ICOMOS APPEAL

Participants of the international scientific conference in Pécs, Hungary, *Forty years of the Venice Charter*, think that preservation of the natural and architectural environment and the avoidance of conscious and irresponsible destruction and environmental pollution are their main obligation.

Realizing the fact that architectural heritage of two ancient town centers in Central Europe are in immediate danger, ICOMOS issues the following statement.

ICOMOS categorically rejects the beginning of the construction of the Malom Center shopping mall in Kecskemét (Hungary) happening without the consent of the preservation authorities. The grand scale investment begun between the city centre built in Art Nouveau style designed by leading Hungarian architects of the beginning of the twentieth century and the district Homokdomb, preserving the morphology of the typical Hungarian Plain settlement, blows up the architectural framework of the city and threatens the whole architectural ensemble of the protected zone causing disappearance of the character of the town.

ICOMOS demands to stop the construction immediately.

ICOMOS rejects the investment of the new gold mine of Roșia Montana (Romania). This dangerous technology threatens the natural heritage of the site and the fauna and flora of the rivers Maros and Tisza, as well as the cultural heritage of the old mines used from Prehistoric through Roman and Middles Ages, endangers equipment of the old mining technology as well as the 18th century architectural heritage of the small mining town. The new residential area offered for the inhabitants of the old town would annihilate the remains of the original Roman settlement, Alburnus Maior.

Despite two resolutions of ICOMOS about this case, preparations for the investment are still going on.

ICOMOS demands to stop the investment immediately.

Pécs, May 27, 2004