

**133<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Executive Council  
Milan, 1 & 2 July, 2016**

**Minutes and Records of Decisions**

**Members attending:**

Prof. Dr Hans-Martin Hinz (Germany), President

Prof. George H. Okello Abungu (Kenya), Vice-President

Prof. Dr Tereza Cristina M. Scheiner (Brazil), Vice-President

Peter Keller (Austria), Treasurer

Dr Ossama A. W. Abdel Meguid (Egypt)

Prof. Dr Laishun An (China)

In-kyung Chang (Republic of Korea)

Luisa de Peña Diaz (Dominican Republic)

Alberto Garlandini (Italy)

Goranka Horjan (Croatia)

Merete Ipsen (Denmark)

Diana Pardue (USA)

Prof. Dr Regine Schulz (Germany)

Suay Aksoy (Turkey), Chair of the Advisory Committee, *ex-officio* member of the Executive Council

**Excused member:**

Dr Willem De Vos (Belgium)

Prof. Dr Anne-Catherine Robert-Hauglustaine was present as Director General.

Aedín Mac Devitt was recording secretary for the meeting.

The session began on 1 July, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

### **President's opening remarks**

The President welcomed all members to the meeting, and thanked ICOM Italy for hosting the meeting in their offices.

He said that the preparation of the General Conference had produced great results so far, with the highest number of participants ever to attend an ICOM General Conference.

He also pointed out that for many of the current EC members, it would be the end of their mandate, some following a three-year mandate, and some after six years. He highlighted that some were running for a second term or for different positions within the EC.

Finally, he thanked the Secretariat for preparing the working documents and for writing the minutes.

### **1/ Approval of the Agenda**

The President presented a new agenda, which included an update regarding the training project proposal in Angola, to be included in Item 14, and presented by Luis Raposo.

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#### **Decision 01**

**The Executive Council approved the agenda for the 133<sup>rd</sup> session of the Executive Council of 1-2 July, 2016, with the above amendment.**

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### **2/ Minutes of the 132<sup>nd</sup> session of 14-15 December, 2015, Paris and of the Extraordinary session of 13 February, 2016, Paris**

George Abungu asked that the following sentence in the last paragraph of page 8 (Item 10) be amended: "*Raphaël Roig commented that the popularity of ICOM-ITC is not down to the number of participants, but to the content.*" He asked that it be rephrased to emphasise that having many participants of diverse origins is also important.

Tereza Scheiner felt that the sentence on the second-last paragraph of Page 16 (Item 20) – "Tereza Scheiner expressed her shock at the proposal and said she was completely against the transfer of the archives" – was an exaggeration of her reaction, and asked that it be rephrased as follows: "Tereza Scheiner said that she did not support the transfer of the archives".

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## Decision 02

The Executive Council approved the minutes for the 132<sup>nd</sup> session of 14-15 December, and of the Extraordinary session of 13, February, 2016, with the above amendments.

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### **3/ Auditor's opinion on the 2015 Financial Statements and SAREC report**

The Treasurer presented the 2015 Financial Statements as outlined in the Working Document. He reminded members that the statements still related to 31 International Committees because at that time, CIMAM was still an IC.

He compared the figures of 2015 to those of 2014 and highlighted the following points in the statements:

- a rise in grants and donations, mostly due to funding from the Getty Foundation for travel grants for the General Conference, and resources carried forward;
- a rise in overhead costs compared to 2014, largely due to the renting of the UNESCO offices, maintenance costs and translation expenses;
- a decrease in consulting fees, compared to 2014 due to one court case being settled; and
- an increase in travel expenses for the president and Secretariat staff as it had been agreed that it was important for the staff to attend meetings and events abroad when required.

He commented that, overall, ICOM's running costs were proportionately lower compared to those of some museums.

When asked how computer maintenance fees had been reduced substantially, the Director General said that it was due to the fact that there was a full-time IT person now working on site and ICOM no longer had to outsource to the same extent. She explained that other practices had also been changed: for instance, rather than automatically renewing computer equipment, tablets could be purchased if required.

