

NAME OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE:

International Committee for the Collections and Activities of Museums of Cities (CAMOC)

I. 2011 ACTIVITIES

1) ANNUAL MEETING	
DATE	31 October-3 November 2011
LOCATION (CITY AND COUNTRY)	Berlin (Germany)
HOST INSTITUTION OR ORGANISATION (if applicable)	<p>The first two days of the conference (31 October - 1 November) were organised jointly with the ICOM International Committee on Collecting (COMCOL) and the ICOM Regional Committee for Europe at Dahlem Museums (National Museums in Berlin, Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation) in south western Berlin, with the Museum of European Cultures (Museum Europäischer Kulturen), being the organizing museum. On the third day, CAMOC met separately at the Kreuzberg Museum and the Bookshop Pro qm, a themed bookshop on the city of Berlin, politics, pop, economic commentary, architecture, design, art & theory, which was meant to be a forum for public discussion and movement. On the final day the Committee was hosted at the IFAU (Institut für Angewandte Urbanistik); It also organised a thematic city tour of Berlin architecture and urban development guided by architects of the IFAU.</p> <p>Evening museum visits and receptions were realised at the Museum of European Cultures, the Deutsches Historisches Museum, and the Berliner Rathaus.</p>
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	<p>One hundred and fifteen (115) delegates attended the joint-meeting. Of those, fifty three (53) have been CAMOC delegates and sixty-two (62) COMCOL delegates.</p> <p>Statistics regarding the fifty three (53) CAMOC delegates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forty five (45) delegates from Europe (Austria 1, Bulgaria 1, Denmark 2, Estonia 3, Germany 13, Greece 3, Italy 5, Ireland 1, Poland 3, Portugal 1, Russian Federation 2, Sweden 1, Switzerland 1, Turkey 2, United Kingdom 6) • Four (4) delegates from North America (USA 3, Canada 1) • Two (2) delegates from Latin America (Brazil 1, Uruguay 1) • Two (2) delegates from Asia (South Korea) • Twenty eight (28) delegates were ICOM members
- ICOM	
- NON-ICOM	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifteen (15) delegates were Non-members • Ten (10) delegates were students
APPROACHED THEMES	<p>Title of the joint conference: "Participative Strategies"</p> <p>Brief description of the theme: Documenting the past is never straightforward. Whose truth are we telling, and who is doing the telling? What do we document and why? It is inevitably a selective process to capture traces of a world no longer with us. Yet, if documenting the past is problematic, how do city museums, history museums and ethnographic museums document the present? The present is now, it is all around us and we are active participants in a drama that is constantly changing. How do we know what is significant today, and will be significant for future generations? How do we select and, then, how do we preserve and manage what we select? We will be discussing all these and many other issues at our Joint Conference.</p> <p>Title of CAMOC only conference: "Participative Strategies in Documenting the Changing Urban World"</p> <p>Brief description of the theme: Cities are not only artefacts we can see and touch: they are complex environments made up of people who are in a constant state of change - a mix of the tangible and the intangible, of buildings, spaces, power, wealth, poverty, ideas, innovation and energy.</p> <p>What are the criteria for city museums when they collect and document the city today? The relative permanence of the tangible or the fluidity of the intangible? Where do they place their priorities? And by what means and with what aims do they document and collect? Then, there is the concept of the city museum as an urban forum enabling people to share their experiences and help shape their city, and indeed the museum itself.</p> <p>Can we have a participative museum? If so, what is it, or what should it be?</p> <p>These are some questions for CAMOC to consider. To address some of them, three sessions, in the course of two days, will focus on the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capturing <u>urban change</u>: the engagement and involvement of citizens in collecting and documenting the changing city around them; the media used for creating, sharing and connecting people; the different strategies and priorities used in different city museums. • Recording and celebrating <u>the experience of city people</u>

	<p>with a special emphasis on the experience of migrants to cities: memories, ideas, knowledge, spirit and feelings, testimonies expressed in writing and art, and much else.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflecting on <u>urban policy and regeneration projects</u>: what determines urban success and what is the impact of urban crisis and decline (for example, natural disasters or social upheavals), and the roles of city museums in this debate. <p>A detailed comparative report, presenting two perspectives from the conference delegates, has been published in <i>CAMOCnews</i> e-Newsletter in January 2012. CAMOC's young participant and Travel Grant awardee Agnes Aljas from Estonia and Catherine Cole, an Executive Board Member from Canada wrote two separate reports from their far corners telling about their common experience in Berlin (see the <i>CAMOCnews</i> issue 1/2012 attached)</p>
PARTICIPATION OF OTHER ICOM COMMITTEES	<p>As mentioned above, the first two days of the conference were organised jointly with the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICOM International Committee on Collecting (COMCOL) and • ICOM Regional Committee for Europe

