



Blue Shield Founding Conference 7th, 8th and 9th of December 2008 The Hague, The Netherlands

Oslo/Amsterdam October 15th 2008

The Founding Conference of the Association of National Committees of the Blue Shield (ANCBS) will be held in The Hague on the 7th, 8th and 9th of December 2008. We hope to welcome representatives of many like-minded or related organizations at what we think will be an important step in the effort to provide coordinated help to endangered cultural heritage worldwide.

Introduction:

In 2006, the 10th year of Blue Shield's existence, Blue Shield organized a conference for representatives of national Blue Shield committees and related organizations. Its aim: the strengthening of the network between the national Blue Shield Committees on the one hand and between Blue Shield and other cultural emergency assistance organizations on the other. The outcome of this conference, with full agreement of the International Committee of Blue Shield (ICBS), was an accord (The Hague Accord 2006) on the founding of a coordination centre for the Blue Shield organization and a closer cooperation between the national committees.

Since then an international working group consisting of representatives of several national committees are working on the founding of a new association within the Blue Shield organization and the preparation of a coordination centre. Their preparations and suggestions will be presented to all national committees and interested parties during this first General Conference at the end of 2008.

Objectives:

The first day: The founding of ANCBS, with the election of the ANCBS board and the official start of the coordination centre in The Hague, generously supported by this city. The agreement between the national committees (and those under construction) on a strategic plan and future activities in which the coordination centre will stimulate joint operations and coordinates national initiatives.

The second day: Strengthening the network between Blue Shield and other cultural emergency assistance organizations and institutions and authorities that are responsible for cultural heritage.

The third day: Improving the knowledge and skills of the conference participants during a variety of training courses in concurrent sessions. The courses will benefit from the wide range of experience of the participants, thus giving everybody the opportunity to become more effective in meeting requests for help with adequate responses.

Participants:

The first day: Members of all Blue Shield committees, (established committees and committees under construction). All members of the ICBS board and members of the international working group. Note that the election will be among the established National Committees - each committee has only one vote. Observers are welcome.

The second day: Members of all Blue Shield committees, (established committees and committees under construction). All members of the ICBS board and members of the international working group.,

representatives of other cultural emergency assistance organizations and institutions and authorities that are responsible for cultural heritage.

The third day: All members of Blue Shield committees (established committees and committees under construction). All members of the ICBS board, members of the international working group, representatives of other cultural emergency assistance organizations, and institutions and authorities that are responsible for cultural heritage. Due to possible practical limitations the amount of participants might be limited to a certain extent. Members of established Blue Shield committees will have priority.

Practicalities and money:

The conference will take place at The Royal Library and the National Archive in The Hague. The office staff can help you to make reservations at nearby hotels at moderate rates. Participants are asked for a Conference fee of 50 Euro per day for the 8th and 9th of December, payable in cash at registration. Updated information will be available at <http://infocenter2.ancbs.org>



PROGRAMME

General Conference of the Association of National Committees of the Blue Shield

Programme Day 1

Sunday December 7th Founding of ANCBS

(Closed session with national committees and ICBS members only)

12.00 – 13.30 hrs	Arrival and Lunch (supported by ICOMOS)
13.30 - 13.45 hrs	Opening: Welcome and introduction Mr. Leif Pareli, President of the ANCBS International Working Group
13.45 – 14.15 hrs	Founding of ANCBS (Vote on founding statutes)
14.15 – 15.15 hrs	Working programme Actions for the coming years (Training, emergency programmes, website content)
15.15 – 16.00 hrs	Financial aspects (Fundraising & Budget)
16.00 – 17.00 hrs	Election of the board and presentation of the staff
17.00 – 20.00 hrs	Drinks and tapas buffet (supported by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science) Words of welcome by Ms. Jetta Klijnsma, Deputy Mayor of The Hague, responsible for Culture and Finance.

Location: *The Hague Historic Museum*

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Programme Day 2 **Open to Blue Shield representatives, interested individuals and representatives of heritage organizations and related relief organizations.**

