

## Comments and remarks of the Republic of Turkey

### OUR SUGGESTIONS ON UNESCO'S DRAFT RECOMMENDATION AS SUBMITTED TO ICOM

Establishing a platform for museums that will facilitate cooperation among them through sharing information on national legislations, origins of collections and such other issues that require expertise, in respect to international ethical standards and principles of 1970 UNESCO Convention concerning collecting museum material and acquisition of collections.

Encouraging museums to contribute establishing cooperation against acquisition of objects illegally trafficked before UNESCO's 1970 Convention.

### BASIS FOR OUR SUGGESTIONS ON UNESCO'S DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

Despite efforts, it is observed international conventions, recommendations and ethical codes for protection of cultural heritage prove not to work effectively as expected, partly because of war and instability in the world (especially countries with comparatively rich heritage such as Egypt, Syria and Iraq).

In line with present national and international regulations, establishment among collectors and museums of regional or international cooperation, online applications and training activities aimed at transferring information and experience will mitigate the effects of illegal trafficking of cultural heritage, even if this can not completely prevent it.

Such cooperation to be established among collectors and museums will demonstrate mutual intimacy, good will and the efforts at repatriation of illegally trafficked objects including those outside the scope of UNESCO's 1970 Convention; at the same will contribute development of cultural cooperation, thorough recording of cultural objects at risk of destruction and smuggling in the present wars and chaotic conditions and repatriation to the origin countries when conditions get normal.