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

AG4/PV.1-5
(Original English)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
4th Session
Rome, April 11, 12 and 13, 1967

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).
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I. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1) - Delegates:

AUSTRIA  Mrs. Gertrude Tripp, Oberstaatskonservator, Bundesdenkmalamt, Vienna.

BELGIUM  Mr. René Sneyers, Director a.i., Institut Royal du Patrimoine Artistique, Brussels.

BRAZIL  Prof. Edson Motta, Conservator, National Historic and Artistic Patrimony, Rio de Janeiro.

BULGARIA  Prof. Fejo Nikolo Berbenliev, Director, Institute of Cultural Monuments, Sofia.

CAMBODIA  Mr. Nay Valentin, Cultural Attaché, Royal Cambodian Embassy, Paris.

FRANCE  Mr. Germain Bazin, Conservateur en Chef, Service de la Restauration des Peintures, Musée du Louvre, Paris.

GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC  Mr. Werner Bornheim gen. Schilling, President of the Association for the Protection of Monuments, Mainz.

INDIA  Shri T.R. Gairola, Assistant Director, National Museum, New Delhi.

IRAQ  Fakhri Al-Qaisi, Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Iraq, Rome.

ISRAEL  Mr. Mosche Dothan, Director of Excavations and Survey, Department of Antiquities and Museums, Ministry of Education and Culture, Jerusalem.


Members of the Italian Delegation:

- Prof. Bruno Molajoli, Director General of Antiquities and Fine Arts, Ministry of Education,

- Councillor Marcello Mochi, Department of Cultural Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

- Dr. Vito Agresti, Inspector and Vice-Director of Antiquities and Fine Arts, Ministry of Education.
- Prof. Pasquale Rotondi, Director, Istituto Centrale del Restauro, Rome.

- Prof. Guglielmo de Angelis d'Ossat, School of Architecture, Rome University.

- Gen. Ing. Aristide Ruggeri, Director, Centre for the Study and Research against Fire.

- Dr. Ing. Ferdinando Rossi, Director, Opificio delle Pietre Dure, Florence.

- Prof. Cesare Piolanti, President, Institute of Art, Faenza.

- Prof. ssa. Emerenziana Vaccaro, Director, Istituto di Patologia del Libro, Rome.

LEBANON

Emir Maurice Chehab, Director General of Antiquities, Beyrouth.

LIBYA

Awad Sadawya, Controller of Antiquities, Cyrene.

MALAYSIA

Shahrum bin Yub, Acting Director of National Museum, Kuala Lumpur.

MEXICO

Mr. Manuel del Castillo Negrete, Director, Centro de Estudios para la Conservacion de Bienes Culturales "Paul Coremans", Mexico City.

NETHERLANDS

Dr. Arthur van Schendel, Director, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.

PAKISTAN

S. M. H. Rizvi, Deputy Secretary of State, Ministry of Education, Islamabad, Pakistan.

PARAGUAY

Miss Estela Rodriguez Cubero, Head of Department of Historic and Artistic Patrimony, Ministry of Public Works and Communications, Asuncion.

POLAND

Prof. Stanislaw Lorentz, Director, National Museum, Warsaw.

SPAIN

Mr. Arturo Diaz-Martos, Technical Secretary of the Instituto Central de Conservacion y Restauracion, Madrid.

SWITZERLAND

Dr. Frederich Gysin-Lauber, Former Director of the Swiss National Museum, Zurich.

YUGOSLAVIA

Dr. Mihailo Vunjak, Head of Laboratory of Physical and Chemical Research of the Yugoslav Institute for the Protection of Monuments, Belgrade.
2) - Observers:

Direzione Generale dei Monumenti e Gallerie Pontificie Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Archivio Segreto Vaticano:

M.D. Redig de Campos, Director of the Laboratory of Conservation, Vatican City.

UNESCO

Mr. Hiroshi Daifuku, Head of Section for the Development and Protection of the Cultural Heritage, Place de Fontenoy, Paris 7ème.

ICOM

(International Council of Museums)
Mr. Hugues de Varine-Bohan, Director, 6, rue Franklin, Paris 16ème.

ICOMOS

(International Council of Monuments and Sites)
Prof. Raymond Lemaire, Secretary General, Louvain, Belgium.