OTHER MEETINGS (if applicable)	
2) PUBLICATIONS	
TITLE	CAMOCnews (CAMOC's e-Newsletter, published four times a year in January, April, July, October) (see copies herewith attached)
DATE	April, July, October 2011 (first launched in 2011 by the then newly elected Executive Board; this is why there was no January issue in 2011)
PUBLISHING LANGUAGE	English
ELECTRONIC VERSION	YES
NUMBER OF PRINTED COPIES	<p>No printed copies</p> <p>CAMOCnews is produced in electronic format and are available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on line on CAMOC's website (http://camoc.icom.museum/) • on-line on ICOM's website on the publications database

	<p>(http://icom.museum/what-we-do/resources/publications-database.html)</p> <p>It is also distributed via email to a) CAMOC's members; b) ICOM-L list; c) other museum professionals, architects, academics, students interested in CAMOC's work</p>
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3) TRAINING	
DATE	Not applicable for 2011
LOCATION (CITY AND COUNTRY)	
HOST INSTITUTION OR ORGANISATION (<i>if applicable</i>)	
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS - ICOM - NON-ICOM	
APPROACHED THEMES	
PARTICIPATION OF OTHER ICOM COMMITTEES	
PROFILE OF THE TRAINERS	

4) RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

The Database Project. Development of a database project for city museums, a project that CAMOC Executive Board and the designated project team envisage not only as a resource for reference but mainly as a means of networking for collaboration and partnerships that will benefit many city museums around the world. Stepping-stone for making the project take-off is the formulation of a template as a baseline of the database formation. During December 2011-January 2012, the project team worked together to develop the template.

In March 2012, the questionnaire template will be submitted to eight city museums for a pilot assessment. This first sample of museums has been selected by the project team members. Then, there will be a phase of amendments based on the feedback received and the evaluation results. Then after, the template will be passed to a database designer for implementation.

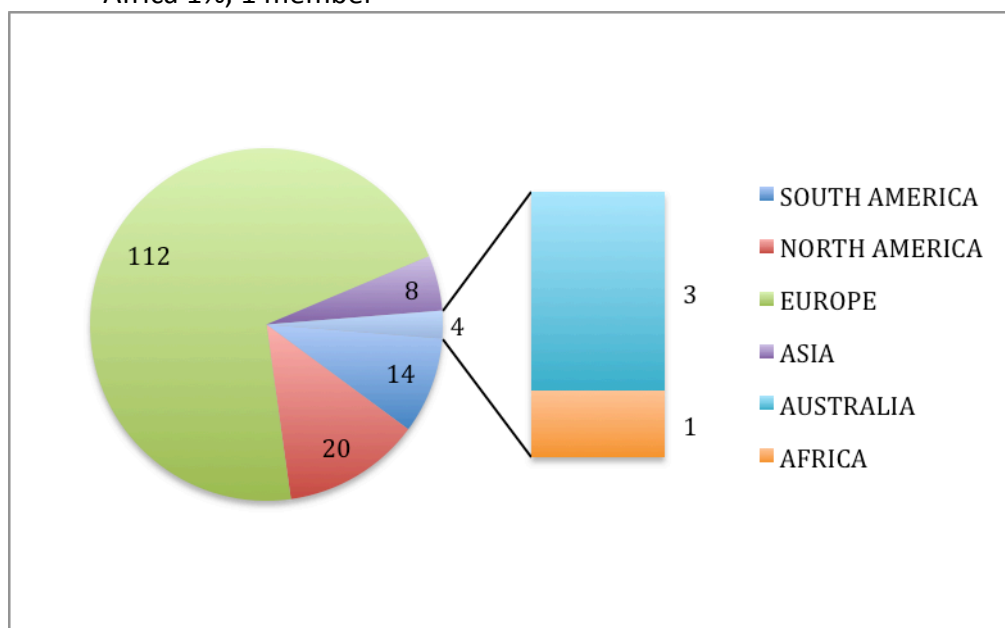
The whole project will be developed within 2012.

