

architecture beyond

EUROPEAN ARCHITECTURE BEYOND EUROPE



Paris, 27 April 2011

Second Management Committee Meeting of

Cost Action IS0904: "European Architecture Beyond Europe: sharing research and knowledge on dissemination processes, historical data and material legacy (19th-20th centuries)"

Lingotto, Turin, 18-19 April 2011

MINUTES

Present :

Members:

AT Dr Vittoria Capresi
AT Dr Diego Caltana
BE Prof Johan Lagae (Vice-Chair)
CH Dr Leila El-Wakil
DE Dr Ralph Bodenstein
DE Dr Regina Göckede
DK Dr Peter Bjerrum
ES Dr Antonio Bravo Nieto
FR Prof Mercedes Volait (Chair)
FR Claudine Piaton
FR Thierry Lochard
GR Prof Vassilis Colonas
GR Prof Alexandra Yerolympos
IS Prof Lior Barshack
IS Tzafir Fainholtz (substitute member)
IT Prof Ezio Godoli
IT Prof Vilma Fasoli
NL Dr Tom Avermaete
PT Prof Madalena Cunha Matos
UK Prof Robert Home (substitute member)
UK Dr Iain Jackson (substitute member)

DZ Assia Samai Bouadjeda (non-COST institution)

COST Office:

Dr Julia Stamm, Science Officer (SO) ISCH (present on 18 April)

Domain Committee Rapporteur:

Dr Jana Gasparikova

WELCOME TO PARTICIPANTS

Prof. Mercedes Volait (FR) welcomed the participants to the second Management Committee Meeting of Action IS0904, and invited all attendees to present themselves, since new members joined the Action after its 1st Management Committee (10-11 May 2010).

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Agenda was agreed. The Chair proposed to add a point on reimbursement procedures in item 6; the Vice-Chair proposed to add a point to item 13 regarding a proposed Erasmus Mundus offering outreach to the Action.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes from the first Management Committee Meeting held in Brussels on 10-11 May 2010 were agreed without changes.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Minutes secretary

It was agreed that the UK members (Prof Robert Home and Dr Iain Jackson) would draft the minutes of the second Management Committee meeting. The minutes are to be validated by the Chair and Vice-Chair before being made available to the Action's members on the restricted area of the Action's website.

Participants to the meeting as observers

Réza Kettouche, Grant Holder Secretary (FR), Anne-Laure Brisac, editor at InVisu (FR), Rachel Lee, doctoral candidate (DE), are allowed to attend the meeting as observers.

4. REPORT FROM COST OFFICE

The COST Office Science Officer for the COST Domain ISCH Julia Stamm expressed her satisfaction that all 14 participating countries and institutions were present at the meeting, and also with the progress of the Action.

News from the COST Office

The President of the COST Committee of Senior Officials has informed the Chairs of COST Actions on 13 December 2010 of a "temporary" funding shortage, due to "current difficulties of the Commission to obtain any budget for 2011 approved by the Council and the European Parliament" and consequently a delay in the additional resources that were to be provided to COST by the Commission. "The additional funds are intended to be used to put back Action budgets onto a reasonable funding level" (email of 13 December 2010). A decision on the matter is expected in the coming weeks.

Julia Stamm informed the Management Committee that the Action IS0904 was already provided with a significant budget considering the number of participating countries, and that an increase was rather hypothetical.

Status of Action

13 COST member states (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GR, IS, IT, NL, PT, UK) and one non-COST institution (University of Ferhat Abbas, Algeria, represented by Assia Samai Bouadjeda) have joined the Action.