The Treasurer asked members to bear in mind, however, that logically, staff expenses would rise to ensure a substantial decrease in maintenance.

Some members expressed their feeling that the overhead costs in the statements were too detailed and this sometimes led to confusion. For instance, there was a separate entry for salaries and payroll.

The Director General explained that this was down to the fact that ICOM had two different offices, and separate accounting was required for each location. She said it would be difficult to report it in another way, but took the members' point that it should be made as clear as possible.

The Treasurer suggested that the list of overhead costs be kept to a maximum of one page.

### **SAREC report**

The Treasurer explained that there had been 204 eligible travel grant applications in 2016, 96 from young members and 108 from board members. The overall budget was € 235,000, and 139 travel grants (68%) were awarded.

He said that three different rates of subsidy were provided to International Committees in 2016:

- a basic subsidy (€850 per IC, 16 % of total funding);
- a membership subsidy (24% of total funding); and
- a performance subsidy (60% of total funding).

The 2016 performance subsidy was raised from 50 to 60 per cent, and the membership subsidy was therefore reduced to 24 per cent of the total subsidy.

The Treasurer explained that although ICs were ranked in terms of size (number of members), he said those committees that were more active were moving up the ranks in terms of subsidies.

Alberto Garlandini said he felt that SAREC should continue to manage the travel grants for the General Conference, as it had worked out well this time. However, he pointed out that many applicants had missed the deadline and that there should be more reminders or the deadline should be revised.

EC members agreed that members should be reminded regularly of the deadline, but acknowledged that it was a competitive process and not everyone could be satisfied.

The Director General explained that Susanne Poverlein was now in charge of coordinating ICOM's technical committees. Due to the workload involved, it made sense to have one person entirely responsible for that, she said.

The Treasurer mentioned that despite having received 16 applications, only eight subventions were given for Special Projects. One member suggested that perhaps committees needed assistance to ensure higher quality proposals.

#### **4/ Report on the 6<sup>th</sup> Seminar of the ICOM International Training Centre, Beijing, 11-19 April, 2016**

Laishun An presented a report on the 6<sup>th</sup> Seminar of ICOM-ITC.

He first told members that the 1<sup>st</sup> of July would mark the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of ICOM-ITC, and that to mark this milestone, a brochure had been produced in the three official languages of ICOM.

He then explained that the theme of the 6<sup>th</sup> seminar had been Current Practices in Museum Management, and that 29 participants from different countries had attended the seminar. Eight lecturers had covered the topics: Managing Exhibitions, the Social Role of Museums, Management Techniques, the Ethics of Collecting, Museum Management in China and a Case Study of the Palace Museum in Management.

He said the 7th and 8th sessions would be held in autumn 2016 and spring 2017 respectively.

The Director General thanked Laishun An for the presentation. She said that she had participated for the first time as a lecturer and representative and felt that both the students and lecturers were exceptional.

One member expressed the view that the ITC governing body and scientific committee should revisit their functions, and that they should be more active in supporting ICOM ITC. Several members suggested that it would be interesting to follow the careers of those who participated in the ICOM-ITC seminars, in the form of a survey for instance.

George Abungu suggested that in order to ensure that the seminars are dealing with emerging issues in the museum field, the following topics should be considered:

- Managing museums in multicultural societies
- Museums and cultural destruction
- Museums and communities
- Regional, national and global – the role of museums in a changing society

It was also suggested that these issues could be proposed as themes for future issues of Museum International. The editor in chief, Tereza Scheiner, agreed with this proposal.

Laishun An thanked the EC members for the encouraging feedback. He pointed out that at the end of each workshop, an anonymous evaluation was carried out through surveys, which broached the training format, methodology, and how the workshops meet participants' expectations.

He added that the third anniversary of ICOM-ITC would be the right moment to evaluate the programme and to explore how ICOM-ITC can contribute to capacity building within ICOM. He suggested that the EC decide on whether a comprehensive evaluation should be done, one not only from the participants' point of view, but an overall evaluation of ICOM-ITC to examine what it can contribute to ICOM.

It was decided that this point would be taken up during the ICOM-ITC governing board meeting.

