

# Draft Resolutions of the General Assembly

## 20GA Agenda item 6-3 - Statutory matters resolutions

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### Agenda item 6-3-4

#### Multilingualism as a factor of Cultural Diversity

Submitted by ICOMOS France, ICOMOS Belgium, ICOMOS Canada, ICOMOS Mali, within the framework of the Groupe francophone

The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,

**Recalling** articles 10-d-8 and 21 of the ICOMOS statutes and Resolution 19AG 2017/31 on ICOMOS Policy on Cultural Diversity and Multilingualism including a trial for developing the translation work;

**Also recalling** the report by the French translation group on their working methods,

**Underlines** the role of multilingualism in the dissemination of information, the development of international exchanges and the inclusion of ICOMOS members and their languages;

**Welcomes** the efforts made by the International Secretariat and the groups of volunteer translators to improve multilingualism in ICOMOS activities since the adoption of the Policy on Cultural Diversity and Multilingualism;

**Requests** the Board, the Advisory Committee, the International Secretariat, and all the Committees and working groups to give increased priority to multilingualism, to continue and strengthen multilingualism within ICOMOS, and to implement the measures below within the constraints of available resources:

- Complete the translation of the Ethical Principles and doctrinal texts into Spanish in accordance with Article 21-b of the Statutes;
  - Make the translation system even more professional and efficient;
  - Gradually expand towards the general inclusion of other languages starting with multilingualism trilingualism starting with Spanish;
  - Continue to specify in the Terms of Reference the mandatory and desirable requirements for interpretation at international meetings;
  - Facilitate oral communication at international meetings;
  - Explore the feasibility of establishing a fund to support translations and interpretation.
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**Agenda item 6-3-5**

**Amendments to the ICOMOS Ethical Principles**

**Submitted by the Board of ICOMOS**

**The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,**

**Recalling** General Assembly resolution 18GA 2014/11, art. 7-d of the Ethical Principles and art. 10-d-9 of the Statutes;

**Noting** the Board's report on the implementation of Ethical Principles, consultations with the membership in 2019 - 2020 and with the Advisory Committee in 2019, and the publishing of the amendments to the membership in August 2020;

**Acknowledging** that the review undertaken by the Board on the Ethical Principles is in accordance with the aforementioned articles;

**Having examined** the review and the proposed amendments to the Ethical Principles,

**Adopts** the following amendments to the ICOMOS Ethical Principles:

- (a) In Article 3-c, deletion of the words "They collaborate..., cultural heritage" and substitution in their place of the words "They engage in an open and supportive dialogue. They contribute to building trust and enabling transparent access to communication channels";
- (b) In Article 3-e, deletion of the words "including appreciation of, access to" and substitution in their place the words "participation and stewardship for the identification of, access to, enjoyment and management of";
- (c) Addition of a new Article 3-f as follows: "ICOMOS members support and contribute to conflict resolution processes in cases where there are conflicting heritage values."
- d) In Article 4-c, addition of the word "transparent" after "professional" and addition at the end of this sentence the words "and are open to public debate";
- (e) Addition of a new Article 4-e as follows: "ICOMOS, its members and Committees endeavor to conduct their activities sustainably.";
- (f) In Article 5-a-2, deletion of the words "of local or national authorities" and addition of the words "by those bodies" after the words "any decision";
- (g) In Article 6-e, deletion of the word "Hence" and substitution in its place the words "In particular", and deletion of the word "attached";
- (h) In Article 6-f, deletion of the word "association" and substitution in its place the word "organisation";
- (i) Addition of a new sub-Article 6-f-2 as follows, and renumbering of subsequent existing sub-articles in Article 6-f accordingly: "ICOMOS members must not by their public statements or actions bring the organisation or any of its Committees into disrepute".

## 20GA Agenda item 6-4 - Site related resolutions

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### Agenda item 6-4-1

#### **Protect the antiquities *in situ* at the Venizelos Metro Station in Thessaloniki, Greece**

Submitted by ICOMOS Hellenic National Committee and ICOMOS Europe Group

The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,

**Taking into account** the concern expressed by ICOMOS Hellenic as well as several other statements of concern that have been issued by national and international official, scientific and professional institutions and bodies, and by several NGOs;

**Affirming** the outstanding significance of the Venizelos Metro station antiquities, a cultural ensemble that dates from late antiquity up to the transitional period and the beginning of the Middle Byzantine times (4<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> century CE) and comprises the main Roman marble paved road, Decumanus Maximus, and the commercial center of Roman and Byzantine Thessaloniki;