An updated list of signatures and MC membership can be found on the COST Office website http://w3.cost.esf.org/index.php?id=233&action_number=IS0904

Recent nominations include Dr Ann Katrin BAUMLER (TU Vienna, Department of Art History) as MC Substitute member for Austria, Prof Lior BARSHACK (The Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya) as Member for Israel and Mr Tzafir FAINHOLTZ (Technion, Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, Haifa) as Substitute member for Israel, Prof Jorgen E. ANDERSEN as Member for Denmark, and Dr Eliana PEROTTI (ETH Zürich, Institut für Geschichte und Theorie der Architektur) as Substitute member for Switzerland. Jean-Sebastien CLUZEL (INHA, Paris) substituted Emilie d'Orgeix as Substitute member for France.

Since 1 December 2010, new parties can only join after approval of the MC.

Turkish Colleagues were not granted approval by their COST National Coordinator.

Julia Stamm recalled that there are 3 levels of involvement in an Action:

- as MC member (nominated by COST National Coordinators),
- as WG Member (for experts belonging to countries having adopted the MoU of the Action),
- as associated experts (invited by the MC for their specific expertise on the Action's topics).

5. PROGRESS REPORT OF WORKING GROUPS

The coordinators of the 4 Working Groups of the Action presented their respective activities during Year 1 (June 2010-June 2011).

WG1: Actors and networks of expertise

The aim of the group (7 members) is to map distinct networks based on education, socio-religious identity or corporate activity, and their possible intersections. Prof Lagae (BE) reported that two meetings had taken place in Marseille (September 2010) and Ghent (February 2011). The group has worked at its structuring and has devoted attention to the methodologies applicable to its research topic. Discussions on 'social network analysis' and 'prosopography' with external experts (historians) have been held. A first assessment of existing online biographical databases has been conducted. Plans for an online biographical database were reassessed, with a template that external contributors can work on. Opportunities for collaborative research among members of the WG1 have been detected. In order to work towards the development and experimentation of a theoretical and methodological framework to analyze the mechanisms and flows of circulation of experts and expertise in the field of architecture, WG 1 is currently assembling a series of seminal texts and papers, some of which can be compiled to produce a critical anthology and/or theme issues of journals

WG2: The printed media and the construction of a canon

The group (9 members) aims at documenting European architecture overseas through little-studied printed material such as local periodicals, and to question the interplay of canonical designs and mainstream architecture. Tom Avermaete (NL) reported that two meetings had taken place in Marseille (September 2010) and Delft (January 2011). The group decided to focus on building journals produced locally during the 1930s-1960s (e.g. *Techniques et travaux* in French Morocco) as well as on the architectural section of general journals (e.g. *Africa* in Spain). The goal is to have an inventory of alternative vectors (publications) and an annotated bibliography, and indeed to produce an anthology of texts offering alternative viewpoints on European architecture overseas. The group intends as well to develop a critical framework on the canonical and the non-canonical.

WG3: Documenting transnational architecture

The group (7 members) was created with the aim of approaching European architecture beyond Europe through the built environment, and to confront material culture to archival evidence. Ralph Bodenstein (DE) reported that two meetings had taken place in Marseille (September 2010) and Vienna (January 2011). Datasheets will be developed with strategic data fields on buildings, actors and archival resources. The concern is to keep the database as 'shallow' as possible to prevent an overly complicated approach to the management and accessibility of the data. There are difficulties to overcome such as data input (unequal capacities of manpower within the group), copyright, and the asymmetric nature of the data. The meetings of the group served to identify selected research subjects in which several WG members can directly collaborate (research on architecture in colonial Congo; archives of contracting firms active in the Mediterranean). The ultimate aim is to produce a framework for data sharing, through a platform (Halimede, a CMS using Alfresco) being developed by InVisu.