Before moving on to the next item on the agenda, the President informed EC members of a political issue that had arisen regarding conference participants from China and Taiwan.

He had been informed that Taiwanese delegates were not using their correct name, i.e. referring to their delegation as Taiwan, rather than Taiwan, China.

He reiterated that as an NGO, ICOM does not represent the governments of China or Taiwan, and therefore has to follow certain international standards provided by the UN or UNESCO.

The EC members unanimously agreed that ICOM would adhere to the UNESCO and UN position on this political issue, and that the conference organisers would prepare name plates for Taiwanese colleagues with the following denomination: Taiwan, China.

The members agreed to the following statement being issued:

*ICOM, as an independent, non-governmental organisation, follows the recommendation of the United Nations and UNESCO in referring to the People's Republic of China and Taiwan respectively as follows:*

*China*

*Taiwan, China*

After the EC meeting the President informed ICOM China, Taiwanese colleagues in Milan and the Organizing Committee of Milan 2016 about ICOM's position. He also sent an answering letter to

the Director of the Taiwanese representatives in Italy explaining ICOM's decision to follow UNESCO policy concerning the naming of Taiwan.

## **5/ Situation of ICOM Botswana, ICOM India, ICOM Nepal and ICOM Venezuela (ITEM 11 on the agenda)**

### **ICOM Botswana**

Matteo Tassi, Head of the Membership Department, first explained that ICOM Botswana had asked the Secretariat to consider changing the country's category of membership from 2 to 3, due to the current economic situation. This would reduce Botswana's individual membership fee from 50 eur to 23 eur.

The President commented that it was challenging to consider these types of requests, as ICOM could be seen to be making exceptions for some countries but not others. Personally, he said he would prefer a general reduction in membership fees for some categories – as ICOM did for category 4 a few years ago – instead of exceptions on single requests.

George Abungu gave some background to the situation in Botswana, saying that although the country had been quite prosperous in the past due to its diamond industry, this wealth did not translate into people's pockets, and the country's economic situation had deteriorated. To put things in perspective, he said that 50 eur could represent a month's salary for some individuals, and he felt that it was important to listen to these countries that came to ICOM for help, rather than adhering rigidly to the rules.

This led to a discussion of ICOM's membership policy and how it might be revised to ensure greater equality. For instance, taking into account the fact that countries' economic situations can change drastically and museum professionals are on the lower scale of the income distribution.

The Director General suggested that this issue be brought before FIREC.

The President therefore recommended that the EC would pass on Botswana's request to the newly established sub-committee of FIREC, with a view to providing a response to Botswana by the end of the year.

### **ICOM Venezuela**

Matteo Tassi then explained that ICOM Venezuela had requested to receive the ICOM Fund so that the National Committee could remain active despite the country's economic situation.

The Director General explained that the ICOM Fund had been created in 1991 with the aim of helping NCs in need to remain active. She said the fund was created from a reserve coming from other NCs who transferred a sum in excess of what was due to ICOM, and who don't ask to be refunded. She said that it had been used for ICOM Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake, for instance.

She reiterated the difference between Venezuela's and Botswana's requests, explaining that Venezuela would have to dissolve if they don't receive the ICOM Fund.

The EC members agreed to approve the request of ICOM Venezuela to receive the ICOM Fund.

### **ICOM Nepal**

Matteo Tassi presented the situation with ICOM Nepal, as outlined in the Working Document.

He explained that there had been complaints from some members of the committee regarding the committee's elections procedure.

The President said that following the general meeting organised in May by Mr Birendra Mahato and Mr Christian Manhart, a new board and new Chair had been elected and all seemed to be well. However, it was suggested that the issue be brought before the ICOM Ethics Committee at their meeting to take place during the Milan General Conference.

### **ICOM India**

Vinod Daniel was then invited to give an update on the situation of ICOM in India.

He presented the situation, as outlined in the Working Document, pointing out that the court's ruling was a great outcome for ICOM, as sometimes this type of case could last up to seven years. He also specified that there would be no appeal.

