Minutes of the 77ᵗʰ and 78ᵗʰ sessions of the Advisory Committee Meeting

23ʳᵈ ICOM General Conference – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 11 and 17 August, 2013

> **Minutes of the 77ᵗʰ session of the Advisory Committee**
> **Meeting of 11 August, 2013**

Item 0: Agenda

0.1: Opening

The session opened with an address by Knut Wik, Chair of the Advisory Committee, welcoming the attendees to the 77ᵗʰ Session of the ICOM Advisory Committee and highlighting the arrival of new members and Chairpersons. The Chair reminded participants of the functions of the Advisory Committee, quoting article 14 of ICOM's Statutes. He thus stated that the Advisory Committee advises the Executive Council and the General Assembly on general ICOM matters.

0.2: *In Memoriam*

Recalling the colleagues and members that have passed away since the last session of the Advisory Committee, he requested a minute's silence *in memoriam* for:

E.A Asante: Chair, ICOM Ghana
Roger M. Heeler: Treasurer, COMCOL (2009-2012)
Ulla Keding-Olofsson: Chair, ICOM Sweden (1986-1992); Board member of INTERCOM (1989-1992); Executive Council member (1972-1974, 1977-1983); Secretary of CECA (1974-1977)
Thomas Messer: Director Emeritus, Solomon Guggenheim Foundation, New York
Giuseppe Panza Di Biumo: Honorary Member of the ICOM Foundation and Patron Member of CIMAM
François Sigaut: President of AIMA
Francisco Xavier Yambo: Chair, ICOM Angola
Ayala Zacks-Abramov: former Board Member of CIMAM and Honorary Member of ICOM

0.3: Welcome to Partners of ICOM

The Chair invited special guests at the meeting to briefly introduce themselves. These were:

- Katriina Similä, ICCROM's Project Manager
  She introduced ICCROM and said that they were here to listen and better understand what their colleagues wished to preserve, why they do it and what methods they use. She concluded by stating that ICCROM is pleased that several colleagues are active in both ICOM and ICCROM.
- Daniel Ben-Natan, President of the World Federation of Friends of Museums (WFFM)
  He highlighted the importance of friends and volunteers in museums, as it is they who lobby

on behalf of museums and their needs, supporting them financially and personally and in a voluntary manner. The President of WFFM said they regarded museum professionals as their partners, and that as the global crisis impacted on budgets for culture and museums, they looked to ICOM and museum professionals to unite and intensify the role of museums in society. He mentioned the Memorandum of Understanding signed between ICOM and WFFM in 2007, which is to be renewed in 2013. He concluded by saying that although unfortunately volunteers are not always understood or welcomed by professionals for fear that they might replace them, it was important for museum professionals to embrace them.

0.4: Approval of the Agenda
The Agenda was unanimously approved.

The Chair of the Advisory Committee confirmed that the quorum for this meeting had been reached and the meeting could thus continue.

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the 76th Session of the Advisory Committee meeting of June 2012

The minutes were unanimously approved.

Item 2: Introduction of the new members

The new Chairs of the National Committees, International Committees and Affiliated Organisations were asked to stand up so that everyone could see the new members of the Advisory Committee.

Item 3: Report on the recent developments in ICOM Secretariat by ICOM President

Hans-Martin Hinz, President of ICOM, gave a brief report on the recent issues within ICOM Secretariat, underlining that it was not the President's report, which would be delivered later.
The President reminded the AC members that aside from the four letters of information he provided to them, he also made the decision to stop the hire and fire policy prevalent in the Secretariat and put this decision into action by stopping a dismissal process in December 2012. He then asked two members of the Executive Council to conduct interviews with the relevant employees to get an insight into what was happening and consequently he was presented with a confidential report in February 2013. The Bureau of the Executive Council was informed at all times.

In order to protect ICOM's integrity and being legally responsible, the President made sure that an ICOM staff member that was threatening to sue the organisation dropped the charges, and that following confidential discussions and negotiations, the Director of Administration and Finance and the Director General were dismissed.

The Executive Council then established a working group under the leadership of Daniele Jallà, member of the Executive Council, in order to undertake a broader analysis of the Secretariat and issue recommendations for its future development. An oral report was presented to the Executive Council meeting in Rio the day before the meeting of the Advisory Committee.

The President announced that structural reforms would continue to be implemented until the end of this year so as to ensure the good functioning of the ICOM Secretariat. He ended by thanking Hanna Pennock, who was asked to be interim Director General, for her work.

Emma Nardi, Chair of CECA, commented that harassment was a very serious matter, but wished to stress that problems had begun beforehand with the need to transfer the International Committees' bank accounts to Paris and the request made by the International Committees to receive more funding from ICOM.

Michel Polfer, Chair of ICOM Luxembourg, asked, in regard to the former Director General, whether he was dismissed or if he left voluntarily and what actions ICOM has taken in court. The President responded that the Director General had been dismissed in April following advice from lawyers regarding French Labour law, and confirmed that he had returned to his permanent position at the French Ministry of Culture. The President said that he was still in contact with the lawyers regarding court action as the former Director General's lawyers had requested monetary compensation from ICOM for being dismissed. The Chair of ICOM Luxembourg asked for confirmation as to whether ICOM had taken legal action against the former Director General, to which the President answered in the negative.

Stephen Cannon-Brookes, Chair of ICAMT, asked for reassurance on this matter as so many decisions that are important appeared to be made in isolation of the Advisory Committee and the membership. He said he would like the Executive Council to have enough confidence in the membership to keep them better informed. The comment was greeted with general applause.

Piet de Gryse, Chair of ICOMAM, mentioned that the President had written a letter saying that Hanna Pennock was willing to take over as interim Director General, but wondered what would happen in the future, what were the recruitment procedures, when would they start and whether they would look within the ICOM community.

Hanna Pennock, interim Director General of ICOM, confirmed that she would remain until the end of the year. Strict procedures to find a new Director General before the end of the year were to be implemented and though it was a short period of time she wanted to achieve that. She then said that National and International Committees would be involved and announcements posted on the relevant international newspapers and media, ICOM's website and ICOMMUNITY.

Item 4: Election of the Executive Council: elections procedure and organisation

Carina Jaatinen, Chair of ICOM Finland and Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, and Kwame Sarpong, Chair of ICOM Ghana, Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee and Elections Officer, presented the elections procedure and organisation and announced that they would both supervise the elections.

The elections procedures for both the Executive Council and for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee, and the elections calendar were presented. The Secretariat reported that they had received 22 applications and two late applications for the Executive Council. The validity process was completed and concerned only the applications received on time. During this process, one more application was submitted.

The Elections Committee validated 22 applications and rejected three. Between March and April they encountered several issues. The Committee received a request to reconsider one of the applications which was not validated as signatures were missing. Based on a request from the rejected candidate, the Committee reviewed the physical documents at the premises of the Secretariat. After reconsideration the Committee decided still not to accept the application, because the signature of the nominating Committee was submitted after the given deadline. During this time the key persons managing the nominations and elections process in the Secretariat, the Director of Administration and Finances, Ms. Lydie Spaczinsky and Director General, Mr Julien Anfruns, were both dismissed. When Ms. Hanna Pennock started in May as interim Director General, she ordered a fresh review of all application documents. The second review, done with a different focus than the first one, revealed several irregularities and inconsistencies in the filing of the documents. The Elections Committee reconsidered the situation in the light of new information, and would have recommended that the whole nominations process be renewed, but due to calendar schedules there was no time to do this. As decision-making had been hampered by all these events, the Committee decided to accept all the candidates and the final list of candidates contained 25 individuals.

The Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee concluded by saying that the results would be announced on Saturday, 17 August during the General Assembly.

Michael Ryan, Chair of ICOM Ireland, asked how many late applications were received exactly. The Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee confirmed that there were three, one of which was submitted before the deadline but without the signatures. Michael Ryan asked why they were then re-instated. She informed him that completion after the final date was acceptable according to ICOM's Internal Rules and Regulations but as there were no rules on what information could be completed, the Committee had decided that in order to validate an application it needed to have the signatures of the nominating Committees with the possibility of further details being added at a later date. She explained that because the rules turned out to be unclear and totally insufficient the Committee would thus make a recommendation on this issue. She concluded by saying that no information on past election processes or procedures was available and that is why it was not possible to evaluate how the rules had been interpreted before.

