

## Memorandum of Understanding between ICCROM and E.C.C.O. signed!

Rome, Thursday 26th March a small delegation from the E.C.C.O. committee arrives at the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, ICCROM, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations. Â

The President of E.C.C.O. Susan Corr met with the Director of ICCROM Stefano de CaroÂ to finalise the details of the MOU and to discuss future work in the context of ICCROMâ€™s mandate and E.C.C.O.â€™S recently developed strategic plan which was also presented to the Director.

In the MOU, ICCROM and E.C.C.O. agree to continue to raise awareness among European Institutions of the need to create and adopt European policies regarding the role of conservation-restoration in the safeguarding of cultural heritage. Work to do this will focus on three main areas of activity:

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engagement with the relevant stakeholders in European institutions to develop effective policies which address current and future challenges

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the creation of a European legal framework based on the study of national legislation dealing with conservation-restoration

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the development of these policies and frameworks within a worldwide context

ICCROM is a statutory, intergovernmental agency funded by UNESCO and is dedicated to the conservation of cultural heritage worldwide.Â For many years ICCROM has lent its support to the work of E.C.C.O initially through involvement on the APEL (Acteurs du Patrimoine EuropÃ©en et Legislation) project starting in 1999. Contact with ICCROM continued under the Presidency of Monica Martelli Castaldi and the development in 2007 of a Recommendation on Conservation-Restoration to the Council of Europe. Recognising the value of this work, collaboration with ICCROM has now been formalised through the mechanism of an MOU to promote conservation-restoration of cultural heritage at European Level.Â Â E.C.C.O. greatly welcomes this initiative as the formal recognition of E.C.C.O. by ICCROM endorsesÂ the scope of our activities and provides necessary political support.

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