



**Minutes of the 79th Session of the Advisory Committee,
ICOM June Meetings¹ in Paris, France on 3 & 4 June, 2014**

The session opened with an address by Suay Aksoy, Advisory Committee Chair. The Chair advised participants that this year's Advisory Committee would be different than usual in that reports from Regional Alliances on their activities would be presented, in addition to reports from Technical Committees and Working Groups that have been scrutinizing certain designated areas and issues. She encouraged questions and comments in order to enhance the meeting's interactivity, and voiced the hope that this conversation with the Working Groups would continue throughout the year rather than just once a year in June.

She recalled the colleagues and members that had passed away since the last session of the Advisory Committee in Rio de Janeiro, and emphasised the great contribution they had made to ICOM. A minute's silence was observed by all participants in memory of these members:

Thorsten ANDERSSON (Sweden)
Giuseppe BASILE (Italy)
Benno CARUS (Germany)
Michael COMPTON (United Kingdom)
Pierre DE GUNZBURG (France)
Brigitte DELORME (France)
Joseph Marie ESSOMBA (Cameroun)
Christa E. HABRICH (Germany)
Gunter HILBERT (Germany)
Werner HOFMANN (Germany)
Rainer ILGNER (Germany)
George INTROZZI (U.S.)
Jens Christian JENSEN (Germany)
Brigitte KLESSE (Germany)
Benedicte OTTINGER PRADIÉ
Renate PRADELLA (Germany)
Vesna RAPO (Croatia)
Hans-Uwe RUMP (Germany)
Yaya SAVANE (Côte d'Ivoire)
Georg SYAMKEN (Germany)
Carina WENDEL (Sweden)
Rainer WIRTZ (Germany)

The Chair presented the agenda and confirmed the following additions:

¹ ICOM June Meetings opened on June 3 with the welcoming words of the ICOM President, followed by the introduction and greetings by the Advisory Committee Chair and the Members of the Executive Council. The highlight of the opening event was the participation of Shigeru Ban, the renown architect, as keynote speaker and of Francesco Bandarin, UNESCO Assistant Director General for Culture, in representation of Mrs Bokova. The morning session ended with the introduction of the staff of the Secretariat by the previous and current Directors General. The afternoon of June 3 was dedicated to the NCs and ICs separate meetings.

- An announcement by ICOM Ukraine on their project and international conference devoted to WWI and museum interpretation.
- A brief report on the ongoing work of the Working Group on the Strategic Plan 2014-2016 by Michael Ryan, Chair of the Working Group, to be included in the presentations of the Technical Committees and Working Groups.

The agenda was then approved with the above amendments.

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the 77th and 78th sessions of the Advisory Committee, held in August 2013

The minutes of the 77th and 78th sessions of the Advisory Committee were approved as presented.

Item 2: Introduction of the new members of the Advisory Committee

The Chair asked all new Chairs of National and International Committees and Affiliated Organisations to stand up, and she thanked them for their contribution. The new Chair of ICOM Germany, missing from the list, was introduced as well.

The ICOM President asked members of the Executive Council to stand so that the participants could see who makes up ICOM's Board.

Item 3: Presentation of the work of the Regional Alliances

Song Xinchao, Chair of ICOM ASPAC, presented the Regional Alliance's work in 2013, notably encompassing the official website and the first phase of the Survey of Museums in the Asia-Pacific Region. The second phase, launched in February 2014, will be finalised with a definitive text to be distributed during the ASPAC Annual Conference, to be held in New Delhi in November 2014. He noted the growing influence of ICOM in Asia over the past ten years, illustrated by the ICOM Training Centre in Beijing and intense committee activity helping energise ICOM's role in the region.

Damodar Frlan, Chair of ICOM Europe, gave a brief history of the Regional Alliance and an overview of its current activities and plans for the future. He noted that activities are mainly focused on organising different events and conferences, many of which are made possible via financial support from ICOM, particularly important as certain European countries are facing crises due to lack of governmental support for the museum sector. He recalled the extreme importance of the April 2013 conference jointly organised by ICOM Portugal and ICOM Europe resulting in the Lisbon Declaration to Support Culture and Museums to Face the Global Crisis and Build the Future. He noted that ICOM Europe is seeking to renew collaboration with ICOM Arab, emphasising the importance of showing the mutual influence of Arab and Western cultures on one another.

