

**Third Meeting Arab ICOM– ICOM Europe**  
**« Bridging Cultures »**

**Training Session for Young Museums' Professionals**  
**“Creating Exhibitions”**

**Projet**  
**ICOM Arabe - ICOM Europe**

**ICOM Arabe 2004 – 2007**

During the ICOM General Assembly in Seoul, Korea, in October 2004, several representatives of National Committees of Arab ICOM were present from Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Irak, Oman, and Qatar.

Arab ICOM activities were seriously discussed and projects were identified for the three next years in step with the needs of Arab countries present during this conference.

A meeting was in addition organised with ICOM Regional Organisations and an agreement was adopted with ICOM Europe establishing common activities for a better understanding of the cultural diversity and to bring together the two regions with their differences.

In fact after this agreement, the two Regional Organisations adopted the principle of meetings through the theme of « Bridging Cultures » which aims to bring closer cultures from these two regions. The important goal of these meetings had to explain the respective traditions of the regions for a better understanding and acceptance of the difference.

**Activities : 2005 - 2007**

In **February 2005**, the First common meeting Arab ICOM- ICOM Europe was organised with the helpful support of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities. The Theme chosen was « Heritage and Children » or how to explain to children the Heritage of another culture and region. The Meeting was held in Nubia in the Aswan Museum and the participants were those who applied for and they were from : Lebanon, Qatar, Iraq and Egypt for the Arab region and from Germany, Spain, Italy and Portugal for the European region. Many Young Egyptian curators participated in this first Workshop.

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In **March 2006**, a second Meeting was organised in Berlin and Oldenburg in Germany on behalf of the Exhibition “Saladin and the Crusaders”. The participants who applied were from; Lebanon, Mauritania, Tunisia, Egypt and a high representative from ALECSO, from the Arab region and Germany, Great Britain, Sweden, France and many ICOM members from Europe.

In **November 2006**, Arab ICOM organised a meeting for Arab countries. The theme was “Public and private Museums” which is a new reality who is growing in a rapid way in the Arab region.

ICOM and the Tunisian Ministry of Culture and Safeguard of Heritage supported and financed mainly the event . The Meeting was held in the island of Djerba in Tunisia with the participation of : Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia.

Subjects as : Management, Documentation, Legislation and Conservation were debated and discussed and raised the real needs in training of these regional museums.

The two meetings Arab ICOM- ICOM Europe gave the opportunity for many young museums’ professionals of the regions to participate and share the different experiences presented. These meetings gave also the opportunity to the young professionals to discuss about their problems and to have a better understanding of their respective traditions.

Since the two meetings had a real success, we decided to continue and develop this kind of cooperating experience. We are now working for the organisation of another training session for young museums’ professionals and to offer them a forum to discuss about another theme

On behalf of this training session, members of the Regional organisations’ boards will respectively held their annual meeting to decide the common activities to be held in the near future .

The two regional Organisations will held a common meeting to decide the final previous program of 2009.

### **The training Session objectives :**

Many young museums’ professionals who integrate the active professional work found several problems in their daily work.

After a preliminary survey with the Arab museums’ professionals, it appears that needs of training concern all museums’ areas. Since the means of the regional organisation are limited we had to establish a priority list of the kind of training could be done.

Arab ICOM tried during exchanges and meetings with its members and museums' professionals to identify the areas where the needs of help and training are the most important.

After a first evaluation it appears that the same needs concern also the young museums' professionals in the European region. This survey and inquiry show that the first interest concern "How to create an exhibition"

In fact the conception of an exhibition is a common activity where museums' professionals and other specialists has to be involved for the best progress of such an experience.

So the theme chosen was « Creating an Exhibition» for our training session in 2008. This session will be held during three days with the conception of a practical exhibition with the documentation of all the work which will constitute an example to be discussed and adopted.

### **The Training Session :**

The Training Session will be conducted by four experts from the two regions. It will give young museums' professionals to reflect together and to share a common experience in a specific area of museography.

Among the areas proposed by members, the current problem of the conception of an exhibition : how to select the theme, how to select the objects and collection within the theme, how to create a scenography, how to write the labels and choose colours, how to create the catalogue of the exhibition, how to disseminate the information about the exhibition ...

And the final objective is the creation and presentation of an Exhibition.

The aim of the exhibition is to create and make the scenography of two showcases where will be exhibited archaeological and ethnographic collections from Morocco.

The young museums' professionals have to imagine the showcase and the exhibition with an excellent environment concerning the lightning, the condition and the conception of a poster.

### **Participants :**

Participants are young museums' professionals from Arab and European countries. This training focus on young museums' professionals in the beginning of their activities. They must have at least five years work within museums.

Age maximum : 40 years

Number of Arab participants : from 6 to 10 .

Number of European participants : from 6 to 10 .

Participants from Morocco from 10 to 15 .

The definitive number of participants depend of the final budget.

Arab countries :: Morocco – Qatar – Tunisia – Oman – Egypt – United Arab Emirates. (temporary list)

European countries : **to identify by ICOM Europe**

**The experts :**

The training session will be conducted by four experts : two from the Arab region and two from the European region.

Total number of participants :

54 persons = 35 young professionnals + 14 members of the two regional organisations boards + 4 experts

**Date :**

From 2 to 6 avril 2008

**Duration :**

Five days

**Venue :**

Rabat.