‘Land of Water’ is the leading world heritage theme in The Netherlands. ICOMOS-Netherlands recently adopted this theme as its main focus for the coming years. An important reason for this adoption is the increasing challenge water poses to heritage management worldwide, due to climate change. Raising awareness is of this challenge is an important step in protecting deltas and their historic values. The role and position of heritage can be an inspiring point of departure in this process. ICOMOS-Netherlands therefore committed herself to organizing the conference ‘Protecting deltas, heritage helps!’ from 23-28 September 2013 in Amsterdam, the year in which the Amsterdam World Heritage Site celebrates its 400th anniversary.

In the coming decades, the impact of climate change will threaten low-lying delta areas and cities. Historically established as trade centers at river mouths, delta cities may experience severe flooding as a result of rising sea levels, heavy rainfall and land subsidence. The historical origins of these cities pose immense problems in keeping them a safe place to live. But at the same time historical features may offer development opportunities. Heritage can serve as an asset in creating livable cities. Heritage can be a trigger for delta development because of its economic value, for example due to the UNESCO world heritage status. Heritage has the ability to inspire urban planners in defining protective strategies. Water management and heritage management thus have a common interest and mutual goal. As climate change proceeds the need for an integrated approach grows.

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee subscribed the importance of anticipating on the impacts of climate change related to world heritage sites already in 2005, which resulted in a report, a strategy and a policy document. The 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention is developed as an instrument to protect natural and cultural heritage of outstanding universal value.
It also aims at encouraging cooperation for the conservation of heritage on a global scale. Cooperation will be of great importance in protecting deltas and their outstanding historic values against the impending water threat. Water managers and urban planners will have to work together with heritage professionals to inspire each other creating effective adaptation measures that respect the unique quality of specific delta areas.

Cooperation also includes the exchange of knowledge on delta protection strategies, which are often based on historical methods. Each delta area has its own tradition in strategies to reduce vulnerability to water hazard. The Netherlands focus traditionally on prevention, which resulted in the development of dikes and dams. Other countries focus more on damage reduction, damage reaction or damage anticipation. This makes knowledge exchange and the exchange of the origin of protection strategies an interesting topic. What can we learn from the history of places, what can we learn from the spirit of places, what can we learn from patterns that resulted in places of outstanding universal value: all relevant questions to be answered while selecting appropriate adaptation measures.

**AIM**

The conference aims at raising awareness of the mutual interests of water management and heritage management in creating future perspectives for the urbanizing deltas of the world. Water management and heritage professionals will be connected to discuss the water challenges and the contribution of heritage in meeting this challenge.
The conference programme focuses on interaction between local planners and representatives and heritage and water management professionals. Inspirational lectures will ignite the creative mind for round table sessions on 4 themes:

- **WATER POLICIES AND MONUMENTS AND SITES**
- **CITIES: INTEGRATING HERITAGE INTO PROTECTING DELTA CITIES**
- **COASTAL AREAS: COASTAL AREA PLANNING AND HERITAGE AS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION**
- **CAPACITY BUILDING: KNOWLEDGE GAPS AND RESEARCH AGENDA ON WATER AND HERITAGE**

Within the themes the discussion during the conference will focus on:

- **HERITAGE AS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION**
- **CHANGING POSITION OF HERITAGE IN URBANIZING DELTAS FACING WATER THREAT**
- **ECONOMIC VALUE OF HERITAGE: A DRIVER FOR DELTA PROTECTION**
CONFERECNE OUTPUT AND FOLLOW UP

The conference will result in a statement to be forwarded to the 7th World Water Forum in Korea in 2015 and the ICOMOS General Assembly and Scientific Symposium in Florence, 2014.
MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

PRE-CONFERENCE

Location: Sewerage Pumping Station Waternet/Stadsherstel, Zeeburgerdijk 52, Amsterdam
Chair: Diederik Six, president ICOMOS Netherlands

19.00 // Welcoming ceremony
Welcome By Diederik Six, president ICOMOS Netherlands and Erik Luijendijk, initiator ICOMOS Netherlands

