
Mandate of ICOM Legal Committee (LEAC)

According to the ICOM Internal Rules¹, the mandate of the ICOM Legal Committee is defined as follows:

Article 5.2.1 General rules for Standing Committees

Standing Committees are appointed by the President after consultation with the Executive Board.

The mandate of a Standing Committee is indefinite. The Committee reports and operates under the authority of the Executive Board.

The chair and ordinary members can serve two consecutive three (3)-year terms in each position, with a maximum consecutive serving time of four three (3)-year terms. The three (3)-year term runs from the year following a General Conference to the year after the next General Conference. The mandate for the members of the Standing Committee representing the Executive Board ends when a new Executive Board is elected.

In addition to the Chair and ordinary members, the Committee includes, ex officio, the President. The Director General can take part in the Committee meetings but shall not take part in voting. The Committee is assisted by the relevant professional in the Secretariat.

Proposals made by the Committee are adopted by simple majority of the committee members.

The Chair of the Committee submits an annual report to the Executive Board on 30 October at the latest (for exceptions, see under each Committee). The Committee shall also submit a general report on the Committee's work during the preceding triennium to each General Assembly at the General Conference of ICOM.

ICOM does not compensate the Members of the Committee nor reimburse expenses incurred in fulfilling their function such as travel, hotel and other costs.

Article 5.2.4. ICOM Legal Affairs Committee

The Legal Affairs Committee, (hereinafter referred to as LEAC) is a Standing Committee of ICOM to advise the Executive Board and the Advisory Council of ICOM.

The purpose and missions of LEAC are to provide expertise on legal issues of interest to the museum community, such as but not limited to cultural heritage, intellectual property and information technology laws.

LEAC assists ICOM in advancing and promoting knowledge, best practices and informed action focusing on legal issues for museums and museum professionals. The Committee shall notably:

- advise the Executive Board and the Secretariat on legal issues topical, affecting museums, museum professionals, art and cultural heritage and more generally on legal issues in relation with ICOM stakes and challenges;

¹ ICOM Internal Rules adopted in 2017

- provide opinio juris to ICOM and ICOM Members in order for them to act with due diligence with respect to legal matters;
- advocate on legal issues affecting the museum community;
- raise awareness on new legal issues interesting the museum community.