

STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL MUSEUMS (ICR)

Article 1

Name and Legal Status

(A) The name of the organisation is the International Committee for Regional Museums hereafter referred to by the acronym, ICR.

(B) ICR is one of international committees of the International Council of Museums (ICOM), the international non-governmental organization of museum professionals and museums. ICR was established under Article 17 of the ICOM Statutes to foster activities and professional standards of regional museums throughout the world.

(C) The activities of ICR shall be governed by ICOM Statutes and Code of Ethics, in accordance with ICOM's current Strategic Plan.

(D) ICR's Plenary Session, composed of all voting members of ICR, is the supreme policy making body.

(E) ICR's address for purposes of correspondence is care of the Secretary of the Committee.

Article 2

Definition

Regional Museums are defined in a broad sense, applying to countries of different cultural background, as museums that collect, research and display objects and other relevant contents from a region, in most cases smaller than the territory of a state (district, landscape, town or village). As a rule they work in the fields of natural, social, ethnic and cultural history of a given region in general or in special collections and exhibitions.

Article 3

Aims and Objectives

Based upon the Statutes of the International Council of Museums (ICOM), ICR:

(A) supports the aims and objectives of ICOM in particular with reference to Regional Museums

(B) contributes to the realization of ICOM's programs and activities concerning the special tasks of Regional Museums.

(C) formulates and carries out a program of activities related to Regional Museums.

(D) provides a forum for communication, co-operation and information exchange among museums, professional museum workers and others concerned with Regional Museums;

(E) advises ICOM regarding Regional Museums, serving as a source of professional expertise.

(F) represents the interests of its members within ICOM.

(G) co-operates with National Committees and Regional Organizations of ICOM and with other International Committees and Affiliated Organizations in matters related to ICR's specific mandate and the broader interests of ICOM.

Article 4

Membership

(A) Voting membership in ICR is open to individual members or designated representatives of Institutional Members of ICOM who request membership.

(B) New members are recruited in accordance with established ICOM procedures. Individuals wishing to join ICR must complete a membership application form on which they clearly indicate the decision to become a voting member of the Committee.

(C) Members have all rights and obligations listed in ICOM Statutes including the right to

- (i) participate in ICR activities and programs
- (ii) participate and vote in ICR Plenary Sessions,
- (iii) vote in ICR Board elections.
- (iv) stand for election to the ICR Executive Board
- (v) propose programs and activities

(D) Members should regularly update contact information. A valid e-mail address is regarded as the official way of communication with ICR. All members must provide current e-mail addresses. When a member does not have an e-mail address, he/she should give a valid postal address to which information will be sent.

(E) ICR contact information will be posted on the Committee's web page. ICR will not accept responsibility if a member does not receive current information regarding ICR activities due to lack of a valid e-mail address or current postal address.

(F) Voting membership in ICR shall cease if the member

- (i) resigns from the Committee,
- (ii) ceases to be a member of ICOM for any reason

Article 5

Friends and Partners

In addition to regular voting members, ICR recognizes two supporting categories which assist in fulfilling ICR aims and objectives. They include:

- (A) Museum professionals who are members of ICOM and voting members of another international committee or do not belong to an international committee.
- (B) Museum professionals outside ICOM and museum-related organizations which support ICR programs and activities.
- (C) Friends and Partners are informed regarding ICR activities and participate in ICR meetings and programs. However, they have no membership rights and may not vote or participate in decision making activities

Article 6

Meetings

- (A) ICR shall hold such meetings as it considers necessary for the attainment of its objectives and carrying out its program.
- (B) ICR will hold an annual conference with Plenary Session each year if possible. Meetings are to be organized and held in different countries, to fairly distribute host countries and increase possibilities for participation of members worldwide. Notice of this meeting shall be published in the ICR Newsletter and on the web page at least 60 days before the meeting.
- (C) In accordance with ICOM Statutes, Article 17, para. 10, the ICR Chairperson or designated representative shall inform the Chairperson of the National Committee (if one exists) in the State in which the annual conference is to be held, of the date, place and subject of the meeting.
- (D) ICR may convene meetings at the regional or sub-regional level, but all members of the Committee shall be entitled to attend such meetings.
- (E) Unless the Executive Council of ICOM agrees to the contrary, ICR will meet every third year at the time and place of the ICOM General Conference. The Triennial Plenary Session shall be the principal meeting of the Committee. It serves as the supreme policy-making body composed of all voting members. Its agenda shall include the following items:

- (i) report on the work of the Committee during the preceding triennium;
- (ii) report on the finances of the Committee for the preceding triennium;

(iii) review of the draft triennial program of ICOM and adoption of the work program of the Committee for the forthcoming triennium;

(iv) review of activities of working groups and renewal of their mandates if appropriate;

(v) adoption of a budget policy for the following triennium;

(vi) election of the Executive Board and officers.

