



**Report of the President
of ICOMOS International Scientific Committee
on Historic Towns and Villages (CIVVIH)**

Florence ,November 13,2014

This report refers to the period of the last year (2013-2014).

My priorities for CIVVIH are still to :

- continue the work of our committee within the framework of friendship, understanding and scientific cooperation that we have all built together from the establishment of the committee to this day.
- continue working at a high scientific level, watching the current phenomena and challenges concerning the historic towns and urban areas
- cooperate with other International Scientific and National Committees of ICOMOS in a interdisciplinary context
- continue to develop partnership with other international organizations with whom we have common interests

1.MEMBERSHIP and STATUTES

Our committee is widely represented by

97 Expert members including honorary members

36 Associate members

10 Honorary members (4 new 2012 Honorary members :)

Since last year, we have welcomed 4 Expert members and 1 Associate members

After a long process the Statutes were completed according the Eger Xian principles and the comments made by ICLAFI <http://civvih.icomos.org/?q=statutes>

The GILLES NOURISSIER Database has begun being completed. However, each member must pay their fees to their National Committees and must first enter this information in the Database. Otherwise, the Database does not allow the registration of members.

2.COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS AND INFORMATION

This obligation was met in two ways:

- The Website

Through the completion of the Committee's Website www.civvih.icomos.org, after numerous efforts and volunteer work by new members of ICOMOS-Hellenic; despite its eventual imperfections, I believe that this site offers fairly satisfactory information on the history and goals of our committee, its activities and programs. Unfortunately, we were unable to preserve our previous website, despite the efforts deployed in cooperation with the officer responsible for ICOMOS SITE.

However I believe that we can further develop our presence and communication via ICOMOS WEB Site and to exploit the possibilities offered by the social media.

Moreover, provisions have been made to post, when they request so, our members' scientific publications.

Don't hesitate to send as articles and news from the work and activities.

CIVVIH newsletter

Through the institution and regular diffusion of the CIVVIH newsletter, which is published when there is informative material available, pertaining to the committee's work. From May 2010 to September 2013, 18 CIVVIH electronic newsletters have already been released.

Following the decision of the Executive (6/9/2012) a working group was created, which took collectively the electronic CIVVIH Newsletter as follows:

Co-ordinator/Coordinatrice: Sofia Avgerinou Kolonias.

Editors/Rédacteurs: Elene Negussie and David Logan.

French editing/Version française: Santiago Hidalgo. Assistant to the editors/Assistants de rédaction: Samir Abdulac et Santiago Hidalgo.

Format and layout/Format et disposition: Elene Negussie.

Another major success was that CIVVIH Newsletter gained an international registration number ISSN 2306-6482. For this reason the CIVVIH Newsletter obtained more prestige. Thanks to the collective work the new upgraded version was edited in French and English. The 21th Newsletter is dedicated to the 2013 Annual Meeting, the thirty years of CIVVIH and to our founder Andras Roman.

The 22th is dedicated to the Alanya Mediterranean meeting and the collaboration with UN Habitat.

(More information on <http://civvih.icomos.org/?q=node/18>)

3.MEETINGS

From September 2013 to date, CIVVIH has convened 3 Statutory and Business Meetings, combined with 2 open scientific seminars that dealt with different aspects of urban conservation.

CIVVIH's 2013 annual meeting,

CIVVIH held its 30th anniversary, scientific symposium and annual meeting in Budapest-Visegrad, Hungary, in 2013/9/21-22.

The annual meeting dedicated to the 30 years from the founding and to the memory of its first president Andras Roman started with a commemorative session. The board held one meeting and discussed about official matters and the following main topics:

- The continuation of OWHC project and MOU ICOMOS with OWHC
- Position of MOU ICOMOS / UN-Habitat
- Newsletter
- World Heritage
- Resolutions on skyscraper project of the Lakta business centre in St. Petersburg, concerning the architectural and cultural heritage of Bucharest and on Desyatinniy pereoulok in Kiev
- Scientific program and tri-annual work plan with the Naples resolution about "Culture as a driver of social and economic development of historic towns, cities and urban areas" as the basis
- CIVVIH's participation in 2013 scientific symposium "Reducing Risks to Cultural Heritage from Uncontrolled Development in a Globalized World" as well as the symposium of the General Assembly of ICOMOS in Florence in 2014, "Heritage and Landscape as Human Values"
- future CIVVIH meetings: a. meeting of the Mediterranean subcommittee in Alanya, Turkey in May 2014, b. official meeting of CIVVIH in connection with the General Assembly in November 2014, c. annual meeting in Syros Island, Greece in September 2015. d. annual meeting in Seoul, Korea in 2016.

