

Amendment of the ICOMOS Statutes Joint Proposal by the Merged Working Group and the Executive Committee Report by the Merged Working Group

Executive summary

By its resolution 17GA17 2011/10, the General Assembly established “a working group with a view to submit to the 18th General Assembly in 2014 amendments to the ICOMOS Statutes as well as Rules of Procedure for approval”¹. By resolution 17GA 2011/42, the General Assembly also requested the working group “to study the feasibility of integrating a proposal towards the amendment of the ICOMOS Statutes to include Spanish as a working language”. The working group together with members designated by the Executive Committee² formed the ‘Merged Working Group’ that prepared the amendments³.

ICOMOS has evolved since 1978 and the world in which it is operating has also changed. The proposed amendments update the provisions of the Statutes in order to reflect current practices and standards, but they do not alter the existing structures of the association; they clarify governance and offer new ways to improve financial standing.

The main changes that directly affect the members are: the recognition of the intangible dimension of cultural heritage, the requirement to adhere to the ICOMOS Ethical Principles as integral part of ICOMOS membership, the adoption of a policy on cultural diversity and multilingualism to increase the use of more languages, the inclusion of young members, the extension of voting rights to members even when no National Committee exists, and increased transparency in terms of finances and reporting.

Other changes include: the possibility to create Transnational Committees, the inclusion of affiliates as a class of membership, the recognition of the Scientific Council, the clarification of the duties of the statutory bodies and positions to avoid overlapping, the allocation of votes taking into account to a certain extent the membership numbers, and the organisation of an annual Assembly in conjunction with the annual Advisory Committee meeting to adopt the accounts and the budget.

The proposed amendments of the Statutes are the result of an important and transparent consultation process over the last four years; the suggestions from the membership have been taken into account and legal experts have been consulted. The Merged Working Group and the Executive Committee consider that the work has been concluded and therefore they transmit the amended ICOMOS Statutes as a joint proposal to the General Assembly for adoption. They suggest that the General Assembly request the Board to prepare consolidated Rules of Procedure for ICOMOS and that the other recommendations submitted by the Merged Working Group during the 3rd consultation be considered by the statutory bodies as part of their work programme.

Important remark – proposed date of entry into force: 1 January 2015

It is proposed that the amended Statutes, if adopted by the 18th General Assembly, enter into force on 1 January 2015 (article 25): voting and elections during the 18th General Assembly will therefore be conducted in accordance with the current Statutes.

Next steps in Florence regarding the proposal

The **Advisory Committee** will consider the amendment of the Statutes under agenda item 5-6 on 8 November 2014. This gives it the opportunity to make a recommendation to the 18th General Assembly on their adoption.

An **information session** on the proposed ICOMOS Ethical Principles and the amendment of the Statutes will be held on Tuesday, 11 November 2014, from 13:00 to 14:00 at the main General Assembly venue (Palazzo dei Congressi, Villa Vittoria, Sala Verde - to be confirmed). The purpose of the information session is to prepare the plenary session of the General Assembly where the Ethical Principles and the Statutes will be considered for adoption. The draft resolutions related to the statutory matters (items 5-1 to 5-4 of the General Assembly) will be distributed and presented at the information session.

The **vote by the General Assembly** is scheduled under item 5 (Statutory matters) on 12 November 2014, from 14:30 to 16:00.

Rationale for the amendment of the ICOMOS Statutes

The 2008-2011 Executive Committee identified ambiguities in the Statutes in relation to governance and financial stability, which in the long run may affect the sustainability of the association. In addition, there have been requests for adapting the association to today's requirements in terms of governance and transparency, current needs and practices. It also turned out that the French and the English versions of the Statutes are not identical, and that they are not fully compliant with current French law governing associations incorporated in France.

The ICOMOS Statutes and the Rules of Procedure of its statutory bodies were originally drafted with the help of UNESCO prior to the meeting at which ICOMOS was constituted; at the time, the host country where ICOMOS would be incorporated and establish its headquarters was not known. Not all provisions of the current Statutes, based on the workings of UNESCO in 1965, are thus consistent with the requirements for associations incorporated in France, or with the needs of ICOMOS today.

Suggestions to amend the ICOMOS Statutes have been voiced several times, but ICOMOS Statutes have been amended only once, in 1978, to add the institutional membership category and to increase the maximum number of votes for National Committees from 15 to 18.

