

5 OUR COMMON DIGNITY ‘FOUNDING’ WORKSHOP 2011

‘Towards Rights-Based World Heritage Management’, Arranged by ICOMOS Norway with Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NCHR) and Norwegian Helsinki Committee (NHC)



Participants of the ‘founding’ OCIDI-RBA Workshop in Oslo, Norway in March 2011 © Norwegian Helsinki Committee

2011 PILOT PROJECT WORKSHOP, OSLO, NORWAY

An Expert Workshop for the Advisory Bodies to the 1972 Convention was undertaken from the 9-11 March 2011 in Oslo on human rights in World Heritage management. Workshop participants were invited from ICOMOS international, ICCROM, IUCN and ICOM (Norway).

The Workshop was a pilot activity supported by Norway’s Ministry of Environment (later known as Ministry of Climate and Environment).

UNESCO and ICOMOS regard human rights and local community issues as high priority concerns in international conservation.

Selected cases from different geographical-cultural regions were presented and discussed at the Workshop, and were related to the broad issues of human rights and heritage. Cases were selected based on the criteria that they a) satisfied HR and WH intentions, illustrating positive processes and experiences from different regions and b) violated human rights and World Heritage intentions. The Workshop and project aimed to contribute towards an emerging paradigm of conservation – Conservation with Development and Social Change – all within the tangible and intangible challenges of sustainable development.

The objective of the Workshop and the project has been to raise awareness of Human Rights dimensions in World Heritage work.

Local and regional conflicts on rights and entitlements sometimes arise when natural areas and cultural property are selected for national or World Heritage status, and often



The National Museum-Architecture where the 2011 OCIDI-RBA Workshop was held © National Museum-Architecture

involve the state and local stakeholders as actors being at odds with each other.

References to human rights and sustainable development have become standard to all international cooperation strategies, programmes and projects, and are increasingly in the form of rights-based planning and implementation.

A similar integration of rights issues should be addressed in international activities for World Heritage management.

The WH Convention (1972) is considered insufficiently equipped for dealing with conflicts on rights, as it was formulated and ratified before the inclusion of human rights concerns became mandatory for all international treaties.

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS STATEMENT 2011

‘Our Common Dignity: Towards Rights-Based World Heritage Management’
Oslo 9-11.3 2011

We, participants at the international workshop ‘Our Common Dignity: Towards Rights-Based World Heritage Management’ held in Oslo, Norway, on 9-11 March 2011, co-organized by ICOMOS Norway, the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NCHR) and the Norwegian Helsinki Committee (NHC), with support from Norway’s Ministry of Environment:

Commend the organizers of the Workshop for taking the initiative to convene the meeting, and thank the Ministry of Environment of Norway for its support of the event;

Appreciate that the objective of the Workshop was to raise awareness of the human rights dimensions within World Heritage in a framework of sustainable development;

Recall that the UNESCO Constitution states “The purpose of the Organization is to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations” (Article 1.1);

Recall the Declaration on Cultural Heritage and Human Rights of the ICOMOS Advisory Committee in Stockholm in 1998, and having learned as well of valuable efforts from organizations such as IUCN to develop concepts, approaches and tools that support conservation paradigms that are inclusive of human rights, livelihood security, justice and equity.

Recognise the positive contributions World Heritage makes to Human Rights but acknowledge, that cases exist where the rights and interests of people associated with World Heritage Sites have been negatively impacted, and that such impacts contradict national and international commitments on human rights, poverty reduction, equity and sustainable development;

Express concern that the efforts of the World Heritage Convention to conserve the most precious creations of humankind and outstanding natural places are ethically compatible with the rights of people to live in dignity as individuals and communities.

1. We recommend that internationally proclaimed human rights should be upheld, respected and included in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, and in particular through education and training initiatives, consistent with the commitment of States Parties to internationally proclaimed human rights;
2. We invite the President of ICOMOS to establish a working group with IUCN and ICCROM to develop and enhance good practice including in relation to World heritage evaluation and monitoring. We recommend that this working group develops appropriate guidance and tools to support States Parties to adequately integrate human rights considerations in their actions to implement the World Heritage Convention. We recommend that this working group collaborate with interested States Parties and Human Rights Organizations to further strengthen an open, informed and inclusive process;
3. We recommend that the organizers of this workshop present its results at the World Heritage Convention Anniversary events in 2012, contributing to its theme “World Heritage and Sustainable Development: The Role of Local Communities in the Management of World Heritage”, and to coordinate with the Advisory Bodies to also bring to such events relevant outputs of any further work undertaken by them;
4. We invite States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to bring the outcome and report of the workshop to the attention of UNESCO and the World Heritage Centre for further discussion and follow-up in relevant fora, highlighting therein the importance of integrating human rights considerations in the implementation of the Convention, so that the objectives of conserving WH Sites go hand in hand with the national and international efforts to secure human rights.

Oslo, 11 March 2011

Invited Advisory Body Experts

ICOMOS Norway with
The National Centre for Human Rights, Norway and
The Norwegian Helsinki Committee

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS 2011

‘Our Common Dignity: Towards Rights-Based World Heritage Management’, Oslo 9-11 March 2011

PRESENTERS:

