21GA Agenda item 2
Organisation of the sessions

Agenda item 2-1
Resolution 21GA 2023/1 – Confirmation of the members of the Elections Committee
Voted during session by in-situ/virtual show of hands

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Noting that the Elections Committee has already been working with the International Secretariat prior to the General Assembly to verify online voting platforms and procedures;

Taking into account the decision by the 2022 ICOMOS General Assembly, at its October 2022 meeting, on a proposal by the ICOMOS Board, to appoint Mona O’Rourke (ICOMOS Ireland/President of ICLAFI) and Lucille Karen Isberto (ICOMOS Philippines/ICLAFI) as Joint Head Tellers for the 21st General Assembly, so as to allow these preparations;

Noting the need for an additional Teller, present in Sydney, to support the Joint Head Tellers;

Confirms the appointment of the members of the Elections Committee as follows:

- Joint Head Tellers: Mona O’Rourke (ICOMOS Ireland/ICLAFI) and Lucille Karen Isberto (ICOMOS Philippines/ICLAFI)
- Assistant tellers: Toshiyuki Kono (ICOMOS Japan/ICLAFI), Jean-Paul Lawson (Benin), Verónica Heras (Ecuador) and Gai Jorayev (ICOMOS UK).

Agenda item 2-2
Resolution 21GA 2023/2 – Adoption of the Report of the Credentials Committee
Voted during session by in-situ/virtual show of hands

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Noting that Article 9-c of the ICOMOS Statutes requires that General Assembly decisions should be taken by a majority of the voting members present or represented from at least one third of the National Committees – i.e. 35;

Having regard to the report of the Credentials Committee;
Takes note that:
- As of 31 December 2022, there were 1,160 voting members from 104 National Committees and 66 individual members from countries or territories with no National Committees; that is a total of 1,226;
- This 25 August, there are 943 designated voting members representing 66 National Committees up to date with their dues and having sent their list of voting members and proxies; and 56 individual members from countries without a National Committee; that is a total of 999;
- The Credentials Committee's decision to add 10 backup e-mails to cover errors in voting to the above; bringing the overall figure of possible voting members to 1,009;

Adopts the report of the Credentials Committee and notes that the requirements of Article 9-c of the Statutes for the validity of decisions at this General Assembly have been met.

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Agenda item 2-3
Resolution 21GA 2023/3 – Adoption of the minutes of the 2022 EGA and AGA
Voted during session by in-situ/virtual show of hands

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS adopts the minutes of the 2022 Extraordinary and Annual General Assembly held in October 2022.

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Agenda item 2-4
Resolution 21GA 2023/4 – Adoption of the report of the Candidatures Committee
Voted during session by in-situ/virtual show of hands

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS adopts the report of the Candidatures Committee, according to which the following candidates shall be eligible by the General Assembly for the offices indicated:

For the position of President:
Teresa Patricio (Belgium)

For the position of Secretary General:
Faïka Béjaoui (Tunisia)
Jurn Buisman (Netherlands)

For the position of Treasurer:
Cyrill von Planta (Austria)

For the position of Vice President:
Riin Alatalu (Estonia)
Leonardo Castriota (Brazil)
Chilangwa Chaïwa (Zambia)
HRH Dana Firas (Jordan)
Zeynep Gül Ünal (Türkiye)
Bo Jiang (China)
Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy (Australia)

For the Board:
Olufemi Adetunji (Nigeria)
Saúl Alcántara Onofre (Mexico)
Antoine Bruguerolle (France)
Adriana Careaga (Uruguay)
Doo-Won Cho (Republic of Korea)
Andreas Georgopoulos (Greece)
Siame Ishac (Lebanon)
Marianne Knutsen (Norway)
Celia Martínez Yañez (Spain)
Eran Mordohovich (Israel)
Takeyuki Okubo (Japan)
Mariana Pereira (Portugal)
Nupur Prothi (India)
Monica Rhodes (U.S.A.)
Grainne Shaffrey (Ireland)

Agenda item 2-5
Resolution 21GA 2023/5 – Election of the President, Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteurs of the 21st General Assembly
Voted during session by in-situ/virtual show of hands

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS elects as:
- President of the General Assembly: Tracy Ireland (Australia ICOMOS);
- Vice Presidents of the General Assembly: Ar Tiong Kian Boon (ICOMOS Malaysia); Luna Rajab (ICOMOS Syria); and Bély Hermann Niangao (ICOMOS Burkina Faso).
- Secretary General of the General Assembly: Mario Santana Quintero (ICOMOS Canada);
- Rapporteurs of the General Assembly: Marianne Lehtimäki (ICOMOS Finland) and Délie Ronsin-Quéchon (ICOMOS International Secretariat).

Agenda item 2-10
Resolution 21GA 2023/6 – Adoption of the Agenda
Voted during session by in-situ/virtual show of hands

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS adopts its Agenda.

21GA Agenda item 4
Reports on the triennium 2020 – 2023 and adoption of annual accounts

Agenda item 4-5
Resolution 21GA 2023/7 – Approval of the 2022 accounts and discharge of the Board and Treasurer from liabilities
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Approves the reports by the President, Secretary General and Treasurer;
Further approves the accounts of 2022 and discharges the Board and the Treasurer.

21GA Agenda item 5
Resolutions

Agenda item 5-3
Resolutions on statutory matters

Agenda item 5-3-1
Resolution 21GA 2023/8 – Approval of the general programme and budgetary guidelines for 2024-2026
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling that Article 9-d-5 of the Statutes requires the General Assembly to vote the General Programme for the next triennium, and Article 10-d-12 requires the Board to propose the draft General Programme;

Also recalling the ICOMOS General Programme 2021-2023 approved by the 20th ICOMOS General Assembly (Resolution 20GA 2020/8);

Underlining that the draft General Programme 2024-2026 is in line with the General Programme 2021-2023, to ensure connectivity and continuity in the work developed and to be developed by the Board;

Acknowledging that the General Programme has been proposed by the Board;

Adopts the following ICOMOS General Programme for the next triennium.

