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Photo: Arxiu mNACTEC
The 15th General Assembly – a milestone in our history

The 15th General Assembly held in Xi'an, China, from 17 to 21 October was a resounding success both in scientific terms but also with regards to the welcoming atmosphere created by ICOMOS China and the Xi'an municipality, and the many spectacular cultural events and invitations they so generously offered us. The commitment of the city as a whole was underlined by the enthusiastic assistance which over 200 young student volunteers provided to delegates, the banners and posters that greeted us from every bridge and streetlamp, and the hundreds of postcards drawn by Xi'an schoolchildren to celebrate the heritage of their city. With over 1000 participants from over 75 countries and 177 papers, selected from among over 600 abstracts, presented during the Scientific Symposium “Monuments and Sites in their setting – conserving cultural heritage in changing townscapes and landscapes”, this was the largest General Assembly in our organisation’s history.

40 years of ICOMOS

Following the statutory reports by the President, Secretary General and Treasurer General of ICOMOS, whose full-length hard copy versions were made available to delegates, ICOMOS Poland, as host country of the founding Assembly of ICOMOS in 1965 and represented by Andrzej Tomaszewski and Boguslaw Szmygnik presented a documentary video in celebration of the 40th anniversary of ICOMOS.

Drawing on archive material provided by the Paris Secretariat and National Committees such as Spain, Armenia, Peru, Germany and France, the film retraced the history of ICOMOS, showing images of its founding members and meetings, and illustrated the various aspects of ICOMOS’ action. In his accompanying speech, Boguslaw Szmygnik distanced the three central premises around which ICOMOS was founded: international cooperation, the universality of mankind’s heritage and our shared responsibility for it; the development of common professional principles, and analysed ICOMOS’ achievements in each of these fields. In his view, ICOMOS could be compared to a 40 year old conservator: “he is qualified and has gathered valuable experience, he is full of power and energy. He has plans for the future and knows how to meet the targets, but what remains is the huge amount of work and actions he has to face”.

The anniversary celebrations were concluded by the awarding of the Gazzetta Prize for the most constructive commemoration by the ICOMOS members who have been conferred honorary membership (see p. 6 for a detailed report).

The Symposium: the question of the “setting” of monuments and sites

Yukio Nishimura, President of ICOMOS and rapporteur of the General Assembly, then inaugurated the scientific part of the opening ceremony by inviting the three keynote speakers to make their presentations.

Mr Shao Jixiang, Director General of the State Administration of Cultural Heritage of China led the way. Ms Elisabeth Vives, Adjunct Professor, Desaier University, Melbourne and heritage consultant discussed the issue of “Settings and Stewardship – Exploring the Changing Settings and Landscapes of Cultural Heritage”, and the presentation by Benjamin Mouton, Architect in Chief and Inspector General for Historic Monuments, France, on “Le monument et son milieu, une patient reconstruction” (The monuments and its context – a patient reconstruction) concluded the keynote speeches. The Chairs for the four sub-themes: Yukio Nishimura, Tamas Fejery, Boguslaw Szmygnik, Raymond Bondin and Maria Rosa Suarez Inclan Ducassi having each given a short overview on the character of their respective session, the first working day of the General Assembly concluded.

Following a banquet hosted by the Shaanxi provincial government, the delegates where brought to the South Gate of Xi’an’s ancient city wall where a truly amazing performance was expected. After having handed over the golden key of the city to the President of ICOMOS, hundreds of actors and dancers dressed in period costumes performed the traditional ceremony before departing for the farewell banquet.

The Welcoming Banquet
The splendours of China

On Thursday, 20 October, we were all treated to a well deserved break and an impressive motorcade of ICOMOS minibus headed towards the Museum of the Terracotta Army of the First Emperor of the Qin Dynasty, Hanyuan Hall of the Tang Dynasty Dining Palace and the Archaeological Exhibition of Yangling Mausoleum dating from the Han Dynasty. Although the weather was not on our side, our Chinese hosts had even foreseen this eventuality and we each had an ICOMOS umbrella. This day devoted to the discovery of Chinese culture was rounded off by a high quality show of Chinese dance and music back at the Grand Theatre of the Xi’an People’s hotel.

Resolutions: sweeping changes in ICOMOS’ scientific structure

The fifth and last day of our gathering, was the day on which all important decisions were taken. After presentations and rapporteurs for each sub-theme of the scientific symposium, the delegates proceeded to discuss the 39 proposed resolutions, under the guidance of Resolutions Committee chair Sheridan Burke. The resolutions, which the Resolutions Committee and Secretariat had worked all night to finalise and translate, touched upon issues ranging from endangered and damaged heritage sites to organisational questions such as the creation of a Scientific Council and the adoption of the Eger-Xian Principles (see p. 11). It was the first time the President had made use of the possibility of nominating an ad-hoc Resolutions Committee before the start of the General Assembly and asked Committees and members to submit their proposals early. The 37 resolutions which were finally adopted are reproduced in full in the central pages of this newsletter.

In relation to the scientific theme of the 15th General Assembly, the participants also adopted the Xi’an Declaration on the conservation of the setting of heritage structures, sites and areas (see central supplement, p. 10).

The Xi’an Declaration

Despite the fact that the term “setting” is difficult to translate into many languages, it was generally accepted in the course of the Symposium that the idea of “setting” is multi-faceted, encompassing numerous intrinsic internal and external elements. It cannot, therefore, be dealt with as a separate phenomenon. The appropriate identification and management of settings can serve to sustain the human dimension of urban environments and landscapes, both spiritual and material, adding to the overall quality of life. Setting is a dynamic structure, shaped and given value by people. To grasp this dynamic, interactive model, changing contexts and values need to be acknowledged. Therefore, planning should provide a supportive environment, a decision-making framework at the regional level, in which cultural heritage can flourish creatively and in harmony with surrounding development.

This document is the product of a draft developed before the start of the International Scientific Symposium that was then carefully fleshed-out and revised during the event itself.

The Xi’an Declaration consists of a preamble and four sections, totaling 13 different points. It begins with a definition of “setting”, emphasizing that setting must be recognized as a contributing factor to the overall significance of cultural heritage. The Declaration outlines the positive influences that maintenance of an appropriate setting can have on the significance and the distinctive character of cultural heritage.

The Declaration stipulates that a multi-disciplinary approach is necessary in order to understand and interpret a site’s setting. Settings are based on tangible and intangible values, demanding the use of a variety of sources of information including not only formal records and archives, but also artistic and scientific descriptions; oral history and traditional knowledge; perspectives held by local communities; and the views and votes.

It goes on to stress the importance of planning tools in managing settings, including the use of assessment and monitoring mechanisms as well as the involvement of the different communities concerned. This document extends the scope of heritage conservation from simply addressing individual monuments and sites to placing an importance on the overall setting. However, the Declaration simultaneously recognizes that this is a modern world and that the management of settings need not necessarily prevent or obstruct change. This demands that creative solutions be found to ensure that development and changes to the living environment occur in harmony with surrounding cultural heritage.

The Xi’an Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas represents a milestone for ICOMOS and all international organizations in this field as it not only calls for the interpretation of the setting of cultural heritage, but equally urges action for its conservation and management in rapidly changing societies.

A new Executive Committee

Next on the agenda, were the triennial elections to appoint the ICOMOS officers and Executive Committee for the 2005-2006 mandate. Following reports by the chairs of the Credentials and Candidates committees: Arnund Sinding Larsen (Norway) and John Fowler (USA) respectively, each of the 31 candidates standing for election was given a short slot to present him/herself. After a detailed Powerpoint presentation by the Secretariat explaining the election procedure, delegates were invited to pick up their ballots. Under the supervision of the Secretary General of the General Assembly and the head table Mr. Victor Fernandez Salinas (Spain), the almost 900 votes cast, on paper ballots, for each of the 5 rounds necessary, were scanned and counted by computer using optical reading. This rapid and efficient system allowed for smooth elections, completed within the foreseen agenda slot, with the added security of a possible manual count should it have proved necessary (see p. 17) for the full list of all the newly elected Executive Committee members, and the ICOMOS web site for numerical details of the results.

See you in Quebec

The General Assembly conclude with a short film and presentation inviting all members to attend the next major gathering of the ICOMOS family, the 16th General Assembly of 2008 in Quebec (Canada). On p. 8 of this edition, Michel Bonnette, President of ICOMOS Canada already provides you with an introduction to the theme and preliminary information on this event.

Also looking ahead to the subsequent Assembly of 2011, the floor was opened to National Committees wishing to propose to host this event, and Ray Bondin launched an invitation on behalf of Malta.

As was to be expected, our Chinese hosts rounded off this memorable week with a marvellous Farewell banquet at the Tang Paradise Park, hosted by the State Administration of Cultural Heritage and ICOMOS China, which was followed by a sound and light display over the lake of this park.

ICOMOS wholeheartedly thanks ICOMOS China, the State Administration of Cultural Heritage, the Municipality of Xi’an and Shaanxi Province for the overwhelming generosity shown to ICOMOS and all the hard work and creativity that went into making the 15th General Assembly a milestone in ICOMOS’ history.

The resolutions, including all their background reference documents; the detailed elections results; the Xi’an Declaration and all the papers presented at the General Assembly symposiums, as well as a series of other reports are available on www.icomos.org.

ICOMOS International Secretariat and Yuko Nakamura
15th GA Rapporteur and former Vice President of ICOMOS
ICOMOS Foundation established in Macao

The 15th General Assembly was not only an unforgettable event for about 1,000 delegates but also a tremendous success – not least thanks to this perfect organisation by the City of Xi’an and our colleagues of ICOMOS China. One of the highlights of this General Assembly, which may be of crucial importance to ICOMOS future in the next few years, is the setting up of an ICOMOS foundation. Linked to our 40th anniversary, the idea of such an ICOMOS foundation arose just at the right moment and I was happy to announce in my opening speech in Xi’an that two German companies, based in the World Heritage City of Lübeck and also working in China, had agreed to support it. The first is the Drägerwerk AG, a leading enterprise in the field of medical and security technology; the second is L. Pauli & Co. mbH, working in the fields of international trade and electronics with subsidiary companies in Malaysia, Shenzhen, Singapore and Malaysia.

According to the vision of these two first donors this is meant to be an endowment foundation, based on the accumulation of capital whose returns are used in benefit of a purpose which is already described in article 4 of our statutes: “ICOMOS shall become the international organization concerned with furthering the protection, conservation, promotion and enhancement of monuments, groups of buildings and sites, on the international level.” To define the purpose of such a foundation in general terms, one could speak of three objectives: to help ICOMOS accomplish its aims (as set out also in article 5 of our statutes), to support ICOMOS in its actions to safeguard monuments and sites in danger, to foster the sharing of experience amongst professionals for better conservation.

Meanwhile, the Executive Committee meeting in January 2006 approved the establishment of the foundation, and we have also managed to find the right seat for it: Macao. The Macao Cultural Bureau supports the creation of this foundation, and will host its first office. Following recent talks in Macao, our foundation could become active in coming years in the following fields:
- Apart from specialized Chinese/Asia conservation projects also support small pilot projects in all world regions;
- Promotion of ICOMOS’ principles and guidelines;
- Research in conservation science and training;
- Support for ICOMOS member organizations.

The ICOMOS Foundation is therefore going to be active worldwide, for which there is hardly a better starting point than Macao, which has connected East and West for centuries and was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2005.

Michael Petzet
President of ICOMOS

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee manages our organization between General Assemblies, and is composed of twenty officers and members elected in Xi’an 2006 (of which many are newcomers), five members to be co-opted to ensure a more equitable representation of the region’s regions, and the President of the Advisory Committee. Its mandate is in particular to develop and implement the ICOMOS work plan, to ensure its financial stability and progress in its mission and network. The Director of the Secretariat attends the meetings.

