

MOVING SADC FORWARD BY COMBATING THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE
 Gaborone, March 2015

**The 1970 Convention:
 Present implementation and future challenges**

STOP THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF CULTURAL PROPERTY!

CURRENT SITUATION IN SADC

Current state of ratifications
 As of March 2015, 127 States have ratified the 1970 Convention

-> Still missing: Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique and Namibia

Country	Ratification
Angola	07/11/1991
Democratic Republic of the Congo	23.09/1974
Lesotho	17/07/2013
Madagascar	21.06/1989
Seychelles	28/05/2004
South Africa	18/12/2003
Swaziland	30/10/2012
Zambia	21.06/1985
Zimbabwe	30/05/2006

*Windhoek, Namibia from 14 to 15th September 2011

The Windhoek workshop came up with recommendations as follows:

1. Raise awareness on the 1970 UNESCO and 1995 UNDRIOIT Conventions in southern African region
2. Follow-up to be undertaken to ensure that relevant instruments were formally deposited with the Depository.
3. Countries to continue active participation in the process to combat and prevent illicit traffic of cultural goods. All countries agreed on the need for improvement of the national legal provisions helping combat against illicit traffic of cultural goods.
4. Promotion of Object ID principle and ongoing capacity building programmes on documentation and inventorying of collections.
5. Training and promotion of cooperation on combating and prevention among law enforcement agencies and heritage officers.
6. Review of security measures in terms of physical and/or electronic surveillance equipment.
7. Local communities to be involved in the process and awareness to be raised among them in order to add to the preventive measures against the looting of cultural objects.
8. Regional collaboration should be established and enhanced: Revival of SADC Desk on Culture a necessity.
9. UNESCO Harare and Windhoek Offices committed themselves to organise, to the extent possible, annual meetings for the coordination and progress on the prevention of illicit trafficking.

*Gaborone International Convention Centre 5-7 November 2012

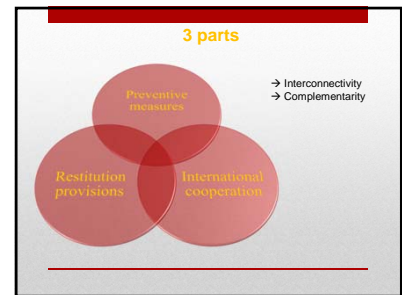
RECOMMENDATIONS:
 The following points were stressed as crucial in order to stay ahead of the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property.

1. The need to expedite the ratification of relevant international conventions, the 1970 UNESCO, 1995 UNDRIOIT and the 1954 Hague Conventions
2. Adoption of comprehensive documentation methods for national heritage assets
3. Strengthening of stakeholder networks
4. Involvement of legal professionals in rationalising laws towards ratification
5. Development of national cultural databases
6. Strengthening of security measures at museums and cultural heritage sites
7. Closer regional cooperation and collaboration through SADCHA
8. Concerted efforts to create public awareness.



STOP THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC OF CULTURAL PROPERTY!

THE 1970 CONVENTION





Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation

- ### Composition: 22 members
- | | | |
|---------------|----------------------|---|
| AFGHANISTAN | MADAGASCAR |  |
| AZERBAIDJAN | MALI | |
| BOLIVIA | MEXICO | |
| CAMEROUN | MONGOLIA | |
| COTE D'IVOIRE | PERU | |
| CYPRUS | POLAND | |
| EGYPT | REPUBLIC OF KOREA | |
| GUATEMALA | SRI LANKA | |
| IRAQ | SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC | |
| JAPAN | SWITZERLAND | |
| LITUANIA | TURKEY | |
- Fin du mandat : 2015


Last case resolved under the aegis of the ICPRCP

The Committee acts as a mediator between States in conflict regarding the return and restitution of cultural property




The Makonde Mask
In May 2010, the Barberier-Mueller Museum in Geneva agreed for the restitution of a Makonde Mask to the United Republic of Tanzania. The discussions in the framework of the Committee began in 2006.

The Bogazkoy Sphinx
In May 2011, a bilateral agreement has been reached between Germany and Turkey on the Bogazkoy Sphinx. This case was presented to the Committee in 1987.



Pending case before the ICPRCP

The Committee is an advisory body and a forum of negotiation



Parthenon Sculptures


- Ongoing discussions between Greece and the United Kingdom in respect of the physical reunification of the Parthenon Sculptures
- Sustains cooperation between the British Museum and the Acropolis Museum
- Request of Greece to use the mediation – conciliation procedure

- ### Creation of specific tools
- The Committee initiates the creation of practical and operational tools**
- Code of ethics (UNESCO International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property) (1999)
 - Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws (2005)
 - Model Export Certificate (UNESCO – WCO) (2007)
 - Awareness-raising campaigns (2010)
 - Model Provisions on State Ownership on Cultural Heritage (2011)
 - Mediation and Conciliation Rules (2011)

UNESCO International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property

- Traders in cultural property accept as binding the principles of professional practice of the code of ethics
- The principles are intended to distinguish cultural property being illicitly traded from that in licit trade



- ### Basic Actions concerning cultural objects being offered for sale over the Internet
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- Mesures élémentaires concernant les objets culturels mis en vente sur Internet**
- Developed in cooperation with INTERPOL and the International Council of Museums (ICOM)
 - Addresses States that wish to take specific measures to control the online trade in cultural property

UNESCO-WCO Model Export-Certificate for cultural objects



- Cooperation between UNESCO and the World Customs Organization (WCO)
- Specially adapted to the growing phenomenon of cross-border movements of cultural objects
- Usually, the same export form is used for "ordinary" objects (computers, clothes, etc.) as for cultural objects
- This model fulfils requirements for identifying and tracing cultural objects
- UNESCO and the WCO recommend adopting the model, in its entirety or in part, as the national export certificate specifically for cultural objects.

