

DKK
DALYAN FOREIGN RESIDENTS
GROUP



STEERING GROUP REPORT &
INFORMATION

THE AGENDA 21 PROGRAM IN TURKEY

CONTEXT OF DALYAN CITY COUNCIL

AND

DALYAN FOREIGN RESIDENTS GROUP

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Agenda 21 is a Global program run by the United Nations (UN) related to sustainable development. It is a comprehensive blueprint of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the UN, governments, and major groups in every area in which humans impact on the environment.

Agenda 21 is raising awareness at the Global level for environmental problems faced by humanity.

While acknowledging the positive advancements of technology and science, education and health, the negative impact of over industrialization and unsustainable development policies are threatening the future of all of humanity and the natural environment of this fragile blue planet.

The full text of Agenda 21 was revealed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit), held in Rio de Janeiro on June 14 1992, where 178 governments including Turkey voted to adopt the program. The final text was the result of drafting, consultation and negotiation, beginning in 1989 and culminating at the two-week conference.

The number 21 refers to an agenda for the 21st century..

In the following years the General Assembly of the UN held special sessions to re-evaluate the progress on the implementation of Agenda 21.

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, was agreed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the EARTH SUMMIT 2002, and affirmed UN commitment to **full implementation** of Agenda 21, alongside achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other International agreements..

The implementation of Agenda 21 was intended to involve action at international, national, regional and local levels. Some national and state governments have legislated or advised that local authorities take steps to implement the plan locally.

Such programmes are often known as 'Local Agenda 21'

LOCAL AGENDA 21 often known as LA-21

At the 1992 Rio "Earth Summit", Chapter 28 of "Agenda 21" called upon local authorities in every country "to undertake a consultative process with their populations and achieve a consensus on Local Agenda 21 for their communities".

Local Agenda 21, pursuant to global Agenda 21, sets out to pave the way for achieving sustainable development at the local level, seeking to improve the quality of life for all people. Local Agenda 21 is not merely a local program or project which is one amongst the elongated list of other ongoing activities, but instead, it is a mainstream process, perforating and embracing all aspects of local governance.

IMPLEMENTATION IN TURKEY

Turkey's Partnership to the Local Agenda 21 Program was endorsed following the Decision of the Council of Ministers and Ministry of the Interior. The new Law on Municipalities (No5393) provides a firm legal base for the participation and partnership of local authorities, and facilitates the allocation and channeling of local contributions.

At the UNDP World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg Turkey was heralded as having one of the "best practices from many countries' similar programmes".

1. HOW DOES LOCAL AGENDA 21 WORK?

Local Agenda 21 is a local-government-led, community-wide, and participatory effort to establish a comprehensive action strategy for environmental protection, economic prosperity and community well-being in the local jurisdiction or area. This requires the integration of planning and action across economic, social and environmental spheres. Key elements are full community participation, assessment of current conditions, target setting for achieving specific goals, monitoring and reporting.

The overall objective of the program is to strengthen local governance by ensuring that civil society participates in decision-making and influences local investments. The program currently encompassing over 50 cities in Turkey reflects a decentralized and enabling approach, based upon networking and collaboration among equal partners.

The primary decision-making and implementation mechanisms are the local stakeholders organized mainly in the form of city councils supported by working groups, women and youth councils, and platforms of children, elderly and disabled.

The primary linkage between local participatory platforms and the program's coordinating agencies is sustained by LA-21 Secretary Generals established in partner cities.

The program enabled the development of a new local governance model in Turkey whereby public institutions, local authorities and civil society organizations are forming the triangle of a decentralization and democratization process in the country.

2. LA-21 CITY COUNCILS

LA-21 City Councils, which are unique to the Turkish context, are the only mechanism of the governance that manages to bring together central government, local government and civil society within a collaborative framework of partnerships. The central government and municipal representation constitute about one-third of the city councils, with the remaining two-thirds, consisting of representatives of civil society organizations. City councils prepare and endorse their own working principles, or statutes, and function accordingly. They constitute the democratic platforms where development priorities and pressing problems of the city are identified and discussed.

Dalyan, on the 8th March 2005, in accordance with Municipality Law became a partner city within LA-21 Program and formed the Dalyan City Council. The City Council Mission Statement is included in your information packs.

By LA-21 convention The Mayor of the Municipality is the Honorary Chairman of the City council.

ARIF SARI is Dalyan City Council's Chairman

In all partner cities, LA-21 General Secretariats have been established to coordinate activities. The Secretary Generals play a key role in the overall performance and success of LA-21 processes. In relatively large cities, the secretary generals are elected to the post by the city councils. In the smaller cities, the secretary generals are designated by respective mayors.

Suleyman Ilter is Dalyan's General Secretary.