The Committee met from 13 to 17 January in Paris at our headquarters, rue de la Fédération. Despite the smallness and legendary bad ventilation of our premises, all the members were present and active. We also benefited from the attendance of representatives of the ICOMOS Scientific Council and the President of ICOMOS General Assembly of the 156th General Assembly in 2006, in Quebec (with a certain number of activities in Montreal - among other an International forum for young professionals).

The Executive Committee welcomed representatives of international organisations whose meaningful and carefully considered comments on ICOMOS’ work went beyond the simple observer role and directly contributed to the work of the Executive Committee.

- Ambassador Ita Macriniolué, President of the World Heritage Committee and permanent delegate of Lithuania at UNESCO, personally met the ICOMOS Executive Committee despite her extremely busy schedule. The meeting allowed a professional exchange on the role of ICOMOS as advisory body, on the work of the World Heritage Committee, and on the criteria for inscribing and conserving World Heritage Sites.
- Mourad Bouchnak, Assistant Director General for Culture at UNESCO, accompanied by Jim Williams from the World Heritage Centre, outlined the recent reorganisation of UNESCO which has increased the responsibilities of the World Heritage Centre, and renewed its interest for even closer cooperation with ICOMOS.
- Gamini Wijesuriya, representative of ICOMOS, contributed to strengthening the cooperation between our two organisations, for example in the field of training and on the discussions concerning the doctrinal texts of ICOMOS (The ICOMOS Bureau will meet at ICOMOS in June).
- John Zverev, Secretary General of ICOM, presented the strategic approach of his organisation who celebrates its 60th anniversary this year, recalling our common positions on several issues such as risk preparedness and the BlueSky, and expressing that this cooperation be further formalised.
- Ezequiel Casanelles, President of TICHIP, partner organisation of ICOMOS, welcomed the decision by ICOMOS to work on a set of principles for the conservation of industrial heritage and invited our representatives to a seminar in Barcelona on this subject, in April, on the occasion of the International Day of Monuments and Sites.

The Executive Committee mainly focussed on the organisational set up and work of ICOMOS until the next General Assembly. A 2006-2006 work plan will be prepared based on the discussions and resolutions of the General Assembly in Xi’an. This plan will be submitted to the Bureau meeting in Rome in June 2006, and then to the Advisory Committee meeting in Edinburgh later this year (Scotland – final date to be confirmed). In what concerns the secretariat, the Committee noted the under-representation of Africa and the Eastern Europe among its members, and decided to take steps to identify possible candidates so as to correct this situation. It also requested that a procedure be established to select the host country for the 17th General Assembly in 2011. Finally, the Committee discussed the budget of the organisation and discussed the Funding task team set up by a resolution of the General Assembly to support the Treasurer General, Giora Solar.

Call for participation! What are the future challenges in heritage conservation and protection?

In preparation of the meeting of the ICOMOS Scientific Council this June in Rome, I personally invite you to share with us your opinions with regards to the future challenges we face in the protection and conservation of monuments, sites and ensembles, at the core of the ICOMOS mission. This question is essential both to improve planning of our scientific and professional activities and so that we can better anticipate the needs of our members or areas where ICOMOS needs to engage more decisively. We need to better understand trends and cultural, socio-economic, political or environmental factors which will affect buildings, sites, cities, heritage landscapes which are our concern, whilst also recognizing the diversity of national and cultural situations.

I therefore call upon your experience to help us identify these elements which could threaten, or on the contrary, support heritage conservation in the next 5 to 20 years. Please forward your brief text (maximum 1 page or 250 words) before 1st June 2006 directly to the International Secretariat (secretariat@icoms.org; fax +33 1 44 66 06 22).

Dinu Bumbaru
Secretary General of ICOMOS
Executive Committee
continued from previous page

A good part of the meeting was devoted to the role of ICOMOS in the implementation of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. In fact, this is one of our greatest responsibilities, providing us with a first class opportunity for scientific and professional development. We wish to fulfill our role with even greater vigour and with the contribution of an even larger number of our members, National and International Committees. The Executive Committee therefore adopted a policy on the ethical principles guiding ICOMOS in this work (available on our web site) and set up a task force with specific responsibility for this field of work, in close liaison with the Secretariat. We have also asked the Scientific Council to identify the expertise available within the organization to fully fulfill its mandate as advisory body.

Finally, in accordance with the ICOMOS statutes, President Michael Petzel entrusted the five Vice Presidents with specific mandates linked to the strategic objectives of ICOMOS, and clear targets to be achieved, rather than on providing responsibilities geographically. Thus, the President entrusted Gustavo Aroz (USA) with the coordination of our National and International Committees, membership development to Kristi Buckley (Australia), ICOMOS activity in the field of World Heritage to Tamas Fajentzy (Hungary), training to Carlos Pernot (Argentina) and special projects to Guo Zhan (China). Besides his statutory responsibilities, the Secretary General ensures the preparation and implementation of the 2006-2008 work plan.

To ensure greater transparency of its work and so as to raise awareness of our members and partners to the challenges posed by the management of our organization, the Executive Committee decided that the records of decisions taken at its meetings be published from now on the ICOMOS web site — www.icomos.org. In the name of all my Executive Committee colleagues, I therefore invite you to consult these and to send our comments and suggestions.

Dina Bumbaru
Secretary General of ICOMOS

Quebec 2008
Where is the Spirit of the place hiding?

Dear friends, the 15th General Assembly is now behind us. Thanks to our Chinese colleagues, the meeting in Xian will be remembered by all participants, I am sure, as an exceptional moment in the history of ICOMOS. From now on, it belongs to my ICOMOS Canadian colleagues and me to face the challenge of coming up with a program of activity that will raise your interest and surprise those of you who will be coming to Quebec in 2008, from September 29 to October 4, to participate in our 16th General Assembly and Scientific Symposium. We feel very much honoured that we have been invited by our Executive Committee to prepare and host this event in Quebec.

Throughout 2008, Canada will hold celebrations to commemorate the founding, four centuries ago, of Quebec, the cradle of the French civilization of North America and the only remaining walled city north of Mexico. Quebec was for these reasons, listed as World Heritage in 1965.

It is indeed in July 1608 that some adventurous explorers sailing west from France in search of a passage that would lead them to the Indies and allow them to bring back to Europe its famous silks, perfumes and spices, ran up against a continent which they would have preferred skirting around. Instead, they discovered indigenous civilizations that had established more than ten thousand years before on lands that were still wild. They started trading posts with these people they named the “American Indians”. They established trading posts along the great river which penetrates North America more than 1,800 kilometres from the Atlantic and of which Quebec and Montreal, small villages that became large cities, are the gateways.

This wide and immense St. Lawrence river allowed these audacious and reckless explorers to sail up to the heart of the continent, up to those interior seas that are known as the Great Lakes and on the banks of which were established and developed the great cities of Cleveland, Buffalo, Toronto, Detroit and Chicago. It is from Quebec and Montreal that the great expeditions were launched which allowed for the discovery first and then the exploration and occupation of the large American territories, from the Mississippi in the east to California in the west and up north to the cold Arctic seas.

Quebec and Montreal are cities from the European colonization period and as such they bear testimony to a greatly significant history, but they are also cradles of modernity. Hospitable cities, cities of visitors, thrown open to the world. We want to use the opportunity of the meeting in 2008 to let you discover all of their charms and secrets.

In 2008, in Quebec, we will be addressing the question of the Spirit of the place or Genius loci. “Where is the Spirit of the place hiding?” is the question we are putting forward and on which you are invited to reflect already and all along this trinennium. This question is in line with the process of deliberation initiated in Victoria’s Falls where we discussed the concept of intangible heritage. It also follows on from the reflection we engaged in during the Xian meeting where we tried to capture the importance of the setting in the preservation of our historic monuments and sites. We believe it is a question that appeals to all of us, whether our interests lie in research and the acquisition of knowledge, in training and the practice of craftsmanship, in the management of historic sites, cities, landscapes and cultural routes, or in the education of the public and the interpretation of historic content which are the means we employ to transmit the values we attach and significances we give to our heritage.

• Is the Spirit of a place revealed through historical research?
• Is it that archaeological research reveals, transforms or perhaps rather destroys the Spirit of a place?
• How can we take into account and be inspired by the Spirit of the place when it becomes a necessity to integrate new buildings in the urban landscape of the historic city?
• Can architecture, photography, as technological tool, help us discover, capture, better understand and better respect the Spirit of the place?
• Does our legislation on heritage preservation protect the Spirit as much as the stone of our monuments and sites?
• How do our Charters and Declarations take into account the safeguarding of the Genius loci?
• Do our preservation techniques protect anything else but materials and their means of assembly?
• How do different ethnic groups living in the same area and sharing the same heritage perceive the Spirit of the place?
• How can we promote better living conditions for a population living in a vernacular heritage area of exceptional value, but very much deteriorated, without altering the Spirit of this heritage, and without altering its meaning and value?

What Spirit inhabits the heritage of Brazil and makes it different from the heritage of Belgium, Japan, Spain or Portugal? How much of the Canadian spirit dips into the spirit of France, England and the First Nations which have occupied the territory for thousands of years and from which it has developed?

These are some of the questions among many others that the Canadian National Committee of ICOMOS wishes to raise and on which it invites you to reflect over the next three years so that the meeting in Quebec will be an opportunity for all of us to come together with ideas and responses that will contribute in expanding the field of our professional practice, in raising its level of quality as well as in deepening its roots. We expect discussions to focus not only on defining what the Spirit of the place is and on searching for its presence in the objects that make up our tangible as well as our intangible heritage, but also on the attitudes and behaviours that we should be adopting in our respective fields of practice so that it is better revealed, safeguarded and passed on to future generations.


Michel Bonnette
President ICOMOS Canada
Quebec ICOMOS 2008
The World Heritage List
Filling the Gaps – an Action Plan for the Future

An ICOMOS study compiled by
Jukka Jokilehto, contributions from
Henry Cleere, Susan Denyer and Michael Petzet
(Monuments and Sites vol. XII)

This ICOMOS study on the World Heritage List and Tentative Lists should be seen as a contribution to the further development of the Global Strategy for a credible, representative and balanced World Heritage List. It is a response to the invitation by the World Heritage Committee at its 24th session in Cairo in 2000 to “proceed with an analysis of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List and the Tentative List on a regional, chronological, geographical and thematic basis”. The proposed scope of the study was “to provide States Parties with a clear overview of the present situation, and likely trends in the short- to medium-term with a view to identifying under-represented categories”.

Already at the 24th session of the World Heritage Committee in Cairo, ICOMOS presented broad categories of cultural heritage that could be used as a basis for analysing the World Heritage List. Following the suggestions of the World Heritage Committee at its 25th session in Budapest (2000), ICOMOS developed these broad categories of cultural heritage and adopted a multi-faceted approach to the analysis of the World Heritage List. Its aim was to try and identify possible gaps in, and underrepresented areas of, cultural heritage which could be considered to be of outstanding universal value. Following the suggestions of the World Heritage Committee, ICOMOS adopted three complementary frameworks for this analysis, of which the first was carried out in 2002, the others in 2003-04:

- A typological approach which is based on categories that have been used for the classification of cultural heritage in past ICOMOS evaluations for nominations in the World Heritage List.
- A chronological/regional framework which classifies cultural heritage in relation to time and space.
- A thematic framework, which identifies people’s responses to their cultural environment.