**Noting** with concern that the current development proposals threaten the integrity and authenticity of the antiquities of the Thessaloniki Metro Station, and substantially changes and undermines their cultural heritage value;

**Also taking into account** the ICOMOS Hellenic Heritage Alerts,

**Calls upon** the Hellenic Government not to proceed with the implementation of the current plan that involves the detachment of the antiquities, given the fact that this is a monumental ensemble which constitutes an integral part of the history of the city of Thessaloniki and of the world cultural heritage;

**Invites** the Hellenic authorities in charge of the management, protection and conservation of cultural heritage to revise the action plan and to implement policies and best practices, in accordance with the provisions of all relevant international charters, including the relevant ICOMOS Charter on Archaeological Heritage Management, and international conventions adopted by Hellenic Republic.

## 20GA Agenda item 6-5 - Resolutions on doctrinal texts

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### Agenda item 6-5-1

#### **ICOFORT Charter on Fortifications and Military Heritage; Guidelines for Protection, Conservation and Interpretation**

**[Process still underway]**

## 20GA Agenda item 6-6 - Resolutions on other heritage issues

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### Agenda item 6-6-1

#### Cultural Heritage and the Climate Emergency

Submitted by Climate Change and Heritage Working Group, International committee on Cultural Landscapes ICOMOS-IFLA, International Committee on Cultural Tourism (ICTC), International committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage (ISCEAH), International committee on Economics of Conservation (ISCEC), International committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH), International committee on Risk Preparedness (ICORP), ICOMOS New Zealand and ICOMOS Spain

**[Text still under discussion]**

The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,

**Recalling** Resolution 19GA 2017/30, which recognises that human activities are producing unprecedented concentrations of greenhouse gases (GHG) that are changing the climate, and calls on ICOMOS to meet the challenge of climate change by finding cultural heritage-based solutions to implement the Paris Agreement;

**Noting** that in 2018 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its special report “Global Warming of 1.5°” found that climate change impacts on both human and natural systems may be long-lasting or irreversible, that these impacts are even now adversely affecting cultural heritage, and that the ability of some heritage sites to successfully adapt will depend on the rate of global GHG mitigation efforts;

**Acknowledging** that the IPCC Report found that for many systems, adaptation is expected to be more challenging at 2 °C of global warming than at 1.5 °C, and that therefore the impacts, losses, and damages to cultural heritage from climate change must be appropriately addressed immediately at all levels;

**Recognising** that the world is failing to meet the Paris Agreement targets, with current GHG concentrations the highest ever recorded, and that at the same time the reality and human cost of climate change has been thrown into even sharper relief through mean sea level rise, and elevated temperatures and wildfires;

**Recognising** the immense potential of cultural heritage to enable inclusive, transformative and just climate action, including through heightening the ambition and capacity of communities to act, supporting climate adaptation and resilience, contributing to mitigation interventions to reduce GHG emissions, and addressing loss and damage from climate impacts;

**Acknowledging** that the present COVID-19 pandemic has revealed some essential lessons, including the imperative of heeding science, the consequences of a breakdown between humans and nature, the importance of centering on the needs of the most vulnerable, and the fact that rapid and far-reaching social and economic change is possible when society wills it;

**Noting** that in November 2019, more than 11,000 scientists jointly declared that Earth is clearly and unequivocally facing a climate emergency and that many countries, jurisdictions and organisations have similarly acknowledged and declared this emergency,

**Declares** a Climate and Ecological Emergency and calls upon other culture and heritage organisations to do the same;

**Reiterates** the need to better integrate cultural heritage and climate research and science, and in this regard;

**Welcomes** the proposal for the ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan, and the June 2020 decision of the IPCC to approve the joint proposal of UNESCO and ICOMOS for an IPCC International Expert Meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change to be held in 2021;

**Calls** for urgent collective action by all relevant actors to safeguard cultural and natural heritage from climate change, including through vulnerability assessment and adaptive management and also through implementation of a collective precautionary approach that pursues pathways for limiting global warming to 1.5°C;

**Thanks** the Climate Change Heritage Working Group, the 32 National Committees (NCs) and International Scientific Committees (ISCs) and the almost 50 invited experts for their contributions to the ICOMOS Report “The Future of Our Pasts”, published in 2019 which scopes numerous ways in which cultural heritage can drive climate action and also catalogues the many climate change impacts on diverse kinds of heritage;

**Notes** the ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan Reboot invitation on climate action during 2021 to collaboratively identify ways and means to expand knowledge and define good practice for supporting heritage responses to climate change;

