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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-third extraordinary session
Marrakesh, Morocco
26 - 27 November 1999

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-third session (July 1999) 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-99/CONF.209/11Rev.

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-99/CONF.208/5);
- (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.

the properties would be presented to the twenty-third extraordinary session of the Bureau in November 1999:

Western Caucasus	900	Russian Federation
The High Coast	898	Sweden
Miguasha Provincial Park	686	Canada
	Rev	

A.3 Extension of a property inscribed on the World Heritage List

Belovezhskaya 33-627 Belarus / Poland
Pushcha/Bialowieza Forest Bis
– Extension

IUCN informed the Bureau that the evaluation of this extension was not available for this Bureau meeting, the relevant State Party having requested that a field mission be delayed for climatic reasons. A report will be prepared for the November meeting of the Bureau.

B. MIXED PROPERTIES

B.1 The Australian authorities provided the Centre with complementary information concerning the mixed cultural and natural nomination of the Greater Blue Mountains Area (Australia) on 7 October 1999. The State Party has commenced preparation of additional detailed complementary material addressing issues raised by the Bureau at its twenty-third ordinary session in July 1999. The Bureau had recommended deferral for the natural part of the nomination and did not recommend inscription according to cultural values. The State Party has informed the Centre of its intention to submit new information by 30 January 2000 to enable the Bureau to fully consider the nomination at its twenty-fourth session in Paris in June/July 2000, and to prepare recommendations for the World Heritage Committee's twenty-fourth session in December 2000. Both ICOMOS and IUCN have agreed to this suggested timetable.

B.2 Properties for which the nominations were referred back to the State Party

Mount Wuyi 911 China N (iii) (iv)

ICOMOS informed the Bureau that this property, as defined in the nomination dossier, should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria.

The Bureau recommended inscription of the property under natural criteria and referred the cultural part of the nomination back to the State Party for re-examination.

The Observer of China agreed to this procedure and informed the Bureau that additional material had already been provided to ICOMOS on 5 July 1999.

Isole Eolie (Aeolian Islands) 908 Italy

The Bureau noted that the site has the potential to meet natural criterion (i). The Bureau decided to refer the nomination back to allow the State Party to provide additional information and to address the exclusion of human use areas and to propose more sharply defined boundaries for the Nature Reserves and buffer zones.

The volcanic landforms of the site represent classic features in the continuing study of volcanology worldwide. With scientific studies on the site from at least the 18th century, the islands have provided two of the types of eruptions (Vulcanian and Strombolian) to volcanology and geology textbooks and so have featured prominently in the education of all geoscientists for over 200 years. They continue to provide a rich field for volcanological studies of on-going geological processes in the development of landforms. The area also has a long history of land use, and subsequent abandonment, which has led to an on-going processes of maquis recovery.

The Bureau noted the ICOMOS recommendation that this property does not meet cultural criteria.

The requested information was supplied to the World Heritage Centre on 30 June 1999 and was transmitted to IUCN and ICOMOS for their evaluation.

Uvs Nuur Basin 769 Mongolia / Russian Federation Rev

The Bureau was informed that the evaluation of this nomination was not available, the State Parties having requested that the field mission be delayed for climatic reasons. A report will be prepared for the November meeting of the Bureau.

ICOMOS informed the Bureau that the nomination provided little information on the cultural aspects of the site and that the State Parties may wish to provide additional material.

At the date of preparation of this document, no further information had been received by the World Heritage Centre.

Ibiza, Biodiversity and Culture 417 Spain Rev

The Bureau noted that the site has the potential to meet natural criteria (ii) and (iv). The Bureau decided to refer the nomination back to allow the State Party to provide clear evidence on the continuation of the Nature Reserve's legal status under autonomic law, as well as clarification of the pipeline plans and their impact on the site.

The marine component of this site is characterised by the presence of dense and very well preserved prairies of oceanic Posidonia (seagrass) and coral reefs. The prairie of Posidonia has been defined as the best preserved of the entire Mediterranean basin. The area also contains the most diverse community of *Cladocora caespitosa*, supporting 220 species, in the Mediterranean basin and habitat for three globally endangered species, including the Monk

Seal. The area also contains an important community of *Ecteinascidia turbinata*, a marine species with recognised value to prevent and combat different types of cancer. Parts of the site are included in the List of Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention) for migratory birds.

