importants dont les uns ont servi l'humanité, mais d'autres au contraire, lui ont été nuisibles faute d'ouverture sur d'autres disciplines, les sciences humaines notamment.

Il s'agit en deuxième lieu de la satisfaction que prouve à tout citoyen conscient le fait de constater l'existence effective entre différents secteurs de la société, gouvernementaux et non gouvernementaux, nationaux et locaux dans le cadre d'une stratégie globale et rationnellement planifiée garante d'une plus grande efficacité.

Il s'agit enfin de la fierté du marocain qui voit son pays accueillir une expérience modèle et un projet d'une telle envergure, sachant d'avance que le succès est le sort d'un tel projet.

Si le concept du développement a connu une évolution lors des dernières décennies - évolution qui s'est produite d'ailleurs par la définition de nouveaux indicateurs du développement, cette évolution n'a pas été le résultat de théories (scientifiques) ni le fruit de choix politiques uniquement. C'est une évolution qui a été dictée par la confrontation à la réalité. Ce sont des expériences sur le terrain qui ont convaincu le système des Nations Unies et autres intervenants dans le domaine du développement que celui-ci ne se dicte pas ni ne s'exporte, mais qu'il émane de l'adhésion des populations concernées et de leur participation au processus que le vise. Et c'est cela qui a conduit à la naissance de concepts tels le développement global, le développement durable ou encore le développement intégré. Néanmoins, la conscience de la nécessaire complémentarité entre les dimensions économique, sociale et culturelle du développement est demeurée une conscience malheureuse devant le piétinement qu'a connu ce modèle du développement intégré.

Or, l'événement que vous vivez aujourd'hui représente un pas géant sur le chemin de la réalisation de ce modèle. Le projet du développement urbain et ressources en eau correspond en effet à cette approche intégrée qui traite les problèmes des villes côtières dans leur globalité, en liant les problèmes relatifs aux ressources en eau notamment et ceux relatifs à la sauvegarde du patrimoine culturel aux problèmes socio-économiques des populations. Cette approche considère également que ces populations doivent être elles-mêmes les acteurs effectifs dans la recherche des solutions à ces problèmes. Car comme vous le savez mesdames et messieurs, c'est l'interaction entre l'homme et son environnement naturel, c'est la manière dont il gère les ressources qui sont à sa disposition qui est responsable de ces problèmes, indépendamment de la richesse de ces ressources. C'est donc par cette même voie que l'on peut y apporter les solutions appropriées.

Je voudrais donc féliciter l'UNESCO d'avoir pu opérer cette modification dans son approche des problématiques posées dans ses états membres. Or l'on est parfaitement conscient des efforts énormes que cette innovation a dû lui coûter quand on sait la difficulté à se défaire d'habitudes intellectuelles ou comportementales, ce qui constitue parfois un obstacle devant le changement.

Je félicite également la ville d'Essaouira d'avoir été élue pour accueillir cette expérience pilote, ce qui relie son présent à son passé. En effet la ville d'Essaouira a été depuis des siècles une ville d'ouverture sur les autres civilisations et partout, une ville de cohabitation et de tolérance.

Je souhaite la bienvenue aux maires des villes côtières qui participent à cette manifestation. Elle sera sans doute une occasion pour elles d'échanger leurs expériences et de nouer entre elles des relations d'amitié et de coopération. Je remercie enfin tous ceux qui ont contribué à la conception de ce projet ainsi que ceux qui ont participé à l'organisation de ce séminaire.

 TEXTS OF ADDRESSES BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MUNICIPALITIES

Zoubeïr MOUHLI : *La ville de Tunis : préoccupations urbaines d'une ville méditerranéenne*

A l'aube du XXI^{ème} siècle, Tunis est plus que jamais, soucieuse de préserver la place qu'elle occupe depuis plus d'un millénaire dans l'histoire du pays et de sa région. Succédant à Carthage et à Kairouan, capitale culturelle, politique et économique de la Tunisie depuis treize siècles, sa situation exceptionnelle, au cœur du bassin méditerranéen, lui a valu d'être la plaque tournante des grandes routes africaines et le relais naturel du commerce vers l'Europe alors que son rayonnement culturel faisait d'elle un des plus hauts lieux du savoir du monde arabe et musulman.

Au cours des XIX^{ème} et XX^{ème} siècles, les fonctions de capitale de Tunis ont continué à s'affirmer en même temps que s'opéraient d'importantes mutations urbaines, socioculturelles et économiques, mutations qui ont, certes, contribué à l'extension de son centre et de ses faubourgs, à l'enrichissement de son patrimoine et au développement de ses infrastructures économiques qui ont marginalisé une grande partie de la population.

Avec l'Indépendance, un projet de ville commence à prendre forme à travers les documents d'urbanisme qui se succèdent et les programmes d'investissement publics qui témoignent des efforts déployés par l'Etat pour doter Tunis de grands équipements, améliorer les conditions d'environnement et réduire les disparités sociales et spatiales. C'est ainsi que l'infrastructure routière, ferroviaire, aéroportuaire et portuaire est modernisée alors que sont réalisés d'importants projets d'assainissement de la ville et que sont engagés des travaux de réhabilitation et d'équipement des quartiers d'habitat spontané.

Malgré ces investissements, des dysfonctionnements et des disparités préoccupantes persistaient et l'environnement et les conditions d'hygiène restaient précaires dans de nombreuses zones, appelant des actions plus énergiques et mieux intégrées.

La politique urbaine poursuivie durant la dernière décennie vise le développement économique de la ville et l'amélioration de la qualité de vie pour ses habitants, en tenant compte des grands enjeux actuels que sont la cohésion sociale et la compétitivité, auxquels tant les hommes que les institutions urbaines sont appelés à faire face. (La Tunisie étant le premier pays du Maghreb à signer un accord de libre échange avec la C.E.E.).

Le dynamisme démographique de la ville qui concentre le ¼ de la population urbaine et 25 % des investissements publics pose, au niveau des activités et de l'emploi, la problématique d'en faire une ville plus compétitive au niveau régional et international et où les disparités ne s'aggravent pas.

La politique urbaine tourne, donc, autour de 3 axes principaux :

1. La mise en place de programmes de réhabilitation des quartiers périphériques spontanés et la réalisation de nombreux projets d'infrastructures et d'équipements socio-collectifs

en faveur des zones les plus défavorisées. Ceci, grâce notamment au PNRQP (Programme National de Réhabilitation des Quartiers Populaires) et au Fond de Solidarité Nationale.

C'est ainsi qu'ont été réhabilités et assainis de nombreux quartiers populaires, notamment à Ibn Khaldoun, El Kabariya, El Ouardiya et Jebel El Jouloud ainsi que, dernièrement, à Sidi Iiassine Essijoumi, un quartier densément peuplé et particulièrement insalubre. C'est ainsi, également, que la vieille ville où la Médina a profité de deux grands projets d'assainissement et de réhabilitation :

- Le projet de restructuration de la Hafsia où a été saisie l'opportunité du III^{ème} Projet Urbain pour monter une opération intégrée de revalorisation du bâti ancien. Cette opération qui a constitué, du point de vue urbanistique, une réparation du tissu urbain traditionnel, respectant et rétablissant la viabilité de l'organisation et le dimensionnement des îlots de la Médina, a réussi à réhabiliter aux yeux de beaucoup l'image urbaine de la ville historique.
- Le deuxième projet est celui d'assainissement et de réhabilitation des « oukalas » où maisons traditionnelles louées à la pièce à des familles rurales qui étaient venues chercher un emploi dans la capitale. Ce projet qui vise l'amélioration des conditions de vie d'environ 3000 ménages parmi les plus pauvres, habitants les immeubles insalubres de la ville, a déjà réussi à octroyer un logement indépendant à 1200 ménages évacués d'urgence des bâtiments menacés de ruine et entamer le deuxième volet de l'opération consistant à réhabiliter 400 immeubles abritant 1500 ménages, grâce à un crédit de 15000.000 dollars contracté du FADES (Fonds arabe de Développement Economique et Social).

L'on peut dire que ces deux projets (Hafsia et Oukalas) ont été des innovations en matière de réhabilitation du patrimoine immobilier en Tunisie. C'est d'ailleurs dans le cadre de ces deux projets, qu'a été posé le problème de la nécessité de réviser la loi régissant les rapports entre propriétaires et locataires qui bloquait les loyers et donnait le droit de maintien aux locataires, freinant parfois le processus de réhabilitation.

2. Le deuxième axe autour duquel tourne la politique de développement urbain dans la ville de Tunis est sa réconciliation avec son lac et ses plans d'eau (Sebkhat Sijoumi et Ariana) et le développement de son littoral nord et sud qui constituent des enjeux urbains importants pour l'image de la ville.

Cette dimension aquatique à retrouver est primordiale pour que Tunis soit une vraie ville méditerranéenne. Ceci est possible grâce à l'assainissement et la restructuration du lac sud et à l'aménagement et au désenclavement de l'ancien port de Tunis.

3. La politique urbaine repose aussi sur la reconquête du centre car sa marginalisation serait lourde de conséquence sur l'équilibre des fonctions urbaines et parce que l'extension de la ville se fait souvent au détriment des zones agricoles riches.

Il est vrai qu'une réflexion globale sur le centre et la centralité reste à faire. On parle de plus en plus aujourd'hui du « Grand Tunis », ce qui permet une certaine élasticité

aux limites de la capitale. Il n'en demeure pas moins que la Médina et la ville basse où ville européenne constituent le centre historique autour duquel s'articulent plus ou moins bien les nouveaux centres périphériques ou banlieues résidentielles. C'est un centre de direction actif et moderne, rassemblant et contrôlant les circuits et les services, les échanges et les relations majeures de la cité.

Des actions de réhabilitation de bâtiments insalubres dans le centre, d'amélioration de la circulation et du stationnement dans les zones de la Médina et Bab Bhar et d'embellissement de l'axe monumental de la ville dans le cadre d'un projet pilote, sont donc envisagées comme trois actions prioritaires susceptibles de permettre à la ville de sauvegarder son patrimoine, préserver son environnement et amorcer la mise en valeur de son centre.

Ces actions préconisées par le document « Tunis du XXI^{ème} siècle » élaboré dans le cadre de l'étude de l'embellissement de l'hypercentre, confiées en 1994 par la Ville à l'Association Sauvegarde de la Médina, ont commencé à se concrétiser.

Elles répondent au besoins d'une nouvelle « image de la ville » et à une prise de conscience chez la bourgeoisie locale, les décideurs et les aménageurs en charge de la ville, de la nécessité d'élargir la notion de sauvegarde du patrimoine hors des murailles de la vieille ville.

Le devenir de la Médina est intimement lié à celui de la ville basse, implantée à ses portes et devenue, depuis le temps du protectorat, le véritable cœur de la Capitale.

Médina et ville coloniale, formant la « tête urbaine » de la ville, devraient bénéficier de la même sollicitude de sauvegarde. Cette prise de conscience s'est manifestée à travers plusieurs actions dont notamment :

1. La promulgation de la Loi N° 94-35 du 24 février 1994 relative au Code du Patrimoine où il est indiqué, à l'Art. 3, que : « Sont considérés comme ensembles historiques et traditionnels les biens immeubles, construits ou non, isolés ou reliés, tels que les villes, villages et quartiers, qui, en raison de leur architecture, de leur unicité et de leur harmonie ou de leur intégration dans leur environnement, ont une valeur nationale ou universelle, quant à leur aspect historique, esthétique, artistique ou traditionnel ». Dans cette même Loi, le Code du Patrimoine a institué les Plans de protection et de mise en valeur ainsi que les secteurs sauvegardés.
2. La création du « Plan de Développement des Municipalités » qui a octroyé à ces dernières plus de prérogatives afin de mieux gérer les communes et remédier aux dysfonctionnements dus à la multiplicité des intervenants. Ceux-ci n'opéraient pas souvent dans un cadre cohérent et leurs projets n'étaient pas le plus souvent accompagnés par des études d'impact (citons à Tunis : les ministères de l'Equipement, de l'Environnement, les Sociétés des berges du lac nord et sud, les différents concessionnaires...).
3. L'organisation, dans la capitale, de diverses actions de sensibilisation visant à mettre en exergue la valeur patrimoniale de l'architecture européenne en Tunisie.

Ce projet marque une étape importante dans l'évolution des idées en matière d'urbanisme et d'aménagement urbain. Il rompt avec ce qui semble être le destin inéluctable de la ville de Tunis dont la croissance s'est faite par substitution : la ville européenne a pris à la Médina sa centralité, les nouveaux quartiers concurrencent, aujourd'hui cette ville européenne et lui tournent le dos. Il introduit donc l'idée d'une évolution de l'existant par un développement intégré.

Il a le mérite de redonner au centre européen, la place qui lui revient, alors que, consciemment ou inconsciemment, on lui conférait encore récemment l'image de la colonisation.

Mrs. Jelisava ANTOLIC: Présentation de la ville d'Omisalj

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased and honoured to address this conference and I would like to thank the organizers for inviting me to this beautiful place.

