



Euromed Heritage IV
a programme funded by the European Union



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

France-UNESCO
cooperation agreement

EUROMED HERITAGE – Institutional and Legal Framework

Workshop "INVENTORIES" - PARIS - December 10-12, 2008

INFORMATION PAPER

Context

The programme Euromed Heritage IV has a particular purpose of strengthening the institutional and legal framework. Various specialised workshops will be organised between 2008 and 2011, in order to exchange ideas and experiences between heritage professionals, in the view of a comparative analysis and of practical recommendations.

The heritage is considered in its wider aspects: movable goods, immovable properties, historic sites and cultural landscapes, intangible heritage, etc.

Organisation

The RMSU (Regional Monitoring and Support Unit), upon delegation from the European Commission and UNESCO (in the framework of the France-Unesco Cooperation Agreement)

Place and dates

Paris, at UNESCO Headquarters, from 10 to 12 of December 2008

Invited participants

- Countries: Algeria, Egypt, France, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia.
- International organisations: UNESCO, Council of Europe, ICCROM, ICOM, ICOMOS.
- Some thirty participants in all

Designation of the participants

The Directors of the Heritage Departments have been invited. They could also designate their delegates among the high level officers in charge of the inventories.

Experts can also be invited in their personal capacity.

Issues to be addressed

The inventory of Heritage is the fundamental step of a conservation policy. As such, the inventories can already represent a protective measure. All the Mediterranean partner countries have inventories. Sometimes, they are exemplary, but quite often they have to be updated or even reconsidered in their very conception. Adaptations are also necessary to new methodologies and new information and communication technologies.

The aim of the workshop is to identify the necessary evolutions on the basis of exchange of ideas and of good practices, in order to draw up recommendations useful to each participating country.

Working method

Two main approaches are to be considered, in line with the international regulations:

- a. Assembling a comprehensive knowledge of the Heritage:
Thematic field (immovable, movable, intangible Heritage, cultural landscapes, etc.)
General methodological framework and regulations. Authority (or even legal force) of the inventories. A field for research. A tool at the service of the decision making process.
- b. Establishing of inventories:
Human, technical and financial resources. Role of the services in charge of the inventories in a Heritage Department. Documentary research. Field investigation. Appropriate use of new technologies of information and communication. Transformation of inventory data into legal regulations. Availability for operational actions. Coordination with relevant Ministries and with the Local Authorities.

Working documents

- A "Background Paper" will be sent to the delegates immediately after their designation in order to propose a framework for the debates and to raise various questions.
- A "Deliberation Paper" (4 to 5 pages) is expected from the participants, responding to the issues addressed and the questions raised in the "Background Paper", in the view of a circulation to all the participants before the opening of the workshop. This written contribution will also describe the situation in the delegate's country.
- During the workshop the debate will focus on fundamental issues and elaboration of recommendations, avoiding descriptions of the national situations.

Rapporteurs

Dr Khairieh Amr, Deputy Director Jordan National Museum

Dr Frank Braemer, Directeur de Recherche CNRS – University of Nice Sophia Antipolis

Working languages

English and French, with simultaneous translation.

Proceedings – Dissemination of the conclusions

- The proceedings will be published at the beginning of 2009.
 - The "Background Paper", conclusions and recommendations : in trilingual version (English, Arabic, French).
 - The "Deliberation Papers", in their original language.
- The participants will be invited to assure a wide dissemination of the conclusions and the recommendations with their national colleagues.

Time schedule

- Wednesday 10 of December: arrival of the participants - at 5 pm: opening session
- Thursday 11 and Friday 12 of December: working sessions
- Friday 13 of December: departure of the participants.

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