

Decisions of the 113rd Session of the Executive Council

1st, 5th and 6th of June 2008, Paris (France)

Summary of the Decisions

1. Partners: ICOMOS and ICOM have laid down solid foundations for a partnership. The Scientific Committees of ICOMOS and the International Committees of ICOM will appoint a contact person to handle scientific exchanges and transmit any information likely to be of mutual interest. Joint meetings will be organised during the respective General Conferences of both Organisations, as well as meetings on specific themes of common interest. ICOM has also decided to include WFFM in discussions about the International Museum Day for 2009: "Museums and Tourism".

Finally, the Executive Council warmly thanked the ICOM Foundation for contributing the sum of Euro 40,000 in 2008.

2. Financial Reports: Council members adopted a series of measures proposed by the Standing Committee on Finance and Resources to ensure the efficient management of the Organisation's finances. The Executive Council also adopted the Financial Statement for 2007, approved the accounts certified by the Auditor, and took note of the financial situation of the Organisation during the first quarter of 2008. The Secretary General *ad interim* will submit a revised and balanced budget for 2008, as well as a draft budget for 2009.

3. Implementation of the 2008-2010 Strategic Plan - Secretariat: **a) Director General:** the recruitment process for a Director General is underway. **b) International Heritage House:** ICOM has received a proposal from the French Ministry of Culture to house ICOM with ICOMOS in the former premises of the school of architecture of Charenton. The Secretary General was entrusted with the task of investigating this proposal further and studying the feasibility of ICOM's participation in this project. The Executive Council gave its approval in principle provided that the financial conditions are in line with the budget of the Organisation. **c) Database:** the Secretary General informed members of the proposed contract submitted by the company DBF; the Executive Council will examine the various proposals in detail.

4. Members: the membership fees for 2009 will not be increased. The decision of the Executive Council will enable certain countries to compensate for losses incurred as a result of paying their dues in euros as of 2009. The Executive Council expressed its satisfaction at the creation of the National Committee of Albania. It also noted that a National Committee is in the process of being set up in Armenia

5. Support for the network in 2009: the Executive Council decided to renew the following three programmes in 2009: financial support to attend the 72nd Session of the Advisory Committee in June 2009; financial support for the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for 2008-2010; through the projects of National Committees, International

Committees and Regional Alliances; and assistance for participation in the meetings of International Committees and Regional Alliances. The final amount allocated to the various programmes will be confirmed by the Executive Council. In the case of the first two programmes, the Council agreed to the deadline of 1st October 2008 for receiving requests. A reply will be sent to all candidates within three weeks, after the meeting of the Peer Jury.

6. Renewal of the Standing Committees / Working Groups / Task Forces: members of ICOM had an opportunity to express their interest in the Standing Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces through a form made available on the ICOM website and in ICOM News, N°1/2008. The Council appointed members to serve on the Standing Committees; Working Groups and Task Forces until 2011.

7. Reports of the Standing Committees / Working Groups / Task Forces: after examining the reports presented by these groups, the Council took the following decisions:

The proposal of the **Ethics Committee** to request former members of the Committee to serve as "reference" members for the purpose of sharing their experience with the Committee was favourably received. The Organisation should also increase the visibility of its decisions relating to ethics.

The **Standing Committee on International Committees (CIC)** will be responsible for allocating an additional sum to International Committees on the basis of their annual report on activities and finances. Furthermore, the proposal put forward by the CIC to allow institutional members to belong to International Committees, depending on the number of cards they possess, will be the subject of further study.

The Executive Council approved the organisation of a workshop on mediation by the **Standing Committee on Legal Affairs** in Paris (France), during the autumn of 2008, as well as in North America in 2009. These workshops could subsequently lead to a training programme and/or a series of mediation workshops.

The Executive Council approved the proposals submitted by the **Standing Committee on Finance and Resources** designed to apply a more rigorous policy on the use of the Reserve Fund. Furthermore, as a follow-up to the decision to manage the Organisation's finances in one currency only, the Council gave its approval for the conversion of the Organisation's US dollar account into euros. As for fundraising, the Executive Council also decided to hire a company specialised in this field.

The **Working Group on Regional Alliances and Regional Affiliated Organisations** submitted for the approval of the Executive Council the creation of a new Regional Alliance, ICOM-South-East Europe (ICOM-SEE), composed of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, ex Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia, Serbia and Romania. Now that this proposal has been adopted by the Council,

ICOM has five active Regional Alliances.

The **Task Force on Disaster Relief for Museums (DRFM)** was the object of an in-depth study aimed at improving its effectiveness. A document explaining its objectives and structure, as well as the conditions for allocating DRFM funds, was drafted and circulated. A programme of activities will complete this document. The Task Force will develop partnerships with Organisations involved in the field of prevention and management of risks.

8. Operating Policies. The Executive Council approved: a) the policies on National Committees (2008/DIV.01) and other Operational Policies (2008/DIV.08); b) it also approved the revised version of the policy applicable to Standing Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces, which now makes it possible to resort to one or several experts in the area of competence required for the activity of the Standing Committee concerned.

The Executive Council decided not to adopt the "ICOM-Fellows" operational policy.

The following operational policies are in the process of being examined: Regional Alliances, Languages, General Conference Guidelines, International Committees, Legal Status, Executive Council, and Institutional Members.

9. General Conferences. The Executive Council duly tabled the technical and financial report presented by ICOM 2007. According to the progress report, the General Conference in 2010 will be held at the site of the universal exhibition to be organised in Shanghai in 2010 (World Expo 2010 Shanghai, China). The three National Committees below have submitted their candidatures to host the 23rd General Conference in 2013. Voting to select the host country will take place during the meeting of June 2009 in Paris (France).

Proposals for 2013

Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, "Museums (memory + creation = social change)", 2 to 8 June

Italy, Milan, "Museums and Cultural Landscapes" 22 to 30 August

Russia, Moscow, "The Role of Museums in Preserving Cultural Diversity throughout the World and in Fostering Dialogue between Civilizations", 14 to 19 September

10. International Museum Day: the theme chosen for the IMD of 2009 is "Museums and Tourism".

11. Meetings of the Governing Bodies

Meeting of the Executive Council: the 114th Session of the Executive Council will take place in Shanghai (People's Republic of China) from 1st to 3rd December 2008.

Meeting of the Advisory Committee: the 72nd Session of the Advisory Committee will take place in Paris (France) from 8 to 10 June 2009. The decisions taken at the 71st Session of the Advisory Committee are available on the ICOM website.

General Assembly: the date of the 21st annual General Assembly is to be confirmed.