A fundamental problem in working towards a more representative, Balanced and credible World Heritage List is the fact that in many countries the range and extent of cultural heritage is not completely known, as it is has been either partly recorded, or not recorded at all. In such countries, there is no scientific documentation, nor inventories of cultural heritage which could be used to assess cultural heritage properties of outstanding universal value in comparison to the existing total stock. In many countries, as there is also a lack of appropriate State protective regulations for monuments and sites and their surroundings. ICOMOS found that there are many heritages lists or other registers of cultural properties, which would need to be updated under relevant protection laws.

These factors, the incomplete register of cultural heritage in many regions of the world and the lack of an effective system of protection as requested by the Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention when a property is nominated for inscription, are two of the main reasons for the existing imbalance in the World Heritage List and they also impinge on the capacity of countries to develop appropriate Tentative Lists.

The idea of “balance” in relation to the World Heritage List should not be seen to refer to a balance between countries, or types of properties, but rather to how well a particular type of heritage of outstanding universal value is represented on the List. There will probably always remain a certain “imbalance” between various regions and countries of the world, considering the diverse diversity of cultural heritage, the way it is distributed and how it is now represented around the world. As a consequence, the aim of the present study is to help States Parties in their efforts to identify possible gaps on the List. The attempt, illustrated by comments and statistics, of approaching the question of representativeness of the existing World Heritage List, as well as the Tentative Lists, from three frameworks - typological, chronological/regional and thematic framework - in accordance with the Decision of the World Heritage Committee in Budapest mentioned above, is meant to facilitate the tasks of the States Parties to identify properties of potential outstanding universal value and prepare Tentative Lists and nominations. It is clear that improving the representativeness on the List and filling these requirements will require further research. The definition of potential heritage properties to be nominated in future will certainly remain an open question, subject to evolving concepts, policies, strategies and available resources.

On behalf of ICOMOS I wish to emphasise that the work to further the aims of the Global Strategy for a more representative, balanced and credible World Heritage List will continue in the years to come, through the recognition of possible gaps in the World Heritage List in all regions of the world and further discussion and action to ensure the preparation of more and better quality Tentative Lists. The methodological analysis of the World Heritage List presented here can be only considered a first step. The Action Plan, which we suggest at the end of this study, is the only way in which this work has been learnt from the analysis can be translated into actions. We hope that this work will ensure in the future a World Heritage List of greater credibility as a list of cultural and natural heritage of truly outstanding universal value.

1. Pakistan Earthquake

Proposed by ICOMOS Pakistan

The recent earthquake in Pakistan is the most devastating natural disaster in the entire history of this country. The magnitude of the destruction caused is immense and beyond what Pakistanis, by the country’s own resources, can deal with. International help and assistance in all areas is being requested. The region hit by this earthquake has towns and villages which are examples of traditional settlements of the various regions of Pakistan, thus living representations of culture, architectural heritage and natural landscapes. In the future, a World Heritage Site may be considered, and the area would no longer be considered a category of cultural and natural heritage of truly outstanding universal value.

2. Hurricane Katrina, United States of America

Proposed by ICOMOS France

Considering the scale of devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina in September 2005 on Louisiana’s (USA) traditional and historical built heritage and the great importance of preserving this heritage and the cultural memory which it carries for the community of Louisiana and neighbouring states; Considering the immense needs, both material and in terms of specialized professionals, to save the remains still in place, and for the necessary reconstruction of the cities and villages.

3. Disaster Recovery Conference

Proposed by the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture (CIAV)

Considering that:
- In the aftermath of the terrible tragedies affecting several parts of the world – for example, the tsunami in Asia and hurricanes in America just to name a few – there is a pressing need to ensure the recovery of familiar environments and traditions transmitted by previous generations;
- That the understanding and knowledge of the heritage and customs of a region or country is always highly connected to the knowledge and skills of its living communities, and that the knowledge and skills of the latter are always at risk if the environment is damaged;
- That the reconstruction process of damaged environments should, as far as possible, be based on the local communities’ own knowledge and skills.

In view of this, ICOMOS would like to propose a conference on heritage recovery that would be an opportunity to develop a methodology to allow communities in a range of situations to work together to preserve and promote their communities’ cultural heritage.

A. CURRENT ISSUES

1. Pakistan Earthquake

Proposed by ICOMOS Pakistan
- In the haze for providing emergency shelter and rebuilding, vernacular traditions are increasingly threatened, and that it is important that the planning of reconstruction be based on traditional characteristics of a region.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi'an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:

- Propose to the national authorities of the affected countries that a conference on the rebuilding of devastated areas be held under the leadership of ICOMOS in the following six months in a country affected by these events.
- The purpose of this international conference will be to set up guidelines for reconstructing devastated areas that will respect traditional architecture and cultural landscapes. This forum will also serve to provide a voice to those who are affected by these terrible events.

4. Earthquake Desert of Atacama, Chile
Proposed by ICOMOS Chile

Keeping in mind that the 15th General Assembly and Scientific Symposium is dedicated to the theme of Monuments and Sites in their setting and keeping in mind the following considerations:

- In the northernmost part of Chile, in the eastern zone of the desert of Atacama, there were a number of small villages located in the general area of what was once the old Inca road, later the Royal road. This area with its characteristic architectural structures constitutes a true cultural patrimony which includes many a fragile intangible heritage;
- On 1 March of this year, a devastating earthquake occurred in this area with an intensity of 7.9 on the Richter Scale, leaving considerable part of the villages and churches in ruins; and
- Due to the isolation of the area, its fragility, and its almost non-existent economical importance to the country as a whole, official response has been slow and restoration efforts non-existent for conservation and restoration are poorly thought out, hasty and completely inadequate.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi'an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:

- Urgently recommend to the appropriate National authorities and to the government of Chile that an appropriate number of specialists come together as a team to prepare a master plan for response that will include consolidation and restoration, followed by conservation and maintenance.
- Further recommend that this team is interdisciplinary in nature in order to ensure the protection of the heritage assets as a whole, both movable and immovable cultural goods, along with its setting, environment, natural heritage and fragile intangible heritage.

5. Akrotiri excavation shelter, Greece
Proposed by ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM)

Considering that Akrotiri dates to 2000-1500 BCE and provides very significant information of that time in the Eastern Aegean.

The lava cover to the entire city from the Santorini volcanic eruption has protected evidence of the culture at that time to a remarkable degree, providing a precious historic record.

Knowing that expertise on shelters for archaeological sites is held within ICOMOR and the Getty Conservation Institute and that they may be able to assist the Greek Government.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi'an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:

- Ask the Greek Government for assurance that it will urgently ensure the safeguarding of the remainder of Akrotiri excavated site, on Thera (Santorini), and in particular that the still-standing shelter is stabilised to protect it over the coming winter.

6. Sourbe Khatche Church in Akhtamar, Turkey
Proposed by ICOMOS Armenia, relying on the support of ICOMOS Turkey

Considering that:
- The Sourbe Khatche Church in Akhtamar, on the shores of Lake Van in eastern Turkey, represents one of the most exceptional examples of medieval architecture and of Armenian sculpture;
- Its unquestionable importance lies in its historical significance, but also in its role in the development of classical Armenian religious architecture, of which it is one of the most spectacular cultural and artistic expressions;
- The Armenian scientific community strongly believes that the authenticity of Sourbe Khatche Church must be conserved and that the materials and traditional techniques used in its construction respected and
- The restoration works on the Church have been launched by the local authorities in 2005;

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi'an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:

- Strongly recommend that the Turkish government periodically associates, and when necessary, involves Armenian specialists to the restoration projects and works; and that it seeks the assistance of UNESCO.

7. Neolithic site of Apostoles Andreas, Cyprus
Proposed by ICOMOS Cyprus

Noting the recent demolition of the Neolithic site of Apostoles Andreas, on the easternmost part of the island of Cyprus by a bulldozer to make a road.

Understanding that this is the only coastal site, probably a fishing village of the Neolithic period, which exemplifies the adoption of the agricultural culture of the period of the coastal environment and resources;

And noting the excavations undertaken by the Turkish Cypriot University in collaboration with the University of Tubingen and Freeberg, Germany, at the Late Bronze Age site of Gallinopiny in the northern part of Cyprus;

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi'an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:

- Contemplate the destruction of the site of Apostoles Andreas and the change of Gallinopiny and write to Turkey and Turkish Cypriot Authorities calling for measures to be taken to prevent such destruction and name changes.

8. Alburnus Maior, Romania
Proposed by ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture (CIAV) and ICOMOS Romania

Regarding the site of Alburnus Maior in Rosia Montana, Romania, as a potential World Heritage Site,

With reference to the Resolution 20 of the 13th General Assembly of ICOMOS held in Madrid, Spain; to the Resolution of the 14th Extraordinary General Assembly, held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe; to the resolution of the ICAHM Conference, held in Peza, Hungary, 22-27 May 2004, and with reference to the ICAHM Statement on the mining concept at Rosia Montana in Lyon, France, 9 September 2004.

Taking into consideration some recent information about the site and its permanent state of threat,

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi'an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:

- Reiterate its deepest concern about the ongoing mining operation that has lead to and threatens to continue the destruction of the archaeological site of Alburnus Maior in Rosia Montana, Romania, and its surroundings;
- Call upon the urgent intervention of the National Authorities and the international community to ensure the appropriate protection of the site;
- Call for further evaluation of the significance of that site and its archaeological heritage in the context of the cultural heritage of Europe and the world, and
- Expresses once again its will to collaborate with the Romanian Authorities and other organisations to achieve these.

9. Tomo-no-Ura, Japan
Proposed by ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Vernacular Architecture (CIAV) and ICOMOS Japan

Considering that the town of Tomo-no-Ura, Japan, is recognized as a place of exceptional significance as it is a historic port town with temples of the fifteenth century, merchant houses and streetscape of the eighteenth century, stone harbour facilities, and a relationship with the sea which has been long recognized as exceptionally beautiful,

Considering that the people of Tomo-no-Ura are congratulated upon their efforts to preserve the town and to restore its buildings;

Considering that the proposal to build a road bridge across the harbour would destroy the essential quality of the town, and must not proceed.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi'an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:

- Demand that the national government of Japan and the local government authorities are called upon to abandon the road bridge proposal, and to develop alternative traffic measures. They are further called upon to support and assist in the conservation and restoration of the buildings in the town.

10. Isla de Pascua, Chile
Proposed by ICOMOS Chile

Considering the outstanding universal value of Easter Island, as part of the heritage of humankind and its particular vulnerability, and that it has been inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1995,

Considering that Chile is a State Party to the World Heritage Convention (1972) and a member of the World Heritage Committee, and as such, is encouraged to take an exemplary action in the protection of its heritage, in particular Easter Island,

Considering that the proposed construction of casinos and other similar installations on Easter Island is causing a great concern for the future of the site,

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi'an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:

- Encourage UNESCO and other authorities, including ICOMOS National Committees, to intervene with the Chilean authorities so that the construction and operation of a casino is not allowed and that full protection is maintained for Easter Island's tangible and intangible values;
- Offer to the Chilean authorities, as well as to UNESCO, full assistance to help achieve this goal.

11. Russian Modernist Heritage
Proposed by ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage

Noting the outstanding contribution of Russian modernism to Twentieth Century heritage, the 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS notes with concern the threats and deterioration which are currently occurring in many places of outstanding international significance in Russia including the Ruskova Workers Club, the house and the studio of the architect Melnikov and the neglected Narkomfin building.