3. WORKING GROUPS

In conjunction with City Councils, Working Groups focusing on priority issues of the LA-21 processes currently function with the active participation of volunteers from different sectors and backgrounds. Our Dalyan Foreign Residents Group is one of 8 Working Groups in the LA-21 Dalyan City Council.

Working Groups are not merely platforms where the participants occasionally meet to exchange views. They are essential participatory mechanisms fulfilling a very important function. They provide an environment for discussion, brainstorming and consultation and serve as a platform where joint actions toward the solution to basic problems are determined and prioritized. They assume responsibility for the preparation of local specific action plans within the context of the LA-21 process.

Each group designates a "chair person" in order to ensure continuity and co-ordination, orderly and fruitful functioning, the construction of an enabling and collaborative working environment based upon mutual respect and tolerance. They convey the Group's outputs to the City Council and to other platforms. It is crucial that these Group Chair persons assume a "facilitative" role and should not be regarded as "chief".

The Dalyan Foreign Residents Group "chair person" is

Berna Babaoglu.

Within every participating Working Group, association, institution, civil organisation, local government there are individuals. Each and every individual by volunteering their participation is a member of the LA-21 programme. We are all "stakeholders" in our community.

The City Councils, operating under the principles of "ownership as citizens", "active participation as residents", "partners in finding solutions" bring together all local Stakeholders and enable the establishment of a "collective wisdom" that embraces the whole city.

The Dalyan Municipality has already accepted the role of the City Council in making recommendations which lead to sustainable development in all areas of the environment and community of Dalyan. The question now is WHAT needs to be done. The Municipality and City Council working in partnership with its members will determine HOW.

4. IMPORTANT NOTES

WHAT CONSTITUTES A RESIDENT OF DALYAN IN THIS CONTEXT?

If you hold a residency permit or other documents giving you the right to reside in Turkey you may speak at Full Group Meetings and stand for an elected position within the Group.

If you are a temporary visitor to Dalyan your input is valuable. You may contribute to the Working Parties and attend their meetings. You may only attend full Resident Group Meetings as an observer.

“The greater the involvement the more chance of success.”

TRANSLATION

In order to avoid confusion throughout the documents prepared by the Steering Group we use the following terminology to distinguish the Dalyan Kent Konseyi from the Dalyan Belediye in translation into English.

DALYAN BELEDIYE - DALYAN MUNICIPALITY

DALYAN KENT KONSEYI - DALYAN CITY COUNCIL

The term COUNCIL here is used to mean: An assembly called together for deliberation, advice, recommendation, and administration. It does not take on the role of a governing body.

The powers of the City Council come, not from legislation but from the power of the members' voices.

5. USEFUL WEBSITES/PUBLICATIONS

www.la21turkey21.net Website of the Turkey LA-21 Program

www.undp.org website of the United Nations Development Program, the global co-ordinator of Agenda 21 and supporter of the Turkey LA-21 Program

www.iula-emme.org Website of International Union of Local Authorities, Section for the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East Region, IULA-EMME, the coordinating agency of Turkey LA-21 Program

www.youthforhab.org Youth association for Habitat and Agenda 21, coordinating the youth component under LA-21 Program

www.bursayg21.org Check out how Bursa has embraced the LA-21 Program on its excellent website with extensive English language section

Turkey Local Agenda Program:

