Managing Archaeological Sites with Mosaics: from Real Problems to Practical Solutions

First Announcement
The 11th Conference of the International Committee for the Conservation of Mosaics (ICCM) will be held in Meknes (Morocco), October 24-27, 2011, at the invitation of the Ministry of Culture of Morocco.

Conference theme and Call for Papers and Posters
The theme of the 11th Conference is:

Managing archaeological sites with mosaics: from real problems to practical solutions.

The conservation of mosaics on archaeological sites can appear to be an impossible task. Poor understanding of the causes of deterioration and ineffective responses result in on-going loss of these irreplaceable assets of our ancient heritage.

Problems can be resolved through the conservation process, which consists of practical, complementary measures. Understanding and implementing these measures will constitute the primary theme of 11th Conference of the International Committee for the Conservation of Mosaics.

Themes to be addressed are:

- Articulating conservation problems of mosaics through condition survey and risk assessment
- Prioritisation of interventions in mosaics and selection of practical and sustainable responses, both preventive and remedial
- Implementation of interventions, maintenance and monitoring (including personal experiences, both negative and positive; and cost analysis)
- Archaeological evaluation of real problems and practical solutions

Secondary themes that will be discussed are:

- Site personnel: roles and responsibilities in management of mosaics
- Training in conservation (technicians, conservators, site managers and archaeologists)
- Preservation of the evidential value of mosaics: documentation, interpretation and presentation to the public

The primary and secondary themes will consider mosaics in situ and lifted mosaics in store in the context of archaeological sites and standing monuments.
Language and Translation

The official languages to be used during the conference will be English and French. Papers and posters will be accepted only in these two languages for presentation and publication. Papers in other languages will not be accepted. Simultaneous translation in the two official languages, French and English, will be provided. Translation of both languages into Arabic will be considered if funds allow.

Venues

The opening ceremony will take place at the new Cultural Centre on the site of ancient Volubilis. Formal sessions will be held at Volubilis and the Conference Centre of Meknes.

Presentations

Presentations will be limited to 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes discussion. There will also be short presentations lasting a total of 15 minutes, and a poster session. Guidelines for presentations and posters will be sent to authors whose papers or posters will be accepted for presentation.

Conference visits and tours

Before the opening ceremony, the Director of the site of Volubilis, Dr Rachid Bouzidi, will give a presentation on the ancient city. This will be followed by a guided visit of the site.

The organisers will also provide for all participants:
- a half-day visit to Meknes. NB: planned for the afternoon of 23 October
- a half-day excursion to Fez and Ifrane
- a visit to the Ethnographic Museum in Rabat

In addition, an optional two-day tour to Marrakesh will be organised at an extra cost of around €200. The exact price will be announced in the Second Circular.

Organising Committee

The conference is organised under the auspices of Ahmed Guitaà, Secretary General of The Moroccan Ministry of Culture; and Abdelilah Salih, Director of Cultural Heritage.

The Organising Committee consists of the following:
Rachid Bouzidi: Director of the site of Volubilis;
Evelyne Chantriaux: Atelier de restauration de mosaïques et d’enduits peints de Saint-Romain-en-Gal;
Abdelilah Dekkayer: Enseignant chercheur à la Faculté des sciences de Meknès;
Rachid El Mstfa: Chargé de recherché au Ministère de la Culture, Rabat;
Demetrios Michaelides: Archaeological Research Unit, University of Cyprus, Nicosia;
Roberto Nardi: Centro di Conservazione Archeologica, Roma;
Zohra Qninba: Enseignant chercheur à l’Institut d’Archéologie, Rabat.

Scientific Committee

Rachid Bouzidi: Director of the site of Volubilis;
Evelyne Chantriaux: Atelier de restauration de mosaïques et d’enduits peints de Saint-Romain-en-Gal;
Stefania Chlouveraki: INSTAP Study Center for East Crete, and the Technological Educational Institute (T.E.I.) of Athens;
Sabah Ferdi: Centre National de Recherche en Archéologie, Algérie;
Anne-Marie Guimier-Sorbets: l’Université de Paris X-Nanterre;
Demetrios Michaelides: Archaeological Research Unit, University of Cyprus, Nicosia;
Guido Meli: Direttore del Parco Archeologico della Villa Romane del Casale di Piazza Armerina;
Roberto Nardi: Centro di Conservazione Archeologica, Roma;
John Stewart: English Heritage, London;

Abstracts

The deadline for submission of the abstracts is November 30, 2010. Abstracts (1000-1500 characters) should include full name, affiliation, and contact details (address, phone number, fax number and email). If there is more than one author, please indicate who the corresponding author is. The abstracts should clearly state how the theme of the conference will be addressed.
Authors will be contacted by January 30, 2011, about acceptance of their papers and posters for presentation at the conference.

