

**LETTER OF INTENT**  
**CONCERNING THE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN**  
**THE MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT OF**  
**THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

**-AND-**

**THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING, SPATIAL PLANNING**  
**AND THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS**

The Ministry of Construction and Urban Development of Lithuania, hereafter also referred to as Lithuania, and the Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, hereafter referred also to as "the Netherlands", and, collectively, as "the countries" or as "both countries",

- taking into account the conclusions of the Second European Ministers Conference on sustainable housing policies, held in Amsterdam from 24 - 25 September 1997,
- recalling that both Lithuania and Netherlands participate in the framework of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), notably in the Committee on Human Settlements of the ECE,
- also recalling the existing contacts between municipalities and non-governmental organisations in Lithuania and the Netherlands,
- considering the discussions held during the visit which the State Secretary of the Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, Dr. K.K.J. Tommel paid to the Republic of Lithuania from 18-19 February 1998 at the invitation of the Minister of Construction and Urban Development of the Republic of Lithuania, Mr. Algis Čaplikas,
- also considering that the following subjects were discussed during the afore-mentioned visit: construction, urban development, spatial planning and housing policy, sustainable housing and building (including energy-efficiency in housing), home-ownership and financing in housing, the administrative structure of the relevant ministries both in Lithuania as well as in the Netherlands,
- reiterating their commitment to promote policy development and implementation in the field of sustainable housing and building, and spatial planning in both multilateral and bilateral contacts with a variety of European countries,
- taking into account that there is ample scope for further elaboration of effective international co-operation in the fields of sustainable housing and building policies and policy implementation in these fields,

have agreed:

- (1) to elaborate the further exchange of information between both countries in the fields of physical planning, housing and building both at the political level and at the level of experts;
- (2) to focus this exchanges of information on housing- related subjects which are of mutual interest: the quality, availability and affordability of housing as well as immovable property cadaster;

- (3) to actively and jointly investigate possibilities of speedy development of national, co-ordinated, comprehensive, unambiguous lists of sustainable measures and materials for housing and building, in close consultation with all the main agents of change in the housing and building sector in both countries as well as other European Ministers countries. To this end the parties committed themselves to participate in a high-level expert-group meeting to be held in Sweden in 1998;
- (4) to participate at high political level in the Third European ministers conference on sustainable housing and building, to be held in 1999 and actively contribute to the further preparations of that Conference, f.i. by reporting on the national progress made in the field of sustainable housing and building on the basis of the common format;
- (5) to jointly promote specified activities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), notably in the Committee on Human Settlements of the ECE in stimulating the drafting of "country profiles of housing" of Central and Eastern European Member States of the ECE;
- (6) to help and facilitate the co-operation between private profit and non-profit organisations in the countries in the fields of spatial planning, sustainable housing, building construction, immovable property cadastre as well as other appropriate areas to the extent that this possible;
- (7) to nominate a person responsible for the management and monitoring of the co-operation between the countries and report on the progress made on a bi-annual basis;
- (8) to start the co-operation between both countries as of the date of signing of this letter of intent;
- (9) that the co-operation will remain in force for a period of five years. After that period both parties will evaluate their mutual co-operation and consider future forms of co-operation.

Thus signed in Vilnius on February 19,1998 by

Mr A. Čaplikas  
of Construction  
and Urban Development  
of the Republic of Lithuania



Dr. D.K.J. Tommel Minister  
The Netherlands State  
Secretary of Housing,  
Spatial Planning and the  
Environment

