INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION AND THE RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY

AG3/2
Rome, 31st December 1964
(Translated from the French)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
3rd Session
Rome, 5-9 April 1965

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
(from 1st January 1963 to 31st December 1964)
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PREFACE

The present Report covers the activities of the Centre during the period that has elapsed since the 2nd General Assembly, Rome, April 23-25, 1963 and it is submitted to the 3rd General Assembly in conformity with Statutes (Art. 6, par. d) for approval and for discussion in relation to future activities.

Important adhesions having been made to the Centre in the period in question, which have considerably increased its standing, and parallel international activities having been fostered in various parts of the world in accordance with its Statutes, it has seemed to be desirable to make reference in the present Report to some fundamentals that are considered by the Council to be crucial to the consolidation and future development of the Rome Centre as the supreme intergovernmental Organisation for the Study of the Conservation of Cultural Property.
I. ORGANIZATION

1. Council
   a. Composition
      - President: Mr. F. Gysin, Zurich (Switzerland)
      - Vice President: Prof. Stanislaw Lorentz, Director General of the National Museum, Warsaw (Poland)

statutory members
   - The Representative of the Director General of Unesco:
     - Mr. Hiroshi Daifuku;
   - The Director of the Istituto Centrale del Restauro, Rome:
     - Prof. Pasquale Rotondi;
   - The Director of the Institut royal du patrimoine artistique, Brussels:
     - Mr. Paul Coremans;
   - The Director of the International Council of Museums (ICOM)
     - Mr. Georges-Henri Rivière.

members elected by the General Assembly
   - Mrs. Gertrude Tripp, Staatskonservator, Bundesdenkmalamt, Vienna (Austria)
   - Mr. T.R. Gairola, Chief Chemist, Scientific and Conservation Laboratory, National Museum, New Delhi (India)
   - Mr. Lloyd C. Gwam, Director General of Archives, Nigeria
   - Mr. Fr. Gysin, former Director of the Landesmuseum, Zurich (Switzerland)
   - Mr. Stanislaw Lorentz, Director General of the National Museum, Warsaw (Poland)
   - Mr. Ahmed Sefrioui, Head of the Service of Historical Monuments, the Arts and of Folklore, Rabat (Morocco) (to 2.4.1964)
   - Mr. Arthur Van Schendel, Chief Director of the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam (Netherlands).
b. **Meetings**

Between January 1963 and December 1964 the Council held two sessions in Rome, the 27 April 1963 and 6-10 April 1964.

In conformity with the new text of the Statutes the Council appointed a restricted Committee which met in Brussels on December 1963 and in Paris on 8 July, 1964.

In conformity with article 24 of its Rules the Council has approved the adhesion of the National Gallery of Victoria (Australia) as an Associate Member.

c. **Observations**

Owing to the new functions conferred on him by his country, Mr. Ahmed Sefrioui has been obliged to withdraw from his duties as member of the Council of the Centre as from 2 April 1964.

2. **Personnel**

a. **Composition**

**International Personnel**
- Director: Dr. Harold J. Plenderleith
- Deputy Director: Dr. Paul Philippot

**Italian Personnel**
- Executive Secretary: Dr. Italo C. Angle
- Accountant: Dr. Giulio Catena
- Assistant Documentalist: f.f.: Mr. Antonio Tito
- Stenographers: Mrs. E. Fiorini
  Miss G. Regoli

b. **Observations**

The Bill relating to the Diplomatic Status of the Director and Deputy Director has been approved by the Council of Ministers. Proceedings have reached the legislative stage - the text has to be approved by the Senate and then by the Chamber of Deputies.
Mrs. Fiammetta Varese Gamba resigned from her duties as Librarian as from 1st October 1964. The Centre has asked the Italian Government to appoint another Librarian. Administrative proceedings are in course.

II. MEMBERS AND PUBLICITY

1. Members

a. List of Members on 31st December 1964

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<td>Gabon</td>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>United Arab Rep.</td>
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<td>Germany (Federal Rep.)</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
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b. Associate Members

Direzione Generale dei Monumenti, Musei e Gallerie Pontificie.
Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana.
Archivio Segreto Vaticano.
The International Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (I.I.C.)
National Gallery of Victoria (Australia).

c. Observations

Since the 2nd session of the General Assembly, April 1962, the following eight countries have joined the Centre:
The number of Member States has now risen to a total of 38 on December 31, 1964.