Michael Ryan commented that if an application is late then it should be considered as being late, regardless of the matter of completion. The Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee responded that after a second review, with all the irregularities revealed, it had been impossible for the Committee to know what was valid or not and that, given the situation, the Committee had made the only right decision, because no other solution would have ensured that all candidates had been treated on equal grounds.

Stephen Cannon-Brookes, Chair of ICAMT said that much of the information for the Nominations and Elections Committee had been lost and that the operational matters were in the archives, but not available. He suggested that the information be made available to future Committees.

Item 5: Election of the Advisory Committee Chairperson: elections procedure and in situ voting procedure

> **5.1: Procedures and organisation**
> The Chair of the Advisory Committee confirmed that the election would take place on 13 and 14 August. The results for the Advisory Chair election would be announced on Wednesday, 14 August if only one round was needed and on Saturday, 17 August during the Advisory Committee session if two rounds were needed.
> **5.2: Presentation of the three candidates for the AC Chairperson**
> The Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee announced that the candidacy for the Vice-Chairmanship would be open until Saturday and that those interested should present themselves to the Secretariat.
> The Chair of the Advisory Committee asked the candidates for the Advisory Committee Chairmanship to leave the room and wait to be called in, at which time each of them would have five minutes to present themselves. The candidates were:
>
> Suay Aksoy, Chair of CAMOC
> Janrense Boonstra, Chair of ICOM Netherlands
> Stephen Cannon-Brookes, Chair of ICAMT

Item 6: ICOM membership 2012 annual report

Dora Eszter Peter, Head of the Membership Department at ICOM Secretariat, introduced the key figures for the past three years. She explained the increases and decreases in membership, both individual and institutional, and explained membership evolutions per country category and regional distribution. She then presented the ICOM Fund, created in 1991 by the Executive Council and explained its aim, which is to help National Committees experiencing temporary financial difficulties, such as Kenya in 2011 and Haiti in 2011 and 2012. She concluded by showing the increase in membership of National Committees to a total of 30,624 members.

Lisa Pilosi, Chair of ICOM-CC, commented that it is difficult for International Committees to know the members they have. Many National Committees ignored the guidelines to inform who their members are and this affected the members of International Committees and therefore the credit received. Better relations between the National and International Committees were needed to clarify the rules on communicating the names of members to Paris.

Nicholas Crofts, Chair of CIDOC, said he had noticed that 38% of all ICOM members were members of International Committees and that it should be 100%.

Item 7: The Strategic Allocation Review Commission

Claude Faubert, member of ICOM Executive Council and Chair of the Strategic Allocation Review Commission (SAREC), could not present due to unforeseen air transport circumstances; it was done therefore by the Chair of the Advisory Committee.

The Chair of the Advisory Committee explained the criteria used for review by SAREC and introduced key figures. The fund encourages International Committees to be active in research fields, and encourages analysis of how to adjust the cash reserves carried forward by the ICs year after year. Thirty four applications for financing of Special Projects were received, 15 of which were funded with grants ranging from €1,000 to €6,000.

Recommendations were issued for special projects in 2014:
1. *Encourage comprehensive projects involving several ICOM committees and/or having a regional approach;*
2. *Specify clearly the targeted audience, the participants' profiles and the implementation of the project;*
3. *Encourage Committees to migrate their websites to the ICOM platform and publish their own newsletter without Special Project support;*
4. *Clear presentation of budget in the submission;*
5. *Multi-year projects should include multi-year scope of work/tasks year by year, as well as a detailed budget year by year;*
6. *Annual conferences are part of the regular business of committees, and do not qualify for Special Projects;*
7. *The deadline for submission must be respected.*

General bursary programmes in 2013 for participation in the 23rd ICOM General Conference were awarded as follows:
- 42 bursaries awarded for representatives from National Committees. Related estimated budget: €89,424.
- 5 bursaries awarded for representatives from International Committees. Related estimated budget: €8,368.
- 44 bursaries awarded for young members. Related estimated budget: €98,278.
- 22 bursaries awarded for other members. Related estimated budget: €43,448.

Total: 113 Grantees at €239,518. This made it possible for members from a total of 130 countries to attend the Conference.

The Chair of the Advisory Committee concluded the presentation by listing the targeted submission dates for 2014 for Special Projects, the International Committee activity reports, and bursaries for the June meetings.