He said that this was a new departure for ICOM in India, who have 45 paid members. He explained that the President has appointed an interim committee which was made up of neutral members with diverse profiles, and that new elections would take place by March 2017. A legal entity for ICOM in India should be established in the next few months. He specified that the two individuals involved in the previous conflict would be able to attend the meetings as invitees.

Vinod Daniel was appointed Chair of the interim committee and will give a progress-report to the President and the Executive Council.

The EC members congratulated Vinod Daniel for his work in bringing this issue to a close.

When asked whether his status as a candidate for the next EC would interfere with his position as coordinator of ICOM India, the President responded that it was not an official office, but an interim role with a view to establishing a new office for ICOM India.

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### **Decision 03**

**The Executive Council approves the request of ICOM Venezuela to receive the ICOM Fund.**

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## **6/ Creation and dissolution of National Committees, Regional Alliances and Affiliated Organisations (Item 12 on the agenda)**

### **a) Creation and dissolution of National Committees**

Matteo Tassi explained the background to Jordan's request to re-establish its National Committee, as outlined in the Working Document.

The Director General said she would go to Jordan in October to talk about the situation of science museums there. She said that it would also be an opportunity to see how ICOM activities could be developed in the region.

Ossama El Meguid said ICOM Arab was working hard to increase membership in the region and would like to know what ICOM's needs are so they could identify ways to support the organisation.

Many members commented on the increasing interest in culture in the Arab world and felt that ICOM should capitalise on this interest to increase its presence in the region.

#### **B) Creation of a new Regional Alliance: ICOM-CIMAO**

Renata Kaminker, Institutional Procedures Coordinator, presented the item pertaining to the proposal of a new Regional Alliance, CIMAO (Alliance regionale du Conseil international des musees de l'Afrique de l'Ouest).

She said that the Secretariat had requested official documentation for the creation of this alliance, and that this was sent in April 2016. She said seven countries were now involved and that everything seemed to be in order.

They have drafted an action plan for next three years, she explained, which includes funding sources.

Some members discussed concerns as to whether ICOM could really support another Regional Alliance. However, it was agreed that this was a good initiative, bringing countries in English- and French-speaking Africa together.

#### **c) Creation of a new Affiliated Organisation: Asociacion de museos maritimos del mediterraneo**

Renata Kaminker presented the item as outlined in the Working Document. She confirmed that the Organisation has sent all the relevant documentation back.

Some members questioned the benefit of the affiliation of organisations to ICOM; however, others felt that ICOM should support those organisations who are active and eager to work.

One member brought up the fact that there was no representation from North Africa on the board of the Affiliated Organisation.

It was therefore agreed that a letter would be sent to the organisation confirming its acceptance, but requested that the entire Mediterranean region be represented.

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#### **Decision 04**

**The Executive Council approves the re-establishment of the National Committee of Jordan and the creation of the Regional Alliance, ICOM-CIMAO (Alliance regionale du Conseil international des musees de l'Afrique de l'Ouest). The Executive also approves the provision of Affiliated Organisation status to AMMM provided the entire Mediterranean region is represented in the organisation.**

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## **6/ Final report on the International Observatory on illicit traffic (Item 9 on the agenda)**

France Desmarais, Head of the Programmes and Partnerships department gave the final report on the International Observatory on Illicit traffic in Cultural Goods.

She explained that the observatory was born of the need to gain data on illicit traffic in cultural objects, which is estimated as the third-highest ranking crime in the world. The observatory's ultimate aim was to combat illicit traffic in cultural objects worldwide and to this end the project included research, expert meetings and a publication.

The first phase of the Observatory was concluded in 2015, she said, and they were looking at how a second phase could be developed.

Ossama Abdel El Meguid said that ICOM Arab wished to establish an observatory based on the ICOM one. He said a project would be submitted to ICOM.

One member queried if and how ICOM could obtain funding to influence governments to address this problem, particularly in some African countries where individuals are working to tackle the issue.

France Desmarais answered that the problem was that some countries lacked a legal framework to protect cultural heritage and under these circumstances funding was not possible. However, she told members that the Red List of West African Cultural Objects at Risk would be launched in Bamako, Mali in autumn 2016, and that training sessions for customs agents in West Africa would be proposed to coincide with the event.

