

ICOMOS
International Scientific Committee on Historic Towns and Villages (CIVVIH)
Executive Committee Meeting
November 4, 2020
Via Zoom

PARTICIPANTS

PRESIDENT

Claus-Peter ECHTER, GERMANY

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Samir ABDULAC, FRANCE

Faïka BÉJAOUÏ, TUNISIA

David LOGAN, AUSTRALIA

Danuta KLOSEK-KOZŁOWSKA, POLAND

SECRETARY GENERAL

Kathleen CROWTHER, USA

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Eman ASSI, UAE

Paula CORDEIRO, BELGIUM

Elena DIMITROVA, BULGARIA

Yuksel DINCER, TURKEY

Hae UN RII, KOREA

Ofelia SANOU, COSTA RICA

Pal Anders STENSSON, SWEDEN

HONORARY EXPERT MEMBER

Sofia AVGERINOÛ KOLONIAS, GREECE

Also in Attendance

Margaret Lann, USA

The following is a summary of the meeting.

1. Approval of the Agenda: The agenda was approved.
2. Working Group Recommendation on SDGs, HUL and Climate Change: Sofia AVGERINOÛ KOLONIAS is head of the working group. She sent documents last evening which were shared with the Executive about the proposed process. The matter at hand is whether the working group is updating the Valletta Principles as a CIVVIH project or is there the desire for a formal doctrinal update that conforms to the ICOMOS process. The latter can take as long as 10 years. The project was delayed due to COVID-19 but it is underway now. The documents which Sofia sent included a proposed timeline. Sofia assured the Executive that all opinions and thoughts

are welcomed. All should feel free to send her an email and she will accept all opinions. Already the working group has been sent information which can be responded to hopefully by the end of November 2020. It is anticipated that a first draft will be sent to the working group in March 2021.

Sofia needs a clear recommendation regarding the character of document – is it the less time-consuming CIVVIH document or the formal ICOMOS doctrinal update? All agreed that an update for CIVVIH is the proper approach. Sofia has included in her email other important texts from colleague organizations which can link to the CIVVIH revision. Ofelia SANOU expressed interested in having the matter of human rights integrated into the revision; she was asked to send information to Sofia. Ofelia is not part of the working group but her opinion is welcomed. Claus-Peter reiterated that the document will be available for comments along the way. The update could take the form of an annex, a concept note or a position paper. David Logan favors the approach outlined by Sofia which is a per-paragraph revision. Pals Anders STENSSON agrees with integrating concepts, especially HUL, as this is already the standard in practice. Claus-Peter asked to close the discussion. All agreed that a CIVVIH document, possibly the paragraph-by-paragraph approach is appropriate.

3. Scientific Work Program: Claus-Peter reported that CIVVIH is following the triennial work program approved by the Secretariat. He has been representing CIVVIH at the various ADCOM meetings. Recently Samir ABDULAC gave an excellent report about the activities of the ICOMOS Syria/Iraq WG at an ADCOM meeting. CIVVIH is working on important matters such as the resiliency in the face of Covid 19, and climate change. Ofelia reiterated the importance of human rights. CIVVIH is current on all of the ICOMOS working groups and their work. Eman ASSI mentioned the importance of resiliency. Claus-Peter agreed and stated that this was an important part of our work program and the focus of a webinar. Danuta KLOSEK-KOZLOWSKA made the point that education is very important.
4. Membership: Claus-Peter gave a report on the growing membership of CIVVIH. The significant increase in membership, especially Associates, comes from the integration of the Ibero-American Group. CIVVIH has many younger members which is good as Emerging Professionals has been a priority of ICOMOS. At the ADCOM meeting yesterday, it was reported that great progress had been made on this matter, it is considered a big success. David Logan thinks CIVVIH still struggles to attract Emerging Professionals. Claus-Peter suggested that CIVVIH has quite a few such members who should be activated. One very good thing is that CIVVIH referred to Emerging Professionals in its new bylaws and has representatives on the Bureau and Executive. The Emerging Professional, Rugile Puodziuniene has been so very helpful. She started together with Claus-Peter a FaceBook page for CIVVIH in March 2019, with many younger members. CIVVIH must write to encourage the engagement of these Emerging Professionals.
5. Report of the President: Claus-Peter gave an extensive report guided by slides. Many important items were presented. Highlights from the report include the following:

- a. A revision of the Bylaws was completed. This is normally a large task. David Logan deserves the credit for his work on this matter. Others did participate.
 - b. CIVVIH's English name has been changed to include the word "cities." David Logan is to be credited with this as well. The English-speaking members appreciate this.
 - c. At this time, CIVVIH is a growing ISC with 115 Expert Members, 59 Associate Members and 12 Honorary Members.
 - d. CIVVIH's newsletter will soon be published, thanks to Paula Cordeiro. It looks very professional.
 - e. The regular, usually monthly communication from the Claus-Peter, entitled "Information of the President" is sent both to all CIVVIH members and to some external parties. This has been a welcome addition to increase communication.
 - f. The aforementioned CIVVIH FaceBook page is a big success with 600+ members. Standards to entry are being met and postings are being monitored for appropriateness.
 - g. CIVVIH has had many meetings over the last year, including subcommittee meetings with the exception of the Mediterranean which has not had a meeting in some time.
6. Comments: Comments were interspersed in the discussion.
7. COVID-19 related issues affecting CIVVIH: CIVVIH cannot plan for an in-person meeting at this time.
8. New Meetings: It is hoped that CIVVIH can have its Annual Meeting late October, 2021. Paula Cordeiro is the focal point for the meeting and has the support of Belgium ICOMOS to host it. However, due to the changing nature of the pandemic, we will have to decide at a later date, perhaps in the spring of 2021. There is the thought that there could be a General Assembly in Thailand, but there is no real plan at this time. Danuta asked about what a symposium topic might be. She suggested the issue of social housing, housing as a right. She can develop this idea further.
9. Ibero-American Group: Claus-Peter reported that the integration of the Ibero-American group entailed many steps. All members had to join ICOMOS and then apply to CIVVIH. In total, 35 members of the Ibero-American group are now officially part of CIVVIH. There has been very good communication. The group has revised its regulations, there are some paragraphs which Claus-Peter is not sure are appropriate. He has sent the document to ICLAFI for a legal review. However, they are unable to review it at his time but perhaps Claus-Peter will get a response still in November. The Ibero-American group can have electronic meetings, but they must invite all of their members. Ofelia recommended the use of WhatsApp for communication, she sent information on this. It is commendable that CIVVIH has met all 4 criteria for an ISC of ICOMOS. Only 8 ISCs have met this standard.
10. Others: No other business was reported.

The meeting was concluded.

Written by Kathleen H. Crowther, Secretary General

Approved by Claus-Peter Echter, President
DATE: January 25, 2021