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

AG2/PV.1-5(Prov.)
(translated from the French)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
2nd Session
Rome, 23rd, 24th and 26th April 1963

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Note The minutes of the General Assembly, submitted herewith, are in provisional form. Suggestions for corrections should reach the Secretariat of the Centre, 256 Via Cavour, Rome within 30 days of receipt and at the expiration of this period the text will be considered definitive. (Rules, Art. 37.1)
Index

I Organisation

1. Programme
2. Agenda (AG2/1)

II List of the participants

1. Delegates and councillors
2. Observers
3. Secretariat

III 1. Opening session, 23rd April (PV. 1)
2. Meeting of 23rd April, 15.30 p.m. (PV. 2)
3. Meeting of 24th April, 10 a.m. (PV. 3)
4. Meeting of 24th April, 16 p.m. (PV. 4)
5. Meeting of 26th April, 10.30 a.m. (PV. 5)
Provisional Timetable

Timetable

23rd April

9-10 h. Registration of the delegates and the observers
Villa della Farnesina

10 " Official opening

15 " Meeting

18 " Cocktail at Rome Centre

24th April

10 " Meeting

15 " Meeting

17 " Visits to "Istituto di Patologia del Libro" and "Istituto Centrale del Restauro"

25th April

Excursion to Tarquinia and Viterbo

26th April

10 " Meeting

15 " Meeting

18 " Reception offered by the Italian Government

28th April

Excursion to Naples
1. Official opening
2. Election of President and one Vice-President
3. Adoption of Agenda of the 2nd Session of General Assembly
4. Appointment of Credentials Committee
5. a) Adoption of Amended text of Rules of General Assembly
   b) Election of a second Vice-President
6. Election of Committees
7. Approval of Reports of Council:
   a) General Report
   b) Financial Statement for period 1961-62
   c) Budget for 1963-64
8. Adoption of Project of Amendment to the Statutes of the Centre
9. Reports of Member Countries
10. General Policy
11. Election of Member of Council
12. Other questions.
List of participants

1. Delegates and councillors

ALBANIA  
Mr. Gani Strazimiri, Directeur du Service pour la Conservation et la Restauration des Biens Culturels.  
Councillor:  
Mr. Sazan Nuri, Premier-Secrétaire de la Légation de la République Populaire d'Albanie à Rome.

AUSTRIA  
Mme Gertrude Tripp, Oberstaatskonservator, Bundesdenkmalamt, Vienne.

BELGIUM  
Mr. Raymond Lemaire, Professeur à l'Université Libre de Louvain (present from 26th April).

GHANA  
Mr. Richard Nunoo, Director Museums and Monuments Board, Accra.

INDIA  
Miss N.N. Haralu, Cultural and Press Attaché, Embassy of India in Rome.  
Councillor:  
Mr. G.S. Nair, Chemist, National Museum of India, New Delhi.

ISRAEL  
Mr. A. Biran, Director, Department of Antiquities and Museums, Jerusalem.

ITALY  
Mr. Piero Gazzola, Ispettore centrale delle Arti, Soprintendente ai Monumenti di Verona.  
Councillors:  
MM. Bruno Molajoli, Direttore generale delle Antichità e Belle Arti;  
Mario Salmi, Vice-Presidente del Consiglio Superiore delle Antichità e Belle Arti;  
Vito Agresti, Ispettore generale presso la Direzione delle Antichità e Belle Arti;  
Domenico Andriello, Ispettore dei Servizi Antincendi del Ministero dell'Interno;  
G.B. Costa, Presidente dell'Istituto per l'Arte della Ceramica, Faenza;  
Ferdinando Rossi, Direttore dell'Opificio delle Pietre Dure Firenze;  
Pasquale Rotondi, Direttore dell'Istituto Centrale del Restauro.
LIBYE  Mr. Abdulaziz Gibril, Directeur général des Antiquités  
Councillor:  
Mr. R.G. Goodchild, Controller of Antiquities.

NIGERIA  Mr. L.C. Gwam, Principal Archivist, National Archives.

NETHERLANDS  Mr. A.F. Van Schendel, Directeur général du Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.

POLAND  Mr. Stanislaw Lorentz, Directeur du Musée National, Varsovie.

U.A.R.  Mr. Yega Abu Bakr, Sous-secrétaire Adjoint, Ministère de la Culture et de l'Orientation Nationale.

SWITZERLAND  Mr. Frédéric Gysin, ancien Directeur du Musée National suisse, Zurich.

YUGOSLAVIA  Mr. Mihailo Vunjak, Chef du Laboratoire, Institut Fédéral pour la protection des monuments historiques, Belgrade.

2. Observers

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE ARCHIVES  
Mr. Leopoldo Sandri, Director of the Central Archives of Italy; member of the Executive Committee of the International Council of the Archives.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MUSEUMS  
Mr. Georges-Henri Rivière, Director of the International Council of museums (ICOM); Conservator of the Musée des Arts et Traditions Populaires, Paris.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE ASSOCIATIONS OF THE LIBRARIANS  
Mme Laura De Felice Olivieri, Director of the National Library "Vittorio Emanuele", Rome.
U.N.E.S.C.O.

Mr. Giorgio Rosi, Head of the Division for museums and monuments, UNESCO, Paris.

3. Secrétariat

Dr. Harold J. Plenderleith, Director of the Centre
Mr. Paul Philippot, Assistant Director
Mr. Italo C. Angle, Executive Secretary.
The opening session was held on the 23rd of April 1963 at the Villa della Farnesina in the "Sala delle Prospettive", in presence of the delegates and councillors of member countries, the representative of the Director General of UNESCO, M. Giorgio Rosi, the Vice-President of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, M. Vincenzo Arangio Ruiz and of M. Di Segni representing the Mayor of Rome. Present also as observers were M. Georges-Henri Rivière, Director of the International Council of Museums (ICOM), M. Leopoldo Sandri of the International Council of Archives, Mme Laura De Felice Olivieri of the International Federation of Librarians Associations and numerous cultural attachés of the diplomatic missions in Rome and directors of the various institutions that form the Unione Internazionale degli Istituti di Archeologia Storia e Storia dell'Arte in Roma.

The Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs was represented by a delegation composed of MM. Giorgio Ciraolo, Minister Plenipotentiary and Vice-Director of Foreign Cultural Relations, with M. R. Mochi, Councillor and Head of the Bureau and M. Vincenzo Bagli; the Minister of Public Instruction was represented by MM. Mario Salmi, Vice-President of the Senior Council of Fine Arts Department, Bruno Molajoli, Director General of the Service of Fine Arts Department and Vito Agresti, Vice-Director of the same Service. Other Italian institutions collaborating with the Centre were represented by their Directors and Assistants.

M. Molajoli took his place as provisional Chairman, representing the country that had provided the president on the last occasion (Art. 21 of Internal Rules of Procedure for the General Assembly). M. Molajoli opened the meeting at 10.15 a.m. Addresses were given by MM. Arangio Ruiz, Di Segni, Rosi, Gysin and Molajoli, and these are set forth in these minutes without translation.
M. Arangio Ruiz

Signori,

non merito applausi tanto più che mi guardo bene dal farvi un discorso. Io voglio solo esprimere il gran piacere che io trovo, in nome di tutta la vecchia e benemerita, debbo dirlo, Accademia dei Lincei per potere ospitare, certo molto degnamente, un Convegno interessante come quello che oggi si inaugura. Conservazione e restauro dei valori culturali è compito essenziale di tutti noi uomini di cultura e di tutti i nostri istituti, compresi fra questi le Accademie, compito principalmente interessante qui in Roma dove la vita dei vecchi temi culturali è purtroppo come dappertutto sempre insidiata dalla vita nuova che fa valere i suoi diritti; Ora, nel mondo della cultura se i giovani hanno il diritto di farsi avanti non possono farsi avanti degnamente se non custodiscano o rispettino le tradizioni, cosa che rappresenta oggi la base di un lungo, faticoso combattimento. Ed è bello vedere che di questo combattimento si sia messo a capo l'UNESCO con la sua forza internazionale, con la sua ferma volontà di arrivare. Io sono quindi assai lieto di vedervi riuniti qui per un compito che è di tanta importanza per la civiltà umana, per la prosecuzione calma, pacifica dello sviluppo della civiltà. Sono lieto di vedervi e vi auguro per tutto il vostro Convegno i migliori successi.

M. Di Segni

Desidero esprimere al nome del Sindaco tutto quanto il compliamento è soprattutto l'augurio e il saluto che l'amministrazione comunale porta a questo Convegno. Noi siamo profondamente interessati, come amministrazione comunale di una città che ha un immenso patrimonio artistico e culturale, che i lavori di questo Convegno prosegano e soprattutto diano quel gran contributo necessario alla conservazione dell'immenso patrimonio artistico di Roma. Auguro i migliori successi ai lavori eporto veramente l'augurio del Sindaco di Roma e di tutta l'amministrazione che questi lavori, come del resto più volte hanno dimostrato, siano un espressione profonda della rinascita culturale e artistica del mondo intero.
M. Rosi

Messieurs les délégués, Mesdames, Messieurs,

c'est pour moi un grand honneur de représenter le Directeur général de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Education, la Science et la Culture, à cette deuxième session de l'Assemblée générale du Centre International d'Études pour la Conservation et la Restauration des biens culturels. Malgré la brièveté du temps qui s'est écoulé depuis sa création, ce Centre est, dès-à-présent, un organisme scientifique dont la renommée s'accroît sans cesse et dont les activités, dans tous les domaines de sa compétence, s'étendent et se développent de plus en plus dans tous les pays qui collaborent avec lui. Je tiens donc à souligner une fois de plus devant les délégués des pays membres du Centre, les observateurs d'autres pays, devant les représentants d'organisations internationales et les personnalités ici présentes, parmi lesquelles en premier lieu les autorités italiennes intéressées à différents titres aux travaux du Centre, la sympathie et la confiance avec lesquelles l'UNESCO suit ses travaux. En effet, les résultats obtenus jusqu'ici marquent les progrès notoires qui permettent d'envisager avec optimisme l'avenir du Centre. Il ressort du rapport moral du Conseil à la deuxième session de l'Assemblée que toutes les activités, quelle que soit leur nature, amorcées par le Centre depuis son établissement se sont développées au cours des deux dernières années suivant les directives arrêtées par l'Assemblée lors de sa première session et avec des résultats qui ne laissent aucun doute quant à l'efficacité du travail accompli et l'intérêt que ce travail suscite partout, et ceci en dépit des difficultés d'ordre matériel qui se présentent toujours dans le fonctionnement d'une institution dont le centre d'action, voire l'existence même, dépendent en grande partie de la bonne volonté et des appuis des États, car le rapport fait aussi clairement ressortir que le problème financier constitue toujours une "fons dolorum" et je ne puis passer ce point sous silence; Etant donné qu'il devrait faire l'objet d'importantes décisions de la part de l'Assemblée, je préfère le mentionner dès à présent et ne plus y revenir par la suite. Depuis la première session de l'Assemblée générale, le nombre des pays qui ont adhéré au Centre est passé de 21 à 31, compte tenu de l'adhésion de l'Albanie qui ne figure pas dans le rapport du Conseil; il a donc augmenté de près de 50%, preuve éclatante de l'intérêt grandissant que suscite le Centre. Cependant, malgré cette
encourageante augmentation du nombre des adhérents, les moyens financiers indispensables à l'équilibre du budget ne sont pas assurés, bien moins encore les fonds permettant le développement des activités en cours ou la mise en œuvre d'activités nouvelles telles qu'elles sont souhaitées par tous ceux qui voient dans le Centre un organisme susceptible de donner un apport efficace aux travaux scientifiques et techniques visant à la préservation des biens culturels. L'absence au tableau de nombreux pays et plus particulièrement de ceux qui auraient à jouer un rôle important tant par leur aide financière que par leur collaboration scientifique pourrait entraîner pour l'avenir de graves conséquences. J'irai même jusqu'à dire, qu'on me le permette, qu'elle pourrait être interprétée comme un signe d'incompréhension quant au rôle que les différents pays ont à tenir dans ce domaine, ainsi même que dans tous les domaines de la collaboration internationale. Une telle collaboration ne peut être envisagée si les États privilégiés, soit en ce qui concerne l'expérience et la connaissance soit en ce qui concerne les possibilités matérielles, subordonnent leur participation au bénéfice qu'ils pourraient en tirer. Au contraire, nous sommes tous convaincus, j'en suis certain, que le but intime d'une institution telle que la nôtre est de faire en sorte que chaque pays puisse profiter des bienfaits apportés par les expériences et les connaissances si brillamment acquises par les autres pays. Dans le cadre d'une collaboration internationale ainsi comprise, le Centre, pour atteindre le but assigné par son statut, s'acquitte systématiquement depuis quelques années de tâches nettement définies. Il s'agit en somme de trois formes d'activité: le rassemblement et la diffusion des informations, l'assistance directe aux États adhérents du Centre, la formation de spécialistes. La liste des publications du Centre déjà parues ou en cours de préparation telle qu'elle se trouve dans le rapport du Conseil est en somme assez éloquente en ce qui concerne la diffusion des informations. L'énumération des visites et des missions accomplies par le personnel du Centre, en particulier par son Directeur, le professeur Harold J. Plenderleith, que je tiens à féliciter ici pour son infatiguable activité, donne elle aussi une idée suffisamment claire du nombre et de la diversité des problèmes au sujet desquels les États membres du Centre ont pu obtenir l'aide de ce dernier. Quant à la formation de spécialistes, l'utilisation judic peace des bourses d'études dont le Centre assure la distribution, l'accueil et l'assistance qu'il réserve aux savants de tous les pays et aux titulaires des bourses de toutes origines, à commencer par les boursiers de l'UNESCO, l'institution de cours de perfectionnement dans divers domaines, sont la preuve des préoccupations du Centre à cet égard. Je n'ai donc pas besoin de revenir sur
les résultats obtenus qui permettent d'affirmer que le Centre est, depuis quelques années déjà, en mesure de remplir les fonctions auxquelles il est destiné.

