

The Government of the Canary Islands has taken a major step toward its commitment to the said Convention in establishing this Observatory which also places the Islands in the centre of the discussion about landscape, taking an active part in it. This Manifesto for the European Landscape Project comes about in the understanding that it is an opportunity to reconsider not only the perception citizens have of their landscape but also management policies and the actions carried out on it. In order to discuss this manifesto, representatives of the European Landscape Convention of the European Council and of the Uniscape, Civilscape and Recep-Enelc networks as well as outstanding professionals coming from different contexts, universities, institutions and disciplines held a joint meeting, for the first time, in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and Santa Cruz de Tenerife, on 24 and 25 March 2011. This document aims to establish, programmatically, a response to exhausted urban formulas in crisis; a paradigm which can be seen daily in environmental, infrastructural, cultural and aesthetics considerations, in the understanding that the territory must be approached as landscape, a global concept which is able to provide specific answers to the Canaries people as well as to all the European people, contributing to improve our difficult relationship with the territory as a key piece of our identity.