Concerning cultural values, the Bureau decided to refer the nomination back to the State Party requesting a revised justification for inscription to treat the various elements in the nomination as components of an integrated whole. In the event that this is made available in an acceptable form, ICOMOS recommends inscription on the basis of *criteria (ii), (iii) and (iv)*:

Criterion(ii): The intact 16th century fortifications of Ibiza bear unique witness to the military architecture and engineering and the aesthetics of the Renaissance. This Italian-Spanish model was very influential, especially in the construction and fortification of towns in the New World.

Criterion (iii): The Phoenician ruins of Sa Caleta and the Phoenician-Punic cemetery of Puig des Molins are exceptional evidence of urbanization and social life in the Phoenician colonies of the western Mediterranean. They constitute a unique resource, in terms of volume and importance, of material from the Phoenician and Carthaginian tombs.

Criterion (iv): The Upper Town of Ibiza is an excellent example of a fortified acropolis which preserves in an exceptional way in its walls and in its urban fabric successive imprints of the earliest Phoenician settlements and the Arab and Catalan periods through to the Renaissance bastions. The long process of building the defensive walls has not destroyed the earlier phases or the street pattern, but has incorporated them in the ultimate phase.

The requested information was received by the World Heritage Centre on 29 September 1999 and was transmitted to IUCN and ICOMOS for their evaluation.

B.3 Extension of a property inscribed on the World Heritage List

Pyrénées - Mont Perdu 773 Bis France / Spain

C. CULTURAL HERITAGE

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

**The Mir Castle 625 Belarus
(The Radzivils Castle)**

The Bureau decided that this nomination be *referred back* to the State Party, requesting the provision of an up-to-date report on the property, covering current legal status, ownership, management, and conservation history, with appropriate plans, photographs, and slides. If this information is available by 1 October 1999 for evaluation and recommendation by ICOMOS, the Bureau could examine this nomination at its twenty-third extraordinary session in November 1999.

Flemish Belfries**943****Belgium**

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party requesting the State Party to expand the nomination to include properties of the same typology in the Walloon Region. If this information would be provided before 1 October 1999, a revised evaluation and recommendation could be presented by ICOMOS to the twenty-third extraordinary session of the Bureau.

The Bureau suggested that other States Parties could make complementary proposals of the same type of property at a later stage.

The requested information was received by the World Heritage Centre on 1 October 1999 and was transmitted to ICOMOS for their evaluation.

The Old City of Mostar**946****Bosnia and
Herzegovina****C (iv) (vi)**

The Bureau decided that the nomination, for "The Old Mostar: a Bridge of the Worlds", be *referred back* to the State Party, requesting further information about the management plan for the Old Town. In the event of this information being supplied and found to conform with the requirements of the Committee, the Bureau recommended that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (iv) and (vi)*:

Criterion (iv): The Old Town of Mostar is an outstanding example of a multicultural European urban settlement.

Criterion (vi): Mostar is an exceptional symbol of the human potential for successfully integrating groups with differing ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds into a homogeneous civilized community.

Furthermore the Bureau recommended that the name of the nominated property to be changed to "The Old City of Mostar" .

Viñales Valley**840****Cuba****Rev**

The Bureau recalled that the site was nominated originally under natural criteria. The Bureau at its twenty-first session did not recommend inscription of this site on the List under natural criteria and "noted that the Cuban authorities may wish to consider nominating the area as a cultural landscape."

The Bureau recommended that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party to enable it to provide additional information for review by ICOMOS. If this information would be provided before 1 October 1999, a revised evaluation and recommendation could be presented by ICOMOS to the twenty-third extraordinary session of the Bureau.

At the time of preparation of this document no further information has been received by the World Heritage Centre.