Working method

The Merged Working Group considered many reference materials, including the 1965 Statutes of ICOMOS and the reports on their amendment in 1978, the French law and model statutes for associations of public benefit, and the statutes of similar organisations such as the Council on Museums and the Council on Archives; it built upon the analysis and work carried out previously, as required by resolution 17GA 2011/10.

In relation to resolution 17GA 2011/42, the Merged Working Group considered previous General Assembly resolutions on the use of Spanish and the March 2010 report of the Task Force on the use of Languages. It made a comparative analysis of the concepts of 'official language' versus 'working language' and the use of languages in other organisations. It studied the evolution of ICOMOS' decisions and practices and examined its legal obligations.

The Merged Working Group worked essentially over the Internet through sharing reference documents and proposals, and exchanging emails; it had one face-to-face meeting on 7 March 2014 in Paris at the ICOMOS headquarters.

Progress reports were sent to the Executive Committee and the Bureau prior to their meetings. The Bureau members received the same documentation as the members of the Merged Working Group and were invited to contribute to its work.

The Merged Working Group benefitted from legal advice from Jeantet (ICOMOS' legal counsel) in March and in June, and their representatives attended the 7 March meeting.

The International Secretariat uploaded the information on the consultations, was the recipient of the answers and coordinated their translations; all other work was carried out by volunteers.

The consultation process

The 1st consultation was held from October 2010 until January 2011 by the Executive Committee, on the basis of a concept paper with 22 proposals for the amendment of the Statutes⁴: 7 responses were received from 6 National Committees (ICOMOS Australia, Austria, Canada, Spain, Sweden, Venezuela) and 1 individual member (ICOMOS United States). Most contributors indicated that they had difficulty reacting to a concept paper and wanted to see the proposals in the form of draft amendments. The Executive Committee presented the results of the first consultation to the 17th General Assembly in 2011, which in turn established the working group.

The 2nd consultation of the membership was organised by the Merged Working Group from October 2012 until January 2013, based on a draft text for the amendment of the Statutes: 12 responses were received from 10 National Committees (ICOMOS Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Peru) and 2 individual members (ICOMOS Australia, United States).

The 3rd consultation was organised by the Merged Working Group from October 2013 until January 2014⁵, based on a revised proposal for the amendment of the Statutes that took into account the

results of the previous consultations. The Merged Working Group had submitted 5 key questions on which it sought advice before finalising its proposal. It also presented recommendations for consideration either by the General Assembly, the Advisory Committee or the National Committees. These recommendations were related to issues that did not result in amendments of the Statutes but nevertheless impacted on the functioning of the association: they are annexed to this report.

Recommendation 1: it is suggested that the recommendations, contained in the report of the 3rd consultation be considered by the Statutory Bodies as part of their work programme.

The 3rd consultation generated many responses. 35 general contributions were received from: 21 National Committees (ICOMOS Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway Romania, Spain, Sweden, Uruguay, Venezuela), 3 International Scientific Committees (Historic Towns and Villages – CIVVIH; Legal, Administrative and Financial issues – ICLAFI; Vernacular Architecture - CIAV), 10 individual members and 2 staff members. In addition, there were a large number of contributions focusing on the use of Spanish in the work of ICOMOS: 27 contributions from 30 ICOMOS members, 13 contributions from non-members, and 2 petitions signed by members and non-members.

All responses to the consultation were translated and discussed during the meeting of the Merged Working Group on 7 March 2014. The conclusions of the Merged Working Group were presented to the Executive Committee meeting on 8 March 2014.

Between March and June, the Merged Working Group, the Executive Committee and Bureau worked hard to find a common position for the few pending issues. After double-checking with the legal counsel, these pending issues were resolved by discussions over the Internet.

The proposal for the amendment of the ICOMOS Statutes is thus a joint proposal of the Merged Working Group and the Executive Committee, submitted for adoption to the 18th General Assembly. It was distributed to the members by the International Secretariat with Volume 1 of the General Assembly Working Documents at the beginning of July 2014, in conformity with article 19 of the current Statutes. One response on the proposed Statutes distributed in July was received from an individual member, and these comments have been taken into account in the draft resolution that will be put to the General Assembly.

