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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE  
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

BUREAU OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Eighteenth session

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, Room X (Fontenoy)

4-9 July 1994

Item 7 of the Provisional Agenda : Requests for International Assistance

A. NATURAL HERITAGE

A.1 Requests to be decided by the Bureau

Training in the Conservation and Management of Natural Heritage in the Arab Region 30.000 \$ -

**Background:** The World Heritage Committee had supported two training courses (natural heritage) held in the region, the first in Qatar in 1989 and the second in Saudi Arabia in 1993. There are few natural sites in the region (Ichkeul/Tunisia) and thus it is difficult to meet the Committee's criteria of training for World Heritage site managers. There are several Ramsar sites and some Biosphere Reserves as well as potential World Heritage sites. The criteria for the selection of candidates needs to be relaxed to include these and other protected area managers.

It must also be pointed out that the field of protected area management has yet to mature in the region and therefore specialists from outside the region must be a component of the training programme.

A request for a training course was first submitted by the UNESCO National Commission for Egypt in 1992. The current proposal was received in April 1994 and is scheduled for April 1995. The programme as submitted requires elaboration and this will be done in cooperation with IUCN and the Ramsar Secretariat.

**Description of the request:** The training workshop will be organized over a two-week period to meet the following objectives:

- i) to familiarize the participants of the course with the objectives of the World Heritage Convention, the Ramsar Convention and the management of Biosphere Reserves;
- ii) to familiarize participants with the status of natural heritage in the Arab region, existing legislation and administration and operational constraints;
- iii) to explore ways and means of enhancing management effectiveness for protected areas (selection, inventory and research, management planning, operations, community relations);
- iv) to provide participants with an opportunity to visit existing and potential protected areas so that they can experience at first hand some of the issues related to their management.

**Participating agencies (to be confirmed):**

- . Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO
- . Egyptian National MAB (Man and the Biosphere) Committee
- . Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
- . UNESCO Regional Office for Science and Technology (ROSTA)
- . World Heritage Centre
- . Ramsar Convention
- . IUCN/CNPPA
- . National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development, Saudi Arabia

**Resource persons:** To be selected from individuals with long experience in protected area management and training in cooperation with participating countries and partners.

**Participants:** To be selected from the Arab region with a priority given to individuals associated with World Heritage sites or potential sites, Biosphere Reserves and Ramsar site staff and individuals closely associated with protected area management.

**Tentative programme:** The programme submitted requires elaboration to ensure a focus on management issues related to the World Heritage Convention, Ramsar and Biosphere Reserves, local participation and public-awareness as well as Arab region conservation issues and options.

**Field excursions:** Priority will be given to potential natural World Heritage sites (Mount Sinai, Ras Mohamad) and Ramsar sites (Burullus and Bardawil).

**Amount requested from the Fund:** The total cost of the seminar is estimated at US\$98,000 for 35 trainees. An amount of US\$30,000 is requested from the World Heritage Fund primarily for international travel (US\$25,000). The national contribution in

cash and kind from national agencies will be US\$68,000, of which US\$15,000 will be in kind (premises, etc.).

**Action by the Bureau:** The Bureau is requested to approve the request for US\$30,000, subject to a final agreement to be negotiated with the national authorities concerned.

## **B. Cultural Heritage**

### **B.1. Technical cooperation**

#### **B.1.1 Historic Centre of the Town of Olinda (Brazil)**

**Background:** Brazil has mainly received World Heritage assistance for training (individual fellowships, support for the post-graduate training course at the Federal University of Bahia). Technical assistance was provided in 1988 and 1989 for the Jesuit Missions for a total of US\$ 30,000. In 1994, preparatory assistance will be implemented for Serra da Capivara for an amount of US\$ 15,000.

Brazil has paid voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund including the 1992-1993 period.

**Description of the request:** The monitoring of this site as reported to the World Heritage Committee at its seventeenth session, stated that Olinda has been included in a major IDB-funded tourism development project for the north-east of Brazil and that, therefore, management and conservation of the cultural heritage resources in the context of the urban cultural and tourism development in Olinda should require special attention.

