

Lebanese Republic
Office of the Minister of State
for Administrative Reform

Citizens Charter for Heritage

This document was drafted by a working team formed by former Minister of Administrative Reform Mr. Fouad al-Saad. The team continued its work under the supervision of Minister of State for Administrative Reform Mr. Karim Pakradouni in the context of sector-related charters to complement the Citizen's Charter that was endorsed by the Cabinet on 15/11/2001. The working group was composed of: Dr. Hareth Boustany, a professor in the Lebanese University; Dr. Ilham Kallab Bsar, assistant director at the International Human Sciences Center of UNESCO in Jbeil; Dr. Leila Badr, directress of the AUB museum; Dr. Frederick al-Husseini, Director-General of Antiquities, as an advisor; Dr. Anna Czajka, expert in Archives and Written Heritage. Dr. Antoine Messarra was in charge of the general coordination of the Citizen's Charters (Health, Education, Environment, Heritage, Public Funds and Public Safety...).

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Introduction

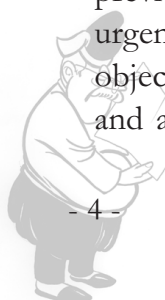
Heritage is not only nostalgia, but a quality of life and an inheritance that is passed on from one generation to another to preserve and enrich it.

Heritage is the fruit of civilizational accumulation and efforts. It is a real need for a better life and a tangible enhancement of citizenship concepts of responsibility, solidarity and interaction between individuals, groups, generations and cultures.

Man learns his existing history at home, in the neighborhood, street, at school, in the village, town and the nation, and not only in a book. Heritage is the existing book, the lived one and the prospective, through which he acquires the feeling of belonging, responsibility, participation and solidarity.

1- What is the purpose behind heritage? Research on the protection of cultural and natural heritage necessitates that one look at the purpose behind it, in an age where social and economic circumstances constitute a very serious factor that leads to the destruction, dispersion or the annihilation of elements of heritage with its different faces.

When heritage, with the materialistic and intellectual civilizational values it represents, is an inheritance created by previous generations, linking the past to the present becomes an urgent necessity to contribute in consolidating the foundations of objective thinking about the public's roots in their land, identity and affiliations. Moreover, it is an ethical and moral obligation



which the current civilization has to protect, safeguard and revive to be passed on to future generations with its authenticity.

The living memory that passes on from one generation to another is an essential sign of development with respect to peoples and civilizations. It is an efficient factor that grows, develops and is renewed, at present and in the future, in their cultural, social and economic life. In order to continue and preserve one's person and identity, it goes without saying that people tend to protect and look after their heritage, and reveal its value in the context of programs and policies, particularly through integrating every element of heritage in the society's life.

2- Who can be in charge of safeguarding the heritage so that this process achieves its aspired goals on the national and world level? Having faith in the importance of cultural and natural heritage in a country's civilizational life, and in order to avoid the risks surrounding it, the protection of heritage can only take place with the joint efforts of the State and the society's partners, whether the civil associations involved in this field or the educational institutions, media and citizens. Each party here has its tasks, responsibilities and role, which renders cooperation of different levels and forms between them more than a necessity. This cooperation is aimed at raising awareness, exchanging expertise and ensuring joint action that would secure efficient protection as much as it would encourage social and economic development.

The central authority is the first apparatus which is directly responsible for protecting the cultural and natural heritage. This responsibility is manifested in adopting cooperation and

coordination between different public administrations and institutions involved in heritage and municipalities as a principal base to perform its tasks according to laws and regulations. These public authorities, each in its field of specialization and power, should reinforce their capacities through taking the necessary legal, administrative, financial, scientific and technical measures. Moreover, they should develop their plan of action in conformity with the concept of heritage and the prerequisites of its protection and safeguard, and in accordance with a master and developmental plan to revive it.

This charter, which acts as a guide for every citizen regardless of the category or generation he belongs to, emanates from the following necessities:

- **introduce** to the citizen the concept of heritage, in general, and his national heritage, in particular, and promote his perception that heritage has a basic role in preserving the national personality, social linkage, and economic development, particularly through internal and external tourism.
- promote his **role** in knowing this heritage and raising awareness towards it.
- call for personal and general **initiatives**, in the family, at school, in the town, neighborhood, street, media, as well as social and cultural institutions to preserve and promote it.
- support the **efficiency** of the public policy and legislations related to heritage which back the public action without replacing it.

3. **What is the objective behind the charter?** This charter is aimed at:

First: Awareness

- Reveal the importance of heritage on the national level and global level to depict the identity, roots and the culture that is inherited across the generations.
- Raise the citizen's awareness towards his heritage and urge him to preserve it since it represents its roots and history, confirms his belonging and links him to humanity and civilizations.
- Raise the citizen's awareness towards heritage richness in Lebanon, which is marked by diversity of sources, affiliations and civilizations. This will lead to him to identify with his own heritage and interact with the heritage of the entire humanity.
- Inform all of the citizens about the importance of heritage, in terms of what is past and what is considered as contemporary intervention in daily life, through creating some balance between the safeguard, protection, and use of heritage whether in ancient ruins or natural landscape, or the safeguard of the environment as a position for local economic development.

Second: Commitment

- Commitment and participation of local citizens in the preservation of heritage via entrepreneurship, solidarity and responsibility.
- Contribution to preservation and rehabilitation of heritage on the individual, family, school, media and civil associations level.

Third: **Protection**

- Protection of heritage from any threatening destruction, annihilation or change due to economic, political, social or administrative circumstances, such as monopolization, appropriation, exploitation, ideological use, fanaticism, contempt, warning and undertaking of media actions towards any existing or expected harm.

Fourth: **Acquisition of Skills**

- Acquisition of skills and potentials, attitudes and creation of practical activities to preserve heritage and introduce its importance.

