

Annual Report 2018

Nordic World Heritage Association

1. Organization

Nordic World Heritage Association is an ideal non-profit organization working for the benefit of the National World Heritage Associations and the National World Heritage Groups in the Nordic countries.

Nordic World Heritage Association was founded at Thingvellir, Iceland on September 23rd 2016.

The purpose of the Nordic World Heritage Association is to aid and support the implementation of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention in the Nordic countries.

The Nordic World Heritage Association shall stimulate cooperation, local community participation, technical exchange and create arenas of experience for the benefit of the Nordic World Heritage sites.

The members of the Board of Directors elected in 2018 were the following, as stated at the Annual Meeting of the Nordic World Heritage Association May 28th 2018:

From Världsarv i sverige (World Heritage Sweeden):

Lena Landström (for one year)

Pernilla Nordström/Camilla Lugnet (for two years)

From Suomen Maailmanperintökohteiden Yhdistys

Föreningen för Finlands Världsarv (Association of World Heritage Sites in Finland)

Jussi Teleranta (for one year)

Petteri Takkula (for two years)

From Norges Verdensarv (World Heritage Norway)

Odd Sletten (for one year)

Rita Johansen (for two years)

From National World Heritage Group in Iceland

Ólafur A. Jónsson (for one year)

Einar Sæmundsen (for two years)

From National World Heritage Group Danish Realm

Morten Teilmann-Jørgensen (for one year)

Birgitte S. B. Lamp (for two years)

Elected as the chairperson for two years:

Birgitte S. B. Lamp

Elected as the vice chairpersons for two years:

Einar Sæmundsen
Lena Landström

Elected as secretary for one year:

Petteri Takkula

Elected as function of financing for one year:

Ólafur A. Jónsson
Einar Sæmundsen

2. Administration

Nordic World Heritage Association is entered in the register at Brønnøysund, Norway, as an independant legal entity with address in Røros, Norway.

Nordic World Heritage Association has no employees, and the activity is based on voluntary efforts, primarily from the organization's Board of Directors.

At the Annual Meeting of the Nordic World Heritage Association on May 28th 2018, the Board of Directors decided to request World Heritage Norway to take the responsibility of the economic administrative work of the Nordic World Heritage Association. World Heritage Norway kindly accepted the request.

3. Economy

The accounts for 2018 shows a revenue of NOK 37,164 and an ordinary result of NOK 24, 204. This amount will be transferred as retained earnings. Total equity is then NOK 63, 036.

The Board of Directors is of the opinion that the prerequisites for the going concern assumption have been met.

4. Activities, contact and cooperation

Board of Directors and Annual Meeting

In 2018, the Board of the Nordic World Heritage Association has held five board meetings and an Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting took place in Reykjavik on Monday May 28th 2018. All the National World Heritage Associations and National Groups were represented at the Annual Meeting, and eight out of ten board members were present.

Three of the Board Meetings took place the 28th and 29th of May in Reykjavik, September 10th in Vingsted and 24th and 29th of October in Helsinki, respectively.

The other two Board Meetings were held as video conferences on February 1st and May 11th 2018.

The Nordic World Heritage Conference

The Nordic World Heritage Conference 2018 took place in Jelling and Christiansfeld, Denmark. The two World Heritage sites worked closely together in arranging the conference with approximately 120 participants.

At the conference, World Heritage was addressed through the eyes of children. On the second day of the conference, the challenges that may occur when a particular group has a special relation to the World Heritage Site was addressed. Many of the participants could clearly relate to the themes, and there was a warm and enthusiastic atmosphere among the participants that took part in guided tours, workshops, lectures and various musical presentations.

A post tour was arranged to the Wadden Sea, the third UNESCO Site in Southern Denmark.

The feed-back was in general very positive with useful and constructive remarks and inspiration for coming hosts.

In 2019, Stockholm will host the Nordic World Heritage Conference.

A Nordic World Heritage Award

In 2017 the Municipality of Rauma took the initiative to establish an Annual Nordic World Heritage Award. The physical award is a generous gift from the Municipality of Rauma.

The Board has in 2018 worked on the criteria of the award, that will be given to organisations and Nordic World Heritage site stakeholders who have excelled in community involvement and participation. The award is scheduled to be presented for the first time at the Nordic World Heritage Conference in Stockholm in 2019.

Sustainable Tourism Project

The Nordic World Heritage Association is currently doing a project on the challenges of working with sustainable tourism in Nordic World Heritage sites. The title of the project is "The Nordic World Heritage as a model region for sustainable tourism" and is funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers - Nordic Working Group on Biodiversity.

The purpose of the project is to turn the Nordic World Heritage Sites into a "model region for sustainable tourism" and to examine how the Nordic World Heritage Sites are working on a strategic level with sustainable tourism and what the current challenges are in this respect.

Among other things, the project is looking at how the UNESCO World Heritage Sustainable Tourism tool kit is being used today and what the challenges of using the tool kit are.

It is a project scheduled for one year, and the Danish firm Bark Rådgivning A/S is involved in the project, in close cooperation with the board.

In spring 2019, a quantitative survey has been made among all the Nordic World Heritage Sites, followed up by interviews with a group of Nordic site managers.

The board will at the board meeting in Copenhagen May 2019 conduct an internal workshop, and at the Nordic World Heritage Conference in September another workshop will take place. The results of the project are expected to be ready by the end of the year 2019.

Homepage

A homepage has been established by the kind help from Harald Schaller, Thingvellir National Park - <https://www.nordicworldheritage.org/>

Vision

The board of the Nordic World Heritage Association has decided on the following formulation of vision:

"The Nordic World Heritage Association supports best practise in World Heritage Management across the Nordic countries – sharing knowledge and implementing the World Heritage Convention".

Conference strategy

The board has decided on the following conference strategy:

"The Nordic World Heritage Association holds an annual conference.

The members of the Nordic World Heritage Association alternately host the conference.

The vision of the Nordic World Heritage Association is:

"The Nordic World Heritage Association supports best practise in World Heritage Management across the Nordic Countries – sharing knowledge and implementing the World Heritage Convention".

The annual conference is a major activity to fulfil the purpose and vision of the Association.

The organizer is responsible for the programme and the actual running of the conference.

The Board of the Nordic World Heritage Association functions as an advisory Board ensuring the long-term development of the conferences.

The conference hosts for the coming year will give a brief presentation at the conference the year before.”

A handbook for future hosts is under preparation.

5. Members

The Nordic World Heritage Association has five members:

1. World Heritage Sweden
2. World Heritage Finland
Association of World Heritage Sites in Finland
3. World Heritage Norway
4. National World Heritage Group in Iceland
5. National World Heritage Group Danish Realm

6. Staff, security and gender equality

The organization had no employees in 2018.

There have been no incidents of injury or accident.

The board consists of four women and six men. The organization supports gender equality and would like to see an equal division between men and women in the Board of Directors.

7. External environment

The organization does not engage in any activities that pollute the external environment.

The Annual Report has been prepared in two versions, one in Danish and one in English.

Board of Directors
Nordic World Heritage Association
May 20th 2019

Lena Landström
Member of the Board

Camilla Lugnet
Member of the Board

Jussi Teleranta
Member of the Board

Petteri Takkula
Member of the Board

Einar Sæmundsen
Member of the Board

Ólafur A. Jónsson
Member of the Board

Rita Johansen
Member of the Board

Odd Sletten
Member of the Board

Morten Teilmann-Jørgensen
Member of the Board

Birgitte S. B. Lamp
Chairperson