Handbook on Facilitative Information for the Implementation of LA-21

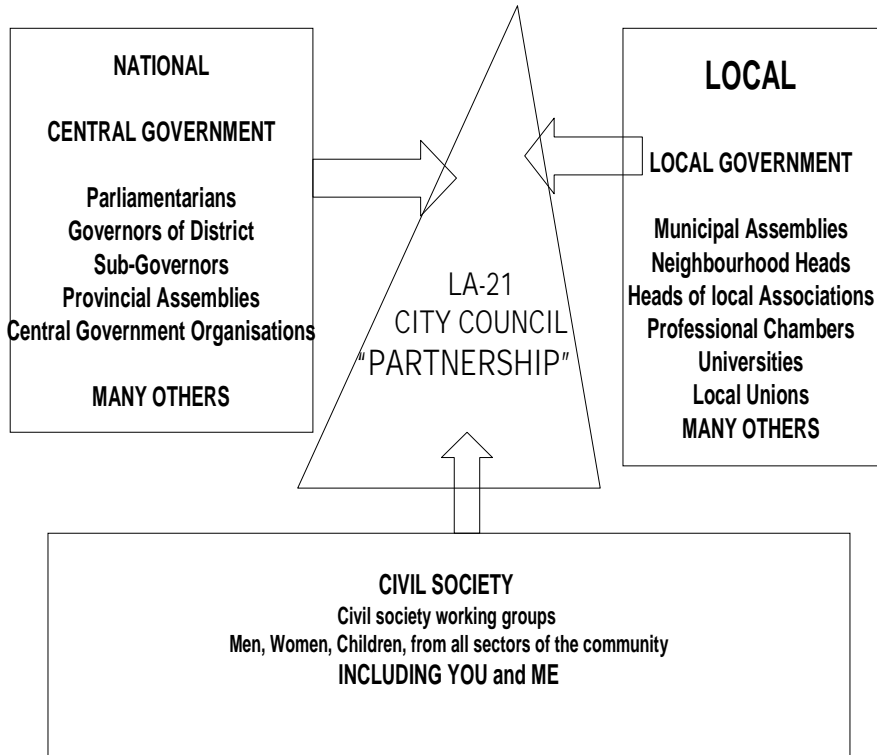
Prepared by Sadun Emrealp

IULA-EMME (UCLG-MEWA) Publication

ISBN 975-7741-53-1

This is essential reading for anyone wishing to become more involved by working as a Co-ordinator of a Working Group, Recorder, Facilitator or Chair.

LA-21 TRIANGLE OF GOVERNANCE
"EQUAL VOTE AND RIGHT TO BE HEARD"



DALYAN KENT KONSEYI MISSION STATEMENT (English translation)

"Dalyan City Council (DKK) aims to improve the city's vision and fellow citizen awareness; to preserve the town's rights and jurisdiction.

It aims towards sustainable development and increased sensitivity towards the environment.

It aims to increase social solidarity, transparency, call to account and be accountable for its actions, participation and local governance.

It aims to improve the overall quality of life, increase mutual initiative and local democratic development.

The aim for our town is to make the intervention and participation of local initiatives in the decision making process of local authority a possibility.

It aims to supervise the activities; to contribute to the understanding of a secular, democratic, social and constitutional state.

It aims to govern the town of Dalyan with cooperation and without prejudice to religion, language, race, social class, or gender.

It aims to build a better civil structure.

It aims to develop an urban, civilised culture and awareness. "

DALYAN KENT KONSEYI

(DALYAN CITY COUNCIL)

STEERING GROUP

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Following a number of meetings, the Steering Committee has prepared a series of documents designed both inform and enable Dalyan's Foreign Residents to take an active and effective role in the City Council process. The documentation will be presented to a meeting already planned for 2nd September 2009 and will also form a permanent record for anyone unavailable or not in Dalyan when the meeting takes place.

1. Background document

A context and permanent record designed for anyone either unavailable for the initial meeting on 19th August 2009 or not in Dalyan when the process was initiated.

Annex A

2. Details of the City Council Structure

A flowchart has been prepared to show the structure of Dalyan's City Council and its relationship with the Dalyan Municipality. At a later date this flowchart will be amended to show the intended frequency of full City Council meetings, Group meetings and the agreed reporting and feedback processes.

Annex B

3. Details of City Council membership

A list showing the current City Council membership, together with details of the individual's function and workshop responsibilities.

Annex C

4. Foreign Residents Group - Proposal for structure and reporting

An addition to the flowchart at 2 above illustrating **the Steering Group's proposals for structuring and reporting issues** raised by Dalyan's Foreign Residents.

The Steering Group **propose 3 as a manageable number of Working Parties**, designed to provide a focused platform for specific issues to be raised. For illustrative purposes **some examples** of the types of issue that it is suggested might

fall to each Working Party have been included. A separate chart has also been produced to show the lines of communication through to the City Council

Annex D

5. Proposals for Co-ordinating the Working Parties

Meetings of the Working Parties will require considerable work prior to, during and following each meeting, so it is not a job for the faint-hearted or those pressed for time!! Each will require a **minimum** of two people, a Coordinator and a recorder. It may also be sensible to have a deputy Coordinator.

The Steering Group recommends that the Working Parties should meet a MINIMUM of monthly.

Once the proposed electronic communications package is up and running it will be possible for members of the Foreign Residents Group to 'formally nominate' Coordinators, deputies and recorders for each Working Party.

For a **transitional period** until the end of 2009 the Steering Group **proposed that the Foreign Residents Group:**

- **Ask for three volunteers from the British Residents plus one from both the German and Dutch Residents to co-ordinate each of the three Working parties (15 people). it is suggested that specific duties are not allocated at the meeting on the 2nd September.**
- **Ask the five volunteers to meet informally and agree a Coordinator, deputy and recorder.**

- **Ask the German and Dutch volunteers to consider holding some informal meetings in their own languages to explain the processes to residents who felt it was inappropriate to attend because the meeting was to be in English**

6. Proposals for Co-ordinating the Foreign Residents Group

It is clearly essential that the work of the Foreign Residents Group be effectively managed and to this end a Chair, Deputy and recorder will be required. The commitment and availability will be at least the same as, if not more than, that required for the Working Party Coordinators. **The Steering Group recommends that the Foreign Residents Group should meet a MINIMUM of quarterly.**

