

Annex

to Protocol Decision No 42 of the sitting
of the Government of the Republic of Armenia of
20 October 2016

NATIONAL REPORT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

**ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNESCO CONVENTION
ON THE MEANS OF PROHIBITING AND PREVENTING THE ILLICIT IMPORT,
EXPORT AND TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF CULTURAL PROPERTY OF 1970**

I. Information on the implementation of the UNESCO Convention of 1970 (with reference to its provisions)

1. Ratification of the Convention

The Republic of Armenia ratified the Convention on 22 June 1993 upon the decision of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Armenia. It entered into force on 5 September 1993.

2. Implementation in the national legal system and in the organising of services

(a) Give the references of the principal national regulations adopted in order to implement the 1970 Convention?

With a view to ensuring full and complete implementation of the Convention, the Republic of Armenia, starting from 1994, has undertaken the creation of a national legal system and the introduction of relevant services.

A separate sectoral regulatory law of the Republic of Armenia, decisions of the Government of the Republic of Armenia, orders of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia (over 30 legislative, secondary and departmental regulatory and individual legal acts in total (see **Annex 1**)) have been adopted. The procedures, standards and criteria for all processes of preservation of and lawful traffic in cultural property, the procedure and time limits for maintaining documentation, as well as the forms of necessary model documents (requests, attesting certificates, certificates, conclusions, applications, etc.) (*requirement of subpoint (a) of Article 5 of the Convention*) have been defined by secondary, departmental and internal regulation-related acts.

Based on the law, a state authorised body (national service) co-ordinating the activities of this field and providing services within the framework of lawful processes, *i.e.* the **agency for preservation of cultural property** (*requirement of Article 5 of the Convention*), has been established within the structure of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia.

The following may be distinguished among the primary national regulations ensuring implementation of the Convention:

1. The Law of the Republic of Armenia “On export and import of cultural property” adopted in 1994 with a view of creating a relevant service deriving from the respective requirement of the Convention (a new law is in effect since 2005, the Law adopted in 1994 has been repealed), on the basis whereof a national service regulating the issues of export and import of cultural property, *i.e.* the Department for Preservation of Cultural Property was created within the system of the Ministry of Culture and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia in 1995. In 2002, upon the decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia, it was reorganised as **an agency for preservation of cultural property** with the powers of providing services in the field of preservation of cultural property.

As a national service operating in the respective field, the agency promotes the preservation of and lawful traffic in cultural property, international co-operation and communication in the field of cultural property, ensures the process of

accreditation of professionals carrying out expert examinations of cultural property, organises the activities for creating and replenishing the list of particularly valuable cultural property of cultural heritage, as well as those for replenishing the electronic database of cultural property. The agency also implements the processes of placing the seized or confiscated cultural property under permanent preservation within state repositories (museums, archives, libraries and other cultural institutions) or delivering them to the relevant service of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia following appropriate expert examination.

The agency co-operates, as prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia, with law-enforcement authorities, entities of the judicial and legal system, the Customs Service of the Republic of Armenia and the National Central Bureau of Interpol in the Republic of Armenia.

2. The Law of the Republic of Armenia “On fundamentals of the cultural legislation” adopted in 2002, which has defined the organisation, principles and goals of cultural policy and the competences of state and local self-government bodies.
3. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 630-N of 12 May 2005, which has established the procedure and criteria for conducting art and culturological expert examinations of cultural property, the common principles, the types of expert examinations, the main characteristics of the object under expert examination, as well as its degree of importance for cultural heritage.
4. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 631-N of 19 May 2005, which has established the procedure and criteria for registering, on a voluntary basis, cultural property not considered as state ownership in the list of preservation of cultural property, which ensures the public-private sector-related co-operation in the given field, as well as the preservation of the cultural property of individual owners (**requirement of subpoint (b) of Article 5 of the Convention**).
5. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 981-N of 23 June 2005, which has established the procedure for issuance of attesting certificate of the right

to export or temporary export of cultural property (**requirement of Article 6 of the Convention**).

6. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1643-N of 13 October 2005, which has established the list of particularly valuable cultural property of the cultural heritage of the Republic of Armenia. The list includes cultural property of exceptional importance for the state, the export or temporary export whereof from the country is prohibited (**requirement of subpoint (d) of Article 13 of the Convention**).
7. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 827-N of 1 June 2006, which has regulated the lawful import (including temporary import) of cultural property to Armenia, as well as prevented the illicit import of cultural property and the transfer of ownership of cultural property (**requirement of Article 12 of the Convention**).
8. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1058-N of 11 September 2014, which has created an electronic database of cultural property, established the procedure for replenishing this database, as well as the list of organisations (museums, libraries, archives, galleries, art centres) providing data (**requirement of subpoint (c) of Article 5 of the Convention**).

(b) A definition of “cultural property” agreeing with the definition proposed by the 1970 Convention is important in order to increase the effectiveness of international co-operation. State what definition is used by the national laws of the country concerned.

The concept of “cultural property” is defined by the Law of the Republic of Armenia of 6 December 2004 “On export and import of cultural property”. Thus, **cultural property shall be “objects and creations considered as the product of activities of human society which, irrespective of time of creation, are of important archaeological, ethnographic, historical, religious, artistic and scientific significance”** (Article 3).

The definition is generally in line with the definition in the Convention and derives from its requirements.

(c) Have specialized units been established in order to prevent and combat trafficking and ensure international cooperation for the protection of cultural heritage? Within the Heritage Department? In other government departments (police, customs)?

Preservation of cultural heritage in the Republic of Armenia, within the system of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, is carried out by the agencies of the staff for the preservation of cultural property and preservation of historical and cultural monuments, as well as by organisations operating under the subordination of the Ministry of Culture and of several other government departments. The Customs Service of the State Revenue Committee adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia, the National Security Service, the Police (by way of inclusion of the National Bureau of Interpol), as well as the Prosecutor's Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia also promote and support this process.

The Customs Service of the Republic of Armenia, namely the Department for Fight against Smuggling and Double Customs Control of the State Revenue Committee adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia, holds membership in the Regional Intelligence Liaison Office (RILO-Moscow) of the World Customs Organization. With a view of ensuring international co-operation, a number of long-term and short-term events are organised within the framework of the activities of the Office, where special importance is attached to the measures carried out to prohibit and prevent the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property).

