

INTERPOL's 1st International Conference on Counterfeit Art arrived at a list of conclusions in Lyon, France.

AWARE of the rising trend in all forms of counterfeit art, fakes, forgeries and intentional misattribution of works of art and cultural heritage, **CONSCIOUS** of the significant economic prejudice and non-material damage caused by this criminal activity, **NOTING** the substantial criminal assets generated by the production and distribution of counterfeit art, **FURTHER NOTING** the lack of awareness and of appropriate national laws and international legal instruments, **RECOGNIZING** the need for adequate human and material resources to address the criminal phenomenon effectively, **RECOMMEND** that member countries:

- (1) **RAISE** public and political awareness of the increasing trend in counterfeit art, fakes, forgeries and intentional misattribution, and the impact on cultural heritage, the art market and historic and scientific knowledge;
- (2) **ENFORCE**, review and, if necessary, adapt existing national laws to be able to fight the above-mentioned crimes effectively;
- (3) **CALL FOR** counterfeit art to be explicitly included in regional and international laws criminalizing other types of counterfeiting, or **DEVELOP** specific regional and international legislation on this subject;
- (4) **DEVELOP** mechanisms and procedures to fight counterfeit art effectively, if necessary by creating working groups and inter-sectorial commissions;
- (5) **SUPPORT** national law enforcement agencies in preventing and suppressing the above crimes and in allocating adequate resources;
- (6) **DEVOTE**, where possible, additional efforts and resources to tracing assets generated through the above crimes so as to dismantle the criminal networks involved;
- (7) **ENHANCE** the information exchange on the above crimes through **INTERPOL** channels, and share experiences and best practices among member countries;
- (8) **DEVELOP AND DISSEMINATE** a checklist of precautions to be taken by potential customers to prevent them from acquiring fake objects;
- (9) **DEVELOP AND DISSEMINATE** a set of principles for professionals to prevent them from becoming involved in the commerce of fake objects.

RECOMMEND that the General Secretariat:

- (1) **PURSUE** its efforts to support its member countries in their fight against the above crimes;
- (2) **CENTRALIZE** relevant information, including, but not limited to, a list of recognized experts, rights holders, and scientific and forensic institutions that law enforcement agencies can refer to when investigating these crimes.