



The Government of Sint Maarten  
in collaboration with



Cluster Office  
for the Caribbean



Rijkdienst Caribisch Nederland  
OCW

GERDA HENKEL STIFTUNG

REGIONAL APPROACHES TO

# Disaster Recovery and Heritage Preservation

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, ST. MAARTEN

30 JULY –  
3 AUG  
2018





# Opening Ceremony

Monday 30th July 2018

9:00- 9:10

## **Welcome Remarks**

Mrs. Rita Tjien Fooh

President

Caribbean Branch of the International Council  
on Archives (CARBICA)  
and Chair of Proceedings

9:10- 9:20

## **Message from the International Council on Archives (ICA)**

Anthea Seles, Secretary-General

ICA

9:20- 9:30

## **Message from UNESCO**

Ms. Katherine Grigsby

Director

UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean

9:30- 9:45

## **Opening Remarks**

Honourable Mrs. Leona Romeo Marlin

Prime Minister of Sint Maarten

9:45- 10:10

## **Keynote Address**

Her Excellency, Ambassador Manorma P. Soeknandan PhD.

Deputy Secretary General- CARICOM Secretariat

**REFRESHMENTS**

# Plenary Session

Monday 30th July 2018

10:30am- 12:15pm

## Session 1

### **Regional Responses / Challenges to the Protection of Heritage 2017**

Chair: Avril Belfon, Vice President, Caribbean Branch of the International Council on Archives (CARBICA) and Government Archivist, Trinidad and Tobago

#### **Civil Authority Response**

Representative  
Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)

Representative  
Association of National Committees of the Blue Shield, Curacao

#### **Cultural Organizations' Response**

David Brown  
Global Facilitator to the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Yuri Peshkov  
Programme Specialist for Culture  
UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean

Samuel Franco Arce  
Chair  
International Council on Museums (ICOM)  
Latin America and the Caribbean

12:15 - 1:15pm

**LUNCH BREAK**

1:15 - 3:00pm

## Session 2

### **Caribbean Responses / Challenges to the Protection of Heritage 2017**

Chair: Stanley Griffin, Executive Council Member, CARBICA

#### **Case studies of Caribbean Island States:**

**British Virgin Islands:** Christopher Varlack,  
Chief of Archives and Records

**Puerto Rico:** Carmen Marla López, Director, Built Heritage  
Conservation Programme, Institute of Puerto Rican Culture

**Sint Maarten:** Alfonso Blijden, Application Manager,  
Department of Records and Information Management

**Saint Martin:** Stéphanie Dargaud, Heritage Curator and  
Director of Territorial Archives and Heritage, Collectivité de Saint-  
Martin, Archives territoriales de Saint-Martin

**Dominica:** Vernanda Raymond, Chief Librarian,  
National Library

#### **Questions and Answers**

3:00-3:15pm

#### **COFFEE BREAK**

3:15-3:45pm

## Session 3

### **Conservation Case Study:**

#### **CARBICA's First Aid Programme: Observations on Visits to St. Maarten, British Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of Dominica, April 2018.**

Presented by Max Scriwanek on behalf of  
Valérie Martens-Monier, Conservator, National Archives,  
Curacao.

#### **CARBICA's Proposed Strategy**

Avril Belfon, Vice President, CARBICA and Government Archivist,  
Trinidad and Tobago

3:45-4:30pm

#### **Questions and Answers**

7:00-9:00pm

#### **Cocktail Reception co-hosted by the Government of St. Maartin and CARBICA**

# Workshop Sessions

**TUESDAY 31 JULY 2018**

9:00am to 12 noon

## **Session 4**

**Initial damage and risk assessment for cultural heritage custodians; salvage priorities; response techniques; recovery and resources.**

Facilitators:

-Dr. Emilie G. Leumas,

ICA Expert Group on Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness

-Margaret Crockett, ICA Training Officer

12:00 - 1:00pm

**LUNCH BREAK**

1:00-4:00pm

## **Session 5**

**Advance preparation - disaster readiness and supplies with a focus on preventive measures (packing/storage (etc.) for libraries, archives, museums; monuments and sites.**

Facilitators:

Dr. Emilie G. Leumas and Margaret Crockett

**WEDNESDAY 1 AUGUST 2018**

9:00am to 12 noon

## **Session 6**

**Post disaster first aid to cultural heritage custodians: mitigation/stabilization measures**

Facilitator:

