

# DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

## DOCUMENT 1

### INTERNATIONAL CHARTER FOR THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF MONUMENTS AND SITES

Imbued with a message from the past, the historic monuments of generations of people remain to the present day as living witnesses of their age-old traditions. People are becoming more and more conscious of the unity of human values and regard ancient monuments as a common heritage. The common responsibility to safeguard them for future generations is recognized. It is our duty to hand them on in the full richness of their authenticity.

It is essential that the principles guiding the preservation and restoration of ancient buildings should be agreed and be laid down on an international basis, with each country being responsible for applying the plan within the framework of its own culture and traditions.

By defining these basic principles for the first time, the Athens Charter of 1931 contributed towards the development of an extensive international movement which has assumed concrete form in national documents, in the work of ICOM and UNESCO and in the establishment by the latter of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property. Increasing awareness and critical study have been brought to bear on problems which have continually become more complex and varied; now the time has come to examine the Charter afresh in order to make a thorough study of the principles involved and to enlarge its scope in a new document.

Accordingly, the II<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments, which met in Venice from May 25<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> 1964, approved the following text:

#### DEFINITIONS

*Article 1.* The concept of an historic monument embraces not only the single architectural work but also the urban or rural setting in which is found the evidence of a particular civilisation, a significant development or an historic event. This applies not only to great works of art but also to more modest works of the past which have acquired cultural significance with the passing of time.

*Article 2.* The conservation and restoration of monuments must have recourse to all the sciences and techniques which can contribute to the study and safeguarding of the architectural heritage.

## AIM

*Article 3.* The intention in conserving and restoring monuments is to safeguard them no less as works of art than as historical evidence.

## CONSERVATION

*Article 4.* It is essential to the conservation of monuments that they be maintained on a permanent basis.

*Article 5.* The conservation of monuments is always facilitated by making use of them for some socially useful purpose. Such use is therefore desirable but it must not change the lay-out or decoration of the building. It is within these limits only that modifications demanded by a change of function should be envisaged and may be permitted.

*Article 6.* The conservation of a monument implies preserving a setting which is not out of scale. Wherever the traditional setting exists, it must be kept. No new construction, demolition or modification which would alter the relations of mass and colour must be allowed.

*Article 7.* A monument is inseparable from the history to which it bears witness and from the setting in which it occurs. The moving of all or part of a monument cannot be allowed except where the safeguarding of that monument demands it or where it is justified by national or international interests of paramount importance.

*Article 8.* Items of sculpture, painting or decoration which form an integral part of a monument may only be removed from it if this is the sole means of ensuring their preservation.

## RESTORATION

*Article 9.* The process of restoration is a highly specialised operation. Its aim is to preserve and reveal the aesthetic and historic value of the monument and is based on respect for original material and authentic documents. It must stop at the point where conjecture begins, and in this case, moreover, any extra work which is indispensable must be distinct from the architectural composition and must bear a contemporary stamp. The restoration in any case must be preceded and followed by an archaeological and historical study of the monument.

*Article 10.* Where traditional techniques prove inadequate, the consolidation of a monument can be achieved by the use of any modern technique for conservation and construction, the efficacy of which has been shown by scientific data and proved by experience.

*Article 11.* The valid contributions of all periods to the building of a monument must be respected, since unity of style is not the aim of a restoration. When a building includes the superimposed work of different periods, the revealing of the underlying state can only be justified in exceptional circumstances and when what is removed is of little interest and the material which is brought to light is of great historical, archaeological or aesthetic value, and its state of preservation good enough to justify the action. Evaluation of the importance of the elements involved and the decision as to what may be destroyed cannot rest solely on the individual in charge of the work.

*Article 12.* Replacements of missing parts must integrate harmoniously with the whole, but at the same time must be distinguishable from the original so that restoration does not falsify the artistic or historic evidence.

*Article 13.* Additions cannot be allowed except in so far as they do not detract from the interesting parts of the building, its traditional setting, the balance of its composition and its relation with its surroundings.

## HISTORIC SITES

*Article 14.* The sites of monuments must be the object of special care in order to safeguard their integrity and ensure that they are cleared and presented in a seemly manner. The work of conservation and restoration carried out in such places should be inspired by the principles set forth in the foregoing articles.