5) ACTIONS ALLOWING AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH

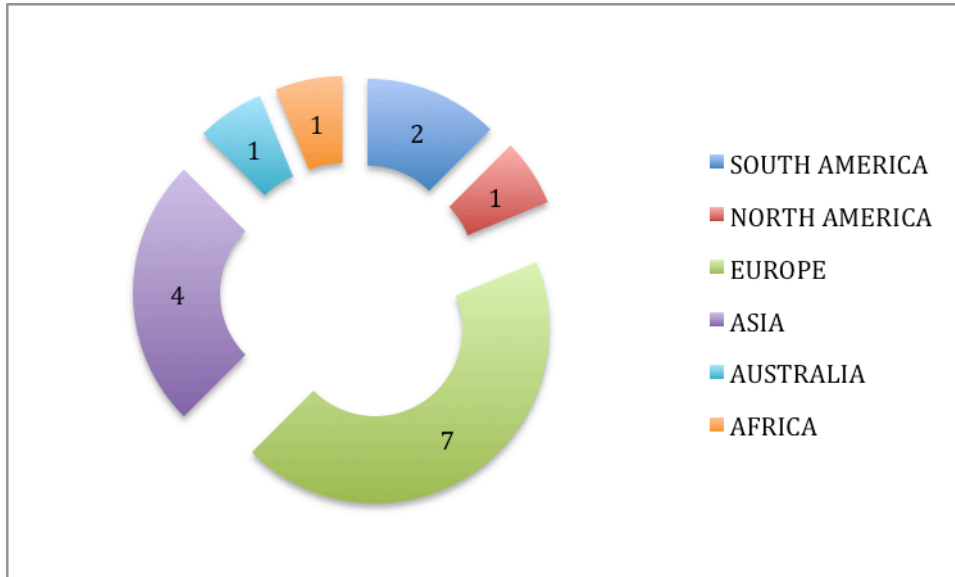
1. CAMOC Membership

In 2011, CAMOC had 158 individual members (voting, non-voting and corresponding members). The individual membership is still primarily European (71% of the whole membership), but CAMOC is building up its forces and envisages substantial growth of membership in North and South America in the coming years, as its forthcoming annual conferences will be held in Vancouver (Canada) in 2012 and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in 2013. The current composition of individual membership for our Committee is as follows:

- Europe 71%, 112 members (including 42 members from the Russian Federation and 5 members from Turkey)
- South America 9%, 14 members
- North America 13%, 20 members
- Asia 5%, 8 members
- Australia 2%, 3 members
- Africa 1%, 1 member



As regards institutional membership, in 2011, CAMOC had 16 members, out of which most were again from Europe (7 members), followed by Asia (4 members), South America (2 members), and North America, Australia and Africa (1 member each). In the coming years, CAMOC will increase its efforts to augment its institutional membership all around the world. The database project mentioned above will definitely be an important means towards this direction.



2. CAMOC's choice of theme for its 2011 Annual Conference. "Participative Strategies" reflects totally the inclusive approach to museum theory, museum practice and society at large that the Committee promotes. City museums more than any others have the capacity to serve as a forum where citizens can discuss urban and social issues. They can also encourage the residents in their areas to get involved in collecting and curating activities as the major object of the city museums is the city itself and it is natural that its dwellers will know about it the best. In the digital age, where people have an unprecedented range of means to access learning, an innovative way of connecting people to the museums is doing neighbourhood projects. City museums are pioneers in these participative strategies and can do much more.

3. CAMOC's database project, which aims to map city museums all around the world, get to know their work better, assess their social value and their contribution to urban life, create a resource of city museum practice, let alone provide material on benchmark work as a means to furthering museum training and professionalism. As mentioned above, this project also aims to facilitate partnerships for joint projects and assist academic and museum research on city museums and urban narratives.

4. For its 2011 Annual Conference, CAMOC offered one (1) Travel Grand Award of 500 euros for a young member of ICOM who wanted to participate in the Conference.

Applicants should be less than 35 years old, an individual member of ICOM for a minimum of 1 year and actively working in a museum for a minimum of two years. S/he would be required to write a report about the Annual Conference for publication in the CAMOC Newsletter.

The grant was offered to Ms Agnes Aljas who works at Estonian National Museum as research secretary. Her tasks involve coordination of research projects, digitalization projects and participation projects. Her work is also related to co-operation between museum and cultural institutions in Estonia and outside Estonia. According to Ms Aljas, her participation in CAMOC Conference helped her to create international change of experiences, new contacts and develop co-operation between Estonian institutions and institutions from other parts of the

world. The meeting also enriched her museological knowledge and provided new fascinating insights.