4. **What is heritage?** Heritage is collection of constructed ruins, natural sites, properties and inherited handicrafts, knowledge, daily traditions, and values shared by a group which considers them as a basic pillar to determine its identity and roots.

Heritage is everything that is made by man and inanimate and animal nature and that has kept apace with man's development on earth. So, he created an audio-visual, life and social qualitative environment which has adapted to him and vice versa, until it became an integral part of his life, to an extent that the loss of one of these elements destabilizes his life and abolishes the delicate balance that he has attained with great effort over the passing of ages. Man has built his life and environment, based on these elements, which refined his senses and bestowed upon him the aesthetic taste. And thanks to these elements, he has soared to the noblest images of moral and artistic finesse.

Based on a famous saying: **We don't inherit land from our ancestors, but we borrow it from our grandchildren**, we are forced to preserve it. It is our duty to hand it all, sincerely, to our successors.

Heritage is of two types:

Natural Heritage: includes the different natural landmarks and landscapes, such as mountains, rocks, valleys, forests, grottos, environmental wealth, fauna and flora, which man benefited from and which constituted the natural environmental landscape of his daily life.

Heritage is not only found in museums but in all aspects of life. If damaged, we lose heritage forever. It can be quickly ruined, but cannot be replaced. It needs protection that requires joint efforts and the support of every citizen.

The safeguard of heritage implies the respect of the efforts and achievements of ancestors. It is an indicator of modernity since heritage is the past while moving towards the future. It is a place for local economic development. Heritage, through local belonging and national personality, is not ours, nor does it belong to a certain team that is supposed to protect it. Every heritage that belongs to the history of humanity is the fortune of the world and a collective responsibility.

Humanitarian Heritage: it could also be called the visible and the invisible, i.e. everything invented and designed by man in order to improve his living standards. This ranges from housing, clothes, nutrition, handicrafts, to traditions, habits, music, values and customs.

Over the passing of years, man added developments and improvements that he gained through daily successive practices

and via his communication and interaction with other cultures that enriched him with their knowledge and techniques.

Each category of people on this planet enriched these acquisitions with special systems that it created to be adequate to every geographical spot or climate. This was why traditions, habits and artistic innovations emanated from man's interaction with his climate and his economic and historic environment.

5. How did the concept of heritage globally progress?

After heritage had been considered the rare treasure that is preserved in museums, it turned into a witness on time and people. It was diversified into an antiquity heritage, artistic heritage or popular heritage, and to a tangible and intangible heritage, focusing on customs and traditions, and having many diversified fields to approach and examine it.

We do not approach heritage today as properties, treasures and antiques, but approach it as heritage groups in their own environment.

After heritage used to mean precious buildings and pottery, its concept widened to include everything representing natural landmarks and ruins of the past, whether it was valuable or ordinary.

The concept of heritage gained dynamicity, rapid transformation and comprehensiveness that changed the definitions that surrounded it and raced with laws that regulated it.

In Lebanon that is marked by the diverse antiquities created by civilizations on its land, heritage used to mean in the beginning its antiquities and treasures possessed by some families. Little by

little, interest diverted towards everything belonging to the past, such as architecture, pottery, food, music, dialects, traditions and habits.

Today, interest in heritage is crystallized as a position to form the national identity with its diverse branches and as comprehensive awareness of this heritage and diverse forms that was embodied in the Lebanese citizen's rediscovery of the importance of this cultural and social culture so that he would be able to formulate his present and his national character.

As every state realizes the importance of heritage, with its comprehensiveness and diverse aspects, as a basic element of its civilization and national culture, it sought to set legislations that would guarantee its protection, safeguard, rescue, illustration and revival on one hand. And on the other hand, such legislations would constitute an important step to acquire knowledge and awareness vis-à-vis related issues.

6. What are the most significant laws that govern heritage in Lebanon? The laws governing heritage in Lebanon are subject to the authority of a few State apparatuses involved in natural heritage and materialistic cultural heritage only, while the non-materialistic cultural heritage is still dealt with due to its nature that falls within social sciences (sociology, ethnology, anthropology, history, religion...).

Antiquities Regulation: The antiquities regulation that is promulgated by virtue of Decision No. 166 on 7/11/1933 plays a primordial role in preserving the national cultural heritage, in general, and the antiquities wealth, in particular. It is worth-noting

that it has become essential that the Culture Ministry- Directorate General of Antiquities- reconsider the regulation so that it keeps apace with the developments of the era and the upcoming needs of the country, especially in the field of finding incentives to the owners of classified real-estates and in promoting the protection and the categorization of areas which enjoy important cultural value in cities and towns, such as ancient and historic places and neighborhoods, as well as traditional building blocs, to face the risks of urbanism and urban development. In accordance with Article (1), **All hand-made things dating before 1700 are considered as antiques** (mobile or immobile) **regardless of the city they belonged to. As for the immobile things that were made after 1700, and the preservation of which is a public benefit, in terms of history or art- and if they were registered in the “general inventory list of historic buildings”- they are considered as similar to antiques.**

This decision defined the rules, principles and foundations regarding the appropriation of mobile and immobile antiques, discovery, declaration, protection, registration in the general inventory list of historic buildings and then their registration, restoration, trade-off, export, licensing of scientific antiquity excavations, as well as the sanctions imposed on violations.

Decision to Freeze Trade in Antiquities: Moreover, Decision No.8 of 27/2/1990 was issued, stipulating the freezing of all licenses of trade in antiquities on the internal level, as well as the suspension of exporting antiquities abroad. Security apparatuses and Public Customs Administration are active in deterring the smuggling of antiquities, and this is in implementation of the decision which is still enforced.