Topics requiring special attention

Resolution 17GA 2011/10 requested the working group to focus on the following topics: membership categories and financial stability, governance, elections, interaction of the Eger-Xi'an and Dubrovnik-Valletta Principles with the Statutes and Rules of Procedure, and compliance with legislation.

Categories of amendments

Since the 2nd consultation, the Merged Working Group presented the amendments in 3 categories:

- Amendments necessary to be in conformity with the law (such as responsibilities of the General Assembly, the President and the Treasurer, and voting rights): ICOMOS has no choice but to implement these provisions; the Merged Working Group incorporated appropriate standard clauses applicable to associations of public benefit in France;
- Amendments necessary to clarify the text (such as corrections, rewording, use of standard terminology, restructuring or regrouping of provisions): here the aim was to propose a clear text in both languages. All articles relating to the statutory bodies have been structured to follow the same order: composition, meetings, decisions, duties, minutes.
- Amendments related to content, some of which affect the functioning of ICOMOS: these have been the focus of the 2nd and 3rd consultations.

While most terms in the English and French versions of the text were literally translated, in a few cases idioms proper to each language were adopted:

- "Conservation" in English and "Preservation" in French, as the generic term encompassing all activities related to cultural heritage;
- "Advisory Committee" in English and "Conseil consultatif" in French;

Key topics and how they have been addressed in the final proposal

Compliance with legislation was largely addressed in the draft version of the Statutes distributed for the 2nd consultation, and the proposals submitted by the Merged Working Group were generally supported by the membership: they needed only a final review by the legal counsel. For the 3rd consultation, the Merged Working Group submitted a revised version that took into account the suggestions received, and identified 5 key issues that needed further consideration. How these and the other topics have been addressed in the final proposal, is presented below.

1 Membership categories – key question for the 3rd consultation

As a result of the consultations, it was agreed to maintain 4 membership categories, which broadly correspond to the current categories but with a few adjustments (article 5-a):

- Institutional membership: no changes
- Individual membership is open to individuals with expertise and to students who have chosen a discipline in one of the areas of activity of ICOMOS (article 5-a-1); individual members younger than 30 benefit from a reduced membership due (article 6-b).
- The Affiliate category is open to individuals who are interested in and want to support ICOMOS and its activities (article 5-a-3).
- Honorary membership can be conferred on members and non-members (article 5-a-4).

As required, article 5-b specifies the membership criteria and how to apply for ICOMOS membership; the National Committees can further detail the application process, if they so wish.

2 Rights & duties of members

Compliance with the ICOMOS Ethical Principles becomes a condition for ICOMOS membership (article 6-a).

The provisions on sanctions from the former Ethical Commitment Statement have been transferred to the Statutes as a result of the first consultation on the Ethical Principles, and based upon the advice received from the legal counsel (article 7).

Two general principles have been integrated in the Statutes in several places: the right of members to be informed about any complaints and the right to appeal against decisions made concerning them (for example articles 7-c and 13-b).

Loss of membership occurs when a person or institution has not paid the membership dues by 1 May of a given year (no change), but a clarification has been added that memberships shall resume when the dues for the year and any arrears have been received (article 7-f).

3 Financial stability

Financial stability depends on a number of factors. It is connected to good financial management, accountability and membership growth. Standard clauses on accounting (article 19), on the designation of an auditor (ex. articles 9-d-5 and 10-d-12), on reporting (ex. articles 9-d-2 and 16-c-9) and on the timely transfer of the membership dues (article 6-b) have been added. Such provisions are common practice for organisations seeking partnerships and benefitting from public and private funding.

The category of 'sustaining members', which existed on paper only, has been transformed into the 'affiliate category': it is open to individuals who are interested in cultural heritage conservation and wish to support the aims and activities of ICOMOS (article 5-a-3). Members who pay an international membership due of a higher value than that set for their category of membership are entitled to be called benefactor members: this is a title and not a separate membership category (article 6-b). These adjustments should allow ICOMOS to pursue an active policy of increasing membership numbers and attracting gifts (dons manuels), which in turn would benefit its financial standing.

Under item 5-4 of the agenda of the 18th General Assembly, the Executive Committee proposes that the General Assembly authorise that recognition of ICOMOS as an association of public benefit be sought (see report by the Executive Committee). A prerequisite for such a request is that the Statutes are in line with the model statutes for associations of public benefit. The Merged Working Group had anticipated the possibility of such request and accordingly made use of these model statutes, notably when some existing provisions had to be rewritten, and missing provisions needed to be added (for example Article 15 on the voluntary nature of positions and Article 19 on accounting).

