

**CANDIDATE FOR THE BOARD OF ICOMOS
CANDIDAT AU CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION DE L'ICOMOS**

PIPLANI NAVIN

INDIA - IDE



PLATFORM / PLATE-FORME / PLATAFORMA

It is with deep commitment and a strong sense of responsibility that I present my candidature for the ICOMOS Board 2026-29. As one of the world's most influential international organizations dedicated to the conservation of cultural heritage, ICOMOS stands at the forefront of shaping global heritage policy, professional practice, and international cooperation.

Today, the protection of cultural heritage faces unprecedented global challenges—climate change, rapid urban development, geopolitical conflicts, technological disruption, and shifting socio-economic realities. In this evolving landscape, ICOMOS must continue to lead with vision, knowledge, and collective strength. I seek the opportunity to contribute to this leadership and help guide the organization toward an even more impactful future.

My candidature is built upon over twenty-five years of commitment to heritage conservation and sustained engagement with the values and mission of ICOMOS. Throughout this journey, I have worked to strengthen professional collaboration, promote knowledge exchange, and foster stronger connections across cultures, disciplines, and regions.

My association with ICOMOS began in 2001 when I first attended the General Assembly in Paris. During this period, I had the privilege of undertaking an internship at the ICOMOS International Secretariat under the guidance of the late Henry Cleere. This experience provided invaluable insight into the organization's global vision and collaborative ethos. Interactions with distinguished leaders of the heritage field—Sir Bernard Feilden, Jukka Jokilehto, Michael Petzet, Herb Stovel, and Giora Solar—deeply influenced my professional path and strengthened my long-term commitment to ICOMOS.

Over the years, I have remained actively engaged with ICOMOS at both national and international levels. My service has included roles as Vice-President of the International Scientific Committee on Education and Training (CIF), Expert Member of the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel, National Scientific Counsellor of ICOMOS India, and President of the ICOMOS India National Committee. Most recently, I had the honour of representing ICOMOS as Head of Delegation to the G20 Culture Ministers' Meetings and Working Group under the Indian Presidency.

Through these responsibilities, I have gained deep insight into the governance and functioning of ICOMOS—working closely with National Committees, International Scientific Committees, International Working Groups, the Advisory Committee, and the General Assembly. This experience has strengthened my understanding of how ICOMOS operates both as a global professional network and as a key advisory body to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee. Alongside my engagement with ICOMOS, I bring more than twenty-five years of professional experience as an academic, practitioner, and institutional leader in cultural heritage conservation. My work has included collaborations with institutions such as the University of York (United Kingdom), the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), the World Monuments Fund (WMF), the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), the Climate Heritage Network (CHN), and Sushant University. My professional practice spans conservation projects, research, policy engagement, and capacity-building initiatives related to monuments and historic sites, including work associated with globally recognized heritage such as the Taj Mahal.

If entrusted with the responsibility of serving on the ICOMOS Board, I will work with dedication to strengthen the organization's global impact and reinforce its leadership in the heritage sector. My key priorities will include:

Strengthening the Global ICOMOS Network Promoting stronger collaboration among National Committees, International Scientific Committees, and regional networks to reinforce ICOMOS as a global, inclusive and impactful professional community.
Empowering the Next Generation of Heritage Professionals Expanding education,

training, and capacity-building opportunities to support emerging professionals and strengthen the future leadership of the heritage sector.

Responding to Global Challenges Facing Heritage Advancing interdisciplinary and innovative approaches that address climate change, sustainable development, conflict, digital evolution, and community engagement.

Enhancing Knowledge Creation and Global Dialogue Supporting platforms that encourage research collaboration, professional exchange, scientific advancement, upskilling technical capacity and the dissemination of best practices among practitioners, scholars, institutions, and communities.

ICOMOS has always been strongest when its members work together across cultures, disciplines, and regions. If elected to the Board, I will dedicate my experience, energy, and commitment to strengthening this collective voice and advancing our shared mission of safeguarding the world's cultural heritage.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Navin holds a PhD in Architecture from Sushant University, India and an MA in Conservation Studies from University of York, UK. He is currently appointed as the Dean, School of Art and Architecture, and Dean (Academics and Research) at Sushant University. He has worked briefly as a Senior Project Specialist at the Getty Conservation Institute (USA).

In 2023, he represented ICOMOS as the Head of Delegation at the G20 Culture Ministers meetings held under the Presidency of India. He was also the President of ICOMOS India (2020-23). Navin has been elected a Vice President of ICOMOS ISC on Education and Training for three consecutive terms. It is indeed a great honour to have worked closely with four ICOMOS Presidents: Michael Petzet, Gustavo Araoz Toshiyuki Kono and now, Teresa Patrício.

In 2012, he was appointed a founding Principal Director - INTACH Heritage Academy for training, research and capacity building in cultural heritage conservation in India. Previously, he worked as the Hamlyn-Feilden Fellow and Director of Studies, Centre for Conservation Studies, University of York. In 2002, he had set up his own conservation practice in New Delhi and worked on a wide range of projects, most significantly - the Taj Mahal.

Navin is at the centre of a international conservation network including UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOMOS, WMF, the Getty, Asia Europe Foundation, International National Trusts Organisation, United Cities and Local Governments Organization (UCLG) and so forth. He has published widely on architecture, archaeology and conservation.