When asked whether art dealers were making use of the Observatory, France Desmarais replied that the Observatory was not working with them directly, in keeping with the ICOM Code of Ethics, which discourages any relationship with the art market.

## **7/ Report and final programme of the 24<sup>th</sup> ICOM General Conference 2016, 3-9 July 2016, Milan (Item 5 on the agenda)**

Alberto Garlandini presented the item as outlined in the Working Document. He said that the conference promotion, registration, and participation had been very successful.

He confirmed the final number of participants at around 3,500, which had exceeded expectations. He said 129 countries were represented.

He pointed out that there had been a lot of online and social media activity around the conference, which had helped in promoting it.

He explained that in terms of public and private support, income for the conference budget was divided in three parts: one third from public contribution, another third from the participant fees, and another from exhibitors and private sponsors.

He confirmed that the accounts were in a healthy state..

The EC members congratulated Alberto Garlandini on the great result.

The Director General commented that it had been her first General Conference as Director General, and that it had been a pleasure working with Alberto Garlandini. She confirmed that there would be no deficit.

Alberto Garlandini pointed out that it would be vital to ensure that knowledge was passed on from one conference organiser to the next.

When asked if the ICOM Kyoto 2019 organisers would have to work with a Professional Conference Organiser, the Director General replied that there was no obligation.

The President confirmed that the last step for Milan 2016 would be the submission of a final report from the Organising Committee.

### **8/ Agenda for the Advisory Committee meetings of 3 and 9 July 2016, Milan (Item 6 on the agenda)**

Suay Aksoy, the Chair of the Advisory Committee, presented the agenda of the Advisory Committee meetings to be held at the Milan General Conference.

She explained that some items had to be moved from the Advisory Committee meeting agenda to the National and International Committee separate meetings.

When asked who would chair the National and International Committee separate meetings, she replied that it would be Kidong Bae for the National Committees and Carina Jaatinen for the International Committees.

She explained that as Carina Jaatinen was a candidate for the Executive Council, she had asked her to present Kristiane Straetkvern, Chair of ICOM-CC, who would act as spokesperson.

She explained that the election of the Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee meeting would take place in the afternoon of 9 July, after the new Executive Council and Chair of the Advisory Committee had been elected.

She explained that the result of the election of the Advisory Committee Chair would be known by Tuesday evening, and that the result would be posted on social networks.

There was a question as to whether candidates for Advisory Committee Chair or Vice-Chair must be members of the Advisory Committee. The Director General replied that technically they needed not, and that the current Vice-Chair candidates were not AC members.

Some members pointed out that this was not clear in the Statutes and that many members assumed that in order to be a candidate, one had to be a member of the AC.

### **9/ New ICOM website and new branding for ICOM (Item 10 on the agenda)**

Maria Gatón, Head of the Communications and Public Relations department, presented the plans for the new ICOM website.

She explained that the current one had been developed in 2010 and it therefore needed to be adapted to today's technology and the new types of websites that connect with museum professionals.

She explained that the new website project would be a dynamic, vibrant reference webpage for museum professionals and ICOM members young and old.

She said that there would be a more fluid flux of information between ICOM members, who are active in social media.

She also emphasised the importance of showing ICOM faces as ICOM is not a museum website, but an organisation made up of people. There were therefore plans to introduce pages with interviews for instance, she said.

When asked if the website would be accessible to all in terms of readability, she confirmed that accessibility was a priority in developing this new website.

In answer to many queries, she also confirmed that the mini-website system for committees would still be available, and that the mini-websites would be updated to comply with the new website.

One member suggested that in addition to showing the faces of the ICOM membership, it would be good to highlight Best Practices to create positive competition.

Some members expressed the need for a comprehensive communications strategy with an overall approach, which would include all the various media.

Others wondered whether member contributions and comments would be strictly controlled as in the past. The Director General replied that ICOM's communications policy in this respect was now more open, but that some caution still needed to be exercised and that a balance between good communication levels for members and openness to the rest of world was necessary.

Maria Gatón confirmed that google translate would be available on the new website and that the team was working hard on developing a strong search functionality.