**Calls on** all the ICOMOS community to implement heritage responses to climate change that:

- Seek to safeguard all types of heritages from the current and projected adverse impacts of climate change, both rapid and slow onset, by undertaking vulnerability and risk assessments, monitoring, and by implementing appropriate, climate change adaptation strategies and risk-informed, disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery strategies;
- Seek to realise the potential of cultural heritage - including both tangible and intangible heritage and local communities' knowledge and practices -- to contribute to transformative change and drive GHG mitigation and climate adaptation;
- Recognise that existing heritage conservation practice, tools, assessments and methodologies will need to be supplemented with new, cooperative, transdisciplinary and participatory approaches and models relevant to the global issue of climate change;
- Recognise equity and justice as fundamental to understanding and addressing the challenges of climate change, including through solidarity with Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable and frontline communities; participatory climate governance; and gender-responsive, human rights and rights-based approaches;
- Integrate the conservation of nature and culture, endogenous and traditional knowledge, and landscape-scale approaches into policies and programs where appropriate;

**Encourages** all ICOMOS National Committees to adopt climate change-related programs in their own countries, including actions to better protect heritage from climate impacts; to enhance participation in climate change networks such as the Climate Heritage Network; and to engage governments and other relevant external parties on applicable climate policy and planning processes, for example to secure inclusion of cultural heritage in national climate adaptation frameworks;

**Encourages** all ICOMOS International Scientific Committees to adopt climate change-related programs and activities in their own remits, including working to make familiarity with climate change a baseline competency of heritage management, and to see that good conservation

practice is modified as needed to find alternative ways and means of sustaining heritage significance amidst a changing climate.

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### Agenda item 6-6-2

#### Protecting heritage sites in situations of political conflict and civil unrest

Submitted by ICOMOS Russia, with the support of ICOMOS Hellenic, ICOMOS Netherlands, ICOMOS Palestine

The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,

**Recognising** that access to cultural heritage is a universal human right;

**Noting** that cultural heritage enriches the quality of life of all people, promotes economic development and supports social cohesion;

**Acknowledging** the various international charters and declarations relating to the protection of cultural heritage and human rights, and the legislation for cultural heritage protection in various countries;

**Considering** that the protection of cultural heritage confers responsibilities on individuals, communities and nations, and that mutual understanding and respect for all forms of cultural expression enhances living conditions and social cohesion;

**Taking into account** that preservation and management of living heritage is accomplished through the transfer of knowledge and skills between generations in collaboration with communities;

**Expressing** concern about the widespread harm to historical sites, monuments and memorials,

**Resolves** that:

- Every effort be made to support the protection of cultural heritage in situations of political conflict and civil unrest;
  - Consideration be given to strengthening efforts to preserve and promote the cultural heritage of all nations through ICOMOS members;
  - The role of all relevant experts in and custodians of cultural heritage be emphasised in order to facilitate an inclusive scientific and ethical approach to the protection, preservation and management of heritage sites;
  - The inclusion of preventative actions in management and conservation plans be encouraged in order to safeguard heritage sites from the impacts of political conflict and civil unrest.
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### Agenda item 6-6-3

#### Protecting Our Built, Landscape and Cultural Heritage from Fires

Submitted by the International committee on Risk Preparedness (ICORP), International committee on Places of Religion and Ritual (PRERICO), International committee on Wood (IIWC)

**[Resolution still under discussion]**

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## Agenda item 6-6-4

### European Quality Principles

Submitted by ICOMOS Italy, ICOMOS Ireland and the Europe Group

The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,

**Recalling** the Paris Declaration on heritage as a driver of development (2011), the Delhi Declaration on Heritage and Democracy (2017), and the Florence Declaration on Heritage and Landscape as Human Values (2014), adopted at the 18<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of ICOMOS, which highlights the role of ICOMOS in the development of tools to improve the quality of life of people and communities through the management of the world's cultural heritage.

**Recognising** that the integration of heritage practices into society enriches the concept of "quality" of interventions on the tangible and intangible cultural heritage, that more holistic considerations and a value-based approach, generating benefits in all the four pillars of sustainable development should guide investments with potential impact on cultural heritage;

**Emphasising** that cultural heritage has cross-cutting nature, intersecting diverse policy areas and investment plans, which can gain from the integration of conservation principles and standards that produce environmental, cultural, social and economic benefits; that at the same time the direct and indirect impact on the enhancement, conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage should be taken into account in planning, implementing and evaluating those policies and actions;

**Acknowledging** the achievements of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 in the promotion of debate, research and the exchange of good practices on the quality of interventions on cultural heritage, and the progress made at European level with the Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro, 2005) and the Davos Declaration "Towards a high-quality Baukultur for Europe" (2018),

