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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

**Twenty-second extraordinary session
Kyoto, Japan
27 - 28 November 1998**

Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda: Examination of nominations of cultural and natural properties to the List of World Heritage in Danger and the World Heritage List

SUMMARY

This document contains recommendations made by the Bureau at its twenty-second session (June 1998) regarding the nominations of properties for inscription on the World Heritage List and information received. The Bureau is asked to make recommendations to the Committee regarding referred back nominations for complementary information as well as earlier deferred/referred nominations for which additional information has been received. The Bureau's recommendations will be transmitted to the Committee during its session under working document WHC-98/CONF.203/10Rev.

Decision required : In accordance with paragraph 65 of the Operational Guidelines, the Bureau is requested to examine the nominations for inscription on the World Heritage List and make recommendations to the Committee in the following four categories:

- (a) properties which it recommends to inscribe on the List of World Heritage in Danger (after examination of the working document (WHC-98/CONF.202/5);
- (b) properties which it recommends to inscribe on the World Heritage List;
- (c) properties which it decides not to recommend to inscribe on the List;
- (d) properties whose consideration is deferred.

A. NATURAL PROPERTIES

A.1 Properties for which the nomination were referred back to the State Party

**The Ravines of the Slovak 858 Slovak Republic
Paradis and Dobsinska Ice
Cave**

The Bureau noted that the Ravines of the Slovak Paradis and the Dobsinska Ice Cave are part of an extensive karst plateau with numerous deep ravines, waterfalls, surface karst phenomena and caves containing speleothems and ice. The natural values of the Ravines of the Slovak Paradis and the Dobsinska Ice Cave are considered to be of national and regional significance. The current nomination thus does not meet World Heritage criteria.

The Bureau decided to refer the nomination back to the State Party and asked the Slovak authorities to consider incorporating the Dobsinska Ice Cave portion into the nearby site of the Caves of Aggtelek Karst and Slovak Karst, already recognised as a World Heritage site, shared by the Slovak Republic and Hungary.

At the time of the preparation of this document no further information had been received from the State Party.

East Rennell 854 Solomon Islands N(ii)

East Rennell is part of Rennell Island, the southernmost of the Solomon Islands group. Rennell, the largest raised coral atoll in the world, is 86km long and 15 km wide and covers an area of 87,500ha. A major feature is Lake Tegano which was the former lagoon on the atoll and is the largest lake in the insular Pacific (15,500ha). Rennell is mostly covered with dense forest with a canopy averaging 20m in height.

East Rennell is of outstanding universal value under natural criterion (ii), demonstrating significant on-going ecological and biological processes and is an important site for the science of island bio-geography. These processes relate to the role of East Rennell as a stepping-stone in the migration and evolution of species in the western Pacific and for speciation processes underway, especially with respect to the avifauna. Combined with the strong climatic effects of frequent cyclones, the site is a true natural laboratory for scientific study. IUCN informed the Bureau that the protection and the management of the site are based on customary land tenure and community consensus and objectives and practices do not yet exist in written form. However, a draft national World Heritage Protection Bill exists and the national Government could take steps to introduce it for adoption and implementation. At the site level the local Management and Conservation Committee (MCC) has started a consultative process intended to produce written management principles and practices.

The Bureau took note of the draft national World Heritage Protection Bill and that customary ownership patterns are in place. Several Bureau members stated that well-established contractual or traditional protection and adequate management regimes have been acceptable for cultural sites (Operational Guidelines 24 (ii)b including cultural landscape categories), but that these do not apply to natural heritage.

The Bureau noted that the East Rennell nomination breaks new ground in terms of nominating a natural site under customary land ownership. The site meets natural criterion (ii), but does not meet the current Conditions of Integrity for natural heritage. The Bureau invited the State Party to also consider cultural values of the site for a possible nomination under the cultural landscape categories (para. 39 of the Operational Guidelines). The Bureau decided to refer the nomination back to the State Party and requested it to submit a report on the process of the local Management and Conservation Committee (MCC) to prepare a resources management plan for the site and for further information on actions on the proposed national World Heritage Protection Bill in time for the twenty-second extraordinary session of the Bureau.

Via letter of 1 September 1998 the Ministry of Commerce, Employment and Tourism of the Solomon Islands transmitted (a) further information on the resource management plan and its implementation and (b) information on the current status of the World Heritage Protection Bill. The Ministry noted that the application of cultural criteria will be further investigated. The information was transmitted to ICOMOS and IUCN for evaluation.