ICOMOS General Programme 2024 - 2026

Mission 1: Act and be recognised as leaders in cultural heritage conservation

Objective: To continue reaffirming the role of ICOMOS as a leading and respected organization, advocate and think-tank for the conservation of cultural heritage worldwide

Strategies:

• Continue to actively promote the theme of “Cultural Heritage and Climate Action” as the core topic of the Triennial Scientific Plan 2021-2024.
  Outcome: Develop and identify climate heritage change actions, research and documentation throughout the ICOMOS network and make it accessible through the normal channels. Re-focus proposed ICOMOS meetings and Scientific Symposia 2021-24 on climate change impacts on specific heritage places and issues. Inclusion of cultural heritage issues and approaches in core scientific work and policies on climate change at the national and international level.
  Monitoring strategy: The Advisory Committee President and appointed Board member liaison to the Advisory Committee to report annually to the Board.

• Actively promote the theme of “Safeguarding Heritage: Preparedness, Response and Recovery” as the core topic of the Triennial Scientific Plan 2024-2027.
  Outcome: Develop and identify actions, research and documentation throughout the ICOMOS network on Risk Preparedness, Response and Recovery and make it accessible. Re-focus proposed ICOMOS meetings and Scientific Symposia 2021-24 and 2024-27 on Risk Preparedness, Response and Recovery for specific heritage places and issues. Inclusion of risk preparedness on national and international agendas.
  Monitoring strategy: The Advisory Committee President and appointed Board member liaison to the Advisory Committee to report annually to the Board.

• Develop and engage reflections about today’s global challenges to build a more robust and resilient cultural sector.
  Outcome: Development of cultural heritage issues and approaches fully anchored in public policies, community needs and sustainable development perspectives.
  Monitoring strategy: The Advisory Committee President and appointed Board member liaison to the Advisory Committee review the plans/activities of the ICOMOS network (National Committees, International Scientific Committees and Working Groups) addressing these issues and report biennially to the Board.

• Promote and advocate cultural pluralism using intercultural dialogue that is aware of inclusion and inequalities.
  Outcome: Preparation of papers, seminars and expert meetings on the intersection of current issues with cultural heritage conservation aimed at strengthening policies
promoting cultural pluralism, protection of cultural diversity, cultural rights, social justice and peace as overarching aspirations of cultural policies for the future.

Monitoring strategy: The Vice Presidents coordinate with the appointed Board member liaison to the Advisory Committee to review the outputs and activities of the ICOMOS network (National Committees, International Scientific Committees and Working Groups) that reflect these issues.

• Continue to monitor crisis impacts on cultural heritage places and those who care for them, and develop ways of responding to the challenges faced by heritage and our National Committees.
  Outcome: Regular surveys and reports on the impacts of the various crises throughout the world, development of new ICOMOS guidance for response and new training programmes for conservation professionals.
  Monitoring strategy: The Coordinator and Board liaison member to the Crisis and Conflict Monitoring Unit report biennially to the Board.

• Widely disseminate the work and outputs of ICOMOS at the international and national level through its websites, open archive, publications and conferences.
  Outcome: Every ICOMOS platform should contain up-to-date information on recent scientific work produced by the ICOMOS network (National Committees, International Scientific Committees and Working Groups).
  Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General and the appointed Board member liaison to the Advisory Committee, in collaboration with the International Secretariat, report to the Board biennially.

Mission 2: Develop and strengthen the ICOMOS professional network

Objective: Involve all of our members and committees in the professional work of ICOMOS at the local and international level

Strategies:

• Ensure the good governance of all National Committees, International Scientific Committees and Working Groups by effectively monitoring their inclusiveness, diversity, and activities, and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion in ICOMOS’ work.
  Outcome: the bodies of the ICOMOS network should actively involve interested members in their work, admit new members, encourage diversity of membership, regularly refresh their leadership and submit annual reports on their activities.
  Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General, in collaboration with the Advisory Committee President, reviews the reports submitted to assess the effectiveness of this strategy.

• Involve emerging professionals in all ICOMOS activities including training, mentorship, public advocacy and the dissemination of knowledge.
  Outcome: All National and International Scientific Committees and Working Groups have at least one emerging professional member.
  Monitoring strategy: The Vice Presidents, appointed Board member and Advisory Committee President, in collaboration with the International Secretariat, review annual reports submitted to assess the effectiveness of this strategy and report annually to the Board.

• Promote transdisciplinary/collaborative/shared meetings and scientific symposia on common issues and interlinkages between existing work programmes.
  Outcome: An increased number of scientific meetings involving more than one International Scientific Committee or Working Group.
  Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General, in collaboration with the appointed Board member liaison to the Advisory Committee and the support of the International Secretariat, reports biennially about the progress of this strategy.

• Promote regional and sub-regional cooperation, exchanges and projects among National Committees on matters of common interest.
  Outcome: An increased number of regional and sub-regional meetings should be implemented.
  Monitoring strategy: The Vice Presidents report biennially to the Board.

• Continue to promote multilingualism and professional exchanges between members from different cultures.
Outcome: An increased number of ICOMOS guidance texts and publications available in multiple languages and international meetings at which simultaneous interpretation is offered, into both working languages and other international and national languages.

Monitoring strategy: The Vice Presidents, in collaboration with the appointed Board member, report annually to the Board about the availability of these publications/events.

- Increase targeted and effective communication about ICOMOS activities.
  
  Outcome: Increased use of the ICOMOS calendar to publicise national and international activities and publication of regular news about ICOMOS activities all over the world.
  
