

Press Release

Paris, 5 July, 2013

Launch of the ICOM International Training Centre, Beijing, China

The ICOM International Training Centre for Museum Studies in Beijing, China, was launched officially during a four-day event organised jointly by ICOM China and the Palace Museum from 30 June to 3 July, 2013.



Representatives from ICOM, ICOM China and the Palace Museum and experts during the Launch of the ICOM International Training Centre @Palace Museum, Beijing

The opening event also marked the signing of an Agreement between ICOM, the Palace Museum and ICOM China, which defines the framework of cooperation.

The aim of the Centre is to promote research and exchange among museums on an international level and to develop museum expertise among professionals from developing countries, especially those from the Asia-Pacific region. The Centre will study the current situation and future trends of museums and the development of models for museums through the organisation of training programmes targeting ICOM members from developing countries specifically.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the two main partners of the Centre, ICOM China and the Palace Museum, in January 2013, confirming the latter's commitment to providing support in terms of logistics and human resources to assist in the running of the Centre. The launch was an opportunity for ICOM to show its full support to the Centre and to determine orientations for the programmes that it will offer to trainees.

Following the launch, a workshop on the development of the Centre's programme featured a panel of international experts who offered advice and direction on the Centre's curriculum, and exchange on the needs and expectations of museum professionals from China and other regions.



Signature of the Framework Agreement by Dr. Hans-Martin Hinz, President of ICOM, Dr. Song Xinchao, Chair of ICOM China and Dr. Shan Jixiang, Director of the Palace Museum.

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Dr. Hans-Martin Hinz, Dr. Song Xinchao and Dr. Shan Jixiang unveiling the new sign for the ICOM International Training Center for Museum Studies.

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International Council of Museums - ICOM

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ICOM in brief

The International Council of Museums (ICOM), created in 1946, is the world organisation representing museums and museum professionals, committed to the promotion and protection of natural and cultural heritage, present and future, tangible and intangible. With approximately 30,000 members in 137 countries, ICOM is a unique network of museum professionals acting in a wide range of museum-and heritage-related disciplines.

ICOM is:

- A diplomatic forum made up of representatives from 137 countries and territories
- Standards of excellence for museums, specifically regarding ethics, with its *ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums*
- A unique network made up of almost 30,000 museum professionals at an international level
- An international think-tank composed of 31 International Committees representing museum specialties
- International public service missions, specifically through its programmes aimed at fighting illicit traffic in cultural goods and the museum emergency programme in case of natural disasters or armed conflicts.

For any matter related to the global museum community and to interview the Acting Director General of ICOM: Aurélie AUBOURG - Tel. + 33 1 47 34 91 63 – icom.presse@icom.museum