

ISCARSAH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 2024-09-25

Revision: 0

Location: Hybrid

Peleş Vastle, Sinaia, Romania

2024-09-25 from 14h30 to 16h30 Eastern European Summer Time (local)

And via Zoom



Recording available at:

To be posed on the ISCARSAH YouTube channel. Delayed because of editing challenges. YouTube Channel can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXctyVZcWlXnEISt8ySlNtw>

ATTENDANCE

The attendance can be found in Appendix A.

1 WELCOME FROM PRESIDENT

Meeting start was slightly delayed by technical problems.

Paulo Lourenço welcomed everyone attending the meeting, thanking the hosts.

2 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The 2023 Meeting Minutes were approved by E-mail following the past AGM. Anyone wishing to have a copy is to contact the Secretary General (secretariat@iscarsah.org).

3 MEMBERSHIP

3.1 INTRODUCING NEW MEMBERS TO ISCARSAH

Presented by Mehrdad Hejazi.

Congratulations given to all new members:

- Maryam Rahimli (Azerbaijan)
- Nima Valibeig (Iran)
- Nicoletta Bianchini (Italy)
- Terrence Paret (USA)
- Alejandro Jimenez Rios (Mexico)
- Satyadhrik Sharma (India)
- Chiara Caldegrini (Italy)
- Mehmet Emre Aktuna (UK)
- Chiara Ferrero (Italy)
- Naida Ademovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Yara Ramadan (Palestine)
- Cyrill von Planta (Austria)
- Majid Valeed Daghlas (Palestine)
- Davor Uglesic (Croatia)
- Igor Tomic-HRV (Croatia)
- Wlodzimierz Fomin-Krasnopolski (Norway)
- Bulent Bayram (Turkey)
- Livingston Daniel Okpakhalu (Nigeria)
- Hambtamu Getu Mihret (Ethiopia)
- Alex Carpenter (Canada)

Our new members are very diverse, which we see as a positive and a large benefit to what we can do as an organization.

For new interest, you can contact iscarsah@gmail.com to ask for the application form and submit. Also acceptable would be to reach out to secretariat@iscarsah.org

Several of our new members are Non-ICOMOS Members. This is not ideal, as everyone should be an ICOMOS Member of their country, but we recognize that sometimes there are political constraints.

3.2 OPERATIONS UPDATES

Presented by Tom Morrison.

There has been a lot of interest in new membership, thank you to Stephen Kelley (past President) for helping manage this interest and responding quickly.

We are working through a three year membership audit to understand:

- Activity levels
- Who should be applying to Expert membership from Associate
- Status of Non-ICOMOS Members
- How our current membership categories are working.

We have also created two new E-mail addresses to help with continuity.

- For the President: president@iscarsah.org
- For the Secretary General: secretariat@iscarsah.org

4 OVERVIEW OF ISCARSAH ACTIVITIES

Presented by Paulo Lourenço.

Re-introduction of the current Bureau Members, with the 2023 to 2026 term.

Review of activity and bureau members.

Currently we have 193 members, of which the largest category is Expert Members. Membership levels are high in some countries, such as Italy and USA, however many of our members are in countries with few members. This will impact national committees and similar.

The AGM includes both our sessions today as well as the conference tomorrow, which we heard will be a full room of both local and international attendees.

Social Media improvements have continued to increase posts per month (currently at 3), and this is seen as helping improve membership levels by helping people know about us. This comes from mainly Facebook and LinkedIn. YouTube has a presence, but fewer views.

The ISCARSAH Guideline development is exciting and will be presented soon. With the original guidelines now over 21 years old it was time to provide an update and improvements. This final version has been approved by the committee in 2 rounds. This assembly hopes to approve the updated guideline.

The Bulletin has been developed and release as a formal communication to our members on a regular basis. Issues are released in March and September.

The Webinars have been important in outreach beyond just ISCARSAH Members. Both allowing those from the 'outside' to speak to us and for us to speak to groups beyond us. Our members have heard a lot from us already. Recent webinars include on the Turkey-Syria Earthquake and Fire Protection. Generally we have 100 + participants.

Working groups has been a major project. They are not cast in stone, designed to adapt and be open to external involvement. The Working Groups are intended to be 3-year projects – the length of one Bureau. Perhaps the topic gets extended, but that can be decided as necessary. These will grow and adapt as necessary. The goal is to have an impact – and to finish with something.