International Council of Archives:

Mr. Leopoldo Sandri, Superintendent of the Central State Archives, Piazzale degli Archivi, Rome (EUR).

EUROPA NOSTRA

Mr. H. Howard, Rome.
Mr. G. Urbani, Istituto Centrale del Restauro, Rome.

I.I.C.

(International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works)
Mr. G. Thomson, Editor of Studies in Conservation, c/o the National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London W.C.2.

U.S. National Museum:

Mr. Frank Taylor, Director, Washington, U.S.A.

Smithsonian Institution:

Mr. Peter G. Powers, General Counsel, Washington, U.S.A.

AUSTRIA

Mr. H. Kortan, Meisterschule für Konservierung und Technologie, Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Vienna I.
3) - Secretariat:

- Dr. Harold J. Plenderleith, Director
- Mr. Paul Philippot, Assistant Director
- Dr. G. Torracca, Scientific Assistant
- Mr. Italo C. Angle, Executive Secretary
- Miss Carolyn Eales-Barkay, Personal Assistant
- Mr. Antonio Tito, in charge of Technical Services
OPENING SESSION
Rome, April 11, 1967

The official opening of the 4th General Assembly of the Rome Centre was held on April 11th, 1967, at the Villa della Farnesina in the "Sala delle Prospettive" in the presence of the delegates and councillors of member countries, the representative of the Director General of UNESCO, Mr. Hiroshi Daifuku, and the representative of the President of the Accademia Nazionale di Lincei, Prof. Lulli, together with observers from various national and international cultural organisations. Also present were Prof. Leopoldo Sandri of the International Council of Archives, Mr. Frank Taylor, Director of the United States National Museum and Mr. Peter G. Powers, General Counsel of the Smithsonian Institution. Numerous cultural attachés from the diplomatic missions in Rome and directors of various institutions forming the Unione Internazionale degli Istituti di Archeologia, Storia e Storia dell'Arte in Rome were also present.

The Italian Government was represented by Prof. Bruno Molajoli, Director General of Fine Arts and Antiquities and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs by Councillor Marcello Mochi, Head of Bureau at the Department of Foreign Cultural Relations. Other institutions collaborating with the Centre were represented by their directors and assistants.

Mr. René Sneyers, representative of Belgium, took his place as provisional President representing the country that had provided the President on the occasion of the last session (Art. 21 of the Internal Rules of Procedure for the General Assembly). Mr. Sneyers opened the meeting at 10.00 a.m. and invited the following personalities to the President's table: Messrs. Molajoli, Mochi and Lulli. Prof. Lulli welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei.

The President called upon Prof. Molajoli to open the proceedings. Mr. Molajoli welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Italian Government and thanked all the countries represented for their help in the Florence disaster. He mentioned in particular the work of the Centre which had occupied a key position in coordinating, together with UNESCO, all the offers received. Within the first 6 months remarkable results had been achieved.

On behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Mochi then wished the Centre every success in its future development.
Mr. Sneyers thanked Messrs. Molajoli and Mochi and proceeded next with the election of the President and 3 Vice-Presidents in accordance with point 2 of the Agenda as proposed by the Council. Mr. Gysin (Switzerland) was duly elected President of the Assembly with acclamation and Messrs. Negrete, Chehab and Vunjak were elected Vice-Presidents. Mr. Gysin then took his place in the Presidential chair.

Mr. Gysin thanked the representatives of the Italian Government for their kind messages and also the Assembly for having chosen a representative from Switzerland to be their President. The Agenda (Doc. AG4/1) being unanimously approved, the meeting then passed on to point 4 and submitted the Council's suggestions for the election of three Committees, as follows:

- **Credentials Committee**: Mr. Bazin (France), Mr. Diaz Martos (Spain), Mr. M. Chehab (Lebanon), Mr. Motta (Brazil) and Mr. Rizvi (Pakistan).

- **Candidatures Committee**: Mr. Sneyers (Belgium), Mr. Sadawya (Libya) and Mr. Gazzola (Italy).

The President in announcing the adherence of two new members to the Centre (Thailand and Paraguay) pointed out that the Statutes were rather confusing regarding the number of new members that could be elected to the Council. This matter must be given special considerations later.

- **Programme Committee**: Mr. Rotondi (Istituto Centrale del Restauro), Mr. Sneyers (IRPA), Mr. Bornheim-Schilling (Fed. Rep. of Germany). (UNESCO, ICOM, ICOMOS, a member of the Centre and the representative from Italy to act as consultants for the Committee).