6) OTHER ACTIVITIES

7) SYNTHESIS OF THE ACTIVITIES AND OBTAINED RESULTS

1. Berlin Annual Conference

Following on from 2011 Berlin Conference, CAMOC's Secretary, Marlen Mouliou, organized a questionnaire-based post-conference evaluation. She collected 20 responses from delegates from 14 different countries (Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, Uruguay, USA). The overall impression has been very positive and most delegates voted the session in the Kreuzberg Museum as the highlight of the conference. Naturally, there have been also some critical constructive comments, which CAMOC must take into account when organising the next meetings. We mention some:

- The conference programme must not be overloaded; too many papers are usually presented in too short a time. Although it is important to involve as speakers as many CAMOC members as possible, it is also true that more time is needed for discussion or for trying out more participative ways of discussing the conference themes (i.e. in workshops, or questions posted on walls during breaks, break-out group discussion etc.)
- There is need to balance academic sessions with more creative experiments in alternative venues, to give more practical museum focus in the papers presented, to include more city museum visits in the programme, to plan transportation from venue-to-venue (specially when they are far away from each other), as well as to choose venues that are not only creative but also provide basic facilities for the delegates.
- Increasing attendance in future CAMOC meetings is of course an important priority for our Board. The respondents indicated some basic factors for making this possible, such as the choice of attractive and creative conference topics, the choice of great capital city locations and accessible conference venues as well as of affordable places to travel, let alone the balance of theory with practice by building a conference format that combines academic sessions with workshops and round table panel discussions.

2. CAMOCnews

The launching of the electronic Newsletter of CAMOC in April and then its regular publication undoubtedly proved to be an effective vehicle for disseminating the Committee's interests and work to wider audiences. This is well supported by a good number of very positive comments from different parties and individuals received by Suay Aksoy and Marlen Mouliou, who have been responsible for its editing.

This is a compilation of some of the comments received after launching **CAMOCnews** in April 2011.

- “I am very impressed about you CAMOC newsletter, not just the volume but also the energy you put on the future program. Congratulations for that» (comment by ICOM’s President, Dr. Hans Martin Hinz»
- “Many congratulations – this is first class! Wonderful» (comment by the Museum of London Director, Prof. Jack Lohman)
- «It's marvellous. It's a very professional job (comment by a UK member),
- «It' s amazing how fast you could produce such a wonderful newsletter. I am proud of being part of this team» (comment by a Brazilian member),
- «Congratulations on your first CAMOC newsletter. It's packed with useful information and I like the new layout. Bravo!» (comment by a USA member),
- «The CAMOC Newsletter is superb. Positively excellent. You are to be congratulated for leading CAMOC to the next level of programming and intellectual rigor. I am forwarding the newsletter to colleagues and students here to show them what CAMOC is doing. All CAMOC members should---and I believe will---be very proud of their membership. Thank you for your great efforts on the Newsletter. It is an important voice for our organization» (comment by a USA member)
 - «It is great and impressive : congratulations!!” (comment by a French member)
 - «Congratulations. Impressive work!!” (comment by a Greek member)
 - «The newsletter is super!» (comment by a German member).

II. 2012 PLANNED ACTIVITIES

1) ANNUAL MEETING	
DATE	24-26 October 2012
LOCATION (CITY AND COUNTRY)	Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
HOST INSTITUTION OR ORGANISATION (<i>if applicable</i>)	Museum of Vancouver Canada’s largest urban history museum focusing on the life of a city
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS - ICOM - NON-ICOM	Estimated number of participants (around 90-100 persons)