Monday December 8th	Future plans and recent emergency situations and projects Chair of the day: Mr. Richard Hermans, Director of The Netherlands Institute for Heritage (Erfgoed Nederland)
10.00 – 11.00 hrs	Registration & coffee at the Royal Library
11.00 – 11.10 hrs	Outline of the Conference Programme By Mr. Richard Hermans
	Words of welcome
11.10 – 11.20 hrs	Mr. Martin Bossenbroek, Director Collections & Service, Royal Library
11.20 – 11.30 hrs	The newly elected president of ANCBS
11.30 – 11.40 hrs	Mr. Joan van Albada, President International Committee of the Blue Shield
11.50 – 12.30 hrs	Blue Shield – Developments within the organisation and results of the meeting of the previous day By Mr. Leif Pareli, chairman international working group of ANCBS
12.30 – 13.30 hrs	Lunch (supported by the Dutch National UNESCO committee)
	Future cooperation and actions
13.30 – 13.50 hrs	Awareness raising Possible future cooperation with UNESCO-NL By Carol Westrik of UNESCO-NL & Marjan Otter secretary international working group of ANCBS
13.50 – 14.10 hrs	Training Possible future cooperation with the Nationaal Archief By Gerrit de Bruin, Senior Consultant Conservation of the National Archive and the Royal Library.
	Update on recent emergency situations and emergency response actions
14.10 – 14.40 hrs	Lessons learned: after the tsunami By Ms. Laretna Adhishakti, Blue Shield Indonesia (NC under construction), Chairperson of the Center of Heritage Conservation Univ. Yogyakarta & Ms. Hasti Tarekat, member of board of directors and representative of the Indonesia Heritage Trust.
14.40 – 15.00 hrs	Update on emergency situations in Georgia by Mr. Thomas Schuler, ICOM Disaster Relief for Museums Task Force
15.00 – 15.30 hrs.	Tea break
	Progress reports: Successful Blue Shield actions and update on activities
15.30 – 17.00 hrs	France, Australia, Russian Republic, The Netherlands, ... (about 15 minutes for every committee who likes to give a presentation)
17.00 – 17.30 hrs	Conclusion and closing session
17.30 – 19.30 hrs	Drinks supported by Erfgoed Nederland Location: <i>Royal Library</i>

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Programme Day 3 Open to Blue Shield representatives, interested individuals and representatives of heritage organizations and related relief organizations.

Tuesday December 9th	Concurrent sessions of training courses
09.00 - 09.30 hrs	Registration & coffee at The National Archive
09.30 – 9.40 hrs	Words of welcome and outline of the Conference Programme by Chair of the day: the new President of ANCBS
09.40 – 12.30 hrs	Training sessions
12.30 – 13.30 hrs	Lunch supported by ICOM Netherlands
13.30 – 16.30 hrs	Training sessions
16.30 – 17.00 hrs	Conclusions, recommendations and farewell session

Training sessions:

Programme; parallel sessions of courses and workshops in a rotating system (change after lunch break). Every participant can participate in two of the six workshops, one before and one after lunch.

1. Workshop: Providing cultural heritage training to the military

Tips and best practices by Ms. Barbara Roberts and Ms. Cori Wegener (President, BS-USA) Lieutenant Colonel Alan Farrier (U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command) and Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Varhola (352d Civil Affairs Command)

2. Training: Teambuilding - the critical success factor.

By Ms. Foekje Boersma (Getty Conservation Institute) & Ms. Aparna Tandon (ICCRUM)

3. Workshop: What to expect from the military

The relationship between civil society and the military is not always a happy one. Over the last 20 years the nature of the conflicts changed dramatically, causing the military to enter the field of development aid and diplomacy. What is the new role of the military forces, what can a National Committee of Blue Shield or the ANCBS expect from them in times of a disaster. By Lieutenant Colonel (R) drs René Teijgeler, chairman ICIMIC Bat (NLD A)

4. Training: Preparing your cultural institution for emergencies

By Ms. Marja Peek of The Netherlands Institute for Cultural Heritage helps to improve your risk preparedness.

5. Workshop: Blue Shield aims & objectives of the ANCBS organization

By Mr. Leif Pareli, chair of the international working group. (Especially interesting for the attendants who did not attend the program on the 8th of December).

6. Workshop: Recent developments in cultural legislation

By Mr. Dick Jackson, Special Assistant for Law of War Matters U.S. Army, Office of the Judge Advocate General. Mr. Jackson will give a presentation on the legal aspects of Cultural Property protection focusing on the US perspective, as the US Senate just recently gave its advice and consent as to ratification of the 1954 Hague Convention.

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By Ms. Marja van Heese, Inspector of The State Inspectorate for Cultural Heritage with a presentation on the implementation of The Hague Convention and its Protocols in The Netherlands.

Founding Conference of the Association of National Committees of the Blue Shield - ANCBS

Date: 7th, 8th and 9th December 2008

Location: Royal Library (7th & 8th) & National Archive (9th) The Hague

Information: <http://infocenter2.ancbs.org> or www.ancbs.org

Subscription: conference@blueshield.nl

Costs: Day 1: free entrance
 Day 2: 50 euro (for all participants including BS members)
 Day 3: 50 euro (for all participants including BS members)

You are kindly requested to respond before the 18th of November. You can answer either by post to the address below or by e-mail to contact@ancbs.org

Postal address: ANCBS International working group

ANCBS Office, Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

(www.ancbs.org)

We would appreciate your help in distributing this invitation to individuals and institutions that are interested in or should be aware of the Blue Shield mission.