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**WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.2
Paris, 11 August 2000
Original : English/French**

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

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

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Twenty-fourth session

**Cairns, Australia
27 November – 2 December 2000**

GENERAL INFORMATION

**24th Extraordinary session of the Bureau of the
World Heritage Committee
23-24 November 2000**

**24th Session of the
World Heritage Committee
27 November – 2 December 2000**

**Cairns Convention Centre,
Queensland, Australia**

Accommodation Booking Services provided by:

**Conference Logistics
PO Box 201
DEAKIN WEST ACT 2600
Australia**

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Facsimile: +61 2 6285 1336
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www.conlog.com.au

CAIRNS

Cairns is a vibrant tropical city of 100,000 people located in Tropical North Queensland, Australia. The region's capital, it is fringed by World Heritage properties; the Great Barrier Reef and the rain forests of the Wet Tropics. Cairns has many attractions ... great restaurants, excellent accommodation, exciting shopping, a casino, an abundance of cruises, tours and amenities, complemented by a lively atmosphere. Blessed by nature, and a pleasant tropical climate, Cairns is the proud host to the World Heritage Committee in 2000.

Information on the World Heritage areas of the Cairns region, and on other Australian World Heritage areas is available at: <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/awhg/whu/auswha.html>

General Information

Meetings

23-24 November 2000	24 th Extraordinary session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee
27 November - 2 December 2000	24 th Session of the World Heritage Committee

Conference Venue

Cairns Convention Centre
 Corner Wharf and Sheridan Streets
 Cairns, Australia
 Phone: +61 7 4042 4200

Located in the heart of the city, the Cairns Convention Centre is a modern world-class meeting venue with excellent facilities.

Registration

Registration will be available at the Conference Registration Desk on the ground level of the Cairns Convention Centre at the following times:

23-24 November 2000	8:00am – 5:00pm
27 November – 2 December 2000	8:00am – 5:00pm

At registration, delegates will be provided with a package of information and meeting documents, including a delegate's name badge. Please wear this badge at all times during the meeting, as it will ensure access to the Convention Centre meeting rooms.

We encourage all participants to pre-register electronically by sending an e-mail message to wh-register@unesco.org with full name, title, mailing address, e-mail address and phone and fax numbers. This will assist the UNESCO Secretariat in preparing an accurate record of the participants of the meetings.

Delegates' Office

A Delegates' Office will be located on the first floor of the Convention Centre. General office equipment (facsimile, photocopier, computers, printers and Internet access), will be provided for delegates' use. Services will be charged for at cost.

Airline Flights

All major international airlines fly regularly to Australia. While some of these flights are direct to Cairns, visitors may need to travel to Cairns via Brisbane or Sydney.

Airport Departure Tax

AUD \$30

Customs Requirements

As for many countries, there are quotas on the amount of tobacco, alcohol and other personal items that can be brought in to Australia duty-free. There are very strict quarantine regulations in Australia regarding food and plants. Travellers are not permitted to carry fruit, vegetables and plants across state borders. For more information regarding Australian customs requirements, please access the following Internet site: www.immi.gov.au/visitors/customs.htm

Visas

All international visitors require a visa to enter Australia. Please make sure that you have checked with your travel agent as to the specific requirements for your nationality to enter Australia.

- ❑ For the Bureau and the World Heritage Committee Meetings, the correct visa is a Business (Short Stay) visa, even if for part of your stay in Australia some tourism activities are planned. It is called a 456 visa if it is issued as a label put into a passport, or a 977 visa if it is electronically issued, i.e. there is no label. A fee of AUD \$60 is payable for the 456 visa at the time of application. The 977 visa is free. Both visas are valid for 12 months and allow a stay in Australia of up to 3 months.
- ❑ The electronic visa is called an ETA (Electronic Travel Authority). It is available through participating airlines and travel agents overseas when people book their airline tickets.

ETA Countries

- ❑ The 977 ETA visa is available to people who hold passports belonging to:

Andorra	Iceland	Singapore
Austria	Ireland	South Korea
Belgium	Italy	Spain
Brunei	Japan	Sweden
Canada	Liechtenstein	Switzerland
Denmark	Luxembourg	UK (a)
Finland	Malaysia	USA
France	Malta	The Vatican
Germany	Monaco	
Greece	Netherlands	
Hong Kong SAR	Norway	

(a) UK passport holders who indicate their nationality to be British National (Overseas) can be processed for a 977 ETA visa only if resident in and applying in Hong Kong SAR.

