

**SOUVENIRS FROM
THE VENICE CHARTER CONFERENCE**

1964 - 2004 - 2044?

Carlos Flores Marini



**International Scientific Conference
Budapest – Pécs – Hungria / May 22 - 28, 2004**

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II° CONGRESSO INTERNAZIONALE DEGLI ARCHITETTI

E TECNICI DEI MONUMENTI

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Souvenirs from the Venice Charter Conference

Arq. Carlos Flores Marini

The II International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments held in Venice during the month of May of 1964—40 years ago—has led me to some reflections I would like to share with you.

I will divide my presentation in three parts. First, a brief account of my role during the Venice Congress, then, some reflections and souvenirs from the Venice Charter Conference. Finally, and I believe this is fundamental: how the Charter has been interpreted in the American Continent after 40 years.

I had returned to Mexico in 1962 after having studied in Italy with Roberto Pane and Piero Gazzola, among others. In 1964, two months before the Congress, I was asked to preside the Colonial Monuments Direction of

the National Institute of Anthropology and History, in charge of the protection of monumental heritage in Mexico.

The Mexican delegation to the Venice Congress was formed by four people, so one participated in each of the four work groups. I presided group Number One, dedicated to the Theory of Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and their Applications, with Raymond Lemair acting as relator and Roberto Pane in charge of drafting the document titled The Critical Focus of Restoration, which was the launching point for the discussion that ultimately led to the Venice Charter. It is important to remember that the President of the Organization Committee was Pietro Gazzola, Secretary General of the Congress.



Salvador Aceves, Carlos Flores Marini, Ruth Rivera, Arturo Ramírez Bernal, at the closing the II International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments in Venice 31 May 1964.

Seven years after the First International Congress held in Paris in 1957, over 700 attendants representing 60 countries went to Venice with the specific goal of creating an International Association of Specialists in Restoration, that in accordance to ICOM would have their own statutes, but, and it is important not to forget this, with the spirit of forming a NON-GOVERNMENTAL institution, organizing different activities, among which are their General Assemblies, that since that time have been held every three years.

In 1972 Mexico requested to host the Third General Assembly, unfortunately we couldn't go through with it. However, the General Assembly was held here in Budapest and it was a success. Finally we could hold the XII General Assembly in my country in 1999 with the help of Professor Lazlo Kis Papp, Tamas Fejerdy, Gabor Winkler, Jozsef Karmazin, Andras Roman, who have visited my country several times, as well as Piroska Vaczi, Elizabet Kovacs, Mihaly Candor, Judit Janottj, Eva Orcsik and Ildiko Deak. 11 Hungarians out of a total of over 1,300 attendants from 104 countries.

The international association gave birth to ICOMOS the next year in Cracow. We have come a long way as an organization. The national Committees have multiplied, some of them having specific meetings and ICOMOS is heard in the international concert, although not always achieving its goals, as is the case of Iraq. The Venice Charter is still a strong support in several countries that have no solid structure, and above all, no governmental awareness for the protection of their monumental heritage.

The International Charter on the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites –known as the Venice Charter– and divulged as the document of Agreements and Resolutions of the Congress–, has given way to a considerable number of documents that go into detail on subjects that, because of the very nature of the document, are only mentioned there. Among these are subjects regarding urban development and particular aspects, such as the Heritage of the XX Century and Cultural Tourism. In 1981, in Rome, during the VI General Assembly, a new edition of the Charter was presented, adding paragraphs to Articles 1, 2, 14, and 15. But it is the original text that is still known throughout the world.

However, there is something I would like to talk about in detail and that is the spirit present when the Charter was drafted. If you look at the organization of the articles and the structure of the Charter itself, you can see a carefully displayed order that starts with Definitions and Object to talk about its Conservation and Restoration in Article 4. One article –14– talks about Monumental Sites, to ultimately make recommendations regarding Excavations and divulging the work carried out. As any useful document, it is short, precise and concise. Even with the ambiguity of the term *Mise en Valeur*, that has several interpretations, but is more confusing in other languages.

However, it is clear that the spirit of the document is moderation and care in interventions. It defines the exceptional character of restorations and eliminates a priori reconstructions.