In relation to certain specialised units for the prevention and fight against trafficking within the State Customs Service of the Republic of Armenia, we hereby inform that, if necessary, customs bodies may, pursuant to Article 15 of the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On customs regulation of the Republic of Armenia", co-operate with the relevant competent state bodies and the officials thereof.

(d) Describe briefly the administrative coordination of the activities of these specialized units, especially with the police and customs authorities.

The Department for Cultural Heritage and Folk Arts of the Staff of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, the agencies for the preservation of cultural property and preservation of historical and cultural monuments reach agreements with the relevant subdivisions of the Police and customs services on the measures taken thereby in cases of all illegal actions carried out against cultural heritage. The representatives of government departments maintain permanent contact with each other; regularly hold meetings, consultations and exchange information.

In 2005, the Division for Fight Against Crimes in the Field of Intellectual Property was established within the General Department for Combating Organized Crime of the Police of the Republic of Armenia, the functional duties whereof also include the fight against illicit traffic in cultural property. The Division carries out ongoing complex operational intelligence measures, conducts inspections at galleries and museums, outdoor fairs for art objects; close collaboration has been established with other interested state bodies, international entities and organisations.

(e) Are working meetings held to enable police officers, customs officials and ministerial representatives to meet and coordinate their activities?

The agency for the preservation of cultural property on behalf of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, the Police of the Republic of Armenia and the relevant subdivision of the State Customs Service adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia maintain close relations and permanent collaboration with each other. They take place in different formats prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia (inter-departmental commissions, committees, working groups) and through permanent meetings held between relevant officials. Discussions on the implementation of required actions and measures are regularly organised, as a result whereof joint actions are coordinated. Recently, consultations were organised in the Police of the Republic of Armenia, *i.e.* in the National Bureau of Interpol, by the agency for the preservation of

cultural property with regard to prevention of illicit export and import of cultural property and the return of stolen, illegally taken and illicitly exported cultural property.

3. Inventories and identification

(a) State briefly the extent to which inventories provide for the risks of misappropriation and theft.

The movable objects of cultural heritage deemed to be state ownership are kept on records and registered, as prescribed, in relevant record-keeping books of cultural institutions (museum, gallery, library, archive). As of 1 July 2016, 1 857 374 objects deemed to be cultural property are registered in the record-keeping books of organisations operating under the subordination of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, 2 368 out of which are antique books deemed to be cultural property and kept on records in libraries.

The process of record-keeping (registration) is organised and carried out pursuant to Order No 140-A of 1 April 2010 “On Record-keeping and Preservation of Objects and Collections of the Museum Funds of the Republic of Armenia”. The main data regarding collections deemed to be state property are introduced on websites, in the databases of organisations and at the touch-sensitive kiosks stationed within museums. These data serve as a full ground for identifying collections and preventing the risks of misappropriation and theft during inspections regularly carried out within organisations. Besides, in case of temporary export of the mentioned collections upon relevant orders of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia or temporary provision thereof to another organisation, an expert examination of the collections is carried out, the data whereof also serve as a ground for identification of the returned property.

At the same time, on 11 September 2014, the Government of the Republic of Armenia adopted Decision No 1058-N “On establishing the procedure for creating an electronic database of cultural property and the list of organisations providing data for the database”.

The database is an electronic (digital) system that includes digitised and publicly accessible data regarding movable cultural property (irrespective of the form of ownership and time of creation), as well as the museum, archival, manuscript and print collections not falling under state ownership. A uniform list (register) will be created on the basis of the database, irrespective of pertinence. This will create complete legal grounds for preventing illegal transfers of ownership of cultural property.

(b) Specify the degree of precision, at the national level, of the definition of “cultural property” covered by international conventions (see above I.2(b)). State whether “national treasures” are identified in an official, tentative or exhaustive list.

The definitions provided in the laws of the Republic of Armenia have been drafted in accordance with the definitions enshrined in international agreements.

In Article 6 of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On fundamentals of cultural legislation”, “cultural property means compositions of culture and the arts, works of folk art and crafts, folklore, ethical and aesthetic ideals, rules and forms of conduct, languages, dialects and idioms, national customs and traditions, historical-geographical toponyms, results and methods of scientific research on cultural activities, objects of cultural heritage”. No definition for “cultural treasures” may be found in the legislation of the Republic of Armenia. However, let us mention that Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1643-N of 2005 has established the list of particularly valuable cultural property of cultural heritage of the Republic of Armenia, which covers property of exceptional importance for the cultural heritage of the Republic of Armenia. Ex.: Cuneiform record relating to the establishment of Erebuni Fortress (782 B.C.) or the Lazarus Bible (887).

The Law of the Republic of Armenia “On libraries and library science” defines the term “literary monument”, according to which “literary monument” means antique and rare books, print publications that are of exceptionally spiritual and material value and of special historical, scientific and cultural significance. Special conditions and procedure (regime) for record-keeping, preservation and use shall apply thereto. The “Procedure for

record-keeping and preservation of museum objects made from precious metals and precious stones and kept within state and community museums” has been established upon Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 705-N of 31 May 2012.

(c) To what extent is the Object ID standard used? Is the standard adapted to the State’s needs?

For the purpose of identification of objects, the form of certificate of a museum object has been established upon Order of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia No 140-A of 1 April 2010, according to which an object must be described and be appropriately registered. A certificate serves as a document for identification of a museum object.

Standards for identification of objects adapted to state requirements are applied when formulating documents for the export or temporary export of objects. During the packaging of objects, in case of temporary export of cultural property registered within state and non-state repositories and following return of the objects, identification is carried out in accordance with the criteria enshrined in certificates of museum objects, registered and approved by experts.

(d) Are there systems to combat theft and to train museum staff and have specific measures been adopted for libraries, archival and manuscript repositories, and any specialized units established to monitor them?

All museums, archival and manuscript repositories possess security systems equipped with modern and appropriate equipment. Besides, every day, according to the established procedure, funds and galleries are sealed and delivered to the police service provided to be accepted again on the next day. Let us also mention that the employees of organisations are given relevant instructions and orders for the purpose of ensuring security of the collections. Regulations for the preservation of museum objects are adopted. Training courses are held for personnel. The preservation of the collections of organisations is ensured by specialised subdivisions operating within these organisations, which mainly exist within large organisations. All the organisations are linked to the 911 service.

4. Archaeological excavations

(a) Summarize the basic principles of the regulations on archaeological excavations and on the monitoring of excavations in force in the country.

The excavations are carried out according to relevant application of the initiator based on the positive opinion of the Interagency Archaeological Commission, in case permits (open list) issued by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia are available. The above-mentioned issues are regulated by the provisions of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On the preservation and use of immovable historical and cultural monuments and historical environment”, as well as those of Decision No 438 “On approving the procedure for state record-keeping, study, preservation, reinforcement, repair, restoration and use of immovable monuments of history and culture” adopted by the Government of the Republic of Armenia on 20 April 2002.

Basic principles of monitoring of excavations:

- surveys of monuments and archaeological excavations are carried out in the territory of the Republic of Armenia based on the positive opinion of the Interagency Archaeological Commission;
- in case of long-term and regular excavations of a monument, a relevant contract is signed with the initiator and supervisor on delivering it to archaeological expedition for temporary use during the entire process of the on-site study of the monument for the purpose of carrying out scientific-research activities;
- in case of each of the excavations, the expediency and scale of the survey of the given monument and of archaeological excavations are determined. The issue of means and possibilities for further reinforcement and preservation of the monument also undergoes discussions;
- elaboration of joint prospective programmes and coordination of activities together with archaeological studies of scientific establishments carrying out archaeological studies;

- implementation of scientific-methodological supervision over the processes of proper restoration of a monument and restoration, reinforcement, refinement and delivering to museums of archaeological artefacts;
- termination of survey of a monument and archaeological excavations, if they put at risk the preservation of the monument or ignore the norms prescribed by this Procedure;
- discussion of projects for reinforcement measures during the survey of a monument and archaeological excavations and after the completion of the activities, relevant opinion on the process of implementation thereof;
- discussion and assessment of annual and brief reports on the results of surveys and archaeological excavations.

(b) Is there a recurrent problem of illegal excavations? If so, what are the reasons and when did it begin? What steps have been taken to combat this scourge?

Excavations carried out without a relevant permit issued by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia are considered illegal. They are prohibited according to Articles 21 and 44 of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On the preservation and use of immovable historical and cultural monuments and historical environment”. The mentioned actions are qualified as “destruction of or damage to an immovable historical and cultural monument” and entail liability provided for by Article 264 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia. So far, no cases of illegal excavations have been registered. However, during the period from 2013 to 2015, 29 cases have been registered in the Police of the Republic of Armenia with regard to other elements referred to in the mentioned Article.

5. Monitoring of the export and import of cultural property

(a) Give an estimate of the scale of the illicit export or import of cultural property. Are up-to-date statistics compiled on the theft of cultural property?

Over the past few years, 3 cases have been prevented as a result of the measures undertaken by law enforcement bodies for the detection and prevention of illicit traffic in cultural property. Attempts of illicit export, without relevant formulations, of 18 icons in 2012 and one painting and coins in 2013 were prevented. Two cases of theft (with regard to elements referred to in Article 177 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia) related to objects of historical and cultural property and eight cases of illegal taking of particularly valuable objects (with regard to elements referred to in Article 180 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia) were registered during 2013-2015.

(b) Is the illicit export of cultural property a recurring problem? If so, for which reasons (lack of financial and human resources, shortcomings in the legal supervision framework, etc.)?

Illicit export of cultural property is not a recurring problem in the Republic of Armenia.

The State Revenue Committee of the Republic of Armenia does not lack resources for the prevention of illicit export of property. Currently, a draft on making relevant amendments to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia and Code on Administrative Offences of the Republic of Armenia has been introduced for the purpose of preventing the illicit transfer of cultural property and prescribing liability.

(c) What are the main rules (administrative and legal) for monitoring the export and import of cultural property (existence of an export certificate, public information about the rules in force)? What categories of cultural property are covered by the rules?

The export and import of cultural property are regulated by the Laws of the Republic of Armenia “On export and import of cultural property” and “On customs regulation”. For the purpose of exporting cultural property, first the cultural property undergoes expert examination by an expert holding relevant certificate, based on the opinion whereof the Ministry of Culture issues an export certificate or temporary export certificate to a citizen. Article 4 of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On export and import of cultural property”, deriving from the requirement of the Convention, clearly defines the categories of cultural property whereto the law extends.

Interviews are delivered, on a regular basis, on media and television and the necessary information is posted on the website of the Ministry of Culture in order to raise public awareness of the rules of implementation of the processes of export of cultural property.

(d) Do the rules provide for the restitution of illicitly imported cultural property?

Return of illicitly imported cultural property to the lawful owner is provided for by relevant Articles 21, 23, 25 of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On export and import of cultural property”.

(e) What are the main obstacles encountered in securing the restitution of illicitly exported cultural property? What type of obstacles are they (administrative, legal or political) and why do they arise (legal loopholes, unwillingness by importing countries, lack of international cooperation, etc.)?

The return of Hovhannes Aivazovsky’s seascape, stolen from the museum in Armenia in 1990, to the Republic of Armenia may serve as an example of return of illicitly exported cultural property. It is noteworthy that during this process, thanks to the active cooperation of the law enforcement bodies and relevant competent entities of the Republic of Armenia and the Russian Federation, the painting was returned to Armenia in 2011 without any administrative, legal and political obstacles.

No other cases of return of illicitly exported cultural property have been registered. The Republic of Armenia consistently replenishes the international legal and contractual database and concludes bilateral contracts with other states for the creation of legal grounds aimed at overcoming the potential obstacles in these processes. It should be noted that the Republic of Armenia has not joined the UNIDROIT Convention of 1995 yet.

(f) If the country has succeeded in securing the restitution of a stolen cultural object, describe the circumstances and state whether that involved legal proceedings, arbitration or alternative dispute resolution.

As a result of operational intelligence and investigative measures carried out jointly by the staff of the General Investigation Department for Combating Organised Crime of the

Police of the Republic of Armenia and the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, the auction by “Gelos Auction House” LLC of Hovhannes Aivazovsky’s “Tempest by Rocky Coast” painting stolen from the Armenian SSR back in 1990 was prevented in the city of Moscow of the Russian Federation in February 2011. In the field of safe return of unlawfully taken cultural property, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, on behalf of the Republic of Armenia, has closely co-operated with all competent bodies of the Russian Federation, negotiations have been held by the Ministry with state entities, as well as with the person having obtained the painting, justifying documents have been submitted to the effect that the painting falls under the ownership of the Republic of Armenia. As a result of the proper and co-ordinated activities of the mentioned bodies, Hovhannes Aivazovsky’s painting was returned to the Republic of Armenia in 2011 and is currently at the National Gallery of Armenia.