Discussions are in progress with the view to the adhesion of certain institutes as associate members. Notably the Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest, the Museum of Winterthur, (U.S.A.), the National Archives of Malaysia, the Instituto del Restauro Scientifico del Libro of the Vatican and the Institut Suisse d'histoire de l'art, Zurich.

2. Publicity

A pamphlet in English and French containing useful information about the Centre, its organization, members and activities has been issued with the collaboration of Dr. Van Schendel and widely distributed during the past two years. A list of works acquired by the library with the subsidy granted by the Gulbenkian Foundation has also been widely distributed, drawing the attention of those interested to the services which the documentation of the Centre can render.

The Radio and Visual Information Service of UNESCO has carried out a filmed report on the Centre, and the Director has been interviewed by the Italian Television Service on the occasion of the 2nd Session of the General Assembly and in the setting of the celebrations of the 25th Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Rights of Man. The 2nd Session of the General Assembly has also been the subject of articles in the Italian press, and a summary of its work has been published in the Quadrivio (No.5, 1963) and Accademie e Biblioteche (No.4, 1963) whilst a short article appeared in an American magazine Antiques and aroused local interest. The 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments held in Venice 25-31 May 1964, and the International Meeting on the problems of the Preservation of Bronzes and non-ferrous Metals organized at Spoleto, 5-12 October 1964 also provided
opportunities of making the Centre and its activities known. The resolutions of the congress in Venice underline the need for close cooperation between the Centre and the other organizations interested in the preservation of monuments.

On the occasion of a course organized at Williamsburg (USA) by the American National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Colonial Williamsburg, Mr. Stanislaw Lorentz as well as other speakers were able to stress the importance of the Centre and aroused interest which was manifested by the request for an informative, illustrated article written by the Director of the Centre for the "Courrier" of UNESCO and dedicated to the preservation of monuments.

Finally, the Centre has had, on several occasions, the opportunity of helping the architects and restorers from Hungary during their stay in Rome, this having had the effect of bringing the activities of the Centre to the notice of the authorities of that country.

III. ACTIVITIES

1. Publications
   a; Published since 1963
   - Synthetic Materials used in the Conservation of Cultural Property by R. Feller, G. Thomson, A. Van Schendel, and A. Werner. Published with the co-operation of ICOM.

   b. In preparation or in the press
   - La conservation des antiquités et des oeuvres d'art. French translation, through the good offices of the Centre, of the work of Dr. H.J. Plenderleith. Published with the co-operation of ICOM.
   - Controlled Environment for Works of Art in Transit, by N. Stolow. Published with a grant from UNESCO.
   - The Conservation of Cultural Property in Tropical Climates, a joint work under the direction of Dr. H.J. Plenderleith, carried out for UNESCO who will ensure its publication.
c. Re-organization of Publications of the Centre and of the Committee for Museum Laboratories of ICOM

So as to rationalize their activities in the field of publications for which they are not equipped, the Centre and ICOM, (as regards its Committee of Museum Laboratories), have jointly decided to confide the practical side of their publications to two editors, one French, the other English who will share the responsibility for the sale of the works.

An agreement has already been concluded to this effect for the French publications with Editions Eyrolles who will publish the French translation of the work of H.J. Plenderleith, La Conservation des Antiquités et des Oeuvres d'Art, and a contract will be signed shortly with the English firm Butterworths who will publish the study of N. Stolow, Controlled Environment for works of art in transit.

2. Library and Documentation

A list of works acquired in 1962 and 1963 with the subsidy given by the Gulbenkian Foundation has been widely distributed and has demonstrated the usefulness of the Library, which already constitutes an effective working instrument. About 500 works have been bought during 1963 and 1964.

The renewal of the grant of 10,000 $ from the Gulbenkian Foundation for 1964 and 1965 has made it possible to view the near future with optimism.