The Chair of CIDOC commented that although having criteria for performance evaluation was very important, it wasn't quantifiable as it is subject to appreciation. He mentioned that there was now a procedure for discussion with SAREC and that he considered this to be very good. However, as it

would seem that the results of the evaluation would be quantified in regard to financing, he asked that performance criteria be clearly explained.

Peter Keller, Chair of ICOM Austria, asked why ICOM gave money to The Best in Heritage as it wasn't really an ICOM organisation as far as he knew.

Anne-Catherine Hauglustaine, Chair of ICEE, asked that the next SAREC report focus more on the content of the report instead of the money granted.

Item 8: The legal status of the International Committees

Knut Wik, Chair of the Advisory Committee, asked that the International and National Committees discuss the issue during the Separate Meetings and come back with the results of the discussion. He then explained why they needed legal status and what the French Law states on the issue. He explained that National Committees, contrary to International Committees, must have legal status within the country where they exist, and that that point was not debatable. The question was whether it should be written in the Statutes.

He asked that during the Separate Meetings they discuss the following:
- The amendments suggested by the Executive Council
- Changes in rules and regulations
- Possible consequences and remarks
- Whether ICOM could allocate funding to a committee outside ICOM

He then asked that the National and International Committees meet, discuss and decide on the recommendations, and submit them to the Advisory Committee. He also asked if they could accept that the Advisory Committee make a decision on the issue at hand later in the day. This was unanimously accepted.

Elizabeth Duggal, Co-Chair of ICOM US, asked if the advantage of committees having legal status was in relation to receiving money. She also commented that the Chair of the International Committees changes every three years, and so do the National Committees, and thus wished to know how this affected the legal status of the International Committees. To this, the Chair of the Advisory Committee responded that he had the same concern, which was the reason why it was so important to have a stable legal status and bank account. He thought the bank account and banking system within ICOM were good and functional, but Committees still had a choice on the matter.

Ann Davis, Chair of ICOFOM and of the separate meeting of the International Committees, formulated the following comments and suggestions for the Advisory Committee Chair's successor:
1. That in the order of meetings the National and International Committees meet separately first, allowing for a number of earlier discussions to be addressed fully, before the AC Meeting.
2. Structurally, she was of the opinion that there was a difference between report and advice. They had many reports, which could be read by all, she said, and suggested that they didn't need more reporting but rather be given more time to advise.

The President of ICOM said that all the International Committees had been asked to open bank accounts in Paris, and that those who had done so were satisfied.

Item 9: Presentation of International Journal of Intangible Heritage

Ki-dong Bae, Chair of ICOM Korea presented the *International Journal of Intangible Heritage*. He said they had held a meeting in February, chaired by Alissandra Cummins. Last year 30 papers were collected and reviewed extensively before publishing; the final scripts were revised according to the comments made. He stated that the quality of the papers had improved in the last few years, the proof being that the *International Journal of Intangible Heritage* was cited in indexes.

Item 10: ICOM NATHIST Code of Ethics for Natural History Museums

Eric Dorfman, Chair of ICOM NATHIST and member of the Ethics Committee, presented the *ICOM NATHIST Code of Ethics for Natural History Museums* adopted in April of last year by the Executive Council. He added that the *ICOM NATHIST Code of Ethics for Natural History Museums* should be considered as an addendum to the ICOM Code of Ethics, subordinate to it and not a replacement.

He then presented the Code of Ethics for Natural History Museums in further detail, while explaining that the key message is that collections should be treated with the same care as other heritage.

The *ICOM NATHIST Code of Ethics for Natural History Museums* asks for balanced scientific research and environmental protection. It addresses several other issues:
- Global custodianship, deaccessioning, guidelines for liaison, sharing information and collecting
- Duty of care for people and objects
- Encouraging publication and peer reviewing of papers
- The cultural heritage value of taxidermy, with its standards of display
- Record keeping
- Balance between natural and cultural heritage

He concluded by acknowledging the work done by Gerhard Winter, Bernice Murphy, the ICOM Ethics Committee, colleagues in the sector who peer reviewed and the ICOM NATHIST Ethics Working Group.

Item 11: The Statutes and the Internal Rules and Regulations

11.1: Report from the Working Group presented by the Chair, Goranka Horjan
Goranka Horjan, member of ICOM's Executive Council and Chair of the Working Group, presented the report on the Statutes and the Internal Rules and Regulations and explained that the recent developments within ICOM had not yet occurred when the task was accomplished.