Eventually, i.e. when the electronic communications package is available, the members of the Group as a whole should have the opportunity to formally elect people to these positions. However, **for the transitional period the Steering Group recommends that:**

- **The Steering Group continue specifically to:**
 - Oversee the development of the electronic communications package**
 - Continue work with the City Council to develop communication methodologies for reporting and feedback**
- **The Steering Group should include at least one German and one Dutch resident from Working Party volunteers.**
- **Following an informal meeting of the new Steering Group and the 15 volunteers, three people are nominated to take on the separate roles of Chair, Deputy and Recorder of the Foreign Residents Group until formal election processes can be developed and put in place.**
- **The City Council member responsible for the Foreign Residents Group be asked to join the Chair, Deputy, Working Group Coordinators and Recorder when concerns raised by the Working Parties are to be formally considered prior to presentation to the full Foreign Residents Group for approval.**

7. Outline proposal for communication methodology

An brief outline has been prepared covering the Steering Groups proposals to develop an electronic communications platform that will enable all Dalyan's Foreign Residents, regardless of nationality or location, to participate in the City Council process.

Annex E

DALYAN KENT KONSEYI

(DALYAN CITY COUNCIL)

BACKGROUND PAPER:

Participation of Dalyan's Foreign Residents

The Dalyan Municipality, in accordance with Municipality Law, has formed the **Dalyan Kent Konseyi** (Dalyan City Council). The City Council is an autonomous Non Governmental Organisation (**NGO**) designed to provide a bridge between the Belediye and civil society.

The City Council is made up of approximately 14 members who are required to meet on a regular basis to hear the concerns raised by people living in Dalyan. Following the meetings the Council is responsible for presenting the issues to the Belediye, obtaining a formal response and feeding this information back to everyone.

The City Council have decided to approach their task by setting up eight Groups to enable them to effectively focus on topics:

- Women
- Youth
- Disability
- Culture and Education
- Tourism
- Environment
- Construction, Public works, Development and Zoning
- Dalyan's Foreign Residents

At the moment the Groups that have been set up meet weekly. The Chairs of each Group will report the issues of concern to meetings of the full City Council that will be held on a regular basis. At the time of preparing this paper the frequency has not yet been determined.

As part of the City Council's activity, and in an attempt to be as inclusive as possible, the Belediye is very keen to hear the views and concerns of Dalyan's Foreign Residents who either live, or have holiday homes, in Dalyan. To this end, the City Council has included a Foreign Residents Group and has invited us to develop our own methodologies for collecting and formally reporting to them issues we are concerned about.

At a general meeting held on 19th August 2009 it was agreed that, given the number of nationalities involved and transient nature of non-residents time in Dalyan, we must urgently address communication. As an initial step, a small number of people volunteered to form a Steering Group. The Steering Group has been asked to formulate a draft proposal addressing:

- how we might structure ourselves in order to take full advantage of the opportunity provided by the City Council

- the steps that should be taken to ensure that the processes are as inclusive as possible.

The Steering Group agreed to meet as many times as is necessary to enable them to bring proposals to the next meeting of Dalyan's Foreign Residents that is due to be held on 2nd September 2009. If a structure can be agreed at this meeting the Foreign Residents Group will be able to begin holding some initial 'issues based' meetings.

It is very important that we are all aware that the overall aim of the City Council is to make Dalyan an even better place in the future – not only for many who have already made an investment here, but also for the thousands that visit this paradise for the first time each year. There is nothing that can be done about what has happened in the past, but we do now have a real opportunity to be included in the developments for the future.

Undoubtedly, everyone who got this far will already be forming their own views on what is good, what is bad and what could be better!! However, in order to effect any real changes it is important that we are all very clear about the remit under which we will **have to** operate:

1. The City Council has no legal standing, they operate solely in an advisory capacity.
2. Only very local issues and concerns, i.e. those that specifically fall within the control of the Belediye / Dalyan Municipality, should be raised - we will have no remit to raise issues relating to national government and its legislation.
3. The City Council must not be used as a vehicle to raise issues relating to individuals - the Council is responsible for raising only issues that affect the lives of everyone who lives in or visits Dalyan.
4. Concerns/recommendations from City Council's groups/forums should be balanced and constructive – it is easy and not at all helpful to just be negative. Wherever possible viable solutions should always be included for consideration.