My name is Jelisava Antolic, and I am the head of the municipality of Omisalj, a little Croatian Mediterranean town situated on an 85m cliff above the sea in the north-western part of the island of Krk. The island covers an area of 405 square metres and as such is the largest island of the Adriatic Sea. As of 1980, the island has been connected to the mainland by a bridge. Since the Adriatic is a part of the Mediterranean Sea, so is Omisalj a Mediterranean town, full of sunlight, flowers, and good people. I hope this can be confirmed by our friends from the town of Taglio di Po.

The first traces of human settlement in Omisalj date back three thousand years. Since that age until today, Omisalj has lived a life that left traces and time has made it a true treasure of cultural and historical heritage. At the beginning of the first century, the Romans built their city of Fulfinum in the Bay of Sepen below Omisalj, the remains of which have been preserved until today. That archaeological site still has not been explored sufficiently. Next to Fulfinum, there are walls of an old Christian basilica from the 5th or beginning of the 6th century AD, an archaeological site that deserves special attention. Therefore, our roots go way back into history and we could mention many other facts related to our past. For example, numerous glagolitic writings carved in stone or in the shape of books, such as is the vitus of Omisalj's breviary from 1396, or the glagolitic missal from the first half of the 14th century which is not kept in Rome. But there is not enough time to enumerate all of them. It would be better if you could come to Omisalj and see everything for yourselves. Omisalj received its name back in the Middle Ages when the Frankopan lords built their castle there.

At the beginning of the 1960s, Omisalj started developing tourism, which grew in importance until the unwanted industry appeared. Omisalj's favourable geographical position as the closest settlement to the mainland, as well as the proximity of a large

regional economic and cultural centre, the city of Rijeka, have been the preconditions for building of large industrial complexes in the closest environs of Omisalj.

1. Dina – petrochemical plant
2. Janaf – oil pipeline terminal leading towards central Europe
3. Shipyard “3. MAJ” in the Bay of Foz, fortunately not completed.

In addition, in 1970, we saw the opening of the Krk Airport, which is a facility of capital regional importance.

Since the land area of the municipality is small, the above mentioned industry and airport have occupied half of the inland area and more than half of the coast. The town itself is surrounded by Dina, Janaf and the airport, with limited space for further development. So, for the past 25 years, there has been permanent conflict between industry on one side and tourism and urban planning on the other. Consequences of which are obvious in social and economic aspects, as well as in the environment.

Aware of the consequences of such “development” on the land and the sea, we have decided to prevent further harm and to save what is left of the healthy environment for that purpose, we have initiated a set of activities :

1. At the beginning of 1997, we have put together a plan of urban development of the municipality, finding purpose for the free space left and its sustainable development by :
 - harmonizing the general state regulations with international agreements and regulations for specific areas of activity;
 - creating a basis for the protection of natural and historical resources;
 - setting final boundaries for industry at its present size and prohibiting further growth;
 - proclaiming tourist areas in the space previously reserved for industrial development;
 - finding purpose for all the unused natural resources in view of their sustainable development and environmental protection.
2. We have also made plans for the purification of waste water from Omisalj and the nearby settlement of Njivice, which is very much needed due to the negative industrial influence and poor waste water disposal management, as well as to prevent further sea pollution. But we have not been able to execute the project because it requires far larger financial resources than the municipality of Omisalj has at its disposal. We hope it will be possible to finance such projects through loans and larger programmes of protection of the Adriatic and the Mediterranean.
3. We have been conducting permanent activities for a number of years now, directed towards improving the quality of fresh water. The largest amount of our financial resources has gone for that purpose, but the results were not satisfactory. Although fresh water is still not of appropriate quality, we have not given up and it remains our primary concern.

4. We have had and plan to organize a number of activities of a declarative, implemental and educational nature in co-operation with the "Eureca" Society active in Omisalj:
- putting into force the municipal charter of sustainable development;
 - creating the local Agenda 21;
 - making, adoption and implementation of environmental management systems;
 - various education, environmental protection programmes for elementary school students;
 - valuation and rational use of natural resources.
5. Applying for UNESCO's "Urban Development and Freshwater Resources" programme, we continue the above-mentioned activities in our municipality, also following guidelines set in the national programme of island development of the Republic of Croatia. Omisalj's acceptance to the programme would be a welcome improvement in that respect.

Of course, we hope to continue receiving support from our twin town, Taglio di Po, which helped us apply for this programme in the first place. Our friends have similar problems in environmental management and we have mutual understanding for each other's hardships. We hope that the charter of our twinned towns signed on 12 September 1993 can secure implementation of this UNESCO's programme.

Everything said, it is clear that Omisalj is trying to use all possible means to fight against the existing and potential future pollution and industry. All of its documents include the concept of sustainable development and preservation of the environment. A great incentive to our efforts would be UNESCO's acceptance of our project. We would particularly welcome the exchange of knowledge and experience with foreign experts and scientists, which could improve our approach to solving the existing problems.

As described in the project, we would expect to receive help in the following areas:

- 1) Establishing a UNESCO Club in Omisalj, with a view to gathering young people and promoting UNESCO's and Croatian ideas of sustainable development of islands, as well as for bringing together people and exchanging experiences, we have all the preconditions for such an activity which could stimulate the establishment of similar working groups in the region, thus also promoting UNESCO's ideas.
- 2) Organizing an international workshop on the topic of harmonizing preservation and development of Mediterranean towns related to conflict situations that appear in urban development, particularly in the cases of Omisalj and Taglio di Po.
- 3) Organizing an international summer camp in Omisalj which would work on further detection of historical heritage and possibilities of its preservation. With expert help the research on Mirine and Fulfinum in the Bay of Sepen could be completed.
- 4) Improving fresh water quality in the surface accumulation of the Jezero Lake, which is the main source of water supply for Omisalj and Njivice, we are also planning to conduct a study on biomanipulation procedures in the lake.
- 5) Stimulating measures for rational use of fresh water and correct waste disposal. We would particularly focus on the use of rainwater and cleaning of the existing cisterns, hoping that our activities would spread over the entire island and region.

- 6) Preparation for building a pedestrian and bicycle economical and cultural sightseeing routes. This project would focus on preservation and protection of cultural heritage and existing 30 indigenous types of reptiles and amphibians, as well as 1,300 types of plants on the island of Krk.

Omisalj, its inhabitants and members of the municipal authorities are proud to live in their town, municipality, the island of Krk, Primorsko-Goranska country, Republic of Croatia, and, of course, on the Mediterranean and in Europe. With our knowledge and enthusiasm, as well as with the help of our friends from Taglio di Po and UNESCO, we want to improve the present and invest in the future of new generations.

Børge Lund Jensen: Presentation of experiences of Danish Water Supply

My name is Børge Lund Jensen and I represent the company Danish Water Supply Ltd.

Me and my colleague Sigfred Lindvig are very pleased to have got the invitation for this seminar arranged by UNESCO.

We are very pleased to be here in Marocco too and at last - but not at least - we are pleased to have this opportunity to give you a short briefing about Danish experiences within water supply and waste water treatment.

Where are we coming from - Mr. Lindvig and me ?
Which tasks are Danish Water Supply having ?

Danish Water utilities are internationally well known for supplying clean and healthy drinking water and for their high environmental standards. As an example, we haven't had water-borne diseases for more than 100 years.

PRESENTATION DWS:

Who owns Danish Water Supply ?

DWS is a company owned by 25 of the major Danish Municipalities. Mr. Lindvig and me are coming from Esbjerg and Odense.

The company's objective is to collect, co-ordinate and communicate the significant knowledge and expertise available from Denmark's water utilities.

Our main activities are consultancy within:

- Water utility management
- Operation and maintenance
- Institution building

DWS can draw on more than 1,000 members of staff from the utilities - from management level to specialists and technicians. We arrange a lot of training and twinning programmes.

PUBLIC PLANNING IN DENMARK:

Before I go further on I will tell you a little about Public planning in Denmark.

Planning and public administration in Denmark is carried out at 3 governmental levels:

- the national plans are elaborated by Ministry of Environment
- the regional plans are elaborated by 14 county councils
- and the local plans are made by the 275 Danish municipal councils

Denmark covers an area of 43,000 km², the number of inhabitants is approx. 5.2 million, of whom 24% live in rural districts or towns less than 1000 inhabitants.

Danish Water supply is decentralized; there are 300 public water supplies in the large cities and they serve more than 60 % of the population. The other water supplies, about 2500, are small private waterworks which serve quite a few people in the rural areas.

We have plenty of good water in Denmark and 99 % of our water supply is based on ground water. The treatment is usually a fairly simple process with aeration and a subsequent filtration process.

But we have now been overtaken by history. We have found residual pesticides which means that we are forced to more advanced water treatment within the most exposed areas.

THREATS AGAINST THE RESOURCES

The main sources of drinking water in Denmark is coming from groundwater.

The water is in a steady rotation. The groundwater is from 5 - 50 years old and in some parts of Denmark older.

As mentioned we have been overtaken by history. Today there are many threats against our drinking water. They are various: earlier industrial activities, using of pesticides fighting weeds at agricultural and public areas, using of insecticides fighting insects and other pests at agricultural areas, landfill and old chemical dumps.

The registration, the enforcement and the cleaning up of old chemical dumps has high priority. Protection of our future drinking water has very high priority in Denmark, and hopefully we will succeed with our protection of catchment areas / the recovery areas.

One of the tools we also use for our planning intervention and protection is computer modelling.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:

Good maintenance practice - within a water supply - means also leakage detection and preventive rehabilitation of pipe systems.

DWS has been involved in projects in both eastern Europe, Africa as well as Asia and our experiences show that especially one area has been overseen and forgotten for years and that is the huge leakage loss from old distribution systems.

During the last 10 - 15 years, we have seriously been working with this issue and on average the water loss from all Danish utilities is below 10 % which internationally is very good.

I have heard about leakage losses of 30 - 60 % of the treated water in many of the cities we have visited.

If the resources are limited too, then there will be obviously advantages on rehabilitation of the distribution system.

In order to carry out the extensive rehabilitation programme, it is our experience that it demands a lot of planning, co-ordination, training of staff understanding from both the citizens and the political decision-makers - but remember it is expensive to renovate the distribution systems.

A preventive rehabilitation is not only useful within water supply but also within sewer systems. Concerning that, we also have experience:

- working out strategies and plans
- choosing suitable technologies
- carrying out the projects and
- afterwards the operation and the maintenance of the pipe systems

And at last a little about waste water treatment illustrated with a few examples from my own city, Odense. The treatment there is not special but common in Denmark: advanced mechanical, biological and chemical treatment - nutrients are removed biologically.

EDUCATION:

Both inside water supply and waste water treatment and transport we work determinedly with training.

CONCLUSION:

My intention with this short briefing has been to point out possible topics of twinning and co-operation between Essaouira and Danish Water Supply.

We have been in the lucky situation in Denmark that in the last 30 years we have had the financial basis to develop the utilities and through that - obtained to secure that we are in front of the technological development, administrative practice and practical handling. Together with the Danish companies we are capable of offering support in all fields within the water area.

I think it is also important to be aware that the public Danish utilities are non-profit or "rest-in-itself-companies" - which means that the utilities every year have to make a budget, in order to ensure both operation & maintenance and future investments. And may be the discussion has to start here:

How can our water management be sustainable and how to finance our activities ? Thank you for your attention.

Mrs. Svetlana LALIC: Kotor Town

First of all, I would like to thank UNESCO for including Kotor in this project and I would like to thank Essaouira for her hospitality. I say "to Essaouira" because, after these days, I don't see Essaouira like city of buildings, I see, I feel Essaouira like "city being". I would like to present to you my town -KOTOR.

Kotor town, 25,000 inhabitants, lies on the southern part of Yugoslav Adriatic - Montenegro coast, located at the foot of the Lovcen mountain, at the end of the deep and rugged Bay of Kotor. The medieval city Kotor, bordered by picturesque fortress walls is, through centuries, the cultural and trade centre of Kotor Bay, one of the most magnificent fjords in the Mediterranean with the exceptionally rich variety of cultural monuments from all ages.

You must believe that dramatic beauty of Kotor town and Kotor Bay sometimes takes the breath away. The fact that Kotor is in the List of the World Natural and Cultural Heritage speaks enough for itself.

Lord Byron once wrote, "At the moment of the birth of our planet, the most beautiful meeting of land and sea was here" and "When the pearls of nature were sown, on this land a fist-full was gathered". From the top of the Lovcen's mountain with Kotor Bay in front of him, Bernard Shaw shouted, "People am I in heaven or on the moon?".

According to exceptional bio-geographical conditions, in the area of Kotor and Kotor Bay, the emergence of man and the succession of civilization and cultures might be traced. The earliest Neolithic artifacts have been found in the Spila cave, then prehistoric drawings in the Lipici grotto and the insufficiently explored stone burial mounds and remains of Teuta's town of the inhabitants of this region known as Illyrians. They had their settlements on the coast first mentioned in the 3rd century B.C. Then sailors and mechanists of the Hellenistic age established here one of their "emporiums", followed by the Romans who built a castellum for one of their military units. From this period, Kotor Bay offers the art lover valuable mosaic on the floor of a 3rd century Roman villa; the unique mosaic depicts Hypnos, the old Roman God of Sleep.