She presented the objectives of the Working Group and the timeline. The Group had been appointed in September 2011 and asked that the work be completed by December 2012. She explained that they had prepared reports for the Executive Council, and regularly updated them. A report was presented to the Advisory Committee in June 2012 and in December 2012 a final report was given with no further tasks asked of them. A new final report was presented in August 2013 as legal feedback was received only by July 2013, with no comments but rather general viewpoints on statutes. She also explained that Stephen Cannon-Brookes decided to present his viewpoint separately.

The Chair of the Working Group presented the results as follows:
- Methodology: The members were asked to give their opinion on changes to the language used and why these changes would be better than the present formulation. The Internal Rules and Regulations were discussed. At the final stages, in October 2012, they decided that they should consult with a lawyer for feedback.
- Language unification: This was considered a real issue to be addressed as they were asked to see if anything in the document could prevent proper functioning of the organisation.
- General remarks: The amendments must comply with French regulations.

The conclusion of the Working Group was that the current ICOM Statutes did not present an obstacle for proper functioning and that if the organisation decided to change the way things work, such as the legal status for International Committees, then it was agreed that changes to the Internal Rules and Regulations needed to be made.

The Working Group recommended a clarification within the Statutes of the hierarchical link between statutes, internal rules and regulations, policies and procedures. A legal glossary should be developed for non-English, French and Spanish speakers.

11.2: ICOM Statutes and Governance. A brief review of developments post 2000 (Minority Report), presented by Stephen Cannon-Brookes, member of the Working Group

The Chair of the Advisory Committee invited Stephen Cannon-Brookes, Chair of ICAMT and member of the Working Group, to present his Minority Report. The Chair of ICAMT stated that the current Working Group on Statutes was created in 2011 to resolve issues with Internal Rules and Regulations and that his Minority Report showed that this was in reaction to recent changes made in the constitution of the governance of ICOM.

The consequences of the 2007 changes to ICOM Statutes had been poorly understood and more far-reaching than assumed. The current Statutes were incomplete and delved into the functioning of the organisation. Most of ICOM's current management crisis stemmed from a lack of clear governance structures and affected the Secretariat. ICOM had created a constitutional impasse regarding the Advisory Committee and had made the General Assembly redundant, removing oversight of the Executive Council and the President.

The Chair of ICAMT then presented his recommendations for the future:
- That the Advisory Committee request that the Working Group on Statutes be disbanded and its recommendations set aside.
- That a new committee be assembled to review the purpose and form of the Statutes and subsidiary documents, and that it be outside the influence of the Executive Council.
- That this new committee report directly to the General Assembly in consultation with the Advisory Committee, and that it should request that the prospective Executive Council readopt the pre-2007 model of cultivation for Statute changes.
- That the Advisory Committee initiate and adopt the necessary constitutional revisions.

The Chair of the Advisory Committee said that they had received the reports but had not been able to discuss them and asked if the members agreed that at the next Advisory Committee meeting, on Saturday, 17 August, they begin with a discussion on the recommendations done by the Chair of ICAMT. This was unanimously agreed on.

George Abungu, Vice-President of ICOM, said that as the reports were diametrically opposed, he wondered if it was just a question of discussing it all later. He continued by stating that major issues had been raised and if they were not careful they could end up in a very bad situation, just because they had erred in revising the Statutes. He asked that if things were so bad then why not go back to before 2007 and start over. He continued by asking that they all reason together, instead of dividing into majority and minority as he thought this had the potential for serious division.

On the basis of this discussion, the Advisory Committee asked the Executive Council to:

- Continue the work on the revision of the Statutes, Rules and Regulations
- Review and rewrite the mandate of the Working Group ensuring that it adheres to the principles of transparency, inclusion and democracy making sure that different voices are heard and different opinions will be taken into consideration
- Ensure the participation of the Advisory Committee in the revision of the Rules and Regulations
- Include new members in the Working Group
- Build on the work of the existing Statutes, work that has been done by the Working Group including the 'minority report', the former Operation Policies that existed before 2010 and the Statutes itself.

The Chair of the Advisory Committee announced that items 16, 17 and 18 would be addressed in Saturday's session and item 19 would be moved up and discussed now.

