

13 December 2007
Synopsis No 2007/50

To the Members of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Paris on 10 December 2007

The Sub-Committee on the Cultural Heritage (of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education), meeting in Paris on 10 December 2007 with its Vice-Chairman, Mr Nachbar, in the chair:

- held an exchange of views on the activity of the European Museum Forum with the Chairman, Mr van der Weiden, and took note of the conclusions of the workshop on volunteers in cultural heritage and museums (Bertinoro, 17-21 October 2007);
- examined the museums shortlisted for the 2008 Council of Europe Museum Prize;
- was informed by its General Rapporteur on Cultural Heritage, Mr O'Hara, on developments relating to specific issues and,

with regard to the Bergisel Panorama in Innsbruck (Austria) called for an investigation into plans to move the painting from the rotunda;

with regard to investigation of alleged destruction of cultural heritage in Nakhichevan (Azerbaijan) called for a clear message to be sent to the Azeri authorities;

with regard to the cultural heritage of Cyprus, asked the General Rapporteur to follow up the question with the new Chairperson of the Committee on Culture and Education of the European Parliament, Ms Batzeli;

with regard to Orthodox heritage in Kosovo welcomed the continuation of the joint EU and Council of Europe Reconstruction Implementation Commission (RIC);

with regard to Rosia Montana (Romania), expressed concern at the recent suspension of the rescue archaeological programme by the mining company RMGC and called for intervention by the competent authorities to protect the archaeological site and promote continued excavation;

with regard to the Yortanlı and Ilisu dams in Turkey, expressed continuing concern for the cultural property put at risk;

with regard to tall buildings in historic landscapes, called for reference of the motion (Doc 11336) for report;

cc: Secretary General and secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
Directors General
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of Communication and Research
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- held a first exchange of views on traditional crafts (rapporteur Baroness Hooper) and welcomed the move of the European Centre for Heritage Crafts and Professions from Venice to Thiene (Italy) with the support of the Villa Fabris Foundation;
- held an exchange of views on the activity of Europa Nostra with the Vice President, Count de Kergorlay, and agreed on the importance of continuing close cooperation with a view to involving civil society in protection of the cultural heritage;
- was informed by Mr Théron, Deputy Director for Cultural and Natural heritage DG IV, on follow-up to the Vilnius Conference on international heritage instruments and other intergovernmental activities of the Council of Europe;
- visited the newly opened City of Architecture and Heritage (Palais Chaillot);
- decided to hold its next (constitutive) meeting in Strasbourg during the coming Assembly part-session (21-25 January 2008).

Christopher Grayson, João Ary