



**The UIA Council at its 114<sup>th</sup> Session held in Tokyo, Japan on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2010 declared the following Statement and adopted the following Resolution concerning the building up of Bécsi Street in the V. District of Budapest, Hungary.**

### STATEMENT

The UIA Council was startled by the information that there is a proposal for a large investment in the centre of Budapest where developers wish to demolish five existing buildings to build a new building which is bigger in size and bulk, and far higher than the existing important heritage buildings adjacent. This proposed development will grossly overpower the existing streetscape in this very sensitive area, increase traffic and reduce the existing amenities of the area.

The historic downtown of Budapest is one of the most significant architectural areas in Europe. Any development in this area should be sensitive to the height and scale of the existing heritage buildings and places around it. If its renewal is not possible without consideration of the preservation and conservation of the historic city, without respecting the continuity of the area, and without destroying valuable buildings, it should be reconsidered. It is most important to preserve the existing morphology and keep the existing building heights during the reconstruction. Sensitive insertions into these types of heritage areas are possible and these have been made in other heritage cities around the world, without destroying the sense of place of the existing area.

The UIA Council is astonished at the huge scale of the proposed intervention in this very sensitive downtown area of Budapest and therefore requests that the decision makers be asked to radically rethink the planned density and building up of this downtown area, and to create a development plan which respects this historical city's heritage as supported by the opinion of the professionals and the society of Budapest.

### RESOLUTION of the 114<sup>th</sup> Session of the UIA Council, Tokyo, Japan, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2010

“The UIA offers its professional support in dealing with the issue of the redevelopment of Bécsi Street in the V. District of Budapest, Hungary, and suggests that a programme maker forum be organised with representatives of the developers, professionals, society and the city to debate the principles required for redevelopment in such a sensitive heritage site in the Bécsi Street development area of Budapest, which should lead to a much better and more appropriate development in this heritage area, that is acceptable to all.”

On behalf of the UIA Council,

Louise Cox AM  
UIA President

Tokyo, Japan, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2010