Urban Planning Law: Another collection of legal texts adopted by the Ministry of Public Works and Transport in the field of construction and urban planning contribute, even if with limited articles, to bridging the gaps in the Antiquities Regulation regarding architecture and its relation to urban planning.

The Urban Planning Law, promulgated by the legislative decree No.69 of 9/9/1983, stipulates in Article 4, “Setting (guiding) outlines and regulations of cities and villages within the comprehensive plan to organize lands is obligatory (...) for historic sites”. In Article 8, it stipulates that the outline and the detailed regulation define (...) the rules and conditions to use the land within the area, including the prohibition of construction. It also defines, in particular, the limits of neighborhoods, or streets or historic buildings or natural sites that should be protected or exhibited for aesthetic, historic or environmental reasons.”

Law of Construction Permits: Law No.646 of 11/12/2004 shows that the construction permit has a significant role in safeguarding ancient landmarks and their surroundings and in implementing the construction regulations in master plans. Article 13 stipulates in paragraphs 2 and 3: “Special additional conditions are imposed on some buildings that are related to public safety, health, architectural perspectives and Lebanese artistic specifications, as well as additional equipment that is adequate to the importance of construction.” “A construction permit might be rejected if the buildings, in terms of their locations, sizes, outer appearances, and the facilities to be constructed or changed cause harm to the public health and safety, or to the natural landscapes, environment or architectural landscapes.”

Municipalities Law: Many texts related to the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities ensure more protection not only to cultural heritage but to natural heritage as well.

Law on Municipalities promulgated by virtue of legislative decree No.118 of 30/6/1977 gives the municipal council, within its area, and in accordance with Article 74, the power to look after “everything that has to do with the protection of the environment, natural landscapes and historic ruins, the preservation of trees and reforested areas, as well as the prevention of pollution.” According to articles 49 and 50, the law entitles the municipality to “establish or run, by itself or via mediation, or contribute or help carry out (...) museums.”

Decree on the organization of quarries: Article 15 of the decree on the organization of quarries No.8803 of 4/10/2002 indicate that “in case and during the course of work, any antiquities, plant or animal fossils, or grottos or other elements of heritage were discovered, the investor should cease work immediately and notify the governor and the Directorate-General of Antiquities, where they have a period of 15 days during which they should take the necessary measures to freeze or continue works and impose the necessary conditions when necessary.”

Law on Protection of Natural Landscapes and Sites: With respect to natural heritage, on 8/7/1939 the law on the protection of natural landscapes and sites in Lebanon was promulgated. This law is based on categorizing natural landscapes and sites within the general inventory list, “the safeguard or protection of which is a public interest, whether in terms of art, urban planning or tourism”. The law entitles the

Environment Ministry to determine sites to establish natural reserves.

International charters and conventions: When cultural and natural heritage in every country constitutes an integral part of the world humanity heritage, the elements of which are priceless and could not be compensated in case of loss through damage or annihilation, the steps to protect it, safeguard it, show it and revive it via legislations on the national level were parallel to the cooperation between countries within the context of governmental and non-governmental international organizations. Such organizations set legal texts in the form of charters, conventions, recommendations and declarations of international and regional dimension. These texts permitted national authorities in charge of the protection of heritage to follow general and guiding principles and certain standards. The texts left to these authorities the freedom to take the necessary legal procedures and others to implement them. Hence, every country became responsible before the international community to ensure efficient protection to the cultural and natural heritage within their territories.

UNESCO conventions and recommendations: It is worth-mentioning that UNESCO, whether individually or in collaboration with other international organizations, plays a primordial role in protecting the cultural and natural heritage on the national and world levels, as it tends, ever since its establishment in 1946, to bind Member States to submit periodical reports on the measures taken to implement the

clauses of the ratified conventions and ungratified recommendations and declarations that have been adopted in the UNESCO General Conference, as well as in international conferences.

Convention on Protection of World Heritage and Lebanon: As some properties of cultural and natural heritage still preserve their authenticity and represent an “exceptional world value”, which necessitates special protection before the increasing risks threatening it, the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1972 contributed in ensuring international cooperation that would promote national programs to protect and safeguard these properties, which the World Heritage Commission is in charge of integrating in the World Heritage List according to definite cultural and natural standards.

Lebanon recorded four historic sites on the above-mentioned list as cultural heritage (Baalbek, Anjar, Byblos and Tyre) and two sites as cultural landscapes (Qadisha Valley and Forest of God's Cedars). Moreover, it prepared the file to enlist the landmarks and palaces of Deir al-Qamar and Beiteddine, and it submitted an initial list of other sites (Old City of Tripoli, Old City of Mina, Palm (Nakheel) Island, Old City of Batroun, Valley of Nahr (River) Ibrahim, Valley of Nahr al-Kalb, Ashmoun Temple, Old City of Sidon and Valley of Nahr al-Assi.

The World Heritage Commission monitors how the sites on the World Heritage List are safeguarded via periodical reports that reveal the efficient and active measures adopted by public authorities to protect them, and this is in accordance with the

convention. The commission is also entitled to put on the Endangered World Heritage List the properties of cultural and natural heritage that are exposed to grave hazards, such as annihilation.

1 - Heritage in Daily Life: Family, Educational Institution and Media

Family Obligations

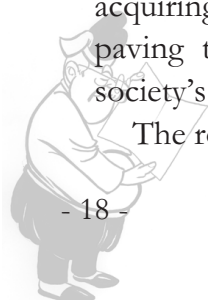
It is essential that the family raise the awareness of its children vis-à-vis the importance of heritage via all the available means:

1. Raise the awareness of children by recounting popular stories, simplifying the country's history, visiting historic areas and sites, as well as places where traditional handicrafts are made and bought.
2. Innovate new means for fun and entertainment, through coming up with educational games and puzzles that represent historic sites.
3. Restore traditions and celebrate heritage festivals.
4. Make traditional dishes and integrate them in the family's diet.
5. Make children get used to popular and heritage music.
6. Give proverbs and witty statements to children, explain and link them to the context of the village and the prevalent social life.