WG4: Conceptualizing an infrastructure for collaborative research

The aim of this transversal group (5 members) is to support research and allow for data sharing within the network, and also to guide researchers towards consistent and efficient tools. Sustainability and interoperability of the digital data produced are key concepts in this context. Thierry Lochard (FR) reported that two meetings had taken place in Marseille (September 2010) and Paris (February 2011). Furthermore, several WG4 members have had in depth conversations with members of other WG's to discuss the IT needs within each of the working groups. The first aim of the WG has been to apprehend the working IT environment within the Action. A significant digital divide was identified. A redefinition of the WG's activity will ensue. The group will concentrate on disseminating standards, best practices (i.e. producing searchable pdf documents), and appropriate tools within the network. More interaction with the other WGs in the future is requested towards that end (WG4's members would be invited to the other WGs meetings). The WG also performed IT watch; but it is small and interdisciplinary and would welcome additional interest and members. One expected outcome is the preparation of the "Training school" forecasted in the Action's proposal and to be devoted to issues such as the state of the art regarding copyright of images, the managing of digital bibliographies, standards for digital visual data, etc...

6. ACTION PLANNING

Annual Progress Conference (APC)

Action Chairs in the ISCH Domain are invited each year to present the progress of their activity in Brussels, along a specific template; the report is filed for statistical purposes. APC 2010 took place on 2-3 June 2010; the presentation of the Action can be accessed at the restricted area of the Action's

website: <http://www.architecturebeyond.eu/members-area/isch-annual-progress-conference-2-3-june-2010/>

APC 2011 is to be held on 7-8 June – the Action Chair Mercedes Volait (FR) is due to prepare a presentation, on behalf of the Management Committee, to be submitted to the COST office by 13 May 2011. It will present significant highlights during the year, the difference the Action made, plans for the future, problems encountered. Chairs are asked to present Results vs. Objectives, to describe the annual progress towards reaching the Action scientific objectives and highlight what could not be achieved without the network.

The MC agreed that year 1 of IS0904 was used to organize its activity: setting up of the WGs, planning for their meetings and outcomes, identifying IT needs and constraints, channelling data to the Action's website, enlarging the network. 2 significant highlights were the design and launching of the website of the Action (www.architecturebeyond.eu) (see below, item 12), and the organization of the Action's first Annual Workshop (19-20 April 2011). The challenge for Year 2 will be the preparation of the Training school initially forecasted for Year 2 and that the MC agreed to reschedule on Year 3. The main problem encountered is at administrative level, i.e. dealing with discrepancies between the rules applied by COST and those applicable to the Grant Holder administration (CNRS, FR). COST uses flat rates, CNRS works mainly with invoices and both systems have to be combined (see below). There is indeed a need to reinforce WG4.

APC 2011 will offer the opportunity to interact with other Actions, in particular *Interedition (IS0704): An Interoperable Supranational Infrastructure for Digital Editions* (<http://www.interedition.eu/>)

Reporting

Besides the APC's presentation, 3 other distinct reports are due each year.

a. Intermediate Financial Report

The report was due on 15 January 2011 and was finally submitted on 20 January 2011. Part of the costs was not approved because VAT is NOT eligible. The Intermediate Financial Report was finally accepted, after recalculation of all costs and charging VAT to the Financial and Scientific Administration and Coordination budget, but in the future face-value reimbursement (i.e. for taxis) will not be possible.

b. Yearly Financial Report

The report is due on 31 July 2011, following the end of Grant Period no. 1 (1 July 2010- 30 June 2011). It will be prepared by Réza Kettouche and Mercedes Volait, then validated by Regina Göckede and Tom Avermaete, who were nominated Financial Rapporteurs (see item 8 of the minutes of the 1st MC meeting of the Action), and signed by Johan Lagae, Mercedes Volait and CNRS financial representative.

c. Annual Monitoring Progress Report

The Annual Monitoring Progress Report (to include WG reports) was due on 15 April 2011; since its 2d MC meeting was to take place on 18-19 April, the Action was granted a delay until 27 April. WGs coordinators are to provide examples of 'innovative networking', 'inter-disciplinary networking', means of sharing methods, additional knowledge exchange with other networks and how they are generating 'new knowledge'.