This document had an acceptance of contrasting extremes in America, particularly in Mexico. While it meant a solid support to the activities of specialists in the field of the Colonial past, archaeologists working in ancient ceremonial centers of Mexican cultures felt it was meddling in their particular reconstruction methods. Especially the restraint clearly stated in Articles 9, 12, and 13, when they establish a limit to reconstruction interventions due to the personal interpretation of the archaeological remains they had excavated.

I think it is worth mentioning here that Mexico has two million square kilometers, making it difficult, even today, to access many of the ancient holy cities. In the sixties, specialists worked on their own and established their own intervention criteria as far as excavation, consolidation and reconstruction.

I can tell you this from my own personal experience: I began my career in the field of Pre-Hispanic archaeology working in Bonampak, a well-known Mayan ceremonial center with outstanding cave paintings. A small private airplane would arrive every two weeks to bring us supplies, and during that time it was the only communication we had with the outside world. In a situation like that, the chief archaeologist set the limits of the interventions. Hypothesis were determined by him, without consulting anyone else.



Raymond Lemaire in Queretaro - 1978 with the Latin American ICOMOS Presidents.

The elements meant to replace the missing pieces were made using the same materials scattered at destroyed monuments. Some archaeologists established their own method of differentiation. Small stones layed across the limit of the reconstructed areas or a slight change of level between what was reconstructed and the existing remains. In many cases, the parts added are hypothetical and a free interpretation.

This criteria was obvious in situations in which the work had to be demonstrated with material realizations so the government would approve new funding to continue with the work..

The current situation has hardly changed. Today, an Archaeological Commission determines the scope and methods, but it is only the archaeologists who determine the range. There are no restoration architects, with some exceptions, and reconstructions, although they are now more planned, are still made only by archaeologists. In 1994, the government alloted and unusual amount for interventios in ten archaeological zones, millions

that prompted comprehensive works that in some cases resulted in a picturesque appearance of many of them. That is why when Gabor Winkler asks us, "Do we have to exclude all kinds of reconstruction?" we have to consider the cultural and economic environment in which this is taking place.

The Greater Caribbean Monuments and Sites Organization is made up of forty countries, many of which have as their only resource Cultural Tourism, the fortifications built during the XVII and XVIII Centuries to defend them against pirates. There they have an understandable reason for total reconstruction. But some tourist shows in North American fortifications include soldiers and canon shooting, which is way too much. It is not justifiable to do the Disney Routine just to get more tourism, stripping the cultural asset of its essence.

To balance both interests, American countries, inspired in the Venice Charter, determined to draft Regulations, that acknowledging the value of the Charter would adapt to Latin American reality. The QUITO

REGULATIONS, of 1968, establish the ruling principles for the policies for the protection and use of American cultural heritage. It sets the resources of cultural tourism in relation to its revenue and the way it affects development plans. Acknowledging the fact, regulations are established to prevent excess. (Document 1)

There is much more against the spirit of the Venice Charter. And it is the bond, more and more frequent, between ICOMOS and government, making ICOMOS totally dependent in many cases, losing the balance of interests and heading stronger each day toward the creation of scenarios that denaturalize cultural assets.

Analyzing the Quito standards

We should consider tourism as a fundamental source for the conservation of heritage and this was quickly supported by several Latin American countries, who through their institutions of tourist promotion allotted funds to begin the recovery of monumental heritage. It is important to remember that America is a continent

that gets tourism that goes for the sun and beaches and that in the sixties only a very small sector of their visitors was interested in monumental heritage, but only regarding monuments related to indigenous cultures. Thus, the Venice Charter motivated a scientific approach to restoration –the fruit of the Quito Standards– quickly showing results. Especially in the Caribbean. The first Caribbean country is the Dominican Republic, a country that focused all the political will of their government to begin restoration of their historical center and main monuments. Santo Domingo is the first important settlement in America, it soon lived through a radical transformation of their city, especially regarding their colonial monuments. Puerto Rico, Panama, Cartagena in Colombia and Antigua in Guatemala and now Cuba have followed the same road always linked to cultural tourism. Mexico now has an institution dedicated exclusively to Cultural Tourism. This is the fruit of the Venice Charter in America, necessary reference for any serious work in the field of monumental conservation.

Thank you for your invitation and long live the Venice Charter. See you in 40 years!