The symposium's presentation of CIVVIH members drew on the overall topic "Retaining Authenticity in Historic Cities and Urban Areas" in two workshops:

- a. "The introduction of modern infrastructure and new buildings within historic urban landscapes - examples of successful contemporary interventions"
- b. "The impacts of tourism and how historic cities and towns faced the risk of losing inhabitants due to tourism pressures"

(More information on <http://civvih.icomos.org/?q=node/145>)

Costa Rica meetings

In my quality of President, I represented the Committee in the meetings of the Scientific Council and the Advisory Committee San Jose Costa Rica. The theme of the associated Scientific Symposium was 'Reducing Risks to Cultural Heritage from Uncontrolled Development in a Globalized World (2013/10/6-11) under my scientific responsibility as co chair and SC officer.

Twelve CIVVIH members actively participated in the discussions concerning the resolutions.

CIVVIH held a lunch meeting with numerous participation (21 members and observers) on the occasion of the ICOMOS Advisory Committee meeting and Scientific Council meeting. 2013/10/6 in San José, Costa Rica

Thanks to Ofelia Sanou, President of ICOMOS Costa Rica, and Daniel Young of ICOMOS Panama and Executive Committee Member of ICOMOS, CIVVIH members convened at a lunch meeting held on 8 October 2013, together with the members of 'Ciudades y pueblos históricos' of ICOMOS Costa Rica at the Casa San Pancraccio - the house of ICOMOS Costa Rica and discussed official matters.

After the opening and welcoming the participants and especially the guests from Costa Rica and Panama, the main topics which discussed were: Valetta Principles, CIVVIHs 30th anniversary, newsletter, resolutions of the Budapest-Visegrad meeting, MOU-UN-Habitat, the OWHC project, the two workshops of the CIVVIH Budapest-Visegrad meeting, CIVVIHs triennial work plan.

<http://civvih.icomos.org/?q=node/171>

Alanya Mediterranean Sub Committee meeting

Considering the importance of Alanya as a Mediterranean historic city, this year the Mediterranean Sub-Committee of CIVVIH organised a meeting in the city on 2 to 3 May 2014. 21 participants from different countries, including China, Greece, Egypt, France, Israel, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Tunisia, Sweden and Turkey gathered for a scientific symposium on the topic 'Fortified Port Cities in the Mediterranean of the 21st Century: Sites, Values and Genius Loci', with the presentation of six important papers.

Having 8 years presidency in Committee I recommended to take a new president. Therefore CIVVIH VP Teresa Colletta was nominated as the new President of the CIVVIH Mediterranean Sub Committee.

4. OTHER MEETINGS AND PARTICIPTIONS

Many members of CIVVIH participated in the following scientific meetings, seminars, and symposium

-“The Americas Fortifications: Research, Preservation, Assessment and Management”, Havana (Cuba), February 11-15, 2013

-“The Historic City and the City Walls“ and “Traditional Urban Planning Principles and City Walls in Asian Capitals”, Seoul (Korea), February 21-22 and November 14-16, 2013

-The CIVVIH French 'mirror group' meeting, Paris (France)” March 5 and December 4, 2013

-“The Historic Center and the Next City: envisioning Urban Heritage Evolution”, Savannah (USA), 1-4 May 2013

-“The Management Plans of the Historic Cities, Analysis and Guidelines for their Contents and Methodology”, Madrid (Spain), May 20-24, 2013

-“Historical Cities under Development. Keys for Understanding and Acting”, Lyon (France), 23-24 May 24-25, 2013

-“Historic Urban Landscape” meeting, Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), September, 3-5, 2013

-Finally in my capacity as ICOMOS Executive Committee member and President of CIVVIH I have participated in the High-Level Regional Conference “Cultural heritage rehabilitation as a key to sustainable development” on 27-28 October 2014, in Dubrovnik-Croatia. In this delegation participated also Marko Spikic, President of ICOMOS Croatia, and Marko Stokin, President of ICOMOS Slovenia. Participating in Session 3 on “*Tour de Table and Discussion on Cultural Heritage Rehabilitation as a Key to Sustainable Development*”. I make a communication on “*The work of ICOMOS on cultural heritage as pillar of sustainable development*”. The conference was co-organized by the Regional Cooperation Council and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia with the support of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Task Force on Culture and Society.

5. WORLD HERITAGE RELATED ACTIVITIES

I am glad to announce that the contribution of CIVVIH expanded in 2012-2013.