**Interest Form**
An expression of interest form is attached to this announcement. Please complete it and return it by November 30, 2010, to all three of the following:
Demetrios Michaelides: dmichael@spidernet.com.cy, fax 00357 22674101
Rachid Bouzidi: bouzidi3@yahoo.fr, fax 00212 535544103 or 535526380
Skevi Christodoulou: christodoulou.paraskevi@ucy.ac.cy, fax 00357 22674101

The second announcement will only be sent to those who have expressed interest in attending the conference.

**Registration Fees and Deadlines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Registration</td>
<td>€120.00</td>
<td>April 30, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Registration</td>
<td>€150.00</td>
<td>September 30, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accompanying guest</td>
<td>€100.00</td>
<td>September 30, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Registration</td>
<td>€80.00</td>
<td>September 30, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional post-conference tour</td>
<td>approx. €200.00</td>
<td>September 30, 2011</td>
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Free admission will be granted to officials from the Ministry of Culture of the Kingdom of Morocco and other Moroccan government bodies.

Accompanying guest rate includes: the opening reception at Volubilis, guided tours, and other eventual social activities.

**NB: Full or partial support** might be available for a limited number of participants. More details will be provided in the next circular, but those interested should send their request together with a CV to dmichael@spidernet.com.cy

Registration fees (taxes etc to be paid by the participant) can be deposited by money transfer into the account below:

Demetrios Michaelides (for A/C of ICCM)
Acc. No. 00173-11-017340
Bank of Cyprus
Ayios Antonios Branch
P.O.Box 21472
1599 Nicosia, Cyprus
Swift Code: BCYPCY2N
IBAN: CY51 0020 0173 0000 0001 0173 4000

**NB:** Arrangements are being made so that participants can pay by credit card through the ICCM website - more details will be provided in the next circular.

When paying, please indicate: Registration 11th ICCM Conference, Volubilis October 2011.

NB: Participants from Morocco and the Maghreb will be able to pay the registration fee directly at Volubilis/Meknes at the normal rate. All other participants will have to deposit the registration fee in the ICCM account.

Please send a copy of your payment by fax to D. Michaelides 00357 22674101.

Your registration will be confirmed only after payment of the registration fee.

**The Registration Fee covers:**
ICCM Membership for the next 3 years; the right to put up candidature and to vote for the ICCM Board, at the elections that will take place during the conference; the organised coach transfer from Casablanca airport to Meknes; a booklet of the Abstracts and all other conference material; receptions; visits to Meknes, Fez and Rabat (transportation); as well as coffee breaks and working luncheons during the conference.

**Accommodation**
Negotiations are under way for making the Hotel Transatlantique in Meknes, a historic, listed building, the conference hotel.
Other hotels in the vicinity of the Conference Centre include: the Ibis, Baba Mansour, Majestic Malta and Akouas hotel.

Complete information on the recommended hotels will be sent in the second circular. Participants will be responsible for making their own reservations and payments.
Transportation
Coaches will be provided on 23 October to take participants from Casablanca airport to Meknes. Details of departure times will be given in the second circular. Please note that the half-day visit to Meknes is planned for this same afternoon.

Those arriving at Fez airport should inform the Organizing Committee so that the necessary arrangements for their transportation to Meknes are made. There will be transportation to the airports at the end of the conference.

Next Announcement
Conference programme, speakers, information on hotels and transport, and tour itineraries will be provided in the second circular, expected by the end of March 2011.

Information will also be posted under “Forthcoming Events” on www.iccm.ac.cy, as well as on the website of the Ministry of Culture of Morocco on www.minculture.gov.ma

Contact Information
Abstracts, expressions of interest in attending the conference, and changes of address since the last ICCM conference should be sent by post, fax, or email to:

Demetrios Michaelides
Director, Archaeological Research Unit
University of Cyprus
Kallipoleos 75
1678 Nicosia, CYPRUS
Tel.: 00357 22893570
Fax: 00357 22674101
Email: dmichael@spidernet.com.cy

AND

Rachid Bouzidi
Director of the Archaeological site of Volubilis
BP.2, Moulay Idriss Zerhoun
Meknès, Morocco
Tel. and Fax: 00212 535544103
Mobile: 00212 66741023
Email: bouzidi3@yahoo.fr

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Expression of Interest Form

Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms First Name: ____________________________ Last Name: ____________________________
Organisation/Affiliation: ____________________________________________________________
Number and Street: __________________________________ City: ____________________________
Province/State: ____________________ Postal Code and Country: __________________________
Telephone: ______________________ Fax: ____________________ Email: _________________________

Please mark your choices:
☐ I wish to attend the conference
☐ I intend to submit a paper
☐ I attend to submit a poster
☐ I intend to participate in the post conference tour