Non-ETA Countries

- ❑ For non-ETA countries, the 456 visa can be applied for at Australian missions overseas. There is an application form to fill in and a fee (currently AUD \$60) payable when applying. Please refer to the following website to access a copy of the application form (form 456) : www.immigov.au/allforms/pdf/456.pdf
- ❑ A person's status as a World Heritage Committee Meeting participant is not a guarantee that a visa will be issued. It is up to decision-makers at each Australian mission overseas to assess each visa application.

Health requirements

- ❑ All business 456 visa applicants are required to complete the health declaration on Form 456.
- ❑ To be eligible for a business 977 (or 956) ETA visa, the applicant must be free from tuberculosis, and free from any disease or condition that may result in being a threat to public health, or a danger to the Australian community or needing health care or community services while in Australia. ETA holders must make a declaration to that effect on arrival in Australia.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS WEBSITE

An Australian Government Guide to Visiting Australia: www.immi.gov.au/visitors

- This site contains comprehensive information about Customs clearance and Quarantine and health issues, as well as visas. The information is regularly updated.
- It also provides general information about issues impacting on all visitors to Australia.
- The text is available in French, German, Indonesian and Spanish, as well as English.
- This site also contains links to other useful internet sites owned by e.g. the Department of Health and Aged Care (for more information on health insurance for visitors to Australia), and by the Customs (ACS) and Quarantine (AQIS) services.
- The information at this site has been jointly provided by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural affairs, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Australian Customs Service and the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service.

The Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs highly recommends that all intending visitors to Australia access its www.immi.gov.au/visitors internet site.

World Index: www.immi.gov.au/wwi/index

The DIMA World Index within the website provides a list of all Australian missions overseas by country and by city. The information is regularly updated and includes:

- Information identifying the post where residents of each country should lodge applications for entry and where these applications are processed and decided.
- Street and postal addresses, telephone and facsimile numbers of each mission, the website name and Internet e-mail address for each visa office where applicable, and client counter and telephone hours.
- An outline of any special procedures or features relating to visa processing at each mission.

NB: If you plan to print the World Index, please be advised it prints out to 93 A4-size pages.

HEALTH HAZARD

The Box Jellyfish or Sea Wasp (*Chironex fleckeri Southcott*) is most prevalent around Cairns in the months November – March, and depending on the prevailing winds is often found around the local beaches. The Box jellyfish is **extremely dangerous and can cause death** in adults within minutes. Many bathing beaches around Cairns have nets to exclude jellyfish and are therefore quite safe. Bathing outside of these areas is not advisable without first seeking local advice. Box jellyfish are not usually found on the Outer Great Barrier Reef.

AUSTRALIA - QUICK FACTS

Country	Australia
State in which meeting held	Queensland
Nationality	Australian
Official Language	English
Population of Australia	19 million
Population of Cairns	Approximately 100,000
Voltage	50cyc AC 240v. All 110v appliances require transformers
Currency	Australian Dollars (AUD) Coins: 5 cents, 10 cents, 20 cents, 50 cents, \$1, \$2 Notes: AUD \$5, AUD \$10, AUD \$20, AUD \$50, AUD \$100
Exchange Rate (approx)	AUD\$1.00 = US \$0.60 US \$1.00 = AUD \$1.66 <i>As at June 2000</i> Foreign currencies can be exchanged at exchange counters in airports, major hotels and banks
Banks	Banks are generally open Monday – Thursday from 10a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Friday from 9.30a.m. to 5.00p.m. Banks are closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Automatic teller machines are widely available and operate 24 hrs. Cash withdrawals can be made from automatic teller machines (ATM) using cards with Mastercard or Visa logos and a magnetic stripe, using your usual 4 digit PIN code.
Time Zone	GMT + 10 hours (Queensland does not have Daylight Saving Time between October and March which includes the southern hemisphere summer, unlike other Eastern Australian States which advance their clocks by 1 hour).
Credit Cards	Visa and Mastercard are universally accepted (and can be used at automatic teller machines, see above). American Express and Diner's Club Card are not as widely accepted, and can only be used in a few of the automatic teller machines (ATM), although they are accepted in most hotels.
Traveller's cheques	With the exception of large hotels, travellers' cheques are generally not accepted at most commercial establishments. For foreign currency travellers' cheques it is necessary to cash and convert them to Australian dollars at banks.
Postal services	Stamps may be purchased at Post Offices or at hotel reception desks. Please post letters from Post Offices or from hotel reception desks, as they need to be weighed in order to determine the correct charge. Post Offices are closed on Saturdays and Sundays. There is a Post Office located over the road at the far end of the Convention Centre in Grafton Street.
Telephones	International phone calls can be made from most public telephones. Some phones are coin operated, while other phones require phone cards to operate. Pre-paid TELSTRA phone cards and international phone cards are available from Post Offices and Newsagents. The international access code is 0011 (or 0015 for fax transmission) followed by the country code and telephone number.