## EXCAVATIONS

*Article 15.* Excavations should be carried out in accordance with scientific standards and the recommendation defining international principles to be applied in the case of archaeological excavation adopted by UNESCO in 1956.

Ruins must be maintained and measures necessary for the permanent conservation and protection of architectural features and of objects discovered must be taken. Furthermore, every means must be taken to facilitate the understanding of the monument and to reveal it without ever distorting its meaning.

All reconstruction work should however be ruled out *a priori*. Only anastylosis, that is to say, the re-assembling of existing but dismembered parts can be permitted. The material used for integration should always be recognisable and its use should be the least that will ensure the conservation of a monument and the reinstatement of its form.

## PUBLICATION

*Article 16.* In all works of preservation, restoration or excavation, there should always be precise documentation in the form of analytical and critical reports, illustrated with drawings and photographs.

Every stage of the work of clearing, consolidation, rearrangement and integration, as well as technical and formal features identified during the course of the work, should be included. This record should be placed in the archives of a public institution and made available to research workers. It is recommended that the report should be published.

The following persons took part in the work of the Committee for drafting the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments:

- Mr. Piero Gazzola (Italy), Chairman;
- Mr. Raymond Lemaire (Belgium), Reporter;
- Mr. José Bassegoda-Nonell (Spain)
- Mr. Luis Bonavente (Portugal)
- Mr. Djurdje Boskovic (Yugoslavia);
- Mr. Hiroshi Daifuku (U.N.E.S.C.O.)
- Mr. P.L. de Vrieze (Netherlands);
- Mr. Harald Langberg (Denmark);

Mr. Mario Matteucci (Italy);  
Mr. Jean Merlet (France)  
Mr. Carlos Flores Marini (Mexico);  
Mr. Roberto Pane (Italy);  
Mr. S.C.J. Pavel (Czechoslovakia);  
Mr. Paul Philippot (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property);  
Mr. Victor Pimentel (Peru);  
Mr. Harold Plenderleith (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property);  
Mr. Deoclecio Redig de Campos (Vatican);  
Mr. Jean Sonnier (France);  
Mr. François Sorlin (France);  
Mr. Eustathios Stikas (Greece);  
Mrs. Gertrude Tripp (Austria);  
Mr. Jan Zachwatowicz (Poland);  
Mr. Mustafa S. Zbiss (Tunisia).

## DOCUMENT 2

### RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION FOR MONUMENTS AND SITES

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments,

*having put forward*

a proposal for the creation of an international non-governmental organisation for monuments and sites, and having heard the report submitted by the Working Party appointed *ad hoc* by the Congress;

*having agreed to*

the necessity of creating such an organisation to coordinate international effort for the preservation and the appreciation of the world heritage of historic monuments;

*having noted*

the findings of the International Committee for monuments, artistic and historical sites and archaeological excavations, convened in Paris from May 19th to 22nd 1964 to hold its 9th Session upon invitation of the Director General of UNESCO;

*considers*

that the time has now come to implement practical measures for the creation of an INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MONUMENTS AND SITES (ICOMOS);

*appoints*

for this purpose an Organizing Committee (Annexe 1) and a provisional Executive Board (Annexe 2);

*entrusts*

the Organizing Committee and the Board with:

1) the calling of meetings in order to prepare a General Constituent Assembly in the course of 1965 or 1966;

2) the appointment of a sub-Committee responsible for the drawing up of draft statutes and regulations to be submitted to the General Assembly, on the basis of a provisional draft prepared by Unesco and amended by the Working Party of the Congress;

3) the study, in co-operation with the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (Rome Centre) and with the International Council of Museums (ICOM), of the means necessary in order to set up and maintain, among the three Organizations, a close and permanent co-operation, particularly for the establishment of a common statutory system (between ICOMOS and ICOM), and for associating experts with the work of the Rome Centre;

4) the study of the financial and administrative ways of organising and developing ICOMOS and to submit relevant proposals to the General Constituent Assembly;

5) to act as provisional representative of ICOMOS while in the process of organisation, on international bodies, particularly UNESCO, the Rome Centre and ICOM.

*requests*

one of the countries represented in Venice kindly to act as host to the General Constituent Assembly in 1965 or 1966;

*submits*

to the Director General and to the General Conference of UNESCO the desire that UNESCO should be able to envisage the possibility of granting ICOMOS funds to be devoted to the expenses necessary for the establishing and running of ICOMOS;

*expresses the wish*

that the Rome Centre considers the possibility of granting the assistance of its Secretariat to the Organizing Committee of ICOMOS, as far as the necessary funds can be forthcoming.

