



ANNOUNCEMENT FROM CIVVIH AND MAM II

International Symposium on Social and Economic Development in Old Cities Damascus (Syria), 10-12 July 2011 (new dates)



The ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Historic Towns and Villages (CIVVIH) is organising an International Symposium jointly with the European and Syrian Program for Decentralisation and Local Development (MAM II).

This Symposium will present examples of projects and practices contributing to Old Cities Sustainable Social and Economic Development in Syria and in different parts of the world. This is a rare opportunity for professionals and academic from Syria, Arabic, European and other countries to share their experiences and concerns.

It will be held from **10 to 12 July 2011** in Damascus (Syria) and will include working sessions and a field visit to the Old City of Damascus. The sessions will be held in a XIXth century villa built by the emir Abdelkader of Algeria. Working languages will be Arabic, English and French with simultaneous translation. A visit to the Historic City of Aleppo on **13 and 14 July** will be additionally proposed by MAM to International participants, according to conditions to be specified later.



CIVVIH acting President is Prof. Sofia Avgerinou-Kolonias (Greece) and MAM Programme Director is Eng. Kinda Muhanna (Syria). CIVVIH Scientific Committee include Dr. Samir Abdulac (France), Dr. George Zouain (Lebanon) and Dr. Pierre Laconte (Belgium). Prof. Mona Serageldin (Egypt), who long taught at Harvard University, was asked to be the Keynote speaker.

Draft Program:

- **Sunday 10 July:** Morning, Opening session – Afternoon, International presentations
- **Monday 11 July:** Morning, Syrian presentations – Afternoon, visit to the Old City of Damascus
- **Tuesday 12 July:** Morning, International presentations – Afternoon, end of presentations and Closing session

Registration:

Registration requests to the Symposium from CIVVIH members and from other international participants are to be addressed rapidly and **before 10 June 2011** to the President of CIVVIH, in order to receive an invitation from Syria. Please include a recent CV, mention your full whereabouts, specify if you wish to present a paper and indicate the expected dates of your stay. Paper proposals should be sent directly to the Scientific Committee.

Other information:

Registration to the Symposium is free for guests. Meals and local transportation will be provided. Accommodation in Damascus through MAM would be available to a limited number of participants. Further announcements will include a Call for papers, more information about accommodation in Damascus and the participation to Aleppo visit. It is recommended to get information about visa requirements from Syrian Arab Republic embassies as early as possible.

MAM and organisation in Syria:

Eng. Kinda Muhanna: muhanna.kind@gmail.com, +963 11 3132988/ +963 11 313 2897/
+963 992 757 000

CIVVIH and Registrations:

Prof. Sofia Avgerinou-Kolonias: skolonia@arch.ntua.gr, +30 210 772 38 13

CIVVIH Scientific Committee:

Dr Samir Abdulac: abdulac.sa@gmail.com, +33 1 43 06 96 54

Websites of Symposium Partners:

<http://civvih.icomos.org> and <http://www.mam-sy.org>

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