3. Missions

a. Missions of the Director

Sudan

At the request of UNESCO and the International Board of Consultants in charge of the safeguarding of antiquities in the Sudan, the Director went to Nubia from 13 December to 13 January
1964, at the invitation of the Sudan Minister of Education. He was accompanied by Mr. Paolo Mora, Chief Restorer at the Istituto Centrale del Restauro and by Mr. Giorgio Torraca. After visiting various Nubian monuments threatened by the rising level of the Nile, Dr. Plenderleith and his collaborators were able to give advice of a technical nature to Prof. B. Emery, Chief of the British Archaeological Mission in the Sudan, and to ensure the work of strengthening and protection of the stones and paintings to be transported to Khartum from the temples of Buhen and Aqsha. Mr. Plenderleith also visited the Archeological Museum of Khartum and advised the Sudanese authorities in particular Minister Arhab and the Commissioner for Archaeology, Sayed Thabit, on problems which have arisen in the protection of other monuments in Nubia.

**Hungary**

At the invitation of the Hungarian Government, the Director went to Hungary 10-27 May 1963 to visit the principle museums, monuments and archaeological sites. He contacted the authorities and gave advice on the subject of the preservation of cultural property. He has laid the basic for relations which it is hoped will be consolidated in the near future.

**France**

In September 1963 the Director was invited to participate in the discussions of a French Commission of experts charged with the study of the means of combating the development of organic growths (Chlorobotrys) which threaten the prehistoric paintings in the caves at Lascaux.

**Great Britain**

Designated as a member of the International Commission in charge of examining the steps to be taken in the restoration of the cartoon of the Holy Family with St. Anne of Leonardo da Vinci, the Director went to London at the invitation of Sir Philip Hendy, Director of the National Gallery, to participate in the work of this group of experts.
Pakistan

At the request of UNESCO, the Director went to Pakistan 5-12 January 1964 with two Dutch experts Mr. C. Voute, Geologist, and Mr. Th. De Beaufort, Engineer, in order to examine the state of the excavations of Mohenjo-Daro threatened by the rising level of subterranean waters and of the Indus, combined with an increase in salinity. The mission studied, on the spot, the site of Mohenjo-Daro and the region of the lower Indus, and put forward a detailed plan for the protection of the monument.

India

Taking advantage of his stay in Pakistan the Director accepted an invitation of the Indian Government and went to New Delhi on 22 January to visit the National Museum and its Laboratory. He advised the authorities on the best way of developing its laboratories and on the training, in India, of specialists in preservation and the co-ordination of different services in this field.

Mexico

The Director was invited to the inauguration ceremonies of the new museum of anthropology, Mexico City, 15-25 September 1964, and accepted the invitation of the Director General of Unesco and the Mexican authorities to return to Mexico from 15 October to 7 November to study the organization, in Mexico, of a training centre for specialists in preservation whose services could extend to the whole of Latin America.

Mission of the Director and Deputy Director

In the execution of a contract proposed by UNESCO the Director and the Deputy Director went to Albania, respectively from 1-8 and 1-15 September 1964 in order to advise the authorities on the organization of services in preservation. They visited the principle museums, monuments and archaeological sites, studying in particular problems concerning the preservation of icons and mural paintings. A report has been presented to UNESCO.
b. Missions of the Deputy Director

On the subject of the studies in the technique and preservation of mural paintings, the Deputy Director went to Germany and Austria with Mr. Paolo Mora, Chief Restorer of the Istituto Centrale del Restauro, to examine the works of restoration being carried out at Regensburg (Cloister of St. Emmeran), at Frauenchiemsee, at Lambach and at Millstatt.

c. Missions of the Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary went to Milan in March 1963 to study with Mr. L. Morandi, President of F.A.S.T. (Federazione delle Associazioni Scientifiche e Tecniche) the possibility of organizing, in Milan, an international meeting on the problems of preservation. It has been decided that the realization of this project could be envisaged for 1967.