Lucía Astudillo, Chair of ICOM LAC, stated that of the 18 countries in her Regional Alliance, communication with the Spanish-speaking countries has always been good, but that it has been more difficult with the Caribbean nations. She also noted that in Rio, elections were an issue in that there were no candidates for the LAC board and that the rules and regulations thus had to be modified. The statutes will hopefully be changed in order to improve the Regional Alliance's functioning and hold a proper meeting in Milan in 2016. She highlighted forthcoming events

including a joint CECA-ICOM Peru meeting in Lima in June and a meeting of ICOFOM LAM to be held in Buenos Aires in October. She invited more International Committees to hold their meetings in the region and stated that partnerships are needed to help such events be organised.

Mila Popović-Živančević, Chair of ICOM SEE, recalled that hers is the youngest ICOM Regional Alliance, founded in 2008. It was founded because the region's countries face many similar problems and share characteristics in terms of their past, institutional organisation, professional development, education and heritage development. She noted the positive changes in many of the countries over the past few years, notably impacting the capacity of organisations and institutions to reorganise, increase their levels of professionalisation, develop programmes for preventive conservation, etc., leading to many results. The ten countries in the Regional Alliance hold regular activities every year, including regional conferences on major issues, workshops and round tables.

ICOM Arab board member Nasser Al Hammadi, standing in for the Chair, recalled that the Regional Alliance was founded in 1995 and is a highly active organisation working with other organisations and notably ICOM Europe. He highlighted recent activities such as participation in a regional seminar on illicit trafficking in North Africa, held in Morocco in 2013, and a touring exhibition about the influence of Arab culture on European civilisation.

This concluded the reports by the Regional Alliances.

Item 4: ICOM membership 2013 annual report

Dora Eszter Peter, Head of the Membership Department, greeted members and gave a report on the 2013 membership. She stated that ICOM had 32,969 active members in 2013, as compared to 30,624 in 2012, representing a 7.7% increase in the number of members and an 8.3% increase in membership dues. ICOM members were present in 135 countries, as compared to 136 in 2012. There were 113 National committees updated with regard to their dues for 2013, as compared to 112 in 2012, and 22 countries where members were located without National Committees in 2013, as compared to 24 in 2012.

She added that the overall increase in membership was balanced among individual members (7.7%) and institutional members (6.8%). Institutional members represented 6.6% of the membership in 2013, the same as in 2012.

In response to the report, the following points and questions were raised by members:

- Emma Nardi, CECA: Just 38% of ICOM members belong to an International Committee – an imbalanced situation which must be remedied. Sometimes people don't know they can join an IC or think they need to pay an extra fee.
- Michel Polfer, ICOM Luxembourg: Conditions of access for individual members are not clear, and now, given the individual membership recently opened to certain members of the World Federation of Friends of Museums (WFFM), this may create problems as not all museum friends are volunteers. Additionally, major imbalances may arise as in the case of Luxembourg, where there are 2000 WFFM members and 110 ICOM members.
- Alassane Waongo, ICOM Burkina Faso: Member loyalty, ensuring that members continue to pay their fees each year, is a problem. How can the advantages and benefits of ICOM be made clear?
- Lisa Pilosi, ICOM-CC: In response to aforementioned comments, one advantage of ICOM membership is IC membership. In Nigeria, 7 of the 80 new members in 2013 joined ICOM-CC. In Luxembourg, volunteers represent a serious issue for membership; but in many countries, people are unable to find museum work, and volunteer instead. For conservators, many

countries have outsourced this work, so conservators are freelancers unaffiliated to any museum, and it is important for them to have ICOM access.

- ICOM Armenia: In Armenia, of the 61 individual members, most don't remember which IC they signed up for, and so efforts are being made to create stronger links between NCs and ICs, with a calendar planned for discussions, seminars etc.
- John McAvity, ICOM Canada: Many renewals are motivated by travel, i.e. to use the free museum pass. ICOM could perhaps look into separating the free pass from professional membership.

The Advisory Committee Chair noted all of these points and confirmed that these items would be followed up on in due course.