Cuisine

Cairns offers an abundance of restaurants including modern Australian, Italian, Greek, Mexican, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Thai, Indian, French, Greek and seafood. Eating out can range from 5 star elegance to 'tropical style' in a casual atmosphere – outdoors, among palm trees or under the stars. There is a range to suit all budgets. Delegates might like to try some of the fresh seafoods, tropical fruits and vegetables that Queensland has to offer and also world class Australian wines.

Cairns Airport

Cairns Airport is located 10 minutes by car from the Cairns central business district.

There are airport transfer services available at the airport. A regular bus shuttle service to the city and all hotels and resorts is available at a cost of AUD \$7 per person. Taxis to the city are also available at a cost of AUD \$10-12.

Public Transport in Cairns

Cairns is an easy city in which to get around. Taxis are plentiful and can be booked in advance. Public bus transport also provides easy access for visitors to most major areas in Cairns including the city and the beach.

Overseas Accident Travel Insurance

It is recommended that participants individually purchase some form of overseas travel accident insurance coverage in their own country, prior to coming to Australia. For further information, please contact an insurance company in your country.

Displays

From 27 November (Monday) to 2 December (Saturday) an exhibition of displays with a World Heritage theme will be found in the entry foyer. Countries wishing to exhibit material should notify the Conference Organizer at the address listed on the front of this brochure prior to 15 September 2000.

Climate

Cairns has a typical tropical climate and November marks the beginning of summer and the 'wet season'. In November/December, average temperatures reach a daily maximum of 30° Celsius and a minimum 20° Celsius. During this time, Cairns is in its 'Green' Season. Tropical downpours often accompany the warm climate and an umbrella is highly recommended. The refreshing rainfall are often complemented by dramatic lightning displays. The average monthly rainfall is 98mm (3.8 inches) in November and 202mm(8 inches)in December, although this can vary widely.

Dress Code

Due to the warmer weather in Cairns, casual dress (not suit and tie) is the recommended dress in Cairns. Smart casual clothing is recommended for the dinner on the Monday evening. As the wet season usually starts towards the end of November, a raincoat is advisable.

MAP OF AUSTRALIA SHOWING LOCATION OF CAIRNS AND AUSTRALIAN WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES



Note: This map does not show the following Australian World Heritage properties - Lord Howe Island Group, Heard and McDonald Islands or Macquarie Island

Information on the World Heritage areas of the Cairns region, and on other Australian World Heritage areas is available at <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/awhq/whu/auswha.html>

TOURS

On Saturday 25 November and Sunday 26 November it is planned to offer two field trips each day. One field trip will be to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and the other will be to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. Further details on these field trips will be placed on the website as soon as they become available however brief outlines are given below. Please indicate on the registration form if you wish to attend one or both field trips and if you are able to participate on excursions both on Saturday and Sunday.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

Delegates will travel by high speed catamaran from Cairns/ Port Douglas to the outer reef where you will be able to see at close hand the spectacular beauty of the corals and fish in this, the world's largest World Heritage area. There will be expert commentary on the marine biology and zoology of the reef, and a chance to see conservation management in practice for issues such as migratory bird protection. Commentary in English and French will be available.

Wet Tropics

Delegates will travel by air conditioned coach to the spectacular Daintree region in the Wet Tropics World Heritage area, where the rain-forest meets the sea. You will be able to walk through the rainforest, observe the awesome beauty of the flora and fauna and see beautiful waterfalls. There will be expert commentary in both English and French on the management issues affecting this area. The traditional uses of the forests by Aboriginal people will be demonstrated.