Points Arising from an Informal Meeting with Dalyan City Council Representatives on 25th August 2009

As the Steering Group's work progressed there were a number of issues that required clarification with the City Council - in particular:

- The Council's definition of 'Foreign Resident'
- The Council's expectations of Dalyan's Foreign Residents Group
- Expected lines of communication and reporting mechanisms for the Foreign Residents Group

The Council's definition of Foreign Resident

The Council's remit and responsibilities relate specifically to Dalyan Residents. So, being a RESIDENT is key to being a member of the Foreign Residents Group. Only those people who have a Residency Permit, or other

official paper giving them the right to live permanently in Turkey, can technically be a member of the Group

Those people who visit Turkey on three-month visitors visas are welcome to attend meetings but their opinions and views must be channeled through a Foreign Citizen Group member.

The Council's expectations of the Foreign Residents Group

The Council have set up the Foreign Residents Group to deal with issues that specifically affect the daily lives of Non Turkish Nationals living permanently in Dalyan.

The Group should hold regular meetings and be effectively managed. It is not the intention of the Council that the Foreign Residents Group mirror the other seven Groups but in a different language!! The Council wants the emphasis to be on "working together" rather than "them and us"

As the Foreign Residents Group is already a formal Group within the City Council, we HAVE NOT been given a remit to internally set up any more formal Sub-Groups.

Conscious that Foreign Citizen Group meetings are likely to be very well attended, the Steering Group were concerned about how wide ranging issues might effectively be handled as one big group. Having had an opportunity to have a look at the official guidance provided to City Councils, the Steering Group established that provision has been made for formal Groups to set up **Working Parties** to either look at specific issues or as a mechanism to manage large groups of people who might attend meetings.

The Steering Group will be proposing that three Working Parties be set up to manage business

Expected lines of communication and reporting mechanisms for Foreign Residents Group

Clearly, once the Council puts formal communication and reporting methodologies in place, the Group will be required to adopt these arrangements. However, in the interim the group is free to make its own arrangements to record and report issues with the following provisos:

- All Group (and Working Party) meetings must be minuted
- The Foreign Residents Group **must** liaise closely with the chairs of the seven other Groups and visa versa
- Any issues raised by the Foreign Residents Group that fall under an existing Council Group **must** be referred to that group before the full City Council committee can consider it. Arrangements will also be

made to ensure the Foreign Residents Group is fully aware of the issues being raised in the other seven Groups.

1. Liaison

It will be the responsibility of the Working Party Coordinators to liaise with other Groups where they feel an issue could fall under their remit. Arrangements will be made for documents to be translated to ensure the Foreign Residents Group is fully aware of the issues being raised in the other seven groups.

2. Raising Issues.

Issues of concern should initially be raised at Working Party meetings. Once issued have been researched and documented they should be presented as requiring action at a full meeting of the Foreign Residents Group. At this meeting the Foreign Residents will be asked to vote whether the item requires action from the City Council or Dalyan Municipality.

There may very occasionally be cases where, on the recommendation of the Head of the Foreign Residents Group and with the agreement of the Belediye, an issue is of such importance it will be referred to be dealt with immediately by the Dalyan Belediye Board.

3. Referring Issues to the City Council

If agreement is reached that action is required the Chair of the Foreign Residents Group, together with the Coordinator of the relevant Working Party, are responsible for preparing a full report, recommendations and supporting documentation.