**Welcomes** the "European Quality principles for European Union-funded interventions with potential impact on cultural heritage", assembled by ICOMOS, under the mandate of the European Commission and in the framework of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, a document providing guidance on quality principles for all stakeholders directly or indirectly engaged in European Union-funded interventions that could impact on cultural heritage and promote the adoption of quality measures by raising awareness and strengthening the implementation of conservation principles and standards at every stage of a project, from conception to completion;

**Calls upon** National Committees and Regional ICOMOS groups:

- To promote the translation of the "European Quality principles" into national languages;
  - To develop similar tools taking into account the specificities of local and regional communities and diverse public and private investments on cultural heritage to advocate for their adoption and implementation;
  - To collaborate and partner with related organisations in their dissemination and application.
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## Agenda item 6-6-5

## People-Centred Approaches to Cultural Heritage

Submitted by ICOMOS Our Common Dignity Rights-Based Approaches Working Group, ICOMOS Sustainable Development Goals Working Group, ICOMOS Climate Change and Heritage Working Group, ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group, ICOMOS Iraq/ Syria Working Group, with the support of ICOMOS Canada, ICOMOS Turkey, ICOMOS Ireland, ICOMOS Norway, ICOMOS New Zealand, ICOMOS Estonia, ICOMOS South Africa, ICOMOS Hellenic, ICOMOS USA, ICOMOS Spain, ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture (CIAV), ICOMOS International committee on Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration (Theophilos)

### The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,

**Considering** the United Nations (UN) Declaration of Human Rights, which recognises that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights;

**Considering** the UN 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as the global plan of action for People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnerships, which acknowledges that resilient and sustainable communities depend on the safeguarding of cultural and natural heritage;

**Considering** the UN Framework and Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, which stresses the need for ambitious and early action to mitigate the causes of climate change and to adapt to its impacts, which are already affecting communities, cultures, and rights globally, threatening the survival of future generations;

**Considering** the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (the 'World Heritage Convention'), which in its implementation celebrates the interactions between culture and nature of Outstanding Universal Value, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between cultural and natural heritage;

**Recognising** the necessity of ICOMOS' leadership in addressing today's social, economic, cultural, and environmental challenges related to cultural heritage through the contribution of its members to sustainable development strategies; climate change adaptation and mitigation solutions; safeguarding cultural diversity; the rights of past, current and future generations; Indigenous Peoples and local communities;

**Recalling** ICOMOS' founding principles expressed in the Venice Charter, calling for the safeguarding of cultural heritage for future generations, and the ICOMOS doctrine developed to date to address the above issues including the Paris Declaration on Heritage as a Driver of Development, the Buenos Aires Declaration on Rights-Based Approaches, and the respective General Assembly Resolutions on Our Common Dignity, Sustainable Development, Emerging Professionals, Climate Change and Heritage, and Indigenous Heritage;

**Acknowledging** the essential nature of cultural expressions to help humankind sustainably adapt to challenges particularly in times of uncertainty such as the global crisis of COVID-19 which has impacted human interactions and highlighted the vulnerability of human connections and access to places,

### **Resolves to:**

- Support and seek to expand continuing cooperation of International Scientific Committees, working groups, and National Committees in relation to the shared objectives of sustainable development; climate change action; cultural diversity; human rights-based approaches; and the diverse forms of the cultural heritage of the Indigenous peoples, relevant ethnic communities, and associated local cultural groups;
- Further, to Support the integration of that work on these shared objectives into ICOMOS' theoretical and conceptual frameworks, as well as its institutional operations and best practices, in a coordinated, collaborative, intergenerational, and transversal manner;
- Promote people-centered approaches, the connections of people with heritage and places; intercultural dialogue and understanding, sustainability and well-being when addressing local, national, and international heritage policies and practice. This will allow to better realise the full potential of cultural heritage to deliver climate-resilient pathways to strengthen sustainable development, while promoting a just transition to low-carbon futures;
- Honours the rights of heritage communities and individuals' rights, while acknowledging and seeking to reconcile competing and conflicting rights, taking into consideration past, present and future generations, acknowledge their role in developing and implementing resilience strategies in a rapidly changing world, and assist authorities to empower people to maintain and develop their values and livelihoods in a dignified, responsible, and sustainable manner;
- Work to synergize cultural heritage conservation and management sustainably with the diverse cultural, environmental, and socio-economic concerns of people and communities, through building partnerships with relevant sectors, such as social and health services; cultural and creative industries; nature and biodiversity conservation; tourism; urban and territorial planning and development; and infrastructure and energy provision.

