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**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,  
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE  
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

**Bureau of the World Heritage Committee  
Seventeenth session**

UNESCO Headquarters  
21-26 June 1993, Paris, France  
Room IX (Fontenoy Building)

**Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda: Requests for International Assistance**

**A. Cultural Heritage (Technical co-operation)**

**A.1. Hal Saflieni Hypogeum (Malta)**

**Background:** The Hal Saflieni Hypogeum was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1980. To date, Malta has received US\$ 53,375 from the World Heritage Fund, distributed as follows: US\$31,000 for training, US\$8,169 for preparatory assistance and US\$14,306 for technical assistance, of which US\$11,713 was spent on Hal Saflieni Hypogeum. Malta has paid its contribution to the World Heritage Fund.

At its sixteenth session, held in Paris, in July 1992, the Bureau noted that the amount requested is too high to consider financing under the World Heritage Fund, but was of the view that a contribution from the Fund could be made if the Maltese authorities were able to assure the Committee of complementary financing. Furthermore the Bureau requested ICOMOS to examine justifications provided by the Maltese authorities for the need to install an air-conditioning system at this World Heritage site and assess the relative merits of different options available for solving problems caused by internal humidity.

**Description of Request:** In order to resolve problems linked to internal humidity, the the Maltese authorities have envisaged the installation of an air-conditioning system, at the entrance hall of the Hypogeum at an estimated cost (in 1993) of US\$440,000 (167,200 Maltese Pounds).

**National Contribution:** Within the framework of a programme to restore the monument, the Maltese Government has set aside US\$263,000 (100,000 Maltese Pounds) for 1993 to initiate the project

**Amount requested:** The Maltese authorities request a sum of US\$30,000 (11,400 Maltese Pounds) as a contribution for 1993 for the installation of the air-conditioning system.

**Action by the Bureau:** The Bureau may wish to consider approving US\$30,000 as a contribution to this project in the Hypogeum, subject to ICOMOS providing a favourable assessment of the need to install the air-conditioning system and the relative merits of alternative options available.