Naturally protected by the steep cliff from hinterland attacks as well as the sea, Kotor successfully survived the great barbarian migrations of late antiquity and the early Middle Ages. From the time of Justinian I, it became one of the Byzantine strongholds on the Adriatic Sea. The remains of an Episcopal basilica of St. Mary of the River discovered near the city gates bespeak the importance of Kotor in the 6th century.

At the end of the 12th century, Kotor as Serbia's main port and economic and cultural centre had a powerful incentive for the education, arts and craft developing/grammar school thirteenth century, Paint School 14th century.

In the period between 12th and 14th centuries, the Byzantine ramparts were reinforced and a great number of houses, palaces of the aristocracy and churches have been under construction in Romanesque and Romanesque-Gothic styles. The great town St. Tryphon cathedral was built after the Romanesque basilicas of southern Italy and housed the town's patrons -St. Tryphon relics, the domed, single-nave basilica of St. Luke was

built and painted with frescoes in 1195, the church of St Mary of the River with stone slabs dome and roof was built in 1221, the little church St. Anne dates from the same period as St. Paul church built in 1263.

From the 15th until the 18th century, Kotor was under the rule of Venice which forced with the rise of Turkish power on the Balkans, fortified old city walls adapting them for the using of firearms.

After the big earthquakes in 16th and 17th centuries, a great part of architectural heritage was damaged. The remains were later incorporated into new Baroque ensembles.

A strong earthquake, 1979 also damaged many buildings in Kotor but that was an occasion to examine archaeological excavation and reports in pursuit of the quest for the origin of the city and its architectural past.

After the earthquake, Kotor is in the List of Endangered World Cultural Heritage from the Conference in Cairo, held in October 25-26 1979, and the number of Dossier in Paris is 125/79.

Kotor has all the features of a typical Mediterranean town: narrow sinuous streets, little picturesque shops, antique monuments and buildings. The main economic activity in Kotor as in other Montenegro coastal towns, with 6-8 month swimming seasons, mean sea temperature above 18°C and 2700 hours of sun per year, is tourism, then fishing, light industry and agriculture are also of some importance.

Kotor town has, among others, problems dealing with water supplies, salt water intrusion, sewerage, drainage, waste water treatment and disposal, sea pollution control, flood control in old parts of the town, solid waste treatment and disposal.

1. *Water supply system rehabilitation and optimization with prevention of water resource over-exploitation which contribute salt water intrusion, leakage management, freshwater consumption reduction*

From 1915 up to the end of the seventies, all the sources in Kotor were captured for the water supply system but the quantity of water was not sufficient. The existing water supply system of the Kotor municipality with two water supply zones covers about 90% of the 25.000 inhabitants from the municipal territory with the 150 l/s flow.

The Kotor springs get brackish from time to time and some of them could be considered only as temporary resources to be used until, from the standpoint of long-term water supply, the Regional Water Supply System of Montenegro/RWSSMC/Coast is being completed.

Kotor water supply company transferring water from RWSSMC to urban distribution network has to provide an efficient system for achieving water demand, pressure management and water quality control and to maximize cost:benefit ratios.

To achieve this there is a lot of work to do according to the system rehabilitation and optimization:

- to calculate a basic water balance with precise measurement in the network as a fundamental element of WSS management;
- to stop water resource overexploitation and salt water intrusion;
- to reduce leakage level through leakage, quantification, detection and pipe repairs;
- to reduce fresh water consumption as much as possible through rising public awareness and reduce quantity of freshwater for technical purpose;
- to remove bottlenecks, new facilities are to be constructed, for improving WSS to be available at the point of consumption at peak demand.

2. Prevention of contamination in sea - The Kotor Bay, completion of sewerage system outside the Bay, and project for the waste water treatment plant and project achievement

The Boka Kotorska Bay is undoubtedly most afflicted by pollution compared to the other parts of the Montenegro coastal area.

Multiple discharge of three small size towns Kotor (25.000 inhabitants), Herceg Novi (45.000 inhabitants), and Tivat (16,000 inhabitants) in the area of the Boka Kotorska Bay concentrated with a short distance, as their combined effect after the background levels, regarding organic matter and nutrient build-up.

The water will be discharged by submarine outfalls out of the Boka Kotorska Bay in the open coastal area, after completing sewerage system as for the Kotor town so for the Tivat and Herceg Novi.

The "Kotor-Traste" macrosystem discharging waster water from the municipality Kotor to the open sea has been mostly completed (80% of Kotor's part); according to the Final Design of designed Macro system Koter-Tivat-Traste system is completed.

The main strategy considers the waste water management in the Boka Kotorska Bay has been defined through:

- construction of uncompleted works of sewerage macrosystem;
- examination of constructed part of sewerage system (not used), especially constructed submarine outfalls;
- design of waste water treatment plant;
- continuous maintenance and supervision of existing industrial pretreatment plants;
- completed design and construction of plants for industrial waste water pretreatment.

3. Protection from the sewage overflowing during the rain in some parts of the old town Kotor with possibilities of sewerage system enlargement by underground retention and non-structural flood control measures

In some part of the old town, the underground stream not adequately regulated was disturbed by underground galleries constructed for urban infrastructures. Some parts are overflowed by storm water very often and a great number of cultural monuments in the old town are endangered. The storage capacity of sewerage system must be enlarged to receive storm water. In some part of the town it would be very difficult or almost impossible to replace the existing sewerage pipes with the new ones with larger diameter and the next possibilities are to be considered:

- sewerage storage capacity enlargement by constructing underground retention;
- non-structural flood control measures.

Kotor town would be very interested in some similar experiences.

4 Kotor - Old town restoration: St Tryphon Cathedral (XII century), St Paul Church (XII century), Old City ramparts.

After the strong earthquake of April 1979, damaged buildings were systematically salvaged and steps were taken towards a renewal of life in endangered zones. Over 600 cultural monuments were damaged and 110.000 movable exhibits were endangered.

The importance of this cultural heritage required systematic research, precise and factual conservation and adequate technical action. All actions were under the direction of the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage with local and world wide help.

The complex operation of salvaging ruined buildings included the restoration of old elements of architecture, especially those which maintained their original appearance with general approach to make those elements free from later years and to make them clearly visible. The final goal was a revitalization of houses, public buildings and open spaces and a general upgrading of technical and hygienic standard.

The ground floors of houses have been given new functions, being connected with open spaces. Some of the ensembles and palaces of this ancient city have been restored to their public uses. The Gothic Drago Palace now is housing the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, the Baroque Grgurin Palace Naval Museum, Venetian Military Hospital became the home for the Cultural Centre.

St. Luke Church, 1195, a mixture of Romanesque and Byzantine architecture was recently restored to its original appearance; recent restoration of St. Mary of the River Church (1221), revealed frescoes of great beauty, and St. Anne (13th century) was also faithfully reconstructed.

Further restoration and conservation of Old Town Kotor include :

- Finishing the restoration of St. Tryphon church which has been for 4 years under restoration;
- St. Paul church (1263) has also to be reconstructed, and four kilometre-long ramparts;
- Some houses in the old city.

Kotor has an experience in this part of the project.

5. Solid waste problem solving, solid waste primary sorting, and solid waste decreasing in Kotor as a pilot town in Montenegro Integrated Solid Waste Management Project - Solid waste treatment by WABIO - anaerobic digestion process for the organic waste treatment after inorganic waste separation

Solid waste problem in Kotor municipality would be solved in frame of the project: solid waste treatment and disposal in Montenegro by the WABIO ECOTEC technology, a newer one in the world.

Source separated or unsorted solid waste are treated by Wabio process, an anaerobic digestion process for the treatment of organic solid waste and sludge, but before Wabio process, solid inorganic fraction are to be separated.

Separation of the glass, plastic, paper, metal (with recycling) and other inorganic waste or organic waste on the very source has become more common in the nineties. Kotor would be a pilot town for the solid waste resource separation in fact householders separation and solid waste decreasing.

Kotor would be interested in some other experience through:

- Implementation of solid waste resource separation project;
- Rising public awareness about importance of this project (brochures, TV spots, youth organization with collection glass, metal, woman organization as an important subject in the project of solid waste primary sorting).

6. Development of Youth Organization, Ecological Agency, and through them making public awareness of environmental problem, environmentally sound sports development like para gliding, bicycling, rowing, swimming

It is very important to implement this project in every level like Kotor in such a way to start urban development in harmony with their natural environment in environmentally sound living.

Implementation is to be started through education in the early stages, at school, but also in youth organization, e.g. ecological youth agency, women and other organizations, sport clubs for environmentally sound sports development. In Kotor, according to environmentally sound sports, one can say that water polo is rowing, wind surfing and para gliding to be development.

Actions in this part of the project are :

- Inclusion of Kotor's women association, founded 2 years ago as a very important subject in implementing these projects, e.g. solid waste primary sorting, water demand deduction but also in every level of life in Kotor;
- Important association could deal with this project is Kotor's engineers and Technicians association, founded recently;
- Ecological youth agency is to be developed for education about existing environmental problem, but also about the way of solving their problems.

7. Kotor as a pilot town for South Adriatic Coast

Among Kotor, there are two towns in the Kotor Bay, Herceg Novi and Tivat and in the sense of waste water disposal it is impossible to treat Kotor as a separate town. These two towns such as other three towns on the littoral part of Montenegro coast Budva, Bar i

Ulcinj have similar communal problems with cultural heritage management. All coastal towns on Montenegro coast with their Old Towns need an integrated approach in town development and water resources management.

Kotor's experience could be very useful for the other coastal towns in the southern part of the Adriatic coast and Kotor could be the pilot town for this area.

Kotor town would be pleased to share its experience for preparing a dossier for the World Heritage List, Cultural Heritage reconstruction and revitalization, water supply - leakage management problem, to find some new experience in salt water intrusion control, flood control, primary sorting in solid waste management and also in fishing, ecological agriculture, environmentally sound tourism development with the other towns joining in this project.

Statement by Professor Giovanni Barrocu, on behalf of Mr. Carlo SECHI, Mayor of Alghero.

Monsieur Tahar Afify, Président du Conseil Municipal d'Essaouira,
Monsieur Amine Belcadi, Gouverneur de la Province d'Essaouira,
Monsieur André Azoulay, Conseiller de Sa Majesté le Roi Hassan II,
Monsieur Abdelaziz Meziane Belfkih, Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Equipement et de l'Environnement,
Madame Aziza Benani, Secrétaire d'Etat à la Culture,
Monsieur Ali Kazancigil, Directeur de la Division de Sciences Sociales, de la Recherche et des Politiques de l'UNESCO,
Messieurs les Collègues représentantes des villes côtières de la Méditerranée et de l'Atlantique,
etc.

J'ai l'honneur et le plaisir de représenter ici M. Carlo Sechi, Maire de la Ville d'Alghero. Alghero a bien de similarités avec Essaouira. La ville ancienne a été fortifiée dans un promontoire rocheux entre des plages de la côte Nord-Ouest de la Sardaigne. Elle a été bâtie sur les ruines d'un ancien centre Romain par une colonie de pêcheurs catalans de l'île de Minorque, au Moyen Age, quand la Sardaigne était dominée par les Espagnoles. Les mémoires archéologiques dans le territoire remontent au Paléolithique et au Néolithique.

C'est la porte d'or du tourisme de la Sardaigne, bien plus que la Côte d'Émeraude des années soixante. Alghero est le résultat d'un mélange des différentes cultures. Ses 40,000 habitants consistant d'un noyau très fier de son origine et de sa langue catalane, mêlé avec des populations sardes, ont très bien accueilli les presque 400 étrangers résidant.

La ville, symbole d'orgueil citadin, est un laboratoire de projets de valorisation de son architecture et des activités traditionnelles, telles que l'orfèvrerie, la pêche du corail et des langoustes, le tourisme de congrès, l'agrotourisme et la formation hôtelière.

On a déjà dû faire face aux problèmes qui préoccupent Essaouira: l'érosion des anciens murs de pierres sur le promontoire et des plages, l'impacte du bâti ancien et moderne sur la côte émergée et submergée, la gestion des ressources en eau et la protection de l'environnement.

Nos expériences pourraient bien être mises en partenariat comme base pour un développement rationnel et durable de nos territoires et la valorisation des patrimoines naturels et culturels pour le bien de nos populations.

STATEMENTS BY THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS IN THE
WORKING GROUPS

WORKING GROUP 1

Statement of Mr. Ahmed Hafedh, Chief of the Sanitation Service of the Office National de l'Eau Potable (ONEP)

Proposed master plan for wastewater treatment in the town of Essaouira

The socio-economic development of Essaouira is responsible for the fact that the pollution problems assume ever increasing dimensions. Thus, with the realization that an effective fight against pollution sources in general and the impact of waste water on the environment and water resources, in particular, is necessary, ONEP could not remain indifferent to this concept. Its involvement corresponds entirely to its formal responsibilities, namely:

- control the pollution of water resources, imposed by its principal function as producer of drinking water
- the necessity of linking the drinking-water question with that of sanitation, in the light of the global vision of the water cycle and of an improvement in the sanitary conditions of the populations concerned.

