

**Minutes of the meeting of members of ICOMOS-ISCARSAH during the ICOMOS General Assembly held in Xi'an China, in October 2005.**

**Location:** Xi'an, China

**Venue:** Sofitel Hotel, Xi'an

**Date:** October 21, 2005

**Presents:**

**Iscarsah members:** Lyne Fontaine, Predrag Gavrilovič, Stephen J. Kelley, David W. Look, Juhani Penttimikko, Pere Roca (chair)

**Icomos delegates:** Stephen Chan (Macao, China), Edgar Urban Martínez (Mexico) Fernando Espinosa de los Monteros (Spain), Yoshinori Iwasaki (Japan), Sven Thomasen (California, USA)

**Issues discussed during the meeting:**

**1.- Information on the Iscarsah meeting in Barcelona.** P. Roca informed those present about the agreements reached during the last meeting of Iscarsah, held in Barcelona during June 15-16, 2005. In particular, he remarked that a final version of the Recommendations had been approved after the inclusion of some amendments taking into consideration comments received during the previous meeting in Athens. Additional changes, proposed by Giorgio Croci, were accepted with regard to sections 4. and 5. of the document (see in the minutes of the Barcelona meeting). This version is now being edited for English by David Yeomans.

In Barcelona, it was also agreed to reactivate the Workgroup on Safety and to entrust it with the analysis of compatibility of the Recommendations with other legal codes dealing with safety / existing structures such as, specifically ISO 13822.

**2.- Future activities.** Possible activities to be carried out in the near future were discussed, including (1) technical discussions motivating further improvements of the Recommendations, (2) involvement of the committee in research projects or relevant studies on ancient structures, and (3) common activities related to education and training in structural restoration.

The participants confirmed their interest to collaborate in possible real projects or studies related to the analysis and restoration of historical structures. Iscarsah should offer its expertise and capacity to the local or international authorities responsible of the architectural heritage. The committee should also make itself available to Icomos and Unesco for consulting.

The participants also expressed their interest in contributing to possible common education projects. L. Fontaine mentioned the fact that no education on existing structures is offered to undergraduate students and that a possible training on structural

restoration is really needed. Funds for this action could be raised from different institutions covering, at least, travel and accommodation expenses of the students.

**3- Subjects for future technical discussions.** There are important issues which should be addressed in future meetings of the committee. Among them: (1) the compatibility of the Recommendations with other legal documents (such as ISO Standard on Existing Structures), (2) the study and restoration of ancient foundations (the specific issue of the “authenticity of foundations” according to Dr.’s Iwasaki proposal), and (3) emergency actions for structures endangered after disastrous events. These subjects might be considered for future versions of the recommendations of for complementary documents.

**4- Future meetings.** Two possibilities are considered for future meetings of the committee (after the scheduled for Cyprus in February 2006).

A first meeting is proposed to take place in New Delhi, in November 2006, taking advantage of the celebration of the V Int. Conference on Structural Analysis of Historical Constructions. Many members of the committee have confirmed their attendance to the conference.

A second future meeting is proposed to be held in either Oak Park or Chicago, Illinois, USA, during Spring of 2007. S. Kelley has already submitted a detailed proposal. The meeting could be specifically oriented to the discussion on Emergency Actions.

**5- Agenda for the meeting in Cyprus, February 2006.** The following agenda is tentatively proposed for the meeting of the committee in Cyprus:

1. Chairman’s report
2. Approval of new membership
3. Workgroup reports
4. Specific proposals for future activities (projects on real problems / structures)
5. Report on member’s activities (report on Training by D. Look)
6. Technical discussions:
  - 6.1 The Recommendations and in international standards on safety / existing structures
  - 6.2 Criticisms / commentaries provided by external experts and possible improvements. Compilation and discussion.
  - 6.3 Geotechnical issues
7. Next meeting places. New possible meetings in India and USA.

**6- New memberships.** Some of the Icomos delegates attending the meeting expressed their interest in the committee and they wish to submit their possible membership. (Stephen Chan, Edgar Urban Martínez, Fernando Espinosa de los Monteros, Yoshinori Iwasaki). Some of them also expressed their interest to attend the next meeting in Cyprus.

Pere Roca  
November 22, 2005