Approximately 50% of our committee is involved in one of the 4 active working groups. Thank you to Filippo Casarin, Kai Weise, Becca Napolitano, and Mustafa Humo for their involvement. Current working groups are looking at:

- Cataloguing Masonry Issues
- ISCARSAH Examples
- Climate Change and Climate Adaptation
- Building Codes and ISCARSAH Principles

We have around 50% of our committee members involved in one of these working groups.

Other activities include:

- Consolidated triennial action plan developed and distributed to ISCARSAH Members
- ICOMOS Panel Series involvement by Milos Drdacky on “Expect Unexpected: Floods”, organized by ICORP.
- COST Action “A framework for heritage structures conservation fulfilling the New European Bauhouse” not successful. Success rate about 1 in 8.
- Becca Napolitano directed a poll to emerging professionals, but the response and number of identified emerging professional in the committee was low. Unfortunately the poll was not successful due to limited response.
- New E-mail domains
- ISCARSAH contributions for the Venice Charter Social Media Series by ICOMOS Communications Coordinator. We provided several potential questions on Venice Charter articles for posting on the ICOMOS Venice Charter Social Media Series

Planned additional activities

- Looking at some revisions of our by-laws, comparing with other ISCs, the size of the Bureau, review of corresponding members, revisions of expert members requirements. This will be worked on gradually and may be the next AGM or the one following.
- Work to understand relationships between the National Scientific Committees with ISCARSAH is under evaluation. We have had some constructive discussions with various National Scientific Committees and have found there are different ways they may organize. The NSC’s are seen as important as a means to outreach – it is possible for the NSC’s to do

many things that an ISC cannot. The feeling is that the NSC's need critical mass to keep moving.

- Next year we hope to have a protected members area on the website.
- We aim to review the status of our members.
- AGM in Lausanne during SAHC 2025. September 14th (Sunday), sahc2025.epfl.ch. For those interested in speaking at the SAHC conference abstracts are due by October 20th, 2024.
 - Tentative ISCARSAH AGM 15h30 to 17h30
 - SAHC 2025 reception between 18h00 and 20h00.
 - ISCARSAH Members dinner at 20h30.

5 PRESENTATION OF ISCARSAH GUIDELINES

Presented by Pere Roca.

Review of the history of the Guideline revision process. It had many different challenges, but a team worked hard to work through obstacles and find solutions to challenges. The document was fully revised to bring an eventually draft to the ISCARSAH committee in August 2023, leading to a final draft for May 2024.

Provisional approval from the Bureau June 2024.

Long process allowing large involvement of many colleagues.

Collective effort with opportunities to provide feedback. Deep gratitude to the members of the subcommittee, and particular thanks to those that participated in the Barcelona meeting in 2019.

Special gratitude expressed to presidents Gorun Arun and Paulo Lourenco. And of course to all members.

Purpose of the document is to provide criteria and assistance for the study and intervention on heritage structure. The revised document elaborated and clarified critical criteria. This document updates the 2003 ISCARSAH Guidelines, and is able to consider many events in our field since then.

The document has been sent to members and will be posted on the website.

6 PROPOSAL FOR APPROVAL OF THE ISCARSAH GUIDELINES

Paulo Lourenço moved for approval of the Guidelines by the ISCARSAH Membership. Stephen Kelly Seconded the motion.

Mustafa Humo raised questions regarding how to distribute information found in the meeting.

The chair asked for anyone against the acceptance to speak or raise their hand. No one online or in person made comment.

The chair asked for anyone wishing to abstain to speak or raise their hand. No one online or in person made comment.

Guidelines approved formally by the ISCARSAH AGM.

7 OTHER ISCARSAH ACTIVITIES

7.1 WEBINARS PLANNED

Presented by Stephen Kelley on behalf of Tim Michiels.

Our goal is to organize 2 webinars each year, to provide information on select technical topics. We have heard from a variety of experts, and aim to continue this. It helps us reach beyond who attends these sessions and to do outreach, while creating an alternative platform for discussion and community building.

All of our Webinars are posted to our YouTube channel after they occur. The webinars continue to be watched after they are posted.

Upcoming webinars being considered:

- New ISCARSAH Guidelines webinar
- ISCARSAH Principles Webinar with the Association for Preservation Technology (apti.org). This would be shared with their Preservation Engineering Committee.
- Corrosion of Steel-Embedded Elements Webinar

This may change as we gain feedback and see interest. We are interested in hearing about interest from others, please contact Stephen, or Tim Michiels after the meeting.

Special note, we have done webinars in languages other than English, and we have seen great success with this. Members are encouraged to suggest this as well.

7.2 ISCARSAH BULLETIN

Presented by Meltem Vatan.

The recent Bulletin Issues were reviewed, highlighting the recent article. Bulletin's are sent to members and are posted online.