Final report of the meeting on the preservation and utilization of monuments and sites of artistic and historical value

I. Introduction

The fact that the essential preservation and utilization of the monumental heritage has been included in the list of multinational efforts that the American Governments pledge themselves to carry out is encouraging from a two-fold standpoint: first, because thereby the chiefs of state have expressly recognized the existence of an urgent situation, demanding inter-American cooperation; and second because since the fundamental reason for the meeting of Punta del Este was the common aim of giving new impetus to the development of the hemisphere, there is implicit recognition that those goods of the cultural heritage are an economic asset and have been made into instruments of progress.

The rapid rate of impoverishment of most of the American countries as a result of the neglect and lack of protection of their monumental and artistic wealth requires both national and international emergency measures. But in the last analysis, the practical efficacy of these measures will depend upon their being formulated suitably within a systematic plan to enhance the value of the cultural heritage in the cause of economic and social development.

The recommendations of this report are made with that aim in view and are directed specifically to the adequate preservation and utilization of monuments and sites of archeological, historic, and artistic value, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter V, paragraph d, Multinational Efforts, of the Declaration of the Presidents of America.

Notwithstanding, in view of the close relationship between architectural and artistic wealth, it is essential to recognize that other valuable goods and objects of the cultural heritage must be properly protected to

prevent their continuing deterioration and unrestricted removal. It is also essential that these goods be suitably exhibited, in accordance with modern museographic techniques, so that the aims sought through them may be achieved.

II. General considerations

1. Since the idea of space is inseparable from the concept of monument, the guardianship of the state can and should be extended to the surrounding urban context or natural environment. However, a monumental zone, structure, or site may exist, even though none of the elements composing it deserve such a designation when individually considered.
2. Scenic areas and other natural wonders receiving state protection are not in themselves national monuments. The historic or artistic imprint of man is essential in order for a given place or site to be eligible for that specific category.
3. Regardless of the intrinsic value of a property or the circumstances determining its historic or artistic importance and significance, it will not constitute a monument until it has been expressly declared as such by the state. Declaration of a national monument entails its official identification and registration. From that time on, the property in question will be subject to the special system stipulated by law.
4. Every national monument is implicitly designed to fulfill a social function it is the responsibility of the state to ensure this social function and to determine, in each case, the extent to which it is compatible with private property and private interests.

III. The monumental heritage in America today

1. It is readily apparent that the Americas, and particularly Latin America, are abundantly endowed with monumental resources. In addition to the magnificent vestiges of pre – Columbian cultures, this hemisphere offers a varied profusion of architectural and artistic expressions representative of its long colonial history. A native accent, derived from the phenomenon of acculturation, stamps the imported styles with the authentically American flavor of many characteristic and distinctive local touches. Archeological ruins of outstanding importance, not always accessible or fully explored, together with amazing survivals from the past, urban complexes, and entire towns, can become centers of vivid historic interest and tourist attraction.
2. It is equally apparent that much of this heritage has been wantonly destroyed during the past few decades or is currently in imminent danger of ruin. Many factors have contributed and are still contributing to depletion of the inventory or archeological, historic, and artistic properties in most of the Latin American countries, but it must be acknowledged that the basic reason for the increasingly rapid destruction of this potential wealth is the lack of an official policy to enforce protectionist measures effectively and practically and promote enrich- the monumental heritage in terms of public interest and the economic benefit the nation.
3. At this critical juncture when the Americas are engaged in a great progressive r that calls for the exhaustive exploitation of natural resources and the transformation of socio-economic structures, the problems relating to the protection, preservation, and utilization of monumental buildings, sites, and e particularly important and timely.
4. The entire process of accelerated development entails the expansion of infrastructure and the occupation of extensive areas by industrial installations and construction that tend to alter and even totally disfigure the landscape, erasing the stylistic traces and expressions of the past, evidences of a historic tradition of inestimable value.

5. A great many Latin American cities that until recently still contained a rich monumental heritage as evidence of their past grandeur-churches, plazas, fountains, and narrow streets that combined to accentuate their personalities and attractiveness have suffered such mutilation and degradation of their architectural contours that they are unrecognizable. All of this has been done in the name of a misconceived and even more mismanaged urban progress.
6. It is no exaggeration to state that the potential wealth destroyed by these irresponsible acts of urban vandalism in many cities of the hemisphere far exceeds the benefits to the national economy derived from the installations and infrastructural improvements claimed as justification for such acts.