6. System for trade-in, acquisition, ownership and transfer of cultural property

(a) Give a brief description of the cultural goods market in the country (financial volume of the market, number and turnover of auction houses including via the Internet).

The cultural products of Armenia mainly involve carpets (handmade and machine-made carpets), as well as works of individual artisans (artists, craftsman of applied and decorative arts, masters of musical instrument making).

The two organisations producing handmade carpets are “Megerian Carpets” and “Tufenkian” companies, the products whereof are mainly exported. Machine-made carpets are made by “Jrashogh” and “Arm Carpet” companies, which mainly realise their products in Armenia.

The works of individual creative artists, craftsman of applied and decorative arts, as well as those of masters of musical instrument making are mainly sold at specialised salons, antique shops, open-air vernissages (flea markets). Their pieces of art are also exported.

Owners carry out trade of cultural property via various internet websites as well. Auctions are still in the stage of formation in Armenia — “Hi-ArtOnline” auction is one of them.

(b) What are the main rules governing trade in cultural goods? Are control measures in place for such trade (maintenance of a police register), in particular through the Internet (for example, reference to the basic measures proposed by UNESCO, INTERPOL and ICOM)?

Trade in products, including that in cultural products is generally regulated in the Republic of Armenia by the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On trade and services” adopted on 24 November 2004.

According to the Contract of 29 May 2014 “On the Eurasian Economic Union”, transfer of cultural property, documents of national archive funds and original copies of archival documents across the territory of the Eurasian Economic Union is subject to non-tariff regulation. Decision of the Board of the Eurasian Economic Commission No 30 of 21 April 2015 is applicable to these processes.

The Police maintain a register of lost, stolen, illegally taken cultural property in order to control the illicit movement thereof in the market, as well as on the Internet. The relevant law enforcement entities follow and control so that principles arising from the requirements and norms of the UNESCO, INTERPOL and ICOM are not violated in the trade market.

(c) Do measures exist to control the acquisition of cultural property (for example, mechanisms to prevent museums and similar institutions from acquiring cultural property exported illegally from another State)?

The issue is regulated by Order of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia No 140-A of 1 April 2010 “On approving the procedure for registration and preservation of museum objects and collections in museums under subordination of the Ministry”. The museums have fund purchasing and evaluation commissions, which thoroughly study the

existence of documents on the legality of the presented object and deliver an opinion on the object as to being cultural property and the lawful acquisition thereof.

Besides, international conventions aimed at prohibiting and preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property have been officially translated, published and distributed among the interested agencies, museums, libraries and other organisations, and, the significance of these conventions, obligations for the protection of cultural heritage imposed on member states and interested organisations thereof have been clarified by means of leaflets related to individual provisions.

(d) Specify the existing legal system concerning ownership of cultural property:

The main legal document related to the ownership, including ownership of cultural property in the Republic of Armenia is the “Civil Code of the Republic of Armenia” (5 May 1998), which prescribes the main concepts relating to that institute and regulates relations pertaining to the right of ownership.

According to the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On fundamentals of cultural legislation”, cultural property and collections considered as state and community ownership may not be used as means of ensuring fulfilment of obligations. By virtue of this provision, cultural property is placed under legal protection. The Law of the Republic of Armenia “On export and import of cultural property” regulates relations pertaining to the transfer of the right of ownership when cultural property is obtained as state ownership from the exporter through compensation issued by the state and on the basis of an expert opinion, whereas the cultural property owned by citizens under the right to ownership and not subject to alienation, may be exported based on the relevant certificate issued by the authorised body.

The Law of the Republic of Armenia “On registration of secured rights to movable property” regulates relations pertaining to the registration of the right to movable property according to which owners voluntarily apply to the authorised body for the purpose of registration of the property.

- Is the principle of inalienability applied to cultural items in national collections and objects originating in heritage sites?

According to the legislation in the field of culture of the Republic of Armenia, cultural objects in national collections and objects originating in heritage sites are not subject to alienation.

- What is the status of yet unfound cultural objects, of cultural items found by chance and archaeological artefacts found during legal or illegal excavations?

The status of yet unfound cultural objects may not be defined as it is impossible to reveal the fact of constituting historical and cultural property on the part thereof. The issue of presenting the historical and cultural value of objects found during archaeological studies or by chance is being studied and considered by the specialists of relevant scientific organisations (in particular by the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia, as well as the “Scientific Research Centre of the Historical and Cultural Heritage” SNCO under the subordination of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, relevant museums) and, where necessary, is subjected to laboratory studies. New objects, as well as those found during excavations and constituting historical and cultural significance are subject to preservation as prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia, and the person concealing, destructing or embezzling them, bears responsibility as prescribed by the law of the Republic of Armenia.

- Are there any due diligence requirements in place?

According to the requirements of the legislation of the Republic of Armenia, artefacts must first be processed, where necessary, undergo laboratory studies, be restored, then delivered to a relevant museum for accepting them for storage in main and scientific support funds based on the relevant opinion of the scientific council of the museum.

- What are the rules governing the search of provenance?

The exploratory research activities of archaeological monuments are regulated by the requirements of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On the preservation and use of immovable historical and cultural monuments and historical environment” and the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia “On approving the procedure for state record-keeping, study, preservation, reinforcement, repair, restoration and use of immovable monuments of history and culture”, whereas those of cultural property — by the requirements of relevant departmental acts.

(e) Are there special rules on the transfer of title deeds in respect of cultural property? If so, please summarize their content.

The right of ownership over cultural property falling under the ownership of repositories of state and community organisations may be transferred upon relevant decision of the founder of the organisation; in case of state repositories — upon the decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia, whereas in case of community ownership — upon the decision of the relevant body.

In case of donations, the museum accepts the object (items, collection) from the donor under a receipt, whereafter the fund evaluation commission discusses the expediency of having the given object in the collection of the museum, taking into account the direction and concept of activities of the museum. After the decision of the commission is taken, a storage contract is signed with the donor, wherein the rights to be transferred to the museum are indicated. Thereafter, the relevant scientific division studies the object and compiles a scientific passport based on which a permanent preservation act (detailed description of the object, equipment, size, country, state of preservation) is drawn up and the object is delivered for preservation.

No special rules are provided for in respect of transferring the right to cultural property falling under private ownership of a natural or legal person. Transfer of title deeds is carried out as prescribed by the civil legislation of the Republic of Armenia by analogy with other types of ownership.