All members are encouraged to submit some short comments on some of the exciting things they are doing, or reading, or learning about. Take half an hour and write a short piece to tell others and share your thoughts.

7.3 WORKING GROUPS

7.3.1 CATALOGUING MASONRY ISSUES

Presented by Filippo Casarin.

The working group has developed a detailed schedule and has been successful in tasks so far. Extensive information has been shared and is being organized. Most of the information that has been found is on new buildings, but it continues to expand to cover existing buildings.

Working with a doctoral student the information is being laid out in a database to help in guiding decisions on mechanical characteristics using the masonry quality index method.

Deliverable one from the group will be the methodology for masonry types classification per mechanically relevant features. Deliverable two will be a methodology for masonry laboratory and onsite testing for driving reliable mechanical features.

Starting with the Italian databases, then supplementing with further testing and development of details. Improving estimates of mechanical properties of masonry based upon visual inspection.

This group aims to have a meeting in September in Padova to further some of this initiative.

Next steps include comparing different similar applications than comparing against various testing techniques.

7.3.2 ISCARSAH EXAMPLES

To be presented by Kai Weise. Postponed due to IT issues. Aim to provide later via E-mail or YouTube.

7.3.3 CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADAPTIVE REUSE

Presented by Becca Napolitano.

The plan was to create a WhitePaper on Climate Change and Adaptive Reuse by December 2024. The team is spread around the world. Schedule is on track to creating a document, currently working through revisions.

A questioned what they want people to get out of the paper. Considering first what are the impacts of climate change to the structures. As that was established the question of how can structural engineers reduce embodied carbon impacts and how historic buildings can be part of climate action (not just reaction).

Current draft is progressing. The current thesis statement is:

“While adhering to conservation principles interventions for climate adaptation of heritage structures must ensure safety from future climate hazards. However, it is also important to be cognizant of the ensuing environmental impacts of such interventions and weigh those in our decision-making processes.”

How do we balance conservation and climate adaptation. This led to creating decision making tradeoff tables to help. The goal is to create a resource.

In the end we have to consider conservation, resilience, sustainability, feasibility and soci-cultural impacts. This working group has been looking at how to establish the questions that aid in good decision making.

7.3.4 BUILDING CODES AND ISCARSAH PRINCIPLES

Presented by Mustafa Humo.

The goal of the Building Codes and ISCARSAH Principles working group has been to support the harmonization of codes and best practices with a focus on seismic safety of historic buildings.

A detailed online survey was completed in July, collecting data from experts worldwide. The first analysis of responses has been prepared for this AGM. The final report is expected end of 2024 or early 2025.

The survey collected information in seven different categories. By doing this it was possible to gain a broad understanding of practices in different regions of the world. Categories answered included:

- A. Personal data
- B. Partial-intervention approaches used for seismic assessment of historic structures
- C. Extra-code approaches used for seismic assessment
- D. Lower-level safety approaches used for seismic assessment
- E. Authorities, codes and recommendations/guidelines used in various locations
- F. Harmonization of buildings codes and ISCARSAH principles in practice
- G. Safety of historic structures against other loads.

Responses were received from 28 different countries in 5 continents. The length of practical experience from respondents ranged from 2 to 47 years, with an average of 24 years. Most responses were from engineers (26), then professors (15), architects (9), a researcher (1), a restoration expert (1) and a PhD student (1). These experts were involved with various aspects, including design, supervision, construction, teaching and research. Seventeen of the experts were involved with at least 3 of these aspects, with eight involved with all 5. 90% of experts were connected to research in some form, over half in teaching, and the least (approximately a third) were connected to construction.

Responses provided 46 case studies as references. Frequently mentioned documents include the ISCARSAH Principles and Annex I of ISO 13822.

Initial conclusions (still in development with discussion) are that:

- a) Safety requirements prescribed in codes for modern buildings are predominately legally binding for historic structures as well.

- b) There are cases where other more relaxing documents can be officially used when there is a need to consider a lower level of safety for historic buildings to preserve their heritage value.
- c) This is a case for example with partial interventions where an incremental approach is allowable in some countries.
- d) Other supportive codes/recommendation/guidelines valid in some countries are mentioned in the responses. It'd be necessary to explore these documents in detail to see how they could possibly be used more widely.
- e) Otherwise, the expert are trying to find ways with local authorities to justify their decions to lower the level of safety of historic buildings when necessary to preserve their heritage value.
- f) It should be noted that almost half of the responders are considering the harmonization of Building Codes necessary.

The general temporary conclusion, which at present reflects only the opinion of the author of this report, is that further work on the topic is worth trying.