4 Governance

The duties of the statutory bodies and positions have been reviewed taking into account the legal requirements for associations and the responses from the consultations: duties have been clarified and any overlapping of duties has been removed (essentially in articles 10, 11 and 16). The proposed provisions relating to these items are based on the model statutes for associations of public benefit, including those concerning the positions of President and the Treasurer because they derive from the law on associations; provisions concerning the Secretary General, which do not, are based on suggestions received during consultations.

5 Elections – key question for the 3rd consultation

There was a considerable variety of opinion expressed during the 3rd consultation on the duration and maximum number of terms for Board members, and the method of election of the Bureau members. These views ranged from extending the term of office from 3 to 4 years and retaining the maximum number of three consecutive terms (a total of 12 years), to retaining the present 3-year terms of office and reducing the maximum number of terms to two (total of 6 years). The Merged Working Group and the Executive Committee concurred on the importance of submitting a joint proposal for the amendment of the Statutes and thus agreed on a consensus of maintaining the existing maximum of three consecutive 3-year terms (article 9-d-9).

With regard to the election of the Bureau members, two options had been proposed to the membership during the 3rd consultation: the election of the Bureau members from among the members of the Board by the General Assembly, or election by the Board. As explained by the legal counsel, the electing body (the General Assembly) is legally empowered to elect all members of the Board and Bureau, and to replace any vacant seat (co-option is not possible for that reason), and moreover the number and duration of terms of office need to be the same for all Board members: there cannot be exceptions for the President, Treasurer or Secretary General as is currently the case.

The election of the Bureau by the General Assembly has the advantage of engaging the members. The election of the Bureau by the Board, on the other hand, is a system that is used by many National Committees; it is based on competence and availability rather than on campaigning ('popularity contest'), and it is simple and has more flexibility when a position needs to be filled.

The results of the 3rd consultation were divided, but were more in favour of the direct election of the Bureau by the General Assembly. After considering other options, including the election of the Bureau by the Board with the new President immediately being presented to the General Assembly, and the direct election of the President by the General Assembly and the other members of the Bureau by the Board, the Merged Working Group and the Executive Committee agreed to propose that the General Assembly shall elect the Bureau members from among the Board members in a second round (article 9-d-10).

The candidates for the position of Vice-President are to be nominated by their respective region (article 9-d-10): it was mentioned during consultations that given the regional responsibilities included in their duties it is important for Vice-Presidents to have legitimacy within the region for which they are responsible. The Merged Working Group recommends continuing the current practice within ICOMOS with regard to the denomination and composition of the regions without further formalising it, so as to keep flexibility.

6. Cultural diversity & multilingualism – key question for the 3rd consultation

The responses to the 3rd consultation expressed overwhelming support for the use of more languages in ICOMOS. The Merged Working Group underscored in its report that in order "to fulfil its mission, ICOMOS has an obligation to respect cultural diversity and multilingualism: these are prerequisites to have full access to knowledge and expertise on cultural heritage regardless of the languages in which they are available. (...)", and made three proposals to achieve that objective. It also proposed dispensing with the concept of official languages as this entails the legal obligation to translate all legal and purely administrative texts, which are not of direct relevance to ICOMOS members, into all the official languages: the group was of the opinion that the resources of ICOMOS should be channelled to translation of texts that are important to ICOMOS members. However, this proposal was not well understood and gave rise to wide concern and numerous comments during the 3rd consultation about the position of the Spanish language.

The Merged Working Group has to acknowledge that it did not adequately convey its main message that its proposal was intended to increase the use by ICOMOS of Spanish and other languages, and not to decrease it.