Blue Mountains, Australian Convict Sites and the Sydney Opera House

For delegates entering Australia through Sydney, it may be possible to organise a field trip to view the Blue Mountains area (nominated for inclusion on the World Heritage list), one of the Australian Convict sites and the Sydney Opera House (both included on Australia's Tentative List for World Heritage nomination). Please indicate your interest in this tour on the booking form.

Kakadu and Uluru Kata Tjuta (formerly known as Ayers Rock and the Olgas) World Heritage areas

For delegates entering through Darwin, it may be possible to organise a trip to Kakadu National Park and Uluru Kata Tjuta National Parks. This would involve some additional expense for airfares and accommodation. Please indicate your interest in this tour on the booking form.

HOTEL BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS

We are delighted to be able to offer delegates a range of hotel and apartment accommodation, most of which is within walking distance of the Cairns Convention Centre.

Full details on the hotels and rates are included on the following pages. If cheaper accommodation is required please contact Conference Logistics, at the contact details listed on the front page of this document, for assistance. The rates quoted are in Australian dollars (AUD).

As the numbers of rooms at some hotels is limited, please book early. Please also indicate your first, second and third preferences as we may not be able to accommodate your first choice, due to the number of available hotel rooms. Accommodation cannot be guaranteed after **10 October 2000**.

Delegates are encouraged to book early and preferably **by Tuesday 10 October 2000** as accommodation cannot be guaranteed after that date. Registrations should be sent to:

Conference Logistics
PO Box 201
DEAKIN WEST ACT 2600
Australia

Or facsimile: +61 2 6285 1336

Enquiries:

Telephone: +61 2 6281 6624
Email: conference@conlog.com.au

Conference Logistics will send a letter confirming your bookings once a hotel deposit of AUD\$ 250 per room has been received. Please note that if reservations are cancelled after the confirmation letter has been sent, the following cancellation penalties will apply:

Cancellation policy

Cancellations received prior to 10 October 2000 - no penalty
Cancellations received between 10 – 31 October 2000 - AUD \$50 per reservation
Cancellation received on or after 31 October 2000 – AUD \$250 (per reservation)

MAP OF CAIRNS, AUSTRALIA SHOWING LOCATION OF CAIRNS CONVENTION CENTRE AND HOTELS



- 1 HILTON CAIRNS
- 2 CAIRNS INTERNATIONAL
- 3 INN CAIRNS HOLIDAY APARTMENTS
- 4 RYDGES PLAZA
- 5 ACACIA COURT HOTEL

- 6 CLUB CROCODILE - HIDES HOTEL
- 7 FIG TREE LODGE
- 8 CAIRNS QUEENS COURT
- 9 ALL SEASONS ESPLANADE
- 10 CAIRNS CONVENTION CENTRE

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION CHART

HOTEL/ APARTMENT	CONFERENCE ROOM RATE (please note all rates are in Australian dollars)	LOCATION AND WALKING DISTANCE FROM CAIRNS CONVENTION CENTRE	FEATURES
Cairns International ★★★★★	\$ 206 Standard room (single/double/twin)	17 Abbott Street, Cairns 5 minutes MAP REFERENCE 2	             PB        TC  S
Hilton Cairns ★★★★★	\$190 Standard room (single/double/twin)	Wharf Street, Cairns 5 minutes MAP REFERENCE 1	             PB        TC  S
Inn Cairns Holiday Apartments ★★★★☆	\$126 double occupancy \$116 single occupancy	71 Lake Street, Cairns 10 minutes MAP REFERENCE 3	             PB       
Rydges Plaza ★★★★	\$121 Standard room (single/double/twin)	Cnr Grafton & Spence Streets, Cairns 2 minutes MAP REFERENCE 4	             PB        TC S
Acacia Court Hotel ★★★★☆	\$106 Ocean view room \$95 Mountain view room (single/double/twin)	222 – 227 The Esplanade, Cairns 20 minutes MAP REFERENCE 5	             PB        TC S
All Seasons Esplanade ★★★★☆	\$98 Standard room (single/double/twin)	Cnr Esplanade & Aplin St, Cairns 10-15 minutes MAP REFERENCE 9	             PB        TC
Club Crocodile Hides Hotel ★★★★	\$100 Standard room (single/double/twin)	87 Lake Street Cairns 5 minutes MAP REFERENCE 6	                   PS
Fig Tree Lodge ★★★★	\$89 Standard room (single/double/twin)	253-257 Sheridan Street Cairns 30 minutes MAP REFERENCE 7	                   PB   
Cairns Queens Court ★★★★	\$85 Standard room (single/double/twin)	167 – 171 Sheridan Street, Cairns 15 minutes MAP REFERENCE 8	                          PS