Considering that the heritage value of these places extends beyond Russia to the world,

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi'an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:

- Urges to the relevant national and professional organisations to act with urgency to safeguard their protection and prevent their damage. Necessary actions include survey and assessment, protective planning measures and innovative conservation approaches, to secure their future.
12. Conjunto Jesuitico de Cordoba, Argentina
Proposed by ICOMOS Argentina
ICOMOS Argentina advises the 15th General Assembly with concern about the damages that are being caused to the Conjunto Jesuitico de Cordoba, Argentina. This site was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in December 2000. In particular the Conjunto de la Manzana Jesuitica requires specific attention because it lies in one of the most built up/urbanized zones of the city.
Considering the outstanding universal value of the Jesuitic Complex of Cordoba (Argentina), listed as a World Heritage site in 2000,
Considering the particular impact of urbanization and vibration from heavy vehicular traffic on the conservation of the site and specifically the Manzana Jesuitica,
The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to:
• Bring this situation to the attention of UNESCO, National and local authorities, calling for their intervention to ensure the restoration and future maintenance of the site and to adopt appropriate measures to prevent further damage,
• Offer the collaboration of ICOMOS to achieve this and ensure the long term conservation of the site.

B. ORGANISATIONAL RESOLUTIONS
13. General organisation of ICOMOS
Proposed by the Secretary General of ICOMOS
Considering the resolutions adopted at the 13th General Assembly held in Madrid (Spain) and the discussions during the 14th General Assembly in Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) relative to statutory and procedural aspects in ICOMOS,
Considering the important reflection carried out by the ad hoc committee appointed at the 13th General Assembly in preparing proposals to amend the ICOMOS Statutes, which were communicated to all members according to the deadlines set in the current Statutes in preparation for the 14th General Assembly, and the comments and proposals made by National Committees on the subject on their own initiative or in response to these proposed amendments,
Considering the interest for ICOMOS, on the occasion of its 40th anniversary, to proceed with a broader examination of its role and actions contributing to the conservation of monuments, sites and other types of heritage places in the world to come, and in doing so, to look not only at the Statutes but also the strategies and operations of the organisation, including participation and cooperation amongst the various bodies within ICOMOS,
The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to:
Thank all the individuals and volunteers who contributed to this reflection and made constructive proposals and recommendations, as part of the ad hoc committee established in Madrid, of the Legal Committee (ICLAFI) or of other National and International Committees;
• Ask the Executive Committee, within the framework of the 40th Anniversary of ICOMOS, to continue the process of review and reflection in conjunction with ICLAFI on the role and functioning of ICOMOS and, if deemed necessary, to make appropriate propositions for the modification of the current procedural or statutory texts, so as to report to the Advisory Committee in the following years, and to the 16th General Assembly in 2008;
• Postpone any possible changes to the statutes, pending the conclusion of this process

This resolution superseded a resolution from ICOMOS India regarding voting practices.

14. Adoption of Eger-Xi’an Principles
Proposed by the Advisory Committee and recommended by the Executive Committee
The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005, resolves to support the resolution taken by the ICOMOS International Scientific Committees at the third strategic planning session in Xi’an to:
• Create the ICOMOS International Scientific Council, which will be composed of the Presidents of the International Scientific Committees (or their official representatives), and
• Adopt the Eger-Xi’an Principles as the basic brief for the Scientific Council and the International Scientific Committees and to further develop this process.

15. ICOMOS Scientific Council and Programme
Proposed by the Advisory Committee and recommended by the Executive Committee
Following on from the General Assembly in Zimbabwe in 2003 and the initiatives taken at the Advisory Committee in Bergen in 2004; and
in recognition of the unprecedented interest and response shown by the ICOMOS membership in the scientific programme of the 15th General Assembly in Xi’an, and
in further recognition of the potential of ICOMOS to play an enhanced leadership role in the conservation of the cultural heritage,
The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October, 2005 resolves that the new ICOMOS Scientific Council of International Committees (ISCs) be charged with the responsibility of:
• Proposing the ICOMOS triennial scientific programme to the Executive Committee;
• Developing the content of the scientific symposium of each General Assembly, in consultation with the host National Committee; and
• Facilitating a thematic collocated at each Advisory Committee meeting.

16. Student and Young Professionals annual membership fee
Proposed by ICOMOS Canada
Considering that the Executive Committee adopted a policy to encourage the increase and renewal of the organization’s membership not only by stimulating the participation of students and young professionals working in its fields of interest;
Considering that, with this in mind, the Executive Committee decided that the annual membership fee for any member aged 28 or less would be set at 50% of the normal membership fee;
Considering that there is a need to strengthen the policy that was put forward by the Executive Committee and to promote even more strongly the presence of the younger generation within the organization;
The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to:
• Request that the annual membership fee for any member aged 30 years old or less be set from now on at 50% of the regular membership fee and
• That these members be entitled to all the rights and privileges attributed to regular membership.

17. Payment of membership fees 2006
Proposed by the Executive Committee – as modified by a subsequent resolution from ICOMOS Canada.
The Executive Committee has discussed the issue of membership fees, its content, due dates and due time for payment and recommends that changes are needed.
Considering the decision made by the Executive Committee that, from now on, National Committees will be requested to pay their members’ membership fees in Euro rather than in dollars;
Considering that it is impossible for many of these Committees to adapt their internal procedures concerning the collecting their membership fees in such a way that they could comply with the Executive Committee’s decision in 2006;
The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China, in October, 2005 resolves that:
• All ICOMOS National Committees will pay their membership fees in Euro instead of US$ for clarification purpose, if paying now 20 US$ per member, it will be 20 Euros.
• All European Committees, including those which are not part of the Euro countries have been paying in Euro since 2004.
• The payment in Euro will start in 2007.
• The deadlines of 10, 20, 30 and 40 are not changed.
• Deadline for sending the payments to Paris will be 30th of June 2006.
• The Executive Committee with the Treasurer General will develop during 2006 a progressive payment programme.
The objective of this programme will be to provide incentives for General Assembly committees paying on time for several consecutive years and for committees showing a considerable growth of membership.

18. Publication of Annual Accounts of ICOMOS International
Proposed by ICOMOS Australia
Considering the financial position of ICOMOS International as outlined by the Treasurer General, and in order to assist National Committees in understanding this situation and communicating it to their members with a view to improving it in the future,
The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China, in October 2005 resolves to:
• Require that the audited annual accounts of ICOMOS International, including as a minimum the profit and loss statement against budget and the balance sheet, both for the financial year just ended and the previous financial year, be published each year in the next issue of ICOMOS News after the audited accounts become available, and
• That they be accompanied by a statement from the ICOMOS Treasurer General interpreting the accounts and reporting on any major discrepancies between the budget and actual results.

19. Establishment of a task team to investigate funding strategies for ICOMOS
Proposed by ICOMOS France
At the meeting of the ICOMOS Advisory Committee, held on 15 and 16 October 2005, it was agreed that a task team be appointed to investigate the development of strategies to assist ICOMOS with future financial planning and financial management.
Members from the National Committees of France, South Africa, Sweden and Bulgaria, held an exploratory meeting and agreed to propose the following resolution.
Recognizing the need to assist the Treasurer-General, the Executive Committee of ICOMOS and the Secretariat with the development of a sustainable funding strategy for the future,
The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to:
• Establish a task team composed among others of France, South Africa, Sweden, United States and Bulgaria,
in order to:
• Define the objectives of any future financial strategy.
• A broad-based transformation of the way in which ICOMOS plans, manages and audits its affairs must be effected.
• Develop measures to achieve these objectives. These may include functional and project related activities.

20. Victoria Falls’ Solidarity Fund
Proposed by ICOMOS France
Given recurrent difficulties for certain members to participate at General Assembly, the creation of the so-called Victoria Falls’ Solidarity Fund, whose purpose is to finance this participation, had been proposed as a draft resolution during the 14th General Assembly.
In order to achieve the aims of this resolution and to launch the Fund, ICOMOS Belgium - one of the countries which supported the draft resolution - invited its members to pay, on a voluntary basis, a minimum amount of 20% of their annual membership fee into this Fund.

ICOMOS Belgium asked the International Secretariat to manage the Fund according to the principles used by the Getty Foundation, namely:

From the point of view of the Fund manager:
- the anonymity of the donation is guaranteed: no link is to be established between the donating Committee and the beneficiary;
- the selection of the candidates is made by an independent Committee (5-6 people), according to objective criteria: geographical diversity, scientific profile of the candidate, representation within his/her National Committee;
- the search for decent yet as inexpensive as possible travel and accommodation, in order to share out the available sums to a maximum of beneficiaries;
- the establishment of a balance sheet of expenditure each year.

From the point of view of the beneficiary:
- the necessity of a personal financial contribution, even if minimal;
- the obligation to undertake, in time, all the necessary administrative measures for obtaining a passport, a visa, vaccinations;
- an active participation to the assembly.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October, 2005 resolves to:

Recommend that all National Committees institute a solidarity component within their annual membership fee, following the example of ICOMOS Belgium. In doing so, each committee will allow this Fund to operate, to increase through other financial sources and to become a permanent way to support colleagues in providing means to participate at General Assemblies of ICOMOS.

21. ICOMOS Publication Programme

Proposed by the ICOMOS Editorial Board and recommended by the Executive Committee

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves that:
- The international publication programme be based on identified priorities, with a draft publication budget;
- Publications will be peer reviewed to ensure the highest standards;
- Each publication will have a coordinating editor;
- Protocols will be developed for the publication process to assure that publications start with appropriate budget and funding commitments;
- A proportion of ICOMOS’ budget be dedicated to communications / publications;
- Income from publication sales be dedicated to future publications;
- Strategies be developed to ensure the best spread of available funds, including:
  - exploring options for commissioning a publisher to produce ICOMOS behalf;
  - moving to online publication for key reports;
  - and that this process be overseen by the Editorial Board, which will provide regular reports to the Executive Committee and Advisory Committee.

22. Risk preparedness for cultural heritage and the participation of ICOMOS in the International Committee of the Blue Shield

Proposed by ICOMOS Macedonia, ICOMOS Sweden and the ICOMOS Secretariat General

Considering the need to improve the state of preparedness and the effectiveness of disaster response as part of conservation practice and the accomplishment of ICOMOS’s mission;

Considering the founding of the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) as a partnership of ICOMOS with ICOM, ICA and IFLA (Libraries) to accomplish the following goals and activities defined as the founding principles and heads of agreement of the ICBS:
- To facilitate international responses to threats or emergencies threatening cultural property;
- To encourage safeguarding and respect for cultural property especially by promoting risk preparedness;
- To train experts at national and regional level to prevent, control and recover from disasters;
- To act in an advisory capacity for the protection of endangered heritage;
- To consult and co-operate with other bodies including UNESCO, ICCROM and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Considering the value of international conventions such as the 1954 Hague Convention on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict that acknowledges the role of the ICBS as an advisory body;

Acknowledging the activities and engagement of several ICOMOS National Committees in this subject and as part of National Committees of the Blue Shield and the work of partner organisations such as Heritage without Borders;

Acknowledging the establishment of the International Committee on Risk Preparedness (ICORP) by ICOMOS to promote such activity.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October, 2005 resolves to:
- Formally endorse the Founding Principles of the International Committee of the Blue Shield as a partnership and coordinating mechanism;
- Invite all States to ratify the 1954 Hague Convention on the protection of cultural properties in the event of armed conflict and its 1st and 2nd Protocols and implement them in co-operation with ICOMOS and its partners;
- Encourage the development and dissemination of guidelines on risk preparedness for monuments, sites and other types of heritage places, in particular through the participation of ICOMOS National and International Committees in ICORP.