The Brazilian Institute for Cultural Heritage (IBPC) is now requesting technical cooperation for the Municipality of Olinda for them to prepare a Tourist Study which would form part of the Urban Development Plan. The Tourist Study would deal with the following issues, among others:

- \* an inventory of natural and cultural tourist attractions;
- \* necessary tourist equipment and infrastructure (including the development of complementary activities to augment hours and money spent per tourist);
- \* pre-feasibility studies, taking into account market potential, indicative costs of infrastructure, employment generation and captation of municipal taxes;
- \* indications for the institutional arrangements regarding the execution of the plan.

Finally the study should list actions to be undertaken, aiming at their possible incorporation in national or

international financing programmes, especially the Action Programme for the Tourist Development of the Northeast (PRODETUR/NE) by the Interamerican Development Bank.

**National contribution:** The national contribution would consist of municipal planning and legal experts, administrative support, logistics for an amount of US\$ 19,500.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** The amount of US\$ 19,000 is requested for two expert missions (one tourism expert and one economist). The first mission will be undertaken at the beginning of the study to discuss the outline of the study and the activities that will be undertaken by the team of local experts; the second mission will be undertaken at a later stage to monitor the progress made by the local team and to conclude the Tourist Study.

**Action by the Bureau:** The Bureau is requested to approve the request.

#### **B.1.2 Antigua Guatemala (Guatemala)**

**Background:** The town of Antigua Guatemala was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979. Emergency assistance for Antigua Guatemala was provided in 1979 for an amount of US\$ 60,710. Training assistance for individual fellowships was provided in 1981 for a total amount of US\$ 6,150.

Guatemala has paid its dues to the World Heritage Fund including the 1992-1993 period.

**Description of request:** The monitoring mission to this site, undertaken in 1991, concluded that the town for the most part, particularly the residential buildings, is well preserved, but that the state of conservation of the majority of the ruins (churches, convents, some public buildings) is of great concern. The mission also concluded that major attention should be given to the management of tourism as well as to aspects of the integral urban development and traffic control.

In line with the conclusions of the monitoring mission, the authorities of Guatemala presented a request for technical assistance for the amount of US\$ 18,000 for the structural reinforcement of the ruins and the preparation of a master plan for the town. This request was reviewed with the national authorities and the National Council for the Protection of Antigua Guatemala during a mission of a programme specialist of the World Heritage Centre (27 April-2 May 1994), who was informed that a master plan for the town is presently being prepared in collaboration with the Agencia Española para la Cooperación Internacional (AECI). It was concluded, therefore, that the most appropriate assistance would be to the consolidation of the ruins in the form of urgently needed equipment. A revised request is forthcoming.

**National Contribution:** The national contribution will consist of local labour and expertise (personnel of the National Council for the Protection of Antigua Guatemala) and future maintenance of the equipment.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** A revised request is forthcoming.

**Action by the Bureau:** The Bureau is asked to consider the revised request which will be presented to the Bureau at its eighteenth session in December 1994.

### **B.1.3 Tikal National Park (Guatemala)**

**Background:** Tikal National Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979. To date, no World Heritage assistance has been provided to this site.

Guatemala has paid its dues to the World Heritage Fund including the 1992-1993 period.

**Description of the request:** The monitoring mission to this site, undertaken in 1992, identified the need for improved management and a study on the conservation of stone. Following these findings, the Government of Guatemala presented a request for technical assistance for US\$ 19,000 for the preparation/revision of a management plan, the preparation of a mid- to long-term funding mechanism and for the creation of an on-site stone conservation laboratory. No detailed workplan or budget were provided. The request was reviewed with the national authorities and the site managers during a mission of a programme specialist of the World Heritage Centre (27 April-2 May 1994), who was informed that the Park administration is in the process of revising the management plan which dates back to the early seventies. On the short-term basis, the administration is concentrating on preparing an Operational Plan for 1995-1996, the preparation of a zoning and use-scheme, the creation of an environmental educational centre and the rehabilitation of the visitor centre (including site museum). Some specific external expertise is required and the site manager will present a revised request to this effect. The revised request will possibly also include the purchase of communication equipment for the Park guards.

**National Contribution:** The national contribution will consist of national and local expertise and all other costs for the preparation of the above-mentioned management instruments.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** A revised request is forthcoming.

**Action by the Bureau:** The Bureau is asked to consider the revised request which will be presented to the Bureau at its eighteenth session.

B.1.4 Medina of Marrakesh, Morocco  
(Restoration of the Medersa Ben Youssef)

**Background:** Morocco has three sites inscribed on the World Heritage List, one of which is the Medina of Marrakesh, inscribed by the Committee during its ninth session in Paris (France) in 1985.

Morocco has received two allocations for training from the Fund (US\$ 15,138 in 1981 and US\$ 5,000 in 1988), two allocations for technical cooperation (US\$ 16,881 for the restoration of the hydraulic clock of Fez in 1988, and US\$ 20,000 for the organization of an international expert meeting in Fez which will take place this September, approved by the Chairperson of the Committee).

**Description of the project:** Amongst the numerous monuments of great historical and cultural value in the Medina of Marrakesh, the Medersa Ben Youssef which dates back to the 16th century is particularly noteworthy. It is the biggest medersa of western Islam (including Andalusia) and remains the sole known example of this type of monument of this era: founded in the mid-14th century under the Merinides, it was reconstructed in 1564-1565 during the Saadian period, but its layout remained identical to that of the Merinide medersas of the 13th-15th centuries.

The monument is in a very dilapidated state endangering the supporting structures as well as the decorative elements (especially finely carved wooden lintels and painted ceilings) which risk being lost for ever. The objective of the project is to ensure the total restoration of the monument including its rehabilitation, water-proofing, floor coverage, decoration (particularly the sculptured plaster and zellij tiles), as well as the protective mortar. A pilot project has already been elaborated by the Moroccan authorities, the call for tenders will be launched and the first work will commence in 1994, with a completion date for restoration foreseen for mid-1996. The Directorate of Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs is the national body responsible for the implementation of the project.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** On 3 May 1994, the Moroccan authorities addressed a technical cooperation request for an amount of US\$ 30,000 to the World Heritage Centre, as a contribution towards the total estimated amount of approximately US\$ 500,000 (5,400,000 DH).

**National contribution:** The Moroccan Government will cover the remaining costs, that is approximately US\$ 470,000.

**Action for the Bureau:** It is proposed that the Bureau approve this request.

**B.1.5** Historic Areas of Istanbul (Turkey)  
(Restoration of the mosaics of Hagia-Sophia)

**Background:** Turkey has seven properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, amongst which is the Historic Area of Istanbul where the Byzantine Church of Hagia-Sophia is located (Sainte-Sophie), dating back to the 6th century. Its mosaics are considered one of the greatest works of art of Byzantine times. As many of them have suffered degradation and are even coming away from the ceiling, emergency measures have been taken by the Turkish authorities, either directly, or with the assistance of UNESCO and other national and international organizations.

Turkey thus benefited from an amount of US\$30,000 from the World Heritage Fund approved by the World Heritage Committee during its sixteenth session in Santa Fe (USA). With this assistance, four international experts visited the site in 1993 and produced two diagnostic reports, scientific and technical analyses and established a restoration process, which were submitted to and approved by the World Heritage Centre.

**Description of the Project:** Following identification of the diagnostics and the most urgent actions to be taken, an active conservation and restoration phase, including several measures of an urgent nature, must now be implemented.

Extensive scaffolding has been set up under the dome to facilitate the pursuit of studies and analyses, the stratigraphic and technical recordings, and especially to carry out the initial conservation and restoration measures.

**Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund:** By letter dated 4 February 1994 to the World Heritage Centre, the Turkish authorities requested technical assistance for an amount of US\$ 50,000 (US\$ 20,000 to be submitted to the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee and US\$ 30,000 to be submitted to the eighteenth session of the World Heritage Bureau), for 1994, and announced their intention of submitting an additional request of US\$ 80,000 for 1995 to the eighteenth session of the World Heritage Committee.

The initial US\$ 20,000 was approved on 7 March 1994 by the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee in order to finance part of the purchase of indispensable materials as well as for the remuneration of five international experts specialized in this type of work.

The US\$ 30,000 request to be submitted to the Bureau is subdivided as follows:

- 1) further purchase of materials and equipment for conservation and restoration purposes....(US\$ 16,750)
- 2) travel, per diem and remuneration of five international specialists for 12 days..... (US\$ 13,250)

**National contribution:** The Turkish national authorities responsible for the conservation of cultural heritage, the Central Istanbul Laboratory for Conservation and Restoration, as well as the University of the Bosphorus, all collaborate actively and on a regular basis on this project, notably for the photogrammetric recordings of the dome, the analysis of the materials used, the study of structural stability problems of the building, and the exploration of the internal layers of the building by seismic topography.

**Action by the Bureau:** It is proposed that the Bureau approve this request.

**B.1.6 Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen)**  
**(Identification and inventory of major historical monuments requiring immediate restoration)**

**Background:** Yemen has three properties inscribed on the World Heritage List amongst which the Historic Town of Zabid, inscribed by the Committee during its seventeenth session in Cartagena (Colombia) in December 1993.

Yemen has received funds for: two preparatory assistance requests (US\$ 7,000 in 1988, and US\$ 11,200 in 1990); two emergency assistance requests for Shibam (US\$ 20,000 in 1982 and US\$ 50,000 in 1993) and three training fellowships (US\$ 19,550 in 1988). Yemen has not paid its dues to the World Heritage Fund since 1980, and has arrears of US\$ 3,125.

**Description of the project:** Many buildings of Zabid are in a very dilapidated or damaged state. The project aims to establish an inventory of those buildings of great cultural and historic value according to the urgency of their need for repair and conservation, prepare a preliminary description of the work and cost estimate for the shoring-up operations and the evacuation of water from the most threatened buildings, undertake these emergency measures for at least one building, alert the different national municipal authorities and international donors of these needs. The national body which will be responsible for the implementation of the project in the GOPHCY.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** By letter of 28 April 1994, the Yemeni authorities addressed a technical cooperation request for an amount of US\$ 30,000 to the World Heritage Centre, to finance the following costs:

- two-week mission to Zabid of an expert architect already fully familiar with Zabid's architectural heritage of Zabid (2 weeks consultancy at P-5 level: approx. US\$ 2,000 + air travel Paris/Sana'a/Paris: approx. US\$2,000 + travel in the country approx. US\$ 1,000 + per diem approx. US\$ 1,500);
- Report costs approx. US\$ 1,000.
- shoring-up operations and evacuation of water from those buildings considered to be both of great importance and the most threatened (remaining amount, approx. US\$ 22,500).

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**National contribution:** By letter of 11 May 1994 the Permanent Delegation of Yemen to UNESCO informed the World Heritage Centre that the national contribution would be 350,000 Yemeni rials (approximately US\$85,000) and that the payment of arrears, already being processed, could be delayed due to the events taking place in the Yemen at this time.

**Action by the Bureau:** The Bureau is invited to take a decision regarding this request.

## **B.2. Training**

### **B.2.1 Brazil (Historic Town of Ouro Preto) (19,250\$)**

**Background:** Over the years Brazil has mainly received World Heritage assistance for training (individual fellowships, support for the post-graduate training course at the Federal University of Bahia). Technical assistance was provided in 1988 and 1989 for the Jesuit Missions for a total of US\$ 30,000. In 1994, preparatory assistance will be implemented for Serra da Capivara for an amount of US\$ 15,000.

Brazil has paid voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund including the 1992-1993 period.