Obligations of Educational Institutions

Educational institutions such as schools, institutes and universities have a role in adopting the principle of raising the awareness of and educating the youth in the field of heritage. Education on all levels, as a fundamental element in the educational process, would contribute to promoting the maturity of a personality and developing the mental capacity through acquiring knowledge and the necessary skills and qualifications, paving the way for positive and mature participation in the society's activities, among which those related to heritage.

The role of educational institutions is to urge the good dealing



with elements of heritage through:

7. Set educational programs on a wide range that include adequate educational methods to deal with the topic of heritage and that ensure to students practical training sessions in this regard.
8. Encourage and publish scientific and field researches and studies on heritage.
9. Create the spirit of respect of the different norms, traditions and cultures.
10. Cooperate with different cultural, scientific and educational mediums that are involved in heritage.
11. Present different cultural activities that promote awareness and knowledge on heritage: exhibition, artistic works, conferences, seminars, meetings, study circles...
12. Organize visits to get introduced to different elements of cultural and natural heritage.
13. Organize trips to historic sites and historic and ancient landmarks.
14. Visit museums.
15. Write books ornamented with exciting pictures of heritage and from initial sources during all education levels.
16. Dedicate one session a week for the subject of heritage or for an activity related to heritage.
17. Hold music concerts and poem recitals.
18. Organize fruitful activities through teaching history and other subjects. For example, students would be asked to collect from their family documents, images, currencies, bills and old documents that depict the political, economic, social and cultural history of the city or the town.
19. Allocate an apparent place in every educational institution, university, school or vocational institution in order to exhibit

images, documents, sculptures, drawing and others that express the institution's heritage and work for the sake of communication and continuity between generations, and this is as an acknowledgement of gratefulness to previous generations of pioneers and as a motivation of follow-up and renewal.

20. Include in school textbooks (reading, history, science...) documents, images, and unduplicated but true copies, some of which are recently discovered, describe and mention their references as a means to develop the heritage culture. This is in addition to the refusal of those in charge of educational institutions and lesson coordinators to use books that lack authentic illustration means and from their sources.
21. Benefit from official holidays, local and national occasions in order to raise the awareness of students and to stimulate their active participation in programs and projects related to heritage.
22. Develop researches, studies, as well as school and university activities on heritage, including the popular heritage, document, save it and exploit it in cultural and tourism fields on the Lebanese, Arab and world levels.
23. Teach the history of Lebanon, all of Lebanon, locally and nationally, including its political, economic, social and cultural comprehensiveness, based on the spirit of the curriculum that was set in 1996-2000 and that was published in the official gazette (Issue No.27 on 22/6/2000 p.2114-2195); implement this curriculum in harmony with its spirit and in the context of the participation of all educational figures so that the curriculum gains maximum social legitimacy and educational efficiency.
24. Organize school activities related to the discovery of names

of streets and neighborhoods; know the history through the names and the biography of people bearing the names, as well as the memorials in public places, where each citizen feels that the neighborhood is his, and so are the street and the sidewalk. Moreover, the family history should not be neglected, as it might ensure deep awareness in students that every person is involved and interacts with events (from history and in history: immigration, famine, war...) which influence a family. Large volumes of the national history can be written, based on a history of an individual or a family. Thus, history was not only a textbook, but a national biography. Going deep in some aspects of family history in a small country like Lebanon, the meeting point of civilizations and religions, tangibly reveals the national and the nationalistic dimensions of most family roots. These dimensions transcend the area, sectarian and regional affiliation.

25. Circulate publications released by Lebanese and world publishing houses on Lebanon's heritage, prominent figures, history of its cities and villages and traditions, where these publications would be backed by images, true documents and audiovisuals on innovators from Lebanon and on the Lebanese heritage in order to convey a living memory from a living school textbook.
26. Take on the methodology of **adoption** in heritage-related topics by individuals, associations, bodies and committees, especially school students. Just like a child is adopted and looked after, a site, tree or a building, etc... could be adopted, looked after, identified, followed and protected from abuse. For instance, a group of students adopts a heritage site or perhaps one tree in a forest. They would be in charge of

trimming it and raising funds for this purpose. Hence, a vital relationship between man and his environment is born, as nature is not inanimate but it beats with life.

27. Conduct a comprehensive survey for historic and ancient buildings, detect handicrafts and craftsmen in all Lebanese towns, and document this work and preserve it in publications, libraries and municipal museums.

Media Obligations

Media, whether press or audio-visual, or even online media, plays a significant and active role in disseminating knowledge and awareness and drawing attention to heritage issues. Media is considered as the most efficient tool in guiding the public opinion and having positive impact on the officials' decisions, as it seeks, due to its responsibility, to:

28. Obtain accurate and clear information to convey the truth objectively and scientifically.
29. Define heritage and its importance, and promote the protection and safeguard of its different cultural and natural elements.
30. Cover activities and projects related to heritage and urge their support.
31. Bring up problems and hazards that threaten elements of cultural and natural heritage; and confirm the importance to save and protect them.
32. Allocate at least one hour a week or one page a week in the media to discuss heritage and its importance.
33. Highlight Lebanon's peculiarity due to its diversified heritage and sites in all areas to an extent that it forms, within the private environment, an integrated unit that needs care, preservation and media coverage.

34. Contribute in defending heritage, with the support of civil **associations**, municipal councils and neighborhood committees, so that the media does not become the only party involved in raising awareness, defense and confrontation with powerful men, investors and pressures of politics and money.
35. Organize training sessions for journalists to reveal the Lebanese journalistic expertise in allocating pages for heritage, publishing reports and hunting information with high proficiency.

