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**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**

**Point 4 of the Provisional Agenda: Report of the Secretary on activities undertaken by
the Secretariat since the twenty-third session of the World Heritage Committee**

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I. Introduction

An eventful year 2000 carried an increasingly heavy workload for the World Heritage Centre, both as Secretariat to the World Heritage Committee and as a unit within UNESCO. With the arrival of the new Director-General, Mr Koichiro Matsuura, the year began with high expectations of change to render UNESCO more relevant to the realities of the world at the start of the 21st century. Commitments made by the Director-General to focus the activities of the Organisation and to reform the Secretariat to meet these challenges, signaled the eventual reinforcement of the Centre to support the implementation of the Convention, amongst the most internationally recognized of all UNESCO activities. Periods of transition, difficult for any, turned out to be particularly hard for the Centre.

In 2000 the workload of the Centre multiplied, with a record number of new nominations and state of conservation reports on inscribed sites. In addition, there was growing urgency for the pro-active work required to promote, on the one hand, the Global Strategy, and on the other, to address the “root causes” threatening the World Heritage sites. The Centre’s request for 5 additional posts under the 30 C5, UNESCO’s Programme and Budget for 2000-2001, was unheeded, despite the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of States Parties at its 12th session in October 1999. The Centre found itself, yet again this year, without adequate human resources nor budgetary backing to meet the needs arising from the growing success of the Convention. However, thanks to four States Parties, Associate Experts from Germany, Finland, Italy and Japan have been able to reinforce the Centre’s human resources. The Centre was however energized by the prospects of positive change, coming from the Committee’s commitment to reform the working methods of the Convention, and evidences of programme concentration within UNESCO in the draft Programme and Budget for 2002-2003.

Moreover, great strides were made in many areas, and potentials of realizing others are, in many cases, now a question of time. Co-operation with the UN Foundation provided the Centre with substantial contribution for natural heritage protection and sustainable tourism. New modes of co-operation developed with the European Commission and bilateral development agencies for urban heritage conservation as a vector for socio-economic development have demonstrated that resources are available, but they must be accessed. Even with the private sector, whether they be those of the tourism sector or some of the mining industry, experiences of recent years indicate that protection of heritage and the environment are rapidly becoming important factors in corporate ethics and principles. While too early to repose from these few examples of success, the Centre is convinced that with strategic orientation, the means would come forward and would multiply for the benefit of World Heritage.

The States Parties to the Convention, collectively, have the means necessary to ensure the safeguarding and development of the World Heritage sites. What is essential is that international solidarity and the sharing of resources be substantively enhanced - between States, between local authorities, between the private sector and the civil society at large for the sites on the World Heritage List and others to come in the future, and for them to be protected through pro-active and preventive action.

To enable the Committee to focus on strategic issues and to provide the orientations needed to enhance international cooperation, and to enable the Secretariat to follow-up on the

decisions of the Committee, better management of work and particularly of time is fundamental.

Management and access to information, both general and technical, are however, essential to enhance cooperation among the stakeholders of World Heritage sites and to promote coordinated and integrated actions of conservation and development. An Information Management Strategy and initial action plan was prepared by a Senior Information Advisor this year. Her report, endorsed by the Bureau at its Special Session in Budapest, is submitted as a working document for consideration by the Committee. It is hoped that the Committee will provide the Centre with the means to develop the World Heritage Information Management System which is indispensable in improving the working methods of the Committee, the advisory bodies and the Secretariat, as well as for cooperation amongst States Parties.

II. Overall functioning of the World Heritage Convention

(i) World Heritage Statutory Meetings and reform groups

In 2000, the World Heritage Centre organized the following four World Heritage statutory meetings:

STATUTORY MEETING	SESSION	VENUE	DATE	REPORT
Bureau	24 th ordinary session	UNESCO Headquarters	26 June – 1 July	WHC-2000/CONF.204/2
Bureau	Special session	Budapest, Hungary	2 - 4 October	WHC-2000/CONF.204/3
Bureau	24 th extraordinary session	Cairns, Australia	23 – 24 November	WHC-2000/CONF.204/4
Committee	24 th session	Cairns, Australia	27 November – 2 December	

World Heritage Reform Groups

A major agenda of reform issues was discussed throughout the year. The first phase of the discussions was pursued by the following groups whose reports were submitted to, and discussed by, the 24th ordinary session of the Bureau and by the Special Session of the Bureau:

1. Task Force on the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* (WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.7)

The Task Force on the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* was established by the World Heritage Committee at its twenty-third session in 1999. The Task Force met on 17 April 2000 at UNESCO Headquarters and otherwise worked via electronic communication.

The Task Force identified and proposed priority practical measures for ensuring a more effective operation of the *Convention*. These measures include suggested reform of the statutory meetings of the Bureau, Committee and General Assembly, of decision-making (including strategic planning and all aspects of the implementation of the *Convention*),

information and documentation management and other matters including the roles of the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre.

One of the recommendations of the Task Force on Implementation of the Convention was to establish a system of sub-committees to function instead of the Bureau. At the Special Session of the Bureau the Secretariat was asked to prepare a paper for discussion at the Cairns meeting of the World Heritage Bureau and Committee on the feasibility and implications of a sub-committee system in order to evaluate the organizational and cost implications of the proposed reform. Australia, Belgium, Benin, Hungary and United Kingdom were asked to assist the Secretariat in their task. A draft feasibility study was discussed by the informal group at a meeting at the World Heritage Centre on 30 October 2000.

The Feasibility study on proposed sub-committee system (WHC-2000/CONF.203/6) examines the advantages and disadvantages of the current calendar and cycle of World Heritage statutory meetings (July/November) compared to an April/June calendar and cycle. The possibility of 3 sub-committees meeting consecutively on state of conservation, nominations and the budget is also examined.

2. Working Group on the Representativity of the World Heritage List (WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.8)

In response to the Resolution concerning “Ways and means to ensure a Representative World Heritage List” adopted by the 12th General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention (October 1999) and the discussion that followed during the twenty-third session of the World Heritage Committee, an elected Working Group on the Representativity of the World Heritage List was established during a meeting of States Parties held at UNESCO Headquarters on 21 January 2000.

