Celebrate April 18th!
International Day for Monuments and Sites

2011 theme: The Cultural Heritage of Water

Dear colleagues,

April the 18th has been decreed by UNESCO, following the suggestion made by ICOMOS in 1982 as the International Day for Monuments and Sites. The theme of the International Day for 2011 is the Cultural Heritage of Water. We invite you to contribute to the activities for the celebration of the International Day by forwarding the messages that can be sent by the CIVVIH.

Our goal should be the promotion of the importance of the heritage of water for historic cities, not only as a witness to their historic memory, but also as bright examples of sustainable use and development.

Sofia Avgerinou Kolonias, Acting President of CIVVIH


1. CIVVIH COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Valletta Principles for the Safeguarding and Management of Historic Cities, Towns and Urban Areas

Adopted by CIVVIH, April 10

In October 2010 the document was presented and discussed during the Advisory Committee’s meeting at Dublin. Following the Committee’s proposal and the corresponding decisions of the Executive Committee, all observations that had reached the CIVVIH until the 22/10/2010 were incorporated in the text.

In January 2011 the updated document was passed through the ICOMOS International Secretariat for linguistic editing for French and English towards the relevant committees of the French and English ICOMOS. Through this Secretariat, the CIVVIH sent the updated and edited text to all International Scientific Committees and National Committees of ICOMOS so as to receive their observations.

Following this stage, the text was sent through the secretariat to all scientific and national committees for a second time, so as to group observations until February 21st.
Observations were sent by: Gustavo Araoz (President ICOMOS), Argentina (Alfredo Conti), CIAV (Marc de Caraffe), Australia (Jane Harrington), Slovenia (Jelka Pirkovic), Sweden (Kerstin Westerlund), Finland (Minna Pesu).

Our warmest thanks are due to the CIVVIH members who also intervened in the dialogue during the same period: Betina Adams (Brazil), Nils Ahlberg (Sweden), David Logan (Australia), Ian Hocking (Australia), Helen Wilson (Australia), Agnieszka Kiera (Australia), Riin Alatalu (Estonia), Jean Laberge (Canada), Claus Peter Echter (Germany), Saleh Lamei (Egypt), Gediminas Rutkauskas (Lithuania), Paulius Kulikauskas (Lithuania), Danuta Klosek-Kozlowska (Poland), Christoph Pawlowski (Poland), Giora Solar (Israel), Joao Campos (Malta).

In February 2011, by the set date of 21/02/2011, the observations were received by the International Scientific Committees and the ICOMOS National Committees; they were finally incorporated in the text submitted to the Executive Committee for, examination in view of its meeting on the 12th and 13th March 2011.

The Executive Committee finally opined that this final draft should go forward for adoption by the 17th General Assembly of ICOMOS in November of 2011.

Many thanks to: ICOMOS Secretariat for its support on the communicational level, ICOMOS France and UK Committees for their linguistic support, all colleagues who had the good will to participate and intervene in our scientific dialogue and particularly the Editing Committee of our colleague Prof. Elvira Petroncelli for the coordination.

OWHC Project “Historic Cities in Development: Keys for Understanding and Acting”.

The project continues and the deadline for Contributions has been extended to April 30th, 2011.

Many thanks to: Samir Abdulac, member of the Bureau and represent the CIVVIH in the project’s steering committee, as well as all members who contributed with their feedback to the program: David Logan (Australia), Helen Wilson (Australia), Bruno Maldoner (Austria), Andree Van Bever (Belgium), Pierre Laconte (Belgium), Michel Van Der Meerschen (Belgium), Elena Dimitrova (Bulgaria), Wang Lijun (China), Angela Rojas (Cuba), Saleh Lamei (Egypt), Leena Makkonen (Finland), Marianne Lehtimaki (Finland), Francois Gondran Grande (France), Antoine Bruguerolle (France), Claus Peter Echter (Germany), Sofia Avgerinou Kolonias (Greece), Paolo Motta (Italy), Teresa Colletta (Italy), George Zouain (Lebanon), Sigrid Van Roode (Netherlands), Nur Akin (Turkey), Jeff Soule (USA), William Dupont (USA), Giora Solar (Israel), Ray Bondin (Malta), Hognne Langset (Norway).