IV. The solution of reconciliation

1. The need to reconcile the demands of urban progress with the protection of environmental values is today all inflexible standard in the formulation of regulatory plans at both the local and national levels. In this respect, every regulatory plan must be carried out in such a way as to permit integration into the scheme of historic centers or complexes of environmental interest.
2. The protection and enhancement of the monumental and artistic heritage does not conflict in either theory or practice with a scientifically developed policy of urban planning. On the contrary, it should serve to complement such a policy.

In confirmation of this view, we quote the following paragraph from the Weiss Report, submitted to the Cultural and Scientific Commission of the Council of Europe (1963): "It is possible to develop a country without disfiguring it, to prepare for and serve the future without destroying the past. The improvement of living standards should be confined to achievement of a progressive material well-being, it should be associated with the creation of a way of life worthy of mankind."

3. Continuity of the Latin American historic and cultural horizon, seriously compromised by overwhelming acceptance of a chaotic process of modernization, requires the adoption of measures for the protection, recovery, and enhancement of the regional monumental heritage and the preparation of both immediate and long-range national and multinational plans.
4. It must be acknowledged that international specialized agencies have recognized the scope of the problem and have made every effort, in recent years, to find satisfactory solutions. The Americas can draw on their store of experience.
5. Since the 1932 "Charter of Athens", many international congresses have helped to shape the current dominating view. Among those most deeply concerned with the problem and that have made specific recommendations are the International Union of Architects (Moscow, 1958); the Congress of the International Federation of Housing and Urbanism (Santiago de Compostela, 1961), which dealt with the problem of "historic complexes", the Congress of Venice (1964), and the most recent ICOMOS meeting (Cáceres, 1967), which offered an eminently y practical approach to this question of vital interest to the Americas.

V. Economic valuation of monuments

1. Let us assume that archeological, historic, and artistic monuments are economic resources in the same sense as the natural wealth of the country. Consequently, measures conducive to their preservation and proper utilization not only relate to development plans, but constitute or should constitute a component of such plans.
2. In the broader sphere of inter American relations, repeated recommendations and resolutions of various agencies of the system gradually raised the problem to the highest level of consideration: the Meeting of Chiefs of State (Punta del Este, 1967).
3. It is obvious that consideration at this meeting of the problem of adequate preservation and use of the

archeological, historic, and artistic heritage stemmed from the same basic reasons that led the chiefs of state to convoke the meeting: the need to give the Alliance for Progress new and more vigorous impetus and to offer, through hemispheric cooperation, the additional assistance required for economic development of the OAS member countries

4. This explains the use of the word "use" appearing in Chapter V, A., point 2, of the Declaration of the Presidents:

Multinational efforts

2. Instructing the appropriate agencies of the OAS to:

d) Extend inter-American cooperation to the preservation and use of archeological, historic, and artistic monuments"

5. More specifically, Resolution 2 of the Second Special Meeting of the Inter. American Cultural Council, called for the sale purpose of implementing the provisions of the Declaration of the Presidents within the sphere of competence of the Council, reads:

...the extension of technical assistance and financial aid to the cultural patrimony of the member states will be carried out as part of their economic and tourist travel development.

6. In short, it is a question of mobilizing national efforts with a view to securing optimum utilization of available monumental resources as an indirect means of promoting national economic development. This implies preliminary planning at the national level, that is, the evaluation of available resources and the preparation of specific projects within a general regulatory plan.
7. The extension of inter-American cooperation to this aspect of development implicitly recognizes the fact that the national effort is not in itself equal to an endeavor which, in most cases, exceeds its real possibilities. Only through multi. national action can many developing member states procure the essential technical services and financial resources.