2 - Safeguard of Heritage: Participation & Solidarity

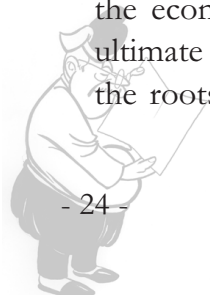
Citizen's Obligations

Protection of heritage could not take place without the awareness of citizens, regardless of their age, cultures and classes. In order to be efficient, the protection of heritage requires that they share the responsibility and cooperate, especially through:

36. Setting up a moral and ethical deterring barrier to abstain fully from damaging or harming elements of cultural and natural heritage: illegal excavation works, illegitimate trade...
37. Abiding completely by legislations on heritage, and not violating them or trying to deceive the law via bribery or means of pressure by men of power.
38. Taking interest in all stages and procedures of administrative formalities related to heritage, facilitating the employees' job, and respecting the decisions taken.
39. Notifying concerned official authorities as soon as possible when finding elements of cultural or natural heritage or in case of risk that threatens their annihilation, damage or harm.
40. Declaring to the concerned official authorities their possessions of heritage properties, whether cultural or natural, mobile or immobile, in order to protect them and obtain the necessary assistance to safeguard them.

Obligations of Municipalities

As safeguard of heritage and environment is one of the most important factors of ethical and social development, as well as the economic in particular, and since the proof of that is the ultimate importance that cultural tourism sees in going back to the roots of human history, the local authorities, especially the



municipal councils, should guarantee harmony between heritage, environment and development through the following:

41. Reinforce cooperation between municipal councils, local bodies, public administrations and residents in order to safeguard heritage.
42. Survey heritage buildings and scrutinize the master and regulatory plans of area; and make sure to guarantee the economic and social development of areas.
43. Reinforce the municipalities' capacities to complete the heritage inventory through cooperation with faculties of architecture in different universities to set the composing elements of this file.
44. Urge municipal councils not to be contented with legal monitoring on the topographic level and to provide applicants for construction and restoration permits with guidance and assistance in terms of the aesthetic and heritage aspects that are often less costly from distortion with methods that look more modern.
45. Establish multi-disciplinary committees on the level of governorates and municipal councils to observe the development of different area and preserve their particularities and national synchronization.
46. Commence the establishment of municipal museums within the available means and in cooperation with residents who could have documents, photos, papers, bills, pottery, techniques and old manuscripts that are a proof of the a town's heritage, cultural and intellectual production, particularities and harmony with the public national issues.

Central Authority's Obligations:

The central authority could do the following:

47. Curb political intervention in heritage affairs.
48. Restructure the Culture Ministry through establishing a special unit for urban heritage; reconsider the legislations adopted before different official authorities and update them to bridge the gaps in these legislations so they become more comprehensive and efficient.
49. Reinforce control to implement laws and put an end to violations and infringements and impose strict sanctions on every violator, causing harm to the elements of cultural and natural heritage, either deliberately or as a result of negligence.
50. Take adequate measures, especially security, to ban the illegal commerce of mobile cultural properties, their import or export.
51. Coordinate and cooperate tightly with concerned official authorities regarding the projects to be completed in the cultural, environmental, tourism, urban and planning fields... set a program of action that gives the priority to the protection, exhibition and revival of the cultural and natural heritage.
52. Provide concerned official authorities with specialized and competent human resources as well as sufficient financial resources so that they could fulfill their tasks.
53. Set an inventory of heritage properties, whether cultural or natural, mobile or immobile, public or private; encourage their owners to declare them, preserve and safeguard them, especially through giving them incentives according to the category to which each of these properties belong, such as benefiting from fiscal exemptions, technical and financial assistance...when necessary.

54. Implement Lebanon's general master plan, based on reconstruction and heritage reconsideration in order to preserve Lebanon's natural heritage.
55. Reformulate the construction laws in a way that they do not have any investment or profitability background but aesthetic. Architecture is not only a process of construction and investment, but rather it is poetry in construction, and heritage is a memory of achievements.
56. Find fiscal and financial incentives, as well as an encouragement plan, particularly through exempting heritage buildings from the mobility fee and the tax on constructed properties, etc...
57. Raise the awareness of citizens and communicate with them through informing them regularly, via conferences, seminars and workshops that the central authority prepares or takes part in, about the activities and achievements of the concerned public authorities in the field of the protection, exhibition and revival of cultural and natural heritage, and about the studies and scientific researches that were conducted in this regard, in cooperation with experts.
58. Facilitate the complaints of citizens before concerned public authorities and help them understand the mechanism of their work and develop their initiatives to protect and safeguard heritage.
59. Reinforce the establishment and development of museums, libraries, archives, laboratories and other cultural, scientific and technical institutions that directly contribute to the issue of heritage.
60. Encourage the organization of activities (ceremonies, festivals, exhibitions, seminars, meetings,...) that have to do with the revival and development of cultural heritage in terms of traditions, handicrafts, folkloric arts and other forms of

traditional culture; and promote and publish studies and scientific researches about these activities.

61. Prepare and carry out development projects in the context of safeguarding and reviving heritage; and recruit the individual and collective capacities needed.
62. Cooperate continuously with concerned official authorities, and among themselves, on all levels, especially in terms of planning, conducting studies, exchanging expertise, experiences and information.
63. Back concerned official authorities, when necessary, through offering the necessary services and assistance on the scientific, technical, artistic and financial levels, etc...
64. Hold cultural and social activities (seminars, meetings, exhibitions, festivals, ceremonies...) that are aimed at raising cultural awareness, and reinforce the citizens' appreciation and respect of their heritage and the values lying within it.
65. Organize awareness campaigns in the field of protecting different elements of cultural or natural heritage.
66. Encourage cultural tourism inside and outside the country through promoting the characteristics of each town in terms of its geography, sites, traditions, production and food, as an expression of Lebanon's diversity and unity.
67. Give the priority to revive the national library, which harbors Lebanon's cultural memory, to express Lebanon's cultural role in the Arab area and to achieve communication between generations.
68. Harbor in the National Museum and local museums documents on Lebanon's instruments and the Lebanese society's resistance against the war and defense of coexistence, as heritage and memory for the new generation (Antelias Square, a banner that is dozens of meters long which was signed by thousands of Lebanese people in July

1988, entitled: “No to War, Yes to Peace”, List of the martyrs who were assassinated during the war due to an opinion or stand...)