<p>APPROACHED THEMES</p>	<p><u>Title of the conference : City Museums: Collisions I Connections</u></p> <p>The conference will bring people together to talk about how city museums are reconsidering their role in civic life due to the enormous pressure cities face in terms of aging infrastructure, the need for urban regeneration, economic and environmental crises, and social issues such demographic shifts, global diasporas, increasing immigrant and urban Aboriginal populations. The conference will look at city museums under development, urban/suburban city museums, and city museums in large and small cities.</p> <p>Under the wider rubric of the conference theme, suggested sub-topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining the 21st century city museum: the changing role of the city museum today <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City museum as urban forum and dialogue centre ○ City museum as agency for urban development ○ City museums and city branding • Cities and museums: collisions/connections/contemporary expectations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Measuring the social value of city museums: inspirations and challenges. In times of financial instability, museums need to prove their social value as collection repositories, as contact zones between people and communities, as educational resources for society at large, as boosters for the cultural and tourist industry, as generators of powerful multi-sensory experiences, as agents of social harmony and stability ○ Furthering understanding and fostering social cohesion and connections among people (immigrants/migrants, long-term residents & Aboriginal communities) ○ Changing demographics in today's cities, ensuring the present and future relevance of city museums by changing whose stories are collected and told, and how museums work with communities ○ Contributing to community development and well-being: engaging in issues such as literacy, poverty, youth at risk, etc. ○ Reducing isolation in communities: creating a sense of place & identity ○ Providing economic impact: how effective are city museums becoming destinations and revitalizing downtown cores? ○ Understanding the impact of new museum roles on museum staff ○ Inviting museum professional to consider how city museums either learn from, or offer a model for,
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	<p>other urban museums in their changing relationships to their urban setting.</p> <p>The conference will have several components: 1) formal papers; 2) site visits to urban and suburban museums; 3) poster competition (details to follow) and exhibit area for museums to share their work; 4) a roundtable discussion by invitation for museologists and urbanists to share and elaborate on the definitions of the 21st century City Museums and the interim results of the “City Museums Database” project.</p> <p>Keynote speakers and social events will be announced as they are confirmed. If there is sufficient interest, a post-conference tour will be arranged.</p>
EXPECTED PARTICIPATION OF OTHER ICOM COMMITTEES	

OTHER MEETINGS <i>(if applicable)</i>
<p>International meeting on Museums of Cities (IMCC) to take place from 26 to 29 June 2012, in the city of Rio De Janeiro, in the auditorium of the Getúlio Vargas Memorial.</p> <p><u>Title of the meeting:</u> International Meeting Museums of Cities: The city as an Object of Social Representation and an Agent of Social Transformations</p> <p><u>Objectives:</u> i) to propose the public discussion on the role assumed by the Museums of Cities in the contemporary world in face of the complex demands and the action of new agents in the life of the great urban centers; ii) to underline the enormous potential of these institutions in the articulation of the various instances responsible for the production, construction and diffusion of social representations and the collective memory. In this regard, we understand that the Museums of Cities, beyond being key institutions for the preservation of the history and the memory of our cities, can and must be understood as qualified interlocutors in the articulation of innumerable social matters - privileged agents in the process of transformation of the public life.</p> <p>EIMC (IMCC) is one of the actions developed by the SMC (City Department of Culture) in the process of the work plan consolidation and the proposal of requalification of the Historical Museum of the City of Rio de Janeiro. The Meeting is inserted in an ampler context, which is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The opportunity to use to advantage the favorable conjuncture deriving from the actions undertaken in the MHC (Historical Museum of the City) referring to the release of resources and the beginning of the architectural recovery and restoration of the buildings that form the set of the museum and the work of inventory of its collections; • The necessity to consolidate the new program for the use of the museum spaces; • The urgency to attend the historical demands to structure a public politics for the area of museums in the City hall of Rio De Janeiro; <p>It is important to remember that the city of Rio de Janeiro in going through a singular moment in its history today. Rio will be the epicenter of major events of global interest: United Nations</p>

Conference on Sustainable Development - Rio + 20 (2012), host of the Worldwide Conference of the ICOM - International Council of Museums (2013), host of the FIFA World Cup (2014) and host of the Olympic Games (2016). In addition, the city will in 2015, between FIFA World Cup and the Olympic Games, commemorate the 450 years of its foundation.

Beyond promoting changes and alterations in the Carioca landscape, all these initiatives and events will make to come to the city a public never imagined, thousand of people interested in knowing more about our history, culture and society. Rio will be in the center of the international journalistic covering, the local, national and international media will be facing towards here.

We understood that the city that was already transforming, in the next years, will have the chance of requalifying itself and to reposition itself in the worldwide scene. In such a way, we believe that it becomes necessary and urgent to think about the project for the “new” Historical Museum of the City of Rio de Janeiro. A museum capable to present our past, to discuss the present and to prepare ourselves for the future. A museum that counts the history of the many cities that we were and which allows us to understand today the space we inhabit; that makes us think about how it continues to coexist in the time and space so many projects of city, and which are the challenges we face in the present time for such heterogeneity. How of the broken, distributed, fragmented, made in pieces city, can we find the wires, the links, decipher what aggregates such distinct units?