Mr. Angle also went to Faenza in March 1964 to consider, on the spot, the possibility of collaboration with the Istituto Statale per l'Arte della Ceramica and to find out the reception the latter could give to any scholarship holder from the Centre.

d. Missions of the Librarian

The Librarian paid a visit to specialized libraries in Vienna and Munich, where she brought to light publications of interest to the Centre.

e. Missions of Restorers organized by the Centre

In response to a request of the Government of Israel who wished for the services of an experienced restorer in the field of ancient Roman paintings, the Centre chose Mr. Luciano Maranzi, former student of the Istituto Centrale del Restauro, who went to Massada where he worked for a month on the preservation of paintings recently discovered. As Mr. Maranzi was unable to prolong his stay because of the pressure of other work, the Centre appointed one of its former scholarship holders Mr. V.R. Mehra who went to Israel for a period of some months. These missions have been organized at the expense of the Israeli Government.
4. Consultations

It is impossible to enumerate here in detail all the consultations given by the Centre in response to requests for information coming from many different countries. The following examples may be cited: Detailed information was furnished by the Centre to Mr. Jean Trouvelot, Inspecteur Général des Monuments Historiques de France, relating to the saving of the Temple of Amada in Nubia, and contacts have been arranged between conservators of museums and specialized restorers able to help them in the task of preserving their collections. The principal countries that have benefited from these consultations with the Centre during the last two years are: Federal Germany, Canada, France, U.S.A., Jordan and Italy.

In addition to the information which the Centre itself can give, it does its utmost to put applicants into contact with experts or institutions capable of helping them in the solving of particular problems. It was in this way that an answer was given to a question about the dating of antique ceramics posed by the National Gallery of Victoria; in this connexion the Centre had the benefit of advice from Dr. Hall of Oxford University and Prof. Tongiorghi of the University of Pisa.

5. International Collaboration

a. UNESCO

A large part of the work of the Centre is undertaken at the request of or in collaboration with UNESCO. In particular such missions as the ones to Pakistan, Mexico and Albania. The Centre on the other hand strives to give every assistance to holders of UNESCO scholarships who stay in Rome in order to study the problems within the Centre's competence.

b. ICOM

The close collaboration between, the Centre and ICOM has been of fundamental importance since its inception and it has become closer and more effective with the passing of time,
The forthcoming realization of a series of publications shared by the Centre and ICOM's Committee of Museum Laboratories marks in this respect an important and decisive step. The Centre acting as permanent scientific secretariat to the ICOM Committee of Museum Laboratories ensures that the work of groups of Museum Laboratory experts which constitutes one of ICOM's principle long-term activities will be continued and that their deliberations will be published in a joint series shared by the Centre and ICOM.

The present programme in the course of realization was determined in Leningrad in September 1963, where the joint meeting of the Committee of Museum Laboratories and the Sub-Committee for the Care of Paintings constituted working groups on the following subjects:

- The Conservation of Textiles: rapporteur Mr. J. Lodewijks
- The Conservation of Paper: rapporteurs Mrs Fr. Flieder and Mr. L. Santucci
- The Lamination of Documents: rapporteur Mr. A. Werner
- The Conservation of Wood: rapporteur Mr. N. Brommelle
- The Conservation of Metal Antiquities: rapporteurs: Mr. R. Organ and Mr. J. Gettens
- The Conservation of Stone: rapporteur Mr. R. Sneyers
- Establishment of standards for materials used in restoration: rapporteur Mr. V. Lublinsky
- The Conservation in Tropical Climates: rapporteur Mr. F. Coremans
- The Lighting of Museums Objects: rapporteur Mr. G. Thomson
- The Conservation of Mural Paintings: rapporteurs Mr. F. Philippot and Mr. F. Mora
- Controlled environment of works of art in transit: rapporteur Mr. N. Stolow

The reports of these groups of experts on the different subjects will be presented at the next joint meeting of the Committee of Laboratories and the Sub-Committee for the Care of Paintings, in Washington and New York from 17-25 September 1965. This meeting will be organized by the Centre in collaboration with the secretariat of ICOM.

In response to an invitation by the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments, the Director, Deputy Director and Executive Secretary went to Venice 25-31 May 1964 to participate in the work of the conference.

d. Organization of courses for architects wishing to specialize in the preservation of monuments

Following a suggestion made by the Austrian representative, the Centre has given attention to the organization of special courses for architects interested in the restoration of buildings. As an analogous project existed at the School of Architecture of the University of Rome, contact was established which led to the collaboration of the two organizations with the aim of arranging a cycle of courses combined with visits to monuments. During 1963 and 1964 the Centre has especially concerned itself with the organization of a series of conferences on the technical problems in the preservation of materials and for these it called upon the collaboration of Mr. S. Augusti, Director of the Laboratories of the Museo di Capodimonte, Naples; Mr. Leoni of the Istituto Sperimentale dei Metalli Leggeri, Novara and Mr. Paolo Mora, Chief Restorer at the Istituto Centrale del Restauro, Rome.