The Working Group met four times between January and April 2000 to examine possible changes to the decision-making processes of the Committee in order to contribute to addressing the issue of under-representativity of certain types of heritage and the heritage of certain regions. The Working Group has prepared a number of recommendations on the role and use of tentative lists, priorities for considering the large number of nominations to the World Heritage List, the possibility of introducing a voluntary scorecard that includes a proposal for performance indicator system and suggestions for enhanced capacity building for under-represented regions.

3. Working Group on Equitable Representation in the World Heritage Committee (WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.9)

In response to the Resolution of the Twelfth General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention (October 1999) and the discussion that followed during the twenty-third session of the World Heritage Committee, a Working Group on Equitable Representation within the World Heritage Committee was established during a meeting of States Parties at UNESCO Headquarters on 21 January 2000. Four meetings were held at UNESCO Headquarters between February and April 2000.

The Working Group adopted three recommendations to ensure an equitable representation in the World Heritage Committee: concerning a reduction of the term of office of the Members of the World Heritage Committee, an increase in the current number of Members of the

World Heritage Committee, and a distribution of a fixed number of seats to groups of States Parties, while leaving a number of seats open for elections on a free basis. The Special Session of the Bureau also requested the preparation of proposals concerning equitable representation in the World Heritage Committee (WHC-2000/CONF.204/6). The proposals are based on a paper prepared by the Rapporteur (K. Keefe, Australia) and the discussions of an informal group established at the Special Session of the Bureau (Australia, France, Belgium and the United States of America) which met at the World Heritage Centre on 30 October 2000. The key proposals concern, in addition to the three above-mentioned recommendations, a discouragement of consecutive terms by States Parties and an enhanced involvement of, and rotation within, all regions in the work of the Committee.

4. International Expert Meeting on the Revision of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (Canterbury, United Kingdom, 10-14 April 2000) (WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.10)

At the request of the twenty-third session of the World Heritage Committee, an International Expert Meeting was held from 10 to 14 April in Canterbury, United Kingdom to consider the revision of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*. Cultural and natural heritage experts from all regions, representatives of the Advisory Bodies (IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM), the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and of the World Heritage Centre attended the meeting, which was organized by English Heritage and the World Heritage Centre, and funded by the Government of the United Kingdom and the World Heritage Fund.

The Expert Meeting achieved consensus in preparing a new logical framework for the World Heritage conservation cycle. The meeting considered that at the heart of the cycle is a statement of each site's outstanding universal significance, which should be the governing factor in all decisions affecting the site. The new framework would include, for the first time, a section on the protection and conservation of World Heritage sites. The meeting recommended that the *Operational Guidelines* be rationalized, subject to the World Heritage Committee's agreement, to provide a logical framework for all those implementing the *World Heritage Convention*.

The Expert Meeting recommended that the new *Operational Guidelines* should be reduced in length and presented in a new, user-friendly format, with illustrations, tables, and graphics. The new *Guidelines* would be supported by more detailed annexes. The report of the International Expert Meeting is presented to the Committee as WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.10.

The Special Session of the Bureau (WHC-2000/CONF.204/3, paragraph II.22) recommended that a preliminary draft of redrafted *Operational Guidelines*, to show the new overall framework proposed by the Canterbury expert meeting be presented to the 24th session of the Committee for initial consideration. The Special Session of the Bureau recommended that the Committee determine whether to finalise the new framework and agree to a process for further development of a redrafted *Guidelines*.

The preliminary draft (Proposed revisions to the *Operational Guidelines*, WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF 18) has been developed by Australia as a practical contribution to assist the Committee to consolidate and progress the reform work it has undertaken over recent years.

Improvements in Documentation: aimed to present in a synthetic way, the basic documents necessary to facilitate decision-taking by the Bureau and the Committee. An initial proposal is to:

- retain the Reports of the Rapporteur of the Bureau as they are today;
- transform all other documents into information documents, available upon request;
- creation of a working document comprising all the discussion points as well as the references required for decisions;
- maintain documents for which text has to be approved by the Bureau or Committee (such as the new Operational Guidelines, etc.);
- publication of all information documents on the Internet site, according to a timetable and criteria still to be discussed.

These preliminary proposals need to be thoroughly studied to evaluate all their implications and to verify their effectiveness in relation to the goal expressed by the Committee.

At this session, the Committee is asked to:

- (a) adopt the new framework proposed by the Canterbury expert meeting (WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.10) as a basis for discussion, and
- (b) agree to a process and timetable for redrafting the *Operational Guidelines* through a coordinated, collaborative process involving representatives of States Parties, the Advisory Bodies and the Secretariat.

(ii) Co-operation with the Advisory Bodies

Co-operation with the advisory bodies in the implementation of the Convention has been facilitated through two meetings held in February and September 2000. These meetings enabled: (a) close coordination of inputs from all advisory bodies and the Centre in the preparation of working documents for the Bureau and the Committee sessions; (b) joint review by the Centre and ICOMOS of the large number of cultural heritage nominations submitted by States Parties for evaluation in 2001; and (c) other organizational and administrative issues. There were specific collaborative projects and missions that were jointly developed and/or executed by the Centre and the advisory bodies. For example, the Centre and IUCN co-operated in the organization of an expert meeting on World Heritage and Mining in September 2000 in Gland, Switzerland, where ICOMOS also participated actively. The Centre and IUCN organized, at the time of IUCN's World Conservation Congress in Amman, Jordan (4-10 October 2000) a workshop on the "Role of World Heritage in Danger Listing in Promoting International Co-operation in the Conservation of World Natural Heritage". Cooperation with ICCROM was also enhanced through joint training activities for cultural heritage protection in Africa, Southeast Asia and in developing a training manual in urban conservation.