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Objective: facilitate the work of the States and the customs officials

Emergency actions




Emergency actions: UNESCO's holistic strategy



In close cooperation with key partners such as:

- INTERPOL
- WCO
- UNODC
- UNOCI
- ALESCO
- ISESCO
- EU
- ECCROM
- ICOM
- ECOMOS
- Blue Shield


UNESCO's actions in Syria



UNESCO for Syria Assessment & Monitoring of information



UNESCO for Syria Assessment & Monitoring of information



Aleppo, House Abu Al-Huda Al-Sayyad

UNESCO for Syria Assessment & Monitoring of information



Aleppo, Science Museum

UNESCO for Syria Assessment & Monitoring of information



Idlib, Museum Maaret Al-Naaman

UNESCO for Syria Assessment & Monitoring of information



UNESCO for Syria Assessment & Monitoring of information

CURRENT SITUATION IN SYRIA

“WARZONE”

- The Oracles and the destruction of the Grand Staircase in Aleppo (August 2012)
- Reports from Syria on looting of the Oracles’ Museum in Aleppo (June 2012)
- Looted statues originally from the Ainan Tach archaeological site near Aleppo, have been destroyed (April 2012)

Lion statues destroyed

Two statues of lions, originally from the Ainan Tach archaeological site near Aleppo, have been destroyed, destroyed.

The lion which were looted from Ainan Tach in the Aleppo region, located in the city centre of Aleppo in 1982, have been identified to indicate an individual in the photographs.

UNESCO for Syria Assessment & Monitoring of information

Apamea – illegal excavations

UNESCO for Syria Short-term Strategy

Communication
Of the information given by the partners in the field (such as the DGAM)

Sensitization
Efforts towards the UN in order to make the protection of cultural heritage an integral part of the humanitarian action and of the consolidation of peace

Information
Creation and distribution of information tools

Fundraising
Through the international community

UNESCO for Syria Visibility through international media

Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property in Syria

Visibility given to national/regional actions with the help of local administration or associations

UNESCO for Syria INTERPOL'S DATABASE

Regional Museum of Hama situated in the town of Hama, north-west region of Syria
One of the stolen objects: a gilt bronze statue (see picture), dating back to the Aramaean era (2,5 cm)
Ref. INTERPOL : 2011/51444-1-1

UNESCO for Syria Preventive measures

Volunteer networks from local communities all over the country have mobilized themselves and come together with a common objective to protect their unique cultural heritage. These networks provide additional security in protecting archaeological sites from illegal excavations, and safeguarding museums from looters. They have also helped recovering looted items of cultural significance that were illicitly taken.

UNESCO for Syria Preventive measures

Many museums in Syria have taken measures to reduce the risk of theft of moveable heritage since the beginning of the conflict. In particular, museums that have suffered structural damage, have moved their archaeological artefacts to safe and secure areas.

At national level, a team of experts is also designing and developing a digital map, based on geographic information system (GIS) technology, to detail endangered and damaged cultural heritage of on the ground.

UNESCO for Syria Training mission

February 2013, Amman (Jordan)

- “National Workshop on the Fight against Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property”

Organized in the wake of a meeting hosted by UNESCO on the strategy to fight the illicit trafficking of cultural property, held in Amman, Jordan, on 11 February 2013. A broad range of actors were present including national authorities, as well as members of INTERPOL National Liaison Office in Damascus and local community organizations. Scholars, artists and local citizens were also invited to participate.

UNESCO for Syria Awareness-raising

Visibility given to the ICOM Emergency Red List of Syrian Cultural Objects at Risk

- The UNESCO's Director-General joined the President of ICOM to launch this Red List in September 2013
- In order to show UNESCO's support to this project

UNESCO for Syria **Awareness-raising**

August 2013
The UNESCO's field Office in Amman (Jordan) prepared a video entitled "Help save the Cultural heritage of Syria"
The 2 versions (short and long) are available on Youtube



Mobilization of the international community



April 2014
An Assyrian Stele was withdrawn from auction after media reported that experts had been concerned that it may have been illicitly excavated or exported from Syria



UNESCO for Syria **Fundraising**

EU-UNESCO: Emergency Safeguarding of the Syrian Heritage project




Under the funding of the European Union, and in collaboration with UNESCO and other strategic partners, the project was officially launched on 1 March 2014 for three years

Global objectives
To contribute to restoring social cohesion, stability and sustainable development through the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage.