However, in response to the comments received, Article 21 on languages has been rewritten completely:

- The requirement to respect cultural diversity and multilingualism is now presented at the outset (article 21-a). The Board has still the task to adopt a policy on cultural diversity and multilingualism, to report annually to the Advisory Committee and triennially to the General Assembly on its implementation and on the state of cultural diversity and multilingualism in ICOMOS (article 10-d-8).
- All important texts for the members, such as the ICOMOS Ethical Principles and the doctrinal texts of ICOMOS and its International Scientific Committees shall be translated into English, French and Spanish as a minimum: not only does this correspond to the (erroneous) use of the term 'official language' in the current Statutes (article 21-b, first part), but the requirements are made more specific.
- There is no change for the moment with regard to the working languages, but there is the possibility to use Spanish and other languages, in particular the language of the host country of international meetings, under conditions to be specified in the Rules of Procedure (article 21-b, second part).
- ICOMOS being an association incorporated under French law, French is required to be the official language for all administrative and legal documents (article 21-c).

7 Voting rights and allocation of votes – key question for the 3rd consultation

Democracy is a key principle for associations incorporated under French law, the general rule being '1 member, 1 vote', although ICOMOS has from the first adopted a cap on the number of voting members so as not to disenfranchise members from smaller national committees. However, the present system of allocating 18 votes as soon as a National Committee has 18 members is not only not fully compliant with the law but could result in problems of quorum and legitimacy of decisions in the long term. The issue has been addressed in the proposal as follows:

- Members in countries where no National Committee exists shall be given voting rights (article 9-a-1 and 9-a-3);
- All members – individual, institutional, honorary members and affiliates - may be designated as voting members by their National Committee or if none exists by the Bureau (article 6-d);
- Votes shall be allocated taking into account the number of members per National Committee or country, but the maximum number of votes is still capped to protect minorities (article 9-a-1);
- Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority provided that the vote come from at least a third of the National Committees (article 9-c).

For reasons of simplification, the proposed number of votes is a multiple of 5, and the maximum number of votes that can be carried by a voting member has been adjusted in consequence: 5 votes = 4 proxies in addition to one's own vote (article 9-a-4). The majority of the National Committees will still be able to exercise the full number of votes to which they are entitled by having 3 voting members present at a General Assembly: for most National Committees the new proposal will not change the effective voting power that they are currently able to exercise.

The last adjustment of the number of votes to take into account the increased membership was in 1978; the present proposal is a similar adjustment which is more balanced than the current situation, as it provides voting rights to members in countries when there is no National Committee (yet), and more closely aligns the number of votes with the number of National Committee members while still giving National Committees with smaller memberships an effective vote.

8 General Assemblies

Only Extraordinary General Assemblies are entitled to amend the Statutes and to dissolve the association (articles 23 and 24); their rules need to be more stringent than those for ordinary General Assemblies:

| | General Assembly | Extraordinary General Assembly |
|---------------------|--|--|
| May be requested by | Board or 1/3 of NC represented by 2 members | Board or 1/3 of NC represented by 3 members |
| Invitations | At least 2 months in advance with the agenda | At least 4 months in advance with the agenda and proposed resolutions |
| Quorum | n/a | ¼ of the voting members, present or represented, from 1/3 of the NC |
| Decisions | Majority of the voting members, present or represented, from at least 1/3 NC | 2/3 majority of the voting members, present or represented, from at least 1/3 NC |

The General Assembly needs to meet every year to adopt the accounts and the budget for the next year; however, important decisions will still be taken (as they are under the current Statutes) every 3 years at larger gatherings – possibly organised in conjunction with a scientific symposium. Both ICOM and ICA organise annual General Assemblies following the revision of their Statutes. ICOM organises its annual General Assembly in conjunction with the meeting of its Advisory Committee and a similar system is proposed for ICOMOS (article 12-b). The proposal distinguishes matters to be considered every year (compulsory) and those that may be considered according to the 3-year cycle:

| Every year | Every 3 years |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Report President & Treasurer | Programme & budgetary guidelines for the next triennium, including guidelines for membership dues |
| Annual report | Auditor |
| Annual accounts | Doctrinal texts & recommendations Scientific Symposium |
| Budget following year | Report on the Ethical Principles |
| Membership dues following year | Honorary Membership |
| | Elections |

9 The Advisory Committee and its Scientific Council

Throughout the Statutes, attention has been given to the International Scientific Committees: for example they would also be able to propose candidates for honorary membership whereas currently only National Committees can make such proposals (article 5-a-4).

The Advisory Committee is a forum for discussion and exchange of information between the Presidents of the National Committees and the International Scientific Committees (article 12-d-a); therefore the proposal is that if the President of the Advisory Committee comes from one component, the Vice-President comes from the other component (article 12-b).