(iii) Co-operation with other UNESCO sectors

Co-operation with other UNESCO Sectors and Units in the implementation of a variety of projects and activities related to the implementation of the Convention was continued and strengthened. The Division of Ecological Sciences closely collaborates in all aspects of planning and execution of activities in the UN Foundation financed project in the Democratic

Republic of the Congo. This co-operation is contributing to raising additional resources for the World Heritage sites in Danger in the DRC from the Government of Belgium, and perhaps from the European Union in the near future. The Division of Cultural Heritage, the Centre and the UNESCO field offices work closely in a number of conservation projects benefiting several World Heritage sites, notably for the safeguarding and development of Angkor in Cambodia, the largest ever UNESCO programme for cultural heritage. The Centre and UNESCO's Social Science Sector continue to collaborate on urban conservation activities that are integrated within a larger socio-economic development context. This collaboration has increased in view of preparations for the Habitat II+5 Conference in 2001 in New York. The Education Sector co-operates closely with Centre staff in the implementation of the Special Project on World Heritage in Young Hands; and the Bureau of the Extra-Budgetary Resources regularly facilitates the Centre's work with donors in the submission of project requests and reports.

The Centre and SC/ECO continue to cooperate targeting sites that are World Natural heritage as well as Biosphere Reserves for designing projects and programmes submitted for consideration for support by UNF/UNFIP. The Centre collaborated with the Division of Earth Sciences in a number of projects on geological heritage, including a joint presentation to the IGCP Board, the 31st International Geological Congress (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, August 2000) and a World Heritage Fossil Sites Conference (Australia, September 2000).

(iv) Co-operation with secretariats of other conventions

Three of the four environmental Conventions co-operating with the Centre, i.e. the Biodiversity Convention, Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and Ramsar Convention, took part in the Task Force meeting to launch CONNECT (Capacity Building for Outreach, Natural Heritage Networking, Education, Co-operation and Training) held in Paris in April 2000. The Ramsar Convention has actively collaborated in the Centre's efforts to improve the state of conservation of Ichkeul (Tunisia) a World Heritage site in Danger; and the Djoudj Bird Sanctuary (Senegal) which the Committee is due to consider for inclusion in the List of World Heritage in Danger at its current session. The Centre and the CMS Secretariat are continuing the process to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two Conventions. In addition to establishing joint web-pages for biodiversity-related Conventions, the Centre had a meeting with the Secretary General of the Convention on Migratory Species to review the possibility of an MOU between the two Conventions.

Following the adoption of the European Landscape Convention by the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers on 19 July 2000, the Convention was opened for signature during a ceremony in Florence on 20 October 2000 with the participation of the Director of the Centre (WHC-2000/CONF.204/WEB.6).

(v) Co-operation with other organizations

The Centre's co-operation with the **UN Foundation** and its counterpart in UN New York, i.e. the UN Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), for strengthening protection of World Heritage sites meeting natural heritage criteria (iv) continues to grow stronger. In addition to projects for Galapagos and the World Heritage sites in Danger of the DRC approved during 1999, four additional projects submitted by the Centre in partnership with various partners have been approved by UNF/UNFIP in 2000. Between May 1999 and July 2000, UNF/UNFIP has provided about US\$ 8.5 million as outright grants for projects covering a

maximum of 4 years and benefiting of World Natural Heritage of global biodiversity significance. UNESCO and UNF have also negotiated at the highest level to further strengthen collaboration between the two organizations. In these negotiations, particular consideration was given to simplifying UNESCO administrative procedures and strengthening the administrative capacity in the Centre and/or concerned UNESCO units so as to ensure effective and rapid delivery of services and products to site-staff and other beneficiaries in and around target sites.

The World Heritage Centre is completing the editing and layout of the “Training Manual for World Heritage site-managers in Asia for Tourism Management”, in close co-operation with **UNEP** and international experts in the field of heritage management and tourism development. This activity has continued thanks to the generous contributions from **TEMA** (Sweden), **UNEP** and the World Heritage Fund. The Centre has established close relations with **UNEP-DTIE** and the **International Council on Metals and the Environment (ICME)** for collaboration on mining issues pertaining to the conservation of World Heritage sites.

Collaboration with **UNEP** increased also in the field of mining and threats to World Heritage sites, in particular with regard to the spill at a mining site in Romania. A representative of **UNEP** provided information at the 24th session of the World Heritage Bureau following a **UNEP** assessment mission.

Collaboration with the mining industry increased, following the Committee’s discussion on mining and World Heritage. Representatives of the Centre and **IUCN** attended a meeting organized by the International Council on Metals and the Environment (**ICME**) on **Mining and Biodiversity**, at Kew Gardens/London, UK, from 13 to 15 March 2000. A technical workshop on **World Heritage and Mining**, requested by the last session of the Committee, was organized by **IUCN** and **ICME** at **IUCN** Headquarters, Gland, Switzerland, 21 – 23 September 2000. This workshop resulted in a number of recommendations, which are contained in the report from the World Heritage Bureau presented to this session of the Committee.

The Centre continues to explore opportunities for further collaboration between a range of conservation NGOs, funds and foundations and multi and bilateral donors. For example the Centre is co-operating with the **UNEP** Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (**UNEP-DTIE**) in Paris, and the **World Tourism Organization (WTO)**, in Madrid, in promoting the work a Tour Operators Initiative (**TOI**). Several members of the **TOI** have expressed a keen interest to provide direct support to conservation of both World Heritage cultural and natural sites.

The Government of China, the World Bank and **UNESCO** jointly organized an **International Conference on Cultural Heritage Management and Urban Development** in Beijing from 5 to 7 July 2000. The objective of this conference was to strengthen co-operation in cultural heritage management and conservation in urban areas of China and to explore response strategies.

The Centre is establishing closer links with the **World Bank** and regional development banks which are increasingly executing projects for the conservation of cultural heritage. Similarly, the World Bank, **UNDP** and **UNEP** jointly operate the Global Environment Facility (**GEF**) whose projects directly benefit a number of World Natural Heritage sites. While World Bank and **GEF** projects already benefit World Heritage, the Centre is urging greater dialogue

between World Bank and Centre staff so that issues and problems of conservation highlighted by the Bureau and Committee could be better accommodated and addressed during project identification, appraisal and design phases.

