



Cultural heritage protection in war zones

The UNESCO,

Committed to protect cultural and historical sites, which are directly affected and in danger by radical Islamist groups,

Calling upon all member states to work united for the protection and the defense of these sites,

Recalling the threat of radical Islamic groups, who are destroying the culture and the history of various countries in the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa,

Remembering the fact that these groups don't have any conscience and don't care about culture,

Determined to assist local and national authorities in defending historical sites,

Uniting different nations and cultures to defend a common cause,

Calling upon all members to defend the national prestige and to defend the dignity of culture,

1. *Strongly encourages and recommends* the establishment of a multinational force with the following specifics:
 - a. Troops would have come from at least three national armies, including Pakistan, Philippines and India,
 - b. Potential Soldiers have to be checked on medical, criminal, and career records and have to be selected based on their professional skills and qualifications;
2. *Strongly encourages and recommends* a rapid deployment of a multinational force to operate as a peacekeeping force, which
 - a. Shall be comprised of approximately 800 uniformed personnel and around 300 international and local civilian personnel,
 - b. Shall commence the UNMIME (United Nations Mission In the Middle East) and will be deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan at the 13 UNESCO world heritage sites and various others if necessary,
 - c. Shall be equipped with small arms and respective ammunition, furthermore additional vehicles and compounds, as well as high quality communication equipment;
3. *Strongly encourages and recommends* the following mandate and rules of engagement:
 - a. To take up defensive positions in and around the sites, Peacekeepers will be ready to defend their position at any time,
 - b. To protect civilians in the area if imminent threat is near,
 - c. To use force against any kind of aggressor if attacked first,
 - d. To warn approaching potential threats that the sites are under UN protection and will be defended,

- e. To use force if sites are under attack,
 - i. this act of force will only be used if the destruction or the stealing of the sites or artifacts is imminent and therefore also depending on situation,
 - ii. this action will only be used if it prevents further destruction,
 - f. Cultural, religious and regional boundaries and borders will be respected and personnel deployed accordingly,
 - g. Muslim Troops would be preferred not out of racism but out of the respect of the local population which is predominantly Muslim in these territories,
 - h. There would be under no circumstances a deployment of troops in actual terrorist-controlled territories but rather endangered areas;
4. *Strongly encourages and recommends* that each country, to which soldiers will be deployed should determine the extension of the deployment by one year and determine the continuation of the mission;
 5. *Strongly encourages and recommends* that the mandate of the peacekeepers in Mali should be extended and the following point will be included in their mandate:
 - a. The stationing and building up of defensive positions in and around the sites in order to protect the sites,
 - b. If additional soldiers should be needed for this task, the demanded number of troops will be deployed;
 6. *Strongly encourages and recommends* that any experts and personnel which are part of task force (united4heritage) would have the possibility of deploying experts on the sites; The experts will automatically be put under UN protection;
 7. Suggests enlarging Italy's UNESCO project (Unite4Heritage):
 - a. on providing art experts to help create inventories in zones affected by the trafficking of cultural heritage,
 - b. in order to raise awareness for cultural heritage destruction and pillaging, especially in art communities; e.g. via social media projects, galas;
 8. *Urges* to provide financial aid through
 - a. requesting state parties, especially wealthy countries, may provide purely financial aid or provide experts to the project
 - b. launching donation projects e.g. by working with NGO's to collect money from individuals and organizations willing to support our cause;
 9. *Further recommends* sending a neutral task force to protect the experts involved in creating inventories, e.g. ICRC or Blue Shield troops;
 - a. Experts and personnel (United4Heritage and Blue Shield) should have full access to cultural heritage sites and artifacts in order to create the inventories.
 - b. Countries, not limited to, but in the near vicinity of the affected areas are strongly encouraged to provide their experts if available (e.g Oman);
 10. *Urges* countries signing the resolution to produce their own national policies based on the international convention in order to implement export and import controls in their art industries based on the international inventory;

11. *Calls for* agreements to be made with the respective countries of origin of the artifacts in terms of storage options of retrieved trafficked items until the former owner country is stable enough for the further protection of the Cultural Heritage;
 12. *Emphasizes* the importance of the prevention, preparation and emergency planning in times of peace, to be ready in times of war;
 13. *Calls for* help by local experts and activists on site to help compile inventories, when there is no possibility for the international community to get there;
 14. *Urges* all countries to effectively prosecute buyers of illicitly traded artifacts through their national judiciary by making punishments even more severe especially for trading with objects which are part of the created inventories;
 15. *Further requests* the collaboration between national judiciaries and NGOs in order to share information and documentation of the looting in form of an international platform.
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