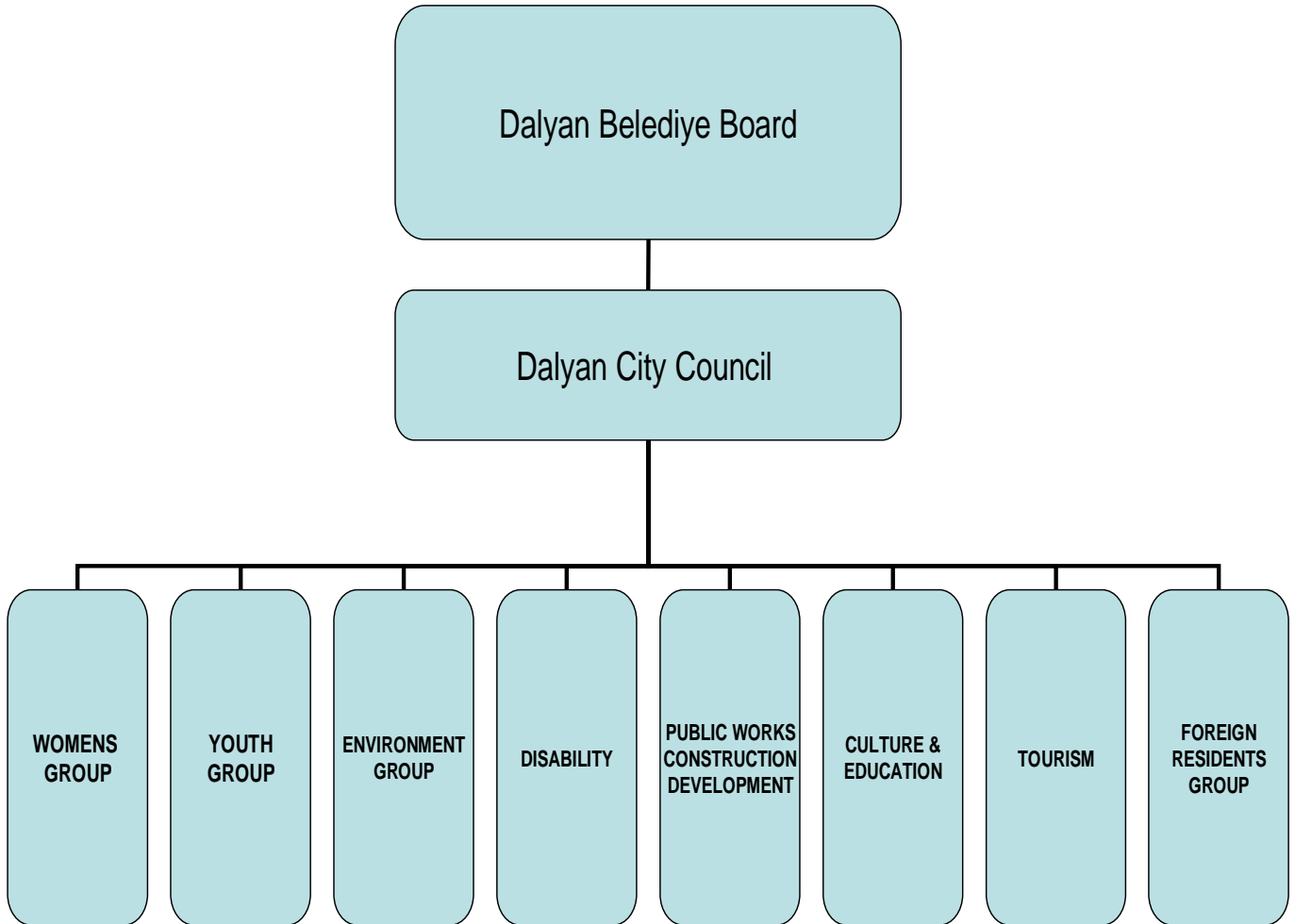
All reports and supporting documents should be prepared in English. Arrangements will be made for them to be translated into Turkish before they are passed to the Head of the Foreign Citizens Group for inclusion in the papers for the next City Council Board Meeting.

The Head of the Foreign Residents Group should provide the Chair of the Group with a regular progress report on the issues referred to the Council.ates

4. Decisions and Recommendations

All City Council Board decisions and recommendations must be reported back to the Groups. The Dalyan Belediye Board is required to formally respond in writing to the City Council's submission, giving decisions and implementation plans or reasons for rejecting the recommendations. At the time of preparing this document the timescales for a response from the Belediye Board are still to be agreed.

