

Sub-regional Capacity Building and Awareness Raising Programme to enable Caribbean Member States to effectively fight illicit trafficking in Cultural Property

Castries, Saint Lucia, 3-5 December, 2012

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP

This year marks the 42nd anniversary of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. Under this pioneering international agreement, the Saint Lucia National Commission for UNESCO, the Regional Office for Culture for Latin America and the Caribbean of UNESCO in Havana and the UNESCO Kingston office have agreed to organize a regional workshop titled: “Sub-regional Capacity Building and Awareness Raising Programme to enable Caribbean Member States to effectively fight illicit trafficking in Cultural Property”.

Over the past decades, illicit traffic of cultural property has grown to epidemic proportions. Every day, irreplaceable cultural heritage is taken from the places to which it belongs and enters the international art market, where it is traded illegally while the authorities concerned stand by helplessly. The illicit traffic of cultural property has reached proportions comparable to the international illicit trade of drugs or guns. This traffic affects states worldwide, and the damages and losses sustained to cultural heritage particularly affect those States that cannot protect themselves.

Caribbean states are confronted with illicit trafficking of pre-Columbian, religious and colonial cultural heritage, as well with the illicit commercialisation of the underwater cultural heritage recovered from shipwrecks and other submerged structures.

The workshop has the following objectives:

- To promote the effective implementation of UNESCO’s standard-setting instruments in the field of culture, particularly the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property; the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two protocols; and the 2001 Convention for the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, as well as the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects
- To provide training on the effective use of legal and operational tools to safeguard and to preserve cultural heritage
- To build capacities for protecting and conserving movable cultural objects;
- To raise awareness on the need to fight illicit trafficking of cultural objects.

The methodology will be participatory in nature, and we encourage participants to share good practices and to generate knowledge.

All participants should write a short report of the situation in relation to the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property in their respective countries. We would appreciate if this information is submitted by e-mail to the organizers before arriving at the seminar in order to be shared amongst the participants.

Organization of the workshop and output

Part of the agenda of the workshop is organized around four thematic debates. Each debate will be prepared and chaired by one of the countries' representatives using a case study from his/her country. The summary of the debate will be provided by another participant (as *rapporteur*) and should include the challenges identified and possible recommendations. These results will be presented in the closing session of the workshop for their validation and will be used as a basis for producing guidelines to improve the fight against illicit traffic in the region. These documents will also serve as the basis for a special issue on the fight against illicit trafficking in the digital publication "Culture and Development," edited by the UNESCO Havana office, for its dissemination and sharing worldwide.

Themes:

Theme 1 - Registries and Inventories

Status of national registries and inventories, the use of export certificates, national data basis, recovery statistics in and out

Theme 2 – Mechanisms of control

Regulatory and control mechanisms dealing with exports, imports and transfer of ownership; the role of police and customs officials; regulation of excavations; security in museums and religious places.

Theme 3 – Mechanisms for setting standards and risk assessment

Status of national legislation, establishment of national service; circulation of information between ministries and local services; cooperation with regional and international partners (UNESCO field offices, INTERPOL, National Bureau, WCO regional intelligence liaison office, ICOM National Committees)

Theme 4 – Raising Awareness

Education training programmes for authorities and awareness tools for the public.
Information in museums

Preliminary Agenda

Monday, December 3	
8:30 – 9:00	Accreditation, participant registration, and distribution of materials
9:00 – 09:45	<p>Opening Ceremony</p> <p>National Anthem of Saint Lucia</p> <p>Welcome Remarks by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marcia Symphorien, Secretary General of the Saint Lucia National Commission for UNESCO • Senator Honorable Dr.Kentry Jn Pierre, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industries • Tatiana Villegas, Program Specialist, UNESCO Regional Office in Havana <p>Group Photo</p>
09:45 – 10:00	Coffee Break
10:00 – 11:00	<p>First Session on the legal framework for the protection of cultural heritage</p> <p>Introduction to the UNESCO standard-setting instruments in the Cultural Sector with emphasis on the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the 2001 Convention for the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage– Tatiana Villegas (UNESCO)</p>
11:00 – 12:00	The 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property – Marina Schneider, (International Institute for the Unification of Private Law)
12:00 – 12:30	1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects - M. Schneider.
12:30 – 13:00	Debate – questions and answers
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch

14:30 – 14:45	Identification and definition of the term “Cultural object,” - M. Schneider.
14:45 - 15:15	Model provisions on State ownership of undiscovered cultural objects - M. Schneider.
15:15 – 15:30	Coffee Break
15:30 – 16:00	Best practices on legal protection of cultural heritage -M. Schneider.
16:00– 16:15	UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws - Alberto Deregibus (UNESCO)
16:15 – 17:30	Debate
18:00	Cocktails
Tuesday, 4 December	
9:00 - 09:30	<u>Theme 1 – Registries, Inventories and Ethics – chaired by Melissa Monica Badillo, Institute of Archaeology of Belize and David O’Brian Welch from Barbados as rapporteur</u>
9:30 - 10:00	Importance of national registries and inventories - national database of stolen works of art (- . Deregibus.
10:00 – 10:30	Standard Object ID Form for basic inventory of cultural objects - A. Deregibus - F.Panone (INTERPOL)
10:30 – 11:30	Practical exercise for the object ID standard form- A. Deregibus - F.Panone.
11:30 – 11:45	Coffee Break
11:45 – 12:30	INTERPOL’s role in the international prevention and fight against illicit traffic of cultural goods. - Interpol stolen works of art database - Frabizio F. Panone – (INTERPOL)
12:30– 13:00	Debate
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch

14:30 – 15:00	<u>Theme 2 – Mechanisms of control – Chaired by Nadia Madho and Sean Richmond from Guyana with Kenroy Simmonds of Antigua and Barbuda as <i>rapporteur</i></u>
15:00 – 15:30	Judical and extra-judicial procedures to recover and return cultural objects stolen or illegally exported - A. Deregibus.
15:30 - 16:00	Good practice for the recovery of cultural property from foreign museums - A.Deregibus.
16:00 – 16:15	Coffee Break
16:15 – 16:45	The role and Legal Aspects of the Customs Service - The Colosseum Operation - Operations in customs areas - Laurent Pinot – (World Customs Organization - RILO WE)
16:45 – 17:15	Introduction to the UNESCO-WCO Export certificate and presentation of the ARCHEO Programme - L. Pinot (WCO-RILO WE) -
17:15 – 18:00	Debate

Wednesday, 5 December	
9:00 – 9:30	<u>Theme 3 – Operational and cooperation mechanisms and risk assessment - chaired by Michael Pateman from the Bahamas with Charon Gardner-Hippolyte as rapporteur</u>
9:30 – 10:30	Establishment of national services; circulation of information between ministries and local services; cooperation with regional and international partners (UNESCO field offices, INTERPOL, National Bureau, WCO regional intelligence liaison office, ICOM National Committees - F. Panone, A. Deregibus and L. Pinot.
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 11:15	The fight against trafficking of cultural objects via the Internet - A. Deregibus.
11:15 – 11:45	Theft prevention and other protective strategies for implementation in museums and religious buildings - A. Deregibus.
11:45 – 13:00	<u>Debate</u>
13:00 – 14:30	<u>Lunch</u>
14:30 - 15:00	<u>Theme 4 – Awareness-raising – chaired by Langley Robinson from Jamaica and Charmin Periera and Daren Hosier from Saint Lucia as rapporteurs</u>
15:00 - 15:30	Presentation of the UNESCO promotion film on the fight against illicit traffic of cultural property
15:30 – 16:00	Education training programmes for authorities and awareness-raising tools for the public -T. Villegas
16:00 – 16:30	UNESCO International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property and ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums - T. Villegas.
16:30 - 17:00	Rapporteurs' presentations
17:00 – 17:30	Recommendations and Conclusions
17:30 – 18:00	Closing and hand out of certificates by Senator Hon. Dr. Kentry Jn Pierre, Parliamentary Secretary Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industries

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