Item 5: Progress of ICOM Training Centre in Beijing

The report on the ICOM Training Centre in Beijing was presented by ICOM Executive Council member Laishun An. He thanked all those who contributed to the success of the ICOM-ITC and expressed satisfaction with the success of the first two workshops that have been held at the Palace Museum. The first, held in November 2013, involved 33 participants from 18 developing countries in Asia, Latin America and southern Europe, 16 of whom were offered travel grants, on the theme of Best Practices of Museum Management in a Diversified and Changing World. The second, held in April 2014, involved 29 participants from Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America, on the theme of Collections Make Connections. He affirmed that feedback provided via anonymous questionnaires has been mostly positive, with participants voicing their satisfaction, stating that the experience had enhanced their knowledge and skills. He confirmed that the next workshop would be held in October-November 2014, on the theme of Learning in Museums.

In response to the presentation, Janrense Boonstra of ICOM Netherlands wished to know how many requests had been received to participate in the workshop, and how the selection was made. Laishun An responded that for the first workshop, some 30 applications had been received from different NCs and ICs, while for the second, 40 to 50 applications were received, mostly from developing countries. The selection process was performed by the General Secretariat based on certain criteria. He stated that this is still in its very beginning phases, and that the governing board would review procedures over the course of the week.

Item 6: Presentation of the work of the Technical Committees and Working Groups

The Working Group on the membership database was presented by its Chair, Nicholas Crofts. Following up on Rio discussions with ICs on the membership database, which was one of the recommendations of the International Committee separate meeting held during the General Conference in Rio de Janeiro in 2013. Its original mandate was to examine the database, but it quickly became apparent that the problem was not simply technical, and that the full processes that go into membership needed to be examined. He explained that available documentation was examined, and a survey was conducted on NCs and ICs, which received 42 replies in all, from 29 countries, covering some 53% of ICOM membership. Two key findings were noted: 70% of respondents stated that the database was not up to date; and 66% affirmed that they managed a parallel database. He stated that in conclusion, it can take up to a year for accurate membership data to be entered into the database, and that more current information is needed.

The issue surpasses software alone, encompassing two major problems: that of communications and education, i.e., the fact that many simply didn't know that the tools were available, highlighting the

need for better documentation; and that of the complexity and slowness of the current process. A report was presented to the Executive Council and documents are already being rewritten and improved, and the online membership database is also being improved. He stated the desire to see a taskforce set up in order to streamline the membership process. The report will soon be made available on ICOMMUNITY.

In response to this report, questions and comments were made. IC MEMO enquired about the process for collecting money yearly. The Chair responded that financial management systems differ from country to country, and that each specific situation must be examined in order to find applicable solutions. ICDAD asked whether there was any danger of misuse of the database, i.e. to share the private data of members. The Chair responded that there had been no cases of misuse, but that this was not something under investigation. He reiterated that access is password-controlled, and that ICOM staff has access, while individual ICs and NCs can only access the password-protected data of their own members.

The Disaster Relief Task Force report was made by its President, Corine Wegener. She recalled that the DRTF was created in 2005 following the Indian Ocean tsunami, and is now entering its fourth iteration of a 3-year task force. She highlighted that it is an increasingly dangerous world for museums, with a marked increase in the intentional destruction of heritage, and stated that over the past term, the body dealt with 18 natural and 14 human-made disasters, mostly encompassing earthquakes and internal armed conflicts, respectively. She highlighted the success of the ICOM/UNESCO/Smithsonian West African Museums Training Workshop, and outlined the objectives of improving the watch list situation using satellite technology to monitor emergency situations; improving communication via social networks; and sharing good practices for colleagues around the world facing threats to their own collections.

In response to this report, questions and comments were raised. COMCOL Chair Léontine Meijer-van Mensch asked, in response to the recent attack on the Jewish Museum in Brussels, whether or not this was an issue that the DRTF wishes to address, and that ICOM wishes to respond to. In response, the DRTF President stated that in the U.S., training is provided for “active shooter” situations, and that terrorism threats must be a focus, without a strict division between emergency planning for collections and emergency planning for staff. The ICOM Director General stated that ICOM responded immediately to the events in Brussels, and that ICOM was awaiting the outcome of the police investigation in Belgium. Executive Council member Wim de Vos stated that on the day of the attack, ICOM Belgium published a message of support to the Jewish Museum on its website.