Je voudrais, au contraire, souligner un aspect qui, au point de vue de la collaboration internationale, a dans mon esprit une valeur toute spéciale; ce sont les rapports que dans tous les domaines le Centre entretient avec des organismes nationaux tels que l'Institut Royal du Patrimoine Artistique à Bruxelles et l'Université de New York et de Rome, et les organisations internationales aussi bien gouvernementales, dont l'UNESCO bien entendu, que non-gouvernementales, telles que le Conseil International des Musées avec ses nombreux comités techniques et l'Institut International pour la Conservation d'objets d'art et d'histoire. C'est dire l'autorité et l'efficacité que de tels organismes et de telles organisations reconnaissent au Centre dans l'étude de leurs communs problèmes.

Messieurs les délégués, Mesdames, Messieurs, l'appréciation unanime, j'ose le croire, de l'œuvre accomplie par le Centre, jointe aux quelques observations que j'ai cru utile de vous exposer, m'amène à toucher brièvement un sujet qui à l'heure actuelle se révèle de toute première importance dans tous les aspects de la collaboration internationale : il s'agit des besoins ressentis par les pays qui, à la suite d'un changement profond dans leur condition politique, ont à s'attaquer à des problèmes urgents et complexes pour assurer leur développement culturel. Car c'est seulement grâce à l'essor rapide, celui de la culture non moins que de la science et de l'éducation et de l'organisation économique et sociale, que ces pays pourront réaliser les conditions nécessaires pour être à même de contribuer à l'équilibre du monde et au maintien de la paix entre les peuples. L'intérêt manifesté par ces pays à l'égard de la préservation de leur patrimoine culturel démontre qu'ils sont pleinement conscients du devoir de chacun aujourd'hui de respecter et connaître son passé afin de construire son avenir. L'aide demandée à l'UNESCO à cette fin témoigne de la valeur qu'accordent ces pays à la coopération des Etats ayant poussé leurs études dans ce domaine, et le rôle de trait d'union entre tous les pays en vue d'atteindre cet idéal commun que peut jouer le Centre sera, j'en suis sûr, d'une portée et d'une efficacité inappréciables, aussi est-ce avec cet espoir, Messieurs les délégués, que je désire terminer en vous exprimant mes vœux sincères, confiants et chaleureux, pour le succès sans précédent de vos travaux.
M. Gysin

Monsieur le Président, Mesdames, Messieurs,

après le discours si éloquent du représentant du Directeur général de l’UNESCO, après les voeux que nous avons eu l’honneur de recevoir, je n’ai plus beaucoup de choses à vous dire. Et pourtant mon rôle, je crois, à sa raison d’être, J’ai le privilège avant tout de remercier, puisque nos amis italiens ne sont pas très bien placés pour remercier l’Italie, et c’est donc avec le plus grand plaisir que j’ai l’honneur de remercier avant tout Monsieur le Vice-Président de l’Accademia dei Lincei, qui nous a accueillis dans cette demeure incomparable au charme de laquelle nous devrions être sensibles plus que tous les autres puisque nous tenons précisément à faire ce qui est humainement possible pour conserver pour tous les temps ce qui est beaux, ce qui est parfait et ce qui est tellement honorable pour l’accomplissement humain; de remercier Monsieur le Représentant du Maire de Rome, ainsi que Monsieur le Représentant du Gouvernement de l’Italie, ce gouvernement qui a fait pour nous tant de choses, qui nous a donné son aide matérielle sous toutes les formes; de remercier l’UNESCO et toutes les institutions italiennes et de tous les autres pays qui ont compris ce que voulait dire le Centre et qui l’ont aidé de toutes leurs forces. Et ensuite, quelques paroles encore, si vous me le permettez, à l’adresse tout spécialement des délégués qui sont appelés ici pour faire un travail constructif très sérieux. Vous n’en voudrez pas si vous me le permettez, à l’adresse tout spécialement des délégués qui sont appelés ici pour faire un travail constructif très sérieux. Vous n’en voudrez pas au Président de leur adresser quelques prières; nous savons, dès maintenant, qu’elles seront exaucées.