Upon instructions from the Director-General, the World Heritage Centre has initiated discussions with the **Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)** and the **French Agency for Development (AFD)** aimed to strengthen cooperation in the effective application of paragraph 56 of the Operational Guidelines which invites States Parties to inform the Committee through the UNESCO Secretariat of their intention to undertake or authorize major restorations or new construction in the World Heritage protected area. Cooperation between the Centre and the AFD in identification, design and monitoring of execution in a pilot project in Luang Prabang (Laos) has enabled linkage with a major infrastructure project financed by the Asian Development Bank. Discussions are now underway with JBIC and AFD to identify areas of potential partnership for the protection and enhancement of World Heritage sites in the Arab States and Africa in addition to Asia. Cooperation is being envisaged for 2-3 pilot projects as a means of developing operational modalities given the differences in the working methods of UNESCO and those of development and financial institutions.

A new partnership with the **Caisse de Dépôts et Consignation of France (CDC)** and the World Heritage Centre was established in order to provide technical advice to the Vietnamese authorities in instituting a housing improvement fund for the provision of subsidies and loans for the restoration of privately-owned houses in the World Heritage site of Hue. Technical co-operation with CDC for other urban heritage sites in Asia and possibly Africa, is under discussions.

Relations with the **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** of the **Asia-Europe Summit Forum (ASEM)** has also continued for the ASEF meeting in December in Hanoi on urban conservation regulations, which also involves the Government of France.

Project proposals for the conservation and development of the World Heritage sites of Luang Prabang (Laos), Vigan (Philippines) and Hue (Vietnam) prepared with support from the World Heritage Centre by local authorities in France, UK, Spain and Italy have been approved for funding under the **European Union Asia Urbs Programme** for the total amount of Euro 1 million. The Centre will also be providing technical support for the amendment of other project proposals prepared for the strengthening of heritage management by the local authorities of Kathmandu Valley (Nepal) and Intramuros Manila (Philippines), referred back by the EU for adjustment and resubmission.

As follow-up to the International Conference for Mayors of Historic Cities in China and the European Union (held in 1998), the World Heritage Centre, in co-operation with the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Construction of China, organized a **Training Workshop for Site Managers of World Heritage & Historic Cities in China** from 23 to 31 March 2000 in Beijing and the World Heritage City of Pingyao, Shanxi Province of China. The workshop focused on the World Heritage conservation process and the importance of establishing a monitoring system.

Also as part of the workshop series of workshops on the safeguarding and development of historic cities in Asia, the World Heritage Centre, the Government of the Republic of Korea and the City of Suwon organized the **International Roundtable of Mayors of World**

Heritage Fortress Cities meeting held in Suwon City, Republic of Korea, 5-7 September 2000, which concluded with the adoption of the “Suwon Actions” to be implemented by mayors, their representatives and experts from historic fortress cities of 19 historic fortress cities.

Between 8-16 April 2000, a workshop on **Culture, Heritage Management and Tourism** was organized by UNESCO and hosted by the Bhaktapur Municipality, Kathmandu, Nepal, with the support of the World Heritage Fund and the Directorate for Cultural Heritage of Norway. Over 100 participants from the Asia-Pacific region responsible for World Heritage cultural site management or potential World Heritage sites, representatives the World Bank, tourism industries, and international experts active in the field of cultural heritage protection and tourism development gathered to discuss enhancement of co-operation between stakeholders.

Under the **France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement for the Protection of Monumental, Urban and Natural Heritage**, 27 activities for the amount of US\$ 210,000 have been adopted for funding in the year 2000 by the four concerned ministries of the French Government (Foreign Affairs, Culture and Communications, Infrastructure, Transport, Housing and Tourism, and the Environment). These activities are all related to capacity building in legal protection, management and conservation skills for sites on the World Heritage List or on the Tentative Lists of States Parties to the Convention, thus contributing to the Global Strategy or periodic reporting objectives established by the Committee.

Discussions were initiated to strengthen collaboration in the field of cultural landscapes between the World Heritage Centre and the **International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)** in September during the IFLA World Congress in Costa Rica.

The World Heritage Centre has continued cooperation with the **Nordic World Heritage Office** in Oslo (NWHO) for the implementation of the Convention in the Nordic countries and support for activities in African and Asian States Parties. The annual report of the Nordic World Heritage Office is made available as information document **WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.15**.

With the **Cultural Properties Protection Office** of the Asian Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), established in 1999, a multi-year regional training programme is being developed with UNESCO and ICCROM. (add about meeting in March 2000);

3. Establishment of the World Heritage List

(i) New States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention*

The total number of States Parties to the *Convention* has increased to **161** since the twenty-third session of the World Heritage Committee with Namibia, Kiribati and Comoros as new States Parties.¹

(ii) The World Heritage List

¹ The Convention will come into force for the 161st State Party, Comoros, on 27 December 2000.

Following the inscription of 48 new sites by the World Heritage Committee at its twenty-third session in December 1999, the World Heritage List now includes a total of **630** properties (**480** cultural properties, **128** natural properties and **22** mixed properties) located in **118** States Parties.

Nominations to the World Heritage List 2000

The Bureau at its twenty-third session examined a total of **72** nominations (**11** natural, **56** cultural and **5** mixed cultural and natural properties). In addition, proposals for the extension of **2** natural and **3** cultural properties were also reviewed. The Bureau recommended that the Committee inscribe **44 properties**, and that it referred back an additional **20 properties** for additional information. The Committee will be considering inscribing **72** nominations, among which **15** natural, **54** cultural and **3** mixed, including **5** extensions and **1** renomination. This would be a potential addition to the World Heritage List of **60 properties**, in addition to 5 extensions to properties already on the List. In 1999, the Committee inscribed 48 properties, which was at that time a record number. Detailed information can be found in the working document **WHC-2000/CONF.204/12**.

The majority of new nominations received for 2000 continue to be received from Western European countries. The Committee will be examining nominations from two States Parties (Azerbaijan, Malaysia) for the first time.

The following table shows the composition of sites reviewed by the World Heritage Bureau this year:

	Europe			America			Arab States			Asia Pacific			Africa		
Sites	C	N	M	C	N	M	C	N	M	C	N	M	C	N	M
	38	2	2	8	14	0	1	0	0	7	2	2	2	1	1
Total	42			14			1			11			4		
100 %	58.3%			19.4%			1.5%			17.2%			6.2%		

(iii) Tentative lists

As of 31 October 2000, 115 of the 161 States Parties to the Convention had submitted tentative lists that comply with the format specified in the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the Convention (see Annex 1 of working document WHC-2000/CONF.204/12).

