

Resolution 19GA 2017/23 – Our Common Dignity: Next steps for Rights-Based Approaches in World Heritage

[Submitted by ICOMOS Norway, Australia ICOMOS, ICOMOS India, ICOMOS South Africa]

The 19th General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling the Resolutions 17GA 2011/30 of the 17th ICOMOS General Assembly (Paris, 2011) and 18GA 2014/43 of the 18th ICOMOS General Assembly (Florence, 2014), as well as the recommendation made by the Advisory Committee (October 2016, Istanbul) “Our Common Dignity: Advancing Rights-Based Approaches to Heritage Conservation”, and the substantial progress made by the Working Group established by the ICOMOS Board in relation to this programme since 2011;

Acknowledging the adoption by the 20th General Assembly of the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention of the “Policy on the integration of a sustainable development perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention” (Resolution 20 GA 13, November 2015);

Acknowledging the United Nations’ mainstreaming of Human Rights Based Approach and the continued collaboration between the three Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Convention - ICCROM, ICOMOS and IUCN;

Noting that rights issues, including the involvement of communities, are a growing aspect of the work of international organizations working in the field of culture and heritage;

Supporting the global recommendations issued by the “Our Common Dignity” initiative to date;

Requests that the ICOMOS Board continues to advance these issues through the “Our Common Dignity” component of the ICOMOS General Programme 2018-2020, aiming at:

- 1 Encouraging the development of Rights Based Approaches, and raising awareness and knowledge of Rights Based Approaches in heritage management;
- 2 Advocating for the adoption of a common language and conceptual framework across the World Heritage Committee, States Parties and the Advisory Bodies;
- 3 Strengthening the text and content of World Heritage guidelines and practice in regards to issues of rights, and the participation and ownership by communities;
- 4 Initiating efforts to support national-level processes and policy development beyond what is in place today to promote more inclusive and socially sensitive approaches to groups and communities living within, or in the vicinity, of World Heritage properties who depend on the resources within these designated areas;
- 5 Furthering cross-cultural collaboration, awareness raising and mutual knowledge-building on the topic of rights in heritage management, continuing the “Our Common Dignity initiative” with shared global and geo-cultural diversity.