 = Airconditioning	 = Iron and Ironing Board	 = Restaurant
 = In Room Phone	 = In House Movies	 = Swimming Pool
 = Business Centre	PB = Private Bathroom (Bath, Shower ,Toilet)	 = Colour TV
 = Bar Fridge	PS = Private Bathroom (Shower, Toilet)	 = Washing Machine, Dryer
 = Bar/Lounge		TC = Tea & Coffee Making facilities
 = Hair Dryer		 = Gym  = Sauna

**PLEASE NOTE THAT BOOKINGS CAN BE MADE VIA THE CONFERENCE LOGISTICS
WEB SITE www.conlog.com.au**

**ALL ACCOMMODATION RATES PROVIDED ARE GENERAL SERVICE TAX (GST) INCLUSIVE
Please note that breakfast is not included in the above rates**

Contact details for the hotels will be listed in the booking confirmation letter.

WORLD HERITAGE BUREAU AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS

Family name: _____ First Name: _____

Title: (please circle) Prof / Dr / Mr / Ms / Mrs / Miss Position: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Suburb/City: _____ Country: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ Facsimile: _____

Email: _____

ACCOMPANYING PERSON(S)

Family name: _____ First Name: _____

Title: (please circle) Prof / Dr / Mr / Ms / Mrs / Miss

FIELD TRIPS (weather permitting) – Please note that only one area can be visited per day.

I/ We wish to participate in field trips to : Great Barrier Reef Wet Tropics

I/We are able to participate on Saturday YES Sunday Yes

For delegates entering Australia through Sydney, it may be possible to organise a field trip to the WH nominated Blue Mountains, Australian convict sites and the Sydney Opera House (both on the Australian WH Tentative List). Blue Mtns/Convict sites/Opera House

For delegates entering Australia through Darwin, it may be possible to organise a trip to Kakadu National Park and Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park (formerly Ayers Rock) WH areas: Kakadu/Uluru

ACCOMMODATION BOOKING FORM

ACCOMMODATION REQUIREMENTS

Date and estimated time of arrival:

Date of departure:

Please indicate type of room required:

Single Double Twin

Smoking Non smoking

Special Requests: _____

Please note: Accommodation will only be booked when accommodation deposit (AUD \$250) is received.

Please indicate your 1st, 2nd & 3rd preferences by marking 1, 2 & 3 in the boxes below. You will be allocated your first preference if rooms are still available.

Cairns International

AUD \$206 Standard room

Hilton Cairns

AUD \$190 Standard room

Rydges Plaza

AUD \$121 Standard room

Inn Cairns Holiday Apartments

AUD \$126 Double occupancy

AUD \$116 Single occupancy

Acacia Court Hotel

AUD \$106 Ocean view room

AUD \$95 Mountain view room

All Seasons Esplanade

AUD \$99 Standard room

Club Crocodile Hides Hotel

AUD \$100 Standard room

Fig Tree Lodge

AUD \$89 Standard room

Cairns Queens Court

AUD \$85 Standard room

PAYMENT DETAILS

I enclose cheque for AUD \$250 payable to "24th WHCM"

I am faxing my registration and cheque of AUD \$250 will follow

I wish to pay by credit card and hereby authorise you to charge \$250 AUD to credit card

CREDIT CARD DETAILS:

Mastercard Visa Bankcard American Express Diner's Club

Name on the card: _____ Expiry date _____

Credit card number / / /

Signature _____

I (we) have read and fully understand the registration cancellation policy, stated above, should my (our) hotel reservations be cancelled. I (we) authorise that if payment of deposit is made by credit card that any cancellation penalty be charged to the above card.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM TO:

24th WHCM
Conference Logistics
PO Box 201
DEAKIN WEST ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

OR FAX TO:

+61 2 6285 1336

NO LATER THAN 10 OCTOBER 2000

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

Phone: +61 2 6281 6624

Email: conference@conlog.com.au