

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ISCARSAH NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 5, 2006

Date and place: 05 November 2006 (14:00-18:00), Sun Willow Room, Habitat World, New Delhi, India.

Attending persons: D. d' Ayala, G. Arun, K. van Balen, L. Binda, Y. Iwasaki, S. Kelley, R. R. Langebach, P. Lourenço, A. Miltiadou, C. Modena, R. Meli, P. Roca, (chairmen), L. Schueremans, P. Smars (Icomos), S. P. Sparks (Icomos).

Minutes prepared by: A. Miltiadou and P. Roca

Agenda of the meeting:

- 1 Adoption of the minutes of last meeting
 - 2 Chairman's report
 - 3 Acceptance of new members
 - 4 Criteria for evaluation and acceptance of new membership
 - 5 Iscarsah web page
 - 6 Report from Safety Working Group. Annex on Heritage Structures to ISO 13822
 - 7 Participation in Word Heritage Panel and missions
 - 8 Scientific contributions to the General Assembly in 2008
 - 9 Next meeting places
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1 Adoption of the minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting, held in Cyprus in February 2006, were adopted with some minor corrections suggested by L. Binda.

2 Chairman's report

The chairman reported on the following items:

- 1- Meeting of the Scientific Committee held in Rome in June 16, 2006. P. Roca attended the meeting on behalf of Iscarsah. The meeting was mostly devoted to discuss on procedure to be followed in the implementation of new rules on IC's membership.
- 2- Meeting of the advisory committee held in Edinburgh during September 9. D. Yeomans participated on behalf of Iscarsah. The chairman mentioned some of the results of the meeting. In particular, decisions were taken with regard to:
 - The procedure and schedule to be followed for the preparation and adoption of new IC's statutes aligning with the Xian-Eger Principles (to be discussed in item 4)

- The scientific programme of the General Assembly of Quebec 2008 (to be discussed in item 8)
- Participation to the World Heritage Programme (to be discussed in item 7)
- Subjects for cooperation among ISC's. It was also decided to adopt "Climate Change" as subject for cooperation among ISC's.

After a discussion, it was decided that ICARSAH will be available for cooperation in the following issues (related to Climate Change):

- (1) emergencies (after, before disasters)
- (2) alteration of material properties due to changes in climatic environment and influence on the structural behavior.

An electronic copy of the minutes of both meetings are available to any member interested in knowing more about their outcome.

- 3- ICOMOS-Canada conference. The conference is taking place at the same time in Ottawa. This is an important event for the Canadian members as they are preparing for the upcoming 2008 General Assembly in Quebec City in 2008.
- 4- Seminar in Val di Non (Italy). The chair invited C. Modena to offer a short presentation of Reficere. Meeting held in Tasullo, Val di Non, Italy, to establish the Scientific Committee of the Reficere Collection on issues related to architectural heritage conservation. A number of members of Iscarsah are in the scientific committee. In addition, a seminar on The conservation of cultural heritage in seismic zones. Recent developments of the technical regulations was celebrated in Valer Castle, Tasullo, on 14 September 2006, in which the ISCARSAH Recommendations were presented.
- 5- Seminar in Lisbon. A Seminar was celebrated in the Monastery of Los Jeronimos in Lisboa on July 4, 2006. The seminar was organised by IPPAR (Portuguese Institute of Architectural Heritage) and UMinho and was attended by approximately 150 persons. The ISCARSAH Recommendations were also presented and discussed with the participants.
- 6- 7th European Conference "SAUVEUR" SAFEGUARDED CULTURAL HERITAGE. The conference was organized during 31 May-2 June 2006 in Prague by M. Drdacky. P. Roca was invited to offer a presentation on "Prospects for international cultural heritage research cooperation. Icomos initiatives".
- 7- Some members of ISCARSAH (P. Roca, D. Yeomans, P. Lourenço, G. Tampone, G. Croci) have been invited to lecture in the 12th SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE RENOVATION PROBLEMS IN CONSTRUCTIONS AND HISTORIC BUILDINGS, celebrated during 6-8 December 2006 near Wrocklaw, Poland. The conference is organized by J. Jasienko (ISCARSAH).
- 8- Questionnaire on Structural Conservation. Wilfred Ferwerda has undertaken a survey on conservation practice, addressed to engineers, including some questions about the application of Iscarsah Recommendations. The results of the recent survey can be accessed on-line.

9- The chairman invited all colleagues to refer to other activities having been occurred or scheduled for the next period.

G. Arun informed about next SAS conference, to be organized in Antalya (Arun) during november 17-21 2006 and the inclusion of a special session on historical buildings in the Structural Engineering World Congress to be organized in 2007. She also informed about the new Research Center for Preservation of Historical Heritage in Istanbul.

A. Miltiadou informed on the Conference on restoration in Thesaloniki (ETEPAM) organized in June 2006, which provided an interesting occasion for discussion. A. Miltiadou will circulate a report on it.

P. Lourenço informed about a new Advanced Master on Structural Restoration of Historical Constructions and Monuments, which has been approved as Erasmus Mundus by the EC. The master will be lectured in cooperation of University of Minho, Technical University Catalunya, University of Padova, University of Prague and ITAM of the Czech Republic. P. Lourenço informed as well as an attempt to participate in a COST initiative. A new proposal will be submitted for next year's call.