- A museum that helps us to unmask the immense territory that we occupy and that proposes to dialogue with the expanded city that is configured today. That shows not only the center, the streets, parks and avenues, but which includes in its drawing the mounts, hillsides, valleys, mangroves and palafittes. The neighborhoods and communities from the North Zone to the South Zone, from East to West, from the beaches to the tropical forests, from the luxury to the garbage;
- A museum which can be made and thought with the contribution and participation of the city population, that involves the inhabitants and diverse institutions in its process of construction;
- A museum which becomes reference for the tourist and meeting point for the inhabitant of the city. A museum which congregates information and becomes articulation point for the collection and projects about Rio.
- A museum which becomes an emblem of the city; capable of congregating the ample repertoire of references, at last, the set of the transformations and present celebrations that will indelibly mark the history and the future of Rio De Janeiro.

International Meeting Museums of Cities is being thought to function as a rare chance to: reunite a group of qualified, Brazilian and foreign interlocutors; ponder over the new paradigms that guide the projects of the museums of the main worldwide cities; trace an ample panorama on the subject and the paradigmatic questions associated to it; consolidate the guideline that guide the revitalization of the Historical Museum of the City, to be undertaken by the City Department of Culture/City hall of Rio De Janeiro.

Concept of the meeting:

Today, what we understand as “city” defines itself through a strong tension: on one side we have the singular aspects that structuralize these units and differentiate them of so many others, making possible a variety of symbolic, poetical and political representations. On the other side, these spaces cannot be seen as units anymore, since that in face of the complexity of joints that constitute them; they must be faced under the perspective of multiple hybrids. Thus, it is necessary that we refer to them in the plural, observing the multiple cities that compose our urban space. Considering that even yet there is always something that escapes, that the city is also composed by invisible aspects and others that contradict its identity.

The Museums of City are enrolled in this same tension; they place extremely topical questions and

try to reinvent its paper in the life of a city. The exchange of experiences will be fundamental in this reflection, being a central axis in this **International Meeting**. Therefore, we will have a time dedicated to the discussion of cases that focus the strategies and the plans of work that confront the common challenges. This exchange of experiences will strengthen the central concept of this project: to transform it into a “meeting”. We also believe that this dialogue will strengthen the concept of Museums of Cities in Brazilian territory and contribute in the construction of a fertile net of partnerships.

Format of the event:

- **Targeted Public:** Potential partners and reference institutions on the subject of the event; opinion leaders; pupils and professors of museology schools, social memory, architecture and urbanism (preferably).
- **Registrations:** Some strategical guests will be consulted previously and it will be open gratuitous registrations for the spontaneous public, through sectorial advertising.
- **Product:** All the lectures will be recorded and transcribed. Some stretches will be edited to be available in the site of the event.
- **Expectation of Public:** 250 participants per day in the actual meeting and approximately, 5,000 through the digital media and the site.
- **Methodology:** The Meeting is thought to happen in four days of work, with activities in the morning and in the afternoon. In the morning visits and meetings with the work group of the SMC and its partners will be organized. In the afternoon we will have the lectures and discussions open to the public, with organized tables from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., with an interval of 30 minutes for coffee break.

The format of the discussions was thought with the intention to displace the speeches already established on the subject and to favor the exchanges between the guests and the public. Thus, we propose 4 axis through which we will articulate the theoretical and practical questions concerning the day-to-day of these institutions and its dynamics, as much in a historical perspective as contemporary.

As a preliminary suggestion of the international guests it had been thought CAMOC representatives, Museums of the Cities of London, New York, Berlin, New Orleans, Amsterdam, South Africa, Seoul/Barcelona, Colombia, Moscow and Lisbon.

Content of the presentations:

1st day

Structural axis: Representation

The guiding axis of the discussions will revolve around reflections about the problem of the representations, the museum as a space of production and reproduction of social representations, and of the representativity of these institutions.

Official Opening of the event and ceremonial presentations of the producers, supporters and other partners. Following that we will have the presentation of the Museum of the City of Rio de Janeiro: proposals, objectives and guidelines.

2nd day

Structural axis: Curatorship

The objective of these tables will be to broach the challenges imposed by the theoretical aspects that cross the museographic spaces and take the museums as places of knowledge production. Challenges which are implied mainly in the curatorial and conceptual aspects of the museums that spread to other activities of the museums.

3rd day

Axis of work: Collection

The processes of archiving, discarding, assembly and exposition, regulation and copyright registers, the new technologies and other subjects that seek to reflect about the current challenges in collection politics of a museum.

4th day

Axis of work: Public

Starting from the questioning of what is “public”, who is this “public” and of how to make an exposition “public”, these tables will broach the diverse dynamics created to establish the contact and the exchange between the Museum and its public. Beyond the central activities of a museum, other dynamics can be created to extend this exchange, such as: guided visits, educative projects, complementary lectures, etc., beyond partnerships, conventions and interchanges.