7. Bilateral agreements

(a) List the bilateral agreements concluded with other countries on the import, export and return of cultural property and comment briefly on their results.

The Republic of Armenia has signed almost forty bilateral contracts with numerous countries (see **Annex 2**). Fourteen of them relate to temporary displays and mutual exhibitions, as well as co-operation in the cultural and other fields, whereas twenty-five of them relate to the return of illicitly exported cultural property. As a result, in execution of these contracts, only temporary export and import of cultural property has taken place within the framework of cultural co-operation, displays and mutual exhibitions.

(b) What conditions are set by the importing country with regard to the admissibility of requests for restitution from a country of origin?

As prescribed by law of the Republic of Armenia, in order to return the cultural property imported illegally into the territory of the Republic of Armenia, it is necessary for the country, filing a request for return, to be linked to the Republic of Armenia under the same international agreement, for the expenses of the good faith acquirer — to be compensated, where this agreement provides for a compensation fee or such fee is provided for under the condition of reciprocity.

(c) Apart from these agreements, is there administrative aid or any other type of cooperation with neighbouring countries, particularly in respect of police and customs services?

The Customs Service and the Police of the Republic of Armenia co-operate actively with the relevant bodies of neighbouring countries, particularly with Georgia and the IRI; information is exchanged on a regular basis, assistance is provided with regard to expert examination issues, mutual visits are organised, etc.

The following bilateral agreements serve as a legal and contractual basis for co-operation with the mentioned countries:

1. Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation between the Police of the Republic of Armenia and the Ministry of Interior Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, signed on 10 July 2012;
2. Agreement on Co-operation between the Police of the Republic of Armenia and the Ministry of Interior Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Field of Operational Intelligence Activities and Exchange of Information Related to Crime, signed on 20 October 2011;
3. Agreement on Co-operation between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Georgia in the Field of Combating Crime, signed on 11 May 1993;
4. Customs Agreement on Movement of Transit, Exported and Imported Goods and Passengers between the Republic of Armenia and the Islamic Republic of Iran, signed on 6 May 1992.
5. Agreement on Co-operation and Relations between the Customs Department of the Republic of Armenia and Customs Service of the Islamic Republic of Iran, signed on 6 May 1995.
6. Memorandum of Understanding on Customs Co-operation between the Customs Department of the Republic of Armenia and the Customs Service of the Islamic Republic of Iran, signed on 28 December 1996.

II. Code of ethics, awareness raising and education

1. Ethical standards

- (a) Are the UNESCO International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property and that of ICOM for museums known to the professionals concerned (in particular, curators, antique dealers, merchants and collectors)? How is their observance checked?

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia directs its activities towards the recognition of the rights in respect of cultural heritage in terms of individual, as well as collective responsibility and the ensuring of the link between education and professional training in the field of cultural heritage. Developing respect for the integrity of cultural heritage is one of the key objectives, and the Ministry undertakes relevant measures to meet that objective.

The ICOM Code of Professional Ethics was translated and published in 2003 and was distributed among museums and provided to the professionals of the field concerned. Trainings have been held for the professionals of the field concerned, and the requirements of the Code have been disseminated and highlighted among antique dealers by means of booklets and leaflets for the purpose of highlighting the requirements of the Code and making them available to the general public. It is more deeply studied and introduced in higher education institutions, which provide training for museum specialists.

2. Awareness raising and education

(b) Are the “One hundred missing objects” series and the ICOM Red Lists disseminated and read?

The National Central Bureau of INTERPOL in the Republic of Armenia submits, on a regular basis, the necessary information, forwarded by the Interpol General Secretariat, to law enforcement entities, customs authorities dealing with issues of prevention of illicit traffic in cultural property, as well as to the subdivision of the Ministry of Culture performing the relevant function — the Agency for Preservation of Cultural Property. When issuing an authorisation for exporting cultural property, the Agency has online access to the mentioned and other databases of missing, stolen or illegally taken cultural property at the disposal of the INTERPOL General Secretariat, carries out relevant study and identification. The general public receives information on the mentioned lists from

the relevant websites on the internet, as well as from the booklets provided by the NCB of INTERPOL.

At the same time, interested individuals and organisations of Armenia are aware of the ICOM Red Lists and are guided thereby in the course of their activities.

(c) Briefly describe activities carried out to raise the awareness of the authorities and educate the public, children in particular, regarding the serious damage that can be caused by illegal excavations, theft of cultural property and illegal export. How far can UNESCO contribute to these activities?

Awareness raising of the general public regarding serious damage caused to the country as a result of archaeological excavations and the results thereof, as well as of illegal excavations of the cultural heritage and illegal export of cultural property is mainly carried out through press publications, instructive and upbringing television programmes, relevant educational and upbringing programmes implemented within educational institutions. UNESCO may assist in this process by providing relevant methodological manuals, publicly available didactic materials and films.

III. Cooperation with other international and regional agencies

Police

(a) What is the state of national cooperation with INTERPOL? What specialized police services can heritage officials call on for enquiries, legal proceedings and punitive measures?

The co-operation with INTERPOL General Secretariat and member countries is particularly important in the fight against illicit traffic in cultural property and against transnational criminal groups “specialised” therein. The responses to the questions related to the given field are provided in a timely manner and as completely as possible. In order

to raise the level of effectiveness of the fight against illicit traffic in cultural property, including fraud of art objects, close co-operation is being established between the General Department for Combating Crime of the Police of the Republic of Armenia and the NCB of INTERPOL aimed at carrying out specific operational intelligence measures and studying the good practice of leading countries in the mentioned field, raising the level of professional competence of employees.

As a specialised police service, the Division for Fight Against Crimes in the Field of Intellectual Property operates within the composition of the General Department for Combating Organised Crime of the Police of the Republic of Armenia, the functional duties whereof also include the fight against illicit traffic in cultural property. Interested organisations may apply to this Division in respect of various legal processes and application of sanctions.

(b) If a cultural object is stolen, is the INTERPOL database on stolen objects checked? Is information on the persons implicated in the theft of cultural property transmitted to INTERPOL?

Where relevant inquiries are received from the competent authorities of the Republic of Armenia, they are checked through the repositories of the NCB of INTERPOL in the Republic of Armenia and those of the INTERPOL General Secretariat; a relevant inquiry is forwarded, if necessary, to the member countries of INTERPOL.