'New networking': A total of 48 researchers (21 female, 27 male) have been involved so far in the activities of the Action (WGs meetings and events, STSMs, Annual Workshop). They include 11 Early Stage researchers (less than 8 years after the Doctorate) and 7 Doctoral candidates.

Self-evaluation: The network is working well, with planned activities undertaken and no deviation from the work plan (one General Working Groups meeting, separate Working Groups meetings and an Annual Workshop combined with the MC meeting were convened during Year 1). Some objectives are being readjusted. Copyright issues are a significant area still under discussion. Significant involvement of Early Stage Researchers is being achieved. A careful attention is being given to gender balance, in order to ensure that scientific responsibilities in particular are equally distributed.

Action Budget Planning:

3 sets of meetings are agreed for Year 2, as in the work plan for Year 1 but along a distinct rhythm. The plenary meeting of all WGs will be combined with the Annual Workshop and will take place in winter 2012. The separate WG meetings will take place in fall 2011, between September and November 2011 (dates to be announced after the meeting of the Core group on 21 April 2011). The 3d MC meeting will take place as a separate meeting in late spring.

The MC agreed to rise significantly, up to 10.000 €, the budget granted to STSMs in Year 2, in order to enhance further ESR participation to the Action. A permanent call for STSMs is also agreed upon. The MC decided to encourage STSM mobility among the institutions participating in the Action, in order to reinforce the network and encourage collaborative work.

The MC also decided to reallocate possible remnants of the Year 1 budget to STSMs. MC members will be asked to approve through e-voting a new budget reallocation, once reimbursement claims for the 2d MC meeting and the Annual Workshop are processed (during May 2011). 3 previous reallocations were approved, in June 2010, November 2010 and March 2011.

In view of sound budget planning and transparency, the Chair informed MC members of the constraints resulting from the reimbursement policies imposed by the Grant Holder administration (CNRS, FR) AND the commitment to apply COST rules and maximums. Consequently, daily allowances have to comply with both systems. For a meeting taking place in Belgium, the daily allowance will be limited to 143 € (CNRS maximum) although COST scheme allows to up to 160 €. On the contrary, a meeting taking place in Italy will be limited to 160 € daily, although the CNRS rates allow for up to 220 € (see rates in Annex 1 to these minutes, to be posted on the restricted area of the website). Additionally, French members and non-French members of the Action are subjected to different rules for a meeting taking place in France, and for that matter, in Paris or outside of Paris. CNRS does require invoices for local transportation, when COST does not for up to a certain amount.

In order to ease the reimbursement process, the Action members are kindly asked to send their justification documents and reimbursement forms upon return after a meeting.

Action Planning (including meetings) for year 2 (July 2011-June 2012)

The MC decides that its 3d meeting is to be held in Brussels on 30 May 2012 (to precede the European Architectural History Network Conference on 31 May-2 June). Julia Stamm confirmed the availability of a meeting room at the COST Office (149, av. Louise). A session in EAHN 2012 will be devoted to the presentation of the Action; Tom Avermaete (NL) is responsible for its organizing.

The Annual Workshop is agreed to take place in Edinburgh on 9-11 February, 2012 (unanimous vote of MC members); it will be combined with the General WGs meetings. Its topic will be "Colonial, imperial or corporate architecture?" (Architectural diversity or uniformity across time, agency or geography), instead of, as initially envisioned, dealing with "Dissonant architectural heritage in the postcolonial age" (topic rescheduled for the 2013 Workshop). WGs separate meetings will take place in the fall of 2011. Exact dates will be communicated by coordinators to the WGs members. In order to reduce costs, the WG3 may meet in Egypt in September 2011, provided a preliminary approval is given by the COST Office.

Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future meetings)

It is agreed to postpone the Training School to Year 3, in order to be able to prepare for a program suiting the Action needs and concerns. The WG4 has the task to draft a program according to feedback from the other WGs.