In addition to the integrated and continuous work to protect cultural and natural heritage on the national level, the importance of the role that the State plays on the world level emerges, in a larger and broader scope within the framework of cooperation with international governmental and non-governmental organizations. This cooperation necessitates the State’s commitment, according to its potentials, to the different conventions, recommendations and declarations involved in the topic of cultural and natural heritage. This can be done through taking the adequate legal, administrative, scientific, technical and financial measures and procedures.

What enables the State to set the cultural and natural heritage properties on its territories in the World Heritage List can be summarized as follows:

69. Promote regional and international cooperation, particularly through exchanging information and expertise in the framework of implementing conventions and following-up on the situation of these properties due to the necessity to preserve the values and standards that led to their enlistment.
70. Obtain technical assistance in the form of equipment and devices which the State could not possess, or in the form of consultancy provided by experts in different fields in order to conduct researches and studies to deal with artistic, scientific and technical issues related to the protection, safeguard and revival of these properties.
71. Benefit from training sessions for specialists in different fields related to heritage.

72. Benefit from the World Heritage Fund allowances in funding studies and projects that will be carried out to protect, safeguard and revive these properties.
73. Facilitate the obtainment of donations and low-interest loans or interest-free loans for projects aimed at protecting, safeguarding and reviving these properties.

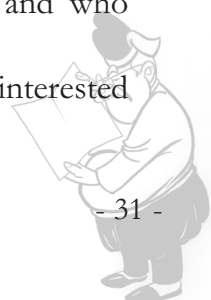
3 - Heritage and Local Bodies: Detection, Professionalism and Defense

Obligations of Civil Associations, Municipal Councils and Neighborhood Committees:

Collective initiatives emanate from civil associations, municipal councils and neighborhood committees, each of which practices a tangible activity in the field of a certain element of cultural and natural heritage, where this activity complements the work of governments without replacing it. These associations constitute a major part of the society's structure. Some of them had an efficient role, enabling them to participate on a larger scope in projects with concerned official authorities.

Among the obligations of civil associations, municipal councils and neighborhood committees on the national and local level:

74. Detect, discover, introduce heritage sites and elements and try to protect them via media, awareness and lobbying on decision-makers and powerful men.
75. Promote follow-up, concentration and stability in every heritage-related issue.
76. Seek to specialize in heritage matters, which would achieve efficiency and integration between different associations.
77. Defend heritage with proficiency in dealing with it, as well as in the methodology of awareness, follow-up and lobbying.
78. Ensure a database and inform citizens about the means of guidance, review and the importance of addressing specialists and technicians who are armed with knowledge and who provide scientific advice on heritage matters.
79. Establish a communication network between those interested in heritage issues.



80. Mobilize engineers, architects, historians, students of engineering, history and architecture in every town, via volunteer work, in order to explore the heritage sites and features in every town, introduce them and take initiatives in order to maintain them, protect them, exert pressure on powerful officials and reinforce the efficiency of public discussion on different heritage matters, from the perspective of the local and national public interest.
81. Try to establish municipal museums in the context of the municipality or a university or municipal institution that includes documents, photos and techniques about the heritage of a town, and this is in order to pass on this heritage to new generations, encourage cultural tourism, build an animate and humane collective memory that benefits from the past and prevents repetition.
82. Survey the heritage buildings and sites in every town and neighborhood by official bodies, civil associations and volunteering residents, in cooperation with architects, historians, journalists, social, educational and young figures; and raise awareness via documented photos and films.
83. Seek to establish information and complaint centers and means of revision in everything that has to do with heritage.
84. Encourage civil associations interested in heritage to practice their right to litigate in defense of heritage.
85. Preserve photos, recording and documents and copy them when necessary to distribute these copies to interested people to benefit from them.

4 - Heritage: Particularity and Globalization

Whereas the Lebanese heritage production is threatened by external imitation and competition in the absence of regulations due to the open custom borders and free world trade and export, and in the context of the liberalization of export and the globalization of trade via the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the European Union (EU), there is a need to renew the means of dealing with heritage matters of economic return and to develop a modern methodology in diagnosis and treatment;

Whereas the geographical source of a certain product is linked to its identity and taste;

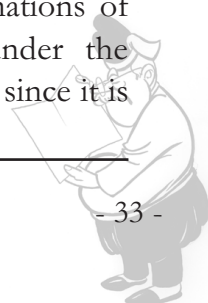
To provide guarantees to small producers regarding food industries and handicrafts;

To encourage agricultural and handicraft diversity and the added-value merchandise;

To guarantee the quality related to a geographical spot: land, weather and method of production...;

In addition to the trademarks, the following should be done:

86. Establish a database on geographical indicators of Lebanese local products¹ which should be protected (arrack, wine, olive oil, home-made soap, kishk, shanklish, thyme, kawarma, bulgur, Jezzine industries, loom of Zouk Mikhael, pottery of Beit Shabab and Rashaya al-Fokhar, glass blowing in Sarafand, minted copper in Qalamoun, and sewing carpets in Beskinta and Fakiha, embroidery...)
87. Adopt a special system for geographical designations of the Lebanese products and protect them under the umbrella of the WTO and EU (Lebanese arrack since it is



produced in other countries, kishk of Hasbaya, soap of Tripoli, oil of Koura...), and this is in accordance with the WTO ministerial conference on 10-14/9/2003 in Cancun (Mexico) and in completion of the Convention on the Intellectual Property Rights related to Trade (ADPIC) that was signed in 1994 in the context of the WTO, and which differs from trademarks.