A.2 Properties for which the evaluation by IUCN was still pending at the twenty-second Session of the Bureau (June 1998)

IUCN informed the Bureau at its twenty-second session (June 1998) that for climatic reasons access to three nominated sites in the Russian Federation was not possible prior to the Bureau session. IUCN informed the Bureau that the following properties would be presented to the twenty-second extraordinary session of the Bureau in November 1998:

Bashkirian Ural	879	Russian Federation
Vodlozero National Park	767	Russian Federation
Golden Mountains of Altai	768 Rev.	Russian Federation

B. MIXED PROPERTY

B.1 Property for which the nomination was referred back to the State Party

The Cilento and Vallo di Diano National Park	842	Italy	C(iii)(iv)
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The Bureau noted that the site is characterised by mountains, valleys and coast with a succession of cliffs, promontories, valleys and beaches. Karst features include over 400 caves in the limestone mountains and caves and natural arches along the coast. The site is heavily populated and environmentally modified. The natural values of the National Park of Cilento are considered to be of national and regional significance but are not of outstanding universal value.

Concerning cultural values, the Bureau decided that this nomination be *referred back* to the State Party, requesting further information on the draft management plan and a revised delineation of the area proposed for inscription, to include the Certosa di Padula and Teggiano. In the event of this information being supplied and found acceptable, ICOMOS recommended that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (iii) and (iv)*:

Criterion (iii): During the prehistoric period, and again in the Middle Ages, the Cilento region served as a key route for cultural, political, and commercial communications in an exceptional manner, utilizing the crests of the mountain chains running east-west and thereby creating a cultural landscape of outstanding significance and quality.

Criterion (iv): In two key episodes in the development of human societies in the Mediterranean region, the Cilento area provided the only viable means of communication between the Adriatic and the Tyrrhenian Seas, in the central Mediterranean region, and this is vividly illustrated by the relict cultural landscape of today.

ICOMOS reported that the additional information requested had been received during the twenty-second session of the Bureau and that a report would be presented to the extraordinary session of the Bureau in November.

C. CULTURAL HERITAGE

C.1 Properties for which the nominations were referred back to the State Party

La Grand-Place, Brussels 857 Belgium C(ii)(iv)

The Bureau recommended that the nomination be *referred back to the State Party, requesting the redefinition of the buffer zone as proposed by ICOMOS*. In the event of the revised buffer zone being submitted by 1 October 1998 and positively evaluated by ICOMOS, the Bureau recommended that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (ii) and (iv)*:

Criterion (ii): The Grand-Place is an outstanding example of the eclectic and highly successful blending of architectural and artistic styles that characterizes the culture and society of the Low Countries.

Criterion (iv): Through the nature and quality of its architecture and of its outstanding quality as a public open space, the Grand-Place illustrates in an exceptional way the evolution and achievements of a highly successful mercantile city of northern Europe at the height of its prosperity.

By letter of 31 July 1998, the requested information on the buffer zone was received by the World Heritage Centre and transmitted to ICOMOS.

The imperial capital of Tiwanaku **567rev** **Bolivia**

The Bureau decided to refer the nomination back to the State Party to enable it to provide additional information relating to the protection and management of the site. If this information would be provided before 1 October 1998, ICOMOS would be able to present a revised evaluation and recommendation to the twenty-second extraordinary session of the Bureau.

The Permanent Delegation submitted through letters dated 26 August and 24 September 1998 additional information on the legal protection and definition of the area. The information was transmitted to ICOMOS for evaluation.

El Fuerte de Samaipata **883** **Bolivia** **C(ii)(iii)**

The Bureau decided to refer the nomination back to the State Party, requesting a redefinition of the buffer zone by 1 October 1998 as proposed in the ICOMOS evaluation. In the event of this modification being implemented and positively evaluated by ICOMOS, the Bureau recommended that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (ii) and (iii)*:

Criterion (ii): The sculptured rock at Samaipata is the dominant ceremonial feature of an urban settlement that represents the apogee of this form of prehispanic religious and political centre.

Criterion (iii): Samaipata bears outstanding witness to the existence in this Andean region of a culture with highly developed religious traditions, illustrated dramatically in the form of immense rock sculptures

The Observer of Bolivia informed the Bureau that an extension of the protected area has been undertaken and will be confirmed in due time with the submission of the relevant documentation.

The Permanent Delegation submitted through letters dated 26 August and 24 September 1998 a map with an indication of the nominated area and its buffer zone. The information was transmitted to ICOMOS for evaluation.

The Summer Palace, an Imperial Garden in Beijing **880** **China** **C(i)(ii)(iii)**

The Bureau recommended that the nomination be referred back to the State Party, requesting information on the extension of the buffer zone proposed by ICOMOS, to be provided by 1 October 1998. In the event that the information is provided and judged satisfactory, the Bureau recommended the inscription of the property on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (i), (ii), (iii)*.

