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SECOND PROTOCOL TO THE HAGUE CONVENTION OF 1954 FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT

COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT

Eighth meeting
UNESCO Headquarters, Paris
18 to 19 December 2013

Item 7 of the Provisional Agenda:
**Report on the use of the financial assistance granted to El Salvador from the
Fund for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict**

Introduction

1. At its sixth meeting held in December 2011, the Committee approved by its decision 6.COM 6 the request submitted by El Salvador for financial assistance from the Fund for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict in the amount of US\$ 23,500.
2. By this decision, the Committee invited El Salvador to prepare a report on the use of the financial assistance approved herein for its seventh meeting, with a view to ensuring its appropriate monitoring and evaluation. Such a report was submitted to the Secretariat by El Salvador and examined by the Committee at its seventh meeting held in December 2012.
3. At this meeting, the Committee invited El Salvador to prepare a final report on the use of the financial assistance for its eighth meeting, with a view to ensuring its appropriate monitoring and evaluation. Such a report was submitted to the Secretariat and presented for evaluation by the Committee in the present document.

Report

4. The activities undertaken pursuant to the assistance granted by the Committee constitute the third phase of a large project undertaken since 2002 by El Salvador; these activities concern the dissemination, awareness-raising, and identification of cultural property with the Blue Shield emblem of protection in the event of armed conflict.
5. The objectives of this third phase, undertaken between July 2012 and May 2013, were to:
 - Develop capacity-building in the field of international humanitarian law, particularly regarding the 1954 Hague Convention, through workshops for members of the local communities and national authorities directly responsible for the protection and conservation of five cultural properties: (i) 'la Casona' (The Museum Forma); (ii) San Miguel Arcángel Parish Church in Huizúcar, department of La Libertad; (iii) Corinto Cave, or Cave of the Holy Spirit, in Corinto Morazan; (iv) Barrientos Family House in Izalco, Sonsonate; and (v) Monument of the Memory and Truth, located in the Cuscatlán Park in San Salvador;
 - Ensure awareness-raising on the importance of the preservation and identification of cultural property through the dissemination of materials among local communities, educational institutions, cultural officers and local and national authorities;
 - Ensure the marking with the Blue Shield emblem of five sites that are considered cultural heritage with great historical and cultural value for the Salvadoran people.
6. This third phase also included a publication of the report of the third phase of identification and the elaboration of promotional material.
7. The activities were implemented by the Inter-Institutional Committee of International Humanitarian Law of El Salvador (CIDIH-ES) together with the Ministry of Defense. In order to facilitate implementation, three commissions have been created within the Sub-Commission for the Protection of Cultural Property of the CIDIH-ES: (i) capacity-building, (ii) logistics and (iii) documentation.

I. Capacity-Building

8. Contacts were made in the municipalities where the cultural properties to mark are located. As a first step, information on the implementation of a project for the third phase of marking was transmitted.
9. The content of the themes to be developed during the workshops was elaborated: (i) CIDIH-ES, (ii) International Humanitarian Law, (iii) 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (Obligation of States and its application), (iv) the Blue Shield and its significance and (v) why and how the Conventions protect the heritage value of a property.
10. A series of general workshops was organized in each of the five municipalities with local networks related to the five cultural properties (September-November 2012 and February 2013). Participants in these workshops included educational and cultural institutions, non-

profit organizations, community leaders, local authorities and members of the private sector. The main themes developed during these workshops were the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols, international humanitarian law and the purposes of the third phase of the project, mainly the marking of the cultural sites with the Blue Shield emblem.

11. A series of workshops was organized in each of the five regions where the five cultural sites to be marked are situated.
12. Three of the workshops were aimed at ensuring the capacity-building and training of the territorial military detachments of the Department Morazán (in relation to the cultural property 'Corinto Cave'), of the Department of San Salvador and La Libertad (in relation to the cultural properties of Museum Forma, Monument of the Memory and Truth and San Miguel Arcángel Parish Church) and of the Department of Sonsonate (in relation to the cultural property Barrientos Family House) (July-September 2012).
13. In addition, capacity-building workshops were organized with local networks to inform them about international humanitarian law and, more particularly, the challenges of the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols. Moreover, the workshops aimed to raise awareness among local networks on the objectives of the project and the importance of marking cultural properties (October-November 2012 and January-February 2013). A further objective was to ensure local networks' involvement in the process of marking the cultural properties.
14. A series of workshops was organized on various subjects and for different audiences (October-December 2012 and February, April and May 2013).
15. A workshop was organized with the Secretary of Culture, the Ministry of Defense, the Attorney-General's office for the defence of human rights, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education and the Salvadorian Red Cross. Its purpose was to ensure the coordination of the project with the various institutions (October 2012).
16. It was followed by two workshops to raise awareness about the implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention among the same participants (October and December 2012) and by a workshop held with civil society groups (members of the private sector, non-governmental organizations, directors of schools) and the Ministry of Defense (April 2013).
17. In November 2012, the CIDIH-ES organized a meeting of the delegates of all the departments of El Salvador and experts in human rights and cultural heritage, as well as historians, restorers and participants in civil society.
18. A similar workshop dedicated specifically to the Monument to the Memory and Truth was organized in February 2013.
19. Finally, a workshop was organized to launch an appeal to the media in order to raise awareness about the protection of cultural property and to conclude the activities (May 2013). It was followed by a ceremony at the Monument to the Memory and Truth, located in San Salvador, in the presence of the Director-General of UNESCO.