VI. Enhancing the usability and value of the cultural heritage

1. The term "enhancement," which is becoming increasingly common among specialists in the field, is particularly apt as applied to the Americas today. If anything characterizes America's present, it is precisely the urgent need for making maximum use of all its resources, which unquestionably include the cultural heritage of the nations.
2. To enhance the usability and value of a historic or artistic property is to provide it with the objective and environmental conditions that, without detracting from its nature, emphasize its characteristics and permit its optimum use. The enhancement should be construed to operate on the basis of a transcendent purpose. In the case of Latin America, this purpose would undoubtedly be to contribute to the economic development of the region.
3. In other words, it is a question of incorporating an economic potential, a current value, of making an unexploited resource productive by a process of revaluation that, far from lessening its strictly historic or artistic significance, enhances and raises it from the exclusive domain of erudite minorities to the awareness and enjoyment of the masses.
4. To sum up, enhancing the usability and value of the monumental and artistic patrimony implies a systematic, *eminently technical action*, aimed at utilizing each and every one of those properties in accordance with its nature, stressing and enriching their characteristics and merits to a point where they can fully perform the new function assigned them.
5. It must be noted that to some extent, the site of a structure of major interest is compromised by the neighborhood surrounding it, which means that it will in a way become part of the local setting once it has been enhanced. Therefore, standards for protection and enrichment plans must be extended to the entire environment of the monument.
6. Moreover, enhancement of the usability and value of a monument reflects favorably upon its urban surroundings and even beyond this immediate area

to more distant ones. This increase in the real value of a property by reflective impact is a type of increment that must be taken into account.

7. Obviously, insofar as a monument attracts visitors, so will there be more merchants interested in installing appropriate establishments under its protective shadow. This is another predictable result of enhancement and implies the adoption of regulatory measures which, while they facilitate and encourage private initiative, prevent commercialization of the site and loss of its original purpose.
8. The foregoing indicates that the diversity of monuments and buildings of marked historic and artistic interest located within the center of environmental wealth are mutually related and exert a multiplier effect on the rest of the area that would be enriched as a whole as a result of a plan for enhancing and repairing its principal structures.

VII. Monuments as tourist attractions

1. Intrinsic cultural values are neither weakened nor compromised by association with tourist interests; on the contrary, the increased attractiveness of the cultural properties and the growing number of outside admirers confirm awareness of their importance and national significance. A properly restored monument, an urban complex that has regained its original values, are not only living lessons in history but legitimate reason for national pride. In the broader framework of international relations, these testimonials of the past stimulate understanding, harmony, and spiritual community even between countries that are political rivals. Anything that helps to enhance spiritual values, however far removed from the intention to promote culture, will necessarily benefit that culture. Europe owes to tourism, directly or indirectly, the salvation of much of its cultural heritage condemned to complete and irreparable destruction, and modern man, more visually than literarily sensitive, finds increasing opportunities: for self-enrichment through viewing new examples of western civilization, scientifically rescued because of the powerful incentive of tourism.

2. If cultural properties play such an important role in tourist travel, it is only logical that the investments required for their proper restoration and equipment; within a specialized technical framework, should be made simultaneously with those demanded by travel plant and, more properly, that both should be included within a single economic regional development plan.

3. The United Nations *Conference on International Travel and Tourism* (Rome, 1963) not only recommended that high priority be assigned to tourist investments under national plans, but emphasized that "from the tourist standpoint, the cultural, historic, and natural heritage of nations is quite an important factor"; therefore, it urged "the adoption of adequate measures designed to ensure the preservation and protection of that heritage" (Final Report, Doc. 4). *The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development* (1964), in turn, recommended that both government and private financing agencies and organizations "offer assistance, in the most appropriate form, for works aimed at the conservation, restoration, and desirable use of archeological, historic, and scenic sites" (Resolution Annex A, IV. 24).

Recently, the Economic and Social Council of that world agency, after recommending that the General Assembly designate the year 1967 as "International Tourism Year," resolved to invite the United Nations organizations and the specialized agencies to give "favorable consideration to the request for technical and financial assistance by the developing countries, in order to accelerate improvement of their tourist resources" (Resolution 1109-XL).