A possible venue to be considered by the MC for the Training School, or other meetings, is the Fondation Marc de Montalembert in Rhodes. The Fondation can provide 4 working rooms hosting 10 to 25 persons, plus lodging facilities at low cost (about 20€ per night) on the premises or nearby. It is opened from April to June and September to November.

7. STSM STATUS AND APPLICATIONS.

A call for applications was published on the website of the Action, as well as through various listserves and channels during March 2010 by the STSM coordinator, Tom Avermaete (NL). A number of inquiries followed the call and resulted in 11 applications on the closing date of September 1st, 2010. The proposals were scientifically and financially reviewed by the Assessment Panel (M. Volait, J. Lagae, T. Avermaete) at the Action's 1st MC meeting on 13-14 September 2010. 4 candidates were granted a STSM: Tania Sengupta (University of Westminster), Vittoria Capresi (TU-Wien), Adam Kaasa (London School of Economics), Pauline K.M. van Roosmalen (Independent scholar). 2 STSMs have already been implemented. Reports of completed STSMs are to be made available on the restricted area of the website.

The MC agreed that the STSM scheme should be continued as a permanent call and funding increased if possible to up to 10.000€. It was also agreed that the Action especially welcomes proposals that enhance collaborative research within the Action's member institutions, with excellence remaining a major assessment criterion.

The STSM coordinator Tom Avermaete (NL) ensures that the call posted on the Action website is rephrased accordingly.

8. PUBLICATIONS, DISSEMINATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Promotional flyers (300) and postcards (1000) had been prepared and were circulated to members and interested scholars at various meetings and conferences, in particular EAHN 2010 (European Architectural History Network) in Guimaraes, the major European forum in the discipline of architectural

history, as well as at other major international learned societies conferences, such as College Art Association in New York in February 2011, and a couple of American Campus.

Detailed proposals for an electronic journal, multilingual and peer-reviewed, were circulated (see Annex 2) and fully discussed. The MC congratulated those responsible (Anne-Laure Brisac of INHA in particular) for their dedication in piloting an excellent technical platform, drawing upon the French revues.org host and associated production and editing software. Revues.org currently hosts 300 periodicals in French, English or Spanish.

The MC agreed the title as '*Architecture Beyond Europe*', Ralph Bodenstein (DE) is to revise the current presentation text to allow for a broad understanding of European architecture overseas that include all forms of European-style architecture spread outside of Europe during the 19th and 20th-century, in pre-, as well as post-colonial contexts. A discussion paper on the topic of starting a journal on colonial architecture by Alex Bremner (UK) was circulated among the MC members and discussed. The MC decides that the proposition to widen the time frame of contributions to include the "pre-modern", pre-19th century period (or indeed the contemporary, 21st century) is not followed. Papers dealing with such periods may be considered for publishing in *ABE* only if they are of particular methodological relevance to the scope of the journal.

Scientific Committee and Editorial Advisory membership agreed with some possible future additions to the sections proposed (i.e. a guest-edited thematic section of 3 or 4 papers on a specific theme), on continuous flow production (rather than periodic issues or themed issues, reviewable), all abstracts in English language only, Chicago Manual of Style as a basis for citations and end bibliography, and the list of approved languages for submissions.

Robert Home (UK) proposed to promote the Action through the International Planning History Society (next conference in Brazil July 2012) and *Planning Perspectives* journal (of which he is an international editorial board member).). Johan Lagae (BE) mentions that he is co-organizing at the next conference of the European Association of Urban Historians (April 8-9th, 2012, Prague) a session that deals with issues closely related to the Action, and that he will take the opportunity to promote the action.

9. REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBERS

The MC agreed that Rachel Lee (in attendance) becomes DE substitute MC member (WG1), and that Pauline van Roosmalen (WG4) becomes second NL MC member.

Dr Jana Gasparikova, Domain Committee rapporteur of the Action, informed that institutions in Central and Eastern Europe might be interested in the topics of the Action; she will forward the information available to potential participants.