The courses were attended by eleven foreign architects from eight countries: two were scholarship holders from the Italian Government, and one was the holder of an Austrian scholarship. Several lectures were given at the Centre, and guided visits were organized to Verona, Mantua and Sabbioneta, where the students could appreciate, on the spot, the problems posed by the preservation of monuments in historic centres.

The training of architect restorers is considered to be an urgent necessity in many countries and Rome offers, in this respect, a field of exceptional experience due to the richness and variety of her vast patrimony and the problems posed by its preservation. It seemed to be important to study the organization
of courses on a wider basis. A general programme has been worked out by a small group of architects Messrs. Lemaire (Belgium), Gazzola (Italy), De Angelis d'Ossat (Italy) and Frodi (Austria), and it is hoped that this can be put into operation in the near future, when the necessary funds are available. Austria and Belgium have already given proof of their desire to support this scheme by the allocation of special credits for its realization.

c. Participation in the Courses organized by the Institut royal du patrimoine artistique in Brussels

In accordance with agreements the Centre has participated in the annual cycle of courses for specialists in the preservation of cultural property held in Belgium and the Director and Deputy Director have each lectured to students at the Institut royal du patrimoine artistique on subjects of scientific and technical interest.

d. International Association "Pro Renovatione S. Stephani Rotundi"

The Centre having given support to the creation of an International Association for the restoration of the early Christian church of St. Stefano Rotondo in Rome, has seen with satisfaction this project become reality. The Association has laid down its Statutes and organisation. The Presidency has been conferred on Prof. Guglielmo De Angelis d'Ossat, former Director General of Fine Arts and present Director of the Institute of the History of Architecture at the University of Rome.

The Association organized, at the beginning of June 1964, an international conference on the methodological problems arising from the preservation of the monument at which the Centre was represented,
6. Scholarships and visitors - Aims and organization

The training of personnel to be knowledgeable in the practical problems of preservation is one of the principal tasks of the Centre, and this cannot be carried out without a system of scholarships. Owing to the generosity of the Italian Government, the Centre has had put at its disposition four eight-month grants per year for academic years 1962-63 and 1963-64. The scholarship holders, a list of whom follows, have worked at the library of the Centre and in various Italian institutes, designated by the Centre. Several guided visits have been organized to different museums, institutes, excavation sites and places of restoration. The support of the Centre in this domain has gladly been extended also to scholarship-holders of UNESCO who stay in Rome to make special studies connected with the preservation of cultural property.

At the beginning of 1962 a circular was sent to all Member States of the Centre informing them of the scholarships available and asking for the presentation of candidates. The 39 replies received were examined carefully and the funds made available as detailed below.

a. Academic year 1962-63

A grant for 8 months was given to Miss Silvia Nelly Giger (Musée National Suisse, Zurich), particularly interested in chromatographic analysis and in the treatment of wood and metal objects. In addition to her routine studies she was able to help the Centre in many ways, notably in preparing papers for publication and equipping a room for photographic work.

Shri Kumaran Nair (National Museum, New Delhi) has also stayed 8 months during which time he studied chromatographic methods, the identification of pigments and the physico-chemical problems arising from the preservation of paintings and art objects. He also studied the Italian process of the transposition of mural paintings. Mr. Nair examined also the preservation methods for manuscripts and ended his stay in Europe by visiting
the laboratories of the Musée National Suisse, Zurich and the Institut royal du patrimoine artistique, Brussels, and the British Museum, London.

Mr. Josef ShenHAV (Department of Antiquities, Israel) studied for a period of 4 months, the preservation of mural paintings, mosaics and antiques in metal. He, also, before returning to his country, paid brief visits to the laboratories of the Musée National Suisse, Zurich and to the British Museum, London.