## ANNEXE 1

*Organizing Committee:*

President: Mr. De Angelis d'Ossat;

Vice-Presidents: Mr. Amer, Mr. Brew, Mr. Sereguine;

Members: Mr. Abdul-Hak (Syria), Mr. Bornheim (Germany), Mr. Chauvel (France), Mr. Demus (Austria), Mr. Ekpo-Eyo (Nigeria), Mr. Iñiguez-Almech (Spain), Mr. Ionesco (Rumania), Mr. Lal (India), Mr. Langberg (Denmark), Mr. Pavel (Czechoslovakia), Mr. Pimentel (Peru), Mrs. Rivera de Coronel (Mexico), Mr. Sekino (Japan), Mr. Stikas (Greece), Mr. Zbiss (Tunisia), Mr. Zdravkovic (Yugoslavia).

Ex-officio members: representatives of the Rome Centre and of ICOM.

Observer of UNESCO.

*Bureau:* Mr. Almagro (Spain), The Earl of Euston (United Kingdom), Mr. Gazzola, General Secretary (Italy), Mr. Lemaire (Belgium), Mr. Lorentz (Poland), Mr. Schmid (Switzerland), Mr. Sonnier (France).

## DOCUMENT 3

## RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE TEACHING OF PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF MONUMENTS

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments  
*resolves*

I. That an introduction to the problems of preservation and restoration of ancient monuments should be included in the programme of all University faculties of architecture, history of art and archaeology.

II. That the international courses organized at the Architecture Faculty of Rome University should be developed in a spirit of international co-operation and of co-operation with the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property.

— That the national authorities interested should give their support and facilitate attendance at these courses of young architects, art historians and archaeologists, who by their qualifications will be most likely to benefit by them so that a high scientific standard can be guaranteed.

III. With regard to the Far East, international courses and facilities should be organised in Asia so that specialists can be trained there in the problems relevant to the conservation and restoration of monuments and historic sites in those regions.

## DOCUMENT 4

## RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PUBLICATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THEORY, TECHNIQUE AND LEGISLATION CONCERNING THE PRESERVATION AND THE RESTORATION OF MONUMENTS

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments  
*recommends*

that an international magazine of theory, technique and legislation concerning the preservation and the restoration of ancient monuments should be published; with this in view, hopes that UNESCO and the member countries will make a regular contribution by publishing and financing this magazine.

## RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PUBLICATION OF DISCOVERIES MADE DURING RESTORATION WORK

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments  
*owing to the fact that*

no discovery made during restoration work is of value for science unless it is published or at least included in a report filed in the public archives,  
*recommends*

— that architects, archaeologists and art historians appointed to carry out a restoration should publish the results of their work;

— that these publications should be listed in an international bibliography edited by ICOMOS;

— that authors should send a copy of their publications to ICOMOS which would keep them in a library accessible to the members of this international organisation.

## DOCUMENT 6

## RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE ADHERENCE OF THE COUNTRIES TO THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION AND THE RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments  
*appealing to*

the fundamental importance of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property in the safeguarding of historic monuments,  
*considering*

the work already done in this purpose

*invites*

architects and technicians of historic monuments to apply to the Centre to obtain information, exchange information and expert advice.

Furthermore, it invites participants to the Congress, coming from countries which are not yet members of the Centre, to persuade the governments of their countries to join the Centre as soon as possible in order to establish co-operative relations both in the interest of the countries themselves and to safeguard the architectural heritage of mankind.

DOCUMENT 7

MOTION CONCERNING THE RE-PUBLICATION  
OF THE « DIRECTORY OF RESTORATION LABORATORIES  
AND WORKSHOPS » AND THE CREATION  
OF A CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE STUDY  
OF DETERIORATION OF STONE

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments

*resolves*

I. That a new edition of the « Directory of Museum Laboratoires and Restoration Workshops » should be issued by the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property. This Directory should also include all laboratories interested in studying deterioration of different materials used in construction and particularly of stone.