Vous êtes appelés, Messieurs et Mesdames les délégués, à juger de ce qui a été fait dans ce Centre qui existe maintenant depuis 1959. Vous jugerez d’après les comptes-rendus, qui vous ont été soumis déjà, qui seront commentés au cours de cette session; vous en jugerez d’après le programme qui vous est soumis et sur l’utilité duquel vous aurez à prendre des décisions. Aucune activité n’est possible si l’organe même à qui vous confiez l’exécution du programme n’a pas le caractère d’efficacité que nous lui souhaitions. Et bien, rien ne me rend plus heureux ni plus fier que de pouvoir dire que ce jeune Centre, ce Centre qui pour le moment n’est pas encore extrêmement grand dans le nombre de son personnel, est un organe efficace. Le personnel qui y travaille, y produit, se
politica o del governo o anche nelle attività culturali un po' più lontane
da questa nostra preoccupazione debbano sentire queste entità esterne
a noi, questa maggiore necessità, questo maggiore dovere di interve-
nire. Credo che, attraverso gli sforzi che l'UNESCO fa con molta beneme-
renza da tanti anni, attraverso l'attività che gli stessi consigli come
quello dei musei dell'ICOM, svolge per la propaganda della conserva-
zione dei musei e per l'attività dei musei stessi, che attraverso questi
Centri che si sono istituiti in vari paesi, e l'Italia può vantare di non
essere arrivata ultimo, attraverso quest'azione si può sperare, si può
anche costatare che dei passi si siano fatti. Considero un conforto,
anche se non una soddisfazione completa, che il Governo italiano nel
bilancio dell'anno prossimo seguendo sforzi che non sono stati tutti
attuati ed accolti ma che anche parzialmente hanno potuto dare il segno
di un confortante appoggio, il governo, dico, nel suo nuovo bilancio
abbia quasi raddoppiato alcuni fondi destinati alla conservazione del
patrimonio artistico italiano. Non sono ancora le entità che sono indis-
pensabili, che sono necessarie, ma è già il segno che di fronte al passato
si pensa in un modo diverso. Quindi io vorrei concludere questo mio
breve saluto ma caloroso, questa parola di vivo ringraziamento a voi che
vi adunate qui con noi per discutere questi problemi, vorrei concludere
con un auspicio che non è destinato soltanto a rimanere la voce rettorica
della conclusione di qualche discorso ufficiale ma veramente la partecip-
azione viva di chi, questi problemi come tutti voi, sente e tutti noi li
sentiamo come elementi concreti di una vita senza dei quali la vita stessa
avrebbe meno significato. Perciò sono lieto di rivolgervi tutto il mio
augurio perché da questi lavori possa uscire determinazione chiara di
compiti e di soluzioni e soprattutto un ravvivato spirito di collaborazione
perché i contributi della scienza e i contributi del pensiero possano va-
lere a migliorare ed ad assicurare queste condizioni per cose e finalità
che ci sono tanto a cuore. Grazie.
rapidement possible l'indépendance matérielle, Vous serez appelés à juger les budgets et vous verrez que ces budgets ne sont pas aussi encourageants qu'ils devraient être, et que l'UNESCO aura besoin de beaucoup de patience encore, je me permets de le dire ici, car je sais que dans la personne de Monsieur Rosi nous avons un ami de vieille date, un ami qui comprend tous nos besoins et qui fera pour nous tout ce qui est en son pouvoir. Mais n'oublions pas que le but, l'indépendance financière du Centre, doit être atteint aussitôt que possible. Pour ce faire, nous avons besoin, je me tourne de nouveau vers les délégués, nous avons besoin de beaucoup de choses, nous avons besoin de votre jugement, de votre approbation, si c'est possible, et de vos suggestions pour l'élaboration d'un programme de travail aussi efficace que possible. Le Centre ne manque pas de travail et je n'hésite pas à dire que la charge qui incombe aujourd'hui au Centre est déjà trop lourde; je ne prends comme exemple que les personnes du Directeur et du Directeur-Adjoint dont l'intervention est sollicitée à l'heure qu'il est dans le monde entier, soit par les pays membres, soit par l'UNESCO. Ils ne suffisent pas à faire face à toutes ces obligations; il faut faire en sorte qu'ils le puissent et que nous disposions peu à peu de tout le personnel dont nous aurions déjà besoin. Comment le faire ? C'est à vous, Messieurs les délégués, de faire le plus important : vos efforts dans vos pays, pour faire comprendre dans vos pays quelles sont les nécessités et les besoins du Centre, et ensuite votre appui par la voie de l'UNESCO, parce que chacun de vos gouvernements est aussi membre de l'UNESCO et peut, par cette voie, venir en aide aux besoins du Centre. Si nous sommes utiles, et nous pensons l'être, nous ne voulons pas dépendre éternellement de l'UNESCO, nous voulons marcher par nos propres forces : pour ce faire, il y a un seul moyen, c'est la communauté des efforts, cet esprit qui règne dans le personnel du Centre. C'est mon appel le plus pressant, auquel j'attache le plus grand poids, il faut que tous, délégués des pays, nous atteignions à cette communauté des esprits, cette communauté des efforts qui assurera, nous le savons, la durée et l'efficacité du Centre; Je vous remercie.
M. Molajoli

