**Minutes**

**ICOFOM Annual General Meeting**

9 June 2014

9:30-11:30 am

Galerie des Gobelins, Paris, France

**Chair**: François Mairesse, ICOFOM President

**Secretary**: Lynn Maranda, ICOFOM Secretary (corresponding)

**Present**:

François Mairesse (France), Lynn Maranda (Canada), Anna Leshchenko (Russia), Ann Davis (Canada), Roberto Broll (Guatemala), Alain Massé (Canada), Kerstin Smeds (Sweden/Finland), Martin Schaerer (Switzerland), Ernest Kpan (Côte d’Ivoire), Eiji Mizushima (Japan), Agostinho Ribeiro (Portugal), Luciana Menezes De Carvalho (Brazil),Lina Tahan (Lebanon/U.K.), Saena Sadighiyan (France/U.K.), Manuelina Maria Duarte Cândido (Brazil), Bruno César Brulon Soares (Brazil), Davit Poghosyan (Armenia), Jacqueline A. Finkelstein (Brazil).

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the President, François Mairesse.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

The Agenda was **approved** unanimously.

3. **Approval of Previous Minutes**

The Minutes of the 2013 ICOFOM Annual General Meeting, held on 14 August 2013 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (during the ICOM Triennial and before elections were held for a new President and Executive Board for the 2013-2016 period), Ann Davis, then President of ICOFOM, in the Chair, were **approved** unanimously.

4. **President’s Report**

François Mairesse presented his report for the period August 2013 – June 2014. He first mentioned the 2013 elections in Rio de Janeiro and gave the names of the elected Executive Board members for the period 2013-2016. He then thanked all those who had helped with the Paris conference and made special mention of Saena Sadighiyan and Suzanne Nash. Following, he outlined activities in which he had been or is still involved, and these included:

* pre-preparation of the present conference, including the call for abstracts and peer review of same prior to papers being written, and receiving the completed papers;
* peer review of papers and preparation of ISS 44 for the 2015 conference in Japan;
* organization of the Paris conference, including the Roundtable meeting of Presidents of International Committees and the recruiting of keynote speakers;
* orchestrating the tribute to André Desvallées (ethnologist, museologist, Honorary Counsellor of ICOFOM, and Honorary Member of ICOM), comprising an address to conference delegates by André, a reception in his honour, and the publication of a special volume of the ICOFOM Study Series dedicated to his life’s work; the president of ICOM, Dr. Hans-Martin Hinz was present for this special event;
* numerous projects, chiefly: a special ICOFOM research project on the History of Museology, focussing on ICOFOM theorists, which will serve to structure information and map museology worldwide, being coordinated by Bruno Brulon, Vice-President of ICOFOM; an exhibition on the History of ICOM for the ICOM triennial meetings in Milan, Italy, in July 2016; advancing the translations of the *Dictionnaire encyclopédique de museology*; the ARGroup project, headed by Nelly Decarolis (former President of ICOFOM), to publish (possibly by ICOM Argentina) selected “best” articles from ICOFOM’s Study Series (ISS).

From the floor:

In reference to the ARGroup project, the issue of copyright was raised, as was the question of its purpose and progress; Martin Schaerer reported that the newest language into which the Key Concepts of Museology had been translated, was Farsi.

5. **Sub-committee Reports**

**(a) ICOFOM ASPAC** (ICOFOM Asia and the Pacific)

No report was submitted. François reported that an ICOM Special Projects grant had been awarded to ICOFOM ASPAC for their museology school, held in numerous locations but primarily in Siberia (Russia) and which involved members from a number of other countries, including: Germany, Taiwan, and Mongolia.

**(b) ICOFOM LAM** (ICOFOM Latin America and the Caribbean)

A brief verbal report was presented by Roberto Broll on behalf of Gladys Barrios, Chair of ICOFOM LAM. He announced that the annual meeting of ICOFOM LAM was being held in November 2014 in Buenos Aires and that Nelly Decarolis had issues an invitation to the ICOFOM membership to attend.

From the floor:

Martin Schaerer suggested that ICOFOM LAM should consider changing its name to ICOFOM LAC in keeping with ICOM’s terminology.