During 2012, a monitoring mission was undertaken for the Albanian cities Berat e Gjirokastra..CIVVIH has also contributed with desk review or in situ mission for :

- Iraq / Erbil Citadel
- Saudi Arabia /Historic Jeddah, the Gate to Makkah
- Turkey /Bursa and Cumalikizik: the Birth of the Ottoman Empire
- United Arab Emirates /Khor Dubai (Dubai Creek)

Also, CIVVIH members have performed evaluations for the **World Monuments Fund (WMF)** on the following sites

- Ciudad De La Plata (Angela Rojas)
- Rancho, Historic City Center Of Oranjestad (Angela Rojas)
- El Centro Histórico Urbano de Sagua la Grande (Angela Rojas)
- Ideal City Of Adelaide(David Logan)
- Historic Center Of L'Aquila (Teresa Colletta)
- Ancient City Of Aleppo(Samir Abdulac)

6. PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATIONS

OWHC PROJECT and the MoU with OWHC/OVPM

Samir Abdulac represented ICOMOS/CIVVIH in the Steering Committee of the joint project associating OWHC, UNESCO, EU and Getty Conservation Institute called “*Historic Cities in Development: Keys for Understanding and Acting.*”

Since 2008, the OWHC and the city of Lyon, in close collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and UNESCO within the framework of the Cities Program and with the financial and technical support of the France-UNESCO Convention, the Netherlands Funds in Trust, the Council of Europe, the Getty Conservation Institute and ICOMOS, have worked for the development of a Compilation of case studies which will ultimately allow the sharing of unparalleled knowledge and expertise in the world of historic cities

It aims at presenting Case Studies chosen among World Heritage Cities. Within the framework of this project, CIVVIH contributes to the definition of the Scientific Orientations, the identification of political and technical decision makers, the Methodology for the presentation of the Case Studies, etc.

The last Steering Committee(n°22) convened on 2 and 3 May 2012, in UNESCO, Paris, The *OWHC Project: Case Studies on the Conservation and Management of Historic Cities - Reconciling Heritage Conservation and Urban Development* is posted on UNESCO website, at: <http://whc.unesco.org/fr/activites/634> and <http://www.ovpm.org> for the final report. . A new cycle began at September 2013.

In Collaboration with Samir Abdulac and the ICOMOS VP Kristal Buckley have prepared on behalf of ICOMOS in Collaboration with OWHC a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed finally in Oaxaca/Mexico on November 2013. The main objective of this MoU is to establish a general framework of cooperation for activities to be planned and implemented jointly by OWHC and ICOMOS concerning the joint areas of interest for the conservation of Cultural Heritage of World Heritage cities. The main possible areas of collaboration are

1. Exchange of information and research concerning the conservation of cultural heritage and urban areas
2. Reinforcement of the current collaboration between OWHC and ICOMOS with the support of the relevant bodies of ICOMOS (Scientific Council and ICOMOS International Scientific Committees, **in particular CIVVIH**)
3. Cooperate in research and development of improved approaches to the conservation of the heritage of cities and urban areas, in particular in the next steps on the project "*Historic Cities in Development: Keys to Understand and Act*";

ICOMOS as associated partner of World Urban Campaign

During the WUF VI, Naples, Italy, 1-7 September 2012 three International Scientific Committees of ICOMOS: ISCEC, CIVVIH and ICLAFI conducted in parallel (3/5 September) a Joint meeting on "The role of Integrated Conservation of Cultural Heritage for a Creative, resilient and Sustainable City". They participated also in a special event named "ICOMOS at World urban Forum" moderated by Prof. Luigi Fusco Girard President of ISCEC.

In this event participated Francesco Bandarin General Director of UNESCO for Culture, Gustavo Araoz, ICOMOS President, and Gideon Koren ICOMOS V. President and President of ICLAFI and me in my capacity of President of CIVVIH.

During this event it was found that, there is need to include the protection of urban heritage among the objectives of the New HABITAT Agenda and it became apparent that it would be very important to take place a collaboration of ICOMOS with UN HABITAT for this purpose. This cooperation could be promoted through the World Urban Campaign.

The president of ICOMOS-ISCEC professor Luigi Fusco Girard, the professors Peter Nijkamp and Christer Gustafsson members of ISCEEC, Jean Louis Luxen the ex Secretary General of ICOMOS, and me in my capacity as President of CIVVIH and member of ICOMOS Executive Committee have participated in the international meeting that took place (on October 12-15/2013) in Split on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Global Parliamentarians on Habitat-GPH under the auspice of the Croatian Parliament. During this meeting, many important issues, relating to the contribution and the involvement of ICOMOS in the World Urban Campaign were clarified.

Following the discussion within the Executive Committee of ICOMOS and finally the decision of the ICOMOS Bureau, Gustavo Araoz ICOMOS President has signed the Statement of Commitment by ICOMOS as Associate Partner of the World Urban Campaign

The main purposes is to establish a collaborative arrangement between UN HABITAT and ICOMOS to achieve common objectives, and to provide a basis for cooperation on the World Urban Campaign and its various component projects and initiatives.

This collaboration regards the insertion of the *role of the culture in the New Agenda* and the aim to explain the sense of the culture in the field of Conservation of Urban Heritage. The objective of this collaboration is to affirm that the role of culture is important.