(iv) Global Strategy for a Representative and Balanced World Heritage List

Africa

In collaboration with UNESCO Office in Maputo, and the Mozambique Ministry for Co-ordination of Environmental Affairs, the Mozambique authorities hosted, from 20 - 23 March 2000 in Maputo, Mozambique, a World Heritage Convention regional technical workshop on **Assessing Natural Heritage of Coastal and Marine Areas of Africa**. The workshop, attended by Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Tanzania, was organized as a contribution to the recommendations of the Pan African Congress on Sustainable Integrated

Coastal Management (PACSICOM) organized by UNESCO in July 1998 in Maputo, Mozambique.

Seventeen experts from ten African countries, representatives of the three advisory bodies, members of the Scientific Committee set up for this meeting, staff members from the World Heritage Centre and the Division of Cultural Heritage of UNESCO attended the meeting on **Authenticity and Integrity in an African Context** which was held at Great Zimbabwe National Monument from 26 to 29 May 2000. It was organised by the Centre in co-operation with the National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe and UNESCO Office in Harare and was funded by the World Heritage Fund and the Nordic World Heritage Office.

The meeting was a follow-up of the Expert Meeting on African Cultural Landscapes (Kenya 1999), which requested “the Centre, in co-operation with the advisory bodies, to follow up on the Nara Document on the basis of concrete examples.” The importance of language and other forms of intangible heritage were highlighted. Proposals were made to include relevant paragraphs of the Nara Declaration in the Operational Guidelines, to merge the natural and cultural criteria, and to enlarge the definition of integrity. The synthetic report of the Great Zimbabwe Meeting and the minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Scientific Committee will be distributed as an information document at the Committee session (WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.11).

From 28 August – 17 November 2000 the annual AFRICA 2009 regional 3-month training course, **Conservation and Management of Immovable Cultural Heritage**, took place in Porto Novo, Benin at the *Ecole du patrimoine africain* (EPA). 18 participants attended from 15 francophone countries in the region. The course, based on the successful one completed in Mombasa, Kenya in 1999, was designed around an 8-week hands-on management planning exercise at two sites in Porto Novo. The final week of the course included a Directors’ Seminar attended by the Directors of the participants home institution (WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.13).

Arab Region

Of the 150 natural and mixed areas inscribed in the World Heritage List as of 1 January 2000, only three natural and 1 mixed sites are in the Arab Region. In order to improve the balance between natural and cultural World Heritage in this region a **Regional Capacity-Building Workshop for the Promotion of Awareness in Natural Heritage Conservation** was held from 25 to 27 September 2000 in Maskat, Oman. All Gulf States as well as Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Morocco attended the meeting. It was organised by the Oman authorities with financial support from the World Heritage Fund.

Asia/Pacific

In promoting the Global Strategy in Asia for a representative World Heritage List and in assisting the States Parties in nominating new categories of cultural properties of outstanding universal value, the World Heritage Centre organized during this reporting period several activities for the Central Asian and East Asian sub-regions.

A **Global Strategy Expert Meeting on Central Asian Cultural Heritage** was organized by the World Heritage Centre and hosted by the Government of Turkmenistan in Ashgabat and Merv between 11-17 May 2000. The forum brought together cultural heritage experts from all

five Central Asian Republics, in order to address the lacuna of heritage sites representing this region and the overwhelming conservation challenges facing the national authorities in this region. The Meeting concluded by identifying four major themes attesting to the cultural-ethnic diversity of this region of steppes, deserts and mountains at the crossroad of the civilizations of the East and West. The Meeting furthermore adopted resolutions with concrete action plans for improving regional and international co-operation for increasing the national capacities of conservation and management of Tentative List sites.

The World Heritage Centre also organized expert missions to **Uzbekistan** for training on the preparation of World Heritage nomination files, using the cases of Shakhrisyabz and Samarkand for training purposes.

A Study Tour to eight European cities was organized from 25 April to 15 May 2000 for a delegation from China of 12 persons: the Mayors of six of the *Canal Towns of the Wu Kingdom*, and experts on historic cities and cultural landscapes from China in co-operation with the Ministry of Construction of China and Tongji University in Shanghai. The Study Tour aimed at promoting legal protection for large conservation areas, integrating concerns for cultural landscape features with sustainable urban and territorial development, and studied examples of “best practice” on urban conservation and technical co-operation between networks of historic towns in Europe.

For the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea** (DPRK) (State Party to the Convention since July 1998), the World Heritage Centre organized an expert mission to support the national effort in preparing the Tentative List and to initiate preparation of the nomination of the group of Koguryo Tombs. International and national experts on Koguryo were identified and a call for papers launched resulted in the receipt of a series of background papers to support the nomination file and comparative studies. The World Heritage Centre organized, from 27 April to 11 May 2000, a study tour, first of its kind for experts from the DPRK, to the United Kingdom and France to visit Stonehenge and Carnac to enhance their understanding of site management plans and legal protection.

Latin America and the Caribbean

In one of the most underrepresented regions, a seminar on **Natural Heritage in the Caribbean** was held in Paramaribo, Suriname from 18 to 20 February 2000. It was organized by the Ministry of Education and Community Development, in close co-operation with the UNESCO National Commission, the UNESCO Regional Office (Kingston, Jamaica) and the World Heritage Centre with financial support from the World Heritage Fund. 31 experts from the region and representatives from UNESCO, IUCN, Conservation International (CI) and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), as well as 21 observers participated in the meeting. A synthesis report with recommendations is presented to this session of the World Heritage Committee as WEB Document (WHC-2000/CONF.204/WEB.1).

As a follow-up to the recommendations of this seminar, a **Workshop on the Management of Sites in the Guyana Shield** is being organized in Georgetown Guyana from 27 November to 1 December 2000, co-financed from the World Heritage Fund and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). Participants are expected to come from La Guyane, Guyana and Suriname as well as the neighbouring countries Brazil, Venezuela and Colombia.

