

Athens, 27-11-2002

**MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
GENERAL DIRECTION OF ANTIQUITIES  
DIRECTORATE OF PREHISTORIC AND CLASSICAL ANTIQUITIES  
FOREIGN SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT**

**Prot. # ΥΠΠΟ/ΓΔΑ/ΑΡΧ/Α3/Φ30/70868/2539**

**TO: All Foreign Archaeological Schools/Institutes**

**SUBJECT:** Terms and conditions for archaeological research in Greece from organizations that do not belong to the Greek Archaeological Service.

The Ministry of Culture after voting Law 3028/2002 “For the Protection of Antiquities and in general of the Cultural Heritage” (Gazette 153/A/28-6-2002) and with the aim of dealing uniformly with cases that deal with the archaeological research of the Foreign Archaeological Schools or Missions in Greece and Greek Universities, Scientific and Research Institutions or Organizations, as well as the promotion of archaeological research in Greece, specifies the procedure for applications and examination of every sort of requests for archaeological research of the above organizations, as follows:

**A. GENERAL**

From 2002 onwards, the aforementioned Greek and foreign research institutions are obliged to submit to the Foreign Schools Department of the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities a **five-year plan** of research (with reference to the sites, nature, research aims, as well as the number of annual research projects, in accordance with articles 35, 36 and 38 of Law 3028/2002). This plan will initially be approved by the Central Archaeological Council (KAS) and will serve as the basis for consideration of annual requests for the continuation or inception of archaeological projects.

Because there exist many old inactive projects of the Foreign Schools/Institutes, as well as of Greek Universities and other Research Institutions, the above organizations are requested to state their specific interest in any of them, in order (*for KAS*) to consider whether they should be continued or not.

**B. PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION AND EXAMINATION OF REQUESTS**

1. All requests for work on new or continuing archaeological research shall be submitted by the 30<sup>th</sup> November of each year to the relevant Ephoreias of Prehistoric and Classical or Byzantine Antiquities, as well as to the Foreign Schools Department of the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities. If research involves a cave, the request shall be submitted to the Ephoreia of Palaeoanthropology-Speleology with cc. to the relevant Ephoreias of Antiquities. Requests for surface or

geophysical surveys shall be submitted to the relevant Ephoreia of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities as well as to the relevant Ephoreia of Byzantine Antiquities and, in cases where caves are involved, to the Ephoreia of Palaeoanthropology-Speleology, as well.

The requests of the Foreign Archaeological Schools/Institutes shall be submitted by the Director of the Foreign Archaeological School/Institute. The requests of the Greek Universities or other Research Institutes shall be submitted by the Director of the Department or the Dean of the Faculty of the University or by the Director or President of the Research Institute which will be responsible for the proposed research.

In addition, it is specified that:

i) For the approval of continuation of excavation research, primary consideration shall be given to the concern of the excavator for the consolidation, conservation and presentation of the excavated antiquities, in accordance with article 36, para. 3, 8 and 11 of Law 3028/2002.

ii) An essential condition for the issuance of a permit for any systematic excavation is the prior expropriation of the property.

iii) It is possible to conduct underwater archaeological research only in collaboration (*synergasia*) with the relevant Ephoreia of Underwater Archaeology. In the case of a research program that involves both underwater and surface research, this particular research program is counted as two separate projects in the number of projects that each organization is allowed, with the underwater project having the aforementioned status of collaboration.

2. The applications that deal with individual personal research (*study permits*) do not need to be included in the annual quota of research projects of Greek and foreign organizations as these are mentioned in section (B1).

These applications deal with study, publication and further elaboration of archaeological finds (e.g. archaeometric and laboratory analyses, study of material etc.). They are submitted by the interested parties through their own research organization to the relevant Ephoreias of Antiquities, in accordance with the provisions of Law 3028/2002 for the protection of movable monuments. Details of the procedure for submission and examination of such applications are regulated by the circulars published by the General Directorate of Antiquities of the Ministry of Culture.

Applications for conducting geological research that are submitted to the Institute of Geological and Metallurgical Research (IGME) by Greek or foreign researchers must be submitted beforehand to the relevant Ephoreia of Antiquities, whose approval is essential before IGME issues the permit.

Requests of research organizations that concern non-archaeological underwater activities can be submitted and examined by the Ministry of Culture throughout the year, in accordance with article 15 of Law 3028/2002.

3. Topics which concern the publication of the results of excavations and other archaeological research are regulated by article 39 of Law 3028/2002.

