

## **Final draft of ICOMOS International Charter and Guidance on Sites with Intangible Cultural Heritage**

The ICH Charter Working Group is happy to present the fourth and final draft of the ICH Charter and Guidance prior to a proposal for its adoption being considered at the Advisory Committee and General Assembly in November this year. The following report provides background to the process of development and specifically actions taken since the most recent round of consultation:

### **1. Consultation Process:**

Following a series of internal, ICICH workshops in September 2023 and further consultation within ICICH, the first draft (English, French and Spanish) was circulated to all ICOMOS members on 23 March 2024. Many comments were received and substantial changes were made.

On 11 June 2024 a second circulation, in all three languages, went to all ICOMOS committees together with a comment tracker setting out responses to comments received in the previous round of consultation. Committees were requested to comment only on the changes made to the previous draft and to consider the accuracy of translations into French and Spanish. Several comments were received, mainly from individual members of committees.

### **2. Process since 11 June 2024:**

- **Comments on content:**  
These comments were dealt with in the same way as previously. (See the new Comment Tracker.) Unfortunately several submissions were late and could not be considered as requests for late submissions made by others had been declined.  
  
Many comments did not deal with changes made to the previous draft. These inputs were only considered where they dealt with technical errors such as spelling, typos, etc. but are all responded to in the Comment Tracker.
- **Comments on translation:**  
These were dealt with by panels from ICOMOS France and three Latin American committees. All inputs were considered and, where agreed with, proposals were accepted.

### **3. Major changes in the new draft:**

The title of the document has changed to “ICOMOS International Charter and Guidance on Sites with Intangible Cultural Heritage” and section headings have been added. This is for two reasons:

- The new title clearly differentiates the Charter and mission of ICOMOS regarding ICH from UNESCO's 2003 ICH Convention and clarifies that the purpose of the Charter is firmly within the ICOMOS mandate of ‘monuments and sites’.
- The title and section heading also make it clear that this is both a charter and guidelines. The sections separate three areas - Charter, Guidelines and Ancillary matters, the latter being content that is relevant to both of the doctrinal areas covered by the document.

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