Proposed next steps:

- A smaller group of WG members should review findings again to look for missed information in survey results.
- Additional analysis of the responses related to defining different criteria for harmonization should be performed
- Exploring and comparing the other supportive documents such as FEMA, SIA 269, IEBC
- WG meetings should be organized based upon results of the above.
- Finishing the report.

Contact Mustafa Humo if you wish to be involved with this working group. Mustafa.humo@gmail.com

8 NEW BUSINESS

In-Souk Cho raised interest of IIWC for doing future collaboration on activities. Paulo Lourenço agreed that there is potential and this would benefit from futher discussion in the coming days.

9 ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Paulo Lourenço.

APPENDIX A: ATTENDANCE LIST

Last Name	First Name	Country	Attendance
Bureau Members			
Lourenco	Paulo	Portugal	Present
Cazamir	Radu	Romania	Present
Hejazi	Mehrdad	Iran	Present
Michiels	Tim	Belgium	Virtual
Napolitano	Rebecca	USA	Virtual
Vatan	Meltem	Turkey	Present
Menon	Arun	India	Virtual
Morrison	Tom	Canada	Present
Expert Members			
Al-Murri	Tariq	Egypt	
Almac	Umut	Turkey	
Almazova	Nataliya	Russia	
Aguilar	Rafael	Peru	
Aoki	Takayoshi	Japan	
Avellan	Kari	Finland	
Baratta	Alessandro	Italy	
Beckh	Matthias	Germany	
Bednarz	Lukasz	Poland	Present
Boostani	Arash	Iran	
Bostenaru Dan	Maria	Romania	
Bothara	Jitendra	New Zealand	Regrets
Caillaut	Pierre Yves	France	
Calderini	Chiara	Italy	
Ceravolo	Rosario	Italy	
Cheval	Nicolas	France	
Cho	In-Souk	Korea	Present
Chung	Wan Wong	Singapore	
Coias	Vitor	Portugal	
Corbi	Ilieana	Italy	
Corbi	Octavia	Italy	

Costa	Alexandre	Portugal	Present
D'Ayala	Dina	Italy	
Dupont	William	USA	
Drougkas	Anastasios (Tasos)	Greece	Virtual
Dumsick	John	USA	
El Harrouni	Khalid	Morocco	
Emmett	Patricia	South Africa	
Endo	Yohei	Japan	Present
Ferwerda	Wilfred	Netherlands	
Friedman	Donald	USA	
Frostick	Robert	UK	
Garciano	Leo	Philippines	
Greco	Federica	Italy/UK	
Hanazato	Toshikazu	Japan	
Hettinga	Justin	Australia	
Hurtado Saldías	Marcela	Chile	
Huttunen	Marko	Finland	Present
Iwasaki	Yoshinori	Japan	
Jaeger	Wolfram	Germany	
Jasienko	Jerzy	Poland	
Jigyasu	Rohit	India	
Jo	Sangsun	Korea	
Kirizsán	Imola	Romania	
Kuleli	Ayse Esin	Turkey	
Kwiecień	Arkadiusz	Poland	Present
Laefer	Debra	USA	
Langenbach	Randolph	USA	
Mehdizadeh Saradj	Fatima	Iran	
Manieri Elia	Giovanni	Italy	
Meli	Roberto	Mexico	
Mileto	Camilla	Spain	
Mittnaccht	Berndt	Germany	Present
Moşoarcă	Marius	Romania	
Mosseri	Avi	Israel	
Mouton	Benjamin	France	
Niglio	Olimpia	Italy	
Padilla-Guerrero	Francisco Javier	Mexico	
Paradiso	Michele	Cuba	
Paret	Terrence	USA	
Phillips	Peter	Australia	Regrets
Pittas	Michael	Cyprus	
Rihal	Satwant	USA	Present
Ronen	Meir	Israel	