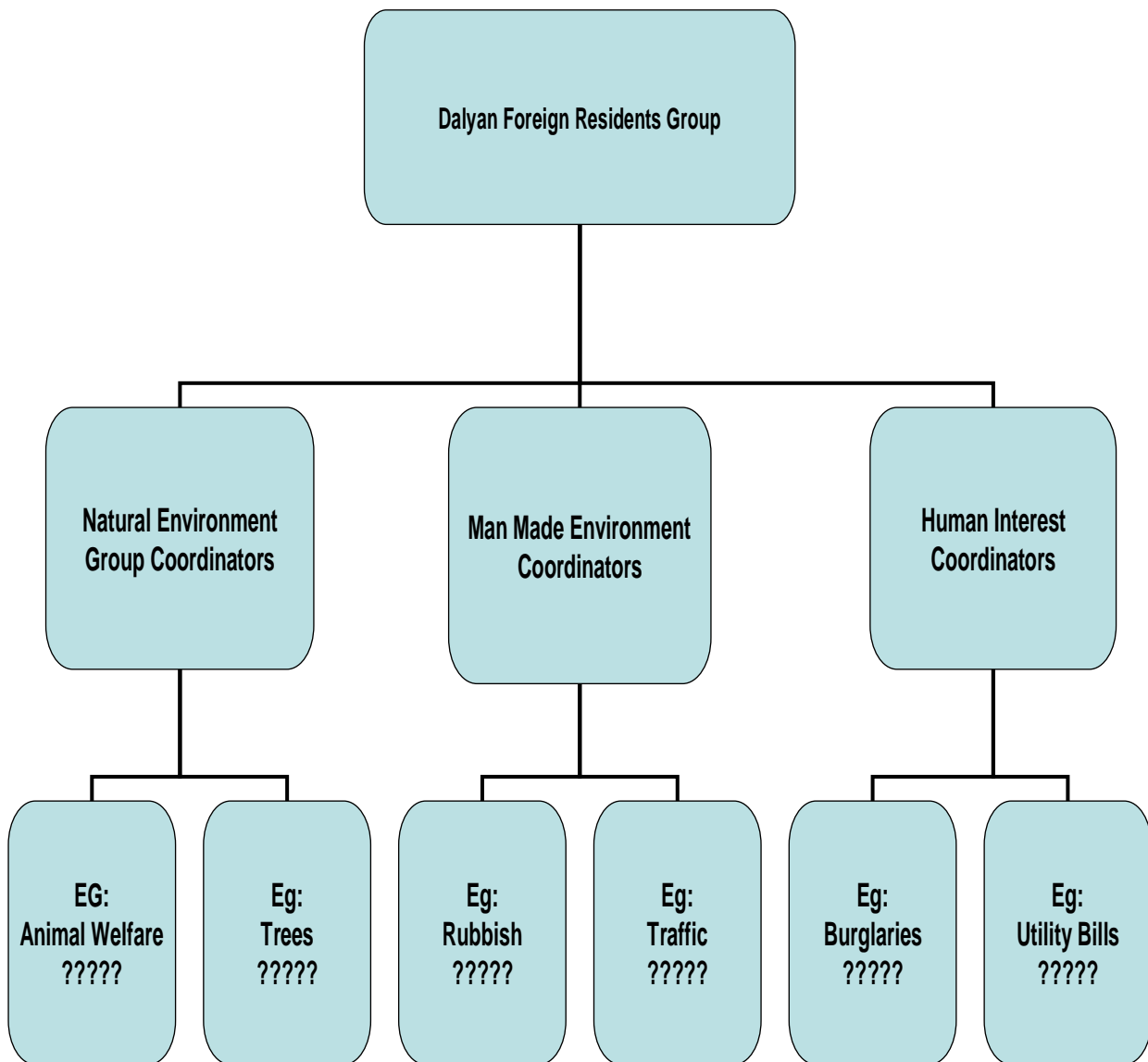
Dalyan City Council Structure



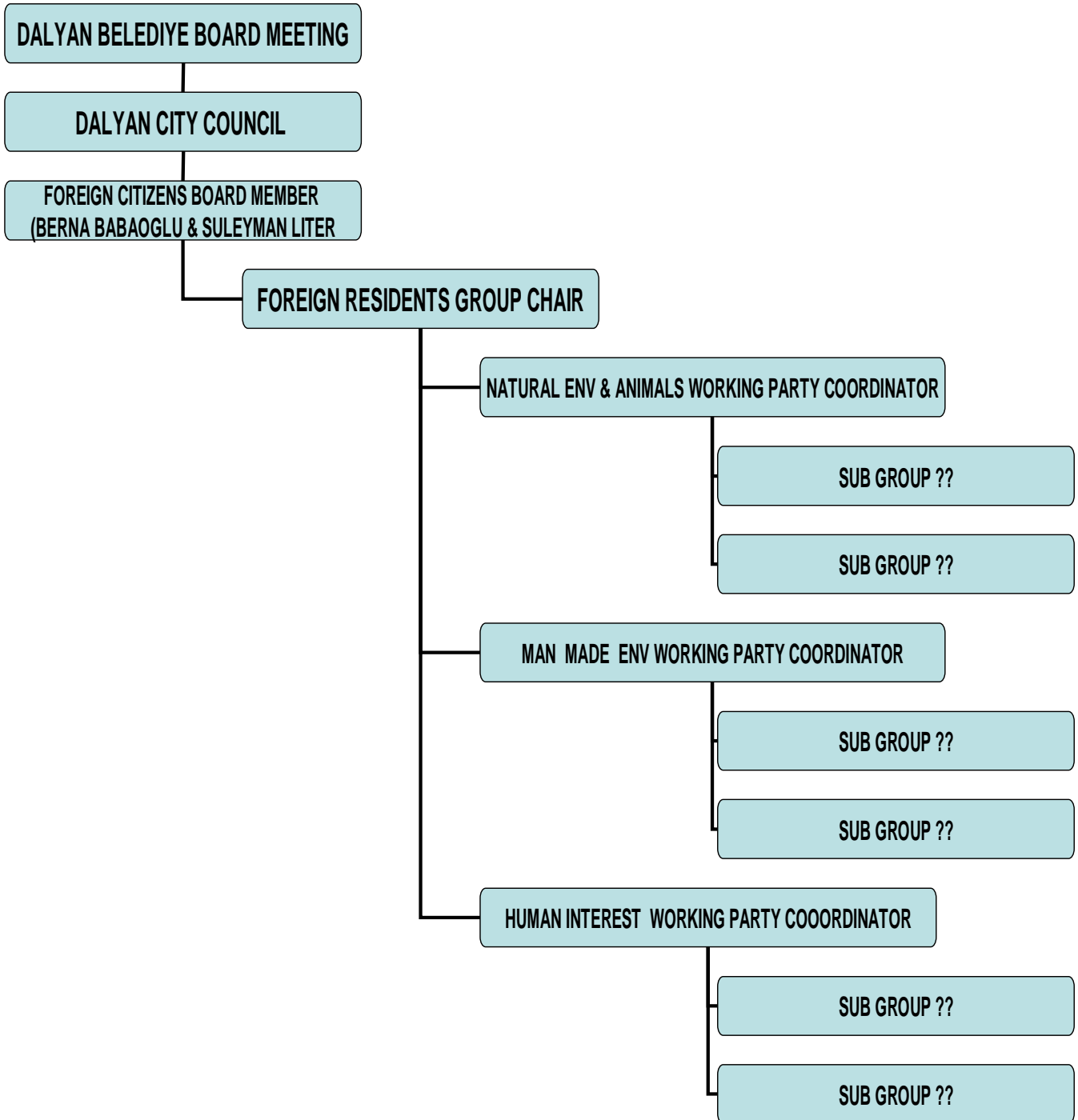
Annex C
MEMBERSHIP AND STRUCTURE OF DALYAN KENT
KONSEYI (DKK) – CITY COUNCIL