Chantal Radimilahy, Chair of ICOM Madagascar, enquired as to the relation between the DRTF and the Blue Shield, to which the DRTF responded that the Blue Shield is part of the ICOM network and that the two bodies work in close cooperation.

The Ethics Committee presentation was made by its Chair, Martin Schaerer. He stated that the Ethics Committee has 14 members who have been newly elected for 2014-2016. Its main missions encompass the illicit trafficking of cultural goods, clandestine archaeological excavations, the destruction of cultural goods, disaster relief, the return of goods to communities and rightful owners, mediation for contentious issues, and the ethical behaviour of museum professionals. He highlighted recent accomplishments, including Red Lists, the NATHIST Code of Ethics, the newest Code of Ethics in Farsi, and the dissemination of ethical tools from other organisation such as WFFM. Additionally, a training programme on ethical issues is being elaborated, and a special working group has been created, with a workshop to be held during this session of the Advisory Committee. He stated that the ICOM Code of Ethics is considered differently around the world, and while useful, it is not a legally binding tool.

In response to this report, questions and comments were raised. Vinnie Norskov, Chair of ICOM Denmark, enquired as to how many cases actually come to the Ethics Committee from around the world. The Chair of the Ethics Committee responded that there have been no concrete cases in recent years, and that the focus has shifted to more general problems, such as how to promote the code, how to train people, write articles, etc. He emphasised that this is not due to less illicit trafficking, but rather, the fact that other bodies, tools, mediation programmes, etc. have emerged to handle these more concrete problems. Stefan Bohman, Chair of ICOM Sweden, enquired as to how many translations of the Code of Ethics currently exist. The Chair of the Ethics Committee stated that 37 translations currently exist, but that training is still greatly needed. John McAvity of ICOM Canada enquired as to whether the Ethics Committee is using the ICOM mediation programme or a separate mediation tool, and the Chair of the Ethics Committee affirmed that the ICOM mediation programme is indeed being used. Ólöf K. Sigurðardóttir, Chair of ICOM Iceland, commented that while the Code of Ethics holds no legal power, in some countries, such as Iceland, in order to receive funding from the government, the code must be respected. The Chair of the Ethics Committee affirmed that in some countries, legal power is given by the country's legislation or regulations, and encouraged ICOM members to only allow museums that work by the code to be accredited in their respective countries, if they are able to influence the situation.

The report from the Finance and Resources Committee was presented by the ICOM Director General, Anne-Catherine Robert-Hauglustaine, in the absence of David Fleming, Chair of the Committee. She presented the Committee's mission of advising the Secretariat and Director General on financial issues, pertaining to the ICOM annual budget, fundraising, the funding of ICs and legal aggregation of IC budgets, and legal expenses. The issue of the difficulty of collecting dues from certain NCs was raised, but overall, the report concluded the ICOM's accounts are being handled very well by the General Secretariat.

No questions or comments were raised in response to the report.

Chair John McAvity presented the **report from the Legal Affairs Committee**. He explained the importance of issues pertaining to museums and intellectual property material these days, noting that everything museums do involves copyright, as both owners and users of copyright. He recalled the ICOM-WIPO strategic agreement, with ICOM recognised on two WIPO committees: the Special Committee on Copyright Exceptions (SCCR), for which museums could receive a special treaty; and Intangible Cultural Property Issues, for which ICOM has submitted a request for the special consideration of museums. He emphasised that ICOM must be more proactive in lobbying, inviting all present to join in on the Committee focused on this issue, stating that while libraries have been very active on this issue for a number of years, it is time for museums to step up.

No questions or comments were raised in response to this report.

The report from the Strategic Allocation Review Commission was given by ICOM Director General Anne-Catherine Robert Hauglustaine, in the absence of SAREC Chair Claude Faubert. This body is intended to evaluate the work of ICs, IC and NC projects, and requests for support. 2013 saw a steady rise in funding for special projects granted, a trend that will hopefully last. IC funding is notably determined by a member-based subsidy as well as a performance subsidy, i.e. how committees manage their funds and report on their performance. She voiced the desire to have more information on how ICs use their cash reserves, and satisfaction with the high number of quality Special Projects applications that were received this year.