Item 19: Presentation of the candidates for ICOM Presidency 2013-2016

The Chair of the Advisory Committee invited the candidates for ICOM's Presidency to introduce themselves. Hans-Martin Hinz, President of ICOM, and Carlos Brandão, member of ICOM Executive Council, presented themselves and their plans for the ICOM Presidency if elected.

Item 13: Information on the resolutions procedure

Amareswar Galla, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, announced that the resolutions would be focused largely on the theme of the General Conference and would have to comply with ICOM Statutes and be in accordance with ICOM´s Strategic Plan and other future documents. He concluded by explaining that the recommendations may not be taken into consideration if their scope does not comply with the definition given in the procedures.

Item 12: Progress of the Resolutions from the Shanghai Conference: ICOM Training Centre Beijing

Laishun An, member of ICOM Executive Council, Deputy Director of the National Museum of China and Director of the ICOM Training Centre, and Claude Faubert, member of ICOM Executive Council, presented the ICOM Training Centre in Beijing, China. He explained how during the 2010 General Conference in Shanghai, ICOM China and ASPEC, with support from ICOM Korea, AFRICOM and others, proposed the creation of an ICOM centre for museum studies. The Palace Museum hosts the Training Centre and receives an annual budget of €200,000 from the Chinese government as a financial contribution for the participation of ICOM China, scholarships for trainees from emerging countries and travel fees for international experts.

Claude Faubert explained that after the inauguration of the Centre in July 2013 there was a 1½-day workshop with a panel of nine international experts, mostly from ICOM bodies, who offered advice. The model was defined at the time as being a series of 10-day training programmes, with at least two programmes per year. Some of these would be repeated so as to create capacity for the Centre. The training groups will be composed of 25 people, half of them being Chinese, and three to four trainers. The first training course will take place in November 2013.

Item 14: Evaluation of the 2011-2013 Strategic Plan and Strategic Plan 2014-2016: Procedures

Wim de Vos, Chair of ICOM Belgium, said that evaluation of the Strategic Plan was important as it was an opportunity for ICOM to act on behalf of its Committees. He asked everyone to fill out the questionnaires that were going to be sent to them, as they would ensure an effective evaluation.

The Chair of the Advisory Committee thanked everyone and closed the Advisory Committee Meeting by reminding everyone that the 78th session would take place next Saturday, 17 August, 2013.

Initial comments by the Chair

Knut Wik, Chair of the Advisory Committee, began the Meeting by announcing that the nomination of candidates for Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee would be open until the coffee break.

Report on the meeting of National Committees. Other recommendations for item 11.3

The Chair of the Advisory Committee said they would start with the election of the new Chair, who would be in office for the next three years. This would be followed by the finalisation of the 77th session of the Advisory Committee Meeting, as certain items had not been addressed, amongst them receiving and adopting recommendations from the separate meetings.

He reminded the Assembly that he had also asked that the separate meetings discuss and decide on recommendations for the International Committees' legal status, which were to be given later in the afternoon but would finally be done today.

Ann Davis, Chair of ICOFOM and of the separate meeting of the International Committees, presented the recommendations of the International Committees, who had met on 11 August. The recommendations were as follows:

1. *Legal Status*
   a. *ICs support the concept of options*
   b. *ICs want more specifics on the implications of French legal and financial matters herein*
   c. *ICs want these legal issues to be discussed with ICs*
   d. *IC members will volunteer to assist with these and other matters below and will let me [Ann Davis] know by email*
2. *Membership Database*
   a. *We recommend setting up a working group to probe the problems and report back to the Advisory Committee and the ICs within six months. This working group must contain IC representatives.*
3. *Operation of ICs*
   a. *We request another working group be established, with the same six month timeline and IC representation*
4. *Funding*
   a. *The ICs agree that a carry-over of three times a committee's annual ICOM grant would be appropriate. The carry-over should not exceed that amount without explanation*
5. *Activity Reports*
   a. *Please do not change the report format without IC input*
   b. *Changes are needed in the length and format of the report*
6. *Other*
   a. *We laud the passage of the Arms Treaty, but urge exemption for museums and historical institutions*
   b. *The Organising Committee for Milan 2016 would like to gather ICs in Paris in June 2014*

The recommendations were adopted unanimously by the Advisory Committee.