  Monitoring strategy: The International Secretariat provide statistics on number and downloads of newsletters, social media post -likes and followers-, and other promotion activities that have been conducted.

- Share best practice documents freely among ICOMOS members
  
  Outcome: An increased number of National and International Scientific Committees publish toolkits of good practice for the use of the cultural heritage community.
  
  Monitoring strategy: The Advisory Committee President and appointed Board member review annual reports to assess the effectiveness of the dissemination of these tools and, in collaboration with the International Secretariat, verify progress of such documentation on the Open Archive, and report to the Board annually.

Mission 3: Reach out to other institutions, the private sector, authorities and communities

Objective: Use the ICOMOS networks to establish and build on fruitful partnerships at the international, national and local levels with external bodies, contributing the cultural heritage knowledge and skills of members while seeking out and benefitting from the knowledge and skills of others.

Strategies:

- Encourage National Committees to involve local people, communities, universities, institutions and authorities in local ICOMOS activities.
  
  Outcome: An increased number of National Committees use international events (such as the International Day for Monuments and Sites - 18 April) and national events to connect with local communities and promote the mandate of ICOMOS by using its name, logo, and technical information. Vice Presidents encourage the engagement of academic institutions in the activities of the ICOMOS University Forum.
  
  Monitoring strategy: The Vice Presidents report annually to the Board about the implementation of this strategy in their respective regions.

- Build on existing partnerships with other international institutions, and develop new partnerships, to extend the reach and influence of ICOMOS within international and regional organisations in the broader spheres of conservation and culture.
  
  Outcome: An increased number of agreements, advisory roles and joint work plans are developed with partners that provide opportunities for the involvement of members.
  
  Monitoring strategy: The Treasurer General, in coordination with the Director General, reports biennially to the Board on the number of agreements and activities organized in the framework of these partnerships.

- Promote the use of ICOMOS best practice documents at the national and local level.
  
  Outcome: An increased number of national and local governments that have adopted documents prepared by ICOMOS as standards of best conservation practice for cultural heritage.
  
  Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General reports annually to the Board on outcomes.

- Enhance the role of ICOMOS in public education about cultural heritage conservation.
  
  Outcome: Develop a programme of webinars that can present the works and concepts of ICOMOS to a broader general audience.
  
  Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General, together with the Vice Presidents, and in coordination with the International Secretariat reports biennially to the Board about the implementation of these webinars in their respective regions.
• Continue to strengthen and promote ICOMOS open access resources available to the public such as the ICOMOS Open Archive and ICOMOS publications, such as toolkits and guidelines.

Outcome: Inclusion of easily located links to good practice guidelines on our website; continued development of the social media strategy to promote the mission of ICOMOS on these issues.

Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General, in collaboration with the International Secretariat, reports about the inclusion of these resources on the ICOMOS website and social media biennially.

Mission 4: Nurture and sustain the ICOMOS organisation

Objective: Maintain and improve the viability of ICOMOS as a financially stable organisation with a genuinely globally representative membership and an environmentally sustainable operation

Strategies:

• Enhance the visibility of ICOMOS as an organization by promoting the benefits of working together.

Outcome: ICOMOS as a platform for cooperation and exchange of experience and knowledge; a repository of knowledge; a heritage monitoring network; and a universal authority on heritage conservation.

Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General reports biennially to the Board on the progress of this strategy.

• Advocate for committed and ethical work, guided by inclusive dialogue.

Outcome: Recognition of ICOMOS’ expertise, as a democratic, responsible and enlightened organisation, with irreproachable ethics.

Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General reports biennially to the Board on the progress of this strategy.

• Promote the benefits of international membership and encourage all National Committees to increase their numbers of international members.

Outcome: Membership numbers at the international level increase each year.

Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General, in collaboration with the International Secretariat, reports biennially on the number of new international memberships and actions taken to increase the numbers.

• Support the formation of new National and Transnational Committees to connect local members with one another, especially in regions where there are few.

Outcome: An increased number of National Committees in Africa, the Arab States and the Asia-Pacific regions.

Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General, in collaboration with the International Secretariat, reports regularly to the Board on the number and on the actions taken for the formation of new National and Transnational Committees.

• Develop, promote and implement an ICOMOS Sustainability Policy to assist all parts of the organisation to reduce their carbon footprint and adverse impact on the environment

Outcome: Adopt, promote and implement a Sustainability Policy.

Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General and the appointed Board member liaison to the Advisory Committee, in collaboration with the International Secretariat, report annually on the progress of this strategy.

• Continue to improve use of platforms for statutory international meetings that promote more equitable participation, voting and funding among all members.

Outcome: A majority of statutory meetings and elections are conducted virtually using electronic platforms available to all members, sharing the costs equitably among the participants.

Monitoring strategy: The Secretary General, in collaboration with the International Secretariat, reports biennially on the progress of this strategy.

• Seek sustainable financial and human resources to achieve ICOMOS’ goals, support ICOMOS solidarity funds and increase the capacity of the International Secretariat.

Outcome: An increased proportion of ICOMOS income is derived from stable recurrent sources, such as international institutional membership.

Monitoring strategy: The Treasurer General, in collaboration with the Director
Resolution 21GA 2023/9 – Approval of the 2024 budget
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS approves the budget for 2024 as presented in the working documents.

Resolution 21GA 2023/10 – Appointment of the Credentials Committee of the 2024 Annual General Assembly
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS appoints the following members to serve on the Credentials Committee for the 2024 Annual General Assembly:

- Mario Santana Quintero (ICOMOS Canada) – Chair
- Nato Tsintsabadze (ICOMOS Georgia)
- Rima Hooja (ICOMOS India)
- Lassana Cissé (ICOMOS Mali)
- Shireen Allan (ICOMOS Palestine)
- Cyrill von Planta (ICOMOS Austria) – ICOMOS Treasurer ex officio

allowing the ICOMOS Board to make any necessary adjustments if need be in the course of 2024 – should any of those appointed above have to step down.