Considero grande onore per me, anche se dovuto a una prassi stabilita dallo statuto, che nella mia funzione di Presidente mi sia consentito di porgervi il saluto del Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione, della Direzione Generale delle Belle Arti e il ringraziamento per essere convenuti qui, a questa seconda sessione dell’Assemblea Generale del Centro Internazionale per la conservazione dei beni culturali. Dico che considero questo un grande onore, ma potrei aggiungere che è un motivo di viva soddisfazione per chi avendo una responsabilità molto grave di fronte ai problemi della conservazione di un patrimonio artistico così rilevante come quello italiano, sente più che mai e sempre più intensamente la necessità, direi l’obbligo di intervenire in forme ancora più vive, ancora più pressanti per salvaguardare questo bene irripetibile che ci viene dalla storia e dalla tradizione artistica e dalla nostra vita stessa spirituale. Sono qui lieto di ringraziare coloro che hanno parlato prima di me; perché essi hanno già accennato efficacemente e con alta autorità la tematica di questa riunione che io mi permetterei di considerare e di riassumere proprio in questi due termini: necessità di un affiancamento sempre maggiore e di una maggiore penetrazione nell’opinione pubblica e quindi nell’opinione degli stessi governi della indispensabilità che il problema della conservazione dei beni culturali assume di fronte alla civiltà moderna; il secondo punto, la necessità che tutte le forze della cultura e particolarmente in questo settore della scienza vengano ad aiutarci in questa opera di alta civiltà. Di tempo in tempo si è compreso sempre più chiaramente che non si può provvedere con sistemi empirici alla conservazione dei beni culturali in tutta la loro varietà. Se è vero che l’artista o l’uomo ha consegnato una parte del suo spirito alla materia, non è meno vero che questa materia soffre dei destini di tutte le cose umane e di tutte le cose naturali, e quindi la scienza può soltanto aiutarci, è soltanto la scienza che ci può aiutare efficacemente ad assicurare la sopravvivenza di tanti beni che altrimenti rischiano di essere perduti. Non mi invita a un conforto che sarebbe molto relativo la costatazione che i problemi di difficoltà economica e pratica che sono il continuo tormento di chi dirige un servizio come quello delle Belle Arti in qualsiasi paese, (io parlo per l’Italia), sia condivisa questa difficoltà da un organismo internazionale sorto proprio per superarlo, non mi conforta, è la riprova di più che noi abbiamo ancora molto bisogno di diffondere questa convinzione perché sia fatta propria da coloro che vivendo nelle attività della
politica o del governo o anche nelle attività culturali un po' più lontane da questa nostra preoccupazione debbano sentire queste entità esterne a noi, questa maggiore necessità, questo maggiore dovere di intervenire. Credo che, attraverso gli sforzi che l'UNESCO fa con molta benevolentia da tanti anni, attraverso l'attività che gli stessi consigli come quello dei musei dell'ICOM, svolge per la propaganda della conservazione dei musei e per l'attività dei musei stessi, che attraverso questi Centri che si sono istituiti in vari paesi, e l'Italia può vantare di non essere arrivata ultima, attraverso quest'azione si può sperare, si può anche costatare che dei passi si siano fatti. Considero un conforto, anche se non una soddisfazione completa, che il Governo Italiano nel bilancio dell'anno prossimo seguendo sforzi che non sono stati tutti attuati ed accolti ma che anche parzialmente hanno potuto dare il segno di un confortante appoggio, il governo, dico, nel suo nuovo bilancio abbia quasi raddoppiato alcuni fondi destinati alla conservazione del patrimonio artistico italiano. Non sono ancora le entità che sono indispensabili, che sono necessarie, ma è già il segno che di fronte al passato si pensa in un modo diverso. Quindi io vorrei concludere questo mio breve saluto ma caloroso, questa parola di vivo ringraziamento a voi che vi adunate qui per discutere questi problemi, vorrei concludere con un auspicio che non è destinato soltanto a rimanere la voce rettorica della conclusione di qualche discorso ufficiale ma veramente la partecipazione viva di chi, questi problemi come tutti voi, sente e tutti noi li sentiamo come elementi concreti di una vita senza dei quali la vita stessa avrebbe meno significato. Perciò sono lieto di rivolgervi tutto il mio augurio perché da questi lavori possa uscire determinazione chiara di compiti e di soluzioni e soprattutto un ravvivato spirito di collaborazione perché i contributi della scienza e i contributi del pensiero possano valere a migliorare ed ad assicurare queste condizioni per cose e finalità che ci sono tanto a cuore. Grazie.
M. Molajoli intimated that it was the desire of the Council to propose MM. Arthur Van Schendel (Holland) and A. Sefrioui (Morocco) respectively as President and Vice-President of the General Assembly.

MM. Van Schendel and Sefrioui were elected with acclamation.

M. Molajoli then invited M. Van Schendel to take the presidential chair.

The President passed at once to consideration of the Agenda for the Conference (doc, AG2/1). This was adopted unanimously. The meeting then elected a Committee of Verification of Powers. The President proposed, at the suggestion of Council, that this Committee should be composed of the following persons, Mrs Tripp, Miss Haralu, MM. Biran, Gibril and Lorentz. The Assembly approved.

End of Session.
Meeting of 23rd April 1963 - 3.30 p.m.  PV.2

Points 2 and 5 of the Agenda

In opening the meeting the President invited the Committee of Verification of Powers to present its report. Mme Tripp reporting for the Committee declared that they had verified the credentials of all delegates present.

The President thanked the Committee and noted the fact that the delegate from Libya had not participated.

Passing to the next point of the Agenda, he opened the discussion on the matter of an amendment to the Internal Rules of Procedure for the General Assembly. This amendment was adopted unanimously in terms of the document designated AG 2/3.

Referring to Art. 19 of the New Rules, the President then proposed the election of two other Vice-Presidents besides M. Sefrioui. Messrs Lorentz and Nunoo whose candidature had been proposed by the Council were in due course elected as Vice-Presidents with acclamation.

Point 6 of the Agenda: Constitution of the "Bureau" and of "Committees." The President in accordance with Art. 25 of the Internal Rules of Procedure appointed the Bureau of the Assembly. As only one single country had presented a candidate in accordance with the requirements of the regulations, the President decided that it would be impossible to apply Article 57 of the Internal Rules. He suggested, therefore, that the Assembly prepare a Candidature Committee will the duty of preparing for the elections. This Committee on the proposition of Council was constituted as follows Messrs Gazzola, Gibril, Vunjak and Gwam. The Assembly were agreeable to this procedure. The President made it clear that this Committee was empowered to take such advice as it considers would be useful by consultations.