In response to the report, questions and comments were raised. Mahamane Saley Tim, Chair of ICOM Niger, voiced his gratitude for the recent funding of a database for the country's cultural heritage. Lisa Pilosi, Chair of ICOM-CC, commented that it would be useful for ICs to know of criteria

for subsidies before submitting their annual reports, as these criteria change from year to year. In response to the question of amounts to be held over in IC accounts, she recalled that in Rio a resolution was made by ICs that it would be useful to hold over three years' worth of subsidies, as the organisation functions on a triennial schedule. This was accepted by the General Assembly. The ICOM Director General commented that one year of functioning does not mean the same for all: some ICs have a three-year sum that is less than one year's worth for a larger committee. Lynne Teather, Chair of ICTOP, commented that she has been saving money rather than spending leftover savings from year to year, and sought to clarify that she should actually be using this money, instead. The ICOM Director General responded that enough funds must be preserved for the proper functioning of committees, and if the committee has a healthy financial situation, then this money should be used to help with travel funds for young professionals, for example, or other occasional costs. She highlighted the need to be prudent but stated that it is not necessarily good to preserve the money given annually to ICs.

The report from the Working Group on Statutes, Internal Rules and Regulations and Governance was presented by its Chair, Per Rekdal. He explained that the Working Group is new and thus, he would present its mission and intentions rather than results. Its focus is on identifying contested or ambiguous parts of the Statutes and Internal Rules & Regulation as well as inconsistencies between the two, and on pinpointing issues that represent challenges for the Governance. The overarching goal is to allow the governing bodies of ICOM to make well-informed decisions. He then provided a timeline for 2014, with the goal of presenting a draft proposal to the Executive Council by the end of the year. He went on to present a timeline for 2015, encompassing the finalisation of the proposals, which will then go before an Extraordinary General Assembly either in June 2015 or at the Triennial Conference in Milan in 2016. He stated that the first face-to-face meeting of the Working Group would take place over the following two days, and that all communication thus far has been electronic.

Comments and questions followed the Chair's report. Executive Council member Goranka Horjan stated that issues pertaining to membership problems and the legal statutes of ICs have come up repeatedly, and she wished to suggest that ICOM decides what it wants to achieve and then develop models on how to do so.

Executive Council member Tereza Scheiner asked to read a document on behalf of **the Working Group on Criteria and Acceptance Procedures for ICOM members**, stating that the body would not present any report during the Advisory Committee meeting because there had not yet been time to develop the survey that is to be conducted. She added that the aforementioned issues were being discussed by the Working Group as well as the Executive Council, and that at the latter's meeting that week in Paris, a number of proposals for guidelines had been made:

- ICOM should redefine the meaning and limits of the museum and heritage profession according to contemporary culture and social needs, and this must be done as much as possible in compliance with national laws and regulations.
- Museum and heritage professionals (archaeologists, etc., who don't work in museums per se) should have the chance to participate in ICOM as individual members.
- Professionals working in museums and heritage matters can be accepted as ICOM members.
- Museum and heritage-related organisations should help their staff, including unpaid staff members (potentially encompassing volunteers), to become and remain ICOM members.
- NCs should follow the rules and regulations of ICOM and therefore be elected bodies of their members.
- Governmental representatives who are not museum and heritage professionals may act as advisors of NCs, avoiding intervention in their existing structure and decisions.

- Museum professionals in countries without NCs should be able to apply for membership directly to the Secretariat in Paris.
- Professionals who are working in and with museums and heritage institutions and who are not accepted as members by NCs should be able to apply directly to the Secretariat in Paris provided that they're able to prove their importance for the ICOM community.
- ICOM shall develop discussions concerning the revision of the existing categories of members and the criteria for the allocation of members to each category; retired museum professionals may be accepted as ICOM members.
- Museums and heritage professionals who are directly and indirectly involved in the illicit trafficking of natural and cultural heritage shall not be accepted as ICOM members.

She emphasised that these recommendation are the result of collaborative work and reiterated the plan to conduct a survey on NCs, ICs and Affiliated Organisations in order to gather input on opinions and needs in this domain in an organised and scientific manner, in order to present a fair report by June 2015.