10 Rules of Procedure

Resolution 17GA 2011/10 entrusted the working group to examine the “interaction of the Eger-Xi’an and Dubrovnik-Valletta Principles with the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure” and to formulate a proposal for the Rules of Procedures for adoption at the 18th General Assembly. The suggestion submitted by the Merged Working Group for the 3rd consultation, to integrate the Principles for the International Scientific Committees and the National Committees into the ICOMOS Rules of Procedure together with a common set of rules for the Statutory meetings (article 22), was endorsed.

Recommendation 2: The Merged Working Group and the Executive Committee recommend that the General Assembly request the Board to prepare consolidated Rules of Procedure for ICOMOS integrating common rules for the meetings of statutory bodies and the Eger-Xi’an and Dubrovnik-Valletta Principles.

Conclusion

The proposed amendments of the Statutes are a joint proposal of the Merged Working Group and the Executive Committee. ICOMOS has evolved since 1978 and the world in which it is operating has also changed. NGOs like ICOMOS have to meet additional requirements in terms of governance and transparency. The proposed amendments do not alter the existing structures of the association, but update the provisions in order to reflect current practices and standards; they clarify governance and offer new ways to improve financial standing.

The proponents of the amended Statutes are well aware that no such document is ever perfect, and that other amendments may need to be considered in the future. However, the Merged Working Group and Executive Committee are confident that the proposal represents an improvement on the current document, and that if adopted it will make a positive contribution to the effective operation of ICOMOS. The proposed amended ICOMOS Statutes are the result of a thorough and transparent drafting and consultation process conducted over the last four years; suggestions from the membership have been taken into account, legal experts have been consulted, and the issues raised by the 17th General Assembly have been addressed. The Merged Working Group and the Executive Committee therefore submit the proposal for amendment of the ICOMOS Statutes to the 18th General Assembly for adoption.

Word of thanks

The Merged Working Group is very grateful to ICOMOS UK and ICOMOS France who provided translations of the contributions received following the consultations, and to ICOMOS France, ICOMOS Ireland and Mr Grellan Rourke for the linguistic review they undertook during the consultation. The proposal for the ICOMOS Ethical Principles and for the amendment of the ICOMOS Statutes resulted from a collective effort; nevertheless the Merged Working Group wishes to address a special word of thanks to Ms Anne Magnant and Mr Peter Philips for their outstanding contributions.

The Merged Working Group is particularly grateful to all ICOMOS members and Committees who have participated in the consultations and in this review of the 1978 ICOMOS Statutes.

Bénédicte Selfslagh
Co-Chair

Annexes

Resolutions of the 17th General Assembly 17GA 2011/10 and 17GA 2011/42
Recommendations of the Merged Working Group submitted during the 3rd Consultation

¹ The Statutes Working Group was established by resolution 17GA 2011/10 and consists of: Andrew Hall (ICOMOS South Africa – former member of the Executive Committee and of the former Statutes Task Force), Gideon Koren (ICOMOS Israel – ICLAFI – member of the former Statutes Task Force and currently ICOMOS

² The Members of the Merged Working Group designated by the Executive Committee are: Ernest Beceril (ICOMOS Mexico – ICLAFI), Dinu Bumbaru (ICOMOS Canada – member of the ICOMOS Executive Committee - former ICOMOS Secretary General 2002-2008), Amel Chabi (United Arab Emirates – coopted member of the ICOMOS Executive Committee), Grellan Rourke (ICOMOS Ireland - member of the ICOMOS Executive Committee), Toshiyuko Kono (ICOMOS Japan, member of the ICOMOS Executive Committee).

³ The Merged Working Group was co-chaired by Bénédicte Selfslagh (Statutes Working Group) and Gideon Koren (Executive Committee); in October 2013, the Executive Committee transferred co-chairmanship from Gideon Koren to Dinu Bumbaru.

⁴ The concept paper submitted to the first consultation contained actually 29 proposals: 22 proposals concerning the amendment of the Statutes and 7 proposals on the amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly. The latter were adopted on the first day of the 17th General Assembly by resolution 17GA 2011/05.

⁵ A 'Question and Answer' session on the proposals submitted for the third consultation was organised in cooperation with ICOMOS Costa Rica, within the framework of the 2013 meeting of the Advisory Committee meeting.