In particular... the project is a first step to monitor the on-going destruction and loss of cultural heritage, mitigate its destruction and loss, and prepare the post-conflict priority actions, as well as the medium and long term actions, as a means to restore normalcy and social cohesion.

Some Highlights

- 9 - 13 Feb 2015 UNESCO 2003 Convention: Saving the Syrian living heritage (Bey)
- 26 - 30 Jan 2015 Training for professionals on securing movable heritage (Bey)
- 22 Dec 2014 UNITAR/LUNOSAT - Satellite-based Damage Assessment to Cultural Heritage Sites in Syria
- 17 Dec 2014 AAAS Geospatial Analysis Shows Widespread Looting and Damage to Historical Sites in Syria
- 3 Dec 2014 UNESCO Conference calls for protected cultural zones to be established Syria and Iraq (HQ)
- 24 Nov-6 Dec 2014 First Aid to Built Cultural Heritage in Syria (Bey)
- 10-14 Nov 2014 Training to fight against the illicit trafficking of Syrian cultural property (Bey)
- 25 Oct 2014 Award ceremony for the Cultural Heritage Rescue Prize (Venice)
- 22 Sept 2014 State Secretary Kerry and Director-General Bokova Call for End to Cultural Destruction in Iraq and Syria
- 18 Sept 2014 AAAS satellite Image Analysis: Five of Six Syrian World Heritage Sites "Exhibit Significant Damage"
- 12 Aug 2014 UNESCO strengthens actions to safeguard cult. heritage under attack



United Nations Security Council
S/RES/2199(2015)
Date: 12 February 2015

Resolution 2199 (2015)
Adopted by the Security Council at its 7274th meeting, on 12 February 2015

The Security Council,
Reaffirming its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;
Reaffirming that violence or the threat of such violence constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that any act of terrorism and inhumane and inexcusable practices of such practices, wherever and by whomever committed,
Emphasizing the need to ensure by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including applicable international

Cultural Heritage

15. Condemn the destruction of cultural heritage in Iraq and Syria particularly by ISIL and ANF, whether such destruction is incidental or deliberate, including targeted destruction of religious sites and objects;

16. Note with concern that ISIL, ANF and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, are generating income from engaging directly or indirectly in the looting and smuggling of cultural heritage items from archaeological sites, museums, libraries, archives, and other sites in Iraq and Syria, which is being used to support their recruitment efforts and strengthen their operational capability to organize and carry out terrorist attacks;

17. Reaffirm its decision in paragraph 7 of resolution 1843 (2008) and decide that all Member States shall take appropriate steps to prevent the trade in Iraq and Syrian cultural property and other items of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific, and religious importance illegally removed from Iraq since 6 August 1990 and from Syria since 15 March 2011, including by prohibiting cross-border trade in such items, thereby allowing for their eventual safe return to the Iraqi and Syrian people and call upon the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, Interpol, and other international organizations, as appropriate, to assist in the implementation of this paragraph;

AWARENESS-RAISING ACTIVITES





Awareness raising activities

- General awareness is crucial for the protection of cultural heritage in the short and long term.
- All segments of population must be included, and **materials need to be adapted** to their particular needs:
 - Population from **'source countries'** and countries of the art market;
 - **Specialists in the field**, in order to be updated on current developments (publications, regular information on statutory meetings and newly created legal and operational tools, etc.)
 - The **general public** (documentaries, mini-clips for tourists, communication materials, etc.)
 - **Young generations** (infographic movies, kits including games, posters, etc.)
- Close cooperation with UNESCO FO and national authorities

Awareness-raising clips and spots

Clips

- **Goal:** raising awareness among the general public (tourists, local communities, tour guides) on the dangers of the illicit trafficking of cultural property
- **Distribution:** public spaces and travel areas (airports, train stations, travel offices, etc.), touristic sites (like those inscribed on the World heritage List)
- The clips have been **customized** for the African and Latin American regions
- **New clips** for Europe, North America, Arab States and Asia are in preparation.



Compendium 'Witnesses to History'




- Outline of the legal, historical, philosophical, ethical and practical aspects of the return of cultural property
- Target: students and the general public, and a reference book for specialists, scholars and decision-makers.
- Published in English, French and Chinese.
- Arabic version available very soon

Educational toolkit for children in Iraq

Goal: raising awareness among young people about the protection of Iraqi cultural heritage



The Toolkit is **part of the project** on "Civic Values and Life Skills Education for Adolescents in Iraq" and is going to be distributed among selected schools




The Toolkit includes:

- an infographic movie on heritage protection and illicit trafficking;
- activities sheet and resource materials for teachers

Comics for younger generations adapted to Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia

Campaign (North Africa)



La patrimoine, c'est notre identité. **PRÉSERVONS-LE.**

Masque de Gorgone
Le plus grand objet en bronze du monde
préservé dans un lieu sacré de la Tunisie

Preventive measures to be taken



Measures include: POLICE, Ethics, Educational campaigns, National services, National inventories, Rules for curators & dealers, Export certificates, Laws for the protection of cultural property, Promotion of museums, Sanctions, and ICOM.

THANK YOU



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