The Chair of the Working Group on Statutes, Internal Rules and Regulations and Governance stated the group's willingness to collaborate with all bodies seeking to provide relevant information for it to fulfil its mandate. He welcomed the Executive Council's willingness to have a side group working on this issue and recommended cooperation with them, just as they are cooperating with the Strategic Plan Committee. He highlighted the importance of attaining a coherent result that is free from ambiguity and avoids dilemmas to the extent that this is possible.

No further questions were raised.

The Chair of **the Working Group on the Strategic Plan 2014-2016**, Michael Ryan, made a brief report. He stated that the Committee was appointed in Rio to prepare a Strategic Plan, originally intended to be a 3-year Strategic Plan, a draft of which was supposed to have been presented to the Executive Council at its meeting in April 2014. In its initial meetings, the Working Group set out to design a survey of the network to gain insight into the values, missions and vision of ICOM. Some 200 invitations to participate in the survey were sent out to the network, and 75 or so detailed responses were received. He highlighted that this was an extremely valuable exercise, and the draft plan was submitted to the EC in April as a classic 3-year work programme. He stated his view that 3 years is not a suitable work cycle and that he welcomed the decision to extend the deadline. He welcomed members to continue to voluntarily provide opinions about the vision and values of ICOM, contacting him via email in the coming weeks. He will see that these opinions are taken into account by the Working Group on the Strategic Plan 2014-2016, which will meet in the autumn and inform on subsequent phases of the Strategic Plan.

The report from **STRATEC, the Strategic Plan and Resolutions Monitoring Committee**, was made by its Chair, Wim de Vos. He stated that a questionnaire had been sent to members of the Executive Council 2010-2013 and the NCs, ICs, Regional Alliances and Affiliated Organisations, on the Strategic Plan 2010-2013, concerning membership value and transparency; the development of museum and heritage expertise; ICOM's global leadership; and the development and management of resources to implement the Strategic Plan effectively. He summarised STRATEC's conclusions for the next Strategic Plan: it could last longer than three years, with a vision on the relationship between museums/heritage and global issues, more concrete actions, and the request that the different ICOM bodies relate their actions to the Strategic Plan. He raised the question of whether or not STRATEC is to become a permanent technical committee, and stated that the answer would be provided in two years' time.

No questions or comments were raised in response to this report.

Item 7: Final report of ICOM Rio 2013 General Conference

The Final report on the 2013 ICOM General Conference in Rio de Janeiro was presented by Adriana Mortada, Vice-Chair of ICOM Brazil. She stated that 1,894 registered participants from 103 countries attended the conference, 282 of whom were exempt from paying inscription fees, and noted that for the first time, non-ICOM members participated in a General Conference, with participants able to opt to register for the full event or for separate days. Some 700 Brazilians, half of which were not ICOM members, participated in the conference. The Vice-Chair provided an overview of the many meetings, events and activities held leading up to and during Rio 2013, as well as services and facilities provided during the General Conference. She highlighted the numerous grants to members provided by ICOM, ICOM Brazil, the Getty Foundation, IBRAM, Rio de Janeiro state and city Secretaries of Culture, for travel to Brazil, the Internship Program in a Brazilian Museum in Sao Paulo and the South-South Museum Dialogue. She highlighted the extensive financial support provided by the Brazilian government and private sector Brazilian sponsors, the conference's media impact and its legacies for ICOM and Brazil.

No questions or comments were raised in response to this report.

Item 8: Progress of ICOM Milan 2016 General Conference

The report on the progress of the 2016 General Conference in Milan was made by ICOM Executive Council member Alberto Garlandini. He presented the city and the Conference venue, as well as the theme of Museums and Cultural Landscapes, connected with the aim of having an ICOM Declaration on Museums and Cultural Landscapes be approved in Milan, enabling new strategic objectives and programmes to be set for contemporary museums. He presented the Milano 2016 programme and forthcoming events, including seminars and meetings, which will be held leading up to the General Conference.

No questions or comments were raised in response to this report.