## 20GA Agenda item 6-7 - Resolutions on organisational matters

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### Agenda item 6-7-1

#### Virtual statutory meetings in 2021

Submitted by the ICOMOS Board

The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,

#### Taking into account that:

- The COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause serious disruption to normal global activity, and continues to be out of control in some parts of the world;
- Many countries have imposed bans on international travel (with some exceptions for citizens returning to their own country, in addition to restricting large gatherings of people and closing many public venues;
- The articles 9-b, 10-b and 12-b of the Statutes of ICOMOS require the General Assembly to meet at least once a year, the Board to meet at least twice a year; and the Advisory Committee to meet once a year in conjunction with the annual General Assembly
- Although meetings by teleconference are not specifically prohibited in the Statutes, the Statutes and Rules of Procedure are silent on how the required actions of the General Assembly and the Advisory Committee listed in the Statutes are to be accomplished should circumstances prevent their meetings from taking place as physical meetings;

**Considering** Resolution GA2020-7-5 passed by the General Assembly in July 2020 allowing ICOMOS to hold all statutory meetings in 2020 as virtual meetings, not necessarily in conjunction with one another, and affirming that the decisions and deliberations of these meetings would be fully valid;

**Acknowledging**

- The likelihood that in 2021 the Board meetings, Bureau meetings, Annual General Assembly and Advisory Committee meetings will continue to need to be held as virtual meetings to enable ICOMOS members to attend the meetings and participate in decision and voting in sufficient numbers;
- That due to the nature of virtual meetings, it is not practical to necessarily hold meetings in conjunction with each other – as when they are at the same physical venue,

**Resolves**

- To allow all forthcoming ICOMOS statutory meetings - Annual General Assembly, Advisory Committee, Board and Bureau meetings - in 2021 to be held if necessary as virtual meetings, whilst ensuring compliance with the Statutes;
- That these meetings may not necessarily be held in conjunction with one another, to facilitate the organisation of the virtual meetings;
- that the decisions and deliberations of these virtual meetings will be considered fully valid.

**Agenda item 6-7-2**

**Internal Working Methods - Working Groups and Focal Points**

Submitted by ICOMOS Europe Group

The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,

**Taking into account** the Statutes art. 14-a and 14-d, and the Rules of Procedure art. 78;

**Recognising** the need for organising discussions and activities on topical themes;

**Conscious** of the need to allow different forms of work to flourish in the discussions and scientific work during rapid changes;

**Acknowledging** the draft guidelines for working groups and focal points that have been prepared by the Eger-Xian Principles working group, presented to the Scientific Council and which will be circulated to members for comment,

**Requests** the Board to reflect, in co-operation with the ADCOM, on the scope of tasks, responsibilities, rights and organisation of ICOMOS working groups and focal points, so that their work is sufficiently guided, and to consider establishing guidelines or amending the Rules of Procedure accordingly.

**Agenda item 6-7-3**

**ICOMOS Emerging Professionals**

Submitted by ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group (EPWG)

**The 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly,**

**Taking into account** the establishment and growth of Emerging Professional Working Group (EPWG) since 2016, Resolution 19GA 2017/33 on “Emerging Professionals Initiative”, and the Model ISC By-Laws that include Emerging Professionals, with the successful projects and cross-Committee collaboration, the diverse involvement in ICOMOS events;

**Recalling** the growing Emerging Professional representation through dedicated internal Working Groups within ICOMOS National Committees and International Scientific Committees,

**Requests** the Board to prioritize the development of a permanent ICOMOS Mentorship program in collaboration between the Board and Emerging Professionals Working Group, National Committees and International Scientific Committees for presentation in 2021, with an implementation trial over 2022-2023, and following a review at the GA2023;

**Requests** National and International Scientific Committees to proactively support intergenerational, multicultural scientific dialogue within ICOMOS by calling on National and International Scientific Committees to develop projects in collaboration with the EPWG to engage emerging professionals and expert members in exploring the evolving concepts and issues of heritage;

**Requests** all ICOMOS Committees to consistently engage Emerging Professionals in the management, communication and coordination of ICOMOS events, initiatives and meetings;

**Requests** the Advisory Committee to confirm the consistent implementation of the Emerging Professional engagement for International Scientific and National Committees, and to encourage the continued establishment of international scientific and national Emerging Professional groups and networks;

**Requests** the Board to identify and activate mechanisms to increase funding in support of activities that foster intergenerational collaboration and professional growth.