Finally, one member requested an FAQ feature on the new website as well as reminders on deadlines for submitting projects for SAREC, etc.

Maria Gatón said that all comments had been noted and that they would all be taken into consideration.

She then presented briefly some statistics in relation to IMD 2016, notably that museums in around 116 countries had participated, and that 27,000 people had been reached through the IMD Facebook page.

## **Branding**

Bastien Noël presented the evolution of the ICOM logo over the years in terms of shape, typography, etc. and presented the new logo that would be unveiled during the conference. He said the M was in Georgia letters – a font used by everyone and available in every language. He explained that the logo could be presented in monolingual or trilingual versions.

International Committees could choose different colours, he said, as long as they maintain the M. He said a graphic chart would be made available to explain to committees how it should be used.

The logo would be promoted during the conference, he said, and goodies would be given to all conference participants, including a usb key with personalised logos, a model for business cards and a model for the letter M.

The treasurer expressed his opinion that a more general approach to branding was still lacking and that the logo was being introduced before the branding strategy was clear. Bastien Noël replied that he hoped to work with the Strategic Plan Committee in the future, but that more staff or coordinated processes would be needed to bring about this goal.

Another member commented that the EC had not been informed of the final logo process and that some members were already advertising the final logo without their agreement.

The Director General said that the final decision had been made with the President as it had been impossible to answer all requirements. She is aware that branding is not just a logo, she said, but ICOM's 70th anniversary was a good time to launch the logo and the discussion on branding would continue now that a new Strategic Plan would be in place.

Several members agreed that although the process has not been ideal, it had been the right time to launch the logo at the General Conference.

#### **10/ Final programme of activities for the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ICOM (Item 7 on the agenda)**

Francois Mairesse presented the final details for the exhibition celebrating ICOM's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, *Where ICOM From*. He explained that the exhibition would span 200m<sup>2</sup> and that the space could accommodate 60 or 70 people at a time. The exhibition would include a timeline illustrating different events from the beginning of ICOM to the present date and a film of interviews with key ICOM members, in a mix of English, French and Spanish. He then showed members the teaser for the exhibition.

#### **11/ Update on Legal Affairs Committee activities and update on WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights Exceptions and Limitations for Museums (Item 20 on the agenda)**

Rina Pantalony, Chair of the ICOM Legal Affairs Committee, presented the item as outlined in the Working Document.

##### 1) ICOM-WIPO Mediation Programme:

She spoke of potential next steps for the ICOM-WIPO mediation programme and how it could be developed.

She explained that when she joined LAC the mediation programme had already been well developed by the committee, but that changes in the Secretariat had stalled the programme. She said that the benefits of mediation were clear because costs are capped at 10,000 USD, whereas litigation costs are not capped and can add up to millions.

In addition, she said, mediation is confidential so there is no public coverage, whereas with litigation, a museum's dirty laundry is aired in public, which can place museums in a compromising situation.

She said that although WIPO will manage the programme, ICOM's integration is essential to ensure impartiality, and the association of the ICOM name is also important.

She said next steps would be to examine the legal structure of the programme.

When asked why mediators would sign up for this programme, she replied that it was a combination of goodwill and the fact that those who already have a robust legal practice could promote their practice that way.

When one member suggested that it may not be such a bad thing to air a museum's dirty laundry in public, she explained that in some cases it can bring negative publicity to a museum when the institution itself is not at the source of the litigation. She suggested it was important that a cost/benefit analysis be carried out before going to trial, and in her opinion, the confidentiality aspect of the mediation programme was an important selling point.

Several members expressed their satisfaction that the Mediation programme was being developed.

When asked about the mediators, Rina Pantalony explained that there was a list of qualified mediators. They would not need specific training but needed to do lots of reading. She said it was important to remove the Secretariat from the mix because it was a full-time job.

In answer to some queries from members, Rina Pantalony said that it would be inappropriate for members of the Legal Affairs Committee to provide advice to ICOM on hard cases.

The Director General said she agreed that there was a confidentiality issue and that ICOM would need an independent lawyer. She had suggested to Rina Pantalony that France Desmarais be the key contact person for LAC. She expressed her view that there was therefore no need for a full-time lawyer at ICOM.