The Assembly unanimously approved the composition of these Committees.

The meeting then passed on to point 5 of the Agenda and invited the Director of the Centre, Dr. Harold J. Plenderleith, to present their Report to the Council (Doc. AG4/2) dealing with the Centre's activities in the 2 year period since the last Assembly.

The Director began by announcing that membership had risen from 40 member countries to 42 and this gave the Centre confidence to continue in the task it had set itself. Many visitors had been received and in particular the Raines Committee from U.S.A. for which the Centre organised a very tight programme of talks and visits in order to give the Committee some idea of the urban district problems found in Italy and especially in Rome. The speaker then passed on to describe the part
played by the Centre in the Florence/Venice inundations, mentioning that the Centre had taken the initiative in offering $1,000 during the first few days after the floods to cover expenses for first-aid restoration to be carried out in Florence by the Istituto Centrale del Restauro. In the field of publications progress could be reported as 3 major works had gone into circulation and the programme for future publications looked promising. Missions carried out both by himself and the Assistant Director, Mr. Philippot, had taken up much time during the period under review. Where funds are available, he explained, missions to Member Countries requesting advice and help are gladly undertaken. The Director also mentioned the progress of the Architects’ training course now well established, but stated that if future courses were to continue to be as successful, larger lecture room accommodation would have to be found, a matter that would be referred to later. He concluded his summary of the Centre’s activities by emphasising the rapid growth in all forms of activity and the importance of finding new accommodation if its future programmes were to be carried out successfully.

Dr. Torraca, in charge of the UNESCO Florence/Venice Campaign, was then invited to present to the Assembly an account of the first-aid operations in salvaging works of art. (See Annex 1).

Mr. Van Schendel (Holland) and Mr. Lorentz (Foland), together with Mrs. Tripp (Austria) and Mr. Bazin (France) proceeded to discuss the different ways in which their respective countries could be of help in the Florence/Venice Campaign and in summing up, Mr. Gazzola took the opportunity to thank the Centre once again, its Director and all member states who had rallied to help Italy in her time of need.

The President then closed the morning session.
In opening the Afternoon Session, the President first accepted a report from the Credentials Committee, which was read to the Assembly by Mr. Bazin. He then, referring to Document AG4/2, called upon the Director to describe in greater detail how Centre missions were organised and carried out.

The Director explained that there were various types of missions which could be accepted by the Centre: 1) invitations from countries (members or non-members) which came through UNESCO, and these are usually accepted, a report prepared after the mission is then offered for acceptance by the Director General. 2) invitations which come from Member Countries directly to Rome offering to pay fare and per diems; in such cases a report is sent to the Governmental authority for circulation at its discretion. 3) International Commissions of specialists are occasionally called together by UNESCO in which the Centre scientists may participate. 4) invitations from non-member countries can only be accepted if the problems involved are considered to be important enough and it is felt that the Centre can be of help and that this at the same time is likely to encourage membership. In accordance with international protocol, Centre help is never forced upon a country - it can only be given by invitation from the country concerned.

Mr. van Schendel asked under which type of invitation the Prague mission came which is referred to in the Report. Mr. Philippot explained that the Prague meeting was a symposium held for the opening of the new museum which contained newly restored paintings and that contact was made with the Czech Government to encourage membership. The main obstacle, however, was a financial one in that this country was unable to pay her dues in dollars.

The President now turned to the Centre's activities regarding publications and mentioned how successful the translation into French of Dr. Fenderleith's book had been, partly due to the collaboration between ICOM and the Centre.

Mr. Philippot explained that joint publications between ICOM and the Centre had now been handed over to a French publisher (Editions Eyrolles), the arrangement being that the Centre advanced the initial sum for publication which would be later reimbursed on sales. Such a system after a certain time would enable future publications to be financed by previous ones and as a result one publication would finance the next. He observed that both ICOM and the Rome Centre have card
systems of institutions, specialists, etc., and these had been handed over to the publishers to enable the widest possible distribution. Facts have proved, he said, that the correct policy is to diffuse selected works dealing with the basic principles of conservation which would be of great importance when translated into selected languages.

