CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES
ICOMOS
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES

Our Ref. : MP/GJ/BBR/CIRC-06 Paris, 6 June 2003

Dear Colleagues,

The 13th General Assembly of ICOMOS (Madrid 2002) adopted, among others, Resolution B.10, which states: "The ICOMOS statutes date back to 1978. Therefore ICOMOS-Sweden proposes that the Standing Committee on Statutes review and update the ICOMOS statutes.".

In response to the Assembly's direct mandate, the Standing Committee on Statutes has worked arduously to complete this important task. The result is a clear, rigorously elaborated text, thanks to the efforts carried out by the excellent legal experts on this committee, who have clearly demonstrated their highly specialised and professional level . My sincere thanks to them.

The proposed text of amendments aims to update the 1978 ICOMOS Statutes which, as stated by the General Assembly, have proved to be obsolete in many aspects. It will further enable the growing ICOMOS family to participate in a more egalitarian, democratic and transparent way in the main institutional events of ICOMOS, and will undoubtedly have a positive effect on both the development of our activities and the achievement of the statutory objectives.

Taking into account that the amendments of the Statutes shall consequently require other relevant changes on complementary by-laws, the Standing Committee on Statutes has also elaborated a proposal to amend the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly. Since the only competent body for approving amendments to its own Rules is the General Assembly, these amendments should be approved by the General Assembly in Victoria Falls, in order to be operative for the upcoming Beijing 2005 Assembly, as per Resolution 26, adopted by the 13th Assembly, in Madrid.

We hereby inform all members of ICOMOS, within the time limit established by article 19 of our current Statutes, of the content of the referred documents: "Draft of Amendments of the ICOMOS Statutes" and "Draft of Amendments of the Rules of Procedure of the ICOMOS General Assembly". The Spanish and French language versions will be included as soon as possible on the ICOMOS web site (www.icomos.org).

Debate, and approval if applicable, will take place at the 14th Extraordinary General Assembly that, as announced, shall be held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, October 27-31, 2003.

I strenuously encourage all ICOMOS members to submit their comments and proposals on both texts, in writing and as soon as possible. I remind them that they are also invited to take part in the debate on these documents during the above referred Assembly.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Victoria Falls, I will appreciate to receive your comments and suggestions in our efforts to update and improve the efficiency of our Statutes and Rules of the General Assembly.

With my best wishes

Michael Petzet
President of ICOMOS

49-51 rue de la Fédération, 75015 Paris, France
Tel. : 33 (0) 1 45 67 67 70 – Fax : 33 (0) 1 45 66 06 22
email : secretariat@icomos.org
www.international.icomos.org