Annex 1 - Main Terms

Heritage: the group of human and natural achievements that constitute the framework of our life in time and place. This definition does not deal with each element alone, but rather tries to gather all elements of civilization in the framework of historic, cultural and traditional collections that express how man adapts to his architectural and natural surroundings.

Heritage is every public property and every rare and unique inherited wealth. It is also an indicator of development.

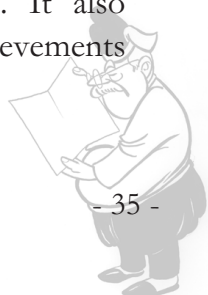
Cultural Heritage: It is composed of the following elements:

- **Buildings,** architectural works, monuments, statues, wall drawings, caves and the drawings and writings they include, and collections of antiquities that are of a special value on the historic, aesthetic or scientific levels.

- **Collections:** areas or neighborhoods that have a special value in terms of history, art or science due to its architecture or harmony with the surroundings and the environment.

- **Sites:** created by nature and man. They have a special value in terms of their beauty, historic, scientific or anthropological importance.

Natural Heritage: natural collections resulting from natural or biological compositions, and they enjoy an aesthetic and scientific value. It includes geological structures and locations where animals, rare plants or threatened by extinction, could be found, which enjoy a historic and scientific value. It also comprises the rare natural sites and common achievements between nature and man.



Cultural Heritage Value: the aesthetic, historic, scientific, natural and spiritual value of an antiquity. This value is embodied in its nature, composition, environment and meaning. The value might differ according to individuals and societies, but it represents a basic reference for past, present and future generations.

Cultural Properties: they might be immobile or mobile, categorized as ancient or contemporary. But they constitute a significant artistic and historic value.

Immobile Cultural Properties: archeological, historic or scientific sites. They include different types of construction, ranging from urban to religious building, enjoying historic, scientific, artistic and architectural value, whether in traditional building blocs, or in historic neighborhoods, or in anthological residence compounds. These properties are everything that is apparent over the surface of earth or in an archeological field before excavation.

Mobile Cultural Properties: properties of archeological, artistic, scientific, technical, anthropological, anthological and historic value. They include the following:

1. Findings of excavation, and land and marine exploration.
2. Heritage items such as tools, pottery, glass, currencies, seals, carvings, jewelry, weapons, waifs in graves, especially mummies.
3. Remnants of historic buildings.
4. Anthropological and anthological findings.
5. Indicators of history, even the history o sciences and techniques, military and social history, lives of people,

rulers, intellectuals, scientists, artists and significant national events for people.

6. Artistic antiquities, such as drawings and portraits of artists, manuscripts, posters and photos, sculptures, artistic structures using different material, applied arts in glass, ceramics, metals and wood.
7. Manuscripts, books and publications.
8. Different types of minted coins, medals, currencies and stamps.
9. Material of archives, such as texts, recordings, maps, photos, films, recording discs.
10. Types of furniture, tapestry, clothes and musical instruments.
11. Geological, plant and animal models.

Historic buildings: they mean every ancient building, as well as every historic building in its urban or rural environment, that has witnessed a certain civilization, a historical event or a civilizational development. They mean the simple and modest ruins that gained value with time, but they also include significant large ruins.

Conservation: a group of measures to deal with a certain heritage site in order to preserve its cultural identity.

Preservation: a group of measures to preserve any antiquity in its current condition and curb its deterioration.

Reconstruction: return the site or antiquity to its previous condition through using different or modern material.

Restoration: return the site or antiquity to its previous condition through eliminating any additions or distortions by using similar material or a new assembling of its remaining elements without introducing new material.

Conversion: convert a site or antiquity to respond to a new and different utilization.

Maintenance: continuous activity to look after an antiquity or site. It goes beyond fixing that includes restoration and reconstruction.

Annex 2 - National and International Texts Related to Heritage Preservation

1. Charter of Athens for the restoration of historic buildings

2. UNESCO Documents

- 2.1 Convention concerning the measures taken to prevent and prohibit the import, export and the illicit transfer of cultural properties and goods, Paris 1970-1972.
- 2.2 Convention for the Protection of World, Cultural and Natural Heritage (Paris, 1972).
- 2.3 Biscaye Declaration on the Right of Environment (Biscaye, 1999)
- 2.4 Recommendation concerning the safeguard of beauty and the character of landscapes and sites, Paris 1962.
- 2.5 Recommendation concerning the preservation of endangered cultural properties due to the public or private projects (Paris 1968).
- 2.6 Recommendation concerning the protection of cultural and natural heritage on the national level.
- 2.7 Recommendation concerning the international exchange of cultural properties, Nairobi 1976.
- 2.8 Recommendation for the protection of mobile cultural properties, 1978.

3. ICOMOS Documents (international)

- 3.1 International Charter for the conservation and the restoration of buildings and sites, Venice Charter, 1964.
- 3.2 International Charter for the safeguard of historic cities, 1987.
- 3.3 International Charter for the management of archeological heritage, 1990.

3.4 Nara Document on Authenticity, 1994.

3.5 Principles for the set-up of a documentary archive for buildings, architectural compounds and sites, Sofia 1996.

3.6 International Charter on the Protection and Management of Sub-aquatic cultural heritage, 1996.

4. ICOMOS Documents (National)

* Burra Charter- ICOMOS Australia Charter for the conservation of heritage sites and properties of a cultural value, 1979.