II. That ICOM and ICOMOS should set up a single committee whose function would be to facilitate contact between all these laboratories. The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property could act as the Secretariat of this Committee and diffuse the results of all studies undertaken.

III. That all the experts in matters regarding the preservation of monuments should answer the questionnaire concerning the deterioration and treatment of stones prepared by Mr. René Sneyers, appointed by ICOM.

IV. That these studies should be financed as generously as possible.

DOCUMENT 8

MOTION CONCERNING PROTECTION  
AND REHABILITATION OF HISTORIC CENTRES

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments

*considering*

— that it is necessary rapidly to promote legislation for safeguarding historic centres, which should keep in view the necessity both of safeguarding and improving these historic centres and integrating them with contemporary life;

— that this essential question of the preservation of the monumental heritage has already been studied by international organizations such as UNESCO and the Council of Europe;

— that it is important to find a solution soon, both on a national and international scale, by close association between the bodies entrusted with preservation and the authorities qualified to draw up schemes of town-planning and land utilisation,

*recommends*

— that national and international bodies should take appropriate steps to promote the rehabilitation of monuments and historic centres;

— with this aim, the results of studies and of work proposed or carried out in this field, should be brought to the knowledge of the responsible authorities;

— that the international bodies should recommend that countries adopt measures suitable for the preservation and improvement of historic centres.

DOCUMENT 9

MOTION CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF TEXT  
OF THE LAWS FOR SAFEGUARDING MONUMENTS  
AND HISTORIC SITES

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments

*considering*

the usefulness of exchanging information about the laws in force in different countries for the safeguarding of artistic archaeological monuments and of artistic and historic sites;

*resolves*

that UNESCO should be responsible for collecting the texts of these laws and distributing them among the member nations.

DOCUMENT 10

MOTION CONCERNING THE CONTRIBUTION  
OF MODERN BIG WORKS TO THE KNOWLEDGE  
OF ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments

*considering*

— that works of every kind increasingly interfere with sites containing archaeological remains of high cultural value and lead to their destruction;

— that in consequence a serious responsibility for our cultural heritage rests upon the present society;

— that there can be absolutely no question of stopping the execution of necessary works; but it is of the greatest importance to be warned in good time not only of projects affecting sites of recognized archaeological value but also of fortuitous discoveries made during works carried out on other sites;

— That it is of paramount importance to preserve *in situ* or in the form

of graphic and descriptive documents those remains which constitute the archives of civilisation,

*resolves*

— that all nations should implement the recommendation of UNESCO in the field of archaeological excavations;

insisting, moreover, that interested bodies notify in time works envisaged on sites of recognised archaeological value, and declare as well accidental discoveries made on other sites;

undertaking to create the supervisory agencies necessary to enforce this law.

#### DOCUMENT 11

### RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE NECESSITY OF TAKING INTERNATIONAL ACTION FOR FINANCING THE SAFEGUARDING OF MONUMENTS

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments

*regarding*

with satisfaction the efforts made by UNESCO to promulgate international regulations concerning the preservation of cultural monuments endangered by public or private works;

*resolves*

that this international body should take immediate steps to hasten the bringing of these regulations into effect and

*draws the attention*

of the same body to the necessity of setting up an international organisation to finance the work of preserving threatened monuments of international importance. It is suggested that, when a nation's economic resources are not such as to permit the financing of such operations, international financing bodies such as the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development, the United Nations Special Fund, or the Technical Assistance Board, with enlarged powers, should secure the necessary finance.

#### DOCUMENT 12

### MOTION CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF A FINANCIAL POLICY TO FURTHER THE INTERESTS OF HISTORIC HOUSES

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments

*being aware*

of the very heavy financial expenses involved for owners in the upkeep, repair and restoration of historic houses, the preservation of which is nonetheless essential to the architectural heritage of mankind;

*recommends*

that governments, by an enlightened financial policy, should decrease the burden of all kinds of taxes on houses classed as of historic or aesthetic importance and by this means encourage owners of such houses to preserve, maintain and restore them.

#### DOCUMENT 13

### RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PRESERVATION OF THE « MAISON DU PEUPLE » IN BRUSSELS

The plenary meeting of the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments

profoundly touched by the threatened destruction of the « Maison du Peuple » in Brussels

*appeals*

most urgently to the Belgian authorities to do everything in their power to save as much as possible of this major work by Victor Horta.