A **Regional Thematic Expert Meeting on Potential Natural World Heritage Sites in the Alps** took place from 18 to 22 June 2000 in the World Heritage site of Hallstatt, Austria, with the participation of experts from the six States Parties in the European Alps as well as representatives from IUCN, the Centre and international NGOs. A synthesis report with recommendations is presented to this session of the World Heritage Committee as WEB document (WHC-2000/CONF.204/WEB.2).

Concerning the field of **geological heritage**, currently underrepresented on the World Heritage List, a conference was organized on **World Heritage Fossil Sites** (Australia, 22 September to 1 October 2000) (web document 7), as well as a workshop and session at the 31st International Geological Congress on **Geological World Heritage** (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 7 and 8 August 2000) with the participation of 230 geoscientists and representatives from more than 50 countries.

A number of activities on cultural landscapes took place during the year 2000, including a meeting on **Cultural Landscapes: Concept and Implementation** (Catania, Italy, from 8 to 11 March 2000) (WHC-2000/CONF.204/WEB.3) and **the Regional Thematic Meeting on Cultural Landscapes in Central America San Jose** (Costa Rica), 26 to 29 September 2000 (WHC-2000/CONF.204/WEB.4). Both reports are provided to the Committee as web-documents. Two **landscape publications** were distributed during the year 2000: *Cultural Landscapes in Africa* and *Cultural Landscapes in Eastern Europe*. A meeting to review progress with the **Management Guidelines for Cultural Landscapes** was held at ICCROM (Rome), 27-28 October 2000 with the participation of the Centre and the Advisory Bodies. The Centre also participated in the development of the curriculum for the **International Centre for Cultural Landscapes** (Cilento National Park, Italy).

4. Monitoring and reporting on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger

(i) Periodic Reporting

Arab Region

In the framework of the submission of periodic reports, in line with the Global Strategy approved by the twenty-third session of the World Heritage Committee, the final synthesis report for periodic reporting for the Arab Region is presented to this session of the Committee (WHC-200/CONF.204/7).

This report comprises ten reports (Section I) received from twelve States Parties participating in the exercise and 36 reports (Section II) received from 43 sites participating in the exercise. It contains conclusions and recommendations for an action plan that can be implemented by the World Heritage Centre following its approval by the Bureau in June 2001.

Already, we can note that ten sites have proposed a new statement of value; nine sites should revise their boundaries and buffer zones; six sites assessed a change in their nomination criteria, and finally one site, Tipasa (Algeria), has requested its inscription to the List of World Heritage in Danger.

This report requires careful examination and should be followed-up with a global action plan conceived as a pilot project, to be carried out by the World Heritage Centre, taking into account the activities foreseen in the other regions in the coming years.

Africa

In preparation of the Periodic reporting exercise for Africa taking place in 2001, phases 1 and 2 were finalized and phase 3 is in progress. Reporting questionnaires were circulated to 17 African States Parties (38 World Heritage sites) and a web site giving access to the questionnaire and to various documents was established. A Periodic Reporting Workshop for the Francophone African countries was held in Dakar, Senegal, in July, when sections of the questionnaire were examined and proposals submitted concerning the need to adopt National World Heritage Strategies and to organize continued training for site managers.

Asia/Pacific

The regional periodic reporting exercise for the Asia-Pacific region was initiated in 2000 by the World Heritage Centre and some States Parties. As the review will take place in 2002, an action plan for 2001-2002 is presented in document WHC-2000/CONF.204/11 which will be examined by the Committee during Provisional Agenda Item 7.2.

Latin America and the Caribbean

The Regional State of the World Heritage Report will be submitted to the World Heritage Committee in 2003. Planning activities have been initiated with the compilation of data on sites inscribed on the World Heritage List (nomination and inscription process, examination of state of conservation, international assistance) and a first consultation meeting with the permanent delegates of the region took place in June 2000. At this meeting it was agreed that the process will be organised in three sub-regions with information meetings, exchange of information and the preparation of national reports during 2001-2002. Letters have been sent out to the States Parties asking for the identification of a focal point and supplying them with a document on the State of Implementation in each Sub-Region. To facilitate the communication between the World Heritage Centre and the States Parties in the region, a web-site will be set up. A regional encounter for the preparation of the regional report will be planned for early 2003.

(ii) Reactive Monitoring

A. List of World Heritage sites in Danger

At its 23rd session in Marakkesh in 1999, the Committee added the **Iguaçu National Park (Brazil)**, **Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo)**, **Rwenzori Mountains (Uganda)** and the **Group of Monuments at Hampi (India)** to the List of World Heritage in Danger, bringing the total number of properties in that List to 27 (18 natural and 9 cultural). Since then, the World Heritage Centre organized the **First National Workshop for Site-Managers of Indian World Heritage Cultural sites** in Hampi in October 2000. The Workshop, attended by representatives of the federal and state government authorities responsible for the protection of 8 World Heritage cultural sites in India, including Hampi, adopted guidelines to promote adequate mid- to long term management of sites. New developments concerning Hampi will be examined by the Committee during Provisional

Agenda Item 8.1. Following an invitation by the authorities, an expert mission to the **Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve (Honduras)**, took place from 23 to 30 October 2000 to review the state of conservation. The site was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1996 because of commercial and agricultural intrusions into the site, threatening the World Heritage values. A report will be presented to this Committee session.

B. World Heritage List

The following table indicates the number of state of conservation reports, submitted to the 24th ordinary and 24th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Bureau respectively.

	24 th session of the World Heritage Bureau (June 2000)		24 th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Bureau (November 2000)	
	<i>Examined</i>	<i>Noted</i>	<i>For examination</i>	<i>For noting</i>
Natural	24	7	32	0
Mixed	4	0	3	0
Cultural	20	5	28	6
Total	48	12	62	6

Arab Region

Some of the activities undertaken in this region merit particular attention. In **Islamic Cairo (Egypt)**, the Policy Advisor and the Technical Co-ordinator established by UNESCO are continuing their work until the end of the year 2000. A proposal for continuation of UNESCO's involvement for the year 2001 is in preparation at the Centre. UNESCO-WHC and Delft University are preparing the publication of a Monograph on the safeguarding of **Byblos (Lebanon)**. A follow-up on the two previous expert meetings on Byblos is scheduled for March 2001, in which a task force will be formed to decide on the Terms of Reference for a Management Plan and Masterplan for Byblos. For **Ksar Ait Ben Haddou (Morocco)**, the expert mission which visited the site in August 2000 asked the State Party to finalize the process of the overall classification of the site, to strengthen the capacities of the administration in charge of the site, to create a site-management committee and a working group to establish a management plan for the property. Finally this report recommended the inscription of Ksar Ait Ben Haddou on the List of World Heritage in Danger, as it needs urgent corrective measures in view of the abandonment and degradation of this site. Due to a lack of conservation measures, the **Historic city of Zabid (Yemen)** is now facing huge threats that are endangering its authenticity and integrity. In July 2000, a consultant of the Centre discussed these problems with the Yemeni authorities who are studying at the highest levels the eventuality of requesting the inclusion of the city in the List of the World Heritage in Danger.

