

## Wednesday 17 November

Kampala is a little like many Indian towns except the population is a darker shade! The hustle and bustle, the appalling traffic belching out exhaust fumes, the aggressive driving with every car and minibus taxi with bumps and scratches, the potholed roads, cows, donkeys, sheep and goats in the streets, huge black scavenging storks flying overhead and incredible poverty everywhere you look. But what lovely people - all so friendly and with constant smiles despite the hardship.

I am staying at the Makerere (Kampala) University guest house. All slightly chaotic but perfectly adequate for my needs and inexpensive; it is also only 5 mins walk from CCFU's headquarters.

John de Coninck arrived at 9 am to take me to the CCFU Office for an 'Orientation' meeting with Emily Drani, CEO, and himself at which we discussed a number of issues including CCFU and its aims and programmes; INTO Africa Conference in June 2011; composition and membership of INTO Africa; ICNT 15; and the possible establishment of a Ugandan NT. We did not complete the agenda, but agreed to do so on Sunday at the wash-up session, as I had a meeting with Emily and Moses Mapesa at the Ndere Cultural Centre at 10 30.

Moses was the Director of the Ugandan Wildlife Authority, a government agency, but is now involved as a Board Member of the Leadership for Conservation in Africa, LCA, whose aim is to unify Africa's conservation authorities to contribute significantly to the economic development of the continent [www.lcafrica.org](http://www.lcafrica.org). Its main focus is to link business and conservation by influencing national and international business leaders to support investment in the development of one of the continent's key assets, its wildlife. The CEO, Chris Marais, is based in South Africa. I need to follow up this link as there could be mutual benefits

He explained that the cultural heritage in Uganda falls between two Government Departments, Trade and Tourism, and Gender. There had been a separate Ministry of Culture up until 1986 but then heritage took on a lesser profile. It was considered more sustainable to pass heritage over to NGOs

Following this meeting we returned to the CCFU office where I gave a talk about the National Trust movement and INTO. There were about 15 people present and a general discussion took place afterwards.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Report from Africa

#### Uganda 18/19/20 November

These 3 days were mostly taken up with meetings and visits and I can do no better than attach below the comprehensive notes supplied to me by Emily Drani who was present at the majority of them.



*Emily Drani introduces me before my talk*

As an overview of the meetings it is fair to say that the tangible cultural heritage has not been given the attention that it is due. For a start there is no single Ministry that is responsible for the heritage, as used to be the case; it now falls between the Ministry of Trade and Tourism and the Ministry of Gender. This is a retrograde step and I put across the view with each that it should be given more prominence and under one 'roof'.

The destruction of historic buildings in the interests of modernisation seemed to be happening at an accelerating pace (as in Ethiopia). As an example it had been planned to show me 3 potential office premises into one of which CCFU might relocate. Each was an old building in need of improvement and repair and would be an exemplar

property for the organisation. One of these, close to the Anglican Cathedral, had been flattened when we arrived and it looked as though the area was to become a car park

There is no 'listing' process as exists in many other developed nations and I urged the two relevant Ministries to consider introducing such a scheme.

Ironically the disastrous fire last March which destroyed the building over the Kasubi Royal Tombs, a World Heritage Site, may prove to be the necessary catalyst, a Phoenix rising from the ashes, since there is enormous public pressure to rebuild. Also the destruction has brought to light another 30 or so tombs in the Buganda Kingdom in varying degrees of disrepair which are now being looked upon as significant and worthy of conservation.



*The site of the Kasubi Royal Tombs after the fire*

The clamour to rebuild is more about conserving literally the 'spirit of place', the intangible cultural heritage, since the tombs themselves are exposed without the building above them.

It is thought that the fire was started deliberately and conceivably the date too was deliberate since it was the same date (16 March) in the year that the previous restoration was completed in 1938. The same date has been chosen in either 2012 or 2013, depending on progress, to reopen the tombs. Beware the Ides of March!



The various museum visits that I made were notable for their varying standards of presentation. For all that it was good to see a genuine attempt to display some of the history of this fascinating country. At one level there was a private collection in the owner's house and garage, where we were shown round by the owner's wife with a paraffin lamp as there was no electricity! At the other a much more professional approach.

It is encouraging that CCFU have grasped this nettle and after carrying out a museum mapping exercise, are offering advice and training to those in the scheme as one of their projects.

A number of other visits had been included in my programme including the source of the Nile where the river flows out of Lake Victoria to begin its 6700 km journey to the Mediterranean.



*The source of the River Nile*

It is also one of the sites where Mahatma Gandhi's ashes were strewn and there is a bust of Gandhi commemorating the event



*Bust of Mahatma Gandhi*

On this, my penultimate day, we had a television crew with us who were preparing an hour long feature for the Culture Programme for UBC, the Uganda Broadcasting Corporation. We also visited the home of the Chairman of CCFU, Patrick Kiirya where he is restoring a magnificent house, purchased from the Bugosa Kingdom, as an example of what can be done. He and I were both interviewed here for the programme.

My last day was spent with Emily and John looking at the various hotel options for the 2013 ICNT and completing the agenda we started on the first days well as a post mortem of my visit.

Uganda was a real eye-opener: John de Coninck's timely reminder to those of us present at the opening plenary in Dublin that in Uganda only one in seven of the population had electricity, became a reality for me. Despite the hardship there are some encouraging signs. But it will need more organisations like CCFU to come together under one umbrella to put the cultural heritage on the map. The best and most logical way would be to establish a National Trust for Uganda, supported by a single Ministry of Culture.

My thanks to Emily and her splendid team for looking after me so well





*Patrick Kiirya, Chairman of CCFU, outside his house which is in the course of restoration*

## ***Oliver Maurice's meetings in Kampala***

November 17 – 18, 2010

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### **1 Meeting with Moses Mapesa (former Chief Executive Officer, Uganda Wildlife Authority - UWA) (November 17, 2010)**

**Present:** Oliver Maurice and Emily Drani

Oliver introduced INTO, its mission and gave examples of member National Trusts. Moses Mapesa then noted the current debate in respect to nature conservation and development. In Uganda about 90% of the natural resources such as oil reserves, hydropower, limestone and gypsum are found in national parks. This raises a challenge in terms of obtaining an optimal balance between natural and cultural conservation and economic development.

The Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) is responsible for all national parks and game reserves in Uganda as well as protecting the RAMSAR sites. Mr Mapesa was not sure whether there is an official list of national heritage sites.

Moses said that the conservation policy restricts settlements in the protected areas and national

parks although this is not always easy as communities living along the boundaries and have access these protected areas. Some settlements have been gazetted to keep residents within restricted boundaries.

Currently Moses is part of an organization (Leadership for Conservation, with 18 members in Africa), that seeks to strike a balance between conservation and development through dialogue, advocacy and technical advice to governments, specifically with flagging commitments to national and international conventions and related checks and balances for conservation. The organization plans to hold a meeting on November 30, 2010 to which CCFU is invited.

#### **Follow up action**

- Participate in the Leadership and Conservation meetings
- **Consider the Leadership and Conservation organization for INTO Africa and international membership**
- Invite Moses Mapesa to CCFU launch event on “Culture in Governance: Does it work?”

### **2 Meeting with civil society organizations (November 17, 2010)**

**Present:** Oliver Maurice, David Kalanzi (Secretary, the Historic Buildings Conservation Trust) and Ellady Muyumbi (Director, Historic Resource Conservation Initiative) John De Coninck and Emily Drani (CCFU)

Following a brief introduction by Oliver Maurice on INTO and its objectives, David Kalanzi and Ellady Muyumbi shared their experiences with regard to heritage conservation in Uganda. The rapid destruction of historical buildings was highlighted as a worrying trend. David Kalanzi explained the role of the Historic Buildings Conservation Trust in conserving historic buildings within Kampala city, with specific focus on the protection of the Nakasero Fort. Meetings have been held with the relevant Minister and other stakeholders in this regard.

Ellady Muyumbi representing the Historic Resources Conservation Initiative (HRCI), elaborated on the controversy between his organization (originally called and registration as the Historic Buildings Conservation Trust) and another non-registered organization headed by William Katatumba and Craddock Williams claiming the same name. This case is currently in court hence the change in name to HRCI. This organization maintains the mission of heritage conservation with regard to historic buildings, carries out research, documentation and advocacy work. It is presently internally funded.

#### **Follow up action**

- Involve both organizations in heritage promotion activities

### **3 Meeting with Augustine Omare-Okurut, Secretary General, UNESCO National Commission (November 18, 2010)**

**Present:** Oliver Maurice and Emily Drani

Following an introduction of INTO by Oliver Maurice, Mr Okurut explained that the UNESCO National Commission is employed by the Government of Uganda, acts as a liaison between the

Government and UNESCO and plays a facilitating / coordinating role in respect to UNESCO's activities in the country.

Mr Okurut referred issues regarding ICCROM and ICOMOS to the Ag Commissioner Museums and Monuments, Ms Rose Mwanja who was also expected to speak on the Historical Monuments Act and site nomination (national and international). The UNESCO National Commission is not an implementing body and only provides technical support where necessary, for instance, in respect to the nomination process and review of submissions once a site is identified by the state.

Uganda has three UNESCO World Heritage sites, two natural and one cultural: Rwenzori National Park, Bwindi Forest, and Kasubi Royal Tombs, respectively. Following the fire, the latter was listed as an 'endangered' heritage site. A number of other heritage sites are being prepared for inclusion on the UNESCO world heritage tentative list for nomination. These include Nyero Rock Paintings (proposed to be listed as a group of rock paintings with similar sites in the vicinity), Bigo Byamugenyi, Katwe Salt works, and another associated with Bigo.

According to Mr Okurut, the Kasubi tombs were constructed in 1844 and have since been modified twice, in 1905 and 1938 by Buganda Kingdom. A public hearing on the inferno – cause, assessment of damage, effects – will start on December 1, 2010. The inferno that gutted the Royal Tombs revealed that there was no rescue or protection plan for the site. This incident, however, highlighted the value of cultural heritage and the need to protect it. A tripartite committee consisting of representatives from the Buganda government, Central Government (Ministries of Tourism, Trade and Industry and Gender, Labour and Social Development) and UNESCO are working on the reconstruction of the tombs.

Mr Okurut noted that Uganda is rich in heritage but this is often little known or appreciated locally. He gave an example of the musical rocks found on one of the Ssesse Islands that have been video documented and shown abroad but are not known at home.

A National Heritage Trust – the idea of an autonomous body to protect and conserve heritage in Uganda is not new, however attempts to establish a Trust have not been successful due to limited resources. In Mr Okurut's opinion, such a Trust would play an important role in bringing cultural heritage conservators together, keeping heritage issues on the agenda, soliciting political will and ensuring that politicians include heritage in their manifestoes. It would also be a good point of reference for priority heritage related issues at national and international levels. UNESCO welcomes the idea and would be supportive of such a Trust, playing a brokerage role.

#### **Follow up action**

- **Follow up commitment to support National Trust – write letter**
- Check out the musical rocks on Ssesse Islands, if possible
- Develop a brief on the National Trust and share with Mr Okurut for comments and contribution

#### **4 Meeting with representatives of the Department of Culture and Family Affairs in the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (November 18, 2010)**

**Present:** Pamela Batenga (Senior Principal Culture Officer), Cecilia Ajon (Senior Culture Officer), Charles Kiggundu, Oliver Maurice and Emily Drani



Oliver Maurice introduced INTO, its origin, mission and membership and gave examples of the different types of Trusts (models) in Fiji where the National Trust is state funded and property owning. In England the National Trust acquires properties, owns 350 houses open to the public and has about 3.8 million members. The English Trust is consulted by the state on policy and technical matters regarding heritage. In both cases, the Trusts maintain close relations with the state. In 2007, at the 12<sup>th</sup> INTACH Conference in Delhi, members signed a charter to establish an International National Trust Organisation and in 2009 in Dublin it was agreed that regional chapters, including INTO Africa would be formed.

In response to this presentation, Pamela Batenga explained the positioning of culture in the state structure. The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development has 7 functions of which culture is one. Culture tends to be taken for granted, often disappearing – not reflected in planning or budgeting, and attracting very little political will. At one point, the profile of culture was reduced to a unit within a department however with the 1995 Constitution and the restoration of the traditional institutions, the establishment of a Culture and Family Affairs department, the ratification of the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Convention, 2003 and the National Development Plan 2010 all highlight the increasing relevance of culture. More recently, the inferno at the Kasubi Tombs Heritage site raised the profile of culture and the need for heritage protection.

The UNESCO ICH Convention, 2003 was useful in clarifying the value of intangible heritage and this was demonstrated in the discussions on the reconstruction of Kasubi tombs where the reconstruction committee was cautioned to ensure that *“Kasubi is not constructed without its soul.”* According to some Baganda, the inferno has exposed the Buganda Kingdom to external attack and violation and the longer the tombs remain exposed the more vulnerable the kingdom will be. *A plaque indicating the last refurbishment of the tombs by Daudi Chwa on March 16, 1938, (the same day of the fire) was found at the site. Reopening the tombs has been scheduled for March 16 in whichever year the reconstruction is completed.*

At district and sub-county levels there is no financial vote for culture, the Community Development Officers and Probation officers are overburdened with community development work (health, water, roads etc) and thus the culture function is weak and is often reduced to cultural entertainment at public functions. Efforts will be made to revamp their role.

At central government (national) level, the department is short staffed although the structure provides for increased staffing and the future looks promising. There are indicators of increased overall financing to the department (purchase of new vehicles!) The function of the officers at national level is policy development, setting standards, quality assurance, and research and monitoring.

Besides music, dance and drama, the most visible cultural resource is traditional medicine because it is widely used and recognized by the local communities due to its accessibility and affordability. The herbal dimension is often taken up by the Ministry of Health while the spiritual dimension is referred to the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (Department of Culture and Family Affairs).

Although there has been limited investment in the culture sector, the existence of organizations and individuals that are promoting culture, without support from government is an indicator that culture is valued and resilient.

Listing of heritage sites, their protection and legislation is the responsibility of the department of Museums and Monuments. It was noted that buildings of cultural value are more likely to be protected than those of historic value as the local people tend to attach cultural significance to these sites, for instance, following the inferno, interest in over 30 other shrines/tombs similar to Kasubi was renewed. Unfortunately a number of these sites are in varying states of disrepair since many of them use vegetal building materials. The burning of Kasubi tombs has generated interest in restoring and maintaining the other shrines as well as other heritage sites across the country.

INTO 2013 Conference – this presents a good opportunity to promote heritage as often culture and heritage are not on the main agenda of international conference. The involvement of Ministries of MTTI, Finance and GLSD would be useful although now the focus is on elections. Government aspires to make Kampala a conference destination and therefore the idea of an international conference would be welcome. The theme and objectives of the conference should reflect the interests of the different stakeholders

### **Follow up action**

- Follow up on the verbal commitment to support the INTO 2013 Conference and National Trust

## **5 Meeting with Hon Serapio Rukundo, Minister of State for Tourism, Trade and Industry (November 18, 2010)**

**Present:** Oliver Maurice and Emily Drani

Oliver Maurice introduced INTO, its origin, mission and membership and gave examples of the different types of Trusts (models).

Listing of national heritage sites – According to Hon Rukundo, the process of identifying 10 and listing 10 sites has been initiated in the national interest as well as being identified as possible sites for nomination on the international list. These include Nyero Rock paintings, Emin Pasha Fort among others. It was noted that a number of sites are privately owned and this would entail Government purchasing them, but there are limited resources. The Minister noted that there are a few organizations actively involved in heritage conservation such as the Historical Buildings Conservation Trust. He said civil society organizations involved in heritage promotion should identify sites to be protected and government would then be prompted to protect them. The value and pressure for urbanization and the drive to generate revenue are overwhelming and pose a threat to heritage conservation.

Establishing a National Heritage Trust – this idea was welcomed and CCFU was requested to present the minister with guidelines on the Trust after which approval would be sought from Government in consultation with the Ag Commissioner of Museums and Monuments.

INTO Conference 2013 – this could be an opportunity to launch the National Trust. The Ministry MTTI needs to be informed well in advance (at least one year) so that it can make a contribution – financial and otherwise. The Ministries of Foreign and Internal Affairs and the Prime Minister's Office should also be involved in the planning and to provide security. Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort would be a good venue although there are others. Post conference tourism

packages could include gorilla tracking, visits to Queen Elizabeth and Lake Mburo National Parks as well as the Murchison Falls, Ndere Cultural Centre and the zoo.

Uganda National Museum – There are no plans to demolish the original building but rather to construct a mall with offices in the available space to accommodate staff from the National Theatre as the reconstruction is underway.

- Follow up on the verbal commitment to support the INTO 2013 Conference and National Trust 1 year in advance)
- Share concept on both events once ready
- Write a letter to Minister – a reminder of this meeting and commitment made

## **6 Meeting with Ms Rose Mwanja, Ag Commissioner Museums and Monuments (November 18, 2010)**

**Present:** Oliver Maurice and Emily Drani

Oliver Maurice introduced INTO. Rose explained that currently there is not listing procedure for national heritage sites and therefore no sites are gazetted. Historical buildings have been identified, but without a policy, it is difficult to protect them. The Historical Monuments Act is outdated and does not provide sufficient protection for heritage sites.

The Department of Museums and Monuments plans to draw from lessons from a study carried out in Kenya on heritage promotion and protection of Old Mombasa Fort and Lamu among others based on which a heritage policy for Uganda will be developed. This policy will also enable the updating of the existing Historical Monuments Act. Ms Karen Moon with support from the European Union and the World Bank, has agreed to facilitate a 14 day training event for government officials (probably in April 2011) on the value of heritage as well as the development of an integrated approach to conservation involving City Council, Urban Planners, etc. It is expected that the Bill on Historical Buildings will be reviewed after this training. Another resource that the department plans to utilize is a publication produced by UNESCO on Urban Historic Landscapes.

According to Ms Mwanja, Kampala City Council officials lack knowledge on heritage and when approached by wealthy investors they tend to give away land without assessing the loss of heritage or including contractual clauses to protect existing heritage.

With regard to the impending threat to the Uganda National Museum, Ms Mwanja confirmed that the UNM is indeed under threat of demolition for the construction of a modern building. This has only been stalled by the public outcry, lack of resources and the lack of approval from the President who has a mandate over the National Museum.

The department has been called upon to carry out heritage impact assessments especially before government undertakes major development initiatives and construction.

A list of heritage sites is being developed and entered into a database however the challenge is establishing criteria for grading. Oliver promised to share the English Heritage criteria for grading.

Ms Mwanja was in agreement that a single Ministry of Culture would give culture and heritage



higher priority on the government agenda, it would enhance understanding of what heritage is and the need to invest in it, especially in relation to tourism

**Follow up action**

- Follow up on heritage education report and DVD
- **Oliver to send listing criteria of English Heritage.**
- Access UNESCO publication, if possible
- Discuss the CCFU heritage education programme with the UNM - comments