To this, Rina Pantalony added that in terms of policy, ICOM needed legal counsel from someone in a quasi-academic role, someone who would have distance from the general counsel office. For hard-law cases, an external opinion would be best, she said.

## 2) Illicit traffic

Rina Pantalony explained that France Desmarais had joined the Legal Affairs Committee in January and spoke about ICOM's work to combat illicit traffic, including its Red List programme, and of ICOM's position on the creation of safe havens for artefacts in jurisdictions of crisis.

She said LAC was now working on ICOM guidelines for the management of objects in safe havens.

## 3) Exceptions to copyright for museums

Rina Pantalony explained that as we are operating today in a very digital space, technology is being used to communicate for scholarly purposes also. She said that there were complicated issues in trying to preserve material that need some sort of regulatory solution.

She explained that the Legal Affairs Committee had been advocating for copyright exceptions for museums since 2013 and has represented ICOM at WIPO's Standing Committee on copyright and related rights (SCCRR) regarding exceptions and limitations for museums bi-annually since then.

She explained that the EU has taken the hard position that there will be no exceptions to copyright, with licensing presented as a possible solution. However, she cited the example of the British Library, where a licensing attempt failed as there are so many complicated issues involved. She pointed out that although the US position is a soft law approach to bring in exceptions, the EU has maintained its hard line on this issue.

She recommended that EC members within the EU should impress on members states and ministries that museums' voices need to be heard on this issue.

**12/ Report from the ICOM's 'museum' definition Working Group and Presentation of the Ethics Publication: "Museums, Ethics and Cultural Heritage"**

Bernice Murphy presented the item as outlined in the Working Document. She discussed the various reforms the museum definition had gone through over the years, and expressed her view that the definition could be written today in a way that includes the aspirations of our changing society and how it is impacting on museums.

She said that if there were to be a change, it could be specified that the new definition did not rescind any previous one, and that it was expected that any museum would observe A code of ethics (not necessarily the ICOM one).

In terms of her participation in the Working Group, she said that she had acted more as an editor, and that the new EC now needed to take it forward.

She also said that she wished to step down as Chair, and suggested Jette Sandahl as a possible successor.

Suay Aksoy commended Bernice Murphy on the wonderful job she had done, by bringing the best out of everyone and treating all members equally. She had brought the project to a mature phase and was now ready to hand it over.

Bernice Murphy then spoke briefly about the publication *Museums, Ethics and Cultural Heritage*, which had just been delivered in Milan. She thanked the President and Regine Schulz from the Ethics Committee for backing the project.

She spoke of the challenges faced with a short delivery timeline, but also of her satisfaction with the end result.

She also thanked Aedin Mac Devitt, with whom she had formed an excellent partnership to get the book produced.

**13/ Endorsement of Ethical tools produced by ICOM International Committees and publication of guidelines on deaccessioning by the Ethics Committee (Item 15 on the agenda)**

Raphaël Roig presented the item as outlined in the Working Document.

**Endorsement of Ethical tools produced by ICOM International Committees**

Raphaël Roig explained that some standards and guidelines were drafted by the network and that the Secretariat was not always aware of these. However, it was important to promote these tools and he therefore asked the EC to approve the endorsement and promotion of the following ethical tools as official ICOM tools, in order to give visibility to the work of the International Committees:

- Statement of Principles on Museum Documentation (CIDOC)
- Recommendations for regulating the access to musical instruments in public collections (CIMCIM)
- ICOM-CC definition of conservator-restorer (currently being re-drafted by ICOM-CC)

## **Guidelines on deaccessioning**

Raphaël Roig explained that although the Code of Ethics did deal with deaccessioning, some points were not clear enough if one does not have expertise in the area.

Two members of the Ethics Committee, Sally Yerkovich and Richard Aydon, were therefore mandated to draft the International Guidelines on Acquisitions, Deaccessioning and Disposal.

He said the document had been circulated to members of the Ethics Committee for their approval, and that once there is a version they are satisfied with, it will be sent to the EC for feedback.