The President then asked about the Basic Manual for Tropical Countries which is a joint publication Rome Centre/UNESCO and in giving a summary of the contents Dr. Plenderleith explained that it was hoped that this book would not only be useful for tropical countries and for UNESCO Regional Training Centres, but also for museums setting up small laboratories.

The President then invited the Assembly to approve their Report Document AG4/2 which was done with acclamation and he then invited the Assembly to turn to Document AG4/3 (Financial Report) and called upon Mr. Philippot to introduce this document.

Mr. Philippot explained that the financial statement covering the last 2 years indicated that the Centre could now remain afloat on contributions received from Member Countries. Other contributions such as the Gulbenkian Foundation grant and the Belgian Government grant which came under the heading 'special entries' had been reported separately. He also explained that the balance had been set aside for long term projects.

The President asked whether the UNESCO grant which had ceased during the last 2 years had changed the relationship between UNESCO and the Rome Centre.

Mr. Daifuku replied that UNESCO had always been glad to help the Centre during its difficult years and although the Centre could now manage without UNESCO's help, this did not mean that the Organisation had lost interest in the Centre. In fact, he pointed out, UNESCO was continually urging her member countries who were not yet members of the Centre to take up membership. UNESCO also, he said, had approved additional training equipment for the Centre's laboratory.

This was warmly appreciated by the Director and his staff.

The President said that the Centre owed a deep debt of gratitude to UNESCO for all its help over the years. He then asked the Assembly to approve Document AG4/3 which was done unanimously and the Assembly then went on to consider Document AG4/4 (the Budget).

Dr. Plenderleith introduced the budget for the next 2 years and Mr. Philippot then explained that the future programme had been based on a known income of contributions which have, since the current year,
been increased following UNESCO's decision to increase her own members' contributions. Mr. Philippot then went through the budget in detail.

Mr. Gazzola congratulated Mr. Philippot on his clear exposé, but, speaking as the President of ICOMOS, mentioned that there was no indication it seemed of funds being allocated specifically for Centre personnel to attend ICOMOS meetings, such as the one anticipated for Baghdad.

After some discussion this matter was referred to the Programme Committee.

The conversation then became general on the subject of the training of specialist technicians in conservation, Mr. Chehab urging the importance of preparing a list of specialists available to give counsel in archaeological and other matters. While Prof. Lorentz emphasised the importance of training technicians, Mr. Sneyers expressed a fear that quick training would result in superficial knowledge and that more time should be given for the training of "moniteurs".

Referring to the previous budget, Mr. del Castillo Negrete regretted that the proposed seminar meeting in South America seemed to have dropped out of the current budget and this criticism was warmly supported by Mr. Motta on behalf of Brazil.

Replying to these remarks, the Director promised that the Centre would be represented at the ICOMOS meetings and the Programme Committee would incorporate the necessary authority as a resolution. The Programme Committee would also consider the problem of the South American seminar raised by Mr. del Castillo Negrete which had not materialised because of lack of funds coupled with the unexpected demands on the Centre during the period under review made by the Florence/Venice disaster.

The President thanked the Assembly for their appreciation of the work of the Centre and in view of the comments made by the Director saw no problems that could not be solved by the Programme Committee which would give an indication of the relative importance of these activities. There was also another activity to be added to the already heavily-charged programme which he called upon Mr. de Varine (ICOM) to introduce.

Mr. de Varine outlined a scheme which had been considered at an ICOM Bureau meeting, namely to form a small team of experts in conservation who would be prepared to go to the scene of any disaster and help
with emergency conservation work. The idea stemmed from the Florence flood disaster and it was suggested that the Centre might take over the idea and put it into practice.

The idea was new to the Director, but he welcomed the suggestion and in principle would be prepared to try and carry it out; one would have to take into account that an international organisation could not interfere unless explicitly invited to do so and a measure of tact would be necessary. He would consider the matter in all its aspects and report to the proposed 'Conseil Restreint' to be held in Brussels in September, 1967.

An important intervention was made by the Delegate from Iraq, Mr. Fakhri Al-Qaisi, suggesting that the Centre should support a project arising from a recently concluded agreement between Iraq and Italy which would provide for a new centre in Baghdad for the restoration and maintenance of monuments. This proposition was warmly seconded by Mr. Chehab.

At the same time Mr. del Castillo Negrete urged the extension of the Rome Documentation Centre so that photocopies, bibliographies, etc., would be available for all regional training centres.