4. In connection with this topic, which has received special attention from the UNESCO General Secretariat, an exhaustive study has been conducted in collaboration with a nongovernmental agency of great prestige, the International Union of Official Tourist Travel Agencies. This study confirms the criteria outlined and, after analyzing the cultural, educational, and social reasons for the use of monumental resources as part of tourist promotion, stresses the economic benefits deriving from that policy for the corresponding areas. Two extremes of particular interest should be noted: a. the tourist

traffic deriving from the suitable restoration of the value of a monument ensures rapid recovery of the capital invested for that purpose; b. tourist activity resulting from adequate presentation of a monument that would disappear without such activity entails profound economic transformation of the region in which the monument is set

5. Within the inter American system, in addition to the many recommendations and agreements highlighting the importance that should be assigned at both the national and regional levels to the problem of the present neglect of much of the cultural heritage of the countries in the hemisphere, recent specialized meetings have approached the specific topic of the role played by monuments of artistic and historic interest in the development of the tourist industry. The Technical Committee on Tourist Travel Promotion, at its fourth meeting (July-August 1967), resolved to support the conclusions adopted by the corresponding Committee on Travel Plant, which include the following:

The monuments and other assets of an archeological, historical and artistic nature can and should be properly preserved and utilized for development purposes as prime attractions for the influx of tourists.

In countries with a rich heritage of archeological, historical and artistic interest, that heritage should constitute a decisive factor in their tourist plant and should therefore be taken into account in the final form of the pertinent plans.

Activities of a strictly cultural nature and those relating to tourism have a common interest in the proper preservation and utilization of the monumental and artistic heritage of the American nations, which makes it advisable for the agencies and technical units in both fields of inter-American activity to work along these lines in a coordinated manner.

6. From the tourist standpoint exclusively, monuments are a fundamental part of the "plant" available for operating that industry in a given region, but the extent to which this monument can serve the use to which it is put will depend not only on its intrinsic

value, that is, on its archeological, historic, or artistic significance or interest, but on the attendant circumstances facilitating its proper utilization. Therefore, restoration in itself may not always be sufficient to ensure that a monument can be exploited and become part of the travel plant of a region. It may be just as necessary to undertake such other infrastructure works as a road to provide access to the monument or an inn to lodge the visitors at the end of the travel day—all in keeping with the environmental nature of the region.

7. The economic and social advantages of tourist travel vis-à-vis monuments are evident in the most modern statistics, particularly in those European countries that owe their present prosperity to international tourism and include among their major sources of wealth the inventory of their cultural properties.

VIII. Social interest and civic action

1. Presumably, initial efforts aimed at enhancing the monumental heritage meet a broad area of resistance within the sphere of private interests. Years of official negligence and the impulsive zeal for renewal that characterizes the developing nations increase contempt for all traces of the past that fail to conform to the ideal pattern of a modern way of life. Lacking sufficient civic training to look upon social interest as an exaggerated form of individual self-interest and unable to appreciate what is best for the community from the objective standpoint of the public good, the inhabitants of a community, infected by the "fever of progress," are unable to gauge the consequences of the acts of urban vandalism recklessly carried on through the indifference or complicity of the local authorities.
2. An alarm can and should be sounded and vigilant preventive action taken by each community. Regardless of what they are called and how they are composed, the encouragement of civic groups dedicated to protecting the cultural heritage, has had excellent results, especially in localities that do not yet have urban regulations and where protective action at the national level is weak or not always effective.

3. Nothing can contribute more to the awakening of conscience than seeing the example itself. Once the results of certain works of restoration and renewal of buildings, plazas, and sites are apparent, the public usually reacts favorably calling for a halt to destructive action and supporting the attainment of more ambitious objectives.
4. In any case, the spontaneous and extensive collaboration of individuals in plans for enhancing the usability and value of the historic and artistic heritage is absolutely essential, particularly in small communities. Consequently, the preparation of such plans should take into account the advisability of a related program of civic education developed systematically and simultaneously with execution of the project.

IX. Instruments of enhancement

1. Proper utilization of monuments of major historic and artistic interest requires, first of all, the coordination of cultural and economic initiatives and efforts in behalf of tourism. The *more* fully these convergent interests harmonize and relate, the *more* satisfactory will be the ultimate results.
2. This necessary coordination cannot take place unless the country concerned has the legal conditions and technical instruments required for this purpose.
3. Within the cultural framework, the following are prerequisites to any official aim of enriching the monumental heritage: effective legislation, technical organization and national planning.
4. Cultural and economic projects should be integrated at the national level as a preliminary step to any negotiation for external assistance or cooperation. Such cooperation, both technical and financial, is a supplement to the national effort. It is up to the governments of the various member states to take the initiative; the countries have the responsibility of formulating their projects and integrating them with general development plans. The measures and procedures recommended on the following pages are directed toward this end.