Mrs. Anika Skovran (Curator at the Gallery of Frescos, Belgrade) for a period of 4 months studied the history of the technique of mural paintings and the processes used in Italy for their restoration. She participated actively in the preparation of a report by Mr. Mora and Mr. Philippot dedicated to these problems and presented at the meeting of the Committee for Museum Laboratories of ICOM, Leningrad, September 1963.

b. Academic year 1963-64

Miss Rosl Maria Haussmann (Austria). A grant for 8 months was given to Miss Haussmann to enable her to continue her studies, at the Istituto Centrale del Restauro, in which she had shown exceptional promise.

Mrs Gabriela Lipka (Poland) for a period of 4 months specialized in the restoration of pictures on canvas.

Mrs. Hanna Grzesie (Poland) in the course of 4 months studied the theoretical and practical problems of restoration in Italy and especially the preservation of mural paintings and the experiments carried out at the Istituto Centrale del Restauro with synthetic products, the problems of microbiology and the methods of controlling damp affecting monuments.

Mr. J.D.K. Nkrumah (Ghana) was given an 8 month grant and he specialized in the restoration of bronzes, ceramics, objects in
wood and paintings. After his stay in Italy he visited for a period the Musée National Suisse, Zurich, and the British Museum, London.

Mr. H.A. Shoukri (Iraq) was given an 8 months grant and studied in particular, in different museums in Italy, the problem of the organization of storage and the restoration of bronzes and ceramics.

Mr. F.D. Fadil (Libya) specialized in the field of restoration of bronzes, ceramics, and mural paintings, (6 months grant).

Mr. V.R. Mehra (India) during his stay of 6 months studied especially the restoration of paintings on canvas and mural paintings. As already mentioned this student at the conclusion of his stay was recommended by the Centre for a long term mission to Massada (Israel) where he was occupied in the preservation of mural paintings of the Roman epoque.

c. Academic year 1964-65

For the current academic year, grants have been given to the following people:
- Mr. George O. Shogbola, Nigeria (8 months)
- Mr. Mohammed Darwish El Goj, Jordan (4 months)
- Mrs Laura Arellano, Mexico (4 months)
- Miss Rosl Maria Haussmann, Austria (8 months)
- Mr. Jovan Georghijevic, Yugoslavia (4 months)
- Mr. Hans Christoff von Imhoff, Federal Germany (4 months)

d. Observations

This brief summary of the activities of scholarship-holders indicates the possibilities that the Centre can offer to young restorers of Member States thanks to the co-operation of the Italian Government. Since 1961 when the Government decided to put scholarships at the disposition of the Centre 23 grants have been awarded for a total of approximately 11,000 $. The countries who have benefitted are as follows:
Austria, Ghana, Federal Germany, India, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Libya, Mexico, Nigeria, New Zealand, Poland, United Kingdom, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

The distribution of grants and the activities of the scholarship-holders is the subject of a special yearly report sent to the Italian Foreign Office and to UNESCO.

In this connexion, the Centre would like to thank especially:
the Istituto Centrale del Restauro, the Istituto di Patologia del Libro, the Istituto d'Arte per la Ceramica (Faenza), the Scuola d'Arte per il Mosaico (Ravenna), the Opificio per le Pietre Dure (Florence), the Scuola Centrale Antincendi (Rome), the Istituto Sperimentale per i Metalli Leggeri (Novara), the Foundation Lerici, the Superintendence of Monuments in Rome and Latium and all the Italian services and institutes who have given their assistance to the realization of the Centre's mission and to state their appreciation, also, for the friendly cooperation of foreign laboratories that has made possible the realization of these various programmes.

2. Scholarship holders of UNESCO and visitors

Among the scholarship-holders of UNESCO and those of the Italian Government to whom the Centre has given assistance can be cited:

- Mr. L. Y. Rahmani (Israel)
- Mrs. N. Ganina (USSR)
- Mr. L. Tokar (USSR)
- Mr. Ferenc Fullep (Hungary)
- Mr. T. Barnardo (Philippine)
- Miss E. Zaharieva (Bulgaria)
- Mr. S. Rasmibhuti (Thailand)
- Miss M. Niedzielska and H. Pienkowska (Poland)
- Mr. F. Iriarte (Peru)
- Miss B. Pellizzetti (Brazil)