K. van Balen informed on the organization on two seminars on Preventive Conservation in May 2007 and June 2008, with the possibility of grants for attendants. The aim is at promoting contact between young and senior researchers working in conservation.

It was suggested to include the ISCARSAH's logo in brochures or advertisements related with activities of the members. However, this should only be done after informing (and having the acceptance of) the president.

3 Acceptance of new members

Applications for membership was considered and briefly discussed. The following experts were accepted as new members:

- Randolph Lagenbach
- Roberto Meli
- Luc Schueremans

4 Criteria for evaluation and acceptance of new membership

The document on "Criteria for admission of new membership", prepared by P. Roca as a synthesis of different opinions put forward during a previous e-mail discussion, and circulated during July 2006, was presented and discussed.

After a discussion, it was decided that the document should include the following:

- The committee will decide on the acceptance of new members after considering the needs on expertise and geographical representation.
- Criteria for acceptance should not only consider merits but also needs of committee.
- The acceptance to the committee should not be understood as a sort of accreditation. This should be included in the statutes.
- Experts exclusively oriented to purely academic issues should be avoided. Similarly, experts solely oriented to practice should be also avoided. Experts who combine both aspects (study and practice) should be preferred. To be accepted, practitioners should have published / disseminated their work, and academics should have practical activity.

It was also mentioned that, to decide about new members and the expertise that is required, the committee needs some decisions about its future work.

The document, with the above changes, is accepted as the bases for the preparation of the new statutes aligning with the Xi'an-Eger principles.

5 Iscarsah web page

After referring to the need for a Iscarsah web site, the chairman introduced a proposal elaborated by D. Yeomans. He also mentioned having contacted Icomos Secretariat to ask for advise and information of possible technical or economical support to create and maintain a web site. The issue of a web page and the need for the required funds was considered and discussed. It was agreed in that all Iscarsah members will try to envisage funding possibilities based on possible support or sponsorship given by public or private institutions.

6 Report from Safety Working Group. Annex on Heritage Structures to ISO 13822

The chairman refers the more recent activities of the Workgroup on Safety. A proposal of the contents of a possible annex on Architectural Heritage for the ISO 13822 code was presented to the consideration of the ISO TC98 committee in June 2006. The possible acceptance of the annex and its contents will be discussed in next meeting of TC98 taking place in Berlin in November 30. One or more members of Iscarsah have been invited to the event.

The Workgroup on Safety has prepared a power point presentation to introduce Iscarsah, justify the annex and describe the proposed contents during the meeting of TC98. The presentation will be given by Herinrich Schroeter. If the proposal is accepted, the Safety Workgroup will finalize the first draft annex. The schedule is

undefined at this point. It is likely that a draft of the annex would be discussed at the Chicago meeting next spring.

The chair refers to the important initiative and contribution of Lyne Fountain during the process of contacting the ISO TC98 and preparing the presentation.

7 Participation in Word Heritage Panel and missions

The chair recalled the fact that Icomos World Heritage staff regularly consults with ISCs about the appropriate people for missions, and are invited to provide desk evaluations on the relevant nominations.

ISC's are invited to provide lists of people (with their CV's) who are available for desk evaluations and missions.

The chair mentioned that it would be convenient that Iscarsah would offer its possible contribution to WH missions as a group of experts (rather than only contributing individually).

K. van Balen referred to difficulties that working in emergency actions would cause (lack of fund and time to react) and suggested to mostly focus in long-term studies carried out in the frame of a longer programme.

It was suggested to try to disseminate the activity of Iscarsah inside and outside of Icomos with the help of a small brochure.

It was decided to use possible examples and prepare documents showing Iscarsah potential. The cases of Nepal vernacular houses and Kuçuk Ayasofia in Istanbul (G. Arun) could be used to approach Unesco. D. d'Ayala and G. Arun were asked to prepare respective documents describing the condition and actions required for the preservation of these heritages. A letter should be prepared and sent to Unesco and other possible institutions to show them the need to act on these cases and the possible contribution of Iscarsah.

8 Scientific contributions to the General Assembly in 2008

The chairman mentioned that the subject proposed for the scientific symposium to be celebrated in Quebec during next ICOMOS General Assembly, is that of the "The spirit of the place". The committee should be able to find a possible idea to develop and present it to the symposium.

After a discussion, the subject of "Seismic qualities of vernacular constructions" was proposed and Randolph Lagenbach was asked to prepare and circulate an abstract for its submittal to the symposium.

9 Next meeting places

The chair invited S. Kelley to update the information on the meeting in Chicago. The meeting will be organized during the third week of June 2007, together with 20th c. Heritage Committee. The programme will be:

- 1st day: Symposium,
- 2nd day; visits to monuments
- 3rd Iscarsah meeting (half day) and joint Iscarsah- 20th c. Heritage meeting (half day).

It was agreed to organize a meeting in Antalya in September 2007 taking advantage of the celebration of the Interantional Symposium on Studies on Historical Heritage, organized by G. Arun.

The chair recalled the invitation of Lyne Fountan for the the 2008 ISCARSAH meeting in Quebec City in September 2008. This will permit us to participate to the General Assembly and the various other Scientific Committee meetings that will be held in the same period.

D. D'Ayala suggested that also a meeting could be organized in Bath in June 2008 during the 6th International Conference on Structural Analysis of Historical Constructions.