

Summary Report of the ICOMOS CIF Annual Meeting

Madrid, Spain – 3 december 2002

On 3 december 2002, the annual meeting of the ICOMOS International Training Committee (ICOMOS CIF) took place in Madrid, Spain. The meeting was held in conjunction with the General Assembly of ICOMOS in Madrid from 1 – 5 december 2002.

Present:

- Australia – Geoffrey Down (representing William Logan)
- Czech Republic – Bohumil Fanta
- Finland – Aino Niskanen
- France – Carole Alexandre
- Hungary – Andrai Morgos
- Indonesia – Frances Affandy (representing Johannes Widodo)
- Italy – Carlo Cesári
- Japan – Nobuko Inaba
- Netherlands – Caspar Laffrée
- Netherlands – Henriëtte van der Linden
- Norway – Torbjørn Eggen
- Portugal – Margarina Coelho
- Portugal – Maria Fernandes
- Slovak Republic – Jaroslav Kilián
- Sweden – Nils Ahlberg (representing Torbjörn Suneson)
- USA – Gustavo Araoz
- USA – Joseph King (*Secretary General CIF*)

Regrets:

- Hungary – Mihaly Zador (*Vice President CIF*)
- Finland – Jukka Jokilehto (*President CIF*)
- Belgium – Andre De Naeyer
- Germany – Leo Schmidt
- Norway – Tone Olstad
- Russia – Natalia Dushkina
- Slovak Republic – Pavol Gregor
- Tanzania – Donatius M.K. Kamamba
- United Kingdom – Aylin Orbasli
- USA – Roy Eugene Graham
- USA – Nora Mitchell
- Zimbabwe – Webber Ndoro

The meeting was chaired by the outgoing Secretary General Joseph King. He began by telling the meeting that Jukka Jokilehto, was unable to be present and to chair this, his last, annual meeting as President of CIF, due to the change in venue and of the date for the meeting and a commitment to prior engagements.

The Secretary General expressed his regrets on behalf of Mihaly Zador, the Vice President, who was recovering from an illness and not yet allowed to travel. The committee expressed its hope for a speedy recovery.

After approval of the agenda Joseph King read a short address on behalf of Jukka Jukilehto, in which the latter looked back on nine years CIF and stressed the importance of the task of the committee. Training and the development of new methods and approaches are at the base of preservation and instrumental in the setting and keeping of high standards.

Approval of minutes of the meeting in Helsinki, Finland : 17 February 2001

The minutes of the annual meeting in Helsinki in 2001 were approved. Joseph King mentioned that the work on a code of ethics for conservation professionals had resulted in a new document of the executive committee of ICMOS, which would be discussed these days during the General Assembly. Although the working group of CIF set up in Helsinki, has contributed to the document, it is not a CIF production as such.

A meeting on the training of craftsmen scheduled for May 2002 in Norway regrettably had to be cancelled.

Election of the new directory board

The candidates for the board are:

- Mihaly Zador, Hungary, for President;
- Jaroslav Kilián, Slovak Republic, for Vice President;
- Carlo Cesari, Italy, for Vice President;
- Caspar Laffrée, the Netherlands, for Secretary General.

Each of the candidates present, whose CV was already distributed under the voting members of CIF, introduced himself with a short address. After this Joseph King explained the voting procedure.

New Statutes of CIF

Following the meeting in Helsinki, Finland in 2001, the statutes of CIF have been changed and brought in full compliance with the Eger Principles for the organisation of International Scientific Committees. The draft version is now subject to approval by ballot by the voting members.

The main difference concerns the procedure for the proposal and approval of voting members (par.III.8). As a rule those are limited to one per country in which a National Committee has been established, the so called “key countries”.

During the discussion the following aspects were noted:

- The number of voting members is limited and they do not comprise all the key countries. This might be mitigated by making use of the power of the President of the committee to propose voting members. A recent list of all members of CIF will be sent.
- The statutes open the possibility to strengthen the management of the committee with voting or honorary members other than the directory board.
- The term “built heritage in general” in the description of the purpose of CIF, is make a distinction between CIF and the overall purpose of ICOMOS.
- The articles about financing are formulated in sufficiently general terms to include the possibility to enter into contracts with a third party.

Casting and counting of ballots for the new directory board and the new statutes

After a small recess in which the ballots were counted it was concluded that the candidates were duly elected and the new statutes were approved by the voting members. The voting was done partially by mail, as not all voting members were present at this meeting.

In passing it was remarked upon, that this meeting of CIF was held at the very same time the item was on the agenda of the General Assembly of ICOMOS. It transpired that up to now CIF is not involved in the organisation of this section of the General Assembly of ICOMOS. The National Committees are responsible. It was suggested that the board of CIF give a presentation of its activities during the next General Assembly of ICOMOS. To this end arrangements should be made with the Executive Committee the coming period.

Reports

Brief reports on the state of training were given for each of the countries present. These included: Finland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, the United States of America, Japan, France, Sweden, Norway, Slovak Republic, Portugal, Australia, Indonesia, Italy, and the Netherlands. Joseph King reported on the activities of ICCROM. From Indonesia, the United Kingdom, Egypt and Australia written country reports were (also) submitted. These reports are attached to this summary. It was agreed that if they so wished, other members make a written version of their report to be also attached to the minutes.

Planning for 2003 and further

During the meeting an action plan for 2003 proposed by the new President, Mihaly Zador, was distributed. Because of his absence however, discussion of the plans and activities was inevitably limited and tentative. Gustavo Araoz has sent a “wish list” to Joseph King, which should be considered in connection with the proposals of Mihaly Zador. Joseph King stressed on the basis of his experience that plans should be realistic in view of the practical and financial possibilities.

Joseph King was thanked for his contributions to CIF and following his closing comments, the meeting was adjourned.