(vii) review and adopt ICR Statutes

(F) At ICR Triennial Plenary Meetings, each voting member shall be entitled to one vote on any matter before the Committee. An Institutional Member may, in writing, designate a person to vote on its behalf.

(G) ICR may establish working groups with specific terms of reference to facilitate the carrying out of its program. Each working group shall appoint a Convener from among its members, who shall be a voting member of ICR and shall report progress on its mandate at each triennial Plenary Session. At each such meeting, the need for each working group shall be reviewed and its mandate renewed if necessary.

Article 7

The ICR Board

(A) ICR shall be managed by an Executive Board of up to 13 members elected at the Triennial Plenary Session. The elected members include the following officers

(i) Chairperson,

(ii) Secretary,

(iii) Treasurer

(iv) Two Vice-Chairpersons

(v) Membership officer

(vi) Archivist

(B) Board members are elected for a period not exceeding three years but may be re-elected if eligible under Article 17, para 4, of the ICOM statutes. Officers are limited to two consecutive three year terms and two consecutive three year terms as ordinary board members.

(C) No more than two members of the ICR Board shall belong to the same State.

(D) Any voting member of ICR in good standing, including a designated representative of an institutional member, is eligible to stand for election to the Executive Board subject to the limitations imposed by ICOM Statutes, Article 17, para. 4. and provided his active participation in ICR activities at least two years prior to elections.

(E) A call for nominations will be announced on the ICR website six months prior to the triennial Plenary Session. Nominations for the board members and officers are made at the time of the plenary session either in writing or from the floor. A majority of the voting members of ICR present at the meeting is decisive for election.

(F) The Board shall meet at least once every year.

(G) The presence of one-third of the board members constitutes a quorum. .

(H) The Chairperson, the Secretary and the Treasurer are responsible for the day-to-day running of ICR.

(I) The board may establish different working groups among the board members who will perform the activities in designated fields (promotion, publication, web, membership, exhibitions, etc.) and may invite any person to its meeting who can offer advice on the subject under discussion.

(J) A member of the ICR Board shall cease to hold office if he or she:

- (i) resigns,
- (ii) ceases to be a member of ICOM for any reason,
- (iii) is no longer a member in good standing (ICOM Statutes, Article 1, para.3)
- (iv) is no longer a voting member of the Committee.

(K) Unanticipated vacancies resulting from death, resignation or other just separation from the Board, shall be filled by the decision of the remaining board members. These appointments will be submitted for ratification at the next Plenary Session.

Article 8

Role and Responsibilities of the ICR Board

(A) The ICR Board is responsible for managing the affairs of the Committee and for ensuring that the requirements of the ICOM Statutes and ICR Statutes are met.

(B) The ICR Board shall, before any meeting of the Committee is held in a Country or State, satisfy itself that no impediment will be placed in the way of any member of the Committee attending the meeting, by the Government of the host Country/State.

(C) The Board shall, in each calendar year, prepare a report on the activities of the Committee during the preceding year, which shall be sent to all members and considered at the annual Plenary Session. The report shall be transmitted to the Director General for submission to the Executive Council and the Advisory Committee of ICOM.

(D) The Board, shall, when requested to do so by the Director General, transmit a report on the work of the Committee for the preceding triennium to the Director General for submission to the Executive Council, the Advisory Committee and the General Assembly of ICOM.

(E) The Board shall, when requested by the Director General and after consulting as far as practicable with the voting members of the Committee, designate five voting members of the Committee to vote on its behalf at the General Assembly and in the election of the Executive Council or, if the Committee does not expect to be represented at the Assembly, advise the Director General of its intention to vote by mail.

(F) The Board shall, at least six months prior to the General Assembly, submit to the Director General its comments on the draft triennial program of ICOM and a draft of its own proposed triennial program of work for inclusion in the final triennial program of ICOM for consideration at the General Assembly.

