



ICOMOS - SRI LANKA

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Annual General Meeting of ICOMOS Sri Lanka - 2017

Secretary's Report 2016 – 2017

Office Bearers and the Council

Office Bearers and the Council for the session 2016 – 2017 were as follows:

Archt. Jayatissa Herath, President
Prof. Gamini Adikari, Senior Vice President
Archt. Plnr. Veranjan Kurukulasuriya, Vice President
Archt. Sumedha Matota (upto October 2016), Archt. Dr. Nilan Cooray (from November 2016)
and Archt. S. P. G. Chandraratne, Joint Secretaries
Archt. D. B. Navaratne, Treasurer
Archt. H. K. Balachandra, Assistant Treasurer
Prof. Senarat Dissanayake, Immediate Past President
Archt. Dr. Locana Gunaratne, Council Member
Dr. Gamini Wijesuriya, Council Member
Archt. Prasanna B. Ratnayake, Council Member
Prof. B.D.Nandadeva, Council Member
Mr. Bandu Weerawardene, Council Member
Archt. Sumedha Mathota, Council Member (from November 2016)
Archt. Dr. Nilan Cooray, Council Member (up to October 2016)
Archt. D.P. Chandrasekara, Council Member
Prof. Prishantha Gunawardhana, Council Member
Prof. Jagath Weerasinghe, Council Member
Archt. Sagara Jayasinghe, Council Member (from January 2017)

Council Meetings

Eight (08) Council meetings were held during the session, chaired by the President.

Workshop Series on Heritage Conservation and Management

During the session, ICOMOS Sri Lanka continued to hold the series of one-day workshops initiated during the previous session to share the experience of current trends in approaches and practices on heritage conservation and management. The overall aim of the workshop series is to equip the heritage conservation and management professionals in Sri Lanka to update their

professional knowledge and to discuss how best the new approaches and practices could be adopted for current professional practices. The second workshop titled ‘Legal Instruments Applicable to Manage Sri Lanka’s Cultural Heritage’ was held on 7th July 2016 at the PGIAR. Archt. Prof. Mandawala was the chief coordinator with Archt. Ashley de Vos as the chief resource person. The third workshop titled ‘Conservation of Wall Paintings’ was held on 23rd January 2017, also at the PGIAR. Prof. Nandadeva was the chief coordinator of the workshop with Prof. Nimal de Silva as the chief resource person. Each of the workshops was attended by more than 40 participants from the Department of Archaeology, Central Cultural Fund and Galle Heritage Foundation. Several private architects, journalists etc. also participated in the workshops and has become a popular and a successful event among the young professionals.

ICOMOS 50th Anniversary

The council decided to hold an International Conference to mark the 50th Anniversary of ICOMOS in Colombo. The draft theme for the conference will be “Universalizing the Heritage” with Dr. Roland Siva as the keynote speaker. The council is exploring the possibilities of obtaining financial assistance for the conference from the CCF and to meet the Hon. Minister AkilaViraj Kariyawasam and the DG-CCF to discuss this proposal. In the meantime Dr. Wijesuriya has agreed to revise the theme and the proposal.

New Member

As decided by the Council following applicants were enrolled as new members of ICOMOS (SL) during the session:

- Ms. Wayani Nirosha Anthoni
- Ms. Amanda Rajapakse
- Ms. Champika Udayangani Dhanapala Wijesinghe
- Mr. Janage Don Anura Indika Piyadasa
- Ven. Mandaramnuwara Chandananda

Documentation and Publications

Inventory of Heritage Buildings

Archt. Plnr. Veranjan Kurukulasuriya is in the process of coordinating the publication titled ‘Inventory of Heritage Buildings’ covering Western and North-Western Provinces prepared by the National Physical Planning Department. Council is exploring the possibility of printing this as a joint ICOMOS - CCF publication with due acknowledgement to the authors.

Measured drawings of the building within the Galle Fort

The council is also exploring the possibility of publishing the measured drawings prepared by the University of Sri Jayawardhanapura of the building within the Galle Fort that is funded by the US Ambassador’s Fund.

Documentation of Orotarian Churches in the Northern Province

Following the public lecture for the month of November 2016 by Archt. Sagara Jayasinghe, the council has decided to document the Orotarian Churches that have survived in the Northern Province, which are under the threat of renovation using the funds send by the Diaspora. Archt. Jayasinghe will carry out the documentation. It was decided to make a proposal to request funds

from the CCF for this documentation.

Public Lecture Series

Following public lectures were held at the PGIAR during the session:

- ‘Excavation and Conservation work at Rajagala’ by Archt. Prof. P. B. Mandawala on 12th May 2016
- ‘New Horizon of History of Sri Lanka’ by Prof. Raj Somadeva on 9th June 2016
- ‘Origin, Types and Development of Oratorian Missionary Churches in Sri Lanka’ by Archt. Sagara Jayasinghe on 10th November 2016
- ‘Portuguese and Dutch Inscriptions of Sri Lanka’ by Prof. K. D. Paranavitana on 8th December 2016
- ‘Space Organization of Sri Lankan Buddhist Image Houses with special reference to Anuradhapura and Polonnaruva’ by Dr. D. P. Gamalath

Other professional inputs

As requested by JICA, following members met the JICA Study Team for Detailed Planning Survey on the Technical Corporation on Comprehensive Development Program/ Master Plan for Greater Kandy region on 26th August 2016 to provide the expert input:

Archt. Jayatissa Herath, President

Dr. Roland Silva, Honorary President

Dr. Nilan Cooray and Archt. S. P. G. Chandraratne, Joint Secretaries

Archt. Jayatissa Herath, President also acted as an expert resource person for the seminar organized by the Central Cultural Fund on 31st January 2017 to identify potential heritage properties to be inscribed on UNESCO’s World Heritage List.

The President and the Council wish to thank the PGIAR and the CIDA for allowing the ICOMOS Sri Lanka to hold the Council Meetings and the Workshops and to appreciate the dedicated service of the secretariat headed by Ms. Ramani Withana.

Dr. Nilan Cooray/Archt. Gamini Chandraratne

Joint Secretaries,

ICOMOS- Sri Lanka

15.03.2017