



The High Commissions of Cyprus and Rwanda cordially invite you to an event on the

INTERNATIONAL DIMENSIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AND FOR TACKLING THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF CULTURAL GOODS

Tuesday, 25th June 2019, 4:00pm – 5:30pm at the High Commission of Cyprus, 13 St. James's Square, SW1Y 4LB

OPENING REMARKS:

H.E. Euripides L. Evriviades, *High Commissioner for Cyprus* H.E. Yamina Karitanyi, *High Commissioner for Rwanda*

PANELISTS:

Matthew Moorhead

Legal Adviser, Office of Civil and Criminal Justice Reform, Commonwealth Secretariat

Marina Schneider

Senior Legal Officer and Treaty Depositary, UNIDROIT

Professor Bettany Hughes

Historian, Author, Broadcaster

Maria C. Paphiti

Art Historian

This event aims to raise awareness on the issue of cultural protection and of tackling illicit trafficking of cultural goods. It will present the ongoing work being done by the Commonwealth, through its 'Scheme and Model Bill for the Protection of Cultural Heritage within the Commonwealth' as well as the importance of international legal instruments such as the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on 'Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects'. It will also showcase initiatives and lessons-learned for post conflict restoration, conservation of cultural heritage, and repatriation of looted cultural artefacts.

A number of international initiatives on this area is already underway in the UN, the Council of Europe, the European Union and in the International Organisation of the Francophonie. This event will explore the possibilities for a more robust Commonwealth focus in view of CHOGM 2020 which will be held in Kigali, Rwanda.