Periodic Report on the Implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two 1954 and 1999 Protocols

Islamic Republic of Iran

A. Report on the implementation of 1954 Convention:

- 1. Concerning point 1 (Article 3) on safeguarding measures in peacetime, Iran has issued a directive concerning safeguarding and restoration, information and corps organization, means of expertise and inspection, value categorization and compartmentalization, and the establishment of secure reserves to preserve historical movable cultural property. This directive has entered into force.
- 2. Concerning point 2 (Article 7) on the familiarization of the armed forces with the directive and regulations, since 1997 the Islamic Republic of Iran, through its experienced experts, has been holding an annual educational workshop for the armed forces on the following themes: the history of cultural heritage; knowledge of cultural heritage; the definition of cultural heritage; Iranian cultural heritage from the past to the present; regulations regarding the protection of cultural heritage; the importance of cultural heritage; the necessity of the protection of cultural heritage; and the 1954 Hague Convention and its two additional protocols of 1954 and 1999.
- 3. Concerning point 4 (Article 25) on the dissemination of the contents of the 1954 Hague Convention among the armed forces: as explained in the previous paragraph, this is distributed to the participants during the educational workshop.
- 4. Concerning point 5 (Article 26 (1)) on the translation of the 1954 Convention into Persian: this translation has already been conveyed to UNESCO.
- 5. Concerning point 7 (1954 Protocol) preventing the export of cultural property from occupied territories and its restitution to its country of origin: all cultural and historical property belonging to other countries, if imported illegally, will be restituted to its country of origin. This has particularly been the case for Afghanistan and Kuwait.

B. Report on the implementation of the 1999 Second Protocol:

- 1. Concerning point 1 (Article 5) on the preparation of an inventory and the designation of authorities responsible for the safeguarding of cultural property: it is to be noted that all cultural property has been registered by the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO) in the inventories of governmental property, one copy of which is preserved in the Ministry of Economy and Finance. Moreover, the Directorate for the Protection of Movable Cultural and Historical Property was issued under the supervision of ICHHTO to acknowledge and protect the movable cultural property of other national executive institutions, and is being implemented by the Vice-President for Cultural Heritage of ICHHTO.
- 2. Regarding point 7 (Article 37) on the translation into Persian of the Second Protocol: this has been carried out and will be conveyed to UNESCO in due course.