In case of illegal taking of cultural property, the complete information available, including that on the persons charged with the committal thereof, is transmitted to the INTERPOL General Secretariat.

(c) Do members of police services follow a specific training programme?

Each year, within the framework of training programmes of the Educational Complex of the Police of the Republic of Armenia, courses on the prevention of illegal taking of, illicit traffic in intellectual property and cultural property are conducted, on a regular basis, for officers of territorial subdivisions of the Police.

The representative of the Police of the Republic of Armenia, having participated in the discussions organised on 3 to 5 June of the current year in the city of Delphi of Greece within the framework of the first meeting of the Informal Reflection Group of the Subsidiary Committee of States Parties to the UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, has gotten acquainted with the practice of Customs, Police and a number of other services of Greece relating to the prevention of illicit traffic in cultural property.

In 2016-2017, training courses for police officers are expected to be organised by international experts.

(d) Do criminal law provisions allow for the punishment of fraud and theft related to cultural property? Are judges specialized in this field?

Criminal law assessment of illicit traffic of cultural property, conditioned by certain circumstances of the action, is given under various Articles of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia: Article 180 (Illegal taking of particularly valuable objects), point 3 of part 3 of Article 185 (Intentional destruction of or damage to property having caused the destruction of, or damage to, objects of particular historical, scientific or cultural value), Article 235.1 (Smuggling of cultural property), Article 215.2 (Failure to return within the prescribed time period the cultural property exported from the Republic of Armenia), Article 264 (Destruction of or damage to historical and cultural monuments), point 4 of part 4 of Article 390 (Grave breaches of the norms of international humanitarian law at the time of armed conflicts, *i.e.* making the historical monuments, works of art, places of worship — placed under special protection, clearly-recognised and constituting the cultural or spiritual heritage of peoples — an object of attack, and causing extensive damage thereto as a result of the attack, where they are not located in the immediate proximity of military objectives, and where there is no evidence of using such historical monuments, works of art, places of worship by the adversary in support of the military operations), as well as the crime provided for by Article 397 (Making use — at

the time of military operations and contrary to the international treaties — of the protective emblem of the Red Cross, Red Crescent or protective emblems intended for cultural property, or other distinctive emblems).

Cases related to illegal taking of cultural property, conditioned by certain circumstances of the action, is given criminal law assessment under Articles 175 (Robbery), Article 177 (Theft), Article 178 (Fraud), Article 179 (Embezzlement or Peculation) of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia.

As regards the existence of judges specialised in this field, cases initiated under the elements of the above-listed Articles of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia are examined by the Courts of General Jurisdiction of the Republic of Armenia.

(e) Does cooperation exist with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)?

The Police of the Republic of Armenia closely co-operates with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Customs

(a) What is the status of cooperation with the World Customs Organization and which specialized customs services can assist heritage officials in preventing the illicit export of cultural property?

The Republic of Armenia is a full-fledged member of the World Customs Organisation.

The Department for Pre-Clearance Control and the Department for the Fight against Smuggling and Double Customs Control of the State Customs Service of the State Revenue Committee adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia, as well as the passenger customs control divisions situated within airports assist heritage preservation officers in preventing the illicit export of cultural property.

(b) Do members of police services follow a specific training programme?

Employees of the Customs Service of the Republic of Armenia participate, on a regular basis, in courses organised at the Training Centre of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Armenia. Courses have been already organised at the Centre, during which the legislative fundamentals of the transfer of cultural property, as well as issues related to the illicit traffic thereof were presented to the participants, and in the near future, a training course entitled “The Basics of Culture” is expected to be organised, during which new topics on and approaches to the transfer of cultural property across the state border will be touched upon.

(c) Is the UNESCO-WCO Model Export Certificate for Cultural Objects used?

Pursuant to Article 6 of the 1970 Convention, the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On export and import of cultural property” prescribes a requirement for a certificate for export or temporary export of cultural property, which is issued under the procedure prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia by the state authorised body — the Agency for Preservation of Cultural Property. The “UNESCO-World Customs Organisation” Model Export Certificate for Cultural Objects was completely availed of when developing and introducing the certificate form. The form of, procedure and time periods for issuing a certificate are prescribed and regulated by regulatory legal acts, relevant regulations and procedures.

European Union

Have particular measures been adopted to apply the Council of the European Communities Directive 93/7/EEC of 15 March 1993 on the return of cultural objects unlawfully removed from the territory of a Member State.

The Republic of Armenia does not hold membership in the European Union. Therefore, the assignment in question is not included in the commitments assumed by the Republic of Armenia and is not applicable.

IV. Emergency situations and heritage at risk

(a) What is the strategy in place in your country to face emergency situations for heritage in case of natural disaster or conflict?

The lists of movable property subject to primary evacuation from the state repositories in case of emergency situations are approved by the relevant Decisions of the Government of the Republic of Armenia, the measures and conditions for safe preservation thereof are prescribed.

To that end, the list of cultural property subject to primary evacuation was approved by Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 775-AG of 27 June 2013, whereas the National Library Collection Catalogue was approved by Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1230-A of 7 November 2013. The process of evacuation is also regulated by Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1180-N of 18 August 2011 “On approving the procedure for evacuation of population from dangerous zones”.

The Draft Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia “On approving the procedure for primary evacuation, preservation and return of museum and national library collections of the Republic of Armenia, the regime for preservation of cultural property, the thermal and humidity regime thereof” has been drawn up by the state authorised body and submitted to the Government of the Republic of Armenia for approval.

In case of natural disasters or conflicts, monitoring of damaged historical and cultural monuments is carried out, and measures of reinforcement and restoration of monuments are carried out under the procedure prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

(b) More particularly, what are the measures undertaken to implement UNSC Resolution 2199 (paragraph 17, 12 February 2015) for the protection of Syrian and Iraqi cultural heritage?

The Republic of Armenia provides, on a regular basis, information on the steps undertaken in respect of cultural heritage aimed at implementation of paragraphs 15-17 of UNSC Resolution 2199.