Recommendations (at the national level)

1. Projects for enhancing the value of the monumental heritage are part of national development plans and, consequently, should be integrated into them. Investments required for putting these projects into effect should be made simultaneously with those needed by the travel plant of the area or region whose value is to be restored.
2. It is up to the government to endow the country with the conditions that will enable it to formulate and carry out specific projects for value enhancement
3. To achieve the foregoing results, the following is required:
 - a) The granting of high priority within the national development plan to projects for enhancing the value of the monumental wealth;
 - b) Suitable legislation or, in its absence, other government regulations to facilitate the enhancement project maintaining public interest through out.
 - c) Coordinated management of the project through a qualified institute, capable of centralizing its implementation in all stages;
 - d) Designation of a technical team that may count on external assistance while specific projects are being formulated or carried out.
4. Enhancing the value of the monumental wealth can only be done through planned action, that is, in accordance with a regulatory plan of national or regional scope. Consequently, it is essential that the projects promoted be integrated with a regulatory plan existing in the city or region concerned. If such plans do not exist, they should be established in a consistent way.
5. Cultural interests relative to the monuments or environmental complexes concerned must be coordinated with tourist travel interests, and this

should be accomplished by the coordinating entity of the project referred to in paragraph c.3, as a preliminary step to any external technical or financial assistance.

6. The cooperation of private interests and the backing of public opinion is essential to carry out any enhancement project. In that respect during the formulation of the project, a civic campaign should be conducted to arouse favorable public awareness

Recommendations (at the inter-American level)

1. To repeat that it would be advisable for the countries of the Americas to adhere to the "Charter of Venice," as a universal principle in the matter of preservation of historic and artistic sites and monuments, without prejudice to adopting any other commitments and agreements desirable within the inter-American system.
2. To extend the general concept of monuments to the cultural expressions of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
3. To relate the necessary restoration of value of the monumental and artistic heritage of the American nations to other countries outside the hemisphere, especially to Spain and Portugal, in view of the historic part that both have played in the formation of this heritage and the common values that unite them to the countries of this hemisphere.
4. To recommend to the Organization of American States that it extend the cooperation it has agreed to give to the enhancement of monuments of archeological, historic, and artistic interest to other properties of the cultural heritage represented in the collections of museums and archives, and also in the sociological wealth of the national folklore.
5. Restoration ends where speculation begins. Therefore, in any work of this kind, preliminary historical research is absolutely necessary. Since

in its archives Spain has an abundance of charts and maps on cities of the Americas, and also material on fortresses and on a great number of buildings, along with other copious official documentation, and since the cataloguing of those essential documents was halted with those pertaining to most of the colonial buildings (which makes their use extremely difficult), it is highly recommended that the Organization of American States cooperate with Spain in the work of updating and facilitating research in the Spanish archives, especially in the Archivo de Indias in Seville.

6. To recommend the drafting of a new inter-American instrument to replace the "Treaty on the Protection of Movable Property of Historic Value" (1935), capable of more extensively and effectively protecting that highly important part of the cultural heritage of the hemisphere from the many risks that threaten it.
7. Pending completion of the foregoing, it is recommended to the Inter-American Cultural Council that at its next meeting it ask all the member states to adopt emergency measures to stop illegal traffic of objects of the cultural heritage and to gain the return of such objects to the country of origin, once it is proved that they have been smuggled out or illegally acquired.
8. Bearing in mind that the shortage of manpower is a serious handicap to carrying out plans for value enhancement, it is highly recommended that resources be provided for establishing an inter-American center or institution, specializing in restoration work. Also, to meet needs for property restoration, it is desirable that existing institutions be improved and new ones established.
9. Without prejudice to the foregoing and to meet these urgent needs immediately, it is recommended to the General Secretariat of the OAS that it use the facilities of its Fellowship and Special Training Programs; also, that it conclude agreements of cooperation with the Instituto de Cultura Hispánica (under the technical cooperation agreement OAS/Spain) and with the Centro Regional Latinoamericana

de Estudios para la Conservación y Restauración de Bienes Culturales in Mexico

10. If it is necessary to exchange experiences on problems inherent to the Americas and if it is desirable to maintain a suitable unit for criteria in the field, it is recommended that consideration be given to the Agrupación de Arquitectos Especializados en Restauración de Monumentos, temporarily headquartered in the Instituto de Cultura Hispánica in Madrid, and to promote its permanent installation in one of the member states.

