

**T.C**  
**MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM**  
**The General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums**

22.12.2009

No: B.16.0.KVM.0.12.01.00.222.0.2 (Gn.) – 242169

Subject: Excavation and conservation

Subject: a) Regulation no. 1213, issued on 16.01.2004  
b) Regulation no. 192795, issued on 29.11.2006  
c) Regulation no. 118643, issued on 22.06.2009

In order to provide solutions for the issues and problems that emerged after an evaluation conducted, following the scope of the Laws and Regulations No. 2863, on the excavations that are carried out in our country every year through the permission of the Council of Ministers, the decision has been reached to continue to maintain the application of the principles set forth in Regulations (a) and (b).

So that the future effectiveness of work is maintained, our Ministry decided to make changes in the Regulation (c).

No. 1 and 4 of Regulation (c) are revised as seen below and the rest will remain unchanged.

**Accordingly:**

- 1. It is essential to set aside four months a year for the area being excavated.**

**It is expected that the excavation directors focus for at least two months on fieldwork – including excavation, site management, conservation, restoration. The remaining period of time can be spent on the preparation of excavation reports, publications, recording and protection projects.**

**Our Ministry will provide all convenience for any additional work carried out beyond the specified period of time.**

2. A detailed work program to be presented should include a description of the area to be excavated, a clear indication of what benefits will be gained and the goals that will be reached, as well as a map marked with the areas to be excavated and to be protected.

3. A guarantee of the budget committed to excavation and conservation needs to be illustrated through a written document.

**4. Assistant Directorship:**

**Ongoing and new excavations are expected to have a specialist, who is a Turkish national, has a degree from a department of archaeology or art history and has achieved at least a Ph.D. in either of these areas. The Assistant Director will carry out the duties of the Director according to the pre-determined work schedule of the project in the absence of the Director.**

**Publications on excavation results are expected to be at least in two languages. Turkish will decidedly be one of these languages.**

5. The permit applications will include

- A report on the previous archaeological work carried at the site and the results achieved through this work,
- The level reached by means of restoration and conservation work,
- Whether or not security is maintained at the site,
- Whether or not the goals established at the offset of the project have been reached; if not, the reasons,
- Whether or not the results of the previous excavation seasons have been published,
- What procedures are being used for protecting and preserving excavation finds,
- Whether or not the technical foundation of the project is sufficient and how the budget is being used.

I kindly request all permit applications from 2010 onwards to abide by the aforementioned rules and requests.

Ertuğrul Günay  
Minister