

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

SYNOPSIS N° 2003/081

24 JUNE 2003

The **Sub-Committee on the Cultural Heritage** (Committee on Culture, Science and Education) meeting in Strasbourg on 19-20 June 2003 under the chairmanship of Mr Legendre:

- held a further exchange of views on the draft report on the promotion of art history in Europe presented by Mr O'Hara (UK, SOC);
- decided to seek verification regarding the contradictory information emerging on the degree of pillage of antiquities in Iraq, while reiterating the need to reinforce action in Europe against the illegal art trade;
- decided to hold further hearings of representatives of the art trade and of the European Union in the context of the report on the plundering of African cultural objects being prepared by Mr Legendre (France, EDG);
- held an exchange of views with Mr Théron, Secretary to the Steering Committee on the Cultural Heritage (CDPAT), on the future action of the Council of Europe in the heritage sector in the light of present developments in the European Union;
- was informed by Mr Legendre of current developments concerning rescue archaeology in France on which he was rapporteur in the Senate ;
- participated in the 40th Anniversary Congress of Europa Nostra which was opened by its President HRH the Prince Consort of Denmark in the presence of Mr Schieder, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, and Mrs De Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General;
- left decision of the date and place of its next meeting to the chairman.

Christopher Grayson, João Ary

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
The Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly

Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers
Director of Communication and Research

Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe