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## Annual Report: 2020

### 1) Administrative Details

1.1 - Name of National Committee: Blue Shield Netherlands

1.2 - Date Report Completed: 22 March 2021

1.3 - Reporting period covered: January 2020- December 2020

1.4 - Names, positions and emails

Mr. Jeroen Vervliet, Chair (IFLA)

Mrs. Andrea Kieskamp, vice Chair (ICOM)

Mr. Gerrit de Bruin, treasurer (ICA)

Mr. Jesper de Raad, board member ICOMOS

Mrs. Angela Dellebeke, secretary general (ICA)

1.5 - Address of the main office:

Postal address: Prins Willem Alexanderhof 20 /2595BE/ The Hague/ Netherlands

1.6 - Website and social media (if applicable):

[www.blueshield.nl](http://www.blueshield.nl)

<https://www.facebook.com/BlueShieldNL/>

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4666157/>

1.7 – Email the Blue Shield email should forward to: [info@blueshield.nl](mailto:info@blueshield.nl)

**2) Income:** There is a small amount left of the 2002 funds for founding the committee but there is no other source of income and there has never been.

### 3) Report of Activities: Achievements & Performance

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### 3.1 - Law, policy development and implementation:

- a) The Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO researched implementation and execution of the Hague Convention 1954 in the Netherlands. Blue Shield participated in the Advisory Council of Experts as part of this research project. The UNESCO committee made recommendations to the Minister of Education, Science and Culture and presented this in a report. An official response from the Minister is anticipated in 2021.
- b) Through BS NL the presentation of the report was organised at the Peace Palace in The Hague.

### 3.2 - Education, training, and capacity building:

- a) BS NL took part in an online Panel discussion on collection security (see 3.6 a)
- b) Small scale workshop : mitigation of water damage to paper collections
- c) Participation in development of a *5-steps approach to preventive action, response , risk assessment* etc. This resulted in a handout / poster for heritage institutions in the Netherlands (see 3.6 c).
- d) We have successfully connected The University of Applied Sciences in Utrecht with experts on languages to help with the translation of educational material. This material is to be used in an international context to educate children about the importance of (their) cultural heritage.
- e) Renewal of contact with the Ministry of Defence, section Cultural Affairs & Information

### 3.3 - Proactive protection and risk preparedness: no activities

**3.4 - Emergency response in disaster, domestic emergencies, and armed conflict:** BS NL offered help to BS Lebanon after the explosion in Beirut but they were already in contact with BS international.

### 3.5 - Stabilisation, post-disaster recovery, and long-term/ongoing support:

BS NL is since long represented in the meetings on heritage protection in the Netherlands. These are set up and hosted by the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands. The meetings in 2020 were online meetings. Special attention was given to the discussion of levels of protection against theft, fire damage and vandalism.

### 3.6 - Co-ordination (of Blue Shield and with other relevant organisations):

- a) Cooperation with [CERL](#) (Consortium of European Research Libraries): panel discussion on collection security
- b) Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO (see 3.1)
- c) Collaboration with [Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands](#) (and Nat Unesco cie)
- d) CHEN: Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network: member of Advisory Board
- e) Consultation on Report on the reinforcement of the protection of cultural heritage in the Caribbean.
- f) Consultation on the preservation of Dutch airplane wrecks in overseas areas

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**4) Main issues faced:** Time management as most board members have regular jobs next to BS NL. Combined with the covid-19 pandemic and personal circumstances it made for a challenging year.

**Future goals**

There are two main goals which are also part of the strategic plan:

1. Help set up a national contact point for expertise on emergency preparedness and hazard mitigation in the Netherlands
2. National recognition for the protection of cultural heritage : safety of cultural heritage as part of the National Safety Strategy (6<sup>th</sup> vital/ crucial interest)

**5) Other** BS NL would like to acknowledge the efforts by Blue Shield international in getting the BS network connected through online meetings over the last year as well as organizing an online General Assembly in 2020.