Invited to reply, the Director agreed in principle to the importance of this suggestion and referred to the Didier/Oddon report on documentation which had already confirmed that the Centre's activities were on the right lines. He foresaw that with the addition of new staff, an extension of the bibliographic work would be possible. In regard to the suggestions of the Delegate from Iraq and Mr. Chehab, he felt that the matter would be sympathetically considered by the Programme Committee.

The Assembly went on to consider the amount of contributions paid by member states to the Centre and the following 2 points arose: 1) it was within the competence of members to suggest a scale of payments to UNESCO as referred to in the Statutes and 2) that there should be a limit to the amount any one country is called upon to pay. The President called upon the Director to comment and it was stated in regard to the first point that such a resolution would have to be distributed 6 weeks before an AG meeting for it to be in order. This was substantiated by Mr. Daifuku who quoted the Centre's Statutes. UNESCO and other international organisations based themselves on the United Nations and the procedure was clear. As to the maximum contribution of any one country, it was eminently to be desired that this should not exceed 1/3 of the total assets of the Centre. If this clause could be accepted without prior notification by the present Assembly, this would be within the law. The Programme Committee could draw up a resolution for the Rome Centre as a consequence of Resolution 27.12 adopted by UNESCO at its 1966 Conference, it being the duty of the Centre to follow the UNESCO contribution policy.

This closed the afternoon session.
The meeting opened on Wednesday April 12 with a speech from the President summarising the main features of the previous session. Much discussion had been given to financial matters and in particular to the 30% limit to the contribution of any one member state and the question of the 30% limit was now put to the vote, the result of which was unanimity in favour, with two abstentions. The President thanked the Assembly and called for questions from members regarding future developments, etc., in so far as these related to financial matters. There being no further questions, the budget as presented was approved with acclamation.

Financial considerations were further dealt with in a project for the long term development of the Centre's activities in the event of a substantial increase of income Document AG4/5, which had been circulated. It being purely tentative the Director took this document as read and concentrated on what he considered the practical obstacles to progress.

The first concerned the lecture room facilities which were described as being totally inadequate. Better premises were urgently required. With a small membership the Centre's office accommodation had been satisfactory, but with students potentially from some 40 member states this was no longer the case. The library too was so crowded that it could not longer be considered as satisfactory for students nor could it be developed as it should be. It was too small even for Council meetings and for the many students who made application to work there. A plan for new premises at Santa Croce in Gerusalemme had fallen through and an emergency had arisen in that there was at yet no alternative project to provide the essential 2,000 sq. metres of floor space.

The President after emphasising that there was a clear need for new premises, opened the subject of long term development under 4 headings: 1) training, 2) documentation, 3) any points that had been omitted and 4) the premises.

In opening this discussion Mr. Daifuku said on the subject of training that several courses are already available in different parts of the world. In countries where conservation is just beginning special personnel is required for teaching. Fellowships were given to advanced students with degrees. Scholarships were given to students with middle level training having preferably a knowledge of chemistry and even to those at high school level, but they would require to work under more direct supervision.
If conservation were wrongly carried out it was because with the heavy shortage of teachers it was beyond the scope of many countries to handle a training programme.

The Jos Training Centre offers a 2 months course. The India project and the Honolulu Pacific area project would offer short courses using equipment already provided by UNESCO and the JDR 3rd Fund and in each case they hoped to use foreign teaching staff.

He should state that in this as in other things, cooperation from the Rome Centre had always been assured when it had been requested by UNESCO.

Scholarships were given to particularly gifted students, so that UNESCO members and Rome Centre members could be provided with the necessary specialised lectures and practical training in the best way possible.

At this point Mr. Bazin interjected that in a 'Cours de Formation' for restorers there must be an initiation into aesthetics and history of art. So far, such courses concentrated on physics and chemistry only. There are aspects of restoration, for example, which do not always depend on material elements. A choice of method has often to be made. Reversible processes should be preferred as they always are in the Louvre. His point was that the technician should have a knowledge of history of art on an elementary basis, as well as the history of conservation and, indeed, a publication should be made to cover this. Mr. Vunjak warmly supported these observations.

