# CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE OFFICER FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kai Weise Nepal



## **Short Biography**

Kai Weise is a Nepali national of Swiss origin. He completed his Masters in Architecture from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich in 1992 and recently obtained his Doctor of Philosophy from the Department of Archaeology, Durham University. He has been working as a planner and architect in the Himalayan Region. He has facilitated the establishment of management systems for World Heritage properties in Nepal, Uzbekistan, Myanmar and India. Kai Weise is immediate past president of ICOMOS Nepal and presently coordinates the ICOMOS Asia Pacific Regional Network. He has been a member of ICOMOS since 2007 and is a voting member of ICORP, ISCARSAH and ISC20C.

#### Kai Weise

# Doctor of Philosophy (Department of Archaeology, Durham University GCRF CDT) Architect (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich. M. ARCH.)

Born in Kathmandu, Nepal on 11 October 1965

Nepali citizen of Swiss origin

Languages: English, German, Nepali

Swiss German (mother tongue), French (basic)

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Member: ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites)	[since 2007]
Member: ICOMOS Nepal (Nepal National Committee of ICOMOS)	[since 2013]
President, ICOMOS Nepal	[2013-2021]
Honorary Advisor	[since 2021]
Member: ICOMOS ICORP (International Scientific Committee on Risk Preparedness)	[since 2009]
Member: ICOMOS 20C (International Scientific Committee on 20 Century Heritage)	[since 2018]
Member: ICOMOS ISCARSAH (The International Scientific Committee on the Analysis	
and Restoration of Structures of Architectural Heritage	) [since 2021]
Member: ICOMOS Sustainable Development Goals Working Group	[since 2017]
Coordinator, ICOMOS Asia Pacific Regional Network	[since 2020]
Honorary Member: ICOMOS Myanmar	[since 2020]
National Expert, International Scientific Committee Kathmandu Valley WH (ISC-KV)	[since 2023]
Expert Advisor: Heritage Impact Assessment Committee, Department of Archaeology	[since 2023]
Individual Member: Heritage Asia-Pacific (UNESCO-WHITR-AP)	[since 2019]
Advisory Committee Member: Asian Network of Industrial Heritage (ANIH)	[since 2019]
Consultant: UNESCO, for Management of World Heritage properties	[regularly since 2004]
Fellow: Institute of Advance Studies, Durham University, UK	[since 2015]

#### 1. Heritage Management

- Shey Phoksundo, Upper Dolpo, Nepal (November 2018 ongoing)
- Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, Nepal (July 2014- ongoing)
- Lumbini, Birthplace of Lord Buddha, Nepal (October 2004 ongoing)
- Kathmandu Valley World Heritage property, Nepal (October 2003 ongoing)
- Koh Ker, Cambodia (September 2020-March 2021)
- Mrauk U Monuments and Archaeological Site, Myanmar (May 2017-February 2021)
- Bagan Monuments and Archaeological Site, Myanmar (September 2013-February 2021)
- Greater Lumbini Area, Nepal (October 2012 July 2019)
- Mountain Railways of India (October 2005 December 2018)
- Taxila, Ouch Sharif, Katas Raj and Sikh Sites, Pakistan (April June 2018)
- Samarkand Crossroad of Cultures, Uzbekistan (October 2010 January 2013)

#### 2. Disaster Risk Management and Earthquakes Response

- Gorkha Earthquake of 25 April 2015 (April 2015 ongoing) response and rehabilitation planning
- Resilience Plan for Angkor (June 2022 December 2023)
- Koh Ker (November 2022 August 2023) outline for disaster risk management
- Chauk Earthquake of 24 August 2016 (August 2016 to August 2019) response planning

#### 3. Evaluations and Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA)

Evaluations are mainly related to World Heritage nominations in the region, either site visits or desk reviews for ICOMOS. Other evaluations have been carried out for various organisations and agencies. A major involvement has been in carrying out Heritage Impact Assessments and then working on establishing the procedures in Nepal and Cambodia, and since October 2023 as advisor to the Department of Archaeology's Heritage Impact Assessment Committee.

Kai Weise re-established ICOMOS Nepal in 2013, was president till 2021 and was given honorary membership in 2024. He has lectured in various universities in Nepal, Switzerland, UK, Japan, India, China and the Republic of Korea. He has been contributing to numerous publications and international journal, and between 2010 and 2020 wrote a weekly column in the Himalayan Times on architecture, planning and heritage.

#### **Electoral Platform Statement**

I have been involved with ICOMOS since 2007. After several years of facilitation, I was able to establish ICOMOS Nepal in 2013, was president for eight years, and am now advisor and honorary member. I joined ICORP in 2009 and worked closely with the scientific committee while responding to the 2015 Gorkha Earthquakes in Nepal and the Chauk Earthquake in Myanmar, for which I also became an honorary member of ICOMOS Myanmar. I later joined the ISC20C and ISCARSAH to expand on my activities in Nepal, and coordinate discussions on lessons learned from projects of ISCARSAH Members. I have also been a member of the ICOMOS Sustainable Development Goals Working Group since its inception during the ICOMOS AGM in New Delhi in 2017. Since 2020 I have been coordinating the Asia Pacific Regional network, arranging regular online meetings and promoting coordination between the regional national committees, the individual members and potential members. I have carried out several missions for ICOMOS to evaluate World Heritage nominations in the region. Recently, I was also involved in the committee discussing the fee structure of ICOMOS, representing the interest of low-income countries. For the ICOMOS Scientific Symposiums during the 2020 (virtual) and the 2023 General Assemblies held in Sydney, I was international co-chair for a sub-theme, and I am presently the coordinator for the 2025 annual ICOMOS General Assembly that will take place in Nepal.

Over the past 17 years, I have been contributed to ICOMOS through the national committee of Nepal, scientific committees, working groups, regional coordination, as well as carrying out evaluation missions. This has allowed me to understand the concerns of members and potential members, as well as the challenges that ICOMOS faces. Having always supported the interest of ICOMOS, if elected, I look forward to addressing these challenges and contributing to the mission of ICOMOS.

Kai Weise

Former President

Kai Weese

**ICOMOS Nepal** 

Membership NPL 29163

### **Willingness Statement by Candidate**

I hereby confirm that, if I am elected, I am willing to serve as National Committee Officer on the ICOMOS Advisory Council.

Kai Weise

Former President

**ICOMOS Nepal** 

Membership NPL 29163

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30 September 2024

Nomination Letter for National Committee Officer, ICOMOS Advisory Council

Greetings from Nepal,

I hereby nominate former President of ICOMOS Nepal, **Dr Kai Ube Prasad Weise**, ICOMOS Member 29613, as National Committee Officer in the Advisory Council for the 2024-2027 term.

Thank you, Yours sincerely

Gyanin Rai President ICOMOS Nepal