Accomplishment: City hall of the City of Rio De Janeiro/City Department of Culture. Coordination of Museums, Cultural Centers and Visual Arts/Management of Museums

Support : A net of supporters formed by hotels, bars and restaurants is being formed.

National cooperation : ICOM-BR IBRAM; State secretariat of Culture of Rio De Janeiro; State supervision of Museums; ABM; COREM; National museum/UFRJ; COPPE/UFRJ; PPCIS/UERJ; PACC/UFRJ; amongst others.

International cooperation: ICOM - International Council of Museums CAMOC - International Committee of Museums of Cities. An international cooperation of the ICOM - International Council of Museums - and the Brazilian Committee will be configured by means of the thematic International Committee on Museums of Cities - CAMOC - that in preliminary consultations is willing to contribute with the *Meeting* bringing a qualified repertoire of international experiences, presented and shared by specialists of interdisciplinary formation. These supports had already been offered and articulated during the stage of elaboration of the project. Other supports and contributions could be conquered opportunely, involving other institutions related, national and international.

2) PLANNED/PROPOSED PUBLICATIONS

TITLE	<p>1. CAMOCnews . CAMOC will continue the publication of its e-Newsletter. The first issue of January 2012 is already published (see January issue as a separate attachment)</p> <p>2. E-publications CAMOC’s Executive Board are intent on setting up a refereed on-line series of publications devoted to CAMOC’s role as a forum for museums about cities. The first publication will be based on a selection of presentations from our conferences in Istanbul, Shanghai and Berlin. The themes of the conference were: Collecting Urban History in the Electronic Age (Istanbul); Better City: the contribution of the city museum to the improvement of the urban condition (Shanghai); Participative Strategies (Berlin). The aim will be to bring each of these themes together to form a coherent whole. Ian Jones is leading an editorial committee comprising Eric Sandweiss, Chet Orloff and Marlen Mouliou. CAMOC’s editorial board aims to set high standards both in content and format. The likely audience will not necessarily be academic, but in the main museum professionals and anyone with an interest in the life and work of cities. We therefore place stress on contributions written</p>
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	clearly and plainly, with a broad appeal, flair and imagination.
DATE	<p>1. CAMOCnews is published quarterly: January, April, July, October</p> <p>2. E-publications Deadline for submission of papers is in early April 2012; the publication is expected to be ready in September 2012, before the next annual meeting of the Committee</p>
PUBLISHING LANGUAGE	English
ELECTRONIC VERSION	YES
EXPECTED NUMBER OF PRINTED COPIES	<p>1. CAMOCnews is produced in electronic format and are available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on line on CAMOC's website (http://camoc.icom.museum/) • on-line on ICOM's website on the publications database (http://icom.museum/what-we-do/resources/publications-database.html) • It is also distributed via email to a) CAMOC's members; b) ICOM-L list; c) other museum professionals, architects, academics, students interested in CAMOC's work <p>2. E-publication will also be made available in a similar way</p>

3) SCHEDULED TRAINING	
DATE	
LOCATION (CITY AND COUNTRY)	
HOST INSTITUTION OR ORGANISATION (<i>if applicable</i>)	
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS - ICOM - NON-ICOM	

PLANNED THEMES	
EXPECTED PARTICIPATION OF OTHER ICOM COMMITTEES	
PROFILE OF THE TRAINERS	

4) PLANNED RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- CAMOC's database project** will develop fully and get implemented in 2012. Within the first half of the year, we plan i) the completion of the pilot assessment phase, ii) the graphic design and construction of the electronic database as well as iii) the call for attention on behalf of city museums around the world regarding the existence of the database and their encouragement to be part of it.
- Rehabilitation of the CAMOC website.** We envisage that the new design will be accompanied with a newer server technology.
- CAMOC's participation as "Associate organization" in the Research Project MENS, Museums & New Societies: Cities, Migrations, Dialogue,** to be submitted under the call for proposals FIRB 2012 managed by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research., under the scientific responsibility of Dr. Francesca Lanz. ICOM's Director General, Mr. Julien Anfruns signed on 20th February 2012 a Letter of Intent, on CAMOC's behalf, as legal representative of ICOM to collaborate with the Politecnico di Milano. The project, if funded, will last three years and will be conducted under the scientific guidance of Dr. Francesca Lanz, as responsible for the Research Unit of the Politecnico di Milano, Department of Architectural Design.