Roseboom	Owen	USA	
Ruggieri	Nicola	Italy	
Sacko	Oussouby	Mali	
Saloustros	Savvas	Greece	
Salter	Andrew Philip	UK	
Santana Quintero	Mario	Belgium/Canada	
Sarhosis	Vasilis	Greece/UK	
Schaffer	Yaacov	Israel	
Schmuckle	Christiane	France	
Schuller	Michael	USA	
Sklodowski	Marek	Poland	Present
Smars	Pierre	Belgium	
Sofronie	Ramiro	Romania	
Sparks	Patrick	USA	Virtual
Stensson	Pål Anders	Sweden	Present
Strelbitsky	Ivan	Russia	
Stylianidis	Kosmas	Greece	
Tarque	Nicolas	Peru	
Taravat	Hamidreza	Australia	Virtual
Teron	Will	Canada	
Thelin	Carl	Sweden	
Torrealva	Daniel	Peru	
Tsakanika	Eleftheria	Greece	
Tsatsanifos	Christos	Greece	
Turer	Ahmet	Turkey	
Uglešić	Davor	Croatia	Present
Vallis	Stacy	New Zealand	
Vargas Neumann	Julio	Peru	
Verstrynge	Els	Belgium	
Vegas	Fernando	Spain	
Vintzelou	Elizabeth	Greece	
Weise	Kai	Nepal	Regrets
Yokouchi	Hajime	Japan	
HONORARY MEMBERS			
Arun	Gorun	Turkey	Present
Drdacky	Milos	Czech Republic	
Fontaine	Lyne	Canada	
Gavrilovic	Predrag	Macedonia	
Kelley	Stephen	USA	Present
Miltiadou-Fezans	Androniki	Greece	Virtual
Modena	Claudio	Italy	

Roca	Pere	Spain	Virtual
Schroeter	Heinrich	Germany	
Segarra-Lagunes	Maria Margarita	Mexico	Virtual
Van Balen	Prof. Koenraad	Belgium	
Wijeratne	Pali	Sri Lanka	
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS			
Abdollahnejad	Zahra	Iran	
Akintunde	Sola	Nigeria	Regrets
Aktuna	Mehmet Emre	UK	Present
Alaboz	Murat	Turkey	Regrets
Alvarez de Lara	Rafael Ramirez	Portugal	
Anđić	David	Croatia	
Angjeliu	Grigor	Italy/Albania	
Apak	Kerimcan	Turkey	Virtual
Aranha	Chrysl	India/USA	
Bae	JeeYeon	Korea	
Bianchini	Nicoletta	Italy	
Brookes	Scott	UK	
Carpenter	Alex	Canada	Virtual
Casarin	Filippo	Italy	Present
Cascardi	Alessio	Italy	
Cho	Eun Kyung	Korea	
Curmi	Angela	USA	Virtual
Daghlas	Majid Waleed	Palestine	
Dritsos	Stephanos	Greece	
Eudave	Rafael Ramirez	Portugal	
Faraj	Mustafa Yahya	Iraq	
Fomin-Krasnopolski	Wlodzimierz	Norway	Present
Giardina	Giorgia	Italy	
Gruia	Liviu	Romania	
Gurnik	Natasa Jurgec	Slovenia	Virtual
Hamdon	Alaa	Iraq	
Hotes	Robert	USA	
Kim	Namhee	Korea	
Kurusco	Ali Osman	Turkey	
Leonard	Iho Nnabuiife	Nigeria	
Lungu	Sebastian	Romania	
Malomo	Daniele	Canada	
Okpakhalu	Livingston Daniel	Nigeria	Regrets
Olgun	Nilgün	Turkey	Virtual
Özata	Şerife	Turkey	
Palantzas	Thodoris	Greece	

Pecchioli	Laura	Germany	
Pelà	Luca	Spain	Virtual
Phillips	Seamus	UK	
Pujara	Nirzary	India	
Pulatsu	Bora	Canada	
Rahimli	Maryam	Azerbaijan	
Ramadan	Yara Adnan Hussein	Palestine	Virtual
Riggio	Mariapaola	Italy	
Rios	Alejandro Jimenez	Norway	Virtual
Şengün	Rabia	Turkey	
Shah	Khushi	India	
Speer	Evan	USA	Regrets
Stepinac	Mislav	Croatia	Present
Tan	Ian	Hong Kong	
Tarczewski	Romuald	Poland	
Tomić	Igor	Croatia	Virtual
Urena Muñoz	Daniel	Costa Rica	
Valibeig	Nima	Iran	
von Planta	Cyrill	Austria	Virtual
Yüzer	Nabi	Turkey	
NON-ICOMOS Members			
Abdessemed Foufa	Amina	Algeria	
Ademović	Naida	B + H	Present
Bakirman	Tolga	Turkey	
Bayram	Bülent	Turkey	
Campos	Carlos Andres Arce	USA	
Cruz	Arturo	Australia	Present
Ferrero	Chiara	Italy	Present
Getu	Habtamu	Ethiopia	
Humo	Mustafa	B + H	Present
Pawlowski	Piotr Krzysztof	Poland	
Sharma	Satyadhrik	The Netherlands	
Thamboo	Julian	Sri Lanka	
Valluzzi	Maria Rosa	Italy	Virtual

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