MENDOZA DECLARATION

On the 48th meeting of the International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes (ICOMOS-IFLA ISCCL), December 9th to 13th, 2018, in Mendoza, Argentina, in the framework of the Symposium on “Urban, Periurban and Rural Cultural Landscapes”, your members express their appreciation to the:

ICOMOS Argentina,

Organizing Committee of the meeting,

Organizing Committee of the Symposium,

Municipalidad de la Ciudad de Mendoza,

Oficina de la Unesco en Montevideo,

ICOMOS Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Regional Group,

Agencia Nacional de Promoción Científica y Tecnológica, Fondo de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica Argentina (FONCYT),

Senado de la Nación,

Secretaría de Turismo de la Nación,

Comisión Nacional de Monumentos, de Lugares y de Bienes Históricos,

Fondo Nacional de las Artes,

Centro Argentino de Arquitectos Paisajistas (CAAP),

Centro de Investigaciones del Paisaje (FADU UBA CIP)

Ente Mendoza de Turismo, Gobierno de Mendoza,

Dirección General de Escuelas,

Secretaría de Cultura, Dirección de Patrimonio Cultural y Museos, Casa Stoppel,

Colegio de Arquitectos de Mendoza,

Junta de Estudios Históricos de Mendoza,

Universidad de Mendoza,
This symposium represents a broadening dialogue and increasing activity of the ICOMOS Latin America and Caribbean Regional Group (LAC). During this meeting, we learned from each other and transmitted knowledge to emerging professionals and students.

Having shared with the people of Mendoza, and having begun to understand the assets and resources of this unique place, we recognize that:

I. Mendoza is shaped by the region in which it resides: the geography of the mountains, desert, oases, and availability of water from the Andean Cordillera that, over time, developed a uniquely adapted oasis urban plan, water management systems, and agricultural landscape.

II. The Mendoza region is rich in valued heritage. It is:
   a. A designed landscape in its plan, distinctive in its consistent planting of plane trees among others, its particular management of water; in addition, the urban plan results in a dynamic relationship of views between Mendoza and the mountains, with experiential qualities of the day and night sky;
   b. An associative landscape expressed by pre-Hispanic and European migrations influence, and by religious practices, with
intangible values interpreted by rituals, celebrations, festivities, and the continuity of multicultural traditions and practices; and

c. **An evolved landscape** in response to its climate, desert, geography, geomorphology and cultural layers, with expressions of adaptation in its agricultural and vinicultural practices.

III. Due to the harshness of the environment, the city was historically an innovator in sustainable development:

The historic city is a model for climate change adaptation with its managed water system, rich street tree canopy and designed parks that modify the heat island effect of the city;

The urban forest is multi-functional, providing protection for residents during earthquakes; and

From the earliest pre-Hispanic days, through successive migrations, the human-environment interaction created critical traditional knowledge of the landscape ecosystems, and created an understanding of adjustment to changing climate conditions.

IV. The identification of heritage values rests on collaborative investigation. In turn values provide the basis for protection, designation and further conservation tools.

Therefore:

We encourage the investigation and strengthening of protection and sustainable management of the Mendoza region: urban, periurban and rural and agricultural assets and lifeways;

We encourage an awareness of the importance of the agricultural wine, olive and growing landscape in its approach to the management and protection of the rural landscape;

We encourage sustainable tourism as an approach to heritage protection and management;

We encourage the continued engagement and application of heritage knowledge in climate change adaptation and planning for the city and the region; and
We encourage the continued promotion of Mendoza as a global example of the application of traditional knowledge to climate change adaptation planning, as well climate change adaptation process based on heritage models.

As heritage professionals we recognize and encourage the application of the four tool groups that work together on behalf of heritage:

- Community engagement and empowerment,
- Legal and regulatory systems,
- Planning and knowledge, and
- Finance and economic systems.

This work is most successful when it is based in strong community-based decision making on behalf of heritage.

*We commend to you the ongoing important work to identify, protect, conserve and transmit your valued heritage in full cooperation with local, regional, national and international bodies and civic entities.*

*Signed this day, 11th December, 2018*

*Members of the ICOMOS-IFLA, International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes*