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Paris, 2 September 2005

Sayın Recep Tayyip Erdoğan  
Başbakan  
Başbakanlık Merkez Bina  
06573 Bakanlıklar  
Ankara  
TURKEY

Dear Prime Minister,

### **Dam Project at Allianoi**

ICOMOS, the International Council on Monuments and Sites, advises UNESCO regarding the World Cultural Heritage and publishes every year a World Report on Heritage at Risk (also to be found on the internet under <http://www.international.icomos.org/risk/index.html>). Whereas in our report 2001/2002 we already protested against a dam project destroying the archaeological site of Zeugma with its famous mosaics, I am sending you an urgent request today on behalf of ICOMOS to prevent the destruction of the archaeological site of Allianoi in the vicinity of Bergama (Pergamon) by another fill dam project. Allianoi is a unique Roman recreation site with thermal baths, an archaeological site of more than 10,000 square metres – so far only 20 percent have been excavated, nonetheless important finds have already been made.

According to a recent documentary on the television channel 3 SAT („Kulturreport“ of 19 August) construction work on this dam is soon to begin, while our archaeological colleagues are still busy doing emergency excavations.

A comparatively minor modification of these ruthless plans, i.e. erecting the dam wall at a different position, could prevent one more devastating loss of archaeological heritage in Turkey.

I am therefore imploring you to take care of this matter

and remain

Yours sincerely



Prof. Dr. Michael Petzet  
President of ICOMOS

copy to:  
ICOMOS Turkey  
Permanent Delegation of Turkey at UNESCO