While agreeing as to the importance of the foregoing remarks, the Director said that considering the valuable contributions made by IIC etc., in this field, he felt that no responsible person would carry out conservation work today without realising his duty to consider the problems involved from every point of view. Notwithstanding this he would be very happy if Mr. Bazin would develop these points in his lectures to the students in Rome.

Mr. Bazin thanked Dr. Plenderleith and said that he would gladly accede to this suggestion.

Mr. Gairola, on behalf of the proposed regional training centre in New Delhi, expressed himself as being very satisfied with the Rome Centre's progress and he gave a short account of the contributions made by the Rome Centre to a recent UNESCO Seminar in the Indian capital. Much good had come of this, including the establishment of an Indian institute for conservation of which the Director had been made an Honorary Member.
Mr. Gysin invited the representatives of ICOMOS and of ICOM to express their points of view.

Prof. Gazzola expressed the hope that other institutes in Rome would help the Centre in their teaching course both with research and practical work. Commenting on the lack of accommodation, he said that the Italian Government was alive to the need for new premises as a matter of urgency and that he was trying to find a solution with the authorities. New premises were also needed by the Istituto Centrale del Restauro. A space of 2,000 to 2,800 sq. metres was recognised as being necessary for the Centre. A project was in view which he could not elaborate meantime until he was more sure of the prospects of success, but insisted that Italy wishes the Centre well and is anxious to fulfill her agreements with the Centre and UNESCO. Mr. de Varine followed with an interesting talk on ICOM policy regarding training museum personnel. A common project was desirable for this with the Centre but it was an enormous task. Information could be collected on a national basis through the ICOM Committees and by visitations, seminars, etc. The Centre and ICOM had much in common in studying museological problems. A minimum amount of information would be enough. Possibilities were available for collecting information. We should be prepared to help isolated conservators who are unable to attend refresher courses. He was convinced that personal contact was necessary and that conservationists should be given the opportunity of meeting their colleagues in seminars.

Attention should also be given to the training of personnel who would take over the job of conservation in each country. The Rome Centre could play a leading part in this and ICOM would be prepared to help, for example, in programming.

On an invitation from the President for any further questions, Mr. Philippot, reverting to Mr. Bazin's point, considered that a course of lectures might be given on the theory of restoration and that such knowledge should be made available in the initial stages of training. Delegates could give their opinions here in suggesting how their countries might offer to help the Centre in this task of training which manifestly was of such universal interest.

Mr. Bazin thought that we should not concentrate altogether on the training of beginners. As we would recall, Dr. Coremans had formed international commissions to study Van Eyck and Rubens paintings and so set an interesting precedent in these matters. The Centre is the best seat for such consultations and for studying problems of this kind which appeal to so many different interests.
In Mr. Vunjak's view, the training courses proposed for the Centre were too restricted and he urged the importance of preparing a text dealing with what he called the aesthetics of conservation.

Mr. del Castillo Negrete believed that a course for restorers should last 10 months.

Mr. Redig de Campos gave full support to Mr. Bazin. Laboratory restorers at the Vatican undergo a course of 2 years, after which they have the title of master of restoration. Responsibility for all restoration work, however, always will remain with conservator-art-historians.

In welcoming these comments, the President invited Messrs. Bazin and Vunjak to draw up a document embodying their ideas. He now asked if the question of publicity in the views of the meeting had been sufficiently developed.

The Director said that we had agreed on the importance of publishing information. This was so effectively carried out by IIC, that he would like to call upon the Editor of "Studies in Conservation", Mr. Garry Thomson, for comments.

With the concurrence of the President, Mr. Thomson re-echoed the view that it was very desirable to give the public as much practical information as possible on general questions as well as on questions of technique. Such information he said is be found in journals of many kinds and in periodicals of art, as well as press releases. This was in addition to the technological publications and bulletins and abstract literature. Every 2 years the publications of the National Gallery publish detailed reports on all restoration work that has been carried out, a practice that has become common with most large museums and galleries. The general availability of such literature did much in his view to help the restorer to develop his training and expertise on the right lines.

As general comment on documentation, Mr. Vunjak said that he was pleased to see that this plays an important part in the programme because, in cases where rapidity of work is necessary, recording often tends to be ignored so that the work may be completed on time.

Returning to the question of publicity, Mr. Philippot noted that members of the Centre are states and to get to the restorers and conservators, we have to pass through governments. Our interests lie in people who are not in ministries. We must see that our publicity on a long term basis gets to everybody.