Resolution 21GA 2023/11 – Appointment of the Head Tellers of the 2024 Annual General Assembly
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS appoints the following members to serve as Head Tellers for the 2024 Annual General Assembly:

- Mona O’Rourke (ICOMOS Ireland/ICLAFI)
- Toshiyuki Kono (ICOMOS Japan/ICLAFI)

allowing the ICOMOS Board to make any necessary adjustments if need be – should any of those appointed above have to step down.

Resolution 21GA 2023/12 – Amendments to the Rules of Procedure
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling Extraordinary General Assembly resolution EGA 2017/6 and Annual General Assembly resolution AGA 2019/10;

Noting that the proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure have been prepared by the Board in accordance with Article 10-d-10 of the ICOMOS Statutes and revised following consultation with members,

Having examined the proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure, as well as the Background report prepared by the Board;
Adopts by a simple statutory majority the Rules of Procedure dated May 2023 and attached, with the exception of Article 121-4.

Agenda item 5-3-6

Resolution 21GA 2023/13 – Amendments to Article 121 of the Rules of Procedure

Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling Extraordinary General Assembly resolution EGA 2017/6 and Annual General Assembly resolution AGA 2019/10;

Further recalling Article 13-a of the ICOMOS Statutes which states that “National Committees shall comprise all members of ICOMOS within a country”;

Noting that the proposed amendment to Article 121 of the Rules of Procedure has been prepared by the Board in accordance with Article 10-d-10 of the ICOMOS Statutes and revised following consultation with members;

Having examined the proposed addition to the Rules of Procedure of Article 121-4 concerning the naming of National Committees, as well as the Background report prepared by the Board;

Adopts by a simple statutory majority the amendment to Article 121 of the Rules of Procedure by inserting the following as Article 121-4:

4. The name of the National Committee, including any ‘doing business as’ name, shall contain only the full name “International Council of Monuments and Sites” or the acronym “ICOMOS” and the name (or appropriate abbreviation of the name) of the country of the National Committee. The same requirement applies to the web site address of the National Committee, its email addresses and its social media presence.

Agenda item 5-3-7

Resolution 21GA 2023/14 – Renewal of the External Auditors

Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling Resolution 19GA 2017/08 by which the 19th General Assembly of ICOMOS, nominated the company Commissaireauxcomptes.fr, represented by Ms Isabelle Marquis, as external auditor for six financial years, starting with the year 2017;

Noting that this term has expired and that the company Commissaireauxcomptes.fr accomplished its task to the satisfaction of the ICOMOS Board and General Assembly during its first mandate;

Taking into account the need for continuity considering the scheduled retirement of the accountant at the International Secretariat in 2025;

Resolves to renew the mandate of the company Commissaireauxcomptes.fr, represented by Ms Isabelle Marquis, as external auditor for a second period of 6 financial years, i.e. until the close of the General Assembly called to approve the financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2029.
Agenda item 5-4
Resolutions on other heritage issues

Agenda item 5-4-1
Resolution 21GA 2023/15 – Climate Change and Indigenous Heritage
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Acknowledging the rights of Indigenous Peoples as established under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP 2007);

Acknowledging that ICOMOS has a leadership role in recognising and incorporating Indigenous heritage action in the face of widespread climate change, which includes working, where appropriate and feasible, with Indigenous communities to anticipate, assess and help manage worsening and future climate impacts on their heritage;

Conscious of the ongoing and projected increase of direct and indirect impacts, and loss and damage to Indigenous heritage worldwide, including tangible and intangible cultural, natural and combined heritage, as catalogued in Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability (IPCC 2022); The Future of Our Pasts: Engaging cultural heritage in climate action (ICOMOS 2019); and Global Research and Action Agenda on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change (ICSM CHC 2023);

Acknowledging the importance of heritage to its Indigenous owners and custodians as critical to the maintenance of their land, lifeways and religious, social and cultural life, and to Indigenous wellbeing, as noted in UNDRIP 2007; IPCC 2022; and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (2030 Global Agenda 2015);

Recognising the cultural and governance structures of Indigenous Peoples who can, when given tangible and material opportunities, shape the terms, appropriate actions and framing of climate change mitigation and adaptation on their own lands and oceans as noted in the Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES 2019); ICSM CHC 2023; and the 2010 Mandaluyong Declaration;

Resolves that ICOMOS, through its Board, Advisory Committee and Scientific Council, builds on previous initiatives and collaboratively responds to threats of climate change and global impacts on Indigenous heritage by:

1. Partnering with allied organizations and Indigenous communities to
   a. raise international attention and awareness of the importance and value of Indigenous heritage to Indigenous Peoples, our shared planet and humanity consistent with the ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan 2021-2024 Objective 1; and in alignment with the Warsaw Loss and Damage Mechanism (UNFCCC), Anchorage Declaration (2009), and the Kioa Climate Emergency Declaration (2022);
   b. encourage the preparation of climate risk assessments, adaptation and disaster risk management plans, based on diverse and appropriate knowledge systems, internationally through appropriate bodies in partnership;
   c. urge the international community and national governments to recognise, study and act in agreement and collaboration to ethically co-develop and enact climate work plans;
   d. recognise Indigenous sovereignty and control over their land and knowledge when seeking to use Indigenous Knowledge as part of effective climate responses and initiatives;
   e. promote the need for culturally-appropriate Intellectual Property protective clauses when engaging with and sharing Indigenous Knowledge;