Item 9: Report on the ICOM International Observatory on Illicit Traffic in Cultural Goods

The report on the ICOM International Observatory on Illicit Traffic in Cultural Goods was presented by France Desmarais, Director of the Programmes and Partnerships Department of the ICOM Secretariat. She presented this tool for preventing and fighting the illegal trade in cultural property and related crimes at national and international levels, explaining that the need for it arose from the lack of sufficient data resources, public information, common methods and tools in this domain. The Observatory will enable an efficient network of partners to work together, while deepening ICOM's public service mission and responsibility. The 20 or so partners involved (international organisations, national law enforcement agencies, specialised research institutions, state administrations) meet in Paris twice a year, and will be drafting the final triennial Global Report to be published at the end of this 3-year mission in 2015, offering a general picture of trafficking today through articles, analyses and case studies. She noted that the Observatory's website already contains some 5,000 resources.

No questions or comments were raised in response to this report.

Item 10: Presentation on Intangible Heritage International Journal

The presentation of the *International Journal of Intangible Heritage*, Vol 9 was given by Kiwon Yi of the National Folk Museum of Korea. She announced that the journal will be celebrating its 10th anniversary next year. A call for papers has been put out for Volume 10, with a deadline set for 15 December 2014. She added that all papers may be downloaded for free online. She thanked the Advisory Committee Chair for providing the chance to present the journal and acknowledged the steps ICOM had taken to improve awareness of intangible heritage.

No questions or comments were raised in response to this report.

Item 11: Date and place of the next Advisory Committee meeting in June 2015

It was announced that the next session of the Advisory Committee will be held on 10-12 June, 2015 in Paris. For several reasons this date had to be changed and is now scheduled for 1-3 June, 2015.

Item 12: Other matters

Speaking as Chair of CIDOC, Nicholas Crofts addressed the issue of access to the ICOM newsletter and the improvement of ICOM's publication policy. He noted that the newsletter is no longer password-protected, stating that this is a positive move, and that he wishes to encourage ICOM to go in this direction, as password protection limits access, which is good for confidential information but not for public information. He voiced his opinion that ICOM should remove passwords from material that doesn't require it; additionally, ICOM should make its digital material low bandwidth-friendly, with the awareness that not everyone has access to high-quality high bandwidth speed. Paper format should be available on demand when the need arises, without it being glossy or costly.

The Advisory Committee thus made the recommendation that the ICOM newsletter be made available in a format suitable for low bandwidth connections, and on demand, in printed version.

The Advisory Committee applauded the decision to publish the electronic ICOM newsletter without password protection and recommended that this policy be extended to all non-confidential information.

These proposals were warmly received.

ICOM Ukraine stated that in response to the numerous questions raised about its forthcoming conference on 14-15 November, 2014, they wished to confirm that the conference had not been cancelled, and that a detailed informational letter would be sent out. She added that an extra round table would be organised to discuss the problems faced in Ukraine and a number of other countries, when the state system ceases to work, and policy and legislation are ineffective. She invited colleagues to discuss this ethical problem in the framework of the conference.

Additional session of the Advisory Committee on 4 June, 2014

The Advisory Committee Chair re-opened the Advisory Committee meeting to allow a presentation of the report and recommendations from the separate meetings of the National and International Committees, as outlined in Appendix 1 and 2 respectively.

The following questions and comments were raised in response to these presentations:

- CECA: The percentage of ICOM members belonging to ICs is cited at 38%. It would be useful to have this figure broken down by NCs, for the General Secretariat to see where the problem is and help NCs deal with it.
- DEMHIST: the figure of 38% is surprising for all. Do colleagues have a view on including the word “compulsory” on the application form for ICs?
- The Advisory Committee Chair: This has been discussed previously, and it was stated that ICOM should be a voluntary organisation.
- Samia Slimani: From a legal perspective, there is no obligation in the Statutes or Rules & Regulations, and such a recommendation should be adopted by the General Assembly, the most democratic body of ICOM.
- The Advisory Committee Chair: There could be many inconveniences about making this compulsory.
- ICTOP: As a minimum, it should be compulsory that ICs be listed on application forms.
- ICOM-CC: We have 2,200 members, and if all of a sudden there were 60% more members, the secretary wouldn't be able to handle it. We all want interested members who want to participate, and can make it clear that joining an IC is an option to be seriously considered.
- ICOM Brazil: 80% of ICOM Brazil members are in ICs. On the form, we state that if an IC is not listed, they are free to indicate which one they are interested in. We always encourage members to join an IC.
- The Advisory Committee Chair: Encouragement seems healthier than compulsory membership.
- ICOM Romania: We made the same recommendation as DEMHIST in previous Advisory Committees. It is impossible to be a general lover of museums: preferences should be indicated.
- ICOM Uruguay: Members should be free to choose whether they want to be part of ICs. They should have information but it is of no use to be a member of something they don't want to join.
- ICOM Mexico: Members should be informed of different ICs without it being compulsory to join.
- ICOM Madagascar: NCs are obliged to encourage members to join ICs, but not demand that they do so.
- ICOM Chile: In his experience, requests for information on joining an IC were never answered. ICs should send information to allow interested parties to choose.
- ICOM Hungary: In Eastern Europe, it's a problem to know how to apply for ICs. As to point 4 of the IC Recommendations, this should include not simply a preference but the possibility to join and receive information on ICs.
- The Chair of the Advisory Committee: The form is downloadable on the ICOM website, but perhaps better signage is necessary.
- ICOM Hungary: It is too bureaucratic to have 2 forms.