### C. REQUIRED ACCOMPANYING MATERIAL FOR APPLICATIONS

#### a) New projects

Applications for conducting new projects must include:

1. Detailed program of activities for each project period.
2. The justification for the research project.
3. *CV* of the project director.
4. List of staff with their specialties. It is noted that for surface surveys it is essential that the composition of the team should include archaeologists whose expertise will cover, if possible, all periods of the past, from the prehistoric to the post-Byzantine period.
5. A schedule of dates and duration of the project which, if it involves work on site, cannot exceed six (6) weeks per project period. Projects should not be scheduled for the first three months of the year, unless there is a special reason for doing so.
6. Precise definition of the project area according to case as follows:
  - For applications for **excavations**, **a plan on which the area to be excavated in each project period is precisely indicated.**
  - In the case of an application for **surface survey**, a map of the Geographical Army Service, scale 1:5000, on which the survey areas for **the entire project and for each year's survey period are precisely indicated. The survey area of the entire project shall not exceed 30,000 stremmata.** In addition, it is noted that if a surface survey is conducted in a thickly forested area and clearing of undergrowth is necessary, before conducting any work, the relevant Ephoreia of Antiquity and the local Forest Service must be notified. The approval of the Forest Service is a prerequisite for the issuance of the relevant permit by the Ephoreia of Antiquities.
  - In the case of an application for geophysical research, the detailed description of the method that will be applied is essential, as well as a topographical plan with the whole area of planned research indicated and with the places to be surveyed clearly marked.
  - In the case of an application for underwater archaeological research, a plan of the route of the vessel in the area to be researched is essential, as well as a topographical map of the area which indicates precisely the extent of marine research.
7. Data concerning ownership of the area where archaeological research will be conducted. It is reminded that, in accordance with Greek legislation the systematic excavation on private property is forbidden. It is emphasized that the expropriation of properties shall be an essential prerequisite for the granting of a permit for any systematic excavation (article 18 of Law 3028/2002). Trial excavations of limited duration may be conducted on non-expropriated property, as is defined in article 36, para. 15-16 of Law 3028/2002. In the case of a request for geophysical or surface survey, and after the necessary procedures (*i.e. permit request and approval*) have been followed by the research organizations and the Ephoreias of Antiquities,

it is advisable to inform the owners of the property, via the local authorities, of the presence of the scientific staff.

8. In cases of collaborative projects (*synergias*) a Protocol of Collaboration, completed and signed by the two parties, shall be submitted as regulated by the Ministerial Decision, protocol # ΥΠΠΟ/ΓΔΑ/ΑΡΧ/Α3 /Φ30/45857/1750/27-6-2002. It is understood that a collaboration (*synergia*) is always between a Foreign Archaeological School/Institute or a Greek University or other Research Institution with the Greek Archaeological Service or with honorary Ephors of Antiquities.

b) Continuing projects

Applications for the continuation of research projects must include, in addition to the above, the following:

1. Detailed report of activities of the previous year, accompanied by plans and photographs.
2. The plan submitted indicating the area to be excavated must necessarily indicate how it correlates with the area already excavated.
3. In the cases of continuing excavations, a study or a technical report for the consolidation and conservation of the ancient remains already uncovered must be submitted. A prerequisite for considering an application is the care of antiquities that have been uncovered, which is the responsibility of the excavator or the excavating organization. Detailed studies which are concerned with conservation, consolidation and reconstruction (*anastilosis*) of antiquities shall be submitted by the Foreign Archaeological Schools/Institutes and the Greek Universities and other Research Institutions to the local Ephoreias of Antiquities, to the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities or to the Directorate of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments, as well as, and depending on the case, to the relevant Directorates of the Central Service (Directorate of Anastilosis of Ancient Monuments, Directorate of Anastilosis of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments, Directorate of Conservation of Antiquities).

*(For information only; Section D concerns only the ephoreias)*

#### **D. ACTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

The Ephoreias of Antiquities, to whom the aforementioned applications will have been submitted, must send them complete, together with their relevant suggestions to Dept. of Foreign Schools of the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities at the latest by the 31<sup>st</sup> December of each year. The Ephoreias of Byzantine Antiquities shall submit their proposal with a copy of the application to the Directorate of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments as well. Their proposal must contain reference to the Ephoreia's capacity to provide substantive supervision of the research, as well as the name of the supervising archaeologist. In cases of continuing excavations, the proposal must necessarily be accompanied by the report of the supervising archaeologist of the progress of the research during the previous season and the observance of the rules (cleaning, conservation and secure storage of finds, good condition of the site after the end of the excavation, deposit to the relevant Ephoreias of Antiquities copies of the diaries, plans, photographs etc.) as well as the

report of the Ephoreia of Antiquities, which will confirm observance of the rules in articles 36, 38 and 39 of Law 3028/2002.

As far as expropriations or direct purchase for the Greek state are concerned, the relevant Ephoreias of Antiquities are requested to collect the necessary documents so that the files of the cases are complete and to forward them in time to the Central Service to be considered in order of priority at the KAS meeting.

It is noted that from now on the applications of the Foreign Archaeological Schools/Institutes and Greek Universities and other Research Institutions will be considered by KAS within the first two months of each year, and only then.

The Secretary General,

Lina Mendoni