Asia/Pacific

Seven reactive monitoring missions were organized by the World Heritage Centre at the request of the Committee and Bureau, often in close co-operation with ICOMOS. These include the following cultural sites in Asia: the **Monuments of Hampi (India)** in February 2000, the **Sun Temple of Konarak (India)** in February 2000, **Lumbini, Birthplace of the Lord Buddha (Nepal)** in April 2000, **Kathmandu Valley (Nepal)** in September 2000, Paoay Church within the site of the **Baroque Churches of the Philippines (Philippines)** in

September 2000, **Taxila (Pakistan)** in October 2000, Shalamar Gardens within the site of the **Fort and Shalamar Gardens of Lahore (Pakistan)** in October 2000. An ICOMOS Mission to **Khajuraho (India)** has been postponed to 2001.

Some of the properties received special public attention since the 23rd session of the World Heritage Committee.

For **Kathmandu Valley (Nepal)**, the findings of the High Level Mission to Kathmandu Valley World Heritage site in Nepal (24-29 September 2000) are presented in WHC-2000/CONF.204/INF.17, and will be examined by the Committee. Concerning the cable-car project at the **Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru)**, the State Party informed that alternative locations are being studied. The damage to the sundial (Intihuatana) at Machu Picchu, caused by a crane that was used for the filming of a commercial at the site, has been of great concern. The Centre has over the last months received thousands of protest letters dealing with the World Heritage site of **Auschwitz Concentration Camp (Poland)** in the vicinity of which a discotheque has been opened on the premises of a building used during the war for forced labour of prisoners. There is also concern relating to plans for the construction of a “visitor centre, cafeteria and parking facilities” at the entrance to the camp. Little progress has been made in the work of the International Expert Group on the spatial planning for the surroundings of the camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau.

Following the UNESCO mission to the **Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino (Mexico)** in August 1999 and the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee, the President of Mexico announced on 2 March 2000 that the proposed salt production project (Mitsubishi/Mexican Government) at the World Heritage site of El Vizcaino has been cancelled. Both the Director-General of UNESCO and the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee welcomed this major success for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, and congratulated the Mexican authorities for their extraordinary action taken to protect the World Heritage site. As a follow-up to the recommendations of the mission, adopted by the last session of the World Heritage Committee, the site was also included in a US\$ 2.5 million UNF project entitled “Linking Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism at World Heritage sites”.

A number of other sites were reviewed by on-site missions on the state of conservation, e.g. **Huascarán National Park (Peru)** and as case studies at the technical meeting on World Heritage and mining e.g. **Donana National Park (Spain)**.

5. Technical implementation of the World Heritage Convention – International Assistance

Evaluation of International Assistance

The findings of the evaluation of International Assistance undertaken by C3E, requested by the World Heritage Committee, was examined by the Bureau at its 24th session and its Special Session in Budapest in October 2000.

Implementation of International Assistance

The increase in the number of international assistance requests and the amounts requested has continued since 1998, reflecting the growing number of sites and expanding threats. In view of the limited funds of the World Heritage Fund International Assistance, the World Heritage Centre continued to encourage Least Developed Countries (LDCs) or Low-Income Countries (LICs) States Parties, especially those with sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger, to utilize limited World Heritage funds in catalytic ways, following paragraphs 113 of the *Operational Guidelines*. Moreover, non LDC / LIC States Parties were encouraged to actively seek funds for large-scale projects from other sources. However, non LDC / LIC States Parties continued to request international assistance, and to meet their urgent needs, the Committee, Bureau or Chairperson have approved most of their requests, as synthesized in the tables below.

Implementation of International Assistance requests approved by the World Heritage Committee, the Bureau or the Chairperson have been undertaken by the World Heritage Centre, in close co-operation with the States Parties concerned, the Advisory Bodies, relevant NGOs, UNESCO field offices and relevant units within UNESCO.

Preparatory Assistance

Despite the exceptional grant from the Government of Japan of US\$ 300,000 in 1999 to address Preparatory Assistance requests for under-represented and LDC or LIC States Parties, the budget for Preparatory Assistance allocated by the World Heritage Committee (US\$ 325,000) was completely exhausted by February 2000. The table below synthesizes the distribution of Preparatory Assistance requests approved and implemented:

<i>Preparatory Assistance</i>				
States Parties	Number of requests	Natural Heritage	Cultural Heritage	Mixed Heritage
5 Least Developed Countries	5	0	5	0
3 Low-Income Countries	4	1	3	0
7 Non LDC/LIC Countries	7	2	2	3
Subtotal	15	3	10	3

Technical Co-operation

LDC States Parties did not benefit greatly from the Technical Co-operation Assistance, often due to the fact that dues to the World Heritage Fund have not been paid. As a consequence, non LDC/LIC States Parties received support from Technical Co-operation. Some States Parties, which received International Assistance in previous years, continued to request support from the World Heritage Fund on a regular basis and often for the same World Heritage sites. The distribution of Technical Co-operation requests approved and implemented in 2000 are as follows:

<i>Technical Co-operation</i>				
States Parties / Others	Number of requests	Natural Heritage	Cultural Heritage	Mixed Heritage
6 Least Developed Countries	6	3	3	0
12 Low-Income Countries	14	6	6	2
15 Non LDC/LIC Countries	18	3	15	0

	4 Advisory Bodies or Other for Regional/Global Activity	5	4	0	1
Subtotal	37	43	16	24	3

The Prefectural Government of Kagoshima, Japan, organized the first-ever **Asia/Pacific Conference on the Role of Local Governments in the Protection of World Natural Heritage in Kagoshima**, Yakushima Island World Heritage from 18 to 21 May 2000. The Conference attracted the participation of heads of 20 local governments, or their representatives, in Asia and the Pacific that have at least one natural site inscribed on the World Heritage List. One of the principal themes of the Conference was the role of youth in World Natural Heritage protection. Japanese school children exchanged views and experiences via the Internet with their counterparts in other countries and took active part in the discussions of Conference workshops. The network of local governments established at the Conference has laid the Foundation for a series of co-operative activities involving local Governments. The Government of Queensland, Australia will host the second Conference in the year 2003.

