
Annual Report: 2021

1) Administrative Details

1.1 - Name of National Committee: Blue Shield Netherlands

1.2 - Date Report Completed: 23 February 2022

1.3 - Reporting period covered: January 2021 – December 2021

1.4 - Names, positions

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):

LinkedIn BS NL : <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/>
FB <https://www.facebook.com/BlueShieldNL/>

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

2) Income: There is a small amount left of the 2002 funds for founding the committee but there is no other source of income. See also 4 (Main issues) and 5 (Other).

3) Report of Activities: Achievements & Performance

3.1 - Law, policy development and implementation:

- a) Final consultation of the draft *Policy on Cultural Heritage* of the Office of the Prosecutor's Working Group on the Protection of Cultural Heritage Policy initiative
- b) Consultation on the periodic report 2017-2020 on the implementation of the Hague Convention and its Protocols in the Netherlands.
- c). Co-signing of call for support from heritage institutions on heritage protection in the Netherlands addressed to the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture

3.2 - Education, training, and capacity building:

- a) Online table top exercise on crisis management in the Netherlands in cooperation with Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO
- b) Attended online lecture *Cultural Property Protection. Military Perspectives On The Protection Of Cultural Heritage From The Netherlands, France And The UK*

3.3 - Proactive protection and risk preparedness:

- a) Online lecture on crisis management at the Annual Meeting of the Icelandic Museum Association.
- b) Sharing relevant information with the Arbejdmuseet (Denmark) in support of obtaining UNESCO World Heritage status for worker's assembly halls.

3.4 - Emergency response in disaster, domestic emergencies, and armed conflict

Flooding Limburg (NL) because of heavy rainfall:

- liaise between various interest groups to help assess damage to cultural property;
- sharing online information on conservation options for collections of private persons

Flooding Belgium because of heavy rainfall:

- offer of support to Blue Shield Belgium
- sharing call for experts/volunteers of Belgian colleagues within BS NL network

Volcanic eruption St. Vincent and the Grenadines:

- conservation advice on damage to buildings and repositories caused by volcanic ashes (in cooperation with CARBICA CHEN).

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

- a) 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.
- b) Supporting BS International in formalizing use of postal address of National Archives of the Netherlands during term of current President (prof. Peter Stone).
- c) BS NL treasurer is taking part in the Auditing committee for the 2020 audit of BS international.

- d) Blue Shield network (collaboration and support when needed/possible).
- e) Conservation advice UCT Libraries Capetown after fire

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

- a) Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO (NatCom)
- b) Prince Claus Fund: Cultural Emergency Response (CER)
- c) Collaboration with Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands (and NatCom)
- d) CHEN: Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network: member of Advisory Board
- e) Ministry of Defence: section Cultural Affairs and Information

4) Main issues faced:

- a) There has been a board meeting to discuss commitment, strengths and weaknesses and to adjust our goals and workings to what board members realistically can put in/offer. This has led to a change of focus as of 2022. Focus on strength: connecting people and organizations working in CPP and/or related areas. This means a shift from *pro-active* to *active when requested*.

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 (6th vital/ crucial interest)

5) Other

- a) Rearrangement of board as of January 2022
Jeroen Vervliet is stepping down as President but remains in the board as the IFLA representative. Andrea Kieskamp (ICOM) will take over as President. Jesper de Raad (ICOMOS) will take over as Vice-President. Gerrit de Bruin (ICA) will act as the contact point for conservation and restoration issues. The role of Secretary-General remains unchanged (Angela Dellebeke on behalf of ICA).
- b) The holding of the account is depleting the account as there is next to nothing coming in. To avoid falling into debt the account will be cancelled. The treasurer will discuss with treasures BSi how to proceed with the amount BS NL is holding for BSi.
- c) Starting a LinkedIn account for BS NL for communication and sharing of relevant information, the website will be offline as of January 2022.