Samuel Franco Arce

Chair, ICOM Latin America and the Caribbean

12:00 - 1:00pm

**LUNCH BREAK**

## WEDNESDAY 1 AUGUST 2018 cont'd

1:00pm - 4:00pm

### Session 7

**Putting it all together: Disaster Management Planning for cultural institutions; development of disaster management plans.**

Facilitators:

Dr. Emilie G. Leumas, Margaret Crockett and Samuel Franco Arce

## THURSDAY 2 AUGUST 2018

9:00am to 12 noon

### Session 8

**Presentation of models of coordinated approaches to emergency planning**

Chair: Margaret Crockett

-Dr. Emilie G. Leumas

-Max Scriwanek

-Gerrit de Bruin, Conservator, National Archives, Netherlands

12:00 - 1:00pm

**LUNCH BREAK**

1:00-4:00pm

### Session 9

**Development of a Memorandum of Agreement between the parties taking part in the Caribbean Heritage Protection Network and Selection of a Working Group**

Chair: Rita Tjien Foooh, President, and

Avril Belfon, Vice President, CARBICA

Assisted by Dr. Emilie G. Leumas, Max Scriwanek and Gerrit de Bruin

4:00-4:30pm

**Closing Ceremony and Distribution of Certificates**

# Workshop Facilitators

## Samuel Franco Arce

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Samuel Franco Arce is a sound recording engineer and videographer born in Guatemala, with professional experience in the commercial music recording industry. Since 1987 he has been the Director of Casa K'ojom, an Audio Visual Documentation Center and Museum about Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Mayan communities of Guatemala and other indigenous communities around the world. He has been a consultant and trainer on sound, field recording and intangible cultural heritage modules for ICCROM's training course on "Safeguarding Sound and Images Collection" in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. He has participated in ICCROM's "First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis" 2015 course, and the follow

up certification course "Leadership in First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis" in 2018. Since 2016, he has been providing training on Disaster Risk Management to professionals from museums, archaeological sites, archives, libraries, municipalities, Civil Protection Institutions and schools in Guatemala, El Salvador and Costa Rica. He has been a member of ICOM since 2014, having served as Vice-Chair and Chair of ICOM Guatemala. He is the current Chair of the ICOM LAC Regional Alliance, and member of the EULAC Museums Project Steering Committee. He is also a member of the Disaster Risk Management Standing Committee of ICOM, and Conveyor of Blue Shield Guatemala.

## Margaret Crockett

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Margaret Crockett is an archives and records management consultant based in the UK. She is the International Council on Archives Training Officer on a two day a week basis and is currently working on an online learning catalogue for members and other recordkeepers around the world. Margaret has expertise in vital record protection, emergency planning and disaster recovery for archives, both on a practical level and as a trainer. Margaret

held the office of Deputy Secretary General at ICA for 8 years, with her main role being delivery of the professional programme including the content for annual conference and congress. Margaret has lived and worked in the US, Hungary, Bosnia and Germany and when not working for ICA she delivers training and a wide range of archives and records management projects in the UK and overseas.



## Gerrit de Bruin

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Gerrit de Bruin, educated in paper and book conservation, works in Paper Conservation / restoration at the National Archives of the Netherlands. He worked as a conservator, Head of the Restoration Department, and Head of the International Conservation Centre of the National Archives. From 2012 - 2016 he was project coordinator of the Archives Portal Europe Network of Excellence (APEX). He is co-author of different

publications. Currently, he is involved in conservation training in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. He is a member of the board of Blue Shield Committee Netherlands and has experience with disaster preparedness. Additionally, he is Senior Advisor Conservation at the National Archives and is project leader of the DTR Notarial project.

## Emilie Gagnet Leumas

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Emilie Gagnet Leumas, PhD, CA, CRM is the chair of the International Council on Archives' Expert Group on Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness. She is the director of Archives and Records at the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Leumas has received national and international recognition for her efforts in disaster recovery after Hurricane Katrina. She has participated in recovery efforts after local and regional disasters,

especially those related to flooding in south Louisiana. She has presented conference papers, facilitated workshops and guest lectured at local, state, national and international meetings on subjects including disaster recovery, risk management, salvaging sacred objects, archives management, and records management.

## Maximiliaan Scriwanek

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Maximiliaan Scriwanek entered the Archives world investigating archives as a Historian. He studied at the Archives school in the Netherlands. From 1996 on he worked as Policy Advisor at the National Archives of the Netherlands Antilles / Curacao. He designed the new Archives law which passed legislation in 2008 and worked on the project to realize a new repository (completed in 2011). He was Director of the "Service Center of the National Archives" for 10 years. Since 2015 he is the Director of the National Archives

of Curacao. He launched several initiatives: the Archives school in Curacao in 2017 in cooperation with the Intercontinental University of the Caribbean (ICUC); a project for appraisal and transferring of government records to the National Archives; and established a National Committee of the Blue Shield in Curacao. He is a board member of CARBICA since 2014 (Communications Committee - Editor of CARBICA Newsletter).