ICOMOS is interesting to participate in the New HABITAT Agenda procedure regarding the creativity in the future modern policies for the preservation and revival of historic cities, towns and urban areas. The research of the creative approach and of innovative ways is the drawing value of the urban culture and heritage.

UN-Habitat cooperation is proposed to be based on the ISCs in those areas that correspond to UN Habitat interests as CIVVIH, ISCEC, ICLAFI etc.

CIVVIH Secretary-General Claus-Peter Echter participated at two meetings of the Ford Foundation and UN-Habitat in conjunction with the "The City We Need" launch event held on 4 March 2014 at the Ford Foundation in New York. CIVVIH Executive Member Jeff Soule has participated in the 7th World Urban Forum (Medellin /Colombia 5-11 April 2014) and has taken part in the working groups of the Steering Committee of World Urban Campaign, and he argued that the protection of urban heritage should be included among the objectives of World Urban Campaign.

ICOMOS was represented also by ICOMOS Italy (Mauricio Di Stefano), CIVVIH (Jeff Shoule, Teresa Colletta) ISCEC(Luigi Fusco Girard, D. Rypkema) and Andrew Potts (ICOMOS SDG Focal Point) at the Urban Thinkers Campus in Caserta /Italy on 15 October 2014 organised within the World Urban Campaign

<http://www.unhabitat.org>

<http://wuf7.unhabitat.org/theworldurbanforum>

<http://www.worldurbancampaign.org/>

<http://wuf7.unhabitat.org/medellin-declaration>

7. SCIENTIFIC WORK PROGRAMME

(Date of adoption of the Scientific Work Programme: 2009/6/23 (updated in May and June of 2010, <http://civvih.icomos.org/?q=node/63>)

Through this approach, our committee's scientific work has been included in the triennial Interdisciplinary ISC Scientific Theme for the 2009-2011 Triennium, under title "CHANGING WORLD, CHANGING VIEWS OF HERITAGE: the impact of global change on cultural heritage"

During the 17th General Assembly in Paris the Scientific Council formed a three-year program (2012-14) of scientific symposiums within the context of the annual meetings of the Advisory Committee in regard to the risks threatening the cultural tangible and intangible heritage with the title *Tangible Risks, Intangible Opportunities: Long-Term Risk Preparedness and Responses for Threats to Cultural Heritage*

Within this context CIVVIH participated in the scientific symposium of 2013 "Reducing Risks to Cultural Heritage from Uncontrolled Development in a Globalized world" (a. Identifying, Understanding and Characterizing the Landscapes, b. Measures and Strategies for Mitigating Risks from Population Growth, Urbanization and Immigration, c. Tourism and Commercialization), as well as the symposium of the next General Assembly of ICOMOS in Florence in 2014, "Heritage and Landscapes as Human Values".

CIVVIH, being fully aware that the current changes in the life of towns and urban areas take place rapidly and within the multidimensional modern environment, will continue its concern for and make its recommendations in view of these developments and challenges. CIVVIH needs to consider in the future the most progressive opinions and, mainly, proposals for the protection and revival of historic towns, such as those relating to creative and smart cities, thus continuing the thirty-year tradition of the Committee.

THANKS

In closing this concise report, I would like to extend my warmest thanks to the vice-presidents, Teresa Colletta, Danuta Klosek-Kozłowska and Samir Abdulac for their suggestions on the inclusion of new members and our general secretary Claus -Peter Echter for all his organizational support.

For the realization of the new release of CIVVIH Newsletter I extend my warm thanks to our Editors Elene Negussie and David Logan, the associate member of CIVVIH Santiago Hidalgo. For his very efficient assistant to the editors/ and the translation in French. Special thanks to Elene Negussie for the esthetic format and layout

Special thanks are addressed to Samir Abdulac for his cooperation and participating in representing the ICOMOS CIVVIH in the OWHC project, to Danuta Klosek-Kozłowska for her initiative to create the CIVVIH Sub Committee on The Cities Heritage of Central and East Europe, to Teresa Colletta for her efforts to publish the Acta of the Naples symposium and to accept the presidency of Mediterranean sub Committee..

I would like to warmly thank CIVVIH Honorary members, and the members of CIVVIH Executive for having enriched the CIVVIH with their ideas and concerns, as well as all our active members for their interest and participation in our activities.

Finally, Special thanks are addressed to Gergely Nagy and Tamas Fejerdy, to ICOMOS Hungary and its secretariat for all their efforts to organize and hosting the CIVVIH Annual Meeting 2013 in commemoration of CIVVIH 30th anniversary and our founder Andras Roman,as well as the ICOMOS Italy for hosting us today

In closing, I am wishing for our committee to maintain its friendly and collective-colleague character, while strengthening its scientific work in the future.

Sofia Avgerinou Kolonias

President of CIVVIH