Among the number of foreign visitors who have also been given regular assistance are:- Messrs. J. Cydrik and W. Fijotkowski (Poland) Mrs. P. Antal, Messrs. E. Szakal, K. Perekazy, L. Sardy and K. Atrós (Hungary), Mr. J. R. J. Van Asperen de Boer (Netherlands) and Mr. John Davies (Malaysia).
IV. Present Situation and Future Developments

The importance of the new adhesions to the Centre that have been made during the last two years makes it possible today to view the future in more optimistic and above all more positive terms than at the time of the two first General Assemblies. This is no way means that the Centre has attained a point of equilibrium on which it can stabilize itself. The problems of development on the contrary remain fundamental, as much on the financial as organizational plane, and if one can so express it, as regards doctrine. But for the first time, it is possible to approach, in a realistic way, the aims of the Centre, - those defined in its Statutes - and its means to realize the main principles of a coherent policy of activity and development.

The moment has come to examine, from this point of view, the situation of the preservation of cultural property throughout the world, so as to define the role that the Centre must play in response to the necessity which justified its creation. The past 6 years have shown in detail the different aspects of this situation, their importance and relative urgency and their rapid evolution. Indeed, some considerable changes have taken place in the world situation since the time when the Centre was conceived.

It has become evident in all countries, and particularly in those in the process of rapid transformation, that the most urgent problem and the most serious is less that of research than that of the organization of teams of specialists who would be able to carry out the treatments currently used in the most recommended institutes, in any part of the world where works might require it. In response to these needs organizations are being formed, whose creation is supported by UNESCO, and to this end New Delhi, Jos, Mexico have been encouraged to establish regional centres of training. On the other hand institutes already well established such as the Institut royal du patrimoine artistique in Brussels and the Istituto Centrale del Restauro in Rome are opening their doors ever wider to young foreigners wishing to specialize or attend training courses or cycles of courses. Finally a new
international non-gouvernemental organization is in the process of creation which will constitute for the vast section of historic monuments what ICOM is for the world regarding museums.

All these initiatives are by way of being efforts to respond to the urgency, the vastness and the variety of problems arising in connexion with the preservation of cultural property. But the Centre would be failing in its duty if it did not draw attention to the dangers of a proliferation of good intention which are not guided by a clear vision of the whole of the situation. In order that these initiatives should bear the maximum fruit they must be introduced, at international level, into a general policy which will be co-ordinated in order to ensure the full efficacy of each and all. Their individual organic relationships each to the other must be worked out and defined. An effort to rationalize the situation is necessary. It is the condition on which any coherent policy of the Centre's activities and developments depends.

The need for the co-ordination of conservation activities was already in the minds of the early promoters of the Rome Centre and was accepted as one of the major reasons for its creation and existence. But the problem has now assumed vastly greater proportions than ever suspected. The position at present appears to the Council to be crucial and to call for special study in order to arrive at a system of agreements with the national and international organizations concerned. Only on such a basis can the Rome Centre function effectively as a centre. If it is to remain the Centre for the study of conservation it is essential that its resources should grow and should provide the means by which it can follow a definite plan instead of merely replying to outside requests and functioning as an information bureau.

Among the activities which must be developed and /or co-ordinated within this framework, are - the planned training of specialists and the organization of scientific assistance and of missions for consultation purposes.

Furthermore, it is indispensable that the international organizations interested in preservation should consult one another regularly with a view to co-ordinating their efforts in other fields: in research.
in planning the meetings of experts and in the publications of useful literature. The close relations between the Centre and ICOM give an idea of what can be - and must be - achieved.

Closer relations can certainly be assured with the International Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (I.I.C.). With respect to relations with UNESCO it is essential that, at the earliest possible moment they should be the subject of a thorough joint examination in the interests of the two organizations that are concerned in their own special spheres with the preservation of cultural property and the training of specialists. A clear and constructive formula of organic co-operation must be defined before 1966, taking into particular account the fact that regular contributions from UNESCO for the functioning of the Centre will end after this date.

The importance and complexity of these problems impels the Council to urge the convocation of a conference, of representatives of those institutes at an appropriately high level to determine the main principles of functional and effective co-operation.