Criterion (i): The Summer Palace in Beijing is an outstanding expression of the creative art of Chinese landscape garden design, incorporating the works of humankind and nature in a harmonious whole.

Criterion (ii): The Summer Palace epitomises the philosophy and practice of Chinese garden design, which played a key role in the development of this cultural form throughout the east.

Criterion (iii): The imperial Chinese garden, illustrated by the Summer Palace, is a potent symbol of one of the major world civilisations.

Via letter of 21 September 1998 the World Heritage Centre received further information from the State Party on the extension of the buffer zone. The information was transmitted to ICOMOS.

The Temple of Heaven: an Imperial Sacrificial Altar in Beijing **881** **China** **C(i)(ii)(iii)**

The Bureau recommended that the nomination be referred back to the State Party, requesting information on the extension of the buffer zone proposed by ICOMOS, to be provided by 1 October 1998. In the event that the information is provided and judged satisfactory, the Bureau recommended the inscription of the property on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (i), (ii), (iii)*.

Criterion (i): The Temple of Heaven is a masterpiece of architecture and landscape design which simply and graphically illustrates a cosmogony of great importance for the evolution of one of the world's great civilisations.

Criterion (ii): The symbolic layout and design of the Temple of Heaven had a profound influence on architecture and planning in the Far East over many centuries.

Criterion (iii): For more than two thousand years China was ruled by a series of feudal dynasties, the legitimacy of which is symbolised by the design and layout of the Temple of Heaven.

Via letter of 21 September 1998 the World Heritage Centre received further information from the State Party on the extension of the buffer zone. The information was transmitted to ICOMOS.

Holasovicé Historical Village Reservation **861** **Czech Republic**

The Bureau recommended that the nomination be referred back to the State Party, requesting additional information on the authenticity and current usage of the site by 1 October 1998. By letter received by the Centre on 29 September 1998, the State Party provided additional information as requested. The information was transmitted to ICOMOS.

**The Historic Centre of
Urbino**

828 Italy

C(ii)(iv)

The Bureau recommended that this nomination be *referred back* to the State Party, requesting: (a) information on any urban plan(s) that may be in force; (b) further information on conservation and restoration projects since the end of World War II, and (c) a redefinition of the buffer zone, as proposed by ICOMOS. In the event of this information being made available by 1 October 1998 and found acceptable under the terms of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, the Bureau recommended that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (ii) and (iv)*:

Criterion (ii): During its short cultural pre-eminence, Urbino attracted some of the most outstanding humanist scholars and artists of the Renaissance, who created there an exceptional urban complex of remarkable homogeneity, the influence of which carried far into the rest of Europe.

Criterion (iv): Urbino represents a pinnacle of Renaissance art and architecture, harmoniously adapted to its physical site and to its medieval precursor in an exceptional manner.

ICOMOS reported that the additional information requested had been received during the 22nd session of the Bureau and that it would present a report at the extraordinary session of the Bureau in November.

**Ouadi Qadisha (the Holy
Valley) and the Forest of the
Cedars of God (Horsh Arz
el-Rab)**

850

Lebanon

The Bureau noted that the Qadisha Valley and the remnant Cedar Forest on the western flank of Mount Lebanon form a cultural landscape of outstanding universal value. Several Bureau members noted the need for a management and conservation plan for the site.

The Bureau decided that further consideration of this nomination be *referred* to await the submission of an overall management and conservation plan for the monastic sites and monuments of the Qadisha Valley and for the Cedar Forest (including the establishment of a commission to coordinate the activities of the different owners and agencies involved and the definition of an effective buffer zone). The Bureau furthermore noted that a comparative study of early Christian monastic settlements in the Near East would be useful.

The Centre has received the Management Plan for the site on 16 September 1998. The plan was transmitted to IUCN and ICOMOS for evaluation.

The Historic Monuments 862 Mexico C(ii)(iv)
Zone of Tlacotalpan

The Bureau decided to refer this nomination back to the State Party for adjustment of the buffer zone as proposed by ICOMOS. In the event of a new delimitation being received by 1 October 1998, the Bureau recommended that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (ii) and (iv)*:

Criterion (ii): The urban layout and architecture of Tlacotalpan represent a fusion of Spanish and Caribbean traditions of exceptional importance and quality.

Criterion (iv): Tlacotalpan is a Spanish colonial river port on the Gulf coast of Mexico which has preserved its original urban fabric to an exceptional degree. Its outstanding character lies in its townscape of wide streets, modest houses in an exuberant variety of styles and colours, and many mature trees in public and private open spaces.

A map with a new delimitation was submitted by Government of Mexico to ICOMOS and the Secretariat.