2. Requesting the ICOMOS Indigenous Heritage Working Group to take the lead in formulating advice to ICOMOS on appropriate action within ICOMOS and when ICOMOS acts in partnership with other organisations, with regard to Indigenous Peoples, their heritage and climate impacts and to effectively monitor this;

3. Encouraging members, Committees and Working Groups in their work to offer all possible assistance to ensure that the appropriate representation, consultation, participation and active
involvement of Indigenous Peoples is implemented in culturally-appropriate ways when considering potential impacts of climate change and Indigenous heritage and proposing appropriate mitigation measures;

4. Facilitating the implementation of these objectives through promoting the outcomes of successful collaborations through the ICOMOS Climate Change Resource Portal as proposed in the ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan 2021-2024; ensuring collaborations and outcomes shared through the Portal have informed consent or IP Provisions as developed through templates and procedures; showcasing ICOMOS leadership in respectful ICOMOS discourse with Indigenous Peoples about climate change issues, particularly in relation to scholarly publications.

Agenda item 5-4-2
Resolution 21GA 2023/16 – Cultural Dimensions of the SDGs
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling the resolution 18GA 2014/37 which urges governments and National Committees of ICOMOS to firmly acknowledge the prominent role of culture and heritage in sustainable development and urgently support the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UN Agenda 2030);

Noting that culture remains unrecognised in the UN Agenda 2030, and that economic growth is a key indicator of development which has the potential to exacerbate the exploitation (privatization, commercialization and monetization) of nature and culture globally;

Conscious of the need for heritage and development actors to identify the significance and transformative potential of culture in sustainable development beyond the designated SDG Target 11.4: “strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage”, which is only measured through the total per capita expenditure on the preservation, protection and conservation of heritage at national, regional, and local levels;

Acknowledging the need to go beyond the current discourse of ‘sustainability’ and apply a systems approach supporting generative and restorative economic activities that strengthen integrated social, cultural and environmental systems that can be sustained and enhanced;

Recognising the 2022 UNESCO Mondiacult Declaration which affirms culture as a global public good and moreover a shared resource (commons) with an intrinsic value that could enable and drive sustainable development through appropriate governance and collaborative stewardship;

Taking into account the need for a strategic and inclusive approach, through multisectoral and interdisciplinary partnerships and collaboration within and outside the cultural sector;

Considering the role of UN-Habitat and the New Urban Agenda in addressing urban sustainability, localisation of the SDGs, and the contribution of urban culture thereof;

Affirms the continuous efforts of the ICOMOS Sustainable Development Goals Working Group in raising awareness on the transversal linkages between culture, heritage and sustainable development relevant to practice and policy, built on theoretical and applied (including situated and traditional) knowledge and contributing to global knowledge commons;

Urges ICOMOS members to assist the ICOMOS Sustainable Development Goals Working Group by gathering relevant research, quantitative and qualitative data informing how culture and heritage can support sustainable development;

Requests ICOMOS National Committees and International Scientific Committees to engage with the UN 2030 Agenda by supporting national and local governments in producing and communicating relevant data for Voluntary National Reviews, Voluntary Local Reviews and other documents as part of SDG reporting;
Further requests ICOMOS National Committees and International Scientific Committees to consolidate data for the National, Provincial and Local Indicator Framework that is specific to culture;

Calls upon awareness and critical discussions among ICOMOS members in addressing challenges within the current development paradigm and identify leverage points for systems change where culture and heritage are fully recognised for regenerative sustainability of people and the planet;

Requests that ICOMOS supports UNESCO and the Culture 2030 Goal Campaign to identify relevant targets and indicators that support the pivotal role of culture and heritage as integral enablers of sustainable development and the UN development agenda in this Decade of Action and post 2030.

Agenda item 5-4-3
Voted on online platform
The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Declaration marking the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, issued by the ICOMOS General Assembly 2018, which embraced the principle of free, prior and informed consent of source communities before adopting measures concerning their specific cultural heritage;

Reflecting on the UN reform ‘Human Rights Based Approach to Development Cooperation and Programming’, May 2003, which recommended the development of capacities of ‘duty-bearers’ to meet their obligations towards rights-holders;

Considering the duties of State Parties as defined in the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention, which imply that the State Party or the representatives of the State Parties are the World Heritage duty-bearers;

Acknowledging that the ‘Operational Guidelines to implement the World Heritage Convention’ (2021) in its paragraph 12 encourage States Parties to the Convention to adopt a “human rights-based approach, and ensure gender-balanced participation of a wide variety of stakeholders and rights-holders”;

Recalling Decision 43 COM 12 of the World Heritage Committee, Baku 2019, regarding the reform of the nomination process, which decided to endorse the principle of a two-phase nominations process, as a key measure for restoring the balance and the credibility of the World Heritage List;

Supporting the ICOMOS initiative to review rights issues in the World Heritage nomination dossiers, during the ICOMOS evaluation process;

Requests that ICOMOS supports and contributes to a Human Rights-Based Approach through systematic screening of rights issues in Heritage management, as well as stewardship and development of cultural heritage.

