



Cyprus (RG 03)
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**First Regional Meeting in Nicosia
4th – 5th December, 2006**

SCIENTIFIC REPORT

1) SUMMARY

The team met in Nicosia at the University of Cyprus and at CAARI, a Cyprus Research Institute where the necessary powerpoint and multiple computer facilities were available to conduct the business of the workshop. We were welcomed by Steering Committee Representative for Cyprus and Director of the Department of Antiquities, Dr. Pavlos Flourentzos. He and the following took part in the workshop for the two days:

- **Team Leader:** Edgar Peltenburg
- Diane Bolger, **Ceramics**
- David Frankel, **Philia/EB 1** overview
- Vasiliki Kassianidou, **Metal and C14**
- Priscilla Keswani, **Burials and Funerary Practices**
- Carole McCartney, **Lithics**
- Demetra Papaconstantinou, **Architecture & planning**
- **Site Director** (providing data inputs for Regional Group)
- Stuart Swiny, **Sotira Kaminoudhia**
- Co-opted members: Jenny Webb and Jean-Paul Thalmann

The workshop had three goals: i) the establishment of benchmark assemblages, or inventories, which constitute the foundation of all future work of the Regional Group; ii) preliminary chronology and familiarity with the ARCANE Database, its workings, strengths and weaknesses, workflow operations etc; iii) definition of responsibilities for the implementation of the programme. These goals were successfully accomplished.

2) DESCRIPTION OF SCIENTIFIC CONTENT

i) the establishment of benchmark assemblages

Following considerable and rewarding discussion, one hundred and twelve benchmark assemblages or inventories were identified for the Cyprus Regional Group. The following 17 initial examples of the list (15%) is representative of the work accomplished:

<i>Site name</i>	<i>ARCANE sitecode</i>	<i>Stratigraphic complex/unit (as named by excavator)</i>	<i>Brief description of unit containing assemblage</i>	<i>Approximate date of assemblage (yrs B.C.)</i>	<i>Number of C14 dates</i>	<i>Classes of artifacts contained in assemblage (please 'X' appropriate categories in adjacent columns)</i>	<i>pottery vessels</i>	<i>ground stone</i>	<i>chipped stone</i>	<i>metal</i>	<i>other</i>	<i>Publication</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
Ambelikou-Ayios Georghios	CY001	portion of circular house	D. mentions two floors, but these are not described or illustrated and lack associated finds	Chalco roundhouse, but precise date unknown	0	pottery vessels, ground stone and chipped stone from site generally but not associated with floors of the building						Dikaios SCE IV.1A 1962	Cancelled
Ambelikou-Ayios Georghios	CY001	4.4 m deep sounding (one 2 sq m trench) dug in 20 cm spits	ceramics in CM listed and erroneously identified in Gjerstad 1980 according to artificial 20 cm spits	pottery from sounding is Chalco and Philia, so a range of dates represented	0	mostly sherdage, and as it's been excavated in artificial spits it is not derived from sealed deposits						Dikaios SCE IV.1A 1962; Gjerstad RDAC 1980	Cancelled
Erimi-Pamboula	CY002	building XIIIIB	floor of building	3000	0	pestles (nos. 192, 195); pottery vessels (nos. 191, 193)	X	X				Dikaios 1936	DB

Erimi-Pamboula	CY002	building XIIIIC	floor of building	3000	0	ground and chipped stone tools (nos. 166-170, 312, 313).							Dikaios 1936	DB
Erimi-Pamboula	CY002	burial 2	pit grave against W ext wall of IXA	3000	0	no artifacts							Dikaios 1936	DB
Kalavastos-Pamboules	CY003	pit 1019	sealed pit beneath havara floor	2700 (or slightly after)	0	ceramics: sherds of two complete profiles (1) lugged flaringbowl and (2) spouted jar. Also groundstone, dentalium shell bead and shell pendant	X	X				X	mentioned briefly in Clarke 2004	JC
Kissonerga-Mosphilia	CY004	building 206	room 970, floor 2	3000	2	pottery vessels, stone and pottery figurines, ground stone, bone objects, obsidian, shell bead	X	X	X			X	Peltenburg et al. 1998	DB
Kissonerga-Mosphilia	CY004	building 86	floor 1	2600	0	pottery vessel, stone bead, ground stone, bone point, worked shell	X	X				X	Peltenburg et al. 1998	DB
Kissonerga-Mosphilia	CY004	building 834	floor 1	2700	1	stone figurine, copper frag, bone needle, ground stone tools, faience and shell beads		X			X	X	Peltenburg et al. 1998	DB

3) ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULT AND FUTURE DIRECTION

ii) chronology and familiarity with the ARCANE Database

A working chronology was agreed as follows;

PREVALENT SYSTEM	ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM	APPROX DATES calBC*	ARCANE
MChal	Erimi Culture (ECU)	(3200)-2900	ECY 1
LChal	Erimi Culture (ECU)	2800-2400	ECY 2
Philia	Prehistoric BA	2400-2200	ECY 3
ECI-II	Prehistoric BA	2200-2100	ECY 4
ECIII	Prehistoric BA	2100-2000	ECY 5

***chronological overlaps between ECY phases and regional differences are expected.**

In addition to the accomplishment of i) which places the Cyprus Regional Group in the forefront of ARCANE progress, Edgar Peltenburg, Diane Bolger and Jean-Paul Thalmann gave presentations of the most recent version of the database. All members of the Regional Group then had one-to-one tuition, and all expressed satisfaction that they were comfortable with data entering, editing and workflow arrangements. It was unanimously agreed that insufficient funds were available for data gathering and entering, and that this was an issue we wish to be brought to the attention of the Steering Committee.

iii) definition of responsibilities for the implementation of the programme.

After considerable discussion, it was agreed to bring Dr. Webb into the team and to allocate data gathering and entering by benchmark/inventory to members of the Group. Their initials were appended to the specimen table in i) above and this will be circulated to all concerned to ensure the smooth running of future operations.

4) FINAL PROGRAMME OF THE MEETING

The final programme established milestones to ensure progress. The first of these is a consultation process by email between members to refine the allocation of benchmark assemblages. Second will be a formulation of a request to the Cyprus Government for access to records held in Cyprus in order to include previously unpublished material. The Workshop was concluded with thanks to Drs. Kassianidou and Flourentzos for facilitating the scientific progress of the workshop.

Edgar Peltenburg
7 December 2006