23. ICOMOS Volunteers Programme

Proposed by ICOMOS Australia

Recognizing that the wise and effective use of the resources of ICOMOS includes not only finances but also the energy, commitment and expertise of our international membership; and

Further recognizing that:
- Many National Committees need particular forms of assistance for example to facilitate the building of the capacity of newly and newly revived National Committees; or in response to disasters, and their widespread and devastating human, environmental and cultural impacts; and
- That, in a spirit of international cooperation and professional friendship, there is a widespread enthusiasm for ICOMOS members to participate in heritage conservation activities in places beyond their own countries or regions; and
- That the process of strategic review of the International Scientific Committees has resulted in a clear indication from the International Scientific Committees expressing their readiness to bring their specialist expertise to the service of National Committee’s world-wide, wherever it is needed; and

Noting that while volunteers cannot replace the valuable role of the paid employees of ICOMOS, a small number of volunteers and control and recovery from disaster of the Secretariat; and

Building on the detailed work and discussions about the formation of an ICOMOS International Volunteers Programme by the Executive Committee during the past triennium;

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October, 2005 resolves that:
- The ICOMOS International Volunteers Programme be put into operation in the event of major disasters;
- That the Executive Committee continues to actively develop and promote the application of this program.

C. DOCTRINE

24. Development of Committees and Projects in the Middle East

Proposed by the National Committees from Africa and the Middle-East and recommended by the Executive Committee

Noting the rich heritage of the Middle East Region, the 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October, 2005;
- Urges the Executive Committee to locate professionals in all countries in the region in order to establish effective National Committees;
- Further urges all National Committees to initiate and develop regional projects on heritage conservation.

25. African World Heritage Fund

Proposed by the National Committees from Africa and the Middle-East and recommended by the Executive Committee

Noting the discussion on the African Position Paper for Heritage that took place at the recent meeting of the World Heritage Committee in Durban, South Africa.

Welcoming the recent establishment of the African World Heritage Fund, in the belief that the Fund will do much to raise the standards of nomination and the conservation of World Heritage Sites in Africa,

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to:
- Call upon ICOMOS National Committees to urge their States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to support this initiative in whatever manner possible.

26. Heritage Beyond Borders

Proposed by the National Committees from Europe and recommended by the Executive Committee

Considering that the changes in the political frontiers of countries do not always take into account cultural areas, nor their architectural and artistic expressions, nor varying ways of organizing space, which are sometimes separated by these frontiers.

Considering that cultural heritage conservation is universal and must be the concern of all;

And finally, considering that cultural heritage conservation must first and foremost benefit from the advice of the best specialists,

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting Xi’an, China in October, 2005 resolves that:
- With regards to cases of shared heritage, the scientific community of each country calls on the enlightened experience and involves the most competent experts, and in particular those of neighbouring countries who share this heritage.

27. Cultural Routes Draft Charter

Proposed by the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Cultural Routes (ICCR) and recommended by the Executive Committee

Taking into account:
- The evolution of the concept of heritage which today includes territorial scale ensembles;
- That, among the new heritage categories that take into account the values related to the setting, Cultural Routes reveal a new structure of heritage on different levels and contribute to illustrate the contemporary conception of cultural heritage values as a resource for sustainable social and economic development;
- That the UNESCO World Heritage Committee recognized Cultural Routes as a heritage category through its inclusion in the Operational Guidelines for the implementation of
the World Heritage Convention approved in February 2005.

- That, considering the present situation, it becomes necessary and peremptory that ICOMOS defines and adopts theoretical, methodological and management principles for the conservation and assessment of Cultural Routes.
- That the ICOMOS International Committee on Cultural Routes (CIIC) has worked intensively on clarifying terms and concepts; on defining operational guidelines for the identification, on a scientific basis, of Cultural Routes and on the development of a methodology of action for the specific field.
- That, as a result, the CIIC has elaborated a draft Charter on Cultural Routes, presented to the ICOMOS Bureau (Havana, June 2005) and Executive Committee (Xi’an, October 2005).

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October, 2005 resolves that:

- The draft Charter elaborated by the International Committee on Cultural Routes (CIIC) be widely disseminated among National and International Committees, so that it can be known and discussed prior to its adoption, as rapidly as possible, as an official theoretical and doctrinal text of ICOMOS.

28. Heritage and Public Interest Research

Proposed by Peter Goodchild (ICOMOS UK member)

Considering that:

- Amongst the members of ICOMOS it is commonly agreed that it is of vital importance that the general public should support the conservation of the cultural heritage. There is variable factual information about the levels of support that actually exist in the different countries around the world and what the implications of it are.
- In the UK, the government agency known as English Heritage commissioned a public opinion poll in the year 2000 which revealed extremely high levels of public support. They were higher than anyone had anticipated. In the year 2005, the Heritage Office of New South Wales in Australia has carried out a complementary study. Results such as these have important implications for the resourcing of conservation work.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October, 2005 resolves to:

- Recognize the quantitative information on the levels of public interest and support for the conservation of the cultural heritage, with special reference to the subject areas covered by ICOMOS;
- Encourage the setting up of a project to collect data on this subject;
- Investigate the idea of developing consistent frameworks for the collection of data on the value of heritage;
- Hold a symposium to review the collected information and its implications for the conservation of the cultural heritage; and
- Publish the results.

29. Kyoto Declaration, 2005

Proposed by the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Risk Preparedness (ICORP)

Recognizing the threats to the world’s cultural heritage caused by natural and man-made disasters, and

Recognizing the initiatives taken by ICOMOS over the last decade and the partnerships which have developed with UNESCO and ICCROM as well as ICOM, ICA and IFLA (Libraries), and

Recognizing the inter-governmental initiatives such as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR),

Taking note of the principles contained within the 2005 Kyoto Declaration on Protection of Cultural Properties, Historic Areas and their Settings from Loss In Disasters adopted at the Kyoto International Symposium "Towards the Protection of Cultural Properties and Historic Urban Areas from Disaster" held at the Kyoto Kairan on 16 January, 2005,

and

Taking note of the recommendations adopted by the UNESCO/ ICCROM/Agency for Cultural Affairs - Japan Thematic Session on Cultural Heritage Risk Management, held on 19 January 2005, as part of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, taking place from 18 to 22 January, in Kobe, Japan.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to encourage its National and International Committees to:

- Study and comment on the Kyoto Declaration and Kobe Recommendations in their national and thematic context;
- Contact international and national authorities to promote these principles and the full integration of cultural heritage in emergency planning and disaster training.

30. Industrial Heritage

Proposed by the ICOMOS Secretary General

Considering the interest of ICOMOS for all forms of monuments, sites and ensembles related to human activities, including the industries of various historical periods, whose recognition and conservation are affected by specific factors,

Considering the collaboration between ICOMOS and TICCIH (The International Committee for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage) whose General Assembly held in 2003 in Nizhny Tagil (Russia) adopted a statement on the conservation of such heritage which has been distributed for information to participants at the 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Considering the decision of the Executive Committee to identify the Heritage of Production as the theme for the 2006 International Day on Monuments and Sites (18 April),

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to:

- Support the suggestion of the Executive Committee on the theme of the 2006 International Day on Monuments and Sites and encourage all National and International Committees to organise activities to raise awareness for the industrial heritage and to help its conservation;
- Engage ICOMOS, in co-operation with TICCIH and taking into consideration its principles, in a specific reflection relative to the conservation of the industrial heritage in order to propose guidelines to the 15th General Assembly in 2008.

31. Recognition of the UN Headquarters Building as a part of the World’s Heritage

Proposed by the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage and US ICOMOS

Considering the interest of ICOMOS for the cultural heritage of the 20th Century in its full diversity, expressed in particular through the constitution of an International Scientific Committee to establish a permanent forum for cooperation on the subject,

Considering the great success of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1974) signed by close to 180 countries, to whose implementation ICOMOS greatly contributes as an advisory body,

Following up on discussions held at the ICOMOS meeting organised in Queretaro (Mexico) in 2003 to reflect on the representativeness of the World Heritage List in the Americas, which exposed the very high significance of the United Nations Headquarters building in New York City, as a place of great importance in the World’s recent history as well as an architectural and artistic ensemble of interest,

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to:

- Draw the attention of the Secretariat of the United Nations Organisation, on the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of the UN, to the heritage value of its headquarters building and the need to grant all necessary attention to its adequate conservation and management;
- Invite the United Nations Organisations to award a special recognition to its Headquarters building as part of the World’s heritage taking into consideration its particular legal status;
- Offer the assistance and cooperation of ICOMOS in doing so.

32. Religious Heritage

Proposed by the ICOMOS National Committees of Canada, Chile, Colombia, Benin, Israel, Mexico, Netherland and Sweden

Considering the diversity of tangible and intangible cultural properties of the religious heritage – buildings, artwork and other objects, archives, sacred landscapes, traditions – and their strong presence in national heritage inventories as well as on the World Heritage List,

Considering the major challenges this cultural heritage is facing for its protection and conservation in terms of its physical needs for conservation and restoration, the evolution of society and the conflicts or tensions that it often falls victim to,

Considering the many initiatives of ICOMOS National Committees, the reflections carried out by organisations like ICORN for the Council of Europe, and the current cooperation agreements between ICOMOS and other international organisations or even the Holy See, bearing directly or potentially on the theme of religious heritage,

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to:

- Call for the establishment of an international thematic programme within ICOMOS on the issue of religious heritage properties and the exploration of possible partnerships with UNESCO and other organisations to that effect;
- Encourage the National and International Committees of ICOMOS to document the issue so as to be able to contribute to the actions ICOMOS would develop in the field.

33. Heritage in the environmental impact assessment process

Proposed by Adrienne Fleming (member, US ICOMOS), Sheena Burke (member, ICOMOS Australia), Dinu Bumburu (member, ICOMOS Canada)

Protection of the cultural heritage requires that cultural heritage professionals and organizations be involved in assessing and planning infrastructure development projects, beginning at the early stages. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process used in project preparation should include a cultural heritage component.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves that:

- ICOMOS, through its International Scientific and National Committees, should encourage involvement of cultural heritage professionals in the development process, with particular attention to the early involvement in heritage impact assessment.

34. Training of young African heritage practitioners

Proposed by the National Committees from Africa and the Middle-East

Recognising the need for building skill and capacity in the heritage management sector in Africa, and the successful existing training efforts of a number of institutions that are directed only towards heritage professionals from government institutions,

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in Xi’an, China in October 2005 resolves to:

- Support an initiative by African sub-regions to initiate pilot projects that aim to provide training for young African heritage practitioners who operate outside of government institutions through the offices of all the International Scientific Committees, but especially the International Training Committee (ICT).
35. Climate Change
Proposed by the ICOMOS Secretary General

Considering the permanent concern of ICOMOS for the fate of monuments, sites and other types of heritage places in the event of natural disasters, particularly those of atmospheric origin such as hurricanes, ice storms, droughts and their resulting floods, landslides and forest fires, with devastating impacts on communities and their cultural heritage as demonstrated recently by hurricanes Katrina and Stan, and floods in Eastern Europe.

Considering the useful references provided by the World Heritage Convention of UNESCO and by ICOMOS Charters and Guidelines, including the Florence Charter (1964) in relation to the protection of historic gardens and landscapes that are currently affected by climate change, and that are composed of living material, by the general evolution of climatic conditions that affect their physical setting.

Considering the scientifically proven relation between the increased intensity of such events and human activities influencing the climate and the projected impacts paid to this issue by the international community and by institutions such as the United Nations and its Agencies such as UNESCO which have called for an international conference to be held in Montreal (Canada) in December 2005;

The 19th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in X’ian, China in October 2005 resolves to:

• Communicate to the organizers of and participants at the Montreal Conference on Climate Change, the strong concern of ICOMOS with regards to the impact of climate change on tangible and intangible cultural heritage in its full diversity of types, cultural and historical origins and the need to ensure it is specifically included in the items discussed at the Conference, in its conclusions and the actions that follow it;

• Express its will to fully cooperate through its National and International Committees (including ICON) with UNESCO and other relevant organizations to document the impact of climate change on cultural heritage and develop preventive measures.