From this standpoint, action has been taken by ONEP, in collaboration with the Directorate-General of Local Communities (DGCL), with the aim of establishing a healthy and solid basis for the realization and the management of the sanitation infrastructure.

Present situation of the town's water-treatment system

For a present population of 60,000 inhabitants, the average consumption of drinking water is about 5000 cubic metres per day, of which 80% enter the sewers; that is, 4000 cubic metres per day of waste water are discharged untreated directly into the sea. The town has a water-treatment system of the mixed type with a major part providing unitary treatment and the rest, pseudo-separative treatment.

Domestic waste water mixed with that from the industrial zone is discharged as is, through four outfalls on the north coast of the town.

Problems posed

The presence of deposits in the network results in some collectors being 80% clogged up, owing to:

- weakly sloping conduits (flat topography)
- penetration of windborne sand from the neighbouring sand dunes
- the discharge of semi-liquid industrial wastes into the drainage network without treatment
- lack of network maintenance, because of inadequate physical means

- shortfalls in the rainwater collection system (inadequate receivers, blocked piping etc., leading to flooding in the town centre during heavy rainfall)
- incursion of sea water into the network during high tides
- leaking pipes in contact with the water table
- run-down and under-equipped pumping stations
- increased risk of coastal pollution due to increased discharge of waste water.

Assessment of the ONEP's contribution to liquid-waste treatment in Essaouira

Since ONEP took over the drinking-water distribution network of Essaouira, it has included in its priorities its contribution to the solution of the water-treatment problems of the town. ONEP has therefore undertaken a study of the master plan for water treatment, in the context of Moroccan-Belgian co-operation. This began in early-October 1997 and is expected to end in April 1999.

This study is expected to define the technical, institutional and financial proposals for providing, at the least possible cost, solutions to the problems posed by the drainage and removal of waste water. Within the next six months, a programme for the priority phase, covering the needs for the next five years, will be prepared.

While waiting for the completion of the water-treatment master plan, ONEP carried out an expert evaluation in April 1997 of the water-treatment network. This evaluation identified the urgent measures that should be taken, at a cost of 45 million dirhams. These measures will improve the environmental and sanitary situation.

ONEP has already sought financing from its customary sources, which expressed an interest in the project. It is likely that, before the end of the current year, agreements will be reached. Then, as for the other places for which ONEP has prepared specific projects, ONEP will sign a convention covering the co-management of the water-treatment system for Essaouira.

Statement of Mrs. Svetlana Lalic, representative of Kotor, Montenegro, and of the regional agency of the Montenegro Coastal Water Supply

Action plan for the integrated development of the town of Kotor

The Action Plan that has been prepared for the integrated development of Kotor fixes several primary objectives, especially concerning the town's water-management, namely:

1. rehabilitation of the water-supply system
2. prevention of contamination of the sea water of Kotor Bay
3. prevention of flooding of the old quarters of the town due to rain storms
4. solution of the problem of solid waste
5. development of an education project on environment, for the young.

Rehabilitation of the water-supply system

The water-supply system of the Kotor municipality is very old. A part of the network dates from 1915. Today, with two water reserve zones, it supplies 90% of the inhabitants, but with losses of 50%. The project to rehabilitate the Kotor water-supply

system (KWSS) is very closely linked to the project on the construction of the regional water-supply system for the Montenegro coast (RWSSMC), which is the principal development project in the entire region. This project, started in the 1970s, is ongoing (25% of the system has been built), but its implementation is rather slow, owing to the lack of financing. Its principal aim is to meet the drinking-water needs of the entire Montenegro coastal region, and to eliminate major shortages, especially in the dry season. The KWSS will be one of the means of water distribution and should meet the needs of the Kotor area; so a project for the reconstruction of the KWSS therefore seems essential.

The main objectives of an efficient distribution system are:

- meet the water demand
- maintain the water pressure
- ensure water-quality control
- optimize the cost:benefit ratio.

To achieve a complete rehabilitation of the network, it will be necessary to:

- Stop the over-exploitation of the water resources and the intrusion of salt water, by establishing a monitoring system able to determine the quantity and the quality of the water being pumped. It will therefore be possible to set a maximal quantity of water than can be pumped without incurring salt-water intrusion.
- Reduce water demand, by:
 - reducing leakage (quantification, analysis and prevention)
 - reducing consumption (establishing an awareness of the problem by the inhabitants)
 - reducing the consumption by industry
- Reconstruct and expand a major part of the network

Prevention of contamination of the sea water of Kotor Bay

The Bay of Kotor is one of the places on the Montenegrin coast most affected by pollution. Several discharge points are concentrated in a small area, thus contributing strongly to the contamination of surface water. The situation is particularly critical in the inner bay, where urgent intervention is necessary. A project supported by UNIDO for the construction of a sewer system is underway (80% of the network has been built), but its completion requires a lot of work still, namely:

- construction of a part of the wastewater drainage network
- design and construction of a wastewater treatment plant
- verification of the sewer system already built but not yet functioning.

Prevention of flooding of the old quarters of the town due to rain storms

The town's sewer system does not have a sufficient capacity to receive run-off and floodwater due to rain storms, which are very frequent in the region. It is therefore necessary to enlarge the network by constructing an underground retention system, for example, to remove the constant danger to the historical and cultural patrimony of Kotor.

Solution of the problem of solid waste

The solution to the problem of solid waste in Kotor falls under a specific project, for which the documentation needed for its implementation is still in preparation. This is the project Solid-Waste Treatment and Disposal in Montenegro.

Development of an education project on environment, for the young

A population that is responsible and aware of its problems, and that actively participates in decision-making for the future of its town, is indispensable to the achievement of concrete results in urban sustainable development. To this end, it is important that education, from youthhood onwards, be concentrated also on ecological and environmental problems.

Statement of Mr. Børge Lund Jensen, representative of the Danish Water Supply (DWS) and of Odense (Denmark)

Presentation of the DWS experience: water supply and wastewater treatment (see Annex 4)

The DWS is a company that handles a dozen large municipalities in Denmark; its objective is to co-ordinate and to spread knowledge and competence in the field of water-resource management.

Thanks to its very solid financial foundation, Denmark has been able, over the last thirty years, to develop this sector strongly, at the technical, educative and administrative levels.

Today, this allows DWS to be able to offer its assistance and technical contribution in most of the fields of water resources and, in particular, in:

- maintenance programmes for water-supply networks, namely:
 - rehabilitation of old sewer systems and supply networks
 - leakage detection and major losses from the network
- training and incorporation of staff and technicians.

DWS suggests a programme of close co-operation assistance with the town of Essaouira which could benefit from the provision of new techniques and qualified experts.

Statement by Professor Giovanni Campeol, Professor of Urban Planning, Department of Social and Economic Analysis, Faculty of Architecture of the University of Venice.

Identification of the environmental indicators for land-use development

For some time now, the international community has been encouraging the application of "environmentally sustainable" urban planning. It is, however, necessary to clarify the purpose, so as to arrive at truly sustainable development, especially for the most sensitive parts of the ecosystem, notably the coastal zone. The first step to be taken to

delimit a reliable reference framework is to identify "indicators" for the application of planning instruments, with the possibility of testing their efficiency.

The main problem that urban and rural development policies have to face is the interpretation of the compatibility objectives related to the various thematic sectors of the various projects. This process can be carried out by conducting research on:

- planning instruments (plan structure)
- modalities of work (planning process)
- planning objectives (compatibility indicators to be obtained)

"Environmentally compatible" planning objectives should be pursued at two levels:

- at the national level, first of all, so as to be able to verify the degree of compatibility of the strategic choices (steel works rather than chemical industry, electronics rather mining) that would strongly influence the land transformation (industrial zones, with strong environmental degradation, rather than high-technology zones, with little environmental degradation)
- at the local level, secondly, where, thanks to adequate techniques, it would be possible to evaluate the effects on the environment of the transformations arising from a land-use development plan (evaluation of the impact zone on the environmental component of the physical space in question).

Possible "indicators"

Evaluation techniques in the planning process land-use development should identify a complete series of indicators that would allow priority intervention lines to be established and the various actions in ongoing projects to be co-ordinated.

A preliminary group of "indicators" is included in the very definition of an ecosystem, of "ecological" energy flow, of carrying capacity. In other terms, the indicators can be evaluated after determination of the physical limits of the urban context; that is:

- dimensions required for survival
- trends in the energy flow
- carrying capacity of environmental systems.

Consequently, one should not be limited exclusively to a study that is restricted to the urbanized area, but one that should include the total area of interaction between the town and its environment, considering, among other things, the available natural resources.

By defining these indicators, it would then be possible to foresee a series of priority actions to improve living conditions of the towns and to evaluate the results obtained.

WORKING GROUP 2

Statement of Professor Wolfgang Rosenthal, oceanographer, member of the UNESCO project Steering Committee

Analysis of the report of the mission to Essaouira in May 1997

The object of the mission of Professor Rosenthal was to analyse the local environment to explain the serious damage to the historic ramparts of Essaouira.

In its present state, the historic town wall is subject to the mechanical force of the waves and to chemical corrosion. Acting together, these two phenomena are destroying the wall and its associated buildings little by little, menacing the inhabitants.

a) Mechanical force of the waves

As historic documents show, wave impact has always been violent. Now, the wave force is such that the buildings near the town wall receive the shock waves and the local inhabitants can feel the ground tremble. It is important to stress that, at present, the wave regime near the wall has changed substantially, especially in respect of the presence of corals, which used to form a natural inshore barrier against the waves. A detailed study of nautical charts has shown that today the rocky barrier close to the ramparts has almost completely disappeared; its surface is now hardly visible at low tide. The waves at high tide therefore sweep the bay without attenuation.

b) Chemical corrosion

This phenomenon is manifested by the presence of vast cavities at the base of the ramparts and in the rocks on which they stand. In fact, the rock is highly susceptible to acid liquids issuing from a burst wastewater outfall pipe near the town wall. The rising tide transports this liquid from the pipe to the wall where it destroys the coral foundations of the wall. There are now deep cavities in which the water remains throughout the tidal cycle.

Proposal for treatment - a proposed action plan

To improve the situation, several recommendations can be made, with a view to arriving at:

- a diminution of the chemical corrosion of the rampart foundations
- a reduction in the impact of the waves on the ramparts.

To attenuate the chemical corrosion due to the infiltration of acid liquids means opening the cavities at the base of the town wall, treating them appropriately, drying them out over several days, and then closing them up. Moreover, it would be necessary to ensure that, at high tide, the water of the bay does not touch the base of the wall, and that, at low tide, the base of the wall also be dried. To achieve this, it is first necessary to attenuate the force of impact of the waves.

The simplest solution envisaged to reduce wave impact on the wall consists in returning to the situation of many centuries ago; that is, the re-establishment of the former topography of the bay. It would also be necessary to put back the obstacles to the ocean waves, and particularly to establish artificial barriers against the wall, where the

corals used to be. The best solution would be to use flexible components, such as geotextiles (very resistant synthetic textiles). Bags made of this material and filled with sand should be piled up to create an artificial barrier. Such artificial rocks should be sufficiently high to emerge above the mean sea level at high tide. Their horizontal disposition should correspond approximately to that of the natural rocks in the past. This technique is considered as being a very promising solution.

If the financial decisions are taken rapidly, a first protective wall of artificial rocks could be ready as of the summer of 1998, so that, during the winter of 1998-1999, the force of the waves against the wall could be significantly reduced.

Following the mission of Mr. Rosenthal, another expert mission (22-25 August 1997) was carried out jointly by Messrs. Perrot and Ropert, of the Cultural, Scientific and Co-operation Service of the French Embassy in Morocco, with the aim of resolving urgently the problems raised by the ramparts of Essaouira.

Study of the report of the expert mission carried out by Mr. Alain-Charles Perrot, Chief Architect for Historic Monuments

As was stressed by Mr. Rosenthal, the ramparts of Essaouira are in a bad state, especially the wall curtains facing the sea. The diagnosis of the ramparts has shown that the causes are essentially of three kinds:

1. attack by rain water
2. attack by wind
3. attack by the sea.

If the attack by the sea is the strongest, the direct action of wind and rain on the ramparts should not be under-estimated.

1. Attack by rain

The changes due to rain water and run-off water are mainly identifiable by the horizontal bands on the ramparts, which show the degradation of the plaster used to protect the lime. Once the plaster becomes detached, the water attacks the exposed masonry and the consequences are much more serious. The most effective method of protecting the wall consists in replastering the wall. This work, which should be done regularly, should not await the total degradation of the mortar. This work will comprise:

- removal of the old plaster that has become detached
- consolidation of cracked plaster
- application of new plaster with the same composition as the old plaster

2. Attack by wind

The changes due to the wind are mainly found on the seaward face. The wind acts not only on the plaster but also on the exposed wall surface, abradating the mortar and the stonework. Normally, ordinary continual maintenance of the ramparts ensures the upkeep of the affected plaster and the re-cementing of the stonework if this has become detached, or

its replacement if it is badly affected. In Essaouira, however, the lack of upkeep for many years has created a serious situation that calls for much greater attention:

- where necessary, the fixing of masonry supports to prevent the detachment of the stonework
- the construction of walkway scaffolding.