Agenda item 5-4-4
Resolution 21GA 2023/18 – Recognizing Indigenous Peoples’ Values and Interconnections between Culture and Nature in the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage Sites
Voted on online platform
The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling resolutions 18GA 2014/46 "Connecting Practice: supporting integrated approaches to nature and culture" adopted by the 18th General Assembly of ICOMOS (Florence, 2014), 19GA
Acknowledging the rights of Indigenous Peoples to maintain, control, protect, and develop their cultural heritage and to define and implement the best methods to conserve heritage of significance to their culture;

Recognizing that for Indigenous Peoples, cultural and natural values are inseparably interwoven and should be managed and protected in a holistic manner;

Considering that heritage policies, programmes and activities affecting Indigenous Peoples should be based on full recognition of the inseparability of natural and cultural heritage, and the deep-seated interconnectedness of intangible cultural heritage and tangible cultural and natural heritage;

Recognizing that adverse outcomes can occur when heritage processes do not adequately reflect the interrelated character of nature and culture, and that these can intersect with sustainability objectives as well as rights concerns, especially for Indigenous Peoples;

Recognizing that many World Heritage sites are fully or partially located in the traditional lands and territories of Indigenous Peoples;

Acknowledging that for many of those World Heritage sites, the Outstanding Universal Value was defined without the meaningful participation of the Indigenous Peoples concerned and may not reflect their perspectives, their cultural context, their relationship to the land, and the interconnectedness of nature and culture: and that this continues to have significant negative impacts on some Indigenous Peoples’ rights, practices, traditions, livelihoods, and cultural heritage;

Acknowledging that the World Heritage Convention provides a context where new practices supporting integrated approaches to nature and culture can be forged, given that it provides an international instrument for both natural and cultural heritage;

Noting that ICOMOS has worked together with both the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) to develop more integrated approaches and practices to natural and cultural heritage in the context of their work as Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee;

Requests the ICOMOS Board to:

1. Advocate for positive changes to World Heritage processes, including to the criteria for the assessment of Outstanding Universal Value that would consider cultural and natural values within individual criteria, in order to facilitate the recognition of interconnections between culture and nature on the World Heritage List in particular with regard to indigenous people’s values.

2. Collaborate with the other Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee (IUCN and ICCROM) and the International Indigenous Peoples’ Forum on World Heritage (IIPFWH) in order to develop options for changes to the criteria that would address this issue, for the consideration of the World Heritage Committee.

3. Advocate for a comprehensive review of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List to identify sites where the values of Indigenous Peoples may have not been recognized when the Outstanding Universal Value was defined and which may thus warrant re-evaluation of the sources of their Outstanding Universal Value and/or their conservation strategies.

4. Ensure that the rights, perspectives and values of Indigenous Peoples and the relationship of Indigenous Peoples to the land are duly considered and recognized in the advice provided by ICOMOS to the World Heritage Committee.

Agenda item 5-5
Resolutions on organizational matters
Agenda item 5-5-1  
Resolution 21GA 2023/19 – Proposal to Review the Current Membership Fee Structures to Provide an Equitable and Sustainable System  
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Considering that Article 6.f.3 of the ICOMOS Ethical Principles states that ICOMOS members must not put the financial standing of ICOMOS and its Committees at risk;

Conscious that the economic circumstances of the more than 100 National Committees in the world is complex and the present membership fee structures do not adequately respond to such complexity;

Taking into account:
1. The varying approaches to charging membership fees across National Committees reflecting the ability of members to pay fees as well as access to alternative funding streams for National Committees and the inequalities arising from this;
2. The need to take into consideration economic metrics on differences in standards of living – such as real GDP at purchasing power parity – in establishing a fairer membership fee structure;
3. The variable means and abilities which exist at the national level, to secure funding for National Committees;
4. That the types/categories of membership within National Committees are limited and uneven;
5. The variability and potential inequity in membership structures;
6. The lack of sufficient understanding and information on the different membership fee categories, levels and approaches of National Committees;
7. Concern that the current membership fee structure is an inhibiting factor in retaining existing and attracting new members;
8. Increasingly regular cycles of global economic crises which affect ICOMOS internationally and nationally;
9. The increases in costs, the increase in workload of ICOMOS and the ever-expanding demands on and expectations of the International Secretariat which require appropriate funding, and
10. The increase in ICOMOS membership fees adopted by the 2022 General Assembly in Bangkok and due to come into effect in 2024;

Requests the establishment by the incoming Board, in collaboration with the Advisory Committee, of a Working Group to examine the structure, levels and distribution of membership fees and make recommendations for the improvement of a fairer membership fee structure which also secures the financial sustainability of the ICOMOS International Secretariat, with a target date for completion and for presentation for adoption at the General Assembly in 2024.

Agenda item 5-5-2  
Resolution 21GA 2023/20 – Gender Diversity in ICOMOS  
Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

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) and in particular Goal 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;

Recalling the 2021 ICOMOS document Heritage and the Sustainable Development Goals: Policy Guidance for Heritage and Development Actors, which advocates to harness the potential of heritage to achieve gender equality, eradicate bias and violence based on sexual orientation, and empower all genders, recognising that heritage is constantly changing and evolving;

Acknowledging the preliminary findings on gender data within ICOMOS and in relation to heritage practices presented by the Heritage and Gender Task Team on Gender Equality, a joint initiative of the ICOMOS Sustainable Development Goals Working Group and the Our Common Dignity - Rights-Based Approaches Working Group;

Recalling the positive impact of gender diversity on the functioning of organisations and likewise the beneficial impact on well-being and on heritage preservation when gender dimensions are considered in heritage practices;

Noting the proposal by the Board to make a reference to gender balance in article 45-4-b of the ICOMOS Rules of Procedure,

Decides to include gender diversity and empowerment as an important component of the ICOMOS Triennial Action Plan, with a specific focus on gender equity in membership and leadership positions and on research related to heritage practices and management systems;

Invites the National Committees, the International Scientific Committees, the Working Groups and all ICOMOS bodies to take measures to improve gender balance in their membership and activities by 2026;

Also invites the National Committees, the International Scientific Committees, the Working Groups and all ICOMOS bodies to take gender dimensions into account as part of their work and decision-making processes;

Calls upon the ICOMOS membership to submit more gender diverse nominations for ICOMOS Honorary Membership and the Gazzola Prize;

Requests the Heritage and Gender Joint Task Team to present an updated report on gender equality and diversity in ICOMOS and on gender dimensions in heritage practices to the 22nd General Assembly in 2026 and encourages it to provide all necessary support to the National Committees, International Scientific Committees and Working Groups as appropriate.