Legal measures

1. Protective legislation in force in the American states must be brought up to date, to ensure its effective application for the aims sought.
2. Local regulations governing; publicity must be revised, in order to control any kind of publicity designed to alter the environmental characteristics of urban areas of historic interest.
3. As concerns protective legislation, urban space of environmental interest occupied by a monument or groups of monuments should be delimited as follows:
 - a) strictly protected zone, where there is greatest monumental density or monumental interest;
 - b) zone of protection or respect, with a higher degree of tolerance;
 - c) zone of protection of urban landscape, in an effort to integrate it with surrounding natural areas.
4. In bringing current legislation up to date, the countries must take into account the increased value of properties included in the enhanced zone, and also, to some extent, in the environs.
5. Account should be taken also of the possibility of encouraging private enterprise through a system of tax exemption with reference to buildings restored with private capital, within the regulations established

by responsible agencies. Tax exemptions may be established also as compensation for the restrictions placed on private property because they are subject to public use.

Technical measures

1. The enhancement of a monument or urban area of environmental interest is the result of an eminent technical process; consequently, its official handling should be entrusted directly to a specialized agency that centralizes all activities.
2. Each enhancement project is a problem and requires a specific solution.
3. Technical assistance of experts in the various fields that will be involved in carrying out the project is absolutely essential. The final result will depend largely on proper coordination of these specialists.
4. Priority to be given to the projects will depend upon estimated economic benefits to be gained therefrom for a given region. But insofar as possible, account should be taken of the intrinsic importance of the property to be restored or enhanced and of its emergency status.
5. Generally, every project for enhancement of value involves economic, historic, technical, and administrative problems. Technical problems of conservation, restoration and reconstruction vary according to the type of property. Archeological monuments, for example, require the help of specialists in the field.
6. The nature and scope of the work to be undertaken on a monument require preliminary decisions that are the result of an exhaustive study of the conditions and circumstances entering into the problem. When it is decided what is to be done on the monument, subsequent work shall continue with absolute respect for what is apparent from the substance of the monument, or for the information that will undoubtedly be available in the authentic documents on which the restoration is based.
7. In works of enhancement of environmental areas, the limits and values of these areas must first be defined.
8. Enhancement of an environmental historic area, already defined and evaluated, requires:
 - a) study and determination of its eventual use and of the activities that are to be conducted in that area;
 - b) study of the size of the investment and of the stages necessary to complete the works of restoration and conservation, including works of infrastructure and adaptations required by the travel plan for enhancement of the area;
 - c) analytical study of the special system to which the area will be subject, so that existing buildings and new ones may be controlled affectively;
 - d) the regulation of areas adjacent to the historic center must establish, besides land use and density, the volumetric relationship as a determining factor of the urban and natural landscape;
 - e) study of the size of the investments necessary for making the area healthful;
 - f) study of the far seeing measures necessary for the proper continual maintenance of the area to be enhanced.
9. Limited funds available and the necessary training of technical teams required by plans for enhancement make it advisable to formulate a preliminary pilot project wherever there is the best combination of economic interests and technical facilities.
10. The enhancement of an urban center of historic, environmental interest, the extent of which exceeds immediate financial possibilities, may and should be planned in two or more stages, which would be carried out progressively in accordance with the needs of the travel plan, it being understood that the project should be conceived of as a whole and that there will be no interruption or postponement in the work of cataloguing, research and inventory.

List of participating experts

Guillermo de Zéndegui, Technical Secretary of the Meeting; Renato Soeiro; Carlos M. Larrea; José Ma. Vargas; Agustín Moreno; Oswaldo de la Torre; Earle W. Newton; José M. Glez-Valcárcel; Carlos Flores Marini; Manuel E. del Monte; Manuel del Castillo Negrete; Benjamín Carrión; Hernán Crespo; Filoteo Samaniego; Miguel A. Vasco; Carlos Zevallos; Christopher Tunnard; Jorge Luján M.; Fernando Silva Santisteban; Graziano Gasparini; Pan American Institute of Geography and History-Represented by: Lidia C. de Camacho.