Points 7 of the Agenda: Adoption of the Council's Reports. The President invited the Director to present the "Report General" of the Council. The Director drew attention to the main points of this document. The Centre, he said, had always underlined the importance of the scientific approach in all activities relating to conservation and to restoration; in missions consultations and publications.
The documentation service and the library which were developing rapidly were in constant use by an appreciative public. In this connexion the Director said that it was thanks to the Gulbenkian Foundation that the essential funds were available for books and thanks to the Italian authorities that shelving and appropriate furniture accommodation had been provided. He also thanked the Italian Government and certain Italian institutions who had collaborated with the Centre and on several occasions offered timely assistance.

The Director then passed in review the main activities that had already been brought to a successful issue and referred to those in course of realization such as the publications dealing with "Air Conditioned Cases for the transport of works of art" by Dr. Nathan Stolow and on "Conservation of Cultural Material in Tropical and Sub-Tropical Countries" (subsidized by UNESCO).

The President thanked the Director and opened the discussion.

M. Biiran in expressing his appreciation of the work of the Centre asked if it was not desirable organize short refresher courses of training for conservators of member countries with a view to keeping them up-to-date with the results of modern research.

The Director recognised the importance of this suggestion and recalled that the British Council organised annually in London just such a course of training for young conservators which lasted for 2 weeks. One could conceive of a similar course being arranged in Rome provided there was collaboration from other institutions and the matter should certainly be placed on the agenda for consideration by Council.

Mr. Goodchild speaking on behalf of M. Gibril stated that his views were that such a brief course could hardly give satisfactory results; nothing could take the place of direct technical aid given on the spot.

The Director replied by saying that for scientific assistance to be effective the first necessity was to collect "on-the-spot" information relating to the problem facing one, then to study the possibilities of training specialists by awarding student steps or bursaries so that nationals could have facilities for making the requisite preparatory study under scientists or competent master-craftsmen. It was much
to be desired that these trainees should have an opportunity of keeping themselves up-to-date in conservation technique.

M. Vunjak observed that the Centre had already covered successfully quite a lot of ground considering its limited finances. He referred to the visit of the Assisit, Director to Yugoslavia and expressed the hope that the Director himself might find it possible to pay a visit to this country. M. Vunjak informed the Assembly that Yugoslavia had put at the disposition of the Centre two new scholarships each of 3 months duration tenable in Yugoslavia. He asked, finally, what had been done to increase membership of the Centre and wished to know if one thought of creating a laboratory at the Rome Centre.

The President expressed the thanks of the Assembly for the two bourses offered by Yugoslavia.

At the invitation of the President, M. Gysin (President of Council) gave a résumé of the steps taken to publicise the Centre in all countries and on all appropriate occasions in order to increase the list of Member Countries. He recalled in particular that the Council invited observers from France, Germany, United Kingdom and U.S.A. to the first session of the General Assembly and that Sir Philip Hendy, Director of the National Gallery, London had been present as an observer at the 3d session of Council.

Director contacts with competent authorities in the U.K. and in U.S.A. had been established by the Director during his missions in these countries and M. Rivière had acted likewise in France: everywhere one had been hopeful but as yet there was no certitude. On the other hand the adhesion of West Germany where a majority of the Länder had already given favourable support seemed likely soon to be realized.

The Director in response to the question concerning the laboratory raised by M. Vunjak said that in considering such a project, the difficulties were not merely those related to finance but lay also in the fact that the Centre had no desire to compete with the laboratories of the Istituto Centrale del Restauro. One should take account of the fact of course, that to furnish a modern laboratory was an extremely costly business. It was for these reasons that the Centre had limited its activities in this direction to installing a small photographic room which might develop into a place where simple tests could be made of an elementary analytical nature.
M. Nunoo, after praising the success obtained by the Centre, drew attention to urgent problems of conservation in tropical countries and was very satisfied to learn that the Centre thought of publishing a brochure on this subject.

The Director provided the information that a working party of the ICOM Laboratories Committee is charged with the study of this matter in conjunction with M. Coremans. Preliminary plans will shortly be available. This working party would certainly be very happy to receive from tropical countries details of problems relating to conservation in the more extreme climates.

M. Biran asked whether it would be useful to send "Questionnaires" to countries having specific problems.

M. Gyssin was contrary to such a proposal on the grounds that detailed reports were much more useful.

M. Nunoo asked leave to draw attention to a problem peculiar to his country, namely, the preservation of buildings that were indigenous and of particular value as monuments. He recalled that at his request the Director had already formulated suggestions for safe-guarding the house where President Nkrumah was born.

The Director gave details of the problem as presented to him and discussed suggested lines of treatment.

M. Rossi thanked the Centre for the invitation extended to him and underlined the great importance of making studies on an international level related to the conservation of stone which was the main interest of the Opificio delle Pietre Dure.

M. Rivière, at the request of the President, then drew attention to the programme of ICOM in this connexion noting that a first report would be presented by M. Sneyers in Leningrad in September.

The meeting terminated at 5 p.m.
Meeting of 24 April - 10 a.m. PV.3


At the request of the President these two reports were presented by the Assistant Director.

The financial report had been duly audited and the appropriate documents were available to members. After consideration, this Report (Doc. AG2/5) was unanimously adopted.

As to the Biennal Budget for 1963-64, three projects for which were submitted, only one of these was considered by Council to be sufficiently realistic to bring before the Assembly and it was their proposition that it be adopted (Document AG2/6, page 6 entitled Table I).

The President opened the debate on the budget.

M. Gazzola invited the Assembly to adopt the minimum budget figuring as Table I of Document AG 2/6.

M. Goodchild declared that Libya would agree to accept the system of variable contributions figuring as Table II. He asked whether the Centre had not derived any financial benefit from the sale of publications.

The Assistant Director in responding to this question stated that it was the policy of the Centre in common with ICOM to distribute its publications widely among member countries and as far as possible without charge.

