



ICOM-Europe, In der Halde 1, D-14195 Berlin

President

**To all members of
ICOM-Europe**

Berlin, February 28, 2005

Dear members of ICOM-Europe,
dear colleagues,

even though the new year is not very new anymore, I wish all of you and the national committee of your country a great 2005 and all the best.

When ICOM-Europe held its last annual meeting during the General Conference of ICOM in Seoul last October many of you attended that meeting. Attached you will find the minutes, which have been already approved of by the members of the board as well as the members who attended the Seoul meeting. If you have any comment or question, please do not hesitate to write or to ask.

For those, who could not come to Seoul or are newly elected in as chairperson of a European national committee, please check ICOM-Europe's homepage to read the activity report 2004: www.icom-Europe.org

As you can read in the minutes, there are a few changes and amendments of the statutes of ICOM-Europe. Therefore attached you will find the most recent version of the rules.

The next annual meeting of ICOM-Europe will take place during the meeting of the Advisory Committee in Paris in June this year. I asked Guenther Dembski, chair of the Advisory Committee, to make a room reservation for us one late afternoon. I am sure you will find date and place in the final version of the agenda, and I will write to you again in spring.

Let me please tell you about the most recent activities, which we have already discussed in Seoul. As you remember, we do prepare a workshop with our Eastern European committees of Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine for September 2005. "Shifting borders, Changing identities" is the theme, and Alexander Kalbaska from Minsk, chair of ICOM-Belarus, coordinates that meeting together with Katja Rossocha, Executive Secretary of ICOM-Europe in Berlin. Although you find the date of the meeting already in the calendar of ICOM's central homepage in Paris, the program has still a provisional status. But very soon we will be able to tell you more about the details. Nevertheless, you are welcome to get in touch with Alexander. We are very proud that ICOM-Europe with that expected workshop can realise its policy of linking ICOM's European East with the rest of the continent again (after a workshop series about "Museumwork in postcommunist times" in 2003/2004). This is a very important task for a region under fundamental changes.

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The second regional activity is the European-Arabian dialogue. After more than a year of preparing a joint workshop, we all are happy that the first workshop took place in Aswan, Egypt, February 10-14, 2005. During this meeting, which was attended by the president of ICOM, ICOM-Europe was presented by Southern European national committees, such as Italy, Spain and Portugal. Thank you very much indeed for your coming and presentations. This important meeting should not remain a single event, but the first step for a longer-lasting Arabian-European dialogue. In Aswan we invited ICOM-Arab already for a second workshop in spring 2006. The conference will be held in Germany and the topic is "Bridging Cultures through historical exhibitions". I will be able to give you more details very soon, at least during our next meeting in Paris in June.

If you have any ideas about international conceptions and activities for 2006 and 2007 you would like to see being realised, please let me or the members of the board know or let's speak about them during our Paris meeting.

Best wishes from Berlin

Yours,



Dr. Hans-Martin Hinz

Enclosed:

- minutes of the Seoul annual meeting of ICOM-Europe
- Rules of ICOM-Europe as amended in October 2004