

Resolution No. 1: Protection and Promotion of Universal Heritage with Respect for Cultural and Natural Diversity (S.O. 1)*

ICOM's General Assembly held in Vienna, Austria, on 24 August 2007 promotes the protection of and wider access to Universal Heritage as encompassing natural and cultural, tangible and intangible, movable and immovable heritage, regardless of national boundaries or particular interests and with respect for diversity (as per Resolution No. 1 of the 19th General Assembly of ICOM, Melbourne, Australia, 1998 and Resolution No. 1 of the 21st General Assembly of ICOM, Seoul, Korea, 2004).

1.1 Policy Framework

ICOM considers the 2001 *Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity* (UNESCO) as the framework for promoting cultural diversity and universal heritage through strategic partnerships. The ICOM General Assembly recommends

- that National Committees exert influence on their respective governments to become State Parties to the UNESCO *Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions* (Paris, 20 October 2005); as well as
- enhanced partnerships with other organisations and concrete joint committee actions within ICOM in this context.

1.2 Building Partnerships

In order to strengthen and expand its global network with existing and new strategic partners, the ICOM General Assembly recommends

- the establishment of more functional collaboration with inter-governmental organisations (e.g. UNESCO, ICCROM, INTERPOL, WIPO), international non-governmental organisations (e.g. ICOMOS, IFLA, ICA, WCO, WFFM), national heritage organisations, including associations of museums, galleries, archives and libraries, as well as teaching and research institutions of higher education and their associations (e.g. IAU); and
- the participation in programmes that demonstrate the contemporary value of historic rights issues such as the UNESCO – Slave Route Project; or the mutual reinforcement of capacities such as the International Bar Association (IBA)–Mediation Programme.

MAC and the Caribbean Inventory on the Slave Route Project

Ieteke Witteveen, *President, Museums Association of the Caribbean (MAC), Director, National Archeologisch & Anthropologisch Museum (Curaçao)*

In 1999, the Museums Association of the Caribbean (MAC) started the Caribbean Inventory on the Places of Memory as part of the UNESCO-WTO Slave Route Project.

> Twenty of the thirty-three Caribbean territories did submit a total of three hundred and twenty-seven National Listing Survey Forms. The report that was presented to UNESCO in 2001 did not result in major and joint follow-up. However, the Slave Route Project did stimulate new research and educational projects in several of the participating territories like the Troubadoure Project in Turks and Caicos, exhibitions on the Heritage of Slavery in islands such as St. Croix, Curaçao and Surinam, workshops like the children's programming on "Slavery, Abolition and Emancipation 1807-2007", in Bahamas, by the Commonwealth Association of Museums, and the list goes on.

> In 2007, at the MAC Annual Meeting and Conference, 7-11 November in Santiago, Dominican Republic, MAC presented a new Slave Route Project to give the people of the Caribbean a clear understanding of the role of Africa in the formation of Caribbean society through the museums and cultural heritage institutions. Research priority will be given to the identification and preservation of historical archeological sites and the intangible heritage connected to these. Tentatively entitled "Archeology of Memory", initial studies are to include the memory of marronage; and moveable cultural heritage in the form of "objects of remembrance".

> After discussion and approval at the Annual Meeting and Conference, MAC is presenting the project to ICOM-LAC and the UNESCO offices in Jamaica and Cuba for support. MAC invites ICOM's individual and institutional members to get involved and offer suggestions regarding funding and hosting of research and study components of the "Slave Route Project-Part 2" in coordination with museums in the Caribbean and Africa as well as in the United States and Europe.

Email: <ieteke@onenet.an> <naamna@onenet.an>

MAC website: <http://www.caribbeanmuseums.com/>

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS - *See the Strategic Plan (2008-2010)

UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (1946, Paris) www.unesco.org/fr

ICCROM - International Center for the Study and Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (1957, UNESCO General Conference Resolution adopted in New Delhi, established in Rome since 1958) www.iccrom.org/

INTERPOL-ICPC International Criminal Police Organization (Founded in 1923, Vienna, Austria; headquarters in Lyon, France). www.interpol.int/

WCO - World Customs Organization (Organised in 1947; established as the CCC in Brussels, Belgium since 1952). www.wcoomd.org

WIPO - World Intellectual Property Organization (United Nations agency established by Convention of 1964, Geneva). www.wipo.int/

ICOMOS - International Committee on Monuments and Sites (founded by UNESCO at the Second Congress of Architects and Specialists of Historic Buildings, Venice, 1964, established in Paris). www.international.icomos.org/

IBA - International Bar Association (founded in 1947 in New York, headquarters in London). www.ibanet.org

ICA - International Council of Archivists (1948, Paris). www.ica.org/fr

IAU - International Association of Universities (founded in 1950 in Nice, established in Paris, Maison de l'UNESCO). www.unesco.org/iau/

WFFM - World Federation of Friends of Museums (Founded in 1975 in Brussels, Belgium; Executive Secretariat in Polanco, Mexico) www.museumfriends.com/

IFLA - International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (Founded in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1927, established at the Royal Library, The Hague, Netherlands) www.ifla.org/

*The 4 Strategic Objectives

S.O.1 Strengthen ICOM's global impact.

S.O.2 Provide leadership in advocating the value of heritage.

S.O.3 Champion effectiveness and high standards in museums.

S.O.4 Ensure the resources required to effectively implement the Strategic Plan.