

PRESS RELEASE



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Euromed Heritage
التراث الأوروبي المتوسطي

Brussels, 03/06/2010

International workshop on “Heritage Economics and Conservation Funding”: a contribution of the European Union to the safeguard and valorisation of cultural heritage in the Mediterranean region (Damascus, Syria, 6-8 June 2010)

Organised within the European Union-funded Euromed Heritage 4 programme in cooperation with the Syrian General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums, this workshop will take place on **6-8 June 2010 at the Damascus National Museum, Syria.**

The objective of the workshop is **to define the modalities for developing heritage in a modern policy of sustainable human development consistent with its proper preservation and the safeguarding of its values.** The workshop will explore ways by which national legislations can be adapted to the major international guidelines, and elaborate practical and concrete recommendations for the organisation of the relevant departments and the financing of conservation/restoration programmes in heritage sites and in museums.

*“The improvement of the institutional and legislative framework of heritage policies is one of the priorities defined in the Strategy for the development of Euro-Mediterranean cultural heritage 2007-2013 agreed by all Mediterranean partner countries of the European Union” – says **Marcus Cornaro, who heads the Directorate for the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument at DG EuropeAid, European Commission.** “The theme of funding mechanisms for cultural heritage is essential and key to developing appropriate policies at the regional and local levels and stimulating real socio-economic advancement”.*

Participants will include representatives from southern Mediterranean public authorities and experts from international organisations working on cultural heritage issues such as the European Investment Bank, the Aga Khan Trust , GTZ, UNESCO, ICCROM and ICOMOS.

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For more information

Giuliano SALIS - RMSU Communication Expert

Ph. +32 (0)2 609.55.50

Mob. +32 (0)498.79.76.72

g.salis@euromedheritage.net

www.euromedheritage.net



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Rue d'Egmont, 15
Tel: +32 (0)2 609.55.50
Fax: +32 (0)2.511.63.11
info@euromedheritage.net
www.euromedheritage.net

The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

“The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders”.