

**THE HERITAGE COUNCIL
REPORT ON THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE RESTITUTION AND
REPATRIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**BOARDROOM, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND, 4 KILDARE STREET, DUBLIN
11.30 am, 3rd Nov 2025**

PRESENT

Sir Donnell Deeny – **Chairperson**
Ms Sinead Copeland
Mr Seán Kirwan - (joined online via Teams)
Ms Orlaith Lochrin
Professor Mary O'Dowd
Dr Patricia O'Hare - (joined online via Teams)
Judge Kerida Naidoo- (joined online via Teams)
Professor Jane Ohlmeyer - (joined online via Teams)
Mr Oliver Sears
Ms Virginia Teehan
Dr Audrey Whitty

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Lisa Shortall
Ms Aalia Kamal

1. APOLOGIES

Mr Eugene Downes
Dr Phil Mullen
Ms Lynn Scarff
Ms Chanté St Clair Inglis

2. MINUTES OF MEETING ON 17TH APRIL 2025

Agreed: The minutes were approved and signed.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A letter has been received from Minister Patrick O'Donovan acknowledging the committee's Interim Report.

Agreed: It was agreed that the Chair would respond.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Virginia Teehan provided a summary of the Secretary's Report.

A letter was received on 29th October from the World Jewish Restitution Organisation.

Agreed: It was agreed to integrate the proposals outlined in the letter regarding the Washington Principles into the draft guidance.

5. REPORT FROM WORKING GROUP 2: LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE POSITION IN IRELAND

The Chair provided a verbal presentation of the report from the Legal Working Group. A line-by-line discussion of the framework document took place.

6. REPORT FROM WORKING GROUP 1: INTERNATIONAL POLICY AND BEST PRACTICE – DRAFT GUIDANCE

The Chair thanked the Working Group their continued work on the draft guidance. Professor O’Dowd provided a verbal presentation of the work of policy working group and the current draft of the guidance. A line-by-line discussion of the draft guidance took place.

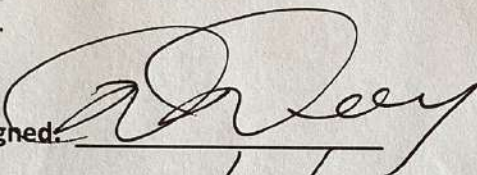
Agreed: When ready, the draft design of the guidance will be circulated to the Committee.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed: The date of the final meeting of the committee will be Monday 23rd February 2026.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

Signed: 

Date: 2/4/26

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