36. Framework Convention on the value of Cultural Heritage for Society
Proposed by: ICOMOS Sweden, Belgium and France

Welcoming the adoption of the Framework Convention on the value of Cultural Heritage for Society by the Council of Europe on the 13th October 2005,

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in X’ian, China in October 2005 resolves to:

• Encourage the consideration of the text by ICOMOS members

37. The Seoul Declaration on Tourism in Asia’s Historic Towns and Areas
Propounded by ICOMOS Korea

Meeting in Seoul, Korea, from 30 May to 1 June 2005, to take part in the 2005 ICOMOS Regional Conference in Seoul: Managing Tourism in Historic Towns and Areas in Asia, and reflecting upon the Hiro An Declaration of 2003 on the Conservation of Historic Districts in Asia, the meeting resolved to call for the Seoul declaration to be presented to the ICOMOS General Assembly in X’ian, China, in October 2005, so that its recommendations can be shared with the wider network of ICOMOS committees and partners, and that it can help encourage cooperation between National and International Committees on this universal subject of tourism and historic towns and areas.

The Seoul Regional ICOMOS Conference called for the wide dissemination and discussion of the Seoul Declaration so that the issues, strategies and approaches it expresses can contribute to the improvement of the management of tourism in towns and areas of Asia and to the development of an ongoing dialogue between conservation and tourism interests.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, meeting in X’ian, China in October, 2005 resolves to:

• Recommend that National and International Committees of ICOMOS follow up on the dissemination and impact of the Seoul Declaration.

Preamble
Meeting in the ancient city of X’ian (China) on 17-21st October 2005, at the invitation of ICOMOS China on the occasion of its 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS and the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of its longstanding endeavour to ensure the safeguarding and conservation of the World’s cultural heritage as part of its sustainable and human development;

Benefitting from the broad range of cases and reflections shared during the General Assembly’s International Symposium on Monuments and Sites in their Settings – Conserving Cultural Heritage in Changing Townscapes and Landscapes and learning from a broad range of experiences from China and world-wide authorities, institutions and specialists in providing adequate care and management of heritage structures, sites and areas such as historic cities, landscapes, seascapes, cultural routes and archaeological sites in the context of accelerated change and development;

Taking note of the international and professional interest for the conservation of the settings of monuments and sites as expressed in the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites – the Venice Charter (1964) – and in the many texts it has inspired, particularly through ICOMOS National and International Committees, as well as the ICOMOS Document on Authenticity (1994) and conclusions and recommendations of international meetings like the Hiro An Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Districts in Asia (2003), the Declaration on the Recovery of Bam’s Cultural Heritage (2004), and the Seoul Declaration on Tourism in Asia’s Historic Towns and Areas (2005);

Noting the references to the concept of setting in UNESCO conventions and recommendations like the Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding of Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites (1962), the Recommendation concerning the Preservation of Cultural Property Endangered by Public or Private Works (1988), the Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary Role of Historic Areas (1978), the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) and more specifically the World Heritage Convention (1972) and its Operational Guidelines, where setting is listed as an attribute of authenticity and as needing protection through the establishment of buffer zones, and the ongoing opportunity this brings for international and interdisciplinary co-operation between ICOMOS, UNESCO and other partners and for developments on topics like authenticity or the conservation of historic urban landscapes expressed in the Vienna Memorandum (2000);

Stressing the need to address adequately the rapid or incremental transformation of cities, landscapes and heritage routes which result from changes in lifestyles, agriculture, development, tourism or large-scale disasters of natural or human origin, and to recognize, protect and sustain adequately the meaningful presence of heritage structures, sites and areas in their settings as a way to reduce the threat those transformation processes constitute against the cultural heritage in the full richness of its authenticity, meaning, values, integrity and diversity,

Participants of the 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS adopt the following Declaration of principles and recommendations, addressing it to intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, national and local authorities and all institutions and specialists able to contribute through legislation, policies, planning processes and management to protect and conserve the world’s heritage structures, sites and areas in their settings.

Acknowledge the contribution of setting to the significance of heritage monuments, sites and areas in their settings.

1. The setting of a heritage structure, site or area is defined as the internal and extended environment that is part of, or contributes to, its significance and distinctive character.

Beyond the physical and visual aspects, the setting includes interaction with the natural environment, past or present social or spiritual practices, customs, traditional knowledge, use or activities and other forms of intangible cultural heritage aspects that created and form the space as well as the current and dynamic cultural, social and economic context.

2. Heritage structures, sites or areas of various scales, including individual buildings or designed spaces, historic cities or urban landscapes, landscapes, seascapes, cultural routes and archaeological sites, derive their significance and distinctive character from their perceived social and spiritual, historic, artistic, aesthetic, natural, scientific, or other cultural values. They also derive their significance and distinctive character from their meaningful relationships with their physical, visual, spiritual and other cultural context and settings.

These relationships can be the result of a conscious and planned creative act, spiritual belief, historical events, use or a cumulative and organic process over time through cultural traditions.

Understand, document and interpret the settings in diverse contexts.

3. Understanding, documenting and interpreting the setting is essential to defining and appreciating the heritage significance of any structure, site or area.

The definition of setting requires an understanding of the history, evolution and character of the surroundings of the heritage resource. Defining the setting is a process of considering multiple factors to include the character of the arrival experience and the heritage resource itself.

4. Understanding the setting in an inclusive way requires a multi-disciplinary approach and the use of diverse interpretative techniques.

Sources include formal records and archives, artistic and scientific descriptions, oral history and traditional knowledge, the perspectives of local and associated communities as well as the analysis of views and visits.

Cultural traditions, rituals, spiritual practices and concepts as well as history, topography, natural environment values, use and other factors contribute to create the full range of a setting’s tangible and intangible values and dimensions. The definition of settings should carefully articulate the character and values of the setting and its relationship to the heritage resource.
Open access to our International Committees for all members

Three-years of strategic planning by the International Scientific Committees of ICOMOS (ISCs) began after the General Assembly in Madrid, concluded successfully in Xian on 14 October 2005 with the adoption of the Eger-Xian Principles. With the added endorsement of the Executive and Advisory Committees and the General Assembly, the Principles enable ICOMOS to undergo the much-needed cultural transformations proposed by the ISC leadership and membership to meet the ever-expanding role that ICOMOS plays worldwide. In addition to giving all ICOMOS members unprecedented and unrestricted access to the ISCs, the Principles reaffirm ICOMOS' long-standing commitment to interdisciplinary cooperation by mandating cross-ISC programmatic collaboration, and setting the stage for our ISCs to define the professional response of ICOMOS to the world's needs in better protecting the built cultural heritage.

Of greatest importance to the individual member, the non-controversial category of one member per country was eliminated, and in its stead, a new category of Expert Members in under-served areas was adopted. All ISCs will now accept any ICOMOS member as an Expert Member, regardless of their national provenance, provided that they meet certain minimum criteria for expertise that are currently being discussed for adoption by each ISC in the near future. A second category of members will allow participation by those not meeting the criteria, but wishing to develop a specialized competence in a particular field. For this purpose, the ISCs have agreed to adopt strategies for mentoring younger members or those beginning their preservation careers.

To individual members of ICOMOS and to the National Committees this means direct access to the International brain trust and rich specialized knowledge of the ISCs. But to accomplish this, action is required by all National Committees, who are being directed to reach out to their full membership to insist on the individual participation in the ISCs that best suits each member's expertise. National Committees are also urged to go beyond their current membership and to invite experts in their country to join ICOMOS and contribute to the work of the ISCs. To facilitate entry into the ISCs by all who are qualified, individual members may request direct acceptance from an ISC, but when doing so, they are asked to notify their National Committee.

Since in the past the work of many ISCs may have seemed remote to the National Committees and to individual ICOMOS members, the question may arise of what value there is in joining an ISC. To make sure that the answer is irresistibly attractive, the ISCs have adopted the following ambitious goals whose programmatic implementation is guaranteed to enhance the professional prestige, stature and specialization of individual ISC members who chose to participate:

1. Creation of an ICOMOS Scientific Council consisting of one designated representative per ISC. The Scientific Council will develop an ICOMOS inter-disciplinary 3-year programme of research and activities for adoption by the Executive Committee, which will then be carried out by the ISC members. The 3-year programme will respond to emerging needs in the field, as well as the specific needs of ICOMOS, such as our World Heritage duties.
2. As part of the Triennial Program, the Scientific Council has committed to the development of regional ICOMOS workshops for ICOMOS members that will help the various regions of the world in developing or reinforcing particular areas of needed expertise. A first meeting of the ICOMOS Bureau and the Scientific Council will be hosted by ICOMROM in Rome next June to discuss training needs as well as the overall internal coordination that the Eger-Xian Principles will require of ICOMOS.
3. Through the Scientific Council, ISC members will now be called upon to work on the scientific program of the ICOMOS General Assembly and International Symposium. ICOMOS Canada, the host of our 2008 General Assembly, has already asked the Scientific Council to partner in preparing and planning for this event.
4. In order to better understand and use the talents and experience of individual ISC members, a membership database is currently being developed with the support of the Federation of ICOMOS. All ISC members will be invited to enter their individual professional capabilities into the database on a voluntary basis. The database will be used by ICOMOS to identify the most suitable candidates to be entrusted with World Heritage missions, as well as to meet any requests that may be received from the National Committees, individual institutional partners or even from governmental agencies.

For you, the individual members of ICOMOS, your role as individual citizens is the most important. Your participation in the ISCs, you will be able to inform ICOMOS of the special needs in your country, your region or your field of specialization. This knowledge, in turn, will heighten the global visibility of ICOMOS. By joining in this effort, you will help orient the work of ICOMOS in ways that those needs are properly addressed. Now is the right time for National Committees and individual members to get involved in the work of ISCs. Since all of these changes are in the process of being structured, your participation will enable you to influence the process in the direction of your needs.

Gustavo Aroza
Vice President of ICOMOS or charge of the ISC
The International Day for Monuments and Sites was created on 18th April 1982 by ICOMOS and later supported at the 22nd UNESCO General Conference in 1993. This special day offers an opportunity to raise public awareness concerning the diversity of the world’s heritage and the efforts that are required to protect and conserve it, as well as to draw attention to its vulnerability.

The 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS selected the theme of the Industrial Heritage, more widely interpreted as the Heritage of Production, as the focus for 2006. This theme will be promoted in cooperation with The International Committee for the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH), a long-time partner of ICOMOS on the issue of industrial heritage, advocating its preservation, conservation, investigation, documentation, research and interpretation, with whom we already signed a partnership agreement since 2000 for joint work in particular on the World Heritage Convention. By suggesting the theme “The Heritage of Production”, the ICOMOS General Assembly wishes to promote this essential part of the great human venture. The Assembly also requested that ICOMOS, in close collaboration with TICCIH, elaborate guiding principles to encourage and steer the conservation of this heritage, work that will be undertaken in 2006 in order to submit a text to the next Assembly, in 2008 in Canada. In view of this and to celebrate the 18th April, TICCIH and ICOMOS are holding a joint expert seminar in Barcelona from 21-25 April.

The movement for the preservation of the industrial heritage began in England in the 1960s, and today is present in every country that has some experience of industrialization. Modern society advances at such a rate that twenty years can seem an eternity, and the change of century, which has placed us symbolically in a different millennium, has distanced us even further from our recent past. For most citizens, the industrial world can seem as far off as that of any other historical period.

Until a few decades ago, an industrial workplace was just a more evolved version of an earlier one, and for most people they were simply the place where they worked. It was unthinkable that one day they might be seen as the cultural heritage of the country. But from the 1950s and 60s, there have been tremendous technical innovations that have caused a profound rupture in how we design and construct our buildings, machinery and tools and in the way in which we use them. At the same time, our attitudes and habits have undergone an acute social alteration. Within a few years, the productive world has become obsolete, and our society has been transformed. The world has entered a new era, and the remains of industrialization are rapidly passing into history.

