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Statutes

International Scientific Committee for Stone

Article 1 - Constitution

The ICOMOS international scientific committee for Stone (hereafter referred to as « the Committee ») was created in 1967. The new statutes which follow, drawn up according to the Eger/Xian Principles for international scientific Committees (decision of the 12th general meeting), were drafted by the Committee during its meeting on September 29th 2008 and approved by the executive Committee.

Article 2 - Objectives

The Committee's purpose is to promote the knowledge and the preservation of inorganic porous building materials (IPBM), such as natural and artificial stones, further detailed in Article 7.4.

Employing a multidisciplinary approach, it aims to identify research gaps, stimulate and support research activities and increase exchange and dissemination of knowledge and skills in order to promote greater understanding in the heritage field.

ISCS fosters collaborations with the other ICOMOS scientific committees to reach common goals.

Article 3 - Activities

In order to reach its objectives, the Committee will develop activities in support of the ICOMOS triennial action plans and in agreement with the ISCS work program and will include in particular:

- The promotion of dissemination and sharing of information on IPBM conservation both nationally and internationally, for both professionals and the public
- Both the real and virtual production of information documents, as publications, newsletter, Web site
- The organisation of scientific conferences or workshops in relationship with the Committee meetings, and in partnership with expert institutions in the field
- The participation and promotion of training and education activities
- The provision of a technical assistance

Article 4 – Membership

Membership is open to ICOMOS members competent in the area of IPBM conservation. There are four categories of members, whose profiles are described in articles 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4. The membership evaluation process is described in article 4.5. The exclusion or reassignment of members is described in article 4.6.

4.1. EXPERT MEMBER

4.1.1. Expert Members are defined as individuals with proven professional and / or scientific experience in the field of analysis and conservation in the field of IPBM.

4.1.2. Expert Members may be oriented to either practice (practitioners) or research (scientists), or both. It is recognized that a combination of practitioners and scientists is important and consistent with the aims of the committee.

4.1.3. Expert Members are required to fulfil one of the following conditions:

4.1.3.1. A minimum of ten years of experience in the field of IPBM conservation, and a minimum of ten case studies or practical experiences, involving the conservation of IPBM. The cases must have been analyzed by him/her or under his/her direct supervision and have demonstrated a depth of understanding and knowledge to be acknowledged by his/ her peers to be a leader in the field of IPBM conservation.

4.1.3.2. A minimum period of 10 years of experience in the following fields:

- Monumental IPBM, deterioration, conservation, and analysis,
- Monumental IPBM identification,
- Stone extraction, quarrying, production
- Archaeology related to IPBM, and

a minimum of ten relevant publications in the fields described above These publications must demonstrate a depth of understanding and expertise acknowledged by his/her peers.

4.1.4. Members showing education, training, knowledge, experience and skills in the field, but not complying with the profiles and requirements of Expert Members items (4.1.3.1.) and (4.1.3.2.), may also be considered. The Committee will carefully review each application / request for membership and applicant will only be accepted in well-founded cases. The candidates must show a combination of merits relevant to the field. The Committee shall evaluate the potential contribution of the candidate to be important for its aims and activities.

4.1.5. Expert Members may be proposed by their National Committee, be self-nominated or directly invited by the Committee. Nomination may be accepted at any time. Membership will be accepted after the evaluation process described in section (4.4.).

4.1.6. Expert Members can be of unlimited number and the Committee strives to have representatives from all regions of the world. They have the right to participate to any aspects of the work of the committee.

4.1.7. Expert Members contribute to ISCS following activities (including exchange of information, participation to the meetings, sent an annual update on their own activities to the Bureau)

4.1.8. All expert Members have the right to vote on all matters before the Committee, excepting the election of members of the Bureau and on amending these statutes.

4.1.9. Voting for officers of the Committee is according to the principle of one vote per country, and only an expert member designated by a National Committee of ICOMOS may vote (Article IV B 4 of the Eger-Xi'an Principles).

4.1.10. Only expert members can be proposed by the committee to ICOMOS World Heritage missions.

4.2 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

4.2.1. Members of ICOMOS who wish to gain knowledge and build up an expertise through active volunteer work may apply to be associated members. The Committee will select associate members among the applicants who express interest in participating in committee activities. The ISCS committee will strive to incorporate associate members in its work.

4.2.2. Associate members are conditionally accepted for a period of three years, after which time their contribution to the committee will be evaluated according to the process described under 4.1.3. and 4.1.4. to assess their contribution to the committee. The associate member shall be:

- Extended for another three years with a maximum of three such triennial extensions,

or

- Upgraded to expert member, or
- Rejected on the basis of no participation or unsatisfactory performance.

