

Kongsvinger declaration on

Vernacular Crossing Borders

On behalf of ICOMOS Norway, ICOMOS Sweden and ICOMOS Finland and of the International Vernacular Committee (CIAV), an international scientific committee of ICOMOS, the participants of *Vernacular Crossing Borders* conference representing experts in heritage and conservation from all over the world, gathered at Kongsvinger, Norway, would like to present to the responsible authorities and experts on heritage the following:

- we want to express our thanks to the authorities of the very kind reception and welcome in the beautiful area of Finnskogen and our gratitude to the organizers of the conference,
- we want to express our professional appreciation for the unique historic character of Finnskogen, an area characterized by its generations, its sense of history and its multiethnic component,
- we would like to express our recognition for the conservation efforts undertaken to preserve this historic area,
- we also want to express the necessity to maintain and protect the continuity of the historic development of Finnskogen,
- we urge the responsible authorities to continue to protect the historic character of Finnskogen by all possible means in order to ensure that this special area will be preserved for future generations in its authenticity,
- finally, we would like to encourage all the stakeholders to maintain the historic character of the area and the diversity of its culture by ensuring documentation, inventories, further research, evaluations, and preservation and conservation works of its tangible and intangible heritage.

3.6.2010