* Charter for the Conservation of Quebec Heritage, Deschambault Declaration, ICOMOS Canada, 1982.

* Dresden Declaration, 1982.

* Appleton Charter for the Protection and Depiction of the architectural environment, ICOMOS Canada, 1983.

5. European Council Documents

5.1 European Charter on Architectural Heritage, 1975.

5.2 Amsterdam Declaration, 1975.

5.3 Convention for the Safeguard of Europe's Architectural Heritage, 1985.

6. Convention on the Protection of Cultural Properties in case of armed conflict (1954). Lebanon ratified it on 1/6/1960.

7. Convention concerning the adopted measures to ban and prevent the illegal export, import and transfer of cultural property (1970). Lebanon ratified it on 25/8/1992.

8. Convention for the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972). Lebanon ratified it on 3/2/1983.

9. Madrid Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean from Pollution (1976). Lebanon ratified it on 30/6/1977.
10. UNESCO Convention for the Protection of Antiquities (1970). Lebanon ratified it on 30/10/1990.
11. Recommendation concerning the international principles that should be implemented in the field of archeological excavations (1956).
12. Recommendation concerning the preservation of the beauty and the character of landscapes and natural sites.
13. Recommendation concerning the safeguard of cultural properties endangered by public or private works (1968).
14. Recommendation concerning the protection of cultural and natural heritage on the national level (1972).
15. Recommendation concerning the safeguard of historic areas and their role in contemporary life (1976).
16. Recommendation concerning the international exchange of cultural property (1976)
17. Recommendation concerning the protection of mobile cultural property
18. Recommendation concerning the safeguard of folklore (1989).

Annex 3 - List of international and national organizations and institutions committed to the preservation of heritage

International Organizations:

- * UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- * ICOMOS – International Council on Monuments and Sites.
- * ICCROM – International Center for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property.
- * ICOM – International Council of Museums
- * ECPA – European Commission on Preservation and Access
- * Paris Convention for the protection of intellectual property, March 20, 1983.
- * Madrid Arrangement on the Repression of Wrong or Deceitful Indications on the Origin of Products, April 14, 1891. Lebanon joined it in 1947.
<http://www.ige.ch/F/jurinfo/j/104.htm>
- * WTO Ministerial Conference on 10-14/9/2003 in Cancun concerning the origin designation of the heritage product related to trade.

Lebanese Organizations:

- * Directorate-General for Antiquities (Lebanon)
- * National Archives Center (Lebanon)
- * Arab Image Foundation (Lebanon)
- * Association for the protection of ancient sites and buildings (Lebanon)
- * House of Antioch
- * Atelier for the Conservation of Written Heritage, Holy Spirit University-Kaslik



- * Institute for the Restoration of Architectural Ruins in Tripoli- Lebanese University, Tripoli.
- * National Heritage Foundation
- * Lebanese Gastronomy Academy
- * Lebanese Heritage Center at the Lebanese American University in Beirut.

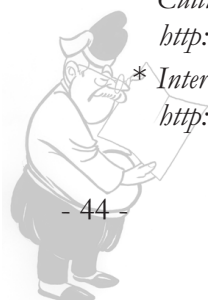
Annex 4 - Some websites dedicated to preservation of heritage

Repertoire of Resources

- * *National Park Service (USA)*
[http: // www.cr.nps.gov/.html](http://www.cr.nps.gov/.html)
- * *Website of Culture Ministry in France*
[http: // www.portail.culture.fr](http://www.portail.culture.fr)
- * *Stanford University website dedicated to the problems of the preservation and the restoration of cultural property*
[http: // www.palimpsest.stanford.edu](http://www.palimpsest.stanford.edu)
- * *Preserve/Net Links*
[http: // www.preservenet.cornell.edu/links.html](http://www.preservenet.cornell.edu/links.html)

Safeguard, Research and Conservation Bodies

- * *The World Heritage Center (UNESCO)*
[http: // www.unesco/whc.org](http://www.unesco/whc.org)
- * *International Council on Monuments and Sites*
[http: // www.icomos.org](http://www.icomos.org)
- * *Canadian branch of the international council on monuments and sites*
[http: // www.canada.icomos.org](http://www.canada.icomos.org)
- * *Organization of the World Heritage Cities*
[http: // www.ovpm.org/](http://www.ovpm.org/)
- * *World Nature Union*
- * *UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Center*
[http: // www.wcmc.org.uk](http://www.wcmc.org.uk) [http: // www.unep-wcmc.org](http://www.unep-wcmc.org)
- * *International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)*
[http: // www.iccrom.org](http://www.iccrom.org)
- * *International Council of Museums ICOM*
[http: // www.icom.org](http://www.icom.org)



- * *Association for the protection of ancient sites and buildings (APSAD)*
<http://www.apsad.org>
- * *Canadian Heritage Information Network*
<http://www.rcip.gc.ca>
- * *Aquarelle Project: Information Network on Culture Heritage*
<http://aqua.inria.fr/>
- * *Risk Map of Cultural Heritage in Italy*
<http://www.uni.net/aec/riskmap/english.htm>
- * *Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance – A “not-for-profit, volunteer organization of property owners, concerned citizens and preservation professionals dedicated to preserving Iowa’s architectural heritage”.*
<http://www.angelfire.com/pages0/IHPA/index.html>

Main texts on the internet

- * *Venice Charter*
<http://www.icomos.org/docs/venise.html>
- * *International conventions; UNESCO recommendations*
<http://www.unesco.org/general/eng/legal/cltheritage/index.html>
http://icomos.org/~fileblanc/publications/pub_is_everything_heritage.html
- * *Convention on the Safeguard of Architectural Heritage in Europe*
<http://www.tufts.edu/departments/fletcher/multi/www/bb872-fr.html>