It is worth stating that no cases of import into the territory of the Republic of Armenia, trade or transit of samples of historical or archaeological value taken out of Iraq and Syria, have been registered. The NCB of INTERPOL in the Republic of Armenia provides, on a regular basis, information of methodological and practical significance, including that on cultural property, received from the INTERPOL General Secretariat, to the Ministries of Finance and Culture of the Republic of Armenia, to the Customs Service of the State Revenue Committee adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

Customs and law enforcement bodies are duly informed about the problem and are ready to implement relevant measures aimed at preventing the illicit import and export of such property. The museums are instructed to require a title deed when replenishing their funds, whereas in case of absence thereof — apply to law enforcement bodies. The Agency for Preservation of Cultural Property of the Staff of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia constantly follows the information relating to the cultural heritage of Iraq and Syria. In case of receiving an application for export of such property, the Agency will jointly, with law enforcement bodies, implement the necessary measures prescribed by law.

V. Other legislative, legal and administrative measures taken by the State

1. Accession to the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects

For the purpose of ratification, the UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects is in the stage of implementation of domestic procedures provided for by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

2. UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws

Indicate action taken to organize the contribution to the UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws and to check whether it contains all historical and existing laws and regulations, including successive amendments.

The following legal acts are included in the UNESCO Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws:

1. Law of the Republic of Armenia of 6 December 2004 “On export and import of cultural property”;
2. Law of the Republic of Armenia of 15 June 2006 “On copyright and related rights”;
3. Law of the Republic of Armenia of 11 November 1998 “On preservation and use of immovable historical and cultural monuments and historical environment”;
4. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 438 of 20 April 2002 “On approving the procedure for state record-keeping, study, preservation, reinforcement, repair, rehabilitation and use of immovable monuments of history and culture”;
5. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1348-A of 25 August 2005 “On approving the list of the authors having passed away in the last 50 years, whose works are exported from the Republic of Armenia only on the basis of the certificate for the right of export or temporary export of cultural property”;
6. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1643-N of 13 October 2005 “On prescribing the list of especially valuable cultural property of the cultural heritage of the Republic of Armenia”;

7. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 630-N of 12 May 2005 “On approving the procedure and criteria for conducting art and culturological expert examinations of cultural property”;
8. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 631-N of 19 May 2005 “On prescribing the procedure and criteria for registering, on a voluntary basis, cultural property not falling under state ownership, in the list of preservation of cultural property”;
9. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 981-N of 23 June 2005 “On approving the procedure and manner for issuing a certificate for the right of export or temporary export of cultural property”;
10. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 827-N of 1 June 2006 “On prescribing the procedure for temporary import of cultural property”;
11. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1173-N of 3 September 2010 “On approving the procedure for identification, documentation, preservation of and exchanging information on intangible cultural property and the certificate form of intangible cultural property”;
12. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1100-N of 25 September 2008 “On approving the procedure for record-keeping of illegally taken antiques and cultural property”.

The legal acts have been translated and forwarded to UNESCO headquarters — to the Secretariat of the 1970 Convention.

List

of the regulations adopted for implementation of the 1970 Convention

Decisions of the Government of the Republic of Armenia

1. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1356-N of 22 August 2002 “On approving the Charter and structure of the Agency for Preservation of Cultural Property of the Staff of the Ministry of Culture and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia”;
2. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 630-N of 12 May 2005 “On approving the procedure and criteria for conducting art and culturological expert examinations of cultural property”;
3. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 631-N of 19 May 2005 “On prescribing the procedure and criteria for registering, on a voluntary basis, cultural property not falling under state ownership, in the list of preservation of cultural property”;
4. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 981-N of 23 June 2005 “On approving the procedure and manner for issuing a certificate for the right of export or temporary export of cultural property”;
5. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1348-A of 25 August 2005 “On approving the list of the authors having passed away in the last 50 years, whose works are exported from the Republic of Armenia only on the basis of the certificate for the right of export or temporary export of cultural property”;

6. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1643-N of 13 October 2005 “On prescribing the list of especially valuable cultural property of the cultural heritage of the Republic of Armenia”;
7. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 827-N of 1 June 2006 “On prescribing the procedure for temporary import of cultural property”;
8. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 146-N of 18 February 2010 “On approving the procedure for using tangible and monetary property having been confiscated, recognised as ownerless to the benefit of the state and transferred to the state under the right of inheritance, as well as for delivering them, keeping on records and destructing, and repealing Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 494 of 4 August 1999”;
9. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1471-N of 15 September 2011 “On approving the procedure and criteria for accreditation of specialists conducting expert examination of cultural property, the form of accreditation certificate, on repealing Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1115-N of 21 July 2005 and making a supplement to Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 981-N of 23 June 2005”;
10. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 705-N of 31 May 2012 “On approving the procedure for record-keeping and preservation of museum objects made from precious metals and precious stones and kept within state and community museums and making supplements to Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 484-N of 5 April 2007”;
11. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1058-N of 11 September 2014 “On approving the procedure for creating an electronic database of cultural property and the list of organisations providing information for the database”;
12. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1524-N of 25 December 2014 “On approving the lists of goods prohibited and restricted for the transfer across the

customs territory of the Republic of Armenia, on prescribing authorised bodies and approving the framework procedure for issuing export and/or import licences and permits”;

13. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 938-N of 31 August 2015 “On making amendments and supplements to Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1524-N of 25 December 2014”;

14. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1018-N of 10 September 2015 “On making amendments to Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 827-N of 1 June 2006”;

15. Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1327-N of 12 November 2015 “On making amendments and supplements to Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 981-N of 23 June 2005 and repealing Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 245-N of 26 February 2004”.

Orders of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia:

1. Order No 287-N of 31 May 2005 “On prescribing the requirements to the photo of the temporarily imported cultural property”;

2. Order No 348-N of 25 July 2005 “On prescribing the procedure for identification of cultural property having been returned from temporary export”;

3. Order No 428-A of 30 August 2005 “On approving the principles of creating a list of especially valuable cultural property of the cultural heritage of the Republic of Armenia”;

4. Order No 538-N of 10 November 2005 “On approving the procedure for registering and maintaining the application for obtaining a certificate for the right of export or temporary export of cultural property”;

5. Order No 426-N of 25 October 2006 “On approving the form of and the procedure for issuing a musical instrument certificate”;