**Agenda item 5-5-3**

**Resolution 21GA 2023/21 – Indigenous Peoples’ Inclusion throughout ICOMOS**

Voted on online platform

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recognising the inherent authority of Indigenous Peoples over their culture and heritage, that existed before and is empowered by their governance, and continues to be exercised regardless of constructs external to them shaped by others;

Recognising that there are both extrinsic and intrinsic rights and responsibilities for Indigenous Peoples to speak and act for their own custodial rights for places;

Recalling that the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) was adopted by the United Nations in the spirit of partnership and mutual respect in 2007 by 144 state parties, and later endorsed by Australia (2009), Canada (2021), New Zealand (2010) and the USA (2010);

Recognising in particular that the earth’s diverse Indigenous Peoples have “the right to self-determination” (Article 3 of UNDRIP) as well as “the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present, and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites,
artefacts, designs, ceremonies, sacred places and sites, technologies and visual and performing arts and literature” (Article 11 of UNDRIP), and the related right to identify and acknowledge the characteristics and elements that make heritage sites, landscapes and narratives of Indigenous value;

Acknowledging that ICOMOS can be aided in its work by the inclusion of Indigenous representation to identify and integrate Indigenous values;

Affirming, in the spirit of UNDRIP, that ICOMOS should also give effect to the principle enshrined in its Article 41 that “Ways and means of ensuring participation of Indigenous peoples on issues affecting them shall be established”.

Asserting that Indigenous communities have the rights to Indigenous knowledge and practices as expressions of their intellectual property, with reference to Article 31 of UNDRIP which states that “Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions”;

Recalling that ICOMOS is an associate partner of UNESCO, which is subject to Article 41 of UNDRIP, and that ICOMOS is an international non-governmental organisation concerned with furthering the conservation of cultural heritage, as well as an Advisory Body of the World Heritage Committee for the implementation of the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention, both of which may have effects on Indigenous heritage.

Recognising, in the spirit of UNDRIP, that Indigenous People must be part of decision-making processes that affect them, including identifying emerging Indigenous directives, concerns and perspectives on the protection and development of their heritage, including climate change, biodiversity loss, and issues relating to water quality;

Recognising the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework including Target 22ii and the Joint Programme of Work on the Links between Biological and Cultural Diversityiii, [the latter of which ICOMOS is invited to, and which includes the commitment to strengthening the links between biological and cultural diversity with the full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples.]

Recognising the ICOMOS Indigenous Heritage Working Group, the Australia ICOMOS Indigenous Heritage Reference Group, Tautaki the Māori Committee of ICOMOS New Zealand, the Indigenous Perspectives and Knowledge Working Group of the ICOMOS-IFLA International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes, the Caring for Country Committee of Australia ICOMOS, and other representation of Indigenous peoples in ICOMOS;

Resolves that ICOMOS encourage and support its National Committees to increase Indigenous membership, including through ICOMOS Mentoring programmes and contact with educational institutions, to encourage student and emerging members, where there is an Indigenous presence in that country;

Resolves that ICOMOS encourage and support the participation of Indigenous members within ICOMOS so that they provide an Indigenous voice throughout the decision-making levels and activities of ICOMOS;

Resolves that ICOMOS activities ensure that the significance and values of Indigenous tangible and intangible heritage, including cultural landscapes, and biodiversity are incorporated in practice and activities;

Resolves that the role of the ICOMOS Indigenous Heritage Working Group (IHWG) be encouraged and supported so that the diversity of Indigenous voices is broadly acknowledged within ICOMOS.
21GA Agenda item 6

**Election of the 20 members of the Board for the mandate 2023-2026**

Agenda item 6-4

*Resolution 21GA 2023/22 – Report by the Elections Committee on the election results*

*Voted on online platform*

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

**Elects** Teresa Patricio (Belgium) as ICOMOS President;

**Elects** Jurn Buisman (Netherlands) as ICOMOS Secretary General;

**Elects** Cyrill Von Planta (Austria) as ICOMOS Treasurer;

**Elects**
- Riin Alatalu (Estonia)
- Leonardo Castriota (Brazil)
- Chilangwa Chaiwa (Zambia)
- HRH Dana Firas (Jordan)
- Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy (Australia)

As ICOMOS Vice-Presidents; and

**Elects**
- Olufemi Adetunji (Nigeria)
- Adriana Careaga (Uruguay)
- Doo-Won Cho (Republic of Korea)
- Andreas Georgopoulos (Greece)
- Zeynep Gül Ünal (Türkiye)
- Marianne Knutsen (Norway)
- Celia Martínez Yáñez (Spain)
- Takeyuki Okubo (Japan)
- Mariana Pereira (Portugal)
- Nupur Prothi (India)
- Monica Rhodes (United States)
- Gráinne Shaffrey (Ireland)

As Members of the ICOMOS Board.