# Regional Presenters

## Alfonso Blijden

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Employed at the Ministry of General Affairs with the Department of Records and Information Management since 1987. He functioned as Head Archival Officer from 1994 until 2012 when he assumed the position of Application Manager in charge of the digitization

of government documents. He still maintains an active role in the Archives as custodian of the historical section. In 2015 he was appointed as a member of the Memory of the World Regional Committee a position he continues to hold to date.

## David Brown

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David Brown is currently the Senior Research Fellow at the African Caribbean Institute of Jamaica, the Focal Point for Intangible Cultural Heritage in Jamaica. Since 1995 he has conducted extensive research into Jamaican and Caribbean intangible culture, specializing in traditional Jamaican Maroon culture. Consequently, he was selected to be a part of the Technical Committee that authored the 2002 dossier on the 'Musical Heritage of the Moore Town Maroons, Jamaica' which was first inscribed on UNESCO's Masterpiece List and later transferred

to the Representative List. He also recently authored the dossier in support of Jamaica's second element to the Representative List, 'The Reggae Music of Jamaica'. Since 2014, David has served as a Global Facilitator to the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and has conducted workshops to develop capacity to safeguard cultural elements in the Dutch Caribbean and Suriname. He has also conducted consultancies in territories in the Anglophone Caribbean.

## Stéphanie Dargaud

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After having studied art history (Universities François Rabelais, Panthéon-Sorbonne until the doctorate and Ecole du Louvre) and in archival science (University of Versailles Saint-Quentin), she worked more specifically in the fields of archives and documentation at various museums and heritage institutions in Paris, France. Since August 2013, she has been director of the Saint-Martin Territorial Archives and Heritage (FWI),

in which she created the Territorial Archives (opened since December 2014) and trains a team to manage and preserve the archives. Ms. Dargaud is also in charge of implementing policy for the knowledge and enhancement of cultural heritage (architecture, inventory, museum and archaeology).

## Carmen Marla López

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Carmen Marla Lopez is a licensed architect, graduated from Florida A & M University in Tallahassee, in Florida (1992), with a master's degree in historic preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). Currently, she is the Director of the Built Heritage Program of the Puerto Rican Culture Institute (ICP); position held since 2015. Marla's first job experience was working with Escuelas Taller, an international program sponsored by the Government of Spain for the training of young students in the preservation arts and techniques for

the conservation of historic buildings in Puerto Rico. Recently, after hurricanes Irma-Maria struck Puerto Rico, Marla has been the ICP representative in all government committees during the response and recovery phases, and has had the opportunity to work with FEMA, NPS, and Smithsonian personnel deployed to Puerto Rico, among others, in the recovery and rebuilding of Puerto Rico's cultural resources, including ICP's buildings, documents and collections.

## Yuri Peshkov

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Mr. Yuri Peshkov is the Programme Specialist for Culture of the UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office for the Caribbean since March 2016. He worked as the National Programme Specialist of the UNESCO Almaty Cluster Office, being responsible for UNESCO's Culture Programme in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan since 2008. His work mainly focused on promotion of culture for sustainable development and protection of cultural

diversity through implementation of integrated operational and normative projects for preservation of tangible and intangible heritage, promotion of diversity of cultural expressions and intercultural dialogue. Prior to UNESCO he worked as an archaeologist for the Institute of Archaeology and the Central State Museum of Kazakhstan having participated in scientific research projects abroad.

## Vernanda Raymond

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Mrs. Vernanda Raymond is currently the Chief Librarian at the National Library of Dominica. In this position, she oversees operations of public libraries, schools and mobile libraries, community libraries, the National Documentation Centre and government libraries and information

units and the National Archives. Mrs Raymond has overall responsibility for the management and implementation of programmes, services and activities for library and information service units and advises on the growth and advancement and enhancement of information service provision.

## Christopher Varlack

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Christopher Varlack is the Chief Records Management Officer of the Government of the Virgin Islands, having been appointed to the post in 2011. Currently, he is head of the Archives and Records Management

Unit in the Deputy Governor's Office. Additionally, he is a member of the Memory of the World Latin America and the Caribbean (MOWLAC) Committee, as well as the Virgin Islands National Memory of the World Committee.

# Acknowledgements

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