A total of 11 international assistance projects were provided to natural heritage in the Latin American and Caribbean region during 2000. This included the first **training workshop for natural heritage site managers in Brazil**, held at Iguacu National Park (Brazil) from 12 to 15 October 2000 with financial support from the World Heritage Fund.

Training Assistance

During the 23rd session of the World Heritage Committee, the training budget for cultural heritage was already completely exhausted. From the US\$ 490,000 allocated for training funds for cultural heritage, US\$ 276,365 amounting to approximately 56% earmarked for cultural heritage training, was provided to ICCROM for 6 global or regional activities and an additional US\$ 85,000 for servicing costs. The table below synthesizes the distribution of Training Assistance approved and implemented:

<i>Training Assistance</i>				
	Number of requests	Natural Heritage	Cultural Heritage	Mixed Heritage
States Parties / Others				
5 Least Developed Countries	5	3	2	0
2 Low-Income Countries	3	0	3	0
9 Non LDC/LIC Countries	10	4	5	1
2 Advisory Bodies for	10	2	8	0
5 Regional/Global Activities	5	3	1	1
Subtotal	23	12	19	2

Assistance for Educational, Information and Promotional Activities

Since the 22nd session of the World Heritage Committee when the *Operational Guidelines* were revised, there has been some increase in utilizing the Assistance for Educational, Information and Promotional Activities for activities with long-term effects and for promoting the World Heritage Education Programme. The 13 requests approved completely committed this budget in 2000. They included three World Heritage educational activities, three heritage exhibitions, three publications and two information dissemination activities, and finally, two

activities in the Latin American and Caribbean Region for the production of a World Heritage medal and a symposium related to a new inscription.

Emergency Assistance

Increasing threats caused by natural or human disasters resulted in extensive damage to numerous World Heritage sites, leading to large amounts of funds being requested from the Emergency Reserve of the World Heritage Fund. The following table indicates the distribution of Emergency Assistance requests approved and being implemented:

<i>Emergency Assistance</i>					
States Parties		Number of requests	Natural Heritage	Cultural Heritage	Mixed Heritage
2 Least Developed Countries		3	1	2	0
2 Low-Income Countries		2	0	2	0
7 Non LDC/LIC Countries		8	1	5	2
Subtotal	11	13	2	9	2

6. World Heritage documentation, information, education and awareness-raising strategy

The scope and range of activities undertaken by the Centre staff has increased consistently over the last few years, and as we enter the third year of the strategic plan for Documentation, Information and Education activities, adopted by the Committee in 1998, the reinforcement of the Unit responsible for undertaking these activities is timely.

In 2000, two staff members (P5 and G7) were detached from the promotional unit of the Division of Cultural Heritage to the Centre’s Documentation, Information and Education Section with a view to strengthening this section and enable it to perform under better conditions. In addition to this act of reinforcement, a temporary post for an Assistant Programme Specialist specialised in Media Relations was recently approved by the Director-General of UNESCO. This temporary post, approved for the duration of 11 months, will be financed through extra-budgetary income generated by partnerships with the private and public sector as an intermediary measure, awaiting the creation of a permanent post, as will be proposed in the next programme and budget of UNESCO for 2002-2003 (31 C/5).

A detailed report of activities undertaken by the Documentation, Information and Education Section of the World Heritage Centre in 2000 and proposed activities and budget for 2001 is presented in document WHC-2000/CONF.204/14. This work plan will be reviewed under item 12 of the provisional agenda. Nevertheless, it is important to highlight some of the substantial achievements of the Documentation, Information and Education Section in this report.

The year 2000 was marked by a dramatic increase in the number and size of nominations submitted for review. Despite this considerable increase, the new nominations were successfully inventoried and incorporated into the relevant database. This work was accomplished by two persons employed on a full time basis over a three-month period. The purchase of a high-speed scanner, as proposed in next year’s work plan, will enable the expansion of a data capture initiative. This project will increase the access of statutory and

other documents, making them available to States Parties, Committee members, staff members, the public and other partners at a time when this data is particularly important for the periodic reporting process.

As a part of the Information activities, an important step for increasing the visibility and readership of the World Heritage Review was achieved by adopting a bi-monthly publication schedule. In addition, the World Heritage Slide Kit and several exhibitions on World Heritage were circulated to World Heritage sites during the year reaching a wide audience.

Much of the activity for Internet in 2000 concerned the creation of new web pages for the Committee's Task Force and Working Groups. Additional web pages were designed for the periodic reporting exercise for both Arab States and Africa. In 2001, time will be spent on improving the geographical location representation of the sites. Furthermore, new pages will be developed on educational and media topics.

New partnership initiatives were undertaken in favour of World Heritage, notably through activities with the tourism industry, which have and will continue to help in raising awareness and funds for World Heritage sites. The number and quality of partnerships with the media and publishers were also expanded, generating over US\$ 450,000 to be allocated to field projects and promotional activities in 2001.

The Special Project *Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion* is proving to be one of the most successful flagship projects launched by UNESCO for young people. Much more funding is needed in order to meet the increasing number of proposals from Member States to develop World Heritage educational material and activities for young people at the regional and national level. In 2000, more than 130 Member States actively participated in the experimentation and adaptation of the Educational Resource Kit for Teachers "World Heritage in young hands". Twenty national-language versions of the Kit are being prepared by National Commissions for UNESCO and an Internet version will become available at the end of 2000.