Through its General Secretary, the OWHC thanked the CIVVIH for its collaboration by sending the following letter:
Organisation des villes du patrimoine mondial
Organization of World Heritage Cities
Organización de las Ciudades del Patrimonio Mundial
Organización de las Ciudades del Patrimonio Mundial

Québec, March 3, 2011

Sophia Avginnou Kolonas
Acting President of CIVVIH
Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning
Faculty of Architecture
National Technical University of Athens (N.T.U.A.)
Patission 42, 10682 ATHENS

Dear Madam:

I am pleased to give you some information on the status of the Collection of Case Study program on the conservation and management of historic cities “Developing Historic Cities: Keys to Understand and to Take Action” conducted by the OWHC on the initiative of the City of Lyon and under its coordination.

The Steering Committee is currently successfully completing a critical phase of the project, which consists of soliciting contributions from cities inscribed on the World Heritage List. Thanks to the personal commitment of its members and the daily work of Kerstin Marz, who is responsible for the technical follow-up of the project, we can now rely on a large pool of prospects which should lead to the establishment of a sample that is representative not only in terms of numbers, but also in terms of quality of the geographic, size and function of the cities as well as the typology of the case study.

Efforts must be continued to solicit contributions from underrepresented sectors, namely the Arab countries, Africa and Asia, but I am hopeful that we will achieve a balance.

Since the CIVVIH, represented by Samir Abdulac, joined the Steering Committee, he has perfectly integrated the process and has fully made its contribution toward the hard work to be done. I wish in particular to point out the mobilization of your international network in a significant number of world heritage sites and countries with the identification of local counterparts committed for the cause of heritage.

I wanted to thank you personally for this commitment. Please transmit our gratitude to the members of your Committee.

Denis Ricard
Secretary General
Organization of World Heritage Cities

cc: Steering Committee, Case Study Collection
Dear colleagues

I must apologize for my long silence since the huge earthquake. I have got kind inquiry e-mails from some persons. Thank you for your concern.

I have finished a series of graduation ceremonies and attended a small meeting for regeneration of commercial area of Beppu, a famous hot-spring town in Kyushu Island. In the western part of Japan everyone is going to work and going about their days. Even in Tokyo metropolitan area there are no big problems except planned outage. The disaster area is very large unparalleled in history, but the area is a part of Japanese islands elongated from north to south.

A lot of cultural properties were damaged in the devastated area. However important historic towns and villages have not been included in the area. In the national designated conservation areas the historic houses of Sawara, Chiba pref. was damaged due to the shock of the earthquake (not included in the tsunami-devastated area) but the damage might be recoverable. http://www.sawara-machinami.com/sinsai/sinsai.html

One of the greatest cares at the moment is nuclear accident. We have been watching the situation of the nuclear power plant with bated breath.

Anyway it will be difficult we are going to continue our energy-consuming life. I think the philosophy of historic conservation will be more important through the reconstruction of our society.

Sincerely

FUKUKAWA Yuichi
Department of Architecture and Urban Science, Graduate School of Engineering, Chiba University
2. ACTIVITIES BY CIVVIH MEMBERS

[reminder] Forthcoming CIVVIH Symposium in Damascus 10-12 July 2011:

“SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN OLD CITIES”

For further information please visit the following link of our Committee site:
http://civvih.icomos.org/?q=node/102

[reminder] CIVVIH member Prof. Danuta Klosek-Kozłowska is active participating in the following conference: ICOMOS Poland and its Commission for The Protection of City Heritage invite to participate in the international conference

THE LIFE QUALITY IN CITY CENTRES –
CONDITIONS FOR RESIDENCE AND TOURISM
which will be held in Toruń (World Heritage City) - Poland, 12-15 of May 2011

All necessary information (Application Form and payment, paper submission, post-conference tour to Bydgoszcz and scientific publication of papers: www.flo-tor.byd.pl

[Further details of the conference, its programme, paper submission guidelines, publication of papers will be available successively at www.flo-tor.byd.pl and sent to individuals and institutions interested in participating after they have completed the Application Form, at the: www.flo-tor.byd.pl]

REMINDER
ICOMOS General Assembly and Scientific Symposium 2011

The 17th General Assembly and Scientific Symposium of ICOMOS will be held from 27 November to 2 December 2011 in Paris, France.

You are encouraged to send us information about your activities in order to be included on Member’s Activities in the forthcoming CIVVIH Newsletters