Urgent intervention designed to prevent major collapse due to weathering is essential for a part of the wall with a fountain, between Hassan II Square and the Skala.

In certain sections, especially facing the sea, the houses have been built against the wall. From the structural standpoint, this seems desirable, since the house walls contribute to the stability of the ramparts. However, the guard walkways of the ramparts should be made impermeable to water and to the domestic waste water, the more so, since, at present in the Jewish quarter, the walkways have been transformed into latrines; it is not only the water that penetrates the wall but also organic matter.

3. Attack by the sea

Wave impact occurs essentially on that part of the wall curtains protecting the Jewish quarter up to the corner tower of the Bab Doukala Gate. In this part, there is a real danger of collapse. The work required is therefore the most urgent but also the most difficult and most costly.

Diagnosis of the state of the ramparts

As noted already by Mr. Rosenthal in his report, an examination of the ancient topography shows that, since the 18th century, whole rock barriers, which were the main natural defence of the ramparts, have now disappeared. But the attack by the sea is extremely strong; during storm surges, the waves on this face may be up to 10m high. The masonry in this part of the ramparts cannot resist such force. There is therefore a great need to create a breakwater effect in front of the ramparts so as to limit the force of the waves reaching them. The solution envisaged by Mr. Rosenthal - an artificial barrier of geotextile bags - seems most interesting.

From the architectural point of view, the situation is no better. Houses have been built all along the ramparts and most of them are very old. Some have even crumbled and many have been abandoned, but much of the population still lives in them.

On the outer side, the wall curtains show a mixed condition. The upper parts are in relatively good condition. The lower parts, in contrast, are in a poor state due the impact of the sea. A slow erosion of the rampart foundations has been observed for many years. Some very deep cavities have been observed in the rocks underlying the ramparts.

One factor that contributes greatly to the deterioration of the ramparts is the state of the wastewater sewer system of the old town:

- inside the old town, the level of the piping is below that of the water level during high tides; at these times, the water therefore rises through the piping, so that:

- the population cannot evacuate its waste water, which stagnates at the ground-floor level of the houses
 - the latrines cease to operate
 - the water puts pressure on the piping, producing leaks which attack the infrastructure and the wall foundations
- the sewer pipe outflow arrives at the foot of the ramparts and runs into the sea
 - the inadequacy of the sanitary installations, which creates a filthy and smelly environment, leading to unhealthy conditions; this situation seems to act as a brake on the restoration of the site and the improvement of the living conditions of the inhabitants there.

Work proposals

The state of the buildings and walls is such that an intervention should be made without delay. Three phases may be distinguished:

Urgent work

- * angle of the ramparts of the Jewish quarter facing Rue Chouarge
- * re-emplacement of the wind-braces wherever the houses have been destroyed
- * cavities in the wall foundations
- * repair of the plaster of the ramparts.

Medium-term work (2-3 years)

The work should include everything due to wind and sea erosion, namely:

- development of a project to reduce the impact of the sea
- treatment of the rocks and the cavities therein
- detailed analysis of the architecture of the houses lining the ramparts
- elaboration of a project for the recovery of waste water between the sewer network and the sea, with the aim of treating the waste water or at least of establishing a means of removing it to allow parts of the network to be closed down
- restoration of the ramparts, section by section.

Long-term work (to be decided)

This covers the overall restoration of the ramparts. It implies inclusion of the restoration of the Jewish quarter respecting the present built heritage while recovering its former glory.

Conclusion

The complexity of the work to be undertaken calls for their programming in several phases:

- a first phase bearing essentially on the support and reinforcement of the menaced parts of the ramparts and the houses

- a second phase based on the surveys and analyses, with an attempt to apply traditional construction methods, which alone could ensure achieving the quality of the original heritage
- a third phase, covering the the total restoration of the ramparts, their upkeep, and the treatment of the houses lining the ramparts.

It would be very useful to train the municipality's masons in these techniques, so that the work undertaken could be followed up by regular upkeep, as was done in the past.

WORKING GROUP 3

Statement by Mr. Abderrahmane Chorfi, consultant to the UNESCO Essaouira project, UNESCO Office in Rabat

The state of the projects of various national and international partners, ongoing or foreseen, in Essaouira

1. *Creation of a centre for reflexion and urban action and of an old-town group (Cellule Medina)*. A decentralized municipal structure will be set up and will comprise:

- a "Cellule Medina"
- an urban development and environmental protection group
- a training and information centre
- an administration and resource management group.

The Cellule Medina and the related services centre will be located in the old Palais de Justice.

2. *The availability of a neighbourhood house (House of Charity)* for a social centre; the agreement has been finalized.
3. *Restoration of the ramparts*. A report, including proposals for the restoration of the ramparts, has been prepared by Mr. Perrot, Chief Architect, Historical Monuments and Buildings, Paris, with the support of the French Co-operation. Work will begin as soon as possible.
4. *The Portuguese church*. The survey was entirely carried out by the Spanish students in the summer of 1997.
5. *Bab Doukkala*. The restoration undertaken by the municipality and the Heritage Office is well advanced (about 60%); the gate should be transformed into a municipal gallery.
6. *Building of a documentation centre in a former Anglican church*. The project is ongoing; it is supported by the GERPE.
7. *Creation of children's nursery in the Jewish quarter*. A 600-square-metre plot has been set aside for this purpose, but the work has not yet started.

8. *Project for the restoration of the Naval Gate and the Skala in the port.* A restoration project has been started; some work has been done under the supervision of the Heritage Office.
9. *UNDP project.* Several public fountains have already been restored. The project foresees, among other things, the creation of guest rooms. A UNDP team will be set up to work with Agenda 21 in the old Palais de Justice.
10. **Master plan for wastewater treatment.** The second phase of the study has started and has been assigned to a Belgian office that will work with the Moroccan BET (CGS) which carried out the first phase.
11. *Pilot project in the Jewish quarter.* The project has been submitted by Agenda 21 to the ANHI.
12. *Development of a buffer zone between town and dunes, and of a recreation park in the dunes.* The project is underway:
 - report of the Belgian consortium, including diagnosis and proposals
 - development project (Green Belt - Essaouira park) carried out by Miss Kawtar Ghazouli.
13. *Creation of a controlled discharge.* Studies, and proposals, have been made (mini-projects on composting, solid-waste treatment, garbage collection).

Statement by Mr. Zoubeïr Mouhli, ASM Tunis (Association for the Safeguard of the Old Town of Tunis - Municipality of Tunis)

Policy of intervening in historical areas

A good policy of intervention in historical areas should be based on the safeguard of the historical centres and their cultural identity. This type of challenge has already been made in Tunis, as in many other Mediterranean towns.

The old town of Tunis

Subject to various conquests since antiquity, Tunis only became really famous at the end of the 7th century AD. Its retrenched position affords it first-class strategic and defensive advantages. At the same time, the general configuration of the place (between a lake to the east and a lagoon to the west) determines the nord-south axis of its urban development. The site incorporates a central area, the old town, and two suburbs. Boulevards constructed on the site of the old ramparts delimit this urban unit and make of it a district separated from the rest of the town. The historical site of Tunis covers 270 hectares and has over 100,000 inhabitants. The old town today constitutes the historic centre around which the new suburban and residential areas are more or less attached.

The ASM

The Association for the Safeguard of the Old Town of Tunis is the first of its kind in the Arab world; it was created by the municipality in 1970. Its mission is to help the city of Tunis to maintain its life style, its traditional treasures, its architectural and urban characteristics, while allowing development, which, of course, should be achieved without inducing any marginalization.

An ASM strategy has been gradually created:

1) At the level of statutory management, by giving the ASM the technical and scientific tools, as well as a multidisciplinary team to:

- analyse the city's urban fabric
- understand the population structure
- make a census of environment activity
- analyse the state of the buildings

This has allowed the preparation of a development plan for the city of Tunis, which proposes a specific arrangement for the old town, including any future action for the safeguard of its urban fabric. It was only in 1994 that the Heritage Code promulgated a law definitively incorporating plans for protection and development, as well as specifying the areas to be safeguarded.

2) At the level of sensitization, by trying to develop a plea for safeguard and rehabilitation, so as to demonstrate that they represent an action that is culturally enhancing and socially necessary. From now on, safeguard and enhancement of historical towns depends on the degree of sensitivity of the technocrats.

3) At the level of actions and projects on the ground, by seeking principally to maintain a balance between conservation of the heritage and the evolutionary reality of the city, the final aim being no doubt the enhancement of the latter.

The first opportunity taken by the ASM to become involved in operational projects in the old town was the restructuring of a working-class district: the Hafsia, a former Jewish quarter in the old town. The second opportunity was the "oukalas" project in which the political will to resolve the problem of overhousing became very clear.

- The rehabilitation of the Hafsia

Considered as a pilot case by the World Bank, the Hafsia restructuring project, which the Bank co-financed to the extent of 40%, was carried out in two phases.

The first phase included new construction which called the old urban development into question. This first phase was recompensed by the Aga Khan Prize in 1983. The second phase incorporated an integrated project, having the municipality as construction supervisor and the ARRU (Agency for Urban Rehabilitation and Renovation) as assistant supervisor.

One of the primary objectives of this project is the rehabilitation of existing buildings, aiming at ensuring that every family has an independent habitable surface.

At the level of town development, the Hafsia project was conceived to ensure urban homogeneity between this new development and the old urban fabric.

– **The "oukalas" sanitation project**

The "oukalas" (houses abandoned by the first owners and rented by the room) have always caused problems of insalubrity and overcrowding under inhuman conditions. The oukalas rehabilitation programme is based on a strategy of intervention according to the urgency and the degree of degradation of the building; this results in two categories: those that are not recoverable and which should be evacuated immediately or demolished or restored, and those that are recoverable and which should be rehabilitated and cleaned thoroughly:

- oukalas likely to collapse:
The households occupying these oukalas are rehoused and become owners of an independent lodging, thanks to Treasury loans. Once evacuated, these unrecoverable buildings, if they present no architectural or historical interest, are demolished.
- oukkalas to be rehabilitated:
The rehabilitation concerns about 400 ancient buildings housing 1600 households. The cost of this work, which is estimated at 15 million dinars, is financed through a loan from FADES (Arabian Fund for Economic and Social Development) and allows the temporary rehousing of the households concerned in "chest-of-drawers" accommodation. When the work is finished, the households return to their initial lodgings, at an increased rent spread over fifteen years at a 5% rate of interest.

The main objective of the rehabilitation of the oukalas is to assist in the restoration of a degraded housing heritage, thus contributing to improving the general housing conditions in Tunis.

- 4) At the level of enhancement of the monument heritage, the old town of Tunis has numerous unclassified historical monuments. Since 1960, about forty monuments have been restored. Since then, the policy of enhancing this heritage has proven successful, at the private as well as the public level.
- 5) At the level of the old-town neighbourhood, by carrying out a policy of direct intervention to raise public awareness of the necessity and the urgency of increasing efforts in the safeguard and protection of the heritage of the European town adjacent to the old town, since it also is of significant architectural and historical interest.

In conclusion, the projects carried out by the ASM mark an important stage in the evolution of urban policy in Tunisia which is turning towards formal recuperation of the historical heritage of town centres.

Statement of Mr. Francois Dubin, President of PACT ARIM International

The rehabilitation of the urban fabric, whether in a country of the Maghreb, Latin America, or central Europe is, without doubt, an effective response to the difficulties confronting the owners of somewhat poorer buildings, and tourists seeking, more and more, less "elitist" tourist destinations while still requiring decent lodging conditions.

An efficient rehabilitation cannot be achieved without taking into account the notion of sustainable development: rehabilitate today, but for future generations.

The notion of sustainable development leads to the definition of the major stakes in heritage rehabilitation:

- Rehabilitate what?
monuments, buildings of character, popular habitat, public areas, transport networks
- For whom?
the present population, the owners, the tradesmen, the investors, the tourists
- Why?
to strengthen the cultural and touristic image, limit degradation, use heritage buildings for housing, to have diversified economic activity.

In Essaouira, there is another problem: there are too many doctors; a strong political choice is needed to establish an adequate local medical structure.

The actions to be undertaken require a strong will and political support if they are to be carried out.

A list of priorities for intervention must be established, as follows:

- select a block in the Jewish quarter that requires urgent rehabilitation (an agreement has already been reached with the UNCHS); the start of the work can only provoke a sense of involvement in the rest of the district
- show the population concrete actions that will give them confidence and hence make them aware of the work in progress (eg, clean the facades)
- search for financing (governmental credits + private credit) that would be advantageous to the inhabitants, by giving them the possibility, if they so desire, to become homeowners. The experience of the city of Tunis could be taken as a good example.
- designate a qualified team acceptable to the community to control the finances and to supervise the works.