The aims of this research project is to investigate the role of civic museums in promoting intercultural dialogue and supporting the development of multiethnic societies and the interactions between new shifting identities. The project co-ordinators aim to strengthen its effectiveness through cooperation with study centres and institutions that have already important experience on this topic, such as CAMOC. Other proposed Partners for the project are:

- **(ICCHS), Newcastle University / Rhiannon Mason**, Senior Lecturer in Museum, Gallery, and Heritage Studies and current Director of the International Centre for Cultural and Heritage Studies (ICCHS), Newcastle University.
- **Museum Studies, University of Leicester / Richard Sandell**, Researching museums' engagement with human rights and social justice. Head of Museum Studies, University of

Leicester.

- **metaLAB, Harvard / Jeffrey Schnapp**, Faculty co-director of the Berkman Center for Internet and Society, he is Professor of Romance Languages & Literature and also on the teaching faculty in the Department of Architecture at Harvard's Graduate School of Design. He is the faculty director of metaLAB at Harvard.
- **PhD School "Museo e discipline del progetto". Raimonda Riccini** Full Professor at Università IUAV di Venezia / PhD School "Museo e discipline del progetto".
- **Finn Werne**, Full Professor at LTH – Lund University, Faculty of Architecture/Urban Studies.
- **Giovanni Pinna**, Professor in Paleontology and a museologist, editor and director of the six-monthly journal *Nuova Museologia*, member of International Council of Museums (ICOM).
- **Filippo De Pieri**, Researcher at Politecnico di Torino, DAD Department of Architecture and Design – Urban History, History of Architecture.

According to the prompters and co-ordinators of the research project, its main results will be knowledge advancement in the field and the identification of features, potentialities and possible evolution of Italian civic and city museums in relation with Italian peculiarities, European trends and current social demands. The project foresees the following outcomes:

- A web site which will be set up at the beginning of the project and implemented during its lifelong, meant as a critical platform for exchanging and disseminating the project results.
- Realization of some pilot projects into Italian museums.
- Scientific publications collecting the project findings and organization of an International Conference on the field involving experts, practitioners and network members;
- Creation of a permanent research laboratory for the study of museums and contemporary society at the Politecnico di Milano. Following the Europe's note which points out that "infrastructures in the socio-economic sciences and humanities are still underdeveloped, but may be pre-conditions for the successful undertaking of research" (from the report of the Horizon 2020 thematic workshops *towards more inclusive, innovative and secure societies challenge*) the project MENS foresees as transversal parallel project task the creation of a permanent research laboratory at Politecnico di Milano. The Laboratory could become a reference point for some ongoing research projects, programmes, national and international relations. This structure could act as incubator and catalyst for the promotion of similar researches and a benchmark for young researchers, as well as enhance the cooperation and the networking with other research centres and scholars around Europe and beyond. It is possible to find similar structures in all major international Universities, such as ICCHS at New Castle University; the metaLAB at Harvard University or the Research Centre for Museums and Galleries (RCMG) of the Leicester University and the CHIMERA Project of the University of Manchester.

According to Ms Lanz "thinking about a project on 'city museums' without involving CAMOC doesn't really make sense today and deprive the project of any possibility to have a real impact".

Thus, CAMOC's position and role in the success of the project is expected to be really significant.

5) PLANNED ACTIONS ALLOWING AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH

Activities that CAMOC planned for 2012 reveal a fundamental awareness for an inclusive approach like the ones accomplished in 2011. CAMOC likes to seize upon opportunities for partnerships with other ICs, other museums and various social and urban actors. The Rio International Meeting Museums of Cities is one such undertaking. It is meant as an on going cooperation the details of which will become clear during the initial meeting in June. CAMOC will be collaborating with urban governing bodies and institutions from Rio as well as with a number of city museums from around the world.

The same is true of CAMOC's major project for 2012, the City Museums Database, both regarding the participative process of developing it together with pilot museums and concerning the products it will yield for museums around the world ranging from knowledge about the field and about partnership opportunities.

The MENS research project in which CAMOC is an associate partner not only embraces national and international collaborations with universities and scholars but also chooses as its subject matter the investigation of the role of civic museums in promoting intercultural dialogue and support for the development of multi-ethnic societies and the interactions between new shifting identities.

Last but not least, funding of up to €500 may be available from CAMOC to assist one or two young (under 35) participants preferably from developing countries to attend its Annual Conferences.

6) OTHER PLANNED ACTIVITIES