Prof Johan Lagae (BE) proposes Kim De Raedt as a substitute member for Belgium and presents a potential second substitute member for Belgium, Viviana d'Auria. He will discuss with the other Belgian MC member Bruno De Meulder her candidacy. He further more informs the MC members of the interest of Lukasz Stanek (currently at the ETH Zürich) to join the action in one way or another (Lukasz Stanek presented at the WG1 meeting in Ghent).

10. PROMOTION OF GENDER BALANCE AND EARLY STAGE RESEARCHERS

The Action has been encouraging gender, country and ESR balance in the composition of the WGs and all Action's activities. The gender balance is satisfying (21 women, 27 men in membership of 48 scholars). Efforts have been made to involve ESRs in the activities of the Action, and ensure that responsibilities are equally distributed. Currently 11 ESR and 7 Doctoral candidates participate in the Action's work. Increasing the STSMs budget should support ESRs involvement in the Action.

The Action supported an Application to the ESR conference grant (funding scheme of up to 3000 € for an accepted paper in a major international Conference) allocated twice a year to the member of a COST Action, but it was not successful.

11. NON-COST COUNTRY PARTICIPATIONS

One non-COST country institution has joined the Action: the University of Ferhat Abbas, Algeria, represented by Assia Samai Bouadjeda. Her application was approved by the COST Committee of Senior Officials in November 2010. As a member of a country belonging to the Near Neighbour scheme of the EU, Mrs Samai expenses will be funded by the COST Office.

A formal request for an Australian participation, on the basis of the reciprocal agreement scheme, has been received by the Chair in November 2010. The application is presented by Dr Andrew Leach, from Griffith University, with the support of its Deputy Vice Chancellor. Dr Leach is willing to join WG1. The MC approved the Griffith University's request to join the Action as non-COST institution. The decision is forwarded by the Chair to Julia Stamm in order for her to proceed further

An expression of interest was received from an institution based in Egypt, the Centre d'études alexandrines, but the formal request is yet to be submitted to the Chair.

12. WEB NEWS

A specialized website, with password-protected members' area and multiple screens accessible to all, was designed in June 2010 and launched in July 2010 (www.architecturebeyond.eu). It both serves as a communication means among members of the Action (the restricted area includes Action's presentations, minutes of Management Committee meeting, Working groups reports, practical information), and a channel to disseminate data and results on the topic of the Action.

The website is being enhanced with such features as a publications vault, member bibliography (20 received so far), and treasury of images. On 15 April 2011, it offered 60 screens. The importance of submissions in PDF searchable format was emphasised. In order to avoid copyright issues, the visual material released is either in low definition (less than 72 dpi), or copyright-free.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Prof Lagae (BE) reported development of an Erasmus-Mundus application for an 'International Master of Arts in Creative Urbanism - IMACU', presented by a consortium consisting of Ghent University (coordinating institution), the University of Edinburgh, Stockholm University, the University of the Western Cape and the Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urbanism; The MC confirmed its support for this initiative.

Claudine Piaton (FR) reported that the [EC-funded ARCHING project](#) (using archives of contracting firms active in Mediterranean building construction to enlarge knowledge on architecture in the Middle East and North Africa and ensuring outreach to the material) will finish in May 2012, and conclude with a publication. The partnership of the project associates Italian, Belgian and French scholars and curators, in association with a Turkish group managing a virtual Architecture museum. A sequel to the project is being envisioned in order to enlarge the scope of industrial archives to be studied. Work on the archives of the firms Crittall (UK), Porr (AT) or Schindler (CH) is welcomed. Expressions of interest are to be forwarded to Claudine Piaton.

14. CLOSING

The 2^d MC meeting of Action IS0904 was closed on April 19, 2011 at 1:00 pm.

ANNEXES:

ANNEX 1: Reimbursement rates applied by CNRS and COST

ANNEX 2: Presentation of the proposed electronic journal *ABE*