The Advisory Committee Chair confirmed that the recommendations were received, as well as ensuing comments, and that they would be presented to the Executive Council that afternoon.

The Advisory Committee session was then officially closed.

Appendix 1: National Committees' Recommendations

1. Ki Dong Bae of ICOM Korea was elected spokesperson of the NCs.
2. It is requested that the ICOM Italy questionnaire be resent.
3. With reference to the experience of hosting the 23rd General Conference, it is recommended that a fund be created to cover start-up expenses in the beginning stages of organising General Conferences.
4. It is suggested that best practices be shared following General Conferences.
5. As pertains to membership criteria and categories, it is suggested that membership be considered on the basis of inclusiveness and exclusiveness; it is a question of setting a policy, in addition to defining criteria.
 - 5a. There is an absence of category descriptions in the ICOM Rules & Regulations.
 - 5b. There is concern as to the acceptance of non-museum professionals to ICOM, e.g. volunteers, friends of museums, etc.
 - 5c. Clarification as to the acceptance of new members by the NCs and the role of the ICOM General Secretariat is requested.
6. The Executive Council, the Working Group on Governance, the Strategic Planning Committee and the Legal Affairs Committee are reviewing membership issues. It is proposed that the Executive Council present guidelines to the Advisory Committee in June 2015.
7. In response to the presentation of the Online Membership Directory, NCs shared concerns about issues of access and liability; raised the issue of harmonising national databases with the ICOM international database; noted that the General Secretariat is currently looking into these issues, and that results are expected to be presented to the Advisory Committee by 2016.

Appendix 2: International Committees' Recommendations

1. The General Secretariat should conduct a survey on how ICs manage their finances, both within the HSBC account and within individual IC accounts. The results of the survey would allow a discussion of current and future needs and potentially lead to the creation of joint guidelines for ICs.
2. The General Secretariat should evaluate the functionality and user-friendliness of the new membership database by requesting feedback from the ICs after an initial period of use. The results of this evaluation should then be shared with the membership to support the discussion concerning the further improvement of the application.
3. Given the challenges experienced by NCs in respecting the deadlines regarding membership payments and the challenges this creates for ICs in keeping their membership up to date, we propose that the General Secretariat study how to improve membership processing and make NCs accountable for deadlines that are not respected.
4. ICOM should present a single membership application form for all NCs, including the preference for the IC.
5. To raise awareness of Affiliated Organisations, the membership application form should also contain the list and contact information of these organisations. NCs should also promote ICs and Affiliated Organisations in more effective fashion, be it on their forms or on their websites.
6. Interested Affiliated Organisations should be allowed to present themselves and their interests in co-operation with the ICs during the ICs annual separate meetings.
7. The Advisory Committee should send out a call to all ICs, in co-operation with the Chair of the IC Committee's Meeting, to determine the Agenda items to be addressed during the separate meetings. IC Chairs would be invited to respond and required to indicate their approval of the agenda.
8. In response to the presentation by Samia Slimani, Head of the Legal Affairs Department, the ICs propose that the General Secretariat provide the ICs with a description of the two different options available to the ICs with regards to their legal status, to be presented at the next separate meeting:
 - 8a. Each IC may remain an ICOM committee without becoming a separate legal entity and can be offered the opportunity to establish the delegation of power and signatures.
 - 8b. Each IC may start the process to become a separate legal entity.