Statement by Mr. Gérard Fourestier, President of ADEFRAM (Association for the development of exchanges between France and Morocco

The ADEFRAM co-operation project * proposes an exchange of experience, know-how and technology amongst French and Moroccan artisans. This exchange is ensured by

* ADEFRAM is a Non-Governmental Organization that, for the last ten years, has been developing various programmes in Morocco in partnership with Moroccan and French organizations.

the The Working Man's Association of "Compagnons du Devoir du Tour de France (which has since become The Tour of Europe, the USA and Morocco). The Compagnons du Devoir, formed with the builders of the cathedrals of the Middle Ages (12,000 young people in France are in apprenticeship in the hostels and centres of the Compagnons), after an apprenticeship comprising practice and theory (practical work by day, theoretical work in the evening, in the Hostels of the Compagnons), become heads of businesses in a given trade and travel abroad to transfer their knowledge. The training of a Compagnon is accomplished as an itinerant journeyman. The aspiring Compagnon spends five to seven years in France, although nowadays more and more in the rest of Europe and overseas. He spends about six months in each town in contact with the old workers and the master craftsman, refining his ability, broadening his knowledge, his professional experience and, above all, enriching his humanity. A Compagnon is therefore a practician and a teacher.

In Essaouira, a project to rehabilitate buildings was proposed at the Summer University in September 1997. The proposal consists in the creation of a "teaching work site" on a building according to the traditional rules of the art, with the participation of the maâlems and young Moroccan trainees. The exchange programme covers various crafts: masonry, stonecutting, joinery, cabinet-making, etc. The teaching work-site will start up at the beginning of 1998, with the rehabilitation of a building in the old town which will require the know-how of several crafts. The trainers, who will come from France, will work in two six-month sessions and their accommodation will be provided by the Moroccan authorities.

Three sites have been proposed for urgent rehabilitation:

- the former French Consulate
- the meteorology Fort, situated outside the old town
- the Spanish Consulate; the building, which was once a music conservatory, is presently empty and requires various types of work.

The building chosen for the first teaching work-site is the former French Consulate. A Steering Committee has been established under the authority of the Governor for the supervision of the project. The finance is provided by the Ministry of Public Works.

Statement of Mr. Pascal Canonge, School of Avignon

Effective rehabilitation of the historical urban fabric requires adequate training of young building technicians and should be accompanied by precise actions, such as:

- focusing action on specific buildings that people regard as part of their heritage
- ensuring continuing training and improvement of technicians within the business
- concentrating studies on vernacular construction and basic habitations, by promoting:
 - craft culture
 - respect for existing buildings
 - a firm grasp of basic techniques (materials, specific tools etc.)
- ensure good information and awareness with respect to building repair and maintenance.

The training of young building technicians calls for courses lasting 3-4 days, up to a week; however, this process has several limitations; namely:

- shortage of time
- lack of communication between architects, technicians and inhabitants
- necessity of establishing technical follow-up at each work-site.

This work could be done with MEDA/CORPUS and fifteen countries of the Mediterranean basin.

Statement of Mr Abdelaziz Belkeziz, Director-General of ANHI (National Association for the Fight against Insanitary Habitation)

The degree of insanitary habitation in the old town of Essaouira

The major part of the insanitary habitation is in the centre of the old town, in the Jewish quarter. 50% of the population of the city lives in the old town, at a density of 2000 inhabitants/hectare in the Jewish quarter and of 1000 inhabitants/hectare in the rest of the old town. Nevertheless, the city of Essaouira has no shantytown nor clandestine habitat in its vicinity.

Lodging:

- 90% are tenants, 10% are owners
- 660 households have been relocated and rehabilitated between 1982 and 1990
- 200 households have been identified in insanitary habitation, including 120 in the Jewish quarter, 1800 in the old town and a few more in the industrial shantytowns.

Reconstruction:

30,000 hectares of land have been chosen for the reconstruction and relocation of 2000 households, with a budget of 70 million dirhams.

Rehabilitation:

- enhancement of the historical heritage
- revival of the small artisanal trades and small businesses.

The rehabilitation project will call upon the PACT ARIM Association. The rehabilitation of the habitations housing the 2000 households is necessary and should be carried out with an effective preservation of the heritage (ownership status, without population displacements).

Intervention strategy:

- need for a banking system for the financing of the rehabilitation project
- proposal of a city test block identified by Agenda 21 with the support of PACT ARIM

Statement of Miss Wafâa Wessous, Bibane al Medina Project

Project on the restoration of house doors in cut stone, in the city of Essaouira

One of the characteristics, indeed one of the urban and architectural specificities of the old town of Essaouira that give it its charm and originality, is the cut stone, of which not only are the rampart gates made, but also most of the front doors of the houses.

What constitutes the specificity of these doors? They are both a historic and an ornamental wealth. The city of Essaouira was born out of a desire for union between men and women of several countries, cultures and different origins, all moved by ideals of tolerance and openness towards others. These ideals can be found inscribed on most of the city's gates, making them veritable witnesses to the past. A victim of time, this wealth of cut stone, which is both visible and hidden, is slowly disappearing. Most of the street archways and house doors in cut stone have been whitewashed, painted over or covered with cement.

The "Bibane al Medina" (City Gates) project is therefore aimed at:

- halting the degradation through a public-awareness campaign on the beauty and importance of this cut stone
- at the same time, starting an opposing dynamism, through the restoration of the house doors and the archways, by the inhabitants themselves; this action requires rapid training carried out on the spot by the local artisans (maâlems), to guide the inhabitants in the redressing work.

The objectives of this operation are, therefore:

- to improve the state of the buildings in the old town
- to revalorize this noble material, cut stone, and enhance its historical standing
- the training and regimentation of some of the inhabitants.

These actions can only be carried out with the collaboration and support of several institutional partners, among which are:

At the local level:

- the Municipal Council and the Province of Essaouira
- the "Localizing Agenda 21" programme of UNCHS
- the local NGOs and district associations.

At the national level:

- the Ministry of Culture
- UNESCO
- the Compagnons du Devoir du Tour de France.

This participation approach will constitute the cornerstone on which the outcome of this co-operation will depend.

Statement of Messrs. Abderrahim Harabida and Ahmed Harrouz, Association for the Exposition of Plastic Arts

Rehabilitation of the site of Sidi Kaouki

The case of the site of Sidi Kaouki is especially close to the hearts of the people of Essaouira. It is situated 20km from the city; the zaouia (tomb) of the holy man (also known as the "guardian of the ocean") retains the marks of a whole cultural and spiritual heritage, and has become a symbol of cohesion of the tribes throughout the region. The site is also the expression of a particular type of architecture, which is being progressively degraded. Likewise, the harmony of the site of Sidi Kaouki is threatened by advancing decay, adversely affecting the environmental equilibrium as well as its possibilities as a tourist attraction.

The need to act is now essential at Sidi Kaouki, to ensure the intervention of experts and follow-up by specialists and the partners potentially concerned.

Statement by Mr. El Mostafa Hbib, Historical Monuments Architect at Essaouira

Presentation of a project for conversion of the former Danish Consulate (now occupied by 16 households) into a cultural centre

The project is proposed by the local UNCHS/Habitat group and is aimed at restoring and rehabilitating the Danish Consulate (17th century), by incorporating communal habitations into the centre of the old town, so as to maintain the present tenants there.

This project could have value as an example for:

- increasing the local population's awareness of preservation and rehabilitation of old buildings
- serve as a training work-site to train a local team to carry out other, similar projects.

The conversion of the Consulate into a cultural centre would include the establishment of:

- a library
- a multipurpose hall
- a record library
- a photo laboratory
- a computer workshop
- guest rooms.

Statement by Mr. Med. Tita, Directorate-General of Urban Development, Architecture and Land-use Development

What urban development and what architecture for the safeguard and enhancement of the historical heritage?

Since the start of a new land-use development scheme and a new urban system, more and more distant from Moslem tradition, the ancient urban structure and the old towns find themselves disarticulated and disorganized. They undergo the effects of socio-economic changes and accumulate all the signs of degradation of the building heritage, underequipment and overpopulation. In spite of these negative aspects, the old town remains a very dynamic economic focal point, a focus of urban integration as well as a point of reference of architectural and artistic values.

The awareness, however late, of the critical state of the old towns has brought out the importance of saving them. However, the absence of an overall intervention strategy for the old towns, the lack of means and the extreme vulnerability of the traditional fabric constitute strong constraints on specific safeguarding actions.

As to revalorization and the safeguard of the national architectural heritage, the Ministry of the Interior, through the Office of Urban Development and Architecture, has launched a programme of research on the safeguard of the old towns, which incorporates an *architectural study of the old town of Essaouira*.

The object of this study is the old town as an architectural and urban creation bearing witness to a particular civilization and a meaningful evolution.

The fundamental objectives of this study are:

- to analyse the state and architectural value of the buildings, with a view to creating a data base for use in developing actions to improve these buildings
- to rehabilitate the character of the old town
- to adapt the institutional and juridical framework to present needs
- to suggest various specific solutions for the revitalization of the site.

This study should lead to concrete proposals. It therefore is of an operational character, which requires a thorough examination of the area of intervention. The content of this study falls into two main categories:

1. elaboration of an analytical report and general diagnosis, to be able to have available a source of detailed information on the architectural heritage of the old town of Essaouira
2. elaboration of a research report and proposals, containing solutions at the urban-planning, architectural, technical and regulatory levels.

At the general level, the recommendations should distinguish the following points:

- road system and access to the old town
- reference zones (urban development)

- habitat
- activities
- environment and urban public services
- historical monuments.

The ensemble of these actions constitutes the basis of the future intervention programme for the improvement of the standard of living in the old town of Essaouira.

Concerning the institutional and architectural framework, it is necessary to:

- draw up a reference document (safeguard plan) relative to the spatial layout and, at the same time, to the regulations
- ensure that the register of architectural prescriptions also serves as a practical research and synthesis manual for the different experts involved in the old town.

Another important point to be underlined regarding the rehabilitation of the old town is the lack of special documents on urban planning from the development standpoint. At present, to discuss intervention strategies for the old town requires the establishment of a juridical and operational framework to regulate the ensemble of actions to be taken on the old buildings. In this regard. The Office of Urban Development and Architecture has initiated the *preparation of a safeguard plan aimed at the development of the old town taking into account its several cultural and historical aspects and its present socio-economic realities.*

Finally, the safeguard of the old town should not be limited simply to the rebuilding of the physical heritage, but should take into account its complexity as a *living historic organism* and thus be part of a larger organism, the city itself.

Statement by Mr. Khalid El Assal, Architect, Chief of the Multidisciplinary Team for the Preparation of the Safeguard Plan for the Old Town

Presentation of the Safeguard Plan for the Old Town: Operational Actions

The safeguard plan is above all a plan of action with a global vision within an overall development perspective. The rehabilitation of the historical buildings should in effect go beyond an approach to rehabilitation essentially reduced to the conservation of the physical framework. The plan sees the old town in terms of its spatial, cultural and historical components, placing it in its socio-economic context and relaunching it through its autodevelopmental dynamism.

The action plan is based on the following actions:

Preparation of an orientational and rehabilitational scheme, with a view to:

- defining the major actions and the various interventions on the fabric
- assembling graphical and written documentation

The scheme constitutes an accompanying tool for the graphical documents. It determines the general applicable dispositions to be applied to the area to be safeguarded in terms of zoning, urban actions, specific actions, organization of the classification and listing of buildings of high architectural value.

Creation of a register of architectural prescriptions, the objective of which is to record the architectural reference elements, reflecting the architectural specificity of the old town of Essaouira. It will also serve as a guide to the new architectural production.

Preparation of high-impact projects, for the enhancement of the development potential of the old town, stressing their impacts on the social, economic, cultural and spatial aspects; for example:

- project on the reorganization and rehabilitation of [economic] activity
- project on reduction of population density
- programme of urgent actions

Localization of integrated projects of strategic importance, namely:

- breakthrough project
- redevelopment project

Evaluation of feasibility tools

- juridical framework (hitherto, the safeguard plan has had no specific juridical status)
- financial framework (definition of costs of the specific possible interventions)
- institutional framework (various public and private activators that could become involved in the execution of the plan: local community, external services, semi-public establishments such as ERAC and ANHI etc.)

The preparation of the architectural study of the old town of Essaouira and the drafting of the safeguard plan requires the deployment of technical means of investigation, ranging from bibliographic research (documents on urban planning, comparable experience) to field studies (of the different components of the fabric by on-the-spot enquiries).

Statement by the Assistant to Mr. K. Assal

Architectural analysis of the old town of Essaouira

The analysis of the fabric of the old town of Essaouira and the buffer zones, as well as the port extensions should be considered under two headings:

1. analysis: diagnosis + study at the socio-economic and architectural levels

2. specific actions: creation of a register of architectural prescriptions taking into account the fact that the rehabilitation of the urban fabric requires the establishment of a specific juridical and ownership framework, in a context different from that now existing.