**Description of the request:** Ouro Preto, like many of the Brazilian and Latin American historical World Heritage cities, has a number of well trained experts in the various fields of conservation. These cities, therefore, have now the capacity to prepare the appropriate master plans and many of them are in the process of doing so. Once these master plans are in place, efforts will have to be concentrated on management and obtaining financing for the implementation of these plans. Most of the conservation and urban development specialists at the municipal level have never received training in business administration, financial management, feasibility studies etc. The Brazilian Institute for Cultural Heritage (IBPC), therefore, intends to organize a training seminar for site managers of Historical Cities (eight from Brazil and seven from other Latin American countries) with the objective to:

1. train site managers from Brazil and other Latin American and Caribbean countries in pre-feasibility and feasibility studies;
2. train site managers in the execution of marketing studies for tourism among others, taking into account the cultural or environmental "costs" which usually do not show in an economic analysis;
3. educate site managers on funding possibilities in the field of conservation and related subjects and provide information on the requirements of some important donors;
4. provide ideas on the feasibility of tourist development alternatives for the site of Ouro Preto (the city will be used for a comprehensive case study).

The training seminar is planned for eight days and would be held in October 1994 in Ouro Preto. This town will serve as the main case study during the seminar activities.

**National contribution:** The national contribution will amount to US\$ 10,300 for travel expenses of Brazilian participants, per diem costs for all participants and logistics. US\$ 4,900 will be obtained from other Latin American entities.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** US\$ 19,250 for contracting three international lecturers and one international speaker (eg. IDB) (US\$ 9,500); contracting two national experts (US\$ 2,000) and organization and educational material (US\$ 7,750).

**Action by the Bureau:** The Bureau is requested to approve the request.

**B.2.2** China (National training course on "Conservation of Timber Buildings") <sup>30.000 \$</sup>

**Background:** China ratified the World Heritage Convention in 1985.

China has paid its contributions to the World Heritage Fund including the 1992-1993 period.

To date, the following amounts have been granted from the World Heritage Fund:

1986 and 1988: US\$15,000 and US\$24,800, respectively, for preparatory assistance;

1990: US\$ 146,000 and US\$ 13,000 for technical co-operation;

1991: US\$13,412 for emergency assistance, and US\$5,000 for technical co-operation;

an amount of US\$102,000 for eight scholarships was also provided from 1985/92; and

in 1993, a further sum amounting to a total of US\$94,000 was granted for Mogao Caves US\$40,000 (US\$20,000 for purchase of equipment and US\$20,000 on-site training); for Peking Man Site (US\$26,000 emergency assistance) and for Xi'An City (US\$15,000 preparatory assistance).

**Description of the request:** China, like many other countries, is becoming increasingly involved in developing appropriate methodology of intervention in the restoration of wooden building structures. The training of workmanship involved in such specialized work relating to restoration, preservation and introduction of appropriate materials and technology for the preservation of wooden structures and monumental buildings has been identified as one of the key points of intervention. A recent UNESCO/ICOMOS mission, (May 1994), for monitoring the state of conservation of the five Chinese World Heritage sites also stressed the importance of introducing more adequate

techniques in the restoration of timber structures. It was also suggested to extend the training course to all concerned persons, from site managers to the craftsmen, to benefit all parties concerned. The training, scheduled to last two weeks, has the objectives to improve trainees' theoretical and technical knowledge in the restoration work, to introduce new methodology of intervention, and last but not least to promote the development of conservation and restoration of ancient building structures to the public at large.

Three main topics will be discussed as part of the training course:

1. Analysis of ancient wooden structures in China;
2. Methodological approach in the study and assessment of structural stability in the ancient wooden structures; and
3. Methodological approach in the study and assessment of degradation, due to biological factors, in ancient wooden structures.

**National contribution:** Against a total budget of US\$50,500 foreseen for the training course, the Chinese authorities indicated that a contribution of US\$20,500 would be met by the State Bureau of Cultural Relics and the Palace Museum in Beijing. These funds will be allocated for travel expenses, accommodation of national experts and participants. The cost of secretarial services, rental of conference hall, translation etc. will also be covered.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** An amount of US\$ 30,000 from the World Heritage Fund has been requested to meet the cost of the international consultants, teaching materials, field excursions and equipment to be used during the training.