The importance of industrial heritage is based on two principal values. One is that of being witness to the world of work and the daily life of a period which transformed humanity. The other value is that of a document that helps us understand better how people lived and worked in this period. The information that it contains is what determines its value as a testimony, and the information that we can obtain establishes its value as a document.

We call on ICOMOS members and professionals in the preservation field to make this day a global success by working together with the representatives of TICCIH in their country or region. The ICOMOS International Secretariat has made available a variety of resources online including: the history of 18 April; introductions by the Secretary General of ICOMOS and President of TICCIH; The TICCIH Nithry Tagl Charter for the Industrial Heritage; the resolution concerning TICCIH / Industrial Heritage by the 15th ICOMOS General Assembly; all reports on industrial heritage published in “Heritage at Risk”, a specialised bibliography by the UNESCO-

ICOMOS Documentation Centre; the list of industrial heritage sites included on the UNESCO World Heritage List; a roster of TICCIH National Committees; the endangered industrial heritage sites identified by the World Monuments Fund; a calendar of 18th April Events and Related Conferences and a basic press kit for National Committees to use.

TICCIH is organizing its XIII International Congress on Industrial Heritage and Urban Transformation / Productive Territories and Industrial Landscape from 14 – 18 September in Terni, Italy (http://www.mnactec.com/ticcih/).

To inform us of or publicize any events organized in relation to 18th April contact Ian Cochran (ticcih@icoms.org) at the International Secretariat. All the above mentioned support material is accessible on: www.icoms.org.

We hope to make great strides this year in protection our shared Industrial Heritage and hope that you will join us in our effort.

Dinu Bumburu
Secretary General of ICOMOS

Eusebi Casanelles
President of TICCIH

Heritage at Risk

Updates on recent disasters affecting cultural heritage

Sri Lanka - Post tsunami recovery of the cultural heritage

In the last newsletter ICOMOS Sri Lanka reported on actions taken to safeguard the affected cultural properties of the Maritime Provinces in Sri Lanka due to the tsunami in December 2004. As expected, the country's priorities were to provide shelter, employment and the necessary social infrastructure to those affected. However, we were happy to report that the planners and other officials had included the safeguarding of the affected cultural properties in their development plans.

The survey of the affected cultural properties was completed in March 2005 and the documentation in May 2005. With generous grants from the National Physical Planning Department of Sri Lanka and US ICOMOS the printing of the report is now completed, and has been made available to ICOMOS, ICGROM, the World Monuments Fund and US ICOMOS in electronic form – it can also be consulted on www.icoms.org.

As an extension of this survey, ICOMOS Sri Lanka is in collaboration with the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Moratuwa, carried out a detailed study of the affected cultural properties at Matara in South Sri Lanka using a grant from the US Ambassador’s Fund. This study is now completed and it is hoped that some sort of funding could be made available to conserve these sites. The owners just cannot afford to undertake the conservation.

Post-tsunami Development Plans prepared for Galle and Matara have a heavy component on the conservation of cultural properties in the two districts. It not only identifies what needs to be preserved but also details special regulations for conservation areas including the World Heritage site in Galle. The Plans are being finalised for approval by the Urban Development Authority before the gazette proclamation to legalise the documents. In Matara, the area that was most affected – the Dutch Fort and the historic street just outside it has been earmarked as a Conservation Area with special regulations for its protection.

The Cultural Development Fund and the Dutch Government are busy putting together a development package for the World Heritage site in Galle Fort, to be funded by the Dutch Government. The UNESCO-Asia Pacific Maritime Archaeology Training Programme gets under way in Galle from 13th March. The initial course is to "train the trainers".

Regrettably, not much progress has been made in the Eastern and Northern areas because of the terrorist activities. However, it is hoped that the National Physical Planning Department and the Urban Development Authority will protect the cultural sites in these areas through their development plans.

Pati Wijeratne
Paul Director of ICOMOS Sri Lanka (2002-2005)

A letter from New Orleans

First the good news. All areas developed prior to 1900 in New Orleans did not flood and are basically "up and running" and the portion of the city on the west bank of the river also did not flood. The city was one of the three largest in the United States in the mid-nineteenth century so this includes many historic neighbourhoods, downriver and upriver from the Vieux Carre, and also on Esplanade Ridge running north from the Vieux Carre. Businesses that are open seem to be doing very well, some better than ever; the seven colleges and universities are now re-opened; and cultural institutions are coming back. There has been tremendous support from around the world, including for my organization, the Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans, which has been fully staffed since October thanks to this support. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has established a field office at our headquarters. We are needed more than ever, of course, and are planning to add additional staff because all areas of the city developed...
after 1900, except for the west bank, were flooded and are at risk. Entire early 20th century residential neighbourhoods are struggling, as well as the remaining two thirds of the city.

The disaster in New Orleans was a result of the failure of the flood protection systems, including the collapse of canal levees of three different canals. There was wind damage in all parts of the city, which has also presented a challenge, but which is being addressed.

The courage and determination of residents returning to flooded homes is inspiring, and much has been returned to normality. But not enough.

Out of 38,000 buildings in National Register Districts, plus another 2000 – 4000 in eligible districts, an estimated 10,000 – 12,000 buildings in National Register Districts were flooded and are at risk, due to a number of factors:

- Evacuation of almost 470,000 residents (the entire population of the city for at least 4 weeks).
- Prohibition for many residents to return to their houses even 6 months after evacuation.
- Failure to re-establish utilities, with many areas not having electricity, gas or water at all.
- Slow insurance checks, uncertainty about rebuilding possibilities.
- Failure as of this date to establish federal financial assistance to assist people in restoring their homes to livable quality.

These factors also apply to another 100,000 homes not in National Register Districts. Approximately 300,000 residents have not returned to their homes. This situation is impossible, there are solutions, but plans and policies have not yet been put in place to recover from the disaster.

Patricia H. Gay
Executive Director
Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans, Member of US ICOMOS

Pakistan – after the earthquake

The dawn of 8 October 2005 saw our countries worst natural disaster, which within seconds turned upside down the lives of thousands of people. The widespread devastation caused by this earthquake in the northern region of the country was so intense that it took more than a couple of days for the nation to completely realize its magnitude and real impact. Recovering from the initial shock, the entire nation rose to the hour of need and contributed in whatever way they could to help the affected families.

The magnitude of the disaster also called for international support which was generously offered from all over the world. With all the national and international efforts put together there has been substantial progress in providing basic shelter, food and medical assistance throughout the earthquake zone. The real rehabilitation and reconstruction is yet to start and expected to accelerate at the start of spring and in the summer months.

The entire experience of coping with a disaster of this scale in a country which lags behind in many ways is an eye opener. Many issues related to construction by-laws, building regulations, etc. have emerged as areas in need of serious thought and professional capacity building. The country’s architects and engineers have played a significant role in recovery activities, and organized themselves well in helping debates, forums, on site explorations and professional contributions, etc.

The areas hit by the earthquake possess an extraordinary natural beauty combined with a long tradition of vernacular building techniques. The entire zone is also rich in historical and architectural heritage. Many professionals showed their concern about this aspect of the disaster, but the magnitude of human misery has been so great that the focus has understandably so far remained on providing the necessary to ensure the survival of those who luckily did not perish. In an email circulated by an architect this concern is clearly there:

"I am worried about some great monuments such as the British period residence of Majr Abbott at Abbottabad, the 16th cent. Mughal fort at Muzaffaranabad, Gul Bagh court building near Raffa in Mansehra, 14th cent. Shah Hamadun’s monument at Naukot, Attock’s stone carvings near Mangla and many other monuments which have been vandalized by me but not yet documented anywhere. Let’s hope that these great survivors of time have

withstood this earthquake”. Architect Rutwaen Azem

A couple of organizations such as the UNESCO office in Islamabad, the National College of Arts and the Lahore University of Management Sciences in Lahore have contributed in rehabilitation work in the region, but so far no comprehensive report on the extent of heritage damage has come to surface or publicly shared. The lack of focused professional contribution in terms of heritage damage assessment and heritage conservation and reconstruction is a clear indication that this is a much ignored area and requires professional training and capacity building.

Anila Naem
Member of ICOMOS Pakistan


Heritage at Risk 2002-2003 reported on the state of decay of many iconic buildings of the early Avant-garde and Constructivist architecture in Russia (1920-1930). These are among the most important contributions to the international development of modern architecture. Important buildings such as Le Corbusier’s ‘Centrosoyuz’ or the ‘Narkomiun’ house in Moscow, the Stachki street ensemble in St. Petersburg or Alvar Aalto’s library in Vyborg are also among the most important examples of the 20th century Modern Movement in Russia. Having had very limited, if any, maintenance since their construction, these monuments are quickly reaching a point of deterioration that could make it unfeasible to conserve them in their authenticity. In Moscow, these include Konstantin Melnikov’s workers’ club, communal housing such as Ivan Nikolayev’s student hostel, the most tragic example being Meloiz Ginzburg’s ‘Narkomiun’ apartment building listed on the World Monuments Fund’s Watch List in 2004. Listed on Russia’s State Heritage Register only as properties of local or regional interest, they are vulnerable to interventions like facade repainting.

The resulting loss of authenticity prevents many of these buildings from being nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List. This situation limits their world-wide recognition and support for their conservation. It also means they cannot contribute to reinforcing the diversity and credibility of the World Heritage List which weakly represents the more recent and Modern period in the history of architecture, as exposed by ICOMOS.

Modernism and the heritage of the preservation – outcome for the theme of the 2006 International Day for Monuments and Sites, on 18th April, and lead to a special issue of ICOMOS’ Heritage at Risk report in cooperation with the World Monuments Fund. It is also one of the founding activities of the ICOMOS International Committee on 20th century heritage (ISCC) established in 2005 following the ICOMOS Montreal Action Plan on 20th c. Heritage.

For more information contact see http://www.mapr-moscow.com

Underwater Cultural Heritage at Risk - managing natural and human impacts

A superb new publication has been added to the ICOMOS ICOMOS ICOMOS ICOMOS Cultural Heritage at Risk series. Underwater Cultural Heritage at Risk demonstrates the application of the principles of the 2001 UNESCO Convention for the protection of the underwater cultural heritage. With over 30 authors, the book canvasses a wide range of underwater cultural heritage sites from around the world. These include shipwrecks, fish traps and inundated offshore deposits in Asia, South America, the Pacific North America, South Africa and Europe. The environments in which they are set range from tidal zones to the extreme depths of oceanic waters.

In this book, heritage managers from government and private organisations share a wealth of experience in managing their cultural resources. The authors present case studies to these sites. Examples of natural threats include coping with the effects of marine bio-fouling, current and surge as well as metal corrosion. Risks arising from human activities are also addressed. These include direct impacts (such as those related to diving on wrecks as well as commercial salvage) and indirect impacts associated with development projects (including construction of harbours and dredging programs). The solutions are varied, imaginative and effective. They highlight the real opportunities that exist for governments and organisations faced with similar challenges and make this publication an invaluable reference work.

The publication is the joint venture of ICOMOS and its International Scientific Committee on Underwater Cultural Heritage (ICUCH), with core funding from UNESCO.

Underwater Cultural Heritage @ Risk can be ordered in printed form from the ICOMOS International Secretariat, 60, rue du Faubourg Saint Antoine, 75012 Paris, France, and all articles available on www.icomos.org.
ICOMOS Mailing List

The ICOMOS International Secretariat and the ICOMOS Documentation Centre have a new communication tool to improve the dissemination of ICOMOS activities, an electronic mailing list — open to all. Through this mailing list you will receive regular information about appeals, conferences, new publications, updates of the website, news from the Documentation Centre, etc.

