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**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR PROMOTING THE  
RETURN OF CULTURAL PROPERTY TO ITS COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN  
OR ITS RESTITUTION IN CASE OF ILLICIT APPROPRIATION**

**Eighteenth Session**  
**Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room II**  
**22 June 2012**

Recommendations and Decision

### **Recommendation No. 1**

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

1. *Elects* Professor Keun-Gwan Lee (Republic of Korea) as Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Committee;
2. *Elects* Ms Gunay Akhundova (Azerbaijan) as Rapporteur of the Intergovernmental Committee; and
3. *Elects* Guatemala, Iraq, Nigeria, and Turkey as Vice-Chairpersons of the Intergovernmental Committee.

### **Recommendation No. 2**

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

Having examined document ICPRCP/12/18.COM/2;

*Adopts* the agenda contained in the aforementioned document with the amendments proposed by the Secretariat.

### **Recommendation No. 3**

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

Having examined the following documents;

- Revised version of the final report of the 16<sup>th</sup> session (CLT-2010/CONF.203/COM.16/6REV)
- Revised version of the report of the meeting held on the occasion of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1970 Convention (CLT/2011/CONF.207/8REV)
- Revised version of the report of the Secretariat of the 17<sup>th</sup> session (CLT-2011/CONF.208/COM.17/2REV)
- Final report of the 17<sup>th</sup> session (CLT-2011/CONF.208/COM.17/6)

*Adopts* the reports presented by the Secretariat as amended by certain delegations.

### **Recommendation No. 4**

*The Intergovernmental Committee,*

Having examined document ICPRCP/12/18.COM/3;

*Adopts* the report of the Secretariat of the 18<sup>th</sup> session, as it appears in this document, amended with the observations of some Delegations and the Secretariat.

## **Recommendation No. 5**

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

Acknowledging relevant UNESCO recommendations expressing its continuing concern for a solution to the issue of the Parthenon Sculptures;

1. *Acknowledges* the fruitful cooperation between Greece and the United Kingdom on cultural matters and expresses the wish that it should continue with a view to conclude the ongoing discussions in respect of the reunification of the Parthenon Sculptures;
2. *Notes* that Greece invites the United Kingdom to collaborate with Greece in exhibiting all the Parthenon Sculptures in their respective collections in the Acropolis Museum;
3. *Also notes* that the Acropolis Museum proposes a collaboration with the British Museum on the study of all surviving detached fragments from the Parthenon monument, for the purposes of scientifically assessing the process of reconstitution of all fragments with the surviving sculptural decoration of the monument;
4. *Takes note* of the collaboration proposed by the Acropolis Museum and the British Museum to cooperate in a programme of digital scanning of the sculptures of the Parthenon in both museums;
5. *Takes note* that Greece invites the United Kingdom to collaborate in bringing together, under conditions to be explored in good faith, fragments of the Parthenon Sculptures that are *dissecta membra* and which would enable the Acropolis Museum to add to damaged images, thereby promoting the scientific study of classical form;
6. *Takes note* of the Acropolis Museum's invitation to the British Museum to meetings in 2012 to further the proposed collaboration;
7. *Invites* the Director-General to assist in convening the necessary meetings between Greece and the United Kingdom with the aim of reaching a mutually acceptable solution to the issue of the Parthenon Sculptures.

## **Recommendation No. 6**

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

Having considered document ICPRCP/12/18.COM/4,

1. *Takes note* of the information contained in the aforementioned document;
2. *Encourages* States to increase further their voluntary contributions to the Fund in order to make it more operational;
3. *Invites* them to make use of the Fund for return or restitution of cultural property;
4. *Invites* the Secretariat to further communicate the existence of, and the opportunities offered by the Fund in order to encourage voluntary contributions.

### **Recommendation No. 7**

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

Having considered document ICPRCP/12/18.COM/5;

*Takes note* of the aforementioned document.

### **Recommendation No. 8**

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

Taking note of the heavy workload of the Secretariat during the preparation of the Committee's sessions and the appreciated efforts;

*Invites* the Secretariat to send the provisional agenda at least sixty days before the Committee session.

### **Recommendation No. 9**

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

1. *Decides* to hold its 19<sup>th</sup> session in 2014;
2. *Requests* the Director-General to provide the Secretariat with adequate human and financial resources in order to effectively conduct this task.

### **DECISION**

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

Recalling the request of Turkey for the Sphinx of Boğazköy, which was on display in the Berlin Museum until May 2011;

Noting the legal and cultural arguments that have been made by both States concerned over a number of years;

Recalling the previous Recommendations (No. 3) adopted by the Committee on this question at its 6<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> sessions;

Recalling that the issue of the return of the Sphinx was a pending agenda item of the Committee since 1987;

Recalling the information provided by both parties at the seventeenth session of the Committee that following bilateral meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011 in Ankara and on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2011 in Berlin, where it was agreed that the Boğazköy Sphinx will arrive in Turkey by 28 November 2011 at the latest in a spirit of friendship between Turkey and Germany;

Noting with satisfaction that a mutually acceptable solution of the case of the Boğazköy Sphinx has been reached through bilateral negotiations and in a spirit of friendship and cooperation;

1. *Welcomes* the information provided by both parties at the 18<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee that the Boğazköy Sphinx has arrived in Turkey at the end of July 2011 and is now on display in Boğazköy (Hattusha) where it was excavated, which was the capital of the Hittite Empire and is currently inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List;
2. *Acknowledges* that the issue of the Boğazköy Sphinx is regarded as a *sui generis* case by both parties and has been settled in a cooperative manner;
3. *Decides* that the issue of the Boğazköy Sphinx is no longer on the agenda of the Committee.