M. Lorentz spoke in favour of M. Gazzola's proposition for the adoption of the minimum budget.

M. Rivière was in entire agreement with the Centre as regards the distribution of publications, confirming that this harmonized with the policy of ICOM.
M. Nunoo asked the meeting to adopt the minimum budget. In his view a clause should be inserted with a view to preventing a reduction in the contributions paid to the Centre in the event of a reduction being made in the contributions that countries made to UNESCO.

The President then put to the vote the Budget 1963-64 as detailed in Table I of Document AG 2/6 and this was unanimously adopted by the Assembly.

The President now invited the Assembly to pronounce upon the question of variable contributions.

M. Lorentz argued that the Centre was a going concern and that it had already acquired a world authority. The Centre is essential as much for the countries that are developing as for countries possessing a complete equipment for conservation because of its dual function as an information centre and co-ordinator of research effort. The countries that are endowed with economic ways and means and already have laboratories have the moral duty of collaborating through the channels that the Centre provides. But since the Centre does not yet dispose of the financial means necessary to develop its activities it would seem to be essential to adopt as a principle the idea of a sliding scale of subscriptions.

M. Gwam was of the opinion that this would be a rational solution. He added that in Africa the Rome Centre was not sufficiently well known: it would be important to make contacts with the Governments of the African Countries.

M. Vunjak agreed with the solution envisaged by M. Lorentz: he emphasised that the sliding scale of contributions would constitute a measure of equity vis-à-vis countries that have become members of UNESCO since 1957.

Besides this it is necessary to intensify publicity in favour of the Centre and to expand as much as possible the publications of the Centre. It would be desirable, likewise, to intensify the scientific activities and to this end it would be necessary to consider making application for assistance to the foundations.
M. Biran thought there were grounds for making a special appeal to UNESCO.

M. Lorentz approved M. Biran's suggestion. One must make an appeal to UNESCO and at the same time to the National Committees of UNESCO in the different countries.

The President first took up the matter of contributions and asked the Assembly to express its opinion of the Document AG2/8.

M. Lorentz accepted the document in question as a good basis for discussion. He insisted upon an equitable settlement.

The President put the motion contained in Document AG2/8 to the vote and it was carried unanimously. The wording, however, was improved in order to meet the suggestions of MM. Lorentz and Vunjak (cfr. Doc. AG2/8 Rev.).

The President then asked the advice of the Assembly in regard to the appeal to be made to UNESCO and to States not as yet members of the Centre.

M. Rosi recalled that UNESCO had undertaken to pay a contribution for 1963 and 1964, but that at the latest Assembly General of UNESCO it had been decided not to prolong financial aid to the Centre beyond 1965.

The President thanked UNESCO for the constant help that she had afforded to the Centre and invited the Assembly to pronounce on the question of the UNESCO appeal such as was formulated in Document AG2/9. This was unanimously adopted.

After discussion in which the following took part MM. Gazzola, Lorentz, Rosi, Rivière, Gysin and Vunjak, the Assembly decided to charge the Council to address a letter in the name of the Assembly to the Director General of UNESCO.

The meeting terminated.
Meeting of 24 April - 4 p.m.

The President read the new form of the resolution relating to variable contributions (Doc. AG2/8 Rev.) which was approved.

He then opened discussion on Point 8 of the Agenda: Adoption of the amended text of the Statutes.

M. Gysin recalled that the Council had carried out the work of amending the Statutes after consultation with the Juridical Councillor of UNESCO and had prepared the text submitted as Document AG2/3. The comments on this text reaching the Centre within the statutory period had been made available to members in Document AG2/1 Annex. Since drafting this document Austria had withdrawn her objections to Article 13 but she confirmed her opposition to Article 14. To become definitive the new text of the Statutes must be unanimously accepted by the Assembly of members present and voting.

Considerable discussion followed in which M. Gazzola took a prominent part stating that his Government had reserves regarding Article 14 similar to those of Austria; MM. Goodchild and Vunjak also spoke and the President relying on Article 52 of the Internal Rules of Procedure proposed to put the amended text of the Statutes to the vote article by article. This proposition being adopted, articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Document AG2/3 were read and approved unanimously. As regards article 7, M. Gysin drew attention to the comments from India of which a résumé is given in the Annex to Document AG 2/1.

Miss Haralu gave the reasons that had led India to suggest closer collaboration between the Centre and the International Council of Archives. She pointed out that the aims of C.I.A. were identical with those of the Centre in the field of conservation of ancient documents; it was therefore desirable to create a close liaison between the two which could be assured if C.I.A. were to nominate a representative as a Member of the Council in terms of Article 7 e. Another solution might be to consider making C.I.A. an associate member of the Centre on the basis of Article 3 of the Statutes.

After discussion in which the following participated MM. Vunjak, Gwam, Nunoo, Plenderleith, Gysin and Rivière drawing attention to the
quite exceptional relationship between ICOM and the Centre, the President submitted the following motion to the Assembly: (see AG2/Res. 4, B)

"4. Amendment to Statutes

"The Assembly will give favourable consideration to any demand from the International Council of Archives aimed at obtaining its admission as an Associate Member of the Centre according to the terms of Article 3 b. From now on it desires the Council to invite to its meetings a representative of this institution in the category of observer in the terms of Article 7 d. as was the position of the representative of ICOM under the old Statutes. The Council, moreover, will study in due course the possibility of recording to a representative of the International Council for Archives a permanent seat on the Council of the Centre."

This motion being adopted, Article 7 c. received approval which was unanimous with one abstention. Articles 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 were approved by unanimous vote of all representatives present. Article 14 was not voted upon. Articles 15 and 16 were unanimously approved.

The President brought the meeting to a close by declaring that the amendment to the Statutes had been accepted with the exception of article 14. Thus Article 13 of the old Statutes remained in operation with a new number.

The meeting terminated.

Meeting of 26, April - 10.30 a.m.  
PV. 5

The President opened the discussion on Point 9 of the Agenda, 
Comments on Reports presented by Member Countries.