The Early Medieval 869 Nepal
Architectural Complex and
Town of Panauti

The Bureau recommended that the nomination be referred back to the State Party, and that the documentation requested in the letter of 21 July 1997 from the World Heritage Centre be provided by 1 October 1998: information on the gazetting of the Monument Zone to protect the core area of Panauti under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, the legal document defining the buffer zone as a Conservation Area under the Municipalities Act, and the site management plan.

At the time of the preparation of this document, no further information had been received.

Historical Part of the City 312 bis Spain
of Oviedo (Extension of the
Churches of the Kingdom
of the Asturias)

The Bureau took note of the evaluation of this property by ICOMOS and of its recommendation. Following interventions by members of the Bureau, it was decided to *refer back* this nomination to the State Party and requested that it be revised and renamed "The Churches of Oviedo and of the Kingdom of the Asturias". This property would include the Camara Santa, the San Julian de los Prados Basilica as well as the Foncalada. The Observer of Spain thanked the Bureau and ICOMOS for their recommendation and insisted on the importance, as a public building, of the Foncalada, church and hydraulic structure dating from the Middle Ages.

By letter of 30 September 1998 the State Party communicated its official acceptance of the name " The Churches of Oviedo and of the Kingdom of the Asturias."

Truva/Troia/Troy **849** **Turkey** **C(ii)(iii)(vi)**

The Bureau recommended that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party, requesting precise cartographic information regarding the area proposed for inscription and that proposed as a buffer zone. It was also decided to consider the possibility of applying *criteria (i)* as pointed out by the Observer of Greece. In the event of this information being provided by 1 October 1998 and found acceptable, the Bureau recommended that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (ii), (iii), and (vi)* and possibly *(i)*:

The archaeological site of Troy is of immense significance in the understanding of the development of European civilisation at a critical stage in its early development. It is, moreover, of exceptional cultural importance because of the profound influence of Homer's *Iliad* on the creative arts over more than two millennia.

By letter dated 28 September 1998 the Turkish authorities provided additional information to the Centre as requested. The information has been forwarded to ICOMOS for evaluation.

L'viv - The Ensemble of the **865** **Ukraine** **C(ii)(v)**
Historic Centre

The Bureau recommended that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party, requesting confirmation that the conservation programme had been approved and that the redundant mast and antenna were to be removed, and also that the modifications to the area proposed for inscription by ICOMOS had been accepted. In the event of this information being received by 1 October 1998, the Bureau recommended that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (ii) and (v)*:

Criterion (ii): In its urban fabric and its architecture, L'viv is an outstanding example of the fusion of the architectural and artistic traditions of Eastern Europe with those of Italy and Germany.

Criterion (v): The political and commercial role of L'viv attracted to it a number of ethnic groups with different cultural and religious traditions, who established separate yet interdependent communities within the city, evidence for which is still discernible in the modern townscape.

By letter received by the Centre on 31 August 1998, the State Party provided additional information as requested. The information was transmitted to ICOMOS for evaluation.

**D. Property for which the nomination has been deferred and for which
complementary information has been received**

The Semmering Railway **785** **Austria**

At its twentieth session, the Bureau decided to defer the examination of this nomination in order to enable the completion of a comparative study carried out by TICCIH, and also for

the State Party to supply more detailed maps and information regarding the cultural landscape protection legislation in Lower Austria and Styra relating to the protection of the cultural landscape.

A comparative study has been conducted by ICOMOS, which will present its evaluation report to the twenty-second extraordinary session of the Bureau.

E. Nominations to be considered by the twenty-second extraordinary session of the Bureau

Classical Weimar 846 Germany

ICOMOS had recommended that this property should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The State Party requested in writing the Chairperson to postpone the discussion on this site until the extraordinary session of the Bureau in November 1998.

By letter of 19 August 1998 a revised nomination text and extension was received by the World Heritage Centre. The information was transmitted to ICOMOS.

**Cultural Stratification in 853 Hungary
the Historic Centre of the
City of Pecs**

ICOMOS had recommended that this property should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The State Party requested in writing the Chairperson to postpone the discussion on this site until the extraordinary session of the Bureau in November 1998.

**Gdansk : The Main Town, 882 Poland
the Motlava Side Channel,
and the Vistula Mouth
Fortress**

ICOMOS had recommended that this property should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The State Party requested in writing the Chairperson to postpone the discussion on this site until the extraordinary session of the Bureau in November 1998.

By letter received by the Centre on 11 July 1998, the State Party provided additional information on this nomination. It submitted the same information directly to ICOMOS for its evaluation.

The Archaeological Ensemble of Tàrraco **875** **Spain**

ICOMOS had recommended that this property should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The State Party requested in writing the Chairperson to postpone the discussion on this site until the extraordinary session of the Bureau in November 1998.