This type of analysis, if properly done, will allow presentation of the candidature of Essaouira for inclusion in the World Heritage list.

The main objective of the rehabilitation of the old town of Essaouira is therefore that of preserving the identity of the fabric by foreseeing the socio-economic and environmental changes in the urban context.

Statement of Mr. Jawal Mejid, private office

Architectural analysis of the old town of Essaouira

Analysis of the urban fabric requires, among other things, the preparation of a financial framework relating to the context, with a feasibility study, including costs, for the development projects.

Where do we stand with this analysis, and what is the effective progress in this study? The enquiries already undertaken (40%) are:

- socio-economic surveys (households/activities)
- reconnaissance surveys
- habitat surveys
- administrative surveys.

Statement by Mr. El Houda, Architect in Marrakesh

Urban planning and architecture are not able to solve all the problems of the city

There is a moral duty on the part of the institutions and the partners involved in the various projects to bring to the attention of the local population and the associations all the problems of the city and to get them to participate, as far as possible, in the activities intended to resolve these problems.

There is a need for *urgent intervention* in:

- the Naval Gate (a photogrammetric survey is required)
- the restoration of the ramparts (proposal: a prescription and charge registry for the restoration and the monitoring of the businesses involved).

WORKING GROUPS 4 and 5

Statement of Mr. Fethi, member of ASPDE (Association for the Safeguard, the Promotion and Development of Essaouira)

Brief explanation of the project "Mobilization and proposals of the civil society"

The project in question deals principally with the following elements:

- past evolution, main characteristics and components of the civil society of the city of Essaouira
- projects for the restructuring of the society with a view to its increased involvement in local development
- exposition of some of the actions carried out or planned by the civil society's activators.

After a discussion of the principal objectives of the project, the following problems and subjects of reflexion were brought up:

- Particular attention should be given to the conservation of the city's memory, the profound significance of which transcends the present changes in the urban population.
- It is indispensable to define clearly the role of the NGOs in the context of the project, as spokesmen for the opinion of the whole population and not just as representatives of specific interests and groups. The NGOs should form a real link between the population and the decision-makers.
- It is necessary to establish a contact and co-operation between the various associations of the partner cities, so as to better know and be able to identify the common problems of the cities participating in the coastal-city network.

Statement of Miss Kawthar Gazoulit, Landscape engineer, UNCHS-Agenda 21 - "Green Belt/Essaouira Park" project

Context of the Green Belt/Essaouira Park" project

The present project falls within the programme "Localizing Agenda 21, planning of actions for sustainable development". Its object is to translate the components dealing with human habitat in Agenda 21 into specific local action.

The aim of the programme is to orient the capacities of the local administrative authorities with a view to improving the quality of urban life. However, by agreement, the programme may generate actions that suppose the participation of all the activators (public, private, NGOs, the population).

Project objectives

The project on the green belt of Essaouira is part of the overall process of development. It crystallizes the cohesion of three different and interdependent functions. It is a project of urban and environmental utility. The will to give a human, social and cultural

dimension to environmental problems allows them to become rooted in people's consciousness, in their everyday life, in their heritage. This dimension is the only way to make the population make environmental space their own.

Protection function

The stabilization of the dunes allows the stabilization of surfaces and of the humidification of the ground, which, in its turn, creates a favourable environment for trees to grow. Trees produce organic matter and nitrogen, which favour the establishment of a natural equilibrium (cover for fauna and flora), and a return to the richer original cover.

This first objective is the point of departure. It allows the safeguard of fragile natural spaces that are seriously threatened by urbanization. It is therefore a question of proceeding, in the context of Essaouira Park, to the stabilization of the dunes by extensive planting at the boundaries of the city, and to forbid all construction there. This would have as objective to fight against the sanding-up of the city, in the form of sand-covered roads and blocked sewerage systems. By this basic principal, the green belt poses a clearcut limit to urbanization which has a tendency to spread over ecologically very fragile ground.

Structural function

The structural function of the green belt is to control urban growth. The special feature of the plantation of dunes previously decided obliges the developers to apply a special character to them. This is due mainly to the fragility of these environments and the protection objective assigned to these plantations. The proposals for the design of the park take this specificity into account.

Animation function

There is a growing demand for an improved environmental quality and for leisure areas. This leads to the proposal that positive measures be taken to achieve a better use of the land in this sense. The aim is to have a functional and active green belt that contributes to increasing the value of sustainable tourism and to set off a process of development in the region. The green belt has a role in promoting numerous local projects in the run-down eastern districts.

The project components

Natural components

– **Winds**

The region of Essaouira is at the crossroads of the cold Canary Current and the tradewinds of the Azores anticyclone. This results in a cool climate with low rainfall. The particular orientation (NE-SW) of the city entrains the powerful trade winds, which can be very violent and which have sculpted the landscape of Essaouira; the sand dunes mark the land with their undulating aspect.

– **Dunes**

The situation of this region, linked to a particular coastal configuration, makes it susceptible to desertification. With a nearly constant wind direction, the dune

landscape has a homogeneous relief of parabolic waves of various slopes and crest heights of 10 to 50m. Successive reforestation has stabilized these dunes, so they do not have the same high susceptibility as they once did. The rows of trees have given rise to a series of three artificial dunes that are strongly characterized by their height; they constitute a kind of pillars that structure the space on the scale of the city and its environment.

– **Vegetation cover**

In the 18th century, the whole of the space surrounding the fortress of Essaouira was covered with red junipers, and their adaptation to the sandy terrain guaranteed its stability. The extension of city construction, starting in 1765, the development of port activities and pasturing brought about the degradation of these trees. The disappearance of this forest provoked the remobilization of the sand.

A dune-stabilization plan was envisaged in 1914. At present, the more than 10,000 hectares of old dunes delimited have been replanted with acacia and eucalyptus trees.

– **Lagoons**

The huge expanses of blue water create remarkable contrasts in the landscape, and constitute the only reference points within the forest. The source of the lagoon water is still unknown. The hypothesis of upward welling of sea water seems to be the most convincing, given the quasi-permanence of this water, even in the dry season. The lagoons that border the boundary road raise problems of water contamination owing to the discharges and garbage emptied into them.

Physical components

– **Ring road**

Once constructed, the ring road will constitute the boundary between the urban area and the green space of the park. However, its design should avoid it being thought of as a barrier, since it will be an integral part of the park. Here and there, it will be enlarged to create wider spaces, as a kind of introduction to the park.

– **City boundary**

The eastern edge of the city was always seen as the city's back door. The establishment of the park will enhance its appearance. The project will attempt to find a positive relation between the built-up area and the wooded peripheral area by building transverse roads to bring the inhabitants of the green areas closer together and improving the life style inside the city.

Cultural components

Essaouira has several advantages that give it a special appeal. It is considered as being a city of creativity and creation. The needs of its citizens for leisure areas, sports and walks is evident.

Project concept

The park fits easily into the natural structure of the place, respecting it and enhancing it (topography, dunes, forests, etc.), but, in parallel, the park is an element of urban development built into nature. The green belt responds to the threefold need to channel urban growth while protecting the wild areas and opening some of them to the general public, to greater advantage.

Statement of Mrs. Khadija Belfakir-Kabbaj, Deputy Representative of the UNDP

Presentation of the UNDP programme "*Support for the protection of the environment, natural resource management and the promotion of renewable and replacement energy*" and of the sub-programme "*Support for environmental action in Essaouira*"

The main aims of the project are:

- strengthening of local capacity
- improvement of environmental management
- integrated sustainable development
- environmental education action (the specific objective of the sub-programme).

The present support project for the implementation of *the Concerted Environmental Action Plan for the City of Essaouira* is part of the effort made, through the national strategy for the protection of the environment and sustainable development for the protection of the environment, while promoting a higher standard of living and equitable socio-economic conditions.

The *Concerted Environmental Action Plan for the City of Essaouira*, which was prepared with the help of the Moroccan National Environment Observatory (ONEM), incorporates several components, such as the management of solid and liquid wastes, water resources and hygiene, protection of the coast and education on environmental action.

In this framework, the intervention proposed by the present project should facilitate, through the initiation of specific actions, support for, and the realization of, a participative process based on the effective adhesion of the population and the local and national activators; ie, the inhabitants of the old town, the elected municipal officers and municipal technicians, the local and provincial administrators.

The project "Localizing Agenda 21: planning of actions in sustainable urban development", being carried out jointly by the UN Centre for Human Habitat and the municipality of Essaouira, has already, in this respect, created a local dynamic and stressed the value of an *integrated* view of development in the city. As a complement to the efforts already made, the proposed project will allow testing, through specific actions, of the efficiency of an approach to integrated development based on local participation and partnership.

The overall objectives of the environmental action project in Essaouira are *the improvement of the quality of the daily life of its inhabitants and the preservation of the local urban, architectural or natural heritage.*

Proposed strategy

The environmental action strategy proposed for the city of Essaouira falls within the context of the national strategy for the protection of the environment and sustainable development, and of the national action plan for the environment (PANE), which stress the need for local, multisectorial and integrated action, based on the effective mobilization and participation of the various environmental activators. *The strategy recommended for this purpose brings close together environmental protection and improvement in the standard of living, and the urban and economic development of the city.*

The principal activator targets aimed at by the project are:

- the inhabitants of the Jewish quarter
- the general public
- the local craftsmen
- the local associations (existing or starting up)
- the municipal technicians
- the elected municipal officers.

Immediate objectives and expected results of the project

Project actions will be oriented around the following three main objectives:

1. The strengthening of local capacity, through:

- mobilization and strengthening of the capacities of the local activators (especially the associations) through specific activities (eg, organization of training workshops)
- the setting up of a process of consultation and participation of the associations and various components of the civil society in identified environmental actions.

2. Improvement of the local environment management, which will comprehend:

- the definition of action plans and sensitization to environmental action, with the local associations and elected representatives, accompanying actions in the field
- development designed to improve the urban environment using appropriate technology that can be mastered by the local activators following these principles:
 - community management of wastes, including the sorting, the composting and the recycling of non-organic matter
 - pilot small-scale activity in wastewater management
 - appropriate rehabilitation actions on certain sensitive sites in the city, through the mobilization of specialized partners.

3. Implementation of integrated development actions based on:

- improvement and promotion of activities that generate income from activities related to tourism (eco-tourism) and access to low-level credit
- mobilization of appropriate competences in the field of handicrafts, so as to promote new approaches to substitution in the use of thuya wood, the abuse of which may pose a problem, in the long run, of the preservation of the ecosystems of the city of Essaouira
- support for the development of cultural and artistic activities in the service of the environment.

Statement of Mr. Abdellah Aboulhassani, Tourist Officer for Essaouira

While being, overall, a country with a vocation for tourism, Morocco is only exploiting 10% of its tourist attractions. The public authorities have therefore been giving top priority to this sector in socio-economic development plans for several years, which has led to a remarkable expansion in most of the country. Nevertheless, the city of Essaouira seems to have remained largely outside this growth. Why?

A study was made to identify the obstacles and problems facing development in this sector in Essaouira, with a view to defining an alternative type of tourism that could be developed in this city, a marvellous place well known for its undoubted natural and cultural qualities.

One of the main objectives of the development of tourism is to remove the image of Essaouira as being simply a stopover on the way to Marrakesh or Agadir, and to turn it into a holiday destination with a separate identity from its neighbouring tourist destinations. Essaouira has a cultural side, a resort side and (something unique) its "green", or ecological, side.

In short, the development of a sustainable alternative tourism in Essaouira must be able to exploit its own attractions while respecting its cultural and natural heritage: the old town and its surroundings, the bay, the forests and the mountains, not forgetting the dunes, the sea and the breeze. Essaouira, without getting into competition with Marrakesh and Agadir, must be able to develop and promote theme tourism of high quality.

Alternative tourism

1. Cultural tourism

From the historical point of view, as well as the human, Essaouira has witnessed the passage and the presence of several civilizations, cultures, races and religions. The old town, with its rich architectural heritage, its artistic and craft activities, is doubtless appreciated for its strong originality. This rare richness can only be developed and safeguarded by taking the following specific actions:

- the creation of a multidisciplinary cultural centre
- the development and the diversification of the artisanal production

- the creation of special events to animate the city (fetes, festivals, meetings and round tables etc.)

2. Bathing resort

The province of Essaouira has 200km of beaches and its winds make of its bays and beaches excellent seaside areas, not only for swimmers, but also for aquatic sports (especially windsurfing). But the necessary infrastructures for the development of this particular sector are insufficient or even totally lacking. It therefore seems necessary to achieve a real synergy to be able to carry out specific actions to arrive at a real development of seaside tourism; that is:

- the construction or the consolidation of the roads leading to the beaches of Sidi Kaouki, Moulny Bouzerktoun, Akermoud and Tefelny
- the outfitting of these centres for aquatic and seabathing activities
- the construction of a marina at Essaouira
- the stimulation of development of sporting activities and events
- the promotion of accessibility to the local youth.

