

CIVVIH - 2001–2003 Report

Michal Firestone, Secretary General,

February 2004

President:	Mr. Ray BONDIN (Malta)
Vice Presidents:	Mr. Nils AHLBERG (Sweden), Ms. Sofia AVGERINO-KOLONIAS (Greece), Mr. Michel BONNETTE (Canada)
Bureau members:	Elected: Mr. João CAMPOS (Portugal), Mr. Alvaro GOMEZ-FERRER BAYO (Spain), Mr. Pavel GREGOR (Slovakia), Ms. Tatiana K. KIROVA (Italy), Mr. Krzysztof PAWLOWSKI (Poland), Mr. Michel POLGE (France) Co-opted: Mr. Tamás FEJÉRDY (Hungary), Mr. Yuichi FUKUKAWA (Japan)
Honorary Member:	Mr. András ROMÁN (Hungary)
Secretary General:	Ms. Michal FIRESTONE (Israel)

1. Membership

- a. CIVVIH has worked to increase and to diversify its membership body. As a result, the committee currently has over 40 **voting members** and 90 **associate members** (50 of them from the U.S.A.). These members represent a wide range of countries in Western, Central and Eastern Europe, in the Mediterranean area, in North, central and South America, in South Africa and in the Pacific Rim. In addition, CIVVIH is encouraging its voting members to disburse relevant information to members of national scientific committees of historic towns and villages.
- b. During the years 2001-2003, attendance at CIVVIH's annual meetings came close to thirty – of both voting and associate members.

2. Membership policy

- a. Any national committee can nominate a **voting** member to CIVVIH. In addition, any member of ICOMOS, who is interested in the conservation of historic towns and villages, can join CIVVIH as an **associate** member.

- b. The increase in numbers necessitates further examination of the committee's membership policy and a possible development of a more detailed and concrete one. It has been suggested that the committee re-define its membership types (for example: voting members, active members and associate members) and discuss the installment of membership fees. The committee will discuss the issue in its next annual meeting in May 2004.

3. Meetings

- a. CIVVIH held annual meetings in Porto, Portugal (2001), Corfu, Greece (2002) and Eger, Hungary (2003). Other meetings were held in Madrid (2002) - during ICOMOS's General Assembly and in Rhodes (2003) - in connection with OVPM's meeting. Future meetings include annual meetings in Nancy, France (2004), Istanbul, Turkey (2005) and Finland (2006). Reports of these meetings are available from the CIVVIH website at www.icomos.org/civvih under section "Annual Meetings".

4. Elections

- a. Elections for president, vice-presidents and bureau members of the committee were held in Corfu, Greece in 2002. The secretary general was elected in Madrid in 2002.

5. Format of annual meetings

- a. In 2001-2003, the annual meetings consisted of three parts: 1) A conference – open to speakers of the hosting country. 2) Presentations by CIVVIH members (open to the public in Porto and in Corfu, closed to the public in Eger) and 3) A session devoted to committee business. The conference and the accessibility of the scientific discussions to the local public were considered to be CIVVIH's contribution to the professional dialogue in the hosting country.
- b. CIVVIH is currently re-examining the format of its annual meetings in order to facilitate and improve the exchange of professional experience, The committee is also considering alternative means for contributing to the hosting country.

6. Publications

- a. Papers presented in Porto and in Corfu have been published in the form of a book. The papers presented in Eger are yet to be published – in CD-ROM format.
- b. The committee is currently negotiating the foundation of an annual publication series with the city of Eger, Hungary. Alternatively, it has been suggested that the committee ask for a publication as a prerequisite for accepting an invitation to hold the committee's annual meeting in any given county. The matter is to be brought to CIVVIH's 2004 annual meeting.

7. Hosting country

- a. CIVVIH was founded in the city of Eger, Hungary, and has been associated with that city ever since. Over the last few years, technological developments have made it

possible for CIVVIH to operate without a physical headquarters. During those years, the committee held most of its annual and extraordinary meetings in cities other than Eger. As a result, ties between CIVVIH and its headquarters have somewhat weakened and need to be re-established on new grounds.

- b. CIVVIH held its 2003 annual meeting in Eger and has chosen to maintain its association with the city. However, the committee suggested that negotiations be held with city officials to better adapt the cooperation between the two bodies to current conditions. It was suggested that CIVVIH ask the city for an annual publication series, for a web site and for financial support to members who participate in committee meetings in Eger. In return, CIVVIH will maintain its association with Eger, include its logo in all the committee's publications and hold annual meetings in the city at a specified frequency. The issue is to be discussed – once more, during CIVVIH's 2004 annual meeting.

8. Professional Activities

- a. Thematic reports for the World Heritage Center
CIVVIH members wrote a report on fortified towns in Central Europe.
- b. Projects
CIVVIH is participating in the APPEAR project.
- c. Nominations for World Heritage Sites
CIVVIH members submitted evaluation and second opinion reports on Liverpool (U.K.), Rostov (Russia), Kazan (Russia), Ubeda and Baeza (Spain), Madrin (Turkey), Tel-Aviv (Israel) and Trebic (Czech Republic).
- d. Monitoring missions for the World Heritage Center
A CIVVIH member submitted a report assessing the construction of new construction in the center of Lübeck, Germany.

9. Partnerships

- a. CIVVIH is seeking to establish professional ties with the Organization of World Heritage Cities (OVPM/OWHC).

10. Web site

- a. CIVVIH's web site made its debut on February 2004 at www.icomos.org/civvih. The site carries useful information of scientific, administrative and logistic contents. It also works as a portal and allows the national committees of historic towns and villages to build their own homepage – thus providing news and information to the whole CIVVIH membership and ICOMOS community on matters related to the conservation of historic towns and villages.
