

## **PRESSEMITTEILUNG**

OWHC Northwest European Regional Conference in Regensburg: High-ranking guests and interesting speeches on "Earth, Wind, Water and Fire"

From September 16 to 18 this year the German City of Regensburg will host the OWHC Northwest European Regional Conference 'Earth, Wind, Water, Fire - Environmental Challenges to Urban World Heritage'.

Within different thematic sessions dedicated to the topics 'Earth', 'Wind', 'Water' and 'Fire', experts and site managers will present case studies on how natural hazards and environmental conditions compromise the cultural heritage values of historic cities and discuss about innovative protective measures and strategies.

The preliminary conference programme is auspicious:

Apart from a tempting framework programme and a large number of interesting technical presentations from many European cities on the topics "Earth", "Wind", "Water" and "Fire", high-ranking representatives from the OWHC, ICOMOS and UNESCO have announced their participation.

Lee Minaidis, Interim Secretary General of the "Organization of World Heritage Cities", as well as Dr. Ray Bondin, President of CIVVIH, will give welcome addresses.

Dr. Mechtild Rössler, Chief of the Europe and North America Section of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre will talk about new challenges to World Heritage in the urban context. Prof. Michael Petzet, President of ICOMOS, will give a lecture on the ICOMOS "Heritage@Risk" programme. The keynote speech will be given by Rainer Fürhaupter, Member of the Board of Management of the Versicherungskammer Bayern, a local insurance company that kindly sponsors the conference.

The City of Regensburg hopes for a lot of participants, an interesting congress and fruitful discussions among experts.

Further information and online registration: www.regensburg.de/worldheritage.

July 7, 2008