II. Awareness-Raising

Design and publication of materials

20. A conceptual campaign for the marking of cultural property was elaborated. It adopted as its main slogan 'even in war, respect is due' as a clear allusion to provisions of the Geneva Conventions and their additional protocols, as well as to the 1954 Hague Convention. The objective of the material elaborated was to make a visual presentation of cultural properties receiving the marking and a brief introduction to the competence of the Hague Convention.
21. The materials produced for distribution were folders, notepads, banners and pamphlets.
22. The pamphlets contained information on the marking of cultural property, the meaning of the Blue Shield, a brief overview of each of the five marked cultural properties and information about the CIDIH-ES.

23. One of the activities that supported the dissemination of the third phase was the preparation of an informal document on the Hague Convention of 1954, which was distributed among the local actors in the network of contacts in each municipality.
24. A website was developed to provide information on the three phases of the marking process undertaken in El Salvador.
25. A map of El Salvador displaying each of the 43 cultural properties that have been marked during the three phases of the project has been designed and published.

Production of audio-visual support for capacity-building training

26. An information video was prepared, for which a script was developed for the actor. In this video, information is presented in an interactive manner on the 1954 Hague Convention, the Blue Shield and the CIDIH-ES. The video was designed under the concept that "even in war, respect is due"; it was included on the website of the third phase of marking cultural property, and in the training modules.
27. Within the methodological modules, PowerPoint presentations to be used by the trainers were developed on the following subjects: International Humanitarian Law, the 1954 Hague Convention, and the third phase of marking cultural property. They were distributed by all competent institutions.

Dissemination of the materials

28. The strategy of dissemination of information was developed in three phases:
 1. Local training of community leaders and other actors in the municipalities (including institutions) where the cultural properties are situated.
 2. Admission to state institutions to train units or directorates directly involved in actions in the event of armed conflict (training, awareness-raising and dissemination).
 3. Use of all possible media for the broadcasting of the third phase of signalling and the Blue Shield, such as radio, print media, social networks and television.

III. Campaigns through the Mass Media

29. Campaigns were organized through the mass media, such as broadcasting on radio and television, as well as newspapers.
30. An awareness-raising campaign was organized through radio channels, which presented in different programmes interviews with the Permanent Secretary of the Inter-Institutional Committee for International Humanitarian Law and the Director of the Register of Cultural Heritage of the Secretary of Culture of the Presidency. It was decided that the interviews would address two subjects: (i) the CIDIH-ES and International Humanitarian Law, and (ii) the third phase of marking cultural property and protection measures under the 1954 Hague Convention. The duration of each radio spot was between thirty minutes and one hour.
31. Due to the importance that the implementation of the third phase of marking cultural property holds for various sectors of civil society, journalistic reports and interviews were produced on two television channels in which the following topics were discussed: (i) cultural property protected by the 1954 Hague Convention and (ii) the third phase of marking cultural property.
32. Invitations to the marking ceremonies were extended to different print media outlets. Additionally, an information note for publication presenting the third phase of cultural property marking and the importance to society of the property marked with the Blue Shield was distributed.

IV. Marking of Five Cultural Properties

33. The marking of the five cultural properties took place between December 2012 and March 2013 during public acts of unveiling of the Blue Shield, attended by several high-level officials from both the municipal and national levels. Members of civil society as well indigenous representatives also participated in some of these events.
34. Reports were drawn up on the work being undertaken by Government institutions for the third phase of marking cultural property, as well as a photo gallery on the development of the events and their special guests.
35. The materials produced in this framework are made available online on the UNESCO website in order to ensure exchange and sharing of practices among Member States.
36. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision:

DRAFT DECISION 8.COM 4

The Committee,

1. Having examined document CLT-13/8.COM/CONF.203/4,
2. Recalling Decision 6.COM 6 approving the request for financial assistance from El Salvador in the amount of US\$ 23,500 from the Fund for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,
3. Further recalling that the same decision invited El Salvador to prepare a report on the use of the financial assistance approved herein for its seventh meeting, with a view to ensuring its appropriate monitoring and evaluation,
4. Further recalling Decision 7.COM 5 inviting El Salvador to prepare a final report on the use of the financial assistance for its eighth meeting, with a view to ensuring its appropriate monitoring and evaluation,
5. Takes note with satisfaction of the report submitted by El Salvador and summarized in the present document;
6. Commends El Salvador for its commitment to meet its obligations regarding the financial assistance granted;
7. Thanks El Salvador for sharing with the Secretariat the documentation referred to in its request for wider dissemination through the UNESCO website, which will contribute to exchange and sharing of practices among Parties and other Member States;
8. Invites El Salvador to continue its efforts in raising awareness on the importance of protecting cultural property and in strengthening its engagement in the protection of its cultural property in general.