**Action by the Bureau:** The Bureau is asked to approve the request.

B.2.3 Italy (International training course on "Information, documentation and use of UNESCO publications regarding Cultural and Natural World Heritage") 20,000 \$

**Background:** Italy ratified the World Heritage Convention in 1978 and since then no requests for International Assistance have been requested from the Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention.

Italy has paid its dues to the World Heritage Fund including the 1992-1993 period.

**Description of the request:** The training course proposed by the Italian Federation of UNESCO Clubs and the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, is aimed at fostering the exchange of information on the preservation of cultural and natural World Heritage sites among the members of the "Clubs" and the Network of Associated Libraries. UNESCO, since its establishment, has produced or co-produced a large number of publications addressing, among others, issues relating to cultural as well as natural world heritage. It has been noted

that such materials are not easily available in libraries and bookshops, therefore, it is proposed to offer training in order to enable librarians and members of UNESCO Clubs to promote UNESCO documentation to the public at large.

The duration of the training will be about a week and will be attended by 30 participants: 20 from the Eastern European countries and 10 from the African countries.

**National contribution:** Against a total budget of US\$38,850 foreseen for the training course, the Italian authorities indicated that a contribution of US\$18,850 would be met by the Council of the Tuscan Region, Municipality of Florence, private sources, as well as from the UNESCO Centre of Florence.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** An amount of US\$20,000 from the World Heritage Fund has been requested to meet travel and accommodation costs for five participants from the African region (US\$9,000) and 15 participants from the Eastern European region (US\$9,500). It is also requested to allocate US\$1,500 as a contribution to the printing cost of reports.

**Action by the Bureau:** The Bureau is requested to approve the request.

**C. Promotional activities**

**C.1 Requests to be decided by the Bureau**

**C.1.1 China (realization of a 52-episode television series on World Heritage)**

**Background:** Beijing Television Station (BTV) is one of the leading TV stations in China. With 3 broadcasting channels, it has an audience of more than 20 million people. In addition, it has regular programme exchanges with some 30 TV stations at provincial levels in China. In 1993, with the support of UNESCO, BTV produced a 10-episode TV series on world adult education, which won high appraisal from its audience. Now BTV wishes to draw the attention of its audience not only to China's ten sites inscribed on the World Heritage List, but also to the treasures of other countries.

Since ratification of the World Heritage Convention in 1985, China has benefited from two allocations under preparatory assistance, in 1986 and 1988, US\$15,000 and US\$24,800 respectively; from the emergency assistance in 1991 (US\$13,412); from two technical assistance allocations in 1990 (US\$146,000 and US\$13,000) and one in 1991 (US\$5,000); it has also received eight scholarships throughout this period for the total amount of US\$102,000). In 1993, a further sum of US\$94,000 were requested, approved and funded as follows : for Mogao Caves US\$40,000 (US\$20,000 for purchase of equipment and US\$20,000 on-site training); for Peking Man Site (US\$26,000 emergency assistance) and for Xi'An City (US\$15,000 preparatory assistance).

**Description of the project:** Production and broadcasting of a TV series of 52 episodes, each of which will last 15 minutes and

will be focused on a particular subject or on 1-3 World Heritage sites. The series will be broadcasted at prime time, one episode per week. UNESCO's participation will be mentioned in the beginning of each episode, and the copyright of the series will be shared by BTV and UNESCO.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** By letters dated 18 April and 25 April 1994, the Chinese authorities submitted to the World Heritage Centre a request for US \$20,000 to be funded through the World Heritage Fund, to cover part of international travel expenses related to the project.

**National contribution:** National contribution will consist of US\$30,000. The major financial contribution of US\$200,000 is currently under negotiation between the national authorities and potential sponsors.

**Action of the Bureau:** The Bureau is invited to take a decision on this matter as follows. The Bureau approve the sum of US\$20,000 payable over a two-year period (in two instalments of US\$10,000 each) on the condition that the Chinese authorities raise the US\$20,000, as stated above.