

Friday 14 november

08.45 - 09.15 Coffee / tea

Chair of the day: Herman Schartman
Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, director Urban Policy and Administrative Coordination Department

09.15 - 09.35 Plenary session
Introduction on 'Urban Policy and Democratic Legitimacy'
Ivo Opstelten
Mayor of the City of Rotterdam

09.35 - 09.50 Kick-off of the Dutch Urban Expert Centre: opening of the website
Gerard Schouw
Director of the Urban Expert Centre

09.50 - 11.20 Workshops on citizen participation. Second round
1 'Consumer involvement & participation by citizens: lessons to be learned'
2 'Wanted: a new type of civil servant?'
3 'Develop your own best practice'
4 'How to mobilise your citizens'

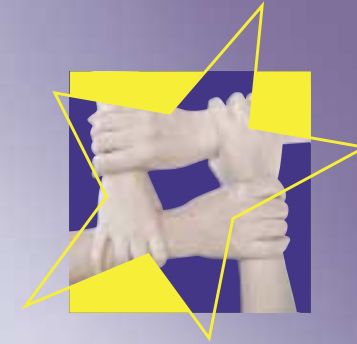
11.20 - 11.45 Break

11.45 - 12.15 Plenary session
Feedback from the workshops and discussion

12.15 - 12.45 Concluding remarks

12.45 - 14.15 Lunch hosted by the Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations

14.15 - 16.30 Departure for an informative trip to the Schilderswijk and Transvaal districts of The Hague: citizen participation in practice (optional)
Following on this trip, a special guided tour to the exhibition of the German portraitist Hans Holbein is organised in the Dutch museum 'The Mauritshuis'. For more information see www.mauritshuis.nl.



Preview

European seminar

Multilevel Governance & Democratic Legitimacy

Best practices in citizen participation: cities, companies, local & regional authorities and civil society

Organised by the Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations
Hotel Crowne Plaza, The Hague, the Netherlands
13-14 November 2003



As part of its preparations for the Dutch EU-Presidency in the second half of 2004, the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations is organising a seminar entitled **'Multilevel Governance and Democratic Legitimacy'**.

The seminar will focus on the follow-up to the White Paper on European Governance that the European Commission presented in 2001. Many proposals have been made since then of opening up the policymaking process to get more, among others, local and regional authorities and citizens involved in shaping EU policy.

The aim of the seminar is to exchange views on, and experience with, citizen participation, including ideas on best practice, in order to:

- chart the role of citizen participation in the different EU countries in relation to the findings of an innovative study produced by the Dutch Ministry of the Interior. This study of best practice in citizen participation will be presented at the seminar for the first time;
- make recommendations to the European Commission (by means of a resolution) on ways of promoting citizen participation in the EU's policy making and implementation processes.

The urban approach in this matter will receive special attention.

In the longer term, the seminar seeks to narrow the gap between the EU and its citizens, in other words to raise citizens' awareness of European issues and encourage them to adopt a more active role.

Policy advisors on governance (especially in relation to the EU) and/or citizen participation at national, regional and local level from all EU Member States, including the States acceding in 2004, are very much welcome to attend, as are representatives of the European Commission, Eurocities and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

Thursday 13 November

12.00 - 13.00 Registration and welcome with coffee/ tea and sandwiches

13.00 - 13.15 Plenary session

Welcome and introduction to the seminar

Leon van Halder

Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, Director-General of Public Administration

13.15 - 14.15 Views on Multilevel Governance and Democratic Legitimacy:

- Administrative - Pascal Lefèvre
European Commission, Secretariat-General, Task Force Future of the Union and institutional questions
- Academic - Deirdre Curtin
University of Utrecht, Utrecht School of Governance
- Political - Max van den Berg
Member of the European Parliament, Committee on Constitutional Affairs, rapporteur on European Governance

14.15 - 14.45 Discussion and questions

14.45 - 15.15 Break

15.15 - 15.45 Introduction to the workshops with a video presentation of the new Dutch study on citizen participation

Sander van den Eijnden

Chair of the day, Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, director Local Government Organisations and Finances Department

15.45 - 17.15 Workshops on citizen participation. First round
The workshops will be introduced by video presentations (based on the study of citizen participation) and chaired by representatives of regional & local authorities, the European Commission and academia

1 'Consumer involvement & participation by citizens: lessons to be learned'

How can the government benefit from techniques that boost customer relations in the business world? Citizens as consumers

2 'Wanted: a new type of civil servant?'

Interactive policymaking makes (new) demands on your organisation: the importance of human resource management in citizen participation

3 'Develop your own best practice'

Participants will apply the concept of citizen participation using a concrete case description

4 'How to mobilise your citizens'

It is often hard to get the public involved in processes of political decision making and policymaking. It is possible, however. This workshop will discuss ways of doing so

17.15 - 17.45 Plenary session

Feedback from the workshops and discussion

18.00

Drinks hosted by the Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations

20.00

Dinner