21GA Agenda item 9

**Conferring Honorary Membership**

Agenda item 9

*Resolution 21GA 2023/23 – Conferring Honorary Membership*

*Voted by applause*

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

**Confers** Honorary Membership on:
- Dora Alcantara, Brazil
- Salvador Díaz Berrio, Mexico (posthumously)
- Zhang Jie, China
- Gideon Koren, Israel
- William Logan, Australia
- Richard Mackay, Australia
- Benthe Mathisen, Norway
21GA Agenda item 10
Closing

Agenda item 10-3
Vote of thanks
By acclamation

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Thanks

All those who contributed and gave their time to making this General Assembly of ICOMOS a success;

- The General Assembly Committees and officers
  - President of the General Assembly:
    Prof. Tracy Ireland (President of Australia ICOMOS)
  - Vice Presidents of the General Assembly:
    Ar Tiong Kian Boon (ICOMOS Malaysia)
    Luna Rajab (ICOMOS Syria)
    Bély Hermann Niangao (ICOMOS Burkina Faso)
  - Secretary General of the General Assembly:
    Mario Santana Quintero (ICOMOS Canada)
  - Rapporteurs of the General Assembly:
    Marianne Lehtimäki (ICOMOS Finland)
    Délie Ronsin-Quéchon (ICOMOS International Secretariat);

- The Credentials Committee
  - Ulrike Herbig (ICMOOS Austria) – Chair
  - Alice Biada (ICOMOS Cameroon)
  - Luis Enrique Flores Bravo (ICOMOS Peru)
  - Yeo Kang Shua (ICOMOS Singapore)
  - Pamela Jerome (ICOMOS Treasurer – ex officio);

- The Elections Committee
  - Joint Head Tellers: Mona O'Rourke (ICOMOS Ireland/ICLAFI) and Lucille Karen Isberto (ICOMOS Philippines/ICLAFI)
  - Assistant Tellers: Toshiyuki Kono (ICOMOS Japan/ICLAFI), Jean-Paul Lawson (Benin), Verónica Heras (Ecuador) and Gai Jorayev (ICOMOS UK);

- The Resolutions Committee
  - Gráinne Shaffrey (ICOMOS Ireland) – Chair
  - Ohnmar Myo (Myanmar)
  - Marcela Clot (ICOMOS Argentina)
  - Adnan Abbas Adas (ICOMOS Saudi Arabia)
  - Aliyu Abdu Lass (ICOMOS Nigeria)
• Eve Wertheimer (ICOMOS Canada)
• Yoloxochitl Lucio (ICOMOS Mexico, EPWG);

 o The Candidatures Committee
• Mario Santana Quintero (ICOMOS Canada) – Chair
• Kirst Kovanen (ICOMOS Finland)
• Silvia Arroyo Duarte (ICOMOS Panama)
• Lassinan Traore (ICOMOS Cote d’Ivoire)
• Fauzia Qureshi (ICOMOS Pakistan)
• Hossam Mahdi (CIAV)
• Süheyla Koç (EPWG);

 o The Grants Committee
• Grellan Rourke (ICOMOS Ireland) – Chair
• Mario Santana Quintero (ICOMOS Canada)
• Pamela Jerome (ICOMOS-USA)
• Pamela Dziwulska (ICOMOS New Zealand)
• Laura Robinson (ICOMOS South Africa);

 o The Gazzola Prize and Honorary Members Jury
• Toshiyuki Kono (ICOMOS Japan) – Chair
• Amund Sinding Larsen (ICOMOS Norway)
• Lassana Cisse (ICOMOS Mali)
• Alfredo Conti (ICOMOS Argentina)
• Patricia O’Donnell (ICOMOS-USA, IFLA);

 o ICOMOS GA2023 Strategic Partners including:
• The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia
• The NSW State Government
• The City of Sydney
• Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council
• Sydney Opera House
• Sydney Harbour Federation Trust
• The NSW Parks Service
• Placemaking NSW
• Transport for NSW
• Luna Park Sydney
• Sydney Water
• ICC Sydney
• Arinex – the conference organisers;

 o ICOMOS GA2023 Corporate Patrons including:
• Art of Multimedia
• EarthCheck
• Extent Heritage
• GML Heritage
• Lovell Chen

And many other corporate patrons whose support has made the GA2023 possible;

 o Australia ICOMOS for their hard work and support in organising this General Assembly – in particular President Tracy Ireland, GA2023 Convenor Richard Mackay, Deputy Convenor Duncan Marshall, Organising Committee Chair Helen Lardner, Youth Forum Convenor Michelle Bashta, ICOMOS Board members Peter Phillips, and the Scientific Symposium co-convenors Steve Brown and Ona
Vileikis, as well as the numerous ICOMOS members throughout Australia and overseas who have contributed on committees and panels, hosted events and assisted with the delivery of the GA2023;

- **The Getty Foundation** for their invaluable support and commitment to facilitating broader participation in the General Assembly;

- **The company Euro-Vote** for their reliable and diligent accompaniment of our voting processes;

- **The ICOMOS International Secretariat** – Gaia Jungeblodt, Jessica Khan and Gabriel Losada, Marie-Laure Lavenir, Yuna Mathan, Délie Ronsin-Quechon for their hard work in organising this General Assembly;

- **All ICOMOS members who participated** in person in Sydney, as well as online in the voting process and hybrid sessions – to ensure the statutory continuity of our organisation.

21GA Agenda item 2
Organisation of the sessions

Agenda item 2-9
*In Memoriam* - Remembrances

*By minute of silence*

The 21st General Assembly of ICOMOS,

**Recognizes** the significant contribution to the work of ICOMOS and the cultural heritage field of the following members and heritage defenders who passed away since the Annual General Assembly of 2022

**Expresses** condolences to their families, colleagues and National and International Scientific Committees:

Giovanni Carbonara (Italy), Maija Kairamo (Finland), Giorgio Macchi (Italy), Sebastián Paniza Paredes (Panama) and Mingkang Tong (China).

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1 Indigenous is the name used by UNDRIP. Other terms such as Original Peoples (pueblos originarios in Spanish), Autochthonous Peoples (French), are also adopted in UNDRIP translations..

2 Adopted by the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity at its Fifteenth meeting (Montreal, Canada, 18 December 2022). **Target 22**: Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by Indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders..

3 The Conference of Parties renewed its commitment to the Joint Programme of Work on the Links between Biological and Cultural Diversity at its Fifteenth meeting (Montreal, Canada, 18 December 2022).