**6. Treasurer’s Report**

François presented a report on behalf of Wanchen Chang, ICOFOM Treasurer. The highlights were:

* ICOFOM had received a smaller grant from the ICOM annual subvention to International Committees and that this totalled 7,800 Euros;
* ICOM Special Projects grant awarded to ICOFOM ASPAC for their museology school, totalled 5,000 Euros;
* monies for the 2014 Paris conference came from various academic institutions and laboratories, including grants from the University of Paris Noveau as well as from other universities, totalled approximately 10,000 Euros;
* ICOM grants to invite young ICOFOM members to attend the conference were awarded to 3 individuals: Bruno Brulon, Davit Poghosyan, and Roberto Broll.

**7. Modifications of ICOFOM’s** *Rules*

Lynn Maranda, Chair of the Committee on Committees, which has been charged with developing and amending ICOFOM’s *Rules* when and as required, presented the latest amendments to the *Rules*, pursuant to their former approval on 3 November 2012 at Tunis, Tunisia. The Clauses which were amended and proposed for approval at this meeting, are: Clauses 8(d) deletion of some wording, 8(e) deletion of 8(e), and 9(b) deletion of 9(b).

**Moved** by Ann Davis

**Seconded** by Bruno Brulon

**Approved** unanimously

An Addendum to the *Rules*, governing ICOFOM’s Sub-committees (ASPAC and LAM), is still a work in progress.

An updated copy of the *Rules*, reflecting the latest approved amendments, will be posted on the ICOFOM website.

**8. Future Plans**

**(a) ICOFOM 2015**

Eiji Mizushima gave a brief presentation on 2015 in Japan where the conference will be held in Tsukuba. The conference topic is still under discussion and details have yet to be formalized.

**(b) ICOM/ICOFOM 2016**

ICOFOM will meet in Milan, Italy, in 2016 in the course of the ICOM triennial meetings.François explained that ICOFOM will be linked with Italian universities, similar to the situation for the 2014 meeting which was particularly important for PhD students in France. The theme for the Milan conference is The Landscapes of Museums, which will mean, for ICOFOM, The Landscapes of Museology.

From the floor:

Agostinho Ribeiro issued an invitation from ICOM Portugal and Spain for joint activities with ICOFOM in 2016. Ann Davis expressed a need for caution and that ICOFOM should not support a national committee at an ICOM triennial, but that 2017 might be an option. The ICOFOM Board will discuss such a possibility for 2017 in due course.

Manuelina Maria Duarte Cândido brought up the issue of ICOM’s archives, stating that they were in a poor state and disorganized. She expressed uncertainty about what will happen and that ICOM was under threat of losing its memory.

**9. Other**

A free-wheeling, open-ended exchange from the floor on the issue of membership ensued. Some of the points noted included:

* Lina Tahan stated that French students are not allowed to join ICOM;
* Ann Davis referred to ICOM CC and the fact that some ICOM national committees do not allow conservators to be ICOM members;
* Saena Sadighiyan mentioned that she is a member of ICOM UK because ICOM France twice rejected her application for membership; nevertheless, she is a legitimate member of ICOM UK as she did her Master’s degree and has a bank account in the UK; she also wondered if non-members could become committee members while not being national members;
* François Mairesse explained that the heart of the issue and the fundamental concern of ICOM revolves around the ICOM membership card (and the privileges that go along with it) and that this is a difficult position for ICOM; he further mentioned that ICOM France is the second largest national committee in ICOM;
* Kerstin Smeds asked if ICOM had to be contacted to join ICOFOM;
* Lynn Maranda explained the route voting membership in an International Committee, such as ICOFOM, takes, and that ICOM needs to be contacted for this to happen; there is no restriction, however, on being an Associate Member of ICOFOM, and only the membership secretary of ICOFOM need be contacted so that one’s name and email address could be added to the list to receive whatever information is disseminated from the committee.

After thanking those present for attending, the AGM, the meeting was adjourned by the President, François Mairesse.

Lynn Maranda

On behalf of Jennifer Harris, ICOFOM Secretary (recording)