4.2.3. When appropriate, the committee may ask a national committee to designate one or more associate members to help building up expertise in the field of IPBM conservation in the respective countries.

4.2.4. Associate members are accorded no voting rights.

4.3. HONORARY MEMBERS

4.3.1. Honorary Members may be proposed for election by Expert Members of the Committee. Honorary Members may participate in all activities of the Committee, except elections. Honorary Members may use the title of: "Honorary Member, ICOMOS ISCS Committee."

4.4. EVALUATION PROCESS

4.4.1. The competence and expertise of applicants will be assessed by a "membership subcommittee (MS)" nominated by the Committee and composed of at least 3 expert members and the Committee Executive.

4.4.2. The MS will evaluate the merits of applicants based on the CV and references provided and they must meet criteria and requirements of membership in Article 4. As a result, the MS will provide a final recommendation on acceptance to the committee.

4.4.3. The MS will also review the activity of expert members and recommend to the Committee the extension or recommend on the reassignment of categories or termination of membership (see conditions on chapter 4.5.).

4.4.4. The Expert members of the membership subcommittee take the final decision on acceptance of new membership, or extension and termination of membership, in the occasion of the statutory meetings.

4.5. TERMINATION

A member of the committee can be excluded from the committee if he/she is non responsive for three consecutive years. The decision is taken by the membership subcommittee and proposed to the executive Bureau. The member has right of appeal to the Bureau.

Article 5 - Administration

5.1. The Committee reaches decisions with a majority of 51% of voting Members present at the meetings. Present members can vote by proxy for absent voting Members. A voting Member cannot represent more than two absent voting Members.

5.2. The Bureau may determine it is necessary to have a postal vote (eg. To ensure large participation of voting members and/or significant of topic of vote, such as financial)

5.3. Committee meetings will be held at least once every three years. A written invitation from the Bureau will be sent to each Member at least two months prior to the meeting.

5.4. The Committee elects a Bureau: a president, a vice-president and a general secretary, when possible from three separate countries and a treasurer for a three year period. Only expert members can be part of the Bureau. Voting in the election is by expert

members designated by their national committee. Only one active expert member per country can participate to the election. The expert designated to participate to the election of the Bureau is proposed by national committees. In order to reach the quorum, in case this expert does not show up or give his/her proxy, he/she can be replaced for the election process by an expert of the same country, selected by the leaving Bureau. The election is carried out either through a secret vote during a Committee meeting, by postal vote or by email.

5.5. Bureau members cannot hold office for more than three consecutive periods. These periods are considered independently of any period spent as Committee Member. The Bureau will meet at least once a year and will have to submit an annual report to the Committee members and to the ICOMOS executive committee. The Bureau is responsible for the preparation of Committee meetings and for the implementation of committee decisions.

5.6. The Committee can constitute workgroups ruled by these Statutes. The president of a workgroup is responsible for the activities of that workgroup which will be approved by the Committee every year.

5.7. The Committee headquarters are in the same location as the office of one of its Bureau members. Each member of a newly elected Bureau receives from the preceding president a copy of all previous documents.

5.8. The work languages used by the Committee are English and French.

5.9. Every three years, during the year when the ICOMOS General Assembly is held, the Committee has to determine an activity program for the next three-year period. This program clearly and precisely states a series of objectives, a work program, a strategy for its realisation, a budget and a funding plan. This program has to be sent to the ICOMOS executive Committee prior to the ICOMOS general Assembly date.

5.10. A yearly report prepared by the Bureau will be sent to the Members and executive Committee on the 31st of March of every year. This report will include a list of members, the minutes of the Committee and Bureau meetings and the progress status of the triennial work program.

Article 6 - Finances

6.1. It is anticipated that the activities of the Committee will be financed through funds allocated by ICOMOS in its annual budget, through funds collected from international and national organisations and through funding from any other source (donations, legacies, sponsorship) towards the realisation of the Committee tasks.

6.2. The treasurer will prepare an annual budget based on the decisions of the committee and will provide a detailed statement of accounts of its execution.

6.3. Committee Members will themselves meet the necessary expenditures towards their own participation to Committee activities and more specifically towards their participation to meetings.

Article 7 - Miscellaneous

7.1. The Committee will have to conform to the administrative and financial requirements of the country where its headquarters are installed.

7.2. Voting on amendments to this Statute is according to the principle of one vote per country, and only an expert member designated by a National Committee of ICOMOS may vote (Article IV B 4 of the Eger-Xi'an Principles.).

7.3. These statutes will come into effect with the agreement of the ICOMOS executive Committee.

7.4. Inorganic porous building materials (IPBM) mentioned in the article 2 may include mortars, concrete and brick in addition to stone.