## **14/ Activities for Africa**

### **Update on Algeria project**

Raphaël Roig presented the item as outlined in the Working Document.

He explained that although the request had been for traditional museum training in conservation and collections management, he had discovered that because many of the museums involved were archaeological institutions, they had already been trained extensively on these issues.

He explained that they had therefore tried to focus the training on community inclusion, development, etc. but the authorities had preferred that they stick to a more traditional curriculum.

Many EC members expressed their surprise at these issues raised by Raphael Roig and questioned the purpose of ICOM's involvement in the programme. He replied that they did not have a lot of leeway but were trying to find solutions. For instance, they tried to make certain training sessions such as exhibition management more relevant for the students, by choosing adapted formats, such as brainstorming sessions.

He said that ICOM would have the copyright of the training corpus, which could be used elsewhere. The programme would therefore help ICOM to gain experience in the training sector. He said ICOM was not competing with universities but has added value in creating practical, hands-on programmes.

When asked, he confirmed that there would be a session based on the ICOM Code of Ethics.

He also mentioned that despite contacting members of the ICOM network in order to identify possible trainers, there had been a limited response, although ICOM Switzerland had been helpful, he said.

### **Angola training project**

The President then welcomed Luis Raposo, who spoke about the training project, a permanent ICOM-ITC for Africa, in Angola. He said that the project had been on hold due to several governmental and economic changes in Angola, including the appointment of a new Minister for Culture. Angolan interlocutors had maintained contact with him, however, and the possibility of two seminars to be held in the existing facilities had been presented. The budget presented for these seminars would seem to be credible, he said.

He said a report would be presented to ICOM for assessment.

Several members said that they were pleased to hear that this project was developing.

### **15/ Report on the Secretariat's activities (Item 8 on the agenda)**

The Director General started by thanking the Executive Council, in which she had spent one year as treasurer and then two years as DG.

She explained that following the reorganisation of the Secretariat, she and the President had agreed that for one year, the structure in place would not change. The DG said that following that year, she suggested some changes that she hoped had helped to improve the conditions of the staff.

She first spoke about the publications and communications departments. She confirmed that due to the heavy workload in publications, Sara Heft would move back to the publications department from communications. This would ensure publications activity could be reinforced. A person would therefore need to be recruited for communications/event management, she said, as Amelie Zanetti would be staying for one year only in accordance with her agreed contract.

Regarding the programmes department, she explained that while some members of the team had wished to evolve into a more senior position, it would make no sense to create additional hierarchy within a small department. Therefore, Susanne Poverlein took on a new position created to manage the standing committees. Meanwhile, Renata Kaminker, who had worked on the Red Lists for five years, moved to the legal affairs department when an opportunity arose.

As for the membership department, the DG clarified that all members of the team would be responsible for different National Committees under the supervision of Matteo Tassi. Monica Gaitan will be the key contact person for the financial aspects, she said.

She said that Isabelle Demangeot, as Head of Finance and Administration, was now responsible for a larger department, and may need additional reinforcement.

She then spoke of the numerous upcoming projects in ICOM, including the pilot project for the membership database, a report on the 1954 Hague Convention, the Algeria training project, continued collaboration with WIPO and various MoUs.

She reminded members that ICOM was separate from the Endowment Fund and that the new EC would need to establish a clear way of working for both entities. She reiterated that it made sense that the ICOM Endowment Fund would support ICOM projects.

### **12/ Next Executive Council meetings (Item 21 on the agenda)**

Due to time constraints, the Executive Council passed over some remaining items on the agenda (13, 16, 17 and 18) to the next Executive.

The President confirmed that the first meeting of the new Executive Council would take place on 9 July at 5:30 p.m.

Before the meeting was concluded, the President thanked the EC, DG and Secretariat for all their work during his mandate. He extended a special thanks to Margarida Ascenso who had assisted him greatly during this time.

George Abungu thanked everyone and especially the President and DG for the great progress that had been made, which showed in the Secretariat's work, he said.

Tereza Scheiner also thanked the President for his great commitment to ICOM over the years.

The President closed the meeting at 6 p.m.