20.30 // Drinks and snacks
Introducing Water Management In Amsterdam // Roelof Kruize, CEO Waternet
Introducing Amsterdam World Heritage Site & Amsterdam Canals 400th Anniversary // Onno Meerstadt, CEO Stadsherstel Amsterdam NV

TUESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

PRE-CONFERENCE

LOCATION: DELTA WORKS
CHAIR: HENK VAN SCHAIK

10.00 // Excursion
DELTA WORKS, ZEELAND // PROVINCE OF ZEELAND & RIJKSWATERSTAAT MINISTRY OF INFRA-STRUCTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT
HISTORY OF DUTCH WINDMILLS FROM A WATER MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVE // PROFESSOR JOS BAZELMANS, CULTURAL HERITAGE AGENCY / VU UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM
Location: De Duij, Prinsegracht 756, Amsterdam
Chair: Diederik Six, President ICOMOS Netherlands

09.00 // Official opening
Gustavo Araoz, President ICOMOS

09.15 // Addressing the conference theme in the historic and economic context
Valuing Heritage: Water related impacts in times of change
Anthony G. Bigio, The World Bank

09.45 // International vision on water and heritage: water perspectives
Professor András Szöllösi-Nagy, Rector UNESCO-IHE

10.15 // International vision on water and heritage: heritage perspectives
Anne Lemaistre, UNESCO

10.45 // Coffee break

11.15 // Introducing themes: pitches and panel discussion

Theme A (Main Theme) // Water Policies and Monuments and Sites // Ellen Vreengoer, Cultural Heritage Agency, The Netherlands

Theme B // Cities: Integrating Heritage Into Protecting Delta Cities // Arno Molenaar, C40, Rotterdam

Theme C // Coastal Areas: Coastal Area Planning and Heritage As a Source of Inspiration // Bert Toussaint, Rijkswaterstaat, Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment

Theme D // Capacity Building: Knowledge Gaps and Research Agenda on Water and Heritage // Rohit Jigyasu, ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Risk Preparedness (ICORP)
### 12.30 // Lunch

### 14.00 // Round table session (in plenary)

**Chair:** TRACY METZ, MEMBER DELTA COMMISSION, JOURNALIST/AUTHOR

**Referees:** PROFESSOR JOS BAZELMANS, CULTURAL HERITAGE AGENCY/VU UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM / PROFESSOR ANDRÁS SZÖLLŐSI-NAGY, UNESCO-IHE

**Theme A**

WATER POLICIES AND MONUMENTS AND SITES: VALUE AND PROCESS RECOGNITION //

- FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AND THE HISTORIC URBAN CONTEXT, HAMBURG // HEINZ GLINDEMANN, FORMER HEAD RIVER DEPARTMENT HAMBURG PORT AUTHORITY
- FLOOD DEFENCE AND THE VENICE URBAN HISTORY // PROFESSOR FRANCESCO CALZOLAIO, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA COLLEGE OF DESIGN

### 15.00 // Short break

- EGYPT, ALEXANDRIA (TO BE CONFIRMED)
- EUNG PARK, WATER AMBASSADOR OF KOREA

### 16.00 // Closing

### 17.30 // Drinks and snacks

LOCATION: WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE, THE NETHERLANDS DE BAEL, VJZELSTRAAT 32, AMSTERDAM // WORD OF WELCOME BY HARRY BRINKMAN, PRESIDENT UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CITIES // ESTHER AGRICOLA, MANAGING DIRECTOR MONUMENTS & ARCHEOLOGY DEPARTMENT CITY OF AMSTERDAM
THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

10.00 // Round table session (3 locations)

THEME B - CITIES: INTEGRATING HERITAGE INTO PROTECTING DELTA CITIES
LOCATION: DE DUIF, PRINSENGRACHT 756, AMSTERDAM
COORDINATION: ARNOUD MOLENAAR, C40 CITIES CLIMATE LEADERSHIP GROUP
SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR: PROFESSOR JOKS JANSSEN, WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY/NETWORK HERITAGE AND SPACE
Introductory lecture: Heritage, flood risk and sustainability
By professor Jan Rotmans, Erasmus University Rotterdam
Round table session themes:
  * Heritage as a source of inspiration for climate adaptation
  * Changing position of heritage in urbanizing deltas facing water threat
  * Economic value of heritage: a driver for delta protection
Participating cities: Recife, Hamburg, Jakarta, Amsterdam, Dordrecht

