

**THIS VERSION OF THE MINUTES HAS BEEN APPROVED BY EMAIL  
BY EC MEMBERS JUNE 2021**

**INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES  
SECTION ON ARCHIVES AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**26 May 2021, 16:00 Paris time**

***By video conference***

**Present:** Antonio González Quintana (in the chair); Kate Blalack; Jens Boel; Perrine Canavaggio; Vitor Fonseca; Adam Hídestål; Deborah Jenkins; Romain Ledauphin, Christine Martínez; Mariana Nazar; Trudy Peterson; David Sutton.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Lizbeth Barrientos, Blanca Bazaco Palacios and Gustavo Castaner Marquardt.

**2. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting of the previous EC were considered and approved.

**4. SAHR Election wash up: handover date, allocation of roles**

The outcome of the sectional election, which had been circulated to all members, was discussed. It was felt that the EC, which now numbered 16 members, including one Chair, two Vice Chairs, one Treasurer and two Secretaries, had been strengthened. There was some discussion about the validation which followed contested elections. The provisions of the SAHR constitution, which was open, led to inclusivity and co-operation rather than competition. It was also noted that most of the candidates indicated on their nomination papers that they would willingly consider alternative roles if needed.

The committee noted with pleasure that Andreas Nef had agreed to become the new Webmanager. It was AGREED that the Secretary would write to thank Roman Lescano, outgoing Webmanager, for his support of the section for the last two years.

A paper had been prepared, describing the allocation of roles between the two secretaries. This needed fine tuning, but was almost ready. A similar paper should, ideally, be prepared for the two Vice-Chairs.

There followed a discussion on handover dates. The original proposal, that the handover should take place during the Abu Dhabi Congress, no longer stood, as the Congress had been delayed for two years. It was therefore AGREED that the handover date should be 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.

**5. Vision for SAHR 2021-2024**

Jens introduced the paper on the SAHR Vision 2021-2024, which had been circulated ahead of the meeting. It was a 'pragmatic vision paper', not an action paper, which he offered as a 'way of trying to look ahead, a way of setting common objectives for the period 2021-2024 and as a reference text for the section's annual objectives during that period'. The paper was divided into three parts: Advocacy, Archives at Risk and Education.

The EC AGREED that they were comfortable with the overarching structure of the proposal. It was suggested that an introductory part might be added, to include the fundamental principles on which the sectional vision was built, such as co-operation, inclusivity and solidarity. The introduction might also refer to the Basic Principles. It might also be desirable to link the activity of SAHR to the UN sustainable development goals.

There followed a more detailed discussion of the text, with slight changes of emphasis suggested for instance in paragraphs 7 and 17. The text could also include references to networking with partners such as Archivistes Sans Frontières and swisspeace.

Mariana suggested that the vision should be translated into French and Spanish prior to the full GA meeting to stimulate discussion. It was AGREED that the Vision, (in English, French and Spanish), should be discussed and approved by the whole section at the October GA.

Jens was thanked for this outstanding piece of work.

**6. Updates on SAHR Programme**

Short updates were made on current sectional work, as follows:

PROJECT	UPDATE
<b>Truth Commissions Archives Locator project</b>	This project has attracted a lot of interest among SAHR members. A planning meeting has been set up for 15 <sup>th</sup> June. There will then be a call for volunteers to help with the content of the project.
<b>Climate Change Archive Toolkit project</b>	A second pilot, this time in Chile, is being developed. Maps which already exist are being used to locate archives at risk. Risks now include sea level rises and river flooding. The project now focusses on archives relevant to Human Rights issues. The object of the exercise is to develop a methodology which can then be applied around the world,

	for instance in Dacca in Bangladesh or Jakarta in Indonesia.
<b>Report on Extractive industries archives as a source of evidence for breaches of Human Rights</b>	An update on this project will be available at the June meeting.
<b>Launch of Routledge book in Madrid, 21 June 2021</b>	Launch in Madrid on 21 <sup>st</sup> June.
<b>Impact of the change of dates of the Abu Dhabi and Rome ICA Congress and conference</b>	SAHR preparations for ICA conference and congresses need to be adjusted, as the dates of the meetings have changed. They now are: Rome (September 2022), Abu Dhabi (October 2023) and Barcelona (either 2024 or 2025). We have not yet heard whether the SAHR proposal to the Rome conference organisers on the history of the ICC has been successful. If it is not integrated into the main part of the conference, it would be possible for SAHR to have a smaller parallel meeting on this theme.

## 7. Programme of online talks on Archives and Human Rights

The section was launching a new programme of online talks on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021. The proposed draft programme was as follows:

DATE	THEME
1 <sup>st</sup> Jun 2021	<b>Mariana Nazar: Archives for truth and justice in Argentina and the question of archival provenance (Spanish)</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug 2021	<b>Graham Dominy: Accessioning the records of the South African Truth Commission (English)</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2021	<b>Adel Maizi: The archivist as member of the Tunisian Truth Commission (Arabic)</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2021	<b>Giulia Barrera: The archivist as expert witness in the Italian Condor trials (English)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Feb 2022	<b>TBC Appraising the case files of Refugees (Spanish)</b>

## 8. Governance Budget 2021 and Financial arrangements for the Section

- Adam reported that there had been no change in the finances of the section. As a significant part of the budget for 2021 had been dedicated to travel to the Abu Dhabi Congress and this had been cancelled, it was AGREED that we should ask the ICA Secretariat if that part of the budget could be re-purposed as follows:
  - (a) travel for the launch of the book in Madrid and
  - (b) the rest allocated to translation work. The translation of the commentary on the Universal Declaration on Archives was identified as a high priority.
 Adam agreed to raise the matter with the Secretariat.

**9. Any other business**

- David commented that it had been an outstanding achievement for Blanca to get a special edition of COMMA prepared in the course of the pandemic and that special thanks were due both to her and to Margaret Procter at Liverpool University for this success. All AGREED.
- Christine reported that *Archivistes Sans Frontières* would be considering developing a project on the Archives of Migrations at its next executive meeting. The idea was to use ATOM to record the information and to work with other organisations such as SAHR. This was noted sympathetically.

**10. Date of next meetings (a) for EC and (b) for full section**

- Deb to circulate dates for the forthcoming GA, to be held (probably) in the last week of June.
- Next EC: mid-September 2021 and following GA, probably October 2021.