- Marco ACRI – Dr.; Nova Gorica University, Slovenia.
- Clara AROKIASAMY – MSc. Director, KALAI, Organisation Development International Consultancy +44(0)7789485576.
- Eman ASSI – Dr.; Cultural Heritage Expert, Architectural Heritage Department, Dubai Municipality, United Arab Emirates.
- Hans Christie BJØNNES – Professor, NTNU Norway.
- Donald HANKEY (Lord Hankey) – President ICOMOS UK.
- Jukka JOKILEHTO - Professor, ICCROM, Rome, Italy.
- Roksolana IVANCHENKO – Secretary General, National Commission of Ukraine for UNESCO, Kyiv, Ukraine.
- William LOGAN – Professor, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia.
- Bente MATHISEN – ICOMOS Norway.
- Ali OULD SIDI – WH Property Manager, Timbuktu, Mali.
- Gonzalo OVIEDO – IUCN Head of Social Policy, Gland, Switzerland.
- Tatjana PUSCHKARSKY – IUCN WH Programme, Intl Youth Forum, Geneva.
- Neil SILBERMAN – President, ICOMOS ISC Interpretation, US. Professor, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, USA.
- Peter G STONE – Professor, Newcastle University, UK.
- Nato TSINSABADZE - Secr.Gen ICOMOS Georgia, Tbilisi Historic Town, Georgia.
- Gro WEEN – Dept of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo, Norway.
- Kerstin WESTERLUND – President ICOMOS Sweden.
- Katarzyna ZALASINSKA – Directorate for Cultural Heritage, Warsaw, Poland.

DISCUSSANTS:

- Tim BADMAN – IUCN Director of World Heritage, Gland, Switzerland.
- Christian BORHAVEN – Forsvarsbygg, Oslo.
- Inger HELDAL – Senior Advisor, Directorate for Cultural Heritage, Oslo.
- Tone KARLGÅRD - ICOM Norway.
- Joseph KING – ICCROM, Rome, Italy.
- Thor KROGH – Forsvarsbygg, Oslo.
- Ingunn KVISTERØY – Senior Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Oslo.
- Axel MYKLEBY – Blue Shield.
- Gaute SØNSTEBØ – Senior Advisor, Directorate for Nature and Environment, Trondheim, Norway.
- Reidun VEA – Board Member, Norwegian National Commission for UNESCO, Norway.



Excursions during the 2011 OCIDI-RBA Workshop in Oslo: Akershus Medieval Castle precinct (above), and to the Oslo Opera (Architects: Snøhetta, Oslo) © ICOMOS Oslo

REPRESENTING ICOMOS NORWAY:

- Marie Louise ANKER – President ICOMOS Norway.
- Birgitte SAUGE – ICOMOS Norway.

WORKSHOP ORGANISING COMMITTEE:

- Gunnar EKELØVE-SLYDAL – Deputy Secr.Gen, Norwegian Helsinki Committee, Oslo.
- Stener EKERN – Associate Professor, National Centre for Human Rights (UiO), Oslo.
- Ingunn KVISTERØY – Senior Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Oslo.
- Bente MATHISEN – ICOMOS Norway.
- Amund SINDING-LARSEN – ICOMOS Norway, Project Manager.

6 ICOMOS RESOLUTIONS ON RIGHTS-BASED APPROACHES

Resolution texts from 2011, 2014 and 2016 are included here.
Versions in French and other languages are to be added as possible.

ICOMOS RESOLUTION 17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2011/30 -

Our Common Dignity: Rights-Based Approaches To Heritage Management

The 17th General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling that human rights have already been expressed as a vital dimension in all UNESCO activities (UNESCO Constitution) and also by ICOMOS in the 1998 Stockholm Declaration celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Noting the strong cooperation between ICOMOS and organisations such as the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, and reaffirming ICOMOS members' common commitment to the cause of human rights;

Reflecting that neglect of human rights might negatively affect national and international commitments to universally accepted goals of human development, and believing that increased knowledge about and use of rights-based approaches to heritage management may contribute to a calmer and more constructive resolution of potential disputes;

Acknowledging the positive contributions of the World Heritage Convention in building international understanding of cultural and natural diversity, ICOMOS is aware of cases where the human rights of individuals and communities associated with or living within World Heritage properties have been overlooked;

Recognizes that an integration of human rights concerns is essential to heritage identification and conservation, and considers that the implementation of heritage conservation initiatives needs to be supported by human rights based approaches introduced as a 'sustainability check' to all phases of these activities; and

Requests the Executive Committee to develop an 'Our Common Dignity' initiative as a key activity in the ICOMOS 2012-14 Triennial Action Plan.

La XVII^{ème} Assemblée générale de l'ICOMOS,

Rappelant que les droits de l'homme ont déjà été reconnus comme une dimension essentielle dans toutes les activités de l'UNESCO (Acte constitutif de l'UNESCO) ainsi que par l'ICOMOS dans la Déclaration de Stockholm de 1998 à l'occasion du cinquantième anniversaire de la Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme;

Notant la forte coopération entre l'ICOMOS et des organisations telles que la Coalition Internationale des Sites de Conscience, et réaffirmant l'engagement commun des membres de l'ICOMOS en faveur des droits de l'homme;

Constatant que la négligence des droits de l'homme peut affecter négativement les engagements nationaux et internationaux en faveur des objectifs universellement adoptés pour le développement humain, étant convaincue que la connaissance accrue et l'utilisation des approches de la gestion du patrimoine fondée sur les droits de l'homme peut contribuer à la résolution plus calme et plus constructive des conflits potentiels;

Reconnaissant les contributions positives de la Convention du patrimoine mondial dans la construction de la compréhension internationale de la diversité culturelle et naturelle, l'ICOMOS est conscient de cas où les droits des individus et des communautés associés à/ou vivant au sein de biens du patrimoine mondial ont été négligés;

Reconnaît que l'intégration des préoccupations des droits de l'homme est essentielle au processus d'identification et de conservation du patrimoine, et considère que la mise en œuvre d'initiatives de conservation du patrimoine doit être soutenue par des approches fondées sur les droits de l'homme comme un «label de durabilité» pour toutes les phases de ces activités;

Prie le Comité exécutif de l'ICOMOS de développer l'initiative «Notre dignité commune» comme une activité clé dans le Plan d'action triennal de l'ICOMOS 2012-14.