## Initial ideas for INTO Conference 2013

Theme	<i>African proverb – drawing on the past to secure the future?</i>
Sub themes (Calls for papers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership and heritage - A common vision for heritage</li> <li>• Conservation vs development/urbanization</li> <li>• Financing heritage development and promotion</li> <li>• Heritage education and promotion</li> <li>• Cultural tourism and development</li> </ul>
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 300</li> </ul>
Venue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort? Hotel in Entebbe?</li> </ul>
Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 days (3 days conference; 3 days heritage site seeing) October 2013</li> </ul>
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National and international civil society organizations involved in heritage promotion and development</li> <li>• UNESCO - NatCom / Regional</li> <li>• Ministry of Gender, Labour, Social Development – Dept Culture and Family Affairs</li> <li>• Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry</li> <li>• Uganda National Museum</li> <li>• Uganda Community Museums</li> <li>• Ministry of Foreign Affairs</li> <li>• Ministry of Internal Affairs</li> <li>• Ministry of Finance</li> </ul>
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rich but neglected heritage</li> <li>• Cultural and historical sites increasingly at risk</li> <li>• Limited awareness on the value of tangible and intangible heritage</li> <li>• No heritage education – schools and civil service</li> <li>• Weak legislation and enforcement</li> <li>• Limited ideas on suitable options for heritage development and promotion appropriate for the local context</li> </ul>
Opportunities / resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uganda Cultural policy – objective on heritage promotion</li> <li>• Uganda National Museum – heritage policy</li> <li>• Launch of a National Heritage Trust</li> <li>• Kampala an international conference destination viz CHOGM 2007</li> </ul>
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INTO/Getty Fund (USD.75,000)- others</li> <li>• previously approached</li> <li>• UNESCO</li> <li>• Ministries: MTTI, GLSD, Finance</li> </ul>
Activities / spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Series of workshops</li> <li>• Children and heritage – (school art/crafts/music competition, televised quiz, newspaper pull out) – speech/poem by child</li> <li>• Exhibition – Community Museums and other forms of heritage; visual/ audio; models</li> <li>• Exhibition of heritage / history of different aspects of life in Uganda – Political, economic, social, technological/media, ecological</li> <li>• Performances – traditional dances, music, story telling</li> <li>• Tourism presentations – cultural and natural</li> <li>• Post conference tour packages</li> <li>• Media – television talk show; radio talk show; articles;</li> </ul>
Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organising committees' functions: (i) concept development / vetting paper (ii) fundraising (iii) planning (iv) publicity (v) managing each space (vi) documentation and dissemination of information</li> </ul>
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy briefs emerging from workshop themes; workshop reports</li> <li>• Publication and DVD, Calendar, T-shirts, Bumper stickers, Television series on heritage</li> </ul>

## **II Oliver Maurice's meetings and field visits (Kampala & Jinja) November 19 – 20, 2010**

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### **1 Meeting Mr. Craddock-Williams and David Kalanzi of the Historical Buildings Conservation Trust at the Uganda National Museum.**

Mr. Craddock-Williams explained that the HBCT was started in 1994 as a pressure group for conservation of historical buildings in and around Kampala. The Trust has developed a list of historical buildings in Kampala, Jinja and Entebbe. One of the recent achievements has been to take the Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities to Nakasero Fort which was about to be demolished by hotel developers, the AYA Group. The Minister encouraged the AYA Group to include Nakasero Fort into the tourism product to be offered by the hotel.

Mr. Craddock also mentioned that the conservation of historical buildings in Uganda is not yet a priority; Ugandans, including government officials, are concerned about feeding their families

HBCT received some funding from Madhvani company to list old buildings in Jinja. The HBCT has also proposed a list of building to be protected. The list was submitted to the Minister of Tourism.

Oliver Maurice emphasized the role of heritage, not only as a tool for tourism development but also as a tool for education. Oliver also suggested that HBCT could become an INTO member if interested.

### **2 Learning from Heritage Promotion worldwide: a talk by Oliver Maurice, Director at the International National Trusts Organization, at CCFU offices (18<sup>th</sup> November 2010)**

The talk was attended by a cross section of individuals coming from Uganda national museum, media houses and Community Museums

#### **Present:**

- 1) Oliver Maurice (INTO)
- 2) Emily Drani (CCFU)
- 3) John De Coninck (CCFU)
- 4) Nsibambi Fredrick (CCFU)
- 5) Kigingi Remigius (National Museum)
- 6) Dismas Ongweny (National Museum)
- 7) Abiti Nelson (National Museum)
- 8) Joseph Walugembe (National Theatre)
- 9) Kabagambe Deo (CACISA)
- 10) Mutesi Monique (CACISA)
- 11) Semmambo Jerome (Buganda Museum)
- 12) Kyembe Tom (Buganda Museum)
- 13) Kalanzi David (Heritage expert)
- 14) Kiwere Nathan (Independent newspaper)
- 15) Ssematimba Hezekia (Gwanga newspaper)
- 16) Twebaze Paul (Historical and Cultural values)



After welcome remarks by Emily Drani, the Executive Director of CCFU, Oliver talked extensively about INTO. He talked about INTO's history and membership worldwide. Oliver also talked about the importance of INTO (see handout). He also emphasized the need to integrate both tangible and intangible heritage aspects at the policy level. Oliver said that, from his earlier meetings with heritage activists and government officials, there is need to raise awareness about the significance of heritage not for tourism only but also as a development tool (education)

**Reactions:** Nelson Abiti from the National Museum said that, as civil servants, they cannot do much to influence the government to support heritage issues. He also said that they need support from politicians. Without their support, they cannot do much because politicians are always on the ground and approve budgets. However, the National Museum is working on the design of a national heritage policy which will cater for all heritage issues in the country. Civil society organizations and other stakeholders will be invited at an appropriate time to make their contribution. Nelson is also currently working on a project intended to restore cultural practices among the communities in northern Uganda which were affected by a civil war for 20 years. He also mentioned that with support from the French Embassy in Uganda and the *Ecole du Patrimoine Africain* (EPA), they implemented a pilot project which aimed at promoting cultural heritage in young hands by establishing cultural heritage clubs in the districts of Kampala and Gulu.

Joseph Walugembe, the Director of the National Cultural Centre Theatre, asked for a copy of the presentation so that he can reflect on what to do next. Mr. Walugembe said that CCFU, with the help of other CSOs, has the capacity to influence government to establish a Ministry of Culture. He also suggested that, after drafting the national heritage policy, there is a need to enact a national Heritage Act to implement the policy.

Dismas Ongweny, from the National Museum stated that the biggest challenge in the preservation and protection of our heritage is the lack a common heritage because of the diversity of ethnicities in Uganda.

Paul Twebaze from the Historic Resources Conservation Initiatives complained about the lack of sufficient information on our heritage resources/sites. He argued that information on our heritage sites is needed to gauge the success of conservation efforts.

Kigongo Remigius also from the National Museum remarked that, in order to manage our heritage sites, we need to establish their outstanding universal values (OUV) and document all the available information about the sites.

To wrap up the discussion, John de Coninck, Technical Advisor, CCFU said that we still have a huge task to push for heritage preservation in Uganda. He mentioned that many times we feel defeated when the government is the first culprit in heritage destruction. However, there were hopeful signs and he also enumerated a number of action points for the group which included:

- The National Museum to commit to consulting CSOs on a national heritage policy
- Organize a public petition to stop the demolition of the national museum
- The next Arts and Culture Conference should focus on the creation of a Culture Ministry
- Link Community Museums to local schools

3 **Oliver Maurice's visit to heritage/cultural sites around Kampala and Jinja  
(19<sup>th</sup> November 2010)**

**Kasubi Royal Tombs:** We had a brief guided tour of the tombs by Kigongo Remigius who is a conservator at the National museum and a Site Supervisor of the Tombs (we mainly toured the main courtyard and the different houses). We were not allowed to go inside the former main tomb house. The discussion at Kasubi focused on the history of the tombs and the late Kings and the functions of the different houses around the courtyard. There was also a discussion on the new structures which are incompatible with site presentation of the tombs

**Namirembe Cathedral:** we had a self guided tour around and inside the church. Oliver was able to look the different pictures showing the evolution of the church through years. The demolition of a historical building which CCFU was proposing to preserve was noted with dismay.

**Bulange building, CCFU potential office premises and the Roman Catholic Cathedral on Lubaga hill:** We did not go inside Bulange building but we drove past it. We then proceeded to the second CCFU potential office premises located near Muteesa I University. Oliver wondered how CCFU plans to renovate and occupy such a large structure: ideas were shared regarding offices and a mini museum/exhibition space.

We also had a tour of the Roman Catholic Cathedral where we had a guided tour by Mr. Vincent Kambugu. Mr. Kambugu narrated the history of the church, its connection with the Kingship in Buganda and the killing of the 22 Uganda martyrs. He also showed us the grave of the first African Bishop (Joseph Kiwanuka) which is inside the church.