The Director began by emphasising the value of reports presented with the object of informing the Centre about the actual problems with which member countries had to contend. Reports presented at the First meeting of the General Assembly were numerous and very interesting. Five new ones had been added on the present occasion as well as several accounts of the missions of the Centre made sometimes at the request of UNESCO.
It was possible to deduce certain common desiderata in reading these reports, notably the necessity of thinking seriously about the training of restorers; the value of organising courses of study for architects wishing to specialise in the conservation of monuments and for students wishing to study kindred problems of conservation in tropical and semi-tropical countries, etc. The Centre had already made some headway in the examination of these matters, recognising also the pressing need to study the conservation of stone a matter of serious consideration in many countries.

It was equally important to bear in mind the comments from India in regard to problems presented in the preservation of archive material and a valuable and detailed report that covered much ground had been presented from the host country Italy which would also require close study.

M. Lorentz remarked that the conservation of archives presented aspects that were analogous to the conservation of drawings.

M. Gibril described briefly the situation in Libya from the point of view of the conservation of monuments and archaeological excavations and expressed the hope that a closer or of collaboration could be worked out between the Centre and UNESCO. He thanked the Centre for the two bourses of 4 months each placed at the disposal of his country.

The President opened the discussion on point 10 of the Agenda: General Orientation of the Work of the Centre.

The Director commented on Document AG 2/7 emphasising the importance of collaboration with ICOM as referred to in the programme. It had to be realized that the execution of this programme depended upon a growth of financial resources and this aspect of the subject was directly related also to the possibility of collaboration with countries not as yet members of the Centre.

The Director alluded to the possibility suggested by the Federation of Scientific and Technical Associations of Milan to convoke an international conference in Milan to study conservation. The idea had been warmly welcomed by Professor Lerici (met during the excursion to Tarquinia) and he had promised full support. The Council will study
the matter very closely. Reference was also made by the Director to collaboration with a new international institution in Rome formed to work in harmony with competent authorities for the conservation of Santo Stefano Rotondo.

Finally reference was made to recent negotiations with Albania and to an invitation received by the Director to visit Hungary.

M. Gazzola in commenting upon this brief summary of work that was set forth in full detail in the Report began by expressing his compliments and the congratulations of the Italian delegation both for the work accomplished and for the programme that had been sketched out relating to future work.

As to relations with non-member countries the Assembly should orientate the Director as to what policy to adopt. The Assembly could also formulate suggestions regarding missions demanded of the Centre: but from now on one had to admit the principle that the Director should not travel about save for special reasons. On the other hand in the most generous way the Centre must choose experts to send to places; this would at the same time result in multiplying the missions of the Centre. After brief discussion the Assembly expressed the view that it was the prerogative of the Director and Council to decide in what form the Centre should respond to demands for service from countries that were either members or non-members. UNESCO could always profit by the demands of non-member countries to solicit their adhesion to the Centre.

It belonged equally to the Director and Council to decide whether it was fitting or not for the Director to go in person to places or send an expert of his choice when a mission is demanded of the Centre.

The Director replied that for his part the suggestion of appointing experts had already been envisaged; to cite a single example, M. Werner, now Director of the Research Laboratory of the British Museum had been singled out by the Director to take part in a UNESCO mission to Pakistan. To be able to meet squarely the multiplicity of tasks facing the Centre it was clearly necessary that the international personal be augmented by the addition of a scientist assistant having appropriate qualifications.
The President passed to point 11 of the Agenda: Election of Members of the Council.

He thanked the retiring Council for the excellent work that it had accomplished in circumstances that were not always easy. He then called upon M. Gazzola, president of the Candidature Committee. M. Gazzola read the report that figures as Document AG 2/11.

The President expressed his thanks after explaining the method of voting appointed MM. Rosi and Philippot as scrutators and called upon the Assembly to register their votes. After the counting M. Rosi communicated the results as follows: M. Gairola: 13 votes; M. Gwam: 13 votes; M. Gysin: 13 votes; M. Lorentz: 13 votes; M. Sefrioui: 13 votes; Mme Tripp: 13 votes; M. Van Schendel: 12 votes; M. Vunjak: 1 vote.

The President declared the elected members of the Council of the Centre to be Mme Tripp; MM. Gairola, Gwam, Gysin, Lorentz, Sefrioui and Van Schendel. He congratulated them and wished them a successful period of service.

Passing then to point 12 of the Agenda, consideration was given to Other Business.

M. Gysin reminded the Assembly that the contract of the Director of the Centre had been approved by the Provisory Council, but that it was the duty of the General Assembly to nominate the Director and approve the contract which would expire on 1st March 1964; the next session of the General Assembly would be called in the spring of 1965. It was necessary, therefore, to authorize the Council to prolong the contract until the meeting of the 3rd General Assembly.

Another point of interest was that certain member states found that exchange difficulties were in the way when it came to paying their contributions to the Centre and he would like to inform delegates that UNESCO was in a position to aid them as she had already done in the case of India.

The Director then begged leave to propose that M. Van der Haagen, formerly Chief of the Division of Museums and Monuments in UNESCO should be made a corresponding member of the Rome Centre. This proposition was carried with acclamation. M. Rosi thanked the Director.
in the name of M. Van der Haagen and added that he personally was trying
to continue the good work begun by this former colleague at UNESCO. It
is certain that decisions taken by the (UNESCO) Assembly are not without
their repercussions on the development of the Centre. Expressing his
thanks on behalf of UNESCO to the outgoing Council he wished the New
Council every success in its labours.

The President followed by expressing his own thanks to the Assembly
and referred to the goodwill that had characterised all its discussions.
The projects approved by the Assembly would no doubt yield good results
in the two years to come and help the Centre to achieve useful work.

The President thanked the Italian authorities for their warm
hospitality and spirit of collaboration and he addressed his thanks parti-
cularly to MM. Gazzola and Rotondi. He thanked equally the Secretariat
of the Centre for the work of preparation and organisation and especially
the Director and his Deputy who had consecrated their services to the
success of the Centre.

The Assembly by enthusiastic and unanimous applause thanked their
President, who declared closed the 2nd Session of the General Assembly.

The meeting terminated.