Mr. Lorentz concluded the morning session by observing that the value of the press should not be underrated. Articles are possible on museum work, laboratory work and field work, while writings on the
Florence/Venice disaster should include mention of the Centre's labours in coordinating the world-wide efforts in the service of Florence which have proved to be of such value.

UNESCO's assistance in giving publicity to the Centre through its members who have not yet adhered to the Centre - through the medium of their national committees - was performing a very great service which could not but yield beneficial results.

In thanking the meeting, the President drew the morning session to a close.

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Afternoon Session - April 12, 1967 - 15.30 p.m.  
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The discussions on publicity were continued in the afternoon session, the President calling upon the Director of ICOM, Mr. de Varine.

Mr. de Varine had 3 ideas to bring before the Assembly.
1) the Rome Centre might in the interests of publicity try to make contact with IIC and arrange for space to be given in its official organ "Studies in Conservation" that would be reserved for the Centre.
2) the Bulletin of the National Commissions of UNESCO which is distributed to all members of the organisation might well carry information on the Centre's programme. 3) the UNESCO press department might agree to issue information about the Centre from time to time.

Mr. Daifuku suggested that a circular letter with a copy of the Statutes of the Centre should be sent to all members carrying an up-to-date list of member states that had already adhered.

The UNESCO Courier has already carried information on the Centre, in particular regarding the Florence flood work. It sometimes distributes short articles to the world press.

Mr. Thomson replying on the first point of Mr. de Varine's intervention agreed that some 4 pages of "Studies in Conservation" might be devoted to activities of the Rome Centre. He would be pleased to propose this at the next meeting.

Mr. Lemaire drew attention to ICOMOS publications that might help e.g. their scientific journal "Monumentum" and the Bulletin of ICOMOS would give publicity to any activities that the Centre might wish to diffuse.
The President thanked delegates for their kind offers and at this point invited Mr. Sneyers to present his report on the work of the Programme Committee (prepared as Document A 34/4 Annex 2). On the point advocating the recruitment of a scientific assistant for the Florence/Venice Campaign 1.1. a), the Director commented that the UNESCO funds were not yet available to justify employing someone new to care for this. He would hope that this would be possible soon.

On the point 2.2. b), regarding distribution of photocopies to member countries, Mr. Philippot said that this would be desirable and that it was hoped to do as much as possible in this regard without infringing the copyright act.

On the point 2.3. b) ICOMOS would like to go a little further and suggested allocating instead of €4,000, €5,000 to cover meetings of specialists.

The Director agreed in principle as did Mr. Philippot, but the latter added "if finances allowed". The Centre had already set aside money for important meetings with ICOM; this sum should be divided equally, however, but if there was any remainder it would go to other meetings.

Lively exchanges took place on the subjects of publications and photocopying and their cost in which the following took part: Messrs. Sneyers, de Varine, Vunjak, Plenderleith and Philippot, the President finally accepting the proposition for an amendment which was carried unanimously - point 2.4. before a).

Mr. Sneyers continued to go painstakingly through the report of the Programme Committee each point being discussed in full with little change, however, to its material substance.

As regards the proposals made by Iraq and Lebanon it was agreed that these should be studied by Council.

Mr. Gazzola insisted that these and similar requests should be recorded in the budget. Prof. Lorentz said that he could not see how all these calls could be met; there certainly seemed to be insufficient funds for the proposed visit to Africa.

Mr. Lemaire regretted that in the Report of the Programme Committee there is no mention of the 1968 Assembly of ICOMOS. He hoped that this did not mean that no member of the Centre would attend!

Mr. Sneyers replied that, on the contrary, the Programme Committee had introduced the point of fewer members attending fixed meetings to make it easier for the attendance of individuals at important meetings such as that of ICOMOS.
The President stated that he could see that this explanation was acceptable to the meeting and was generally approved.

On a formal proposition from the President, the Report of the Programme Committee was accepted in its entirety with slight modifications as recorded and approved by the Assembly nem. con., and Mr. Sneyers and his group were congratulated, the thanks of the President and the Director being tendered to all including Mr. Philipoot for his important contributions.

A resolution was now presented by Mr. Sneyers regarding the proposed first-aid programme for help in disasters affecting the safety of cultural property throughout the world, and the President invited discussion on this point remarking that it might well be a vast undertaking.