Samuel Franco, Chair of ICOM Guatemala, presented the report from the separate National Committees. He said that they had agreed to discuss the Statutes and Internal Rules and Regulations

(IRR) as per the changes proposed by the Executive Council in 2013. The recommendations were as follows:

1. *Discuss Statutes and IRR in preparation for proposed changes at EGA in June 2014.*
2. *Current proposals to be made available online.*
3. *NCs not to be presented with agendas in which they had had no input.*
4. *Agenda for Advisory Meetings to be arranged and defined by the Chair and Vice-Chair of AC.*
5. *Assistance of Secretariat to support Chair and Vice-Chair in compiling suggestions for the agenda.*
6. *The discussion of NCs on the ICOM Code of Ethics noted as a priority.*
7. *Clarification of the definition of an ICOM member and the definition of a museum professional in view of major changes taking place in administrations and economies. Revolution in employment in museums.*
8. *Simplification of the rules and guidelines for administration of membership by NCs and promotion of the benefits and importance of membership.*
9. *Re-definition of categories of membership and scale of fees.*
10. *NCs should assess the number of museums and museum professionals in their countries.*
11. *Reporting for the NCs to be easier.*
12. *International Museum Day requiring a strong statement from the President.*
13. *Legal status*
    a. *There was no consensus on the legal opinion offered because legal advice has changed so radically recently.*
    b. *Status of ICs is not a legal issue but a practical one for them relating to how they operate.*
    c. *Need to get a definite opinion on the legal issues. Danger of serious consequences if the wrong decision is made particularly with reference to qualification of the accounts. ICOM leadership should sort out the legal position so that ICs in particular can get on with their work of vindicating professionalism in ICOM.*
    d. *Noted that some Committees may find it more reassuring to have their accounts with ICOM Paris.*
    e. *Route to membership is through National Committees and ICs cannot have non-NC members as IC members.*

The recommendations were adopted unanimously by the Advisory Committee.

Item 11: The Statutes and Internal Rules and Regulations

The Chair of the Advisory Committee invited Stephen Cannon-Brookes, former Chair of ICAMT, to make a presentation. However, he declined to do so as he no longer was the Chair of ICAMT.

Klaus Weschenfelder, Chair of ICOM Germany, had revised Stephen Cannon-Brookes' report on Statutes and believed that it was clear that the changes made were a major cause for concern. His opinion was that the Advisory Committee has expertise that ICOM should use and re-iterated the proposal made by George Abungu to go back to before 2007. He said that ICOM needed to go back and see which rules and regulations were really needed. He also suggested that the Advisory Committee vote on a proposal on how to proceed so that the Chair can afterwards report to the newly elected Executive Council.

Michael Ryan, Chair of ICOM Ireland and member of the Working Group on the Statutes, said he thought the issue had been overworked because the Statutes only needed small revisions, as Goranka Horjan had said. What mattered was that from a day-to-day perspective the Internal Rules and Regulations were not good in terms of language used and showed a failure to address complicated issues, but not in principle. He continued by saying that the Charter in the Internal Rules and Regulations was dismissed as not being a charter but a code of practice, which is needed and relevant. He also pointed out that there were significant mistranslations of terms in the Internal Rules and Regulations, leading to misinterpretations, and a misunderstanding on disciplinary matters. He then

stated that the roles of the Director General and the President needed to be clearly expressed, and that in that regard he had made some suggestions that seemed to have disappeared.

The Chair of ICOM Ireland concluded by saying that he thought it would be bizarre to rewrite the constitution again as it had already been done in 2007 in Vienna. He did not believe that this needed to be a complicated piece of machinery; they could either use the current Working Group or create a new one with a clear line of work. He didn't agree with Stephen Cannon-Brookes' idea that everything was perfect before 2007 and then a revolution came that took away their rights, the proof of that being that they were still here voting.

Stephen Cannon-Brookes commented that in writing the Minority Report he had hoped to help the members of the organisation see what had happened these past few years, with a clear and logical analysis of the events, or lack thereof. His analysis of the Statutes revealed issues that require changes. He agreed that it was difficult at a meeting like this to take up the debate but was still disappointed that they had not had the time to do so. He reiterated his recommendation that they create a new Working Group as the previous one stopped working a year ago. He didn't recommend going back to the 2007 Statutes because changes were made, but suggested the composition of a new Working Group and minor interrogations of the current Statutes.