DKK HONORARY CHAIRMAN (By Law) MAYOR OF DALYAN	Arif Sarı
HEAD OF DKK (Elected)	Gölnaz Kırkık
DKK GENERAL SECRETARY (Voluntary position)	Süleyman İter
GROUPS	
KADIN BAŞKAN Head of Women's Assembly	Ayşe Neşe Demirci
GENÇLİK BAŞKAN Head of Youth Assembly	Ertuğrul Ercan
ENGİLLER BAŞKAN Head of Disabled Asseembly	Gölay Çolak
TURİZM BAŞKAN Head Of Tourism Work Group	Sinan Yılmaz
KÜLTÜR VE EĞİTİM BAŞKAN Head of Culture and Education Work Group	Yusuf Kırkık
ÇEVRE BAŞKAN Head of Environment Work Group	Meral Bertan
İMAR ÇALIŞMA BAŞKAN Head of Public Works and Construction Work Group	İsmail Çelik
YABANCILAR BAŞKAN Head of Foreign Citizens Work Group	Berna Babaoğlu

Foreign Residents Group Structure



Dalyan Council Reporting Structure



ANNEX E

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

The need for a clear and concise method of communications between the Foreign Residents Group, Working Parties and the Foreign Residents is an essential vehicle for the effective flow of information.

A Communications Strategy will need to be developed and **the Steering Group propose :**

- **There will need to be 2 stages to implementing that strategy**
Stage 1 Transitional Arrangements
Stage 2 Implementation of the Full Strategy.

TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

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Arrangements are being made for a notice board (location to be determined) where information from the Foreign Residents Group will be posted.

There will be three email addresses available from Thursday 03 September for each of the sub groups. These email addresses will be

Natural Environment Working Party email: Naturalenv@Dalayanfrg.org

Man-made Environment Working Party email Manmadeenv@Dalayanfrg.org

Human Interest Working Party email Humaninterest@Dalayanfrg.org

These emails should be used to make the Working Group Coordinators aware of issues and concerns you feel should be addressed.

The following information should be included in your emails to these groups.

1. Your email address.
2. Whether you are a resident or a visitor
3. Your full Name
4. Details of the issue you wish to raise along with any recommendations you may have to help resolve this issue.
5. How much you would be willing to participate in resolving your issue.

Arrangements have also been made with the Dalyan Municipality for the date, time and location of full Foreign Residents meetings to be announced via the Public Address speakers. The announcements will be made in English, German and Dutch languages providing people of those nationalities are willing and available to do so.

Other Enquiries to the steering group info@Dalayanfrg.org

FULL STRATEGY

The full strategy will include the development of a Dalyan Foreign Residents web site.

The website's primary function will be to support the Foreign Residents Group activities, but it is also the intention that it will also provide information and education for the many and varied aspects of living in Turkey as a foreign resident. The website will be a read only format and it is not intended that it be used as a forum.

Examples of the content we would hope to include on the web site would be:

- Details of the issues raised by the foreign residents.
- Progress reports on those issues.
- Agendas for meetings
- Reports and minutes from meetings
- Links to other Dalyan City Council (DKK) Groups
- Information pages providing accurate data relating to many aspects of life, rules & regulations associated with living in Turkey.
- Dalyan news items

The web site will also include the email addresses of the Working Parties so that issues can be raised with the appropriate groups.

The Steering Group priority over the next few months will be to develop the full strategy. It is hoped that by the end of the year the web site will be up and running. It may take longer to get the full functionality in place but progress on this project will be reported at each full meetings of the Foreign Residents Group.