

C14 and the protection of Cultural Heritage, ETH Zurich

16-17th Nov 2017

Following the discussion, we agreed on some general guidelines.

It would be up to each lab to decide how they apply it. Since this was only a subgroup of the labs (ETH, AZ, Oxford, Mannheim, Paris, Debrecen, Mexico, Romania, SGS - Art Service in Geneva, Florence and some others), we would propose to publish the principles in a short paper in Radiocarbon. We would then propose a much larger meeting at the next Radiocarbon meeting in Norway.

Most of these ideas are already in the basic agreement documents we looked at. We looked at the agreement documents for ETH, Oxford, Arizona and SGS, Geneva (sgs.com)

The basic principles would be:

- 1 the submitter (or their authorized representative) declares/certifies they are the owner of the object. They should provide address and contact info. Some people suggested verifying identification documents (of the submitter).
- 2 the submitter declares that the items are legally imported to and exported from any country through which they passed. The submitter should be prepared to prove this if necessary.
- 3 Add some statement (like Arizona's) about being obtained legally within the country (e.g. necessary permits obtained).
- 4 a statement that the labs agree to abide by the UNESCO principles of 1970. This defines the "distressed" country. There was a lot of concern about African and Middle Eastern art from dubious sources.
- 5 The "red list" is given here: <http://icom.museum/programmes/fighting-illicit-traffic/red-list/>
- 6 the advertising question came mostly from Oxford and ETH. They are concerned about misuse of dates in advertisements for art that "increases their value". We propose to discourage the use of the dates in advertisements online, in catalogues, etc. Since presumably the buyer wants to see these documents before sale, presumably the seller would show the documents to prospective buyers when advertising the dates publicly. It's not clear how to stop future purchasers from advertising the information later.
- 7 the statement (in AZ document) that the subsamples belong to the lab should be added. ETH's lawyers already suggested this to them.