The Chair of the Advisory Committee thanked him and said he had respect for his work and his report, as well as for the work done by the Working Group.

The President of ICOM asked to say a few words about the status of the Working Group, as it was established after the Advisory Committee requested it of the Executive Council, in order to answer certain questions. He said the mandate of the Working Group had concluded when its report was given to the Advisory Committee. They now had to think about how to continue, and if the Advisory Committee had a question for the Executive Council then it should be brought up.

Stephen Cannon-Brookes suggested a future Constitutional Committee reporting to the General Assembly through the office of the Advisory Committee.

The Chair of the Advisory Committee said he found it difficult to come up with a clear conclusion to the discussion and that Stephen Cannon-Brookes' suggestion that the Working Group answer to the General Assembly was new. Regarding the Constitution he wasn't familiar with a set-up such as a Working Group answering to the General Assembly, so he was unsure about it but that the suggestion should be taken into consideration by the General Assembly and would be discussed in the next Advisory Committee meeting.

He then asked the members if, with Stephen Cannon-Brookes' recommendation, they could also accept Item 11.3 'Conclusion and recommendations', and that they would ask the Executive Council to continue working on the revision of the Statutes.

The Chair of ICOM Germany asked if when he said Working Group he meant it in general or specific to the existing Working Group. The Chair of the Advisory Committee answered that he meant a new Working Group because the current Working Group's mandate was over, adding that the Executive Council and the President would listen to its members and set up a Working Group.

The recommendations to the Executive Council were generally accepted.

The Chair of ICOM Ireland suggested that, in accordance with democracy, they should vote. Item 11.3 was accepted by the majority.

Item 4: Election of the Vice-President of the Advisory Committee
The candidates for Chair of the Advisory Committee were asked to leave the room while voting was taking place. It was announced that there were two candidates for the second round.

Carina Jaatinen, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, announced the results from the first round as follows:

- Suay Aksoy (Turkey)   47 votes
- Janrense Boonstra (The Netherlands)   36 votes
- Stephen Cannon-Brookes (United Kingdom)   30 votes
- Abstention   3 votes

She explained that the second round was between the two members who had received the highest percentage and then presented the electronic voting device. Explanations were also given as to how the proxies worked.

Regine Schulz, member of ICOM Executive Council, asked if the quorum had been reached, to which the Assembly was informed that it had been reached with 83 out of 103 people.

The members voted and the results were as follows:

- Suay Aksoy (Turkey)   62 votes
- Janrense Boonstra (The Netherlands)   23 votes
- Abstention   3 votes

The Co-Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee announced that with 62 votes (70.45% of the votes) Suay Aksoy was elected Chair of the Advisory Committee for 2013-2016.

The Co-Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee announced that he wished to have the names of the candidates for the Vice-Chair. The sole candidate, Nicholas Crofts, Chair of CIDOC, was unanimously elected.

Suay Aksoy, Chair of the Advisory Committee, thanked everyone and said she thought they were living a memorable term in the history of ICOM because of the changes that were happening.

Item 5: Information on International Museum Day 2014

The Chair of the Advisory Committee asked Hanna Pennock, interim Director General, to provide information on International Museum Day 2014.

The interim Director General said that the coming International Museum Day (IMD) theme was 'Museum Collections make Connections' / 'Les liens créés par les collections des musées' / 'Los vínculos creados por las colecciones de los museos'. The theme highlights the connections between institutions and the public, the community and diversity.

International Museum Day 2014 would have, as per usual, two preparatory kits, one for museums and one for Committees, and trilingual postcards and web-banners, with further translations possible. There would also be a website dedicated to International Museum Day and a Facebook page, which would be regularly updated. She then said that she had heard the recommendations from the National Committees and would ask the President to make a strong statement for IMD 2014. She also announced the 2015 theme: 'Museums for sustainable society', and concluded by introducing the image for IMD 2014.

The Chair of the Advisory Committee then asked the National Committees to act strongly for International Museum Day and its 2014 theme.

The Chair of COMCOL asked if it was possible to get funding for special projects, to which the Chair of the Advisory Committee responded that she didn't know but would inform herself and let them know as soon as she could.

The session concluded with the announcement of the dates for the ICOM annual June meetings on 2-4 June in Paris, and the 79th session of the Advisory Committee on 2 June 2014, in Paris.

The Advisory Committee Session was then officially closed.