

ICOMOS

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES
CONSEJO INTERNACIONAL DE MONUMENTOS Y SITIOS
МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ СОВЕТ ПО ВОПРОСАМ ПАМЯТНИКОВ И ДОСТОПРИМЕЧАТЕЛЬНЫХ МЕСТ

Mrs Catharina ELMSATER-SVARD
Minister of Infrastructure
Se – 10333 STOCKHOLM
SWEDEN

24th september 2012

Dear Madam,

In a letter of the 28th of July 2011, Dr Wilfried Lipp, then Vice President of International ICOMOS, which is UNESCO's advisor on World Heritage issues, made you share our serious worry about the several road-works interventions planed on the Royal Domain of Drottningholm and its buffer-zone.

Meeting in Brussels on the 29th of May, the presidents of the European National Committees of ICOMOS conclude that the progress of these projects is a source of deep anxiety, and strongly support ICOMOS Sweden in their efforts to strive for the World Heritage more respectful solutions. Indeed, the Domain is continuously under great danger due to these works. The risks are more than material: they include the possible loss of World Heritage status.

I shall strongly recommend you to reconsider the projects while there is still time to.

Aware of the issues involved, ICOMOS propose you to provide help and assistance to find a solution that would give a better balance between the requirements of the preservation of the site and the needs of road traffic, according to the stipulations in the World Heritage Convention. It is not too late to find an alternative project that would match with the different interests, avoid the widening of the road and allow reaching the "traffic junction" further away from the World Heritage.

Conscious that the actual deadlines cannot be delayed, the first step would be to adopt minor and less harmful transitional measures than the planned widening of the Ekerö road, until the completion of the new Stockholm Bypass.

I sincerely trust in your engagement in Heritage issues, and thank you for the attention you give to this serious situation.

On behalf of the European National Committees, I remain, dear Madam, yours faithfully.

Benjamin MOUTON
Vice President of ICOMOS
in charge of Europe