Mr. Lorentz said that the collaboration of ICOM and ICOMOS were most important. Mr. van Schendel suggested making up a list of specialists available for immediate missions and said that a fund should be reserved for this work. The President commented that this would require an amendment of the budget.

In the Director's view it was important to have the close collaboration of IIC. There should be a formal request to IIC to come with us on this project. Mr. Lemaire commented that ICOMOS has a list of architects specialised in restoration of monuments and this list could be made available. Mr. Sneyers said that there should certainly be an amendment to set aside $4,000 for urgent missions. Dr. van Schendel agreed and the President having accepted the complete text of the amendment put it to the meeting when it was unanimously approved, but Dr. van Schendel added that this sum of $4,000 should appear in the budget with the Centre's reserves, the President adding that in the event of it being used in disaster work it ought to be automatically replaced. These points were accepted by the Assembly and incorporated in the amendment.

The meeting adjourned.
The President opened the meeting by referring to the invitations to the Director to visit Libya and Irak. The Director commented that although the programme was rather overburdened, he was prepared in principle to try and fulfil these engagements in good time.

The meeting then turned to consider the Bazin/Vunjak proposal. Mr. Bazin wished to emphasise the difference between the practical work and the theoretical work he had in mind. The Director and Mr. Philippot approved, the latter agreeing that the training course and the study now under consideration were on entirely separate levels. The basic elements for this work were already in hand and with the help of colleagues it could be realised at small expense. The President reported the general approval of the Bazin/Vunjak proposal.

At this point the Delegate from Irak insisted again on the urgency of the help required in Baghdad and he presented a document regarding the same.

The President called on Mr. Daifuku who intimated that UNESCO had already approved a 3-month mission to Irak which covers part of this request to the Centre and the Centre had authority to join in the project if it so desired and could incorporate it in its own programme. The Delegate from Irak was understood to express satisfaction.

The President in closing the discussion on the Programme, submitted it to the Assembly for approval and this was given unanimously.

On questions being raised relating to the staff of the Centre, the Director took the opportunity of expressing his warm appreciation of its work, of the work of those who had additional duties in Florence and of a voluntary worker, Mr. Aubrey Cartwright, who had given his services for the great benefit of the students attending the training courses, among other things in leading a series of conducted tours around the antiquities of Rome.

The President brought up the question of the Director's contract which had just run out, proposing from the Chair that this should be renewed for a further period of 2 years and this resolution was carried with acclamation.

The meeting now gave consideration to the election of a new Council and, in anticipation, Prof. Gazzola was invited to report on the deliberations of the Candidates Committee. He began by regretting that a Mexican proposal of candidature could not be accepted. Mr. van Schendel immediately demanded to know on what grounds and
Prof. Gazzola explained that in order to comply with regulations, names of candidates have to be presented at the latest at midnight of the first meeting day of the Assembly.

The President acquiesced and intimated that, in conformity with custom, a secret ballot would now be held to appoint the new Council. Mr. Vunjak acting as scrutator informed the meeting that of those present 22 delegates were entitled to vote for 8 candidates. After careful cross-checking by the Candidature Committee the names of the successful candidates were read out as follows: Mme Trip, and Messrs. Bazin, Chehab, Gairola, Lorentz, van Schendel, Soeiro and Taubert. The President congratulated the new members and passed on to consider the suggestion of Prof. Gazzola that ICOMOS should be represented on the Council of the Centre. This he explained would have to be processed in accordance with the regulations as laid down in the Statutes.

Mr. Daifuku then remarked that in recent years there had been a turning point in the life of the Centre and difficult problems, previously insoluble, had now been resolved. When something is worth doing, it is always thus, and he paid tribute to the Centre's work with UNESCO and in particular to Dr. Gysin's guidance during the dark period.

After acknowledgement the President brought the meeting to a close. At this, however, Mr. Lorentz rose to pay a spontaneous and eloquent tribute to the President of the Assembly, Dr. Gysin, now relinquishing office, reminding the Assembly that from the beginning Dr. Gysin had given his services wholeheartedly to the cause. He had been President of Council in the first difficult years and had led their deliberations from the époque of faith and trust to that of substantial achievement. We owed him much. The Director echoed these sentiments.

The President then declared the 4th Session of the General Assembly closed.