**Kabaka Mutebi's Collection (Buganda Museum):** After Lubaga, we had a guided tour of the Buganda Museum by Jerome Ssemambo. Oliver wondered whether it would be possible to organize a reception inside the Palace during the 2013 INTO Conference in Uganda.

**Kawere African Museum at Kyengera:** At Kawere African Museum, Kawere was not available so his wife took us around the museum.

**CACISA museum:** Before touring the museum we had a brief discussion with Mr. Kabagambe Deo, the Executive Director of CACISA. He appreciated Oliver's gesture of touring CACISA and share with them information related to heritage issues. He also expressed CACISA's desire to become a member of INTO. Mr. Kabagambe also explained the relationship between the museum and the church. We later had a guided tour of the museum.

#### 4 One day excursion to Jinja (Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2010)

**Cultural Research Centre:** a brief meeting was chaired by Father Kayaga, the Director, to brief Oliver about CRC and its role in promoting the use of Lusoga language and collecting museum objects in Busoga area. While the meeting was going on, a TV crew filmed museum objects, for a cultural heritage programme.

**Visit to Patrick Kiirya's Historical building in Bugembe:** Mr. Kiirya took us around his building which is under renovation. He bought the building from Busoga Kingdom and is renovating as an example to the government and Ugandans to preserve and promote Uganda's heritage/historical buildings

**Tour of the Source of the River Nile:** After lunch, the source of river Nile and the Mahatma Gandhi monument were visited, as well as Bujagaali falls. These, in Oliver's opinion, will be

interesting sites/attractions which people will be visiting during the 2013 INTO Conference.

*FN, November 21, 2010*

**General reflections on various discussions**

The commitment to preserve Ugandan heritage and share best international practices and experiences is not yet clearly visible. The interest in heritage is limited partly due to limited education, knowledge and resources. Much needs to be done to raise awareness of the importance of heritage and the need to protect it.

If, as is hoped, the 15<sup>th</sup> ICNT is held in Uganda it will certainly help to achieve this objective and indeed the mission of INTO, to promote the enhancement and conservation of the heritage of the world ...



### III Visits to possible conference venues for INTO 2013 In Kampala and Entebbe (November 20, 2010)

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**Present:** Emily, John visited with Oliver Maurice four potential venues in November 2010:

- Imperial Beach hotel Entebbe
- Imperial Botanical Hotel, Entebbe
- Munyonnyo Resort, Kampala
- Serena hotel, Kajjansi

The last is least suitable because of its capacity – only 114 rooms and a conference hall holding about 120 – and its higher costs (\$ 150 per room B&B). The hotel does not have spill-over locations closer than Lubowa, hence a risk of the ‘outside group’ arriving late and traumatised (!) by the traffic jams...

The others:

1. Imperial Beach: about \$ 125-135 per room – negotiable, incl. VAT. Dinner \$22; Conference room rate would be about \$ 35-45 p.p. 181 rooms available. Very good rooms and possible conf. room (one v. big – too big – the next just OK); possibly noisy at week ends; no direct gardens; ‘plastic feel’
2. Imperial Botanical - \$ 100-110 per room B&B incl. VAT; lunch Shs 25,000; Conference room shs 500,000. 229 rooms available. All negotiable. Good rooms; large conference room, but not air conditioned; staff not very professional. Too down market?
3. Munyonnyo: Rooms \$85; conference room \$ 2500 per day; tea, etc. on top. Vat excluded, add also 5% service charge. Green location; good conference room; professionally run. ‘Top notch’ feel and reputation might not be donor-friendly.

Overall:

- All three locations have spill-over possibilities, smaller guest houses and hotels. All are possible.
- The preferable location might well be Entebbe.

Further thoughts:

- Will overseas participants really want to find themselves in a western-type hotel?
- Can we find something more in tune with the local environment/culture, even if we have to add 2 or 3 hours of travel and if we have to improvise on conference facilities, etc? Lake Mburo? Mabira?

*JDC, 22.11.2010*