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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
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Subject:	Open Method of Coordination group of Member States' experts on High-quality architecture and built environment for everyone – <i>Final mandate</i>

Delegations will find attached the mandate for the Open Method of Coordination group of Member States' experts on High-quality architecture and built environment for everyone, as finalised further to the discussions at the Cultural Affairs Committee meeting on 21 October.

Open Method of Coordination group of Member States' experts on High-quality architecture and built environment for everyone

- mandate -

1. The Work Plan for Culture 2019-2022, under priority B 'Cohesion and well-being', provides for the creation of an Open Method of Coordination (OMC) group of Member States' experts focusing on High-quality architecture and built environment for everyone.
2. In line with the Davos Declaration "Towards a high-quality Baukultur for Europe" adopted by the European Ministers of Culture in January 2018, which highlights the central role of culture in the built environment, the OMC group will work in an integrated and balanced approach to the built environment while focusing on the specific contributions made by architectural policies and practices. "Quality architecture" in this context is not only defined by aesthetics and functionality but also by its contribution to people's quality of life and to the sustainable development of our cities and rural areas.
3. The OMC group will have the following tasks:
 - Present and discuss existing policies and tools aiming at achieving a high-quality architecture and built environment in Europe;
 - Identify the main drivers and obstacles to citizens' well-being in the built environment as well as the processes needed to ensure well-being through quality architecture;
 - Analyse multi-disciplinary and participatory governance models contributing to social inclusion and the sustainable development of neighbourhoods, including climate change adaptation;
 - Identify best practice and innovative actions leading to high-quality architecture and built environment for everyone, including activities to raise public awareness;

- Highlight the contribution of grassroots initiatives, (temporary) adaptive reuse, culture-led social innovation and co-creation towards a quality built environment.
4. The group may decide to involve external experts, in particular representatives of local/regional authorities, professional bodies and civil society. Synergies with relevant EU initiatives will be ensured.
 5. Based on the findings resulting from the activities mentioned above, the OMC Working Group will prepare a report providing at least the following chapters: the role of public policies in ensuring high-quality architecture and built environment for everyone; analysis of best practices; policy recommendations.
 6. The recommendations will be addressed to the relevant public entities – in particular those in charge of architecture and the built environment, culture and heritage, spatial planning and sustainable development at local, regional, national and European levels – but also to clients, professionals and other relevant stakeholders.