THEME C - COASTAL AREAS: COASTAL AREA PLANNING AND HERITAGE AS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION
LOCATION: AMSTELKERK, AMSTELVELD 10, AMSTERDAM
COORDINATION: BERT TOUSSAINT, RIJKSWATERSTAAT, MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT
SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR: PROFESSOR ERIK LUITEN, DELFT UNIVERSITY/NETWORK HERITAGE AND SPACE
Introductory lecture: Heritage and water management:
A tradition by Ronald Waterman
Round table session themes:
  * Heritage as a source of inspiration for climate adaptation
  * Changing position of heritage in urbanizing deltas facing water threat
  * Economic value of heritage: a driver for delta protection
Participants: Cambodia, Italy, Korea, The Netherlands

THEME D - CAPACITY BUILDING: KNOWLEDGE GAPS AND RESEARCH AGENDA ON WATER AND HERITAGE
LOCATION: DE KROMHOUTWERF, HOOGTE KADIJK 147, AMSTERDAM
COORDINATION: PROFESSOR ROHIT JIGYASU, ICOMOS-ICORP
SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR: PROFESSOR HANS RENES, UTRECHT UNIVERSITY/VU UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM/NETWORK HERITAGE AND SPACE
Introductory lecture: Laszlo Hayde UNESCO-IHE
Round table session, themes:
  * Heritage as a source of inspiration for climate adaptation
  * Changing position of heritage in urbanizing deltas facing water threat
  * Economic value of heritage: a driver for delta protection
Participating organisations: UNESCO-IHE, Utrecht University, VU University Of Amsterdam, Cultural Heritage Agency, RMIT, IWHA, ICID, IWA
13.00 // Lunch

16.00 // Canal tour Amsterdam UNESCO World Heritage Site
LOCATION: TO BE ANNOUNCED
ORGANISED BY THE MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGY DEPARTMENT CITY OF AMSTERDAM

18.00 // Dinner
LOCATION: RIJKSMUSEUM, JAN LUIKJENSTRAAT 1, AMSTERDAM
WITH THE KIND SUPPORT OF THE RIJKSMUSEUM

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

LOCATION: FELIX MERITIS, KEIZERSGRACHT 324, AMSTERDAM
CHAIR: PROFESSOR WILLEM WILLEMS, ICOMOS NETHERLANDS/LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

13.00 // Closing speech
SUSTAINABILITY AND GLOBAL CHANGE: REFLECTION, POLITICAL ECONOMY // TO BE ANNOUNCED

14.00 // Presentation of Statement of Amsterdam
CEES VAN ’T VEEN, CULTURAL HERITAGE AGENCY, THE NETHERLANDS,
FRANCIS KETTENIS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE NETHERLANDS
ROHIT JIGYASU, PRESIDENT ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE RISK PREPAREDNESS
ROBERT QUARLES VAN UFFORD, NETHERLANDS NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO

15.00 // Closing ceremony
CAROLIEN GEHRELS, DEPUTY MAYOR OF AMSTERDAM

SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

POST-CONFERENCE

LOCATION: BEEMSTERPOLDER AND DEFENSE LINE OF AMSTERDAM
CHAIRMAN: HARRY BRINKMAN, MAYOR OF BEEMSTER/PRESIDENT OWHC

10.00 // Excursion
WELCOME AT FORT SPIJKERBOOR, DEFENSE LINE OF AMSTERDAM, UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE
// TOUR ALONG DEFENSE LINE OF AMSTERDAM AND BEEMSTER POLDER, UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES // CLOSING PRESENTATION BEEMSTER POLDER, UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE AT FORT NEKKERWEG
PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS


Cover photo Amsterdam from the air: Cris Toala Olivares
Photo back: Woudagemaal (D.F. Wouda Steam Pumping Station)