3. Ecotourism

The area around Essaouira consists of mountains, dunes, beaches, forests with a rich fauna and flora and an extraordinary cultural heritage. These surroundings are a source rural tourism that is in much demand and much sought nowadays. But improvements and specific equipment are indispensable to handle this type of tourism, particularly as regards the building of roads and opening of pathways, parking areas, camping sites, and resting places, and the training of guides, etc.

4. Accommodation for convivial tourism

The study mentioned above goes some way to allowing the type and quality of a accommodation to be defined and developed in Essaouira, such as:

- residences and board to meet the demands of family tourism and for longer stays (artists, writers and fans of Essaouira)
- accommodation that could be subject to mixed management , such as clubs and villages
- a welcome centre for old people
- youth hostels and houses
- caravan camping sites.

The draft Tourists' Charter

The Provincial Tourist Office has drafted, in collaboration with the Agenda 21 team, the "Tourists' Charter", based on the principles emanating from the World Conference on Tourism held in Lanzarote (1995). The primary objective is the safeguard of the cultural and natural heritage of Essaouira and the region, and the growth of a safe and sustainable tourism in Essaouira, contributing positively to its social, economic and cultural development in the full respect of its resources. The Charter defines the tourist attractions of the city and the region, and the lines of development required to achieve a sustainable tourism. It also foresees the human and material means and defines the actions to be undertaken to arrive at a concrete result.

Statement of Professor Giovanni D'Ayala, President of the NGO "Insula", Paris

Regarding the development of an "alternative" tourism, it is important to underline the fact that many steps have already been taken, with greater or lesser success, by other countries trying to diversify their offer relative to mass tourism.

An alternative tourism must therefore be conceived in a spirit of innovation relative to current experience, so as to be able to face international competition. It would be convenient therefore to diversify this sustainable development by parallel development in other economic sectors, such as fishery, which is traditional in Essaouira, and handicrafts, for example. Moreover, attention could be concentrated on an important and original advantage of Essaouira, the old town, a key element of competitiveness in the tourism sector. *An important element in this action consists in multiplying efforts to get the old town inscribed in the World Heritage list.*

Statement of Mrs. Maria-Luisa Gentileschi, Professor of the Department of Economic and Social Research, University of Cagliari, Italy

Population and the economy of small coastal cities: indications on development

Territorial policies have, over the years, produced various dispositions of the coastal zone, in the Mediterranean basin as elsewhere. The typology of the coastal city in the Mediterranean has, in fact, been profoundly marked. Development still to come can therefore be based on a strategy of intervention corresponding to precise policies, implemented by the following actions:

- activate and promote the process of development of the cities and their surroundings
- contain the movement of populations towards the coast and control the flow of people from the countryside to the city
- conserve the identity of the ancient cities, respecting their history, their original city layout and their environment
- reintegrate the modern city into the context of its effective possibilities (geographical situation, natural resources, population).

At the local level, it is first necessary to define the policies likely to play a significant role in the development of small ancient coastal cities, which, on the one hand, risk not being able to benefit from investment inflow and, on the other, being completely ill-suited. *Accommodation and tourist policies take priority in such cases*, not only to control spontaneous trends but also to set up new functional units able to integrate the city into a process of development that respects the historical and urban heritage, while paying attention to the housing needs of the population.

The tourism sector has concerned itself with coastal areas where development has slowed down, whereas habitat development policies have been established to meet the demand, hence population growth. It is now a question of combining these two realities into the same design.

The instruments that a territorial policy can use should aim at:

- promoting existing economic activities in which the inhabitants are competent (handicrafts, tourist professions, fishing etc.)
- favour the selective recovery of buildings by encouraging the families living in the historical centre to remain there and by safeguarding their homes.

Moreover, *it is necessary to protect the old part of the city from population influxes from the countryside, through, for example, the creation of "intermediate opportunities" - between the areas of origin of these influxes and their destination on the coast - that is to say, re-equilibration towns, new production installations or commercial agriculture areas.* A regional intervention project would undertake to moderate the immigrant flux towards the coastal cities, avoiding the creation of shantytowns or, even better, as in the case of Essaouira, the overpopulation of ancient historical districts.

 TEXTS OF ADDRESSES AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY

**Address of Mr. Francisco J. Carrillo, Director of the UNESCO Office in Tunis,
Advisor for Social and Human Sciences in the Arabic Region**

Monsieur le Gouverneur de la Province d'Essaouira,
Monsieur le Député, Président du Conseil Municipal,
Madame la Secrétaire générale de la Commission Nationale Marocaine pour
l'Education, la Culture et les Sciences - l'UNESCO-ALECSO-ISESCO,

Mesdames, Messieurs les Maires des Villes participant à cette réunion
Mesdames, Messieurs,
Chers Collègues,

C'est pour moi un honneur et un plaisir d'être présent parmi vous aujourd'hui pour représenter, à cette séance de clôture de vos travaux, Madame Francine Fournier, Sous-Directeur général de l'UNESCO, chargé du Secteur des Sciences Sociales et Humaines, qui m'avait demandé également de suivre vos débats comme Conseiller régional pour les Sciences Sociales et Humaines et Directeur du Bureau de l'UNESCO à Tunis.

Je tiens tout d'abord, à remercier à nouveau les autorités marocaines pour l'organisation excellente et pour l'appui logistique sans faille qui a facilité le bon déroulement de vos débats. Etant moi-même originaire de l'Andalousie espagnole, qui partage beaucoup de traditions avec le Maroc, je n'ai pas été étonné - parce que je la connaissais depuis longtemps - de la grande qualité dans l'hospitalité et l'accueil du peuple et des autorités marocaines.

Le Secteur des Sciences Sociales et Humaines, à travers le Programme international «Gestion des Transformations Sociales» (MOST) et une étroite coopération avec le Secteur des Sciences Exactes et Naturelles à travers le Programme Hydrologique International (PHI), vous a offert un **cadre de coopération** Nord-Sud et Sud-Sud, dont le premier projet national est basé dans la Ville d'Essaouira. A la fin de vos travaux, nous constatons que ce **cadre de coopération** produit déjà ses premiers fruits : le dialogue interactif entre les villes ici présentes, et de sérieuses déclarations d'intention qui ouvriront une voie concrète de coopération bilatérale entre nouveaux partenaires.

Nous avons également constaté l'accent que vous avez mis sur les aspects sociaux et économiques de la vérification de l'habitat traditionnel de la Ville d'Essaouira, tout en tenant présent à l'esprit les mutations successives de son tissu socio-économique. L'individu, le citoyen, ont été placés au centre de vos débats, soit d'une manière manifeste, soit d'une manière latente. Vous avez raison, car les conditions matérielles d'existence les plus proches se trouvent à l'origine même de la sauvegarde et exercice des droits fondamentaux de la personne humaine, acteur et destinataire du développement durable.

C'est pour cela que les Sciences Sociales et Humaines, à travers le Programme « Gestion des Transformations Sociales » (MOST), se sont intéressés dans l'impulsion des

projets comme celui d'Essaouira. En effet, les outils dont disposent les Sciences Sociales facilitent non seulement la nécessaire interdisciplinarité, mais aussi la mise en oeuvre des projets fédérateurs comme le projet d'Essaouira que vous venez d'étudier.

Permettez-moi, enfin, de me référer ici à la décision du Ministre de l'Environnement et de l'Aménagement du territoire de la Tunisie, qui nous a été communiquée par son représentant à cette réunion, de choisir une île de la Tunisie comme projet du programme «Développement urbain et ressources en eau» de l'UNESCO. Je souhaite remercier pour cette décision le Gouvernement tunisien pour la confiance implicite dans le **cadre de coopération** offert par l'UNESCO.

Le Bureau de l'UNESCO à Tunis, par sa spécificité régionale en Sciences Sociales et Humaines, fera un effort particulier pour impulser, à la demande des gouvernements, et en coopération notamment avec d'autres agences du Système des Nations Unies, toute initiative de nouveaux projets pilotes ou de nouveaux partenaires, pour renforcer le programme de développement urbain et ressources en eau dans et à partir de la région des Etats arabes.

Il s'agit évidemment d'un programme de l'UNESCO pour lequel tous les services de l'Organisation et toute la structure régionale - (et non seulement le Bureau de Tunis pour les Sciences Sociales) doit être mobilisée et impliquée en synergie et en complémentarité.

Dans un document des années 20, faisant référence aux bénéfices climatiques et physiques d'Essaouira, il a été dit qu'un « effet excitant et tonique, dû aux vents, à la luminosité intense, à la pureté de l'air, se traduisait par une augmentation notable des échanges respiratoires et des oxydations, du taux de l'hémoglobine et des globules rouges du sang ». Je suis convaincu, Monsieur le Député, Président du Conseil Municipal, que ces effets bénéfiques ont répercuté dans la qualité des travaux et dans la qualité des rapports humains qui ont été à la base du succès de votre séminaire.

C'est pour cela que, lorsque l'on connaît Essaouira, elle devient la forte tentation du retour.

Je vous remercie de votre attention.

Address of Mrs. Lamia Salman - El Madini, UNESCO Representative in Morocco

Monsieur le Gouverneur,
Monsieur le Président de la Municipalité d'Essaouira,
Messieurs les Maires et Représentants de Municipalités,

Nous parvenons au terme de nos travaux, de ces quelques jours vécus ensemble, dans la ville des vents, Essaouira; quelques jours d'échanges intenses, de confrontation d'idées et d'expériences sur des questions fort complexes. Au-delà de l'intitulé de notre séminaire « Développement urbain et ressources en eau : Petites villes côtières », nos

débats se sont placés au coeur même de la problématique du développement humain durable : un développement susceptible d'assurer aux citoyens un bien-être social et économique dans de petites et moyennes villes à échelle humaine; un développement respectueux des identités culturelles qu'il valorise, un développement respectueux de l'environnement de manière à préserver le droit des générations futures.

Ces échanges ont été fructueux à plus d'un titre :

- D'abord, et l'occasion en est encore assez rarement donnée pour que cela mérite d'être souligné, des experts de différentes spécialités se sont penchés ensemble sur des problèmes concrets, en l'occurrence ceux de la ville d'Essaouira choisie comme première étude de cas. Ils se sont véritablement intéressés, ou ont été interpellés par des aspects de certaines problématiques qui relèvent de domaines autres que le leur. A titre individuel, cette brèche dans les cloisonnements disciplinaires constitue sans nul doute un premier pas, ou un pas de plus, vers un langage commun et une approche intégrée à la gestion durable des établissements humains. L'interdisciplinarité et la transdisciplinarité, reconnues comme indispensables pour faire face à la complexité croissante des processus et interactions des domaines de l'activité humaine, sont avant tout affaire de mentalité, d'attitude et d'ouverture.
- Nos débats ont été fructueux car, en se penchant sur le cas d'Essaouira, les responsables des villes présentes ont reconnu la similitude des situations et des problématiques des petites villes côtières historiques. Ils se sont accordés sur l'opportunité de créer, sous l'égide de l'UNESCO, un réseau des petites villes côtières pour poursuivre la dynamique d'échanges initiée. Une lettre d'intention à cet effet sera signée avant la fin de notre réunion. Ma collègue Brigitte Colin donnera lecture du texte par lequel les signataires émettent le souhait que ce réseau s'élargisse à d'autres villes. L'UNESCO ne manquera pas d'oeuvrer dans ce sens.
- Les villes de Saint Malo, d'Alghero, de Sciacca et de Licata ont exprimé leur disponibilité à soutenir la ville d'Essaouira dans ses efforts de développement et des lettres d'intention vont également être signées, toujours sous l'égide de l'UNESCO et dans le cadre du nouveau réseau.

Je puis déjà assurer les responsables de la ville d'Essaouira et des villes partenaires que l'UNESCO n'épargnera aucun effort pour contribuer à la conclusion d'accords de coopération technique concrétisant ces lettres d'intention.

Le Bureau de l'UNESCO à Rabat reste, en particulier, à leur disposition pour toute assistance à cet égard.

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADEFRAM	Association de Développement des Echanges France/Maroc <i>Association for the development of exchanges between France and Morocco</i>
ANHI	Association Nationale de lutte contre l'Habitat Insalubre <i>National association for the fight against insanitary habitation</i>
ASPDE	Association pour la sauvegarde, la promotion et le développement d'Essaouira <i>Association for the safeguarding, promotion and development of Essaouira</i>
CSI	Environment and Development in Coastal Regions and in Small Islands
EU	European Union
FADES	Fonds Arabes pour le Développement Economique et Social <i>Arab Fund for economic and social development</i>
GERPE	Groupement d'Etudes et de Recherches pour la Promotion d'Essaouira <i>Study and research group for the promotion of Essaouira</i>
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
IHP	International Hydrological Programme
MOST	Management of Social Transformations
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OCED	Organisation for Cooperation and Economic Development
ONEM	Observatoire National de l'Environnement du Maroc <i>Moroccan national observatory on environment</i>
ONEP	Office National de l'Eau Potable, Maroc <i>National office for drinkable water, Morocco</i>
PANE	Plan d' Action National pour l'Environnement <i>National action plan for the environment</i>
SWIM	Salt Water Intrusion Meeting
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements

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