We invite all interested ICOMOS members to subscribe to this mailing list. Please, send an e-mail message (in "text" and not "html" format) to majo@icomos.org with "subscribe doc-centre" as the only line in the message body. If you receive an error message, please, send the same message to secretariat@icomos.org.

Third International Exhibition on Monument Restoration — Munich, June 2006

The Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali (Dipartimento per i Beni Culturali e Paesaggistici) of Italy in cooperation with ICOMOS Italy, the Fondazione Politecnico and the Centro Beni Culturali is promoting, to mark the 40th anniversary of the Venice Charter and the foundation of ICOMOS, the Third International Exhibition on Monument Restoration with the theme "From Restoration to Conservation: 40 years of projects and achievements". Its inauguration is planned for 13 — 14 June in Munich, at the prestigious Palazzo della Regione, in connection with the Triennale di Milano, and will thereafter travel to other locations in Italy and ending in Rome. This initiative aims to reflect on the Venice Charter, offer an occasion to exchange national and international experiences, and to discuss the problems of restoration 40 years after the birth of ICOMOS.

Are participating: the Soprintendenza of the Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Italian universities, cultural institutions involved in the restoration and conservation of cultural heritage, the National and International Committees of ICOMOS. The following have already contributed: Armenia, Austria, Benin, Belgium, Bulgaria, South Korea, Cuba, France, UK, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Lithuania, Mauritius, Nigeria, Palestine, Poland, Peru, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Togo and Hungary.

For information contact: marco.deszzi@polimi.it

APPEAR Project

The international symposium "Urban past and urban futures: bringing urban archaeology to life" of the APPEAR project in which ICOMOS was one of the partners, was successfully held at the European Union Committee of the Regions, in Brussels on 4 and 5 October 2005. Also placed under the official auspices of the European Parliament, it benefited from the participation of representatives from the Commissions of Research and Culture and Education.

Following careful selection to ensure balanced representation of different expertise and countries, it finally brought together 126 participants from 23 different countries, representing universities, research centres, a large variety of administrations in charge of cultural heritage, archaeology and urban planning; curators and managers of archaeological sites and museums, as well as independent professionals and elected local authorities. International institutions such as ICOMROM, the Organisation of World Heritage Cities, the World Tourism Organisation, and the Getty Conservation Institute were also involved.

The proceedings are available online in 3 languages (English, French and Spanish), including all the abstracts, syntheses of the working sessions and the conclusions. The final presentations are provided in the original language (English, French, or Spanish). Given the interest of this material, possibilities for formal scientific publication are being explored. All proposals, suggestions or comments on this point are welcome!

The proceedings and "The APPEAR Practical Guide for Enhancement Management of Urban Archaeological Sites", the main result of the research, are already available on the APPEAR website and ICOMOS www.icomos.org websites.

For details of the vote, held at the 15th General Assembly in Xi’an, consult www.icomos.org


Vice Presidents

Gustavo Araoz (USA): Executive Director of USICOMOS, Lecturer on historic preservation, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Architect (Catholic Univ. of America and Georgetown Univ., USA) Vice President of ICOMOS in charge of the ICs (2002-2005).


CD-ROM's available for sale


To order: Jose.garcia@icomos.org

Graduate School Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Diploma in Archaeology & History, Peking Univ, Vice Chairman / Secretary-General of ICOMOS China.

Executive Committee members

Ray Bondin (Malta): Director, Rehabilitation Projects Office, Valletta and its Other Historic Cities in Malta. PhD in heritage conservation, Italy. Masters in Baroque Studies, Malta. ICOMOS Executive Council since 1999 and Assistant Secretary General of ICOMOS (2002 – 2005), President of ICOMOS ICS CIUVIH (2000), Special Advisor & Honorary President of Malta.

Andrew Hall (South Africa): Chief Operations Officer, Dep. of Sport, Arts & Culture, Northern Cape Province. Hon. Degree History, Univ. of the Witwatersrand, MSc in Historic Preservation, Univ. of Pennsylvania. Founding President of ICOMOS South Africa (1996–2005), President of ICOMOS Advisory Committee and ICOMOS Executive Committee member (2000–2003).


Gilles Nourfie (France), Director and founder of the Ecole d’Avignon (France), resource centre for the rehabilitation of architectural heritage. Former Secretary General of ICOMOS France


Bénédicte Seffels (Belgium): Private practice in cultural heritage management, research and training. Civil Engineer/Architect specialised in cultural heritage preservation. R. L. Marembe Centre, Univ. of Louvain, Belgium. Board member of ICOMOS Belgium & ICOMOS Flanders-Brussels.
ICOMOS Accounts 2005

Publishing a summary of our balance, as requested by the General Assembly in Xi'an (resolution n°18), is a new practice for us, as perhaps it was previously assumed that these figures would not meet with great interest. Therefore, the full balance sheet as well as the new annual budget was approved only by the Executive Committee, and later in the year presented to the Advisory Committee. The annual balances for the triennium were presented to the General Assembly, but this event happens only once every three years.

I personally welcome the request to make our balance public, not just because you all deserve being informed, but because I believe that you should be interested in seeing it.

Again, the full document is not confidential, and available to members on request, but we do not think that its publication warranted taking up a substantial part of the newsletter. We might be wrong, and your comments are welcome.

The past two years have been quite difficult financially, but it seems that we can see the light at the end of the tunnel now.

Gloria Solar
Treasurer General of ICOMOS

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### 2005 BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2005

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<tr>
<td>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</td>
<td>268,177</td>
<td>238,147</td>
<td>30,030</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership dues receivable</td>
<td>12,712</td>
<td>12,712</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11,828</td>
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<td>Contracts receivable</td>
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<td>Subsidies receivable</td>
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<td>35,976</td>
<td>35,976</td>
<td>35,976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other receivables</td>
<td>1,757</td>
<td>1,757</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>345</td>
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<td>Cash and equivalents</td>
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<td>15,043</td>
<td>120,163</td>
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<td>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</td>
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<td>12,712</td>
<td>225,241</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred charges</td>
<td>35,761</td>
<td>35,761</td>
<td>73,169</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asset translation differences</td>
<td>1,574</td>
<td>1,574</td>
<td>1,129</td>
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<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>253,742</td>
<td>250,836</td>
<td>272,852</td>
<td>272,174</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Association equity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Opening financing funds</td>
<td>-24,423</td>
<td>-24,423</td>
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<td>Surplus or deficit for the period</td>
<td>73,116</td>
<td>73,116</td>
<td>30,772</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment subsidies recognized as income</td>
<td>199,708</td>
<td>-190,726</td>
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<td>24,379</td>
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<td>TOTAL ASSOCIATION EQUITY</td>
<td>248,403</td>
<td>-190,726</td>
<td>57,677</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provisions for contingencies and risks</td>
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<td>1,574</td>
<td>1,129</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL PROVISIONS</td>
<td>1,574</td>
<td>1,574</td>
<td>1,129</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and related accounts</td>
<td>53,269</td>
<td>53,269</td>
<td>29,182</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tax and social liabilities</td>
<td>63,145</td>
<td>63,145</td>
<td>60,055</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>39,263</td>
<td>39,263</td>
<td>35,658</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charges payable</td>
<td>36,900</td>
<td>36,900</td>
<td>42,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other creditors</td>
<td>13,724</td>
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<td>5,186</td>
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<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES</td>
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<td>179,070</td>
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<td>Deferred income</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Liability translation differences</td>
<td>7,312</td>
<td>7,312</td>
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<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND ASSOCIATION EQUITY</td>
<td>261,412</td>
<td>251,412</td>
<td>272,852</td>
<td>272,174</td>
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### 2005 INCOME STATEMENT TO 31 DECEMBER 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income (in €)</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNESCO contracts</td>
<td>532,400</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>429,035</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other contracts</td>
<td>46,984</td>
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<td>38,136</td>
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<td>Membership dues</td>
<td>260,011</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>208,428</td>
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<td>Subsidies</td>
<td>180,532</td>
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<td>87,055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sales of publications</td>
<td>4,509</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,080</td>
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<tr>
<td>Related income</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>901</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers of charges</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3,988</td>
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<tr>
<td>Release of operating provisions</td>
<td>34,060</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>27,065</td>
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<tr>
<td>Release of provisions for charges</td>
<td>34,060</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>27,065</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total operating income</td>
<td>1,056,554</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>883,588</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial income</td>
<td>1,027</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign exchange gains</td>
<td>15,647</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>34,051</td>
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<td>Release of provisions for foreign exchange losses</td>
<td>1,129</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>35,033</td>
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<td>Total financial income</td>
<td>17,793</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>68,092</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exceptional income from previous years</td>
<td>5,776</td>
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<td>19,477</td>
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<td>Annual recognition of investment subsidies</td>
<td>15,397</td>
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<td>Total exceptional income</td>
<td>21,173</td>
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<td>34,974</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL INCOME</td>
<td>1,077,529</td>
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<td>917,564</td>
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</table>

### Costs (in €)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Costs (in €)</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct costs of activity</td>
<td>85,341</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>51,949</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property and equipment</td>
<td>90,994</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>88,949</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outside staff</td>
<td>24,303</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>48,158</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel and missions</td>
<td>129,812</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>37,505</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other external consumption</td>
<td>227,118</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>172,325</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff costs</td>
<td>391,798</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>418,615</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bad debts</td>
<td>25,088</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18,493</td>
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<td>Depreciation and amortisation</td>
<td>19,279</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22,364</td>
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<td>Operating provisions</td>
<td>12,712</td>
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<td>34,060</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total operating costs</td>
<td>1,010,442</td>
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<td>888,216</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial charges</td>
<td>410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign exchange losses</td>
<td>7,263</td>
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<td>44,445</td>
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<td>Provisions for foreign exchange losses</td>
<td>1,575</td>
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<td>1,129</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total financial charges</td>
<td>6,778</td>
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<td>45,126</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exceptional charges for previous years</td>
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<td>17,678</td>
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<td>Exceptional charges</td>
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<td>Total exceptional charges</td>
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<td>18,348</td>
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<tr>
<td>Profit for the year</td>
<td>1,069,837</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>869,218</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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ICOMOS Officers and Executive Committee 2005–2008

**Christina Stanoeva (Bulgaria): Private Practice and Assistant Professor, Dep. of Theory & History of Architecture; Univ. of Architecture, Civil Engineering & Geodesy, Sofia. Architect- Restorer: UNESCO Certificate for Conservation, Univ. of York and degree from School of Architecture and Civil Engineering, Sofia. Vice-President of the ICOMOS ISCC (ICLAF) (Legal issues). Vice-President of ICOMOS Bulgaria.**


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Los trabajos que se incluyen en esta publicación han sido realizados por especialistas de diversos países y versan sobre las características y la actual situación de un buen número de ciudades históricas patrimoniales del ámbito iberoamericano. Hay que destacar la común metodología, establecida por el CIHIB (Subcomité Regional de Ciudades y Poblaciones Históricas del Área Iberoamericana de ICOMOS), empleada por los autores que, al mismo tiempo que nos ofrecen una información, tanto histórica como actualizada, de las poblaciones sobre las que versan los trabajos, realizan un diagnóstico sobre la situación relativa a su conservación y gestión.

Developed by specialists from various countries, the works included in this publication discuss the characteristics and current state of a number of historic cities in the region. Employing a noteworthy shared methodology established by the CIHIB (ICOMOS Regional sub-committee for historic towns and villages of Iberoamerica), the authors offer us historical and current information about the towns they have studied and formulate strategies for the preservation and management of this heritage.

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