6. Order No 666-A of 9 November 2007 “On establishing the Cultural Heritage Preservation Council adjunct to the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia and approving the working procedure and composition of the Council”;
7. Order of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia No 431-A of 23 July 2009 “On regulating the use of rare bowed musical instruments of the state collection”;
8. Order No 140-A of 1 April 2010 “On approving the procedure for record-keeping and preservation of museum objects and collections in museums”;
9. Order No 602-N of 14 September 2010 “On approving the procedure for registering, on a voluntary basis, cultural property not falling under state ownership, in the list of preservation of cultural property and for issuing a statement of information to the owner, on approving the forms of the statement of information, application, registries and on repealing Orders of the Minister of Culture and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia No 389-N of 11 August 2005 and No 390-N of 11 August 2005”;
10. Order No 683-A of 14 October 2010 “On approving the procedure for delivering to state repositories the cultural property having been confiscated, recognised, upon court decision, as ownerless to the benefit of the state and transferred to the state under the right of inheritance”;
11. Order No 03-N of 11 January 2012 “On approving the procedure for the activities of the Council for Accreditation of Specialists Conducting Expert Examination of Cultural Property and the list of relevant professions of accreditation fields, on repealing Order of the Minister of Culture and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia No 433-N of 2 September 2005”;
12. Order No 04-A of 11 January 2012 “On approving the individual composition of the Council for Accreditation of Specialists Conducting Expert Examination of Cultural Property and the forms of application for accreditation of specialists conducting expert examination of cultural property, the forms of notification on the requirements and obligations, the warning template for an accredited expert, on repealing Orders of the

Minister of Culture and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia No 561-A of 21 November 2005, No 568-A of 23 November 2005, No 596-A of 7 December 2005, No 57-A of 17 March 2006, No 213-A of 13 June 2006 and No 164-A of 11 April 2007”;

13. Order No 16-A of 26 January 2012 “On approving the procedure for issuing certificates for export or temporary export of cultural property and objects of cultural significance, the template of the application for obtaining a certificate for export or temporary export of cultural property, the template of the written inquiry on whether or not the cultural property or objects of cultural significance are lost, stolen, illegally taken, the template of written statement of information on being or not being lost, stolen, illegally taken, the template of the relevant decision on the certificate for export of cultural property and objects of cultural significance”;

14. Order No 434-A of 6 August 2015 “On approving the application form on including information on valuables not falling under state ownership, in the electronic database of cultural property”.

Joint Order of the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia and the Head of the State Revenue Committee adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia

1. No 42-N of 21 February 2011, No 72-N of 28 February 2011 “On approving the procedure for the temporary import of cultural property for the purpose of restoration”.

List

of bilateral treaties of the Republic of Armenia, concluded with other States, relating to the import, export and return of cultural property

1. Government of the Republic of Georgia — cultural, scientific and humanitarian fields, 19 May 1993;
2. State Customs Office of Turkmenistan — field of preserving and returning cultural property being illegally transported, 30 June 1993;
3. Government of Turkmenistan — cultural and scientific-technical fields, 24 August 1993;
4. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland — fields of education, science and culture, 9 February 1994;
5. Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation — field of culture, 28 May 1994;
6. Customs Committee adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan — “On co-operation and mutual assistance for preventing and returning cultural property being illegally transported”, 8 June 1995;
7. Government of Romania — fields of science, education, culture and sport, 30 June 1995;
8. Government of the Republic of India — fields of culture, arts, education, tourism, sport and mass media, 14 December 1995;
9. Government of the French Republic — cultural, scientific and technical fields, 1 September 1996;

10. Government of the Russian Federation — fields of culture, science and education, 13 November 1995, in force since 28 June 1996;
11. Government of Ukraine — cultural field, 14 May 1996, in force since 4 September 1996;
12. Government of the Federal Republic of Germany — “On delivery of cultural property”, 4 May 1998;
13. Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt — fields of culture, science and education, 17 March 1997, in force since 5 December 2000;
14. Government of the Kyrgyz Republic — fields of education, science and culture, 21 April 1997, in force since 1 October 1998;
15. Government of the Hellenic Republic — fields of education, culture and science, 16 December 1994, in force since 2 October 1997;
16. Government of the Republic of Lebanon — cultural field, 17 November 1997, in force since 27 March 2001;
17. Government of the Russian Federation — “On the establishment of cultural information centres and the conditions for the operation thereof”, 29 August 1997, in force since 16 July 1998;
18. Government of the Russian Federation — “On the establishment of cultural information centres and the conditions for the operation thereof”, 29 August 1997, in force since 16 July 1998;
19. Government of the Argentine Republic — fields of culture and education, 30 June 1998, in force since 6 October 2001;
20. Government of the Republic of Cyprus — fields of culture, education and science, 11 September 1998, in force since 10 August 1999;
21. Government of the Republic of Poland — cultural and scientific fields, 27 January 1998, in force since 19 October 1999;

22. Customs Committee of the Ministry of State Revenue of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan — field of prevention and return of cultural property being illegally transported, 2 September 1999, in force since 19 December 2001;
23. Republic of Portugal — fields of education, science and culture, 14 November 2000, in force since 5 December 2001;
24. Ministry of Culture and Arts of Ukraine — field of culture, 7 December 1999, in force since 28 August 2000;
25. Government of the Republic of India — commercial, economic, scientific, technological, educational and cultural fields, 11 July 2001, in force since 11 July 2002;
26. Government of the United Mexican States — fields of education and culture, 22 August 2002, in force since 19 November 2003;
27. Government of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea — cultural field, 5 April 2002, in force since 23 August 2002;
28. Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus — field of culture, 17 October 2003, in force since 21 April 2004;
29. Government of the Federal Republic of Brazil — cultural field, 7 May 2002, in force since 9 November 2007;
30. Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran — “On the establishment of educational and cultural centres and the conditions for the operation thereof”, 1 February 2006, in force since 12 December 2006;
31. Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran — fields of culture, science, education, sport, tourism and mass media, 27 November 1994, in force since 1 August 2006;
32. Ministry of Culture, Information and Sport of the Republic of Kazakhstan — field of archiving, 12 October 2005, in force since 20 March 2006;
33. Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania — field of culture, 7 October 2005, in force since 26 June 2006;

34. Ministry of Culture and Mass Communication of the Russian Federation — field of culture, 21 May 2007, in force since 12 October 2007;
35. Government of the Republic of Croatia — fields of culture, education and science, 22 May 2009, in force since 16 December 2009;
36. Government of the State of Israel — fields of culture, science and education, 19 December 1994, in force since 12 August 2011;
37. Government of the Republic of Slovenia — fields of education, science and culture, 11 October 2010, in force since 28 February 2012;
38. Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Moldova — field of culture, 11 June 2013, in force since 23 December 2013;
39. Government of the Kingdom of Spain — fields of culture, science and education, 17 June 2013, in force since 8 November 2013.