(G) The Board shall ensure that members of ICR are kept fully informed of the work of the Board, particularly if changes made in the Triennial programme, of its plans for the activities of the Committee and of any other matter relevant to the work and functions of the Committee. It may publish a regular Newsletter or communicate with the members by such other means as it deems appropriate.

Article 9

Seat of the Committee and Its Offices

(A) As the elected board members have different countries of origin, the seat of ICR will change after new elections. The seat is in the country of the presiding Chairperson.

(B) At the end of the term of office, each officer will transmit all records and relevant files to the new officer.

(C) The office for financial activities is in the country of the treasurer.

(D) ICR's address for purposes of correspondence is care of the Secretary of the Committee.

(E) ICR shall maintain archives at a location to be determined by the Board.

Article 10

Finances

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Based upon Rules of ICR adopted Stavanger, July 1995. Revisions: Vienna, August 2007; Shanghai, 8 November 2010; Belgrade, 28 September 2012; Rio de Janeiro, 14 August 2013.

(A) ICR is entitled to raise such funds for its operations, as it considers necessary. It may not impose any annual membership subscription on ICOM members, but is entitled to impose a fee for specific services.

(B) ICR may impose such charges for participation in meetings as it deems necessary.

(C) ICR may receive grants and donations and accept underwriting from sponsors.

(D) ICR may produce at its own expense and sell publications but shall inform the Director General of ICOM. It may also produce and sell program-related items such as badges.

(E) ICR shall not enter into any contract or any legally binding agreement involving expenditure by ICOM without prior approval of the Executive Council (other than contracts and agreements that relate to its own activities and can be paid for from its own funds.)

(F) All the money received by ICR shall be deposited in a bank account established for the purpose and all payments made on behalf of the Committee shall be made from that bank account. The Board shall advise the Treasurer of ICOM of the account name and number and the name of the bank at which the account is established.

(G) The financial activities of ICR are managed by the Treasurer.

(H) Financial records are kept by the Treasurer. All financial transactions must be approved by the ICR Board.

(I) The Chairperson with the approval of the Board will appoint two voting members to review the Treasurer's triennial financial report and report to the membership at the triennial Plenary Session.

(J) Expenses may include costs incurred through program-related activities such as publications, meetings, collaboration with other committees, etc, including the organization of annual conferences and meetings and ICOM's General Assembly and related events.

(K) ICR maintains a reserve fund to ensure continued development of the Committee.

Article 11

Representation on ICOM Advisory Committee and General Assembly

(A) ICR is represented by its Chairperson at all ICOM related events or by his/her nominee with a given proxy.

(B) ICR shall be represented at the General Assembly of ICOM by selected board members nominated by the board for voting at the Assembly.

Article 12

Dissemination of Information

(A) Relevant information on ICR activities is published in the ICR Newsletter, which serves as the Committee's official paper, and included on the web page. The text is published in English and when possible translations in Spanish and French will be provided.

(B) Information regarding meetings will be publicly announced at least 60 days in advance.

Article 13

Languages

(A) The working language of ICR is English. ICR endeavours to use French and Spanish whenever possible and in every situation where ICOM provides funding for translations.

(B) Participants in ICR meetings may present papers and speak in any of ICOM's official languages. Another language may be used if a participant arranges for translation into one of the official languages of ICOM or if the majority of participants agree to its use without translation.

Article 14

Amendments to the Statutes

(A) The Statutes may be amended at any annual Plenary Session.

(B) Suggested amendments to the Statutes must be proposed and seconded by voting members of the Committee in good standing. The text of any proposed amendment, together with any explanatory material, shall be put on the ICR web site at least fifteen days prior to the Plenary Session at which they are to be considered.

(C) A proposed amendment may be further amended at the Plenary Session at which it is considered but only if the further amendment is of a minor nature. The Chairperson of the meeting shall decide whether a further amendment is of a minor nature.

(D) Adoption and amendment of the Statutes requires the approval of a majority of the voting members present at the meeting.

(E) The provisions of ICOM Statutes and/or decisions of the Executive Council of ICOM are to taken in account in any case of dispute.

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Article 15
Dissolution of the Committee

(A) ICR may be dissolved in accordance with ICOM Statutes, Article 17, para. 12.

(B) In the event that ICR is dissolved, its assets (if any) shall be transferred to ICOM headquarters and shall be dealt with in such manner as the Executive Council thinks appropriate.