**The Loire Valley between 933 France
Maine and Sully-sur-Loire**

C (ii) (iv)

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party requesting adjustment of the boundaries of the nominated property, as recommended by ICOMOS, and assurances that action will be taken without delay to prepare an overall management plan for the proposed World Heritage site. In the event that the requested information is provided by 1 October 1999 and found to be satisfactory, the Bureau recommended the inscription of the site to the World Heritage List under *criteria (ii) and (iv)* :

Criterion (ii) : The Loire Valley is an outstanding cultural landscape along a major river which bears witness to an interchange of human values and to a harmonious development of interactions between human beings and their environment over two millennia.

Criterion (iv) : The landscape of the Loire Valley, and more particularly its many cultural monuments, illustrate to an exceptional degree the ideals of the Renaissance and the Age of the Enlightenment on western European thought and design.

The Observer of the United Kingdom requested that for its next session a map of the whole site be provided to the Bureau.

The Observer of France stated that all the information requested by the Bureau would be provided for its next session. He also indicated that detailed maps of the site existed in the nomination dossier submitted by France.

The requested information was received by the World Heritage Centre on 30 September 1999 and was transmitted to ICOMOS and IUCN for their evaluation.

**The Historic Town of Vigan 502 Philippines
Rev**

C (ii) (iv)

The Bureau decided to refer back this nomination requesting modifications to the boundaries of the nominated area and its buffer zone, as suggested by ICOMOS. In the event of this information being supplied and found acceptable, the Bureau recommended that the property should be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria(ii) and (iv)*:

Criterion (ii): Vigan represents a unique fusion of Asian building design and construction with European colonial architecture and planning.

Criterion (iv): Vigan is an exceptionally intact and well preserved example of a European trading town in East and South-East Asia.

At the time of preparation of this document no further information had been received by the World Heritage Centre.

Kalwaria Zebrzydowska: 905 Poland C (ii) (iv)
the Mannerist architectural
and park landscape
complex and pilgrimage
park

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party, requesting that a draft management plan for the property be prepared for evaluation before the December 1999 meeting of the World Heritage Committee. In the event that this is supplied by 1 October 1999 and favourably evaluated, the Bureau recommended that the property should be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (ii) and (iv)*.

Criterion (ii): Kalwaria Zebrzydowska is an exceptional cultural monument in which the natural landscape was used as the setting for a symbolic representation in the form of chapels and avenues of the events of the Passion of Christ. The result is a cultural landscape of great beauty and spiritual quality in which natural and man-made elements combine in a harmonious manner.

Criterion (iv): The Counter Reformation in the late 16th century led to a flowering in the creation of Calvaries in Europe. Kalwaria Zebrzydowska is an outstanding example of this type of large-scale landscape design, which incorporates natural beauty with spiritual objectives and the principles of Baroque park design.

At the time of preparation of this document no further information has been received by the World Heritage Centre.

Historic Centre of 902 Romania C (iii) (v)
Sighisoara

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party to provide supplementary information as requested by ICOMOS. In the event of this information being provided by 1 October 1999 and found acceptable, the Bureau recommended that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (iii) and (v)*:

Criterion (iii): Sighisoara is an outstanding testimony to the culture of the Transylvanian Saxons, a culture that is coming to a close after 850 years and will continue to exist only through its architectural and urban monuments.

Criterion (v): Sighisoara is an outstanding example of a small fortified city in the border region between the Latin-oriented culture of central Europe and the Byzantine-Orthodox culture of south-eastern Europe. The apparently unstoppable process of emigration by the Saxons, the social stratum that had formed and upheld the cultural traditions of the region, threatens the survival of their architectural heritage as well.

The requested information was received by the World Heritage Centre on 31 August 1999 and was transmitted to ICOMOS for their evaluation.

The Wooden Churches of Maramures **904** **Romania**

C (iv)

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party requesting the preparation of management plans for the nominated properties. In the event of this information being supplied by 1 October 1999 and found acceptable, the Bureau recommended that the property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criterion (iv)*:

Criterion (iv): The Maramures wooden churches are outstanding examples of vernacular religious wooden architecture resulting from the interchange of Orthodox religious traditions with Gothic influences in a specific vernacular interpretation of timber construction traditions, showing a high level of artistic maturity and craft skills.

