

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,  
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION  
CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE  
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

World Heritage Committee

Thirteenth session

Unesco Headquarters, Paris, 11-15 December 1989

**ITEM 15 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA: Nominations of natural properties to the World Heritage List and to the List of World Heritage in Danger**

1. At its thirteenth session, the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee examined five nominations of natural properties, in light of the evaluations of IUCN. The natural properties recommended for inscription and nominations to be deferred are listed under sections A and B, respectively, with the texts of the Bureau's recommendations and notes on subsequent action.

2. At its thirteenth session, the Bureau also examined a request from the Tanzanian authorities to remove the Ngorongoro Conservation Area from the List of World Heritage in Danger. The Bureau's observations and recommendation on this request are listed under section C.

**A. Nominations recommended for inscription**

**Tasmanian Wilderness - Australia**

"The Bureau noted with satisfaction the proposal to expand the existing World Heritage site by adding an additional area of 261,960 ha, i.e. a 34% increase. The Bureau concurred with the IUCN recommendation to further expand the additional nominated area to include the Denison/Spires/Maxwell River area comprising the Northern and Western portion of the "hole in the doughnut", plus a number of areas along the Eastern boundary of the current extension and welcomed the declaration of the representative of Australia that this additional expansion would be submitted in September this year.

Accordingly, the Bureau requested the Australian authorities to submit the final boundaries of the proposed extension to the Secretariat by 15 September 1989 to allow IUCN to complete its evaluation. The Bureau further requested ICOMOS to evaluate the cultural values of the full extended area. The completed IUCN evaluation and the ICOMOS evaluation on the cultural values should be examined by the Bureau at the time of the Committee session in December to give the Committee a clear recommendation."

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On 29 September 1989, the Australian authorities submitted a revised proposal for the extension of the World Heritage Site of Western Tasmanian Wilderness National Parks. This revised proposal adds on a further extension of 604,645 ha, i.e. the extension corresponds to a 78% increase in area of the site inscribed on the World Heritage List. Copies of the revised proposal have been transmitted to IUCN and ICOMOS for evaluation: these evaluations will be submitted to the Bureau which will meet at the time of the thirteenth ordinary session of the Committee.

#### **Banc d'Arguin National Park - Mauritania**

"The Bureau recommended that the Committee inscribe this site on the World Heritage List, excluding the Cap Blanc Satellite Reserve which could only be considered once the boundary question is resolved and until the Côte des Phoques parts can be included. The Bureau also recommended that the Mauritanian authorities should adopt the recommendations of a FAO review of the protective legislation of the Park, as well as expand their research efforts into cultural and socio-economic aspects of local people (Imraguen) living in the Park."

The Bureau's recommendations were transmitted to the State Party via letter dated 11 August 1989.

#### **Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls - Zambia/Zimbabwe**

"The Bureau recommended the inscription of this site and requested the States Parties concerned to reduce the limits of the nominated property to include the Victoria Falls National Park, the southern half of Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, and a small portion of the riverine strip of Zambesi National Park in order to better concentrate on the core features of the Falls area and the downstream gorges."

The Bureau's recommendations were transmitted to the States Parties via letters dated 2 August 1989.

#### **B. Nominations to be deferred**

##### **Tongariro National Park - New Zealand**

"The Bureau recommended that the inscription of this property on the World Heritage List be further deferred until the revised management plan is available for review, particularly with regard to the following items:

- a) the extent of ski development on Mt. Ruapehu, the current plans for expansion and the impact of these developments on cultural values and "image" of the park. This is compounded by new prospects for slope grooming and snow making which would have substantial impacts on scenic values and hydrology. It has been suggested that the ski fields of Tongariro would be very susceptible to effects of global warming which would require an upward movement of skiing activity;

The recommendations of the Bureau were transmitted to the State Party via letter dated 2 August 1989.

**Wattenmeer (Mudflats of lower Saxony) - Federal Republic of Germany**

"The Bureau recommended that the nomination of this site be deferred until a fully documented nomination of the whole Wadden Sea complex is jointly submitted by Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands. In this regard, the Bureau noted that the Netherlands is not yet a State Party to the Convention and requested the Secretariat to resume its contacts with the Dutch authorities to encourage the adherence of the Netherlands to the Convention. The Bureau welcomed the proposal that ICOMOS should help the countries concerned in drawing up the joint nomination to take account of the archaeological and cultural values of the Wadden Sea complex."

The recommendations of the Bureau were transmitted to the State Party via letter dated 2 August 1989.

**C. Proposal to remove a natural property from the List of Heritage in Danger**

**Ngorongoro Conservation Area - United Republic of Tanzania**

"The Bureau was glad to learn of improvements in the management and protection of this site, due in part to the support from the World Heritage Fund, since it was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1983. The Bureau noted that by letter dated 2 March 1989, the Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Tourism had agreed to remove this property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and recommended that the Committee should comply with this request."