

## **In Response to Consultation Three, Review of Outline**

ICOM Japan Board

December 1, 2023

We have asked the following four questions to all our individual and institutional members of ICOM Japan. Respondents were free to add any additional comments.

Q. 1: Do you think everything is covered in the proposed outline of the revised Code of Ethics?

Q. 2: Currently there are five core topics outlined (Education, see below). Do you think there are any Core topics missing? If yes, please indicate.

Q. 3: The numbering and order of the Core Topics do not reflect the order of importance. They are numbered in the order of the content of the new museum definition. However, if you find any problems with the order, please indicate.

Q4: If you find any overlapping topics, please indicate.

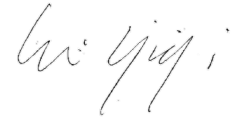
**Core Topics:** 1. Responsibilities to Communities; 2. Professional Practice; 3. Educational Role of Museums; 4. Collection and Research, and 5. Governing Bodies and Leadership.

Below is the summary of comments given by our members that we think is worth considering.

1. Clarification of the terms, such as “communities,” “tangible and intangible,” and “natural heritage” is needed.
2. Clarification of the following three terms, “communities,” “society,” and “public” is needed. These terms seem to be interchangeable or overlapping.
3. No problems were found in the order of the Core Topics as long as it is clearly indicated that each topic is given the same weight of importance.

4. Some of the content in Topic 5, Governing Bodies and Leadership, belong to a separate “Good Practice Guideline” rather than under the heading of museum ethics. Take item f., for example. The rule to “Appoint the director or head with appropriate professional knowledge and skill” might be problematic, because different countries have different systems of assigning positions in their respective cultural institutions.
  
5. At the UNESCO World Conference, Mondiacult 2022, held in Mexico Sep. 2022, Japan, along with all other 150 countries that participated in the conference, adopted the Statement on “Culture as a Global Public Good: a Human-Centered Agenda for Cultural Policies.” The idea of “Culture as a Global Public Good” should be foregrounded in the revised Code of Ethics.

ICOM Japan  
Chair, Masanori AOYAGI

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Masanori Aoyagi', written in a cursive style.