

INTERNATIONAL POLAR HERITAGE COMMITTEE

An international scientific committee of

ICOMOS

International Council on Monuments and Sites

Last amended – 29th April, 2010 (Punta Arenas, Chile)

Establishment.

The ICOMOS International Polar Heritage Committee (hereafter referred to as “the IPHC”) was established in accordance with the Eger Principles of August 1991 on the recommendation of the XII General Assembly of ICOMOS in Mexico in October 1999 and subsequently confirmed by the Executive Committee in Paris in March 2000.

Objectives and activities.

1. The objectives of the IPHC are to:
 - (a) promote international co-operation in the protection and conservation of non-indigenous heritage in the Arctic and Antarctic;
 - (b) consult and co-operate with Arctic indigenous peoples regarding heritage of cross cultural significance;
 - (c) provide a forum for interchange of experience, ideas, knowledge, and the results of research between administrators, archaeologists, conservators, historians, legislators and other professionals;
 - (d) promote international studies and projects;
 - (e) expand technical co-operation by fostering links with specialised institutions.
2. The activities of the IPHC will be consistent with the goals and objectives of ICOMOS and the principles of the ICOMOS Scientific Council.
3. The activities of the IPHC may include the organisation of meetings, the preparation of publications, the gathering and dissemination of information, and any other activities aimed at achieving the objectives of this Article.
4. Every three years to coincide with the year of the ICOMOS General Assembly, the IPHC shall prepare a programme for the forthcoming three-year period. This programme shall be forwarded to the ICOMOS Secretariat at least three months before the date of the ICOMOS General Assembly, for incorporation into the Council’s programme for the forthcoming three years. This programme shall be revised and updated as required.

Membership

5. Expert membership
 - (i) An Expert member will be a person with an active professional involvement and/or relevant practical experience in the protection and conservation of heritage sites in Arctic and/or Antarctic regions, who is interested in the work of the IPHC and be able to assist the IPHC to achieve any of its objectives.

- (ii) An Expert member will be a member of ICOMOS and may be appointed by one of two methods;
 - a. a person meeting the criteria in 5. (i), who is nominated by a National Committee, who will be the voting member for that country, or;
 - b. a person meeting the criteria in 5. (i), who is otherwise recommended to the Executive of the IPHC for appointment. Such appointments will be confirmed once ratified by a majority of Expert members attending an IPHC meeting, or by a majority of Expert members responding positively to email or postal submission about the appointment.

6. Associate membership

- (i) An Associate member may be appointed by the IPHC Executive after recommendation by an Expert member;
- (ii) An Associate member will be a person wishing to further interest in polar heritage protection and who is committed to the objectives of the IPHC. An Associate member will normally be a member of ICOMOS;
- (iii) Appointment as an Associate member will be confirmed once ratified by a majority of Expert members attending an IPHC meeting, or by a majority of Expert members responding positively to email or postal submission about the appointment.

7. Memberships may be reviewed at meetings of the IPHC which are held at the time of the ICOMOS General Assembly.

A recommendation to terminate a membership may be made by the Executive for one or more of the following reasons;

- (i) Failure to adhere to the ICOMOS statement of Ethical Commitment, or, in the case of an Expert member, failure to maintain membership of ICOMOS, or
- (ii) a demonstrable lack of interest or commitment to the objectives or activities of the IPHC.

Termination of membership must be ratified by a majority of Expert members attending the meeting.

Decision making

- 8. Only Expert members will participate in the formal decision making processes of the IPHC. Where possible decisions will be reached by consensus.
- 9. Where a vote is required, either at a General meeting or by postal, email or other form of ballot, the voting system will be fair and transparent and the result based on a simple majority. Only Expert members will have voting rights.

10. Voting on any amendment to these statutes, will be according to the principle of one vote per country and only those members who are appointed by their national committee (see 5. (ii) a.) may vote.

Meetings

11. A full General meeting of the IPHC shall be held at least once every three years. Such General meetings will normally be held in association with the ICOMOS General Assembly.
12. Where possible at least one additional meeting of the IPHC will be held in the interval between ICOMOS General Assemblies.

The Executive and Secretariat

13. Executive

The Executive of the IPHC will consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary General and such other Expert members as are considered necessary for the effective functioning of the IPHC.

- a. The Executive will be elected at each triennial General meeting of the IPHC.
- b. The Executive will be responsible for the routine reporting requirements of the IPHC, including an Annual report and triennial work plan;
- c. The Executive will meet as required but in any event at least once a year.
- d. A member of the Executive will not normally remain in office for more than three consecutive terms of three years.

14. Secretariat

A Secretariat will be maintained to support the administration of the IPHC and implement the IPHC programme. The effective functioning of the Secretariat requires that it is able to secure its own funding.

Finance

15. The activities of the IPHC will be self funded by grants sought from National Committees of ICOMOS, contributions from international and national bodies, institutions and/or from private enterprise.
16. The primary accountability for the use of the funds of the IPHC will be to the provider(s) of those funds.
17. Members of the IPHC will use their best efforts to obtain the funds necessary to ensure their own participation in IPHC activities.
18. In the event of the IPHC being terminated, any assets shall be returned to donors on a 'pro-rata' basis where these donors can be identified. Otherwise the distribution of remaining funds shall be decided by the Executive having regard for the continuance of the objectives of the IPHC and ICOMOS.