The requested information was received by the World Heritage Centre on 31 August 1999 and was transmitted to ICOMOS for their evaluation.

Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park **910** **Saint Christopher & Nevis**

C (iii) (iv)

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party, requesting information on the progress of the draft National Development and Planning Act. In the event that assurances are received by 1 October 1999 that it will be enacted and implemented by the end of 1999, the Bureau recommended that this property should be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (iii) and (iv)*:

Criterion (iii): Brimstone Hill is an outstanding British fortress, built by slave labour to exact standards during a peak period of European colonial expansion in the Caribbean.

Criterion (iv): Because of its strategic layout and construction, Brimstone Hill Fortress is an exceptional and well preserved example of 17th and 18th century British military architecture.

Additional information was received by the World Heritage Centre on 6 October 1999 and transmitted to ICOMOS for evaluation.

Three Castles, defensive wall and ramparts of the Market-Town of Bellinzone **884** **Switzerland**

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party requesting further details of the nature of the restoration work affecting the monument (independent of any development work) and of the limits to the property proposed for inscription. ICOMOS noted that additional information had been provided very recently and that this material would need further analysis in order to come to a conclusion for the twenty-third extraordinary session of the Bureau.

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party, requesting the following additional information: **a)** a map showing precise boundary of the site and **b)** assurances that the Five-Year Management Plan should be fully implemented. In the event of such a map and assurances being provided by 1 October 1999, the Bureau recommended that this property should be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (ii) and (iii)*

Criterion (ii): The cities of the Merv oasis have exerted considerable influence over the cultures of Central Asia and Iran for four millennia. The Seljuk City in particular influenced architecture and architectural decoration and scientific and cultural development.

Criterion (iii): The sequence of the cities of the Merv oasis, their fortifications, and their urban lay-outs bear exceptional testimony to the civilizations of Central Asia over several millennia.

At the date of preparation of this document no further information has been received by the World Heritage Centre.

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party. The State Party is requested to supply information on the implementation of the management plan for the property and assurances that the necessary funding in this regard will be forthcoming. The Bureau also requested the State Party to reflect on the natural and historical links between Hoi An and this nomination expressed in the river connecting them, including its source at the Ngoc Vinh Natural Reserve. If this information is available before its twenty-third extraordinary session, the Bureau recommended to the Committee that this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of *criteria (ii) and (iii)*:

Criterion (ii): The My Son Sanctuary is an exceptional example of cultural interchange, with the introduction the Hindu architecture of the Indian sub-continent into South-East Asia.

Criterion (iii): The Champa Kingdom was an important phenomenon in the political and cultural history of South-East Asia, vividly illustrated by the ruins of My Son.

C.2 Extension of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List

The Villages with fortified churches in Transylvania (extension of Biertan and its fortified church)

The Bureau decided that the nomination be *referred back* to the State Party requesting that management plans are prepared for each of the nominated properties. In the event of this information being supplied and found acceptable, the Bureau recommended to the Committee that this property be extended.

The requested information was received by the World Heritage Centre on 31 August 1999 and was transmitted to ICOMOS for their evaluation.

Butrinti

570 Bis Albania

C (iii)

As a follow-up to the UNESCO/ICOMOS/Butrint Foundation mission to Butrinti in October 1997 and the inscription of Butrinti on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1997, the Albanian authorities have submitted a proposal to extend the site of Butrinti to include the surrounding landscape that comprises a great number of related archaeological remains and historical structures.

The Bureau is requested to examine the proposed extension and to take the appropriate decision thereupon.

C.3 Nomination to be considered by the twenty-third extraordinary session of the Bureau

**The Palmeral of Elche: A 930 Spain
cultural landscape inherited
from Al-Andalus**

At the request of the State Party, the Bureau at its twenty-third ordinary session did not examine the nomination for El Palmeral de Elche y sus tradiciones (Misteri). A revised nomination, for **The Palmeral of Elche: A cultural landscape inherited from Al-Andalus**, was submitted simultaneously on 9 July 1999 to the World Heritage Centre and to ICOMOS and IUCN for their evaluation.