



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

**World Heritage**

**32 COM**

**Distribution Limited**

**WHC-08/32.COM/INF.5A  
Paris, 22 May 2008  
Original: English/French**

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

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

**WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

**Thirty second Session**

**Quebec City, Canada  
2 – 10 July 2008**

**Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda: Report of the World Heritage Centre on  
its activities and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's  
Decisions**

**INF. 5A Report of the Advisory Bodies on their activities**

**SUMMARY**

This document presents the reports of the Advisory Bodies on their activities

## I. Report on activities undertaken in connection with the World Heritage Convention

2007

### A. Introduction

On the occasion of the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee (Durban, 2005), an amount of USD 1,035,900 was allocated by the Committee to ICOMOS to carry out its activities as Advisory Body to the Committee for cultural heritage for 2006-2007.

For 2007, a contract, No 4500038625, was signed on 14 May 2007 for the following activities:

- evaluation of nominations on the World Heritage List ( work performed mainly in 2006 for presentation to the Committee in June-July 2007);
- implementation of thematic studies;
- participation at the 31st session of the Committee (Christchurch, 2007) and at expert meetings and other meetings organized by the World Heritage Centre, and
- provision of advisory services (examination of international assistance requests, preparation of working documents for the Committee, etc.).

The contract was paid in instalments on 15 May 2007, 31 May 2007, 10 August 2007 and the final payment on 31 December 2007.

During the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee (Vilnius, 2006), a sum of USD 80,000 was allocated by the Committee to ICOMOS to cover its advisory work in connection with the state of conservation reports for properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger and to carry out reactive monitoring missions (work performed from September 2006 to May 2007 for presentation to the Committee in July 2007). A second contract, No 600004, was signed on 21 December 2006, with three instalments scheduled on 31 December 2006, 26 March 2007 and 31 July 2007.

### B. Evaluation of nominations for the World Heritage List

For the 2007 cycle which began in March 2006 and ends in July 2007, ICOMOS was requested to evaluate 46 properties nominated for inscription. Of the 46 evaluations of properties:

- 27 concerned new cultural or mixed properties,
- 2 concerned properties that had been referred back in the past,
- 5 concerned properties that had been deferred in the past,
- 12 concerned minor modifications.

One of the nominations concerned a mixed property (cultural/natural) and another one a transboundary property. The nominations were made by 37 States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention*.

Expert missions were organized from August to December 2006 to 32 properties for which dossiers had been sent to ICOMOS at the beginning of the year. In total, and in strict compliance with the principles and procedures set out in the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, and in particular Section III.E and Annex 6 :

- 32 experts from 27 countries were involved in the evaluation missions (a list of the missions is provided in an annex to the Financial Statement);
- 1 evaluation mission was carried out jointly with IUCN for the nomination of a mixed property;
- 8 ICOMOS International Scientific Committees were consulted;
- 30 National Committees were questioned;

in addition, individual experts were consulted on the Outstanding Universal Value of all the properties concerned, their authenticity and integrity, their protection and management.

Written evaluations were prepared and examined by the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel during a two-day meeting in January 2007 (20 and 21 January 2007). Additional documentation requested before 31 January 2007 from the States Parties and received by 28 February 2007, was examined at the meeting of the working group of the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel on 10 and 11 March 2007. The texts of the evaluations, approved by the Panel with accompanying recommendations, have been printed and made available (in English and French) to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre for issue according to the deadline foreseen for the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee (Christchurch, 2007). An ICOMOS delegation participated at the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee (23 June-2 July 2007) and the ICOMOS evaluations were presented to the Committee, supported by Power Point presentations.

In 2007, ICOMOS launched the evaluation procedure and organized evaluation missions to properties to be examined by the Committee in July 2008. This work will be covered by a contract with the World Heritage Centre which should be signed as soon as possible and shall consequently be presented in the 2008 activity report.

### **C. Reports on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties**

On a regular basis and throughout the year, the World Heritage Centre consults the Advisory Body regarding problems or threats facing properties inscribed on the World Heritage List or on the Tentative Lists of States Parties. Additional research was carried out, particularly through the ICOMOS networks, documents were studied and written reports were transmitted to the Centre, to complete the final preparation of the working document submitted to the Committee in June-July 2007.

For its part, ICOMOS immediately passes on to the World Heritage Centre any information received through its networks concerning the state of conservation of World Heritage properties and/or the threats facing these properties, to enable the World Heritage Centre to complete its files, gather information from States Parties concerned and, where necessary, launch the reactive monitoring procedure.

In 2007, ICOMOS was requested to prepare state of conservation reports for 80 properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger to be examined by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007). In several cases (21) ICOMOS sent expert missions to the sites (several of these were joint missions with UNESCO). Activities relating to the monitoring of the state of conservation of World Heritage properties are covered by a separate contract.

## **D. Evaluation of International Assistance Requests**

A total of 26 requests for International Assistance (technical, preparatory, emergency, training) were submitted to ICOMOS for evaluation and comments from January to November 2007.

Furthermore, the Advisory Body participated in meetings organized by the World Heritage Centre to examine these International Assistance requests with the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee.

## **E. Other activities linked to the implementation of the *Convention***

### **a) Preparation of documents and thematic studies**

The thematic study on *Rock Art: Africa – Zone A: Sahara & North Africa* was made available to the World Heritage Committee in Christchurch. It provided information on the characteristics of the region's rock art, significant sites, the state of documentation and research in this field, the conditions of conservation and protection of the sites, and the threats facing them. It is the second in a series of regional thematic studies on rock art.

The interim report on the thematic study on *Cultural Landscapes of the Pacific Islands* was presented to the World Heritage Committee in Christchurch and the study shall be finalized in December 2007. This work was carried out under a separate contract with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

The updating and additions to the thematic study on the *Potential Fossil Hominid Sites for inscription on the World Heritage List* is almost complete and should be delivered at the beginning of 2008.

A Strategy for Cultural Landscapes is being prepared and shall include a section on consultations with IUCN.

The Advisory Body carried out preliminary work on the preparation of the *Resource Manual for preparation of nominations of cultural properties* to be delivered at the beginning of 2008, in accordance with the timetable submitted to the World Heritage Centre.

The progress report on the *first compendium on outstanding universal value* was presented to the World Heritage Committee in Christchurch. It is integrated into the working document, *Discussion on Outstanding Universal Value (WHC-07/31.COM/9)*. ICOMOS studied the decisions of the World Heritage Committee relating to the nominations and has carried out an analysis on the application of each of the criterion. The study on the application of criteria undergoes different stages of the procedure, nomination by States Parties, evaluation by the Advisory Body and decision by the World Heritage Committee.

In the framework of the *Reflection Year on periodic reporting* decided by the World Heritage Committee at the end of the first cycle, the Advisory Body was involved in the meeting organized in January this year and in the work and meetings on the simplification of questionnaires and the elaboration of indicators (January and September). The monitoring of the *Periodic Reporting Europe, Latin America*, also mobilised the Advisory Body with several meetings for focal points of the sub-regions.

The World Heritage Centre launched a *Tourism Programme* with ICOMOS as a partner. The Advisory Body has always supported the development of close relations between the responsible management and conservation bodies of sites and the tourism industry.

Moreover, the partnership with the World Heritage Centre encourages the sharing of experience in the preparation of orientation texts on themes and in situ practice.

The reflection launched by the World Heritage Centre on *Historic Urban Landscapes* continued this year. ICOMOS requested the Centre to be part of a reference group for this initiative and participate in the work of the regional conferences of countries from Central and Eastern Europe on the « Application of Scientific and Technological Achievements in Management and Preservation of Historic Cities inscribed on the World Heritage List » (Saint-Petersbourg, 29 January-2 February) as well as those in Latin American countries (Olinda, 12-14 November).

Reflection on several *themes relating to the state of conservation of natural and cultural properties* continued in the working documents for the World Heritage Committee in Christchurch, with input from ICOMOS. These were the *Risk Reduction Strategy* for World Heritage properties (WHC-06/30.COM/7.2) and *Effects of Climate Change* on World Heritage properties (WHC-06/30.COM/7.1).

## **b) Thematic meetings**

In addition to the meetings already cited, ICOMOS was represented at several meetings concerning the development of the Global Strategy and, more generally, other aspects of the *World Heritage Convention*. The meetings concerned are as follows :

20-21 January	World Heritage Panel, ICOMOS, Paris (France)
22-23 January	Meeting of Indicators, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris (France)
24 January	Periodic Reporting Meeting, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris (France)
5-6 February	Working Group meeting on Climate Change and WH, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris (France)
19-20 February	Periodic Reporting - WH Focal Point meeting of the Mediterranean sub-region, Madrid (Spain)
12-14 March	Meeting on Periodic Reporting, Santiago (Chile)
2- 4 March	International Conference on Values and Criteria in Heritage Conservation, Florence (Italy)
5-8 March	International expert meeting for the rehabilitation of Prabanan World Heritage site and Taman Sari Water Castle, Yogyakarta (Indonesia)
10-11 March	Meeting of Working Group of the World Heritage Panel, ICOMOS, Paris (France)
16-17 March	Seminar on the state of conservation of the Historic Centre of Prague, Prague (Czech Republic)
22– 23 March	EUROPEAN Landscape Convention, Strasbourg (France)

26-30 March	State of Conservation Workshop, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris (France)
2-3 April	Meeting on Benchmarks, Paris (France)
15-29 April	Training Workshop World Heritage Management over time – maintaining values and significance, Hiroshima (Japan), UNITAR HOAP
17-21 April	CIVVIH Symposium on Urban Heritage Facing Global and Local Challenges, Helsinki (Finland)
2-4 May	Periodic Reporting – Meeting of Focal Points Western European Sub-Region, Vienne (Austria)
18-24 May	XXII Valcamonica Symposium 2007 Rock Art in the framework of the cultural heritage of humankind, Valcamonica (Italy)
24-27 May	International Symposium on concepts and practices of conservation and restoration of historical buildings in East Asia, Beijing (China)
29 mai- 1 June	Asia Pacific Regional meeting on Historic Urban Landscapes, Seoul (Korea)
19 – 23 June	9th Congress of the Organization of World Heritage Cities, Kazan (Russia)
22 June –2 July	31st session of the World Heritage Committee, Christchurch (New Zealand)
13-14 September	Working Group on simplifying the questionnaire and establishing indicators, UNESCO, World Heritage Centre, Paris (France)
14-15 September	Periodic Reporting Follow-up Meeting of Eastern and Central Europe, Wroclav (Poland)
20-22 September	Seminar on Agro-pastoral Cultural Landscapes, Meyruels (France)
28 September	World Heritage and Cultural Routes – new Orientations, Athens (Greece)
24-25 October	16th General Assembly of States Parties, UNESCO, Paris (France)
10 October	Meeting on “Starlight Reserve” concept and “Heritage of Science and Technology”, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris (France)
12 – 14 November	Regional Conference on Historic Urban Landscapes for Latin America and the Carribean, Olinda (Brazil)
30 Nov.-1 December	International Expert Meeting on World Heritage and the Arctic, Narvik (Norway).

### **c) Information**

ICOMOS has a Documentation Centre with a data base accessible online ; all documents and publications may be consulted at the Centre every afternoon from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and by appointment. The World Heritage archives are a daily working tool for our World Heritage Unit and are also regularly consulted by professional researchers and the administrations of States Parties wishing to prepare nominations.

The Advisory Body responds on an almost daily basis to information requests on the *World Heritage Convention* which are submitted to it by the States Parties, researchers, students and the general public.

### **F. Statutory and administrative meetings**

ICOMOS participated in the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee in Christchurch, New Zealand (23 June-2 July 2007), the information meeting for members of the World Heritage Committee, Paris, UNESCO (June 2007) and the 16th General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention, UNESCO, Paris (24-25 October 2007).

ICOMOS participated in two Advisory Body meetings (IUCN, ICCROM and ICOMOS) with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre that were held on 25-26 January 2007, UNESCO, Paris (France) and 10-11 September 2007, ICOMOS, Paris (France).

---

## IUCN World Heritage Activities 2007

### Final Report, Gland, March 2008

---

#### Overview of Key Results from IUCN's World Heritage Activities 2007:

- IUCN prepared and presented the draft text of the first compendium on OUV and its draft resource manuals on the preparation of nominations and management plans for natural properties;
- IUCN has started to prepare three global theme studies on volcanoes and volcanic landforms, karst and caves, and deserts;
- IUCN evaluated 20 nominations in the 2006-2007 cycle involving 14 field missions and is evaluating 19 nominations in the 2007-2008 cycle involving 13 field missions;
- IUCN has fully or partly addressed all 26 recommendations from the 2005 Christina Cameron review of its evaluation process;
- IUCN implemented and reported on 14 monitoring missions, and prepared and presented state of conservation reports and recommendations for 58 natural and mixed properties;
- IUCN was actively involved in the ongoing review of the periodic reporting process and in a large number of World Heritage training or capacity building workshops; and
- IUCN has taken a lead on the further development and implementation of the Global Training Strategy for Natural Heritage including an Action Plan for Fundraising.

#### 1. Introduction

IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, provides professional services to the World Heritage Committee in three areas: Advisory Services, Monitoring and Training. Contracts for each of these areas of activity are issued annually by the World Heritage Centre based on an approved allocation from the World Heritage Fund. This report provides a brief overview of the main activities carried out by IUCN in 2007 as well as some lessons learned and recommendations for the future.

IUCN's World Heritage activities are led by IUCN's Global Programme on Protected Areas. The UNESCO World Heritage contracts in 2007 covered two full-time staff members in the Programme, the World Heritage Officer and World Heritage Monitoring Officer, a part-time World Heritage Assistant, and six person months of the time of senior staff in the Programme. In line with one of the recommendations from the 2005 external review of IUCN's evaluation process, since August 2007 a new IUCN-funded Special Advisor on World Heritage complements the UNESCO-funded staff within the team and plays a key role in the implementation of IUCN's World Heritage activities (see also section 2.3). Funding from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) allowed two interns to also support the World Heritage team for several months each. In addition, the Programme drew heavily on expertise in IUCN's regional and country offices around the world and the IUCN expert commissions, above all the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and also the Species Survival Commission (SSC). This input from IUCN offices and commissions has been largely voluntary, with only small honorariums offered to experts involved in activities. A WCPA Vice Chair for World Heritage and a Senior Advisor on World Heritage provided



professional advice in IUCN's World Heritage activities. An IUCN World Heritage Panel of largely voluntary experts also advised IUCN in relation to its evaluation of new nominations and key monitoring issues.

In this context IUCN notes that the recent depreciation of the US dollar has put an additional, severe financial strain on IUCN's World Heritage activities as its World Heritage contracts are issued in US dollar based on an approved biennium budget allocation that predates the contract issue by up to two years. From the time of the preparation of the 2006-2007 biennium budget proposals in November 2005 to the end date of IUCN's 2007 World Heritage Advisory Services Contract in February 2008, the US dollar has lost 16 percent of its value compared to the Swiss franc, and these losses will inevitably and increasingly affect IUCN's capacity to carry out all the contractual activities if they continue.

## **2. Advisory Services**

IUCN successfully completed all activities as per the Advisory Services contract for 2007, in particular focusing on input to the global strategy for World Heritage, evaluations of new nominations, and input to a variety of expert meetings.

### **2.1 Global Strategy**

IUCN has continued its work on the Global Strategy for a Balanced, Representative and Credible World Heritage List in 2007 with the preparation and presentation of draft text of the first compendium on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) for the Committee in Christchurch. In its Decision 30 COM 9 the Committee had requested the Advisory Bodies to prepare this compendium on the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List and a second one on the inscription of properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and in late 2007 IUCN received a contract to carry out the work on these two compendiums in 2007 and 2008. To facilitate the preparation of these compendiums and its future evaluation of new nominations, IUCN has developed a database of its past evaluation reports and recommendations as well as past Committee decisions. The final text of the first compendium will be presented to the Committee in Quebec City and will provide important guidance to the Committee, Advisory Bodies and States Parties on standards for inscriptions of properties on the World Heritage List. It will be made available, together with other existing documents on the concept, application and interpretation of OUV, on IUCN's new World Heritage website.

IUCN also continued its work in the field of global thematic studies, for which it has a limited budget under its annual World Heritage contracts, and prepared a programme of priorities for future studies and started the preparation of three new studies: 1) volcanoes and volcanic landforms (requested in Decision 31 COM 8B.17); 2) karst and caves (requested in Decision 31 COM 8B.13); and 3) deserts, a previously identified priority. Global leaders in these thematic areas were contracted in 2007 as authors for these studies and IUCN developed in close cooperation with the authors agreed briefs outlining the purpose, scope, process and schedule of the studies. The three studies are currently being prepared and, following a peer review process, will be presented to the World Heritage Committee in 2008-2009.

In the thematic area of geological and geomorphological World Heritage IUCN has further developed its formal relationships with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG), in particular in relation to the evaluation of the increasing number of new geoheritage nominations. IUCN's ongoing collaboration with the European Geoparks Network and Global Geoparks Network, and the

above mentioned studies are also part of IUCN's activities in this field, providing important guidance to States Parties and the Committee.

## **2.2 Evaluation of New Nominations**

The evaluation of new nominations was a core part of IUCN's work in 2007, including the evaluation of nominations submitted by 1 February 2006 and 1 February 2007. Many of the nomination files were very complex and the missions difficult to organise; therefore considerably more time was required for their evaluation. In order to allow for adequate evaluation of supplementary information from States Parties on their nominations, IUCN had previously proposed shifting the deadline for receiving supplementary information from 31 March to 28 February. However, at its 30th session in 2006, the Committee shifted the deadline for supplementary information from reception by 31 March to submission by 28 February, potentially leaving as little time as before. IUCN considers this does not provide sufficient time to examine supplementary information and to provide quality advice to the Committee. IUCN therefore recommends the Committee reconsider its decision at its 32nd session in 2008 and to ensure the deadline of 28 February is the final date of reception, not submission, of supplementary information. IUCN notes that deferral or referral of nominations are the appropriate recommendations when it is not possible to examine large amounts of supplementary information submitted by States Parties late in the process.

IUCN evaluated 20 nominations in the 2006-2007 cycle (those submitted by 1 February 2006), involving 14 field missions to 11 natural sites, 1 mixed site, and 2 cultural landscapes, and presented the results of its evaluations to the Committee in Christchurch. The evaluation process involved:

- (a) preparation of datasheets for each new natural and mixed nomination;
- (b) more than 100 external experts carrying out desk reviews of the nominations;
- (c) field missions to all new natural and mixed nominations and two cultural landscape;
- (d) regular communication with the States Parties in relation to their nominations;
- (e) review of a considerable amount of supplementary information received by the deadline of 28 February 2007; and
- (f) two meetings of the IUCN World Heritage Panel in December 2006 and March 2007. In addition, the Panel spoke by conference call with each of the experts who carried out the field missions.

Following this, the evaluation reports and recommendations were completed and sent for translation into French, the overall evaluation report was compiled, including maps and photos, formatted and printed in-house. IUCN submitted to the World Heritage Centre 300 English copies and 130 French copies of the final evaluation report. IUCN finally presented the results of its evaluations to the Committee in Christchurch, and responded to the questions of the Committee (see section 2.4.1).

IUCN has also evaluated 19 nominations in the 2007-2008 cycle (those submitted by 1 February 2007), involving field missions to 13 natural sites, and will report in detail on this evaluation process in its 2008 activities report.

## **2.3 Implementation of Recommendations from the Christina Cameron Review**

In 2007, IUCN has continued with the implementation of a number of the 26 recommendations from the external review of its evaluation process, undertaken by Dr Christina Cameron in 2005. A progress report on the implementation of these recommendations was examined by the IUCN World Heritage Panel in December 2007 and indicated that IUCN has fully addressed 9 of the 26 recommendations. A further 15 recommendations have been partly addressed with further action ongoing, whereas 2 recommendations have been partly addressed with no further action ongoing at this stage. Key achievements in 2007 include the fully IUCN funded recruitment, for an initial two year period, of the Special Advisor on World Heritage, who plays a key role in implementing the recommendations of the external review (see also section 1.). IUCN has further improved the involvement of its networks in the evaluation process and has prepared a draft resource manual on the preparation of nominations.

The 2 recommendations with no further action ongoing relate to proposals to enhance the evaluation of cultural landscapes, where IUCN, despite several discussions, has been waiting for feedback from ICOMOS since 2005, and to the development and implementation of a communications strategy for World Heritage, which requires additional resources. In this context it should be reiterated that the full implementation of all 26 recommendations has been estimated to cost more than US\$ 800,000 in the first year and US\$ 400,000 per year thereafter in addition to IUCN's current budget for World Heritage Advisory Services. To make further progress in enhancing its World Heritage activities, IUCN is actively pursuing various fundraising avenues.

## **2.4 World Heritage Meetings**

IUCN contributed to a large number of meetings relevant to World Heritage in 2007, from statutory meetings to meetings of partners working in World Heritage properties. There is a constant demand for IUCN to participate in meetings and unfortunately it is not able to be present in all cases.

### **2.4.1 Meeting of the World Heritage Bureau and Committee**

An effective IUCN delegation participated in the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee, held from 23 June to 2 July 2007 in Christchurch, New Zealand. IUCN's input to the Committee focused on:

- (a) presentation of its evaluation reports on properties nominated to the World Heritage List;
- (b) presentation of its state of conservation reports, including reports on monitoring missions, on World Heritage properties under threat;
- (c) presentation of its draft text of the first compendium on OUV and its draft resource manuals on the preparation of nominations and management plans for natural properties;
- (d) providing technical advice on all matters relating to World Heritage as required by the Committee;
- (e) an initiative to promote high level political discussions in Africa to address the threats to the natural World Heritage properties in the Democratic Republic of Congo; and

- (f) contributing to discussions on administrative matters, including in relation to the new reinforced monitoring mechanism and the 2008-2009 biennium budget.

Most of the IUCN recommendations were accepted by the Committee. In the cases of some debate, IUCN sought to work with all parties to find the most suitable solution without compromising its objective, technical role while aiming to ensure the highest level of protection for World Heritage properties and the maintenance of the credibility of the World Heritage Convention. IUCN was very active outside the formal sessions meeting with States Parties seeking technical advice on the management and conservation of their World Heritage properties, or in the preparation of forthcoming evaluation or monitoring missions. The IUCN delegation worked closely with World Heritage Centre staff, ICOMOS and ICCROM to ensure the successful and smooth-running of the Committee session.

#### 2.4.2 Meetings of the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies

IUCN attended two official meetings of the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies in Paris in 2007 (25-26 January 2007 and 10-11 September 2007). These meetings are essential for effective preparation for the Committee meetings and for highlighting key operational and strategic issues of concern for the Advisory Bodies and the Centre. They facilitate a more cohesive working relationship between the Centre and the Advisory Bodies. IUCN also reviewed in cooperation with ICOMOS and the Centre the new nominations for completeness in February 2007.

#### 2.4.3 Other Meetings relevant to World Heritage

IUCN and WCPA experts attended the following key meetings in 2007 with full or partial support from funds available under World Heritage contracts and contributed considerably to the preparation of the background documents for a number of these meetings:

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>IUCN / WCPA Expert</b>
22-23 January 2007	Paris	Workshop on Periodic Reporting Process	Pierre Galland
24 January 2007	Paris	Meeting on Periodic Reporting Reflection Year	Bastian Bomhard, Pierre Galland
5-6 February 2007	Paris	Expert Meeting on Climate Change	David Sheppard, Bastian Bomhard
14 February 2007	Paris	Expert Meeting on Geoheritage and Geoparks	Tim Badman
2-3 April 2007	Paris	Expert Meeting on Benchmarks	David Sheppard
24-26 April 2007	Vulkaneifel, Germany	Meeting of the European Geoparks Network	Tim Badman
9-13 May 2007	Insel Vilm, Germany	Workshop on Tentative Lists in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe	Bastian Bomhard, Pierre Galland, Harald Plachter
31 May 2007	Paris	Information Meeting for States Parties	David Sheppard
4 June 2007	Paris	Informal Committee Meeting	Bastian Bomhard
12-13 September 2007	Paris	Workshop on Periodic Reporting Questionnaire	Tim Badman
23-26 October 2007	Madrid	International Training Course on World Heritage Management	Pedro Rosabal
24-25 October 2007	Paris	General Assembly of States Parties	Bastian Bomhard
31 October – 4 November 2007	Insel Vilm, Germany	Workshop on Tourism Planning and Management	Tim Badman, Annelie Fincke
6-8 November 2007	Emei Shan,	International Conference on World	David Sheppard

	China	Natural Heritage in Asia and the Pacific Region	
8-9 November 2007	Saltrio, Italy	Working Group Meeting of the Alpine Convention	Harald Plachter
26-27 November 2007	Paris	Workshop on Periodic Reporting Process	Tim Badman
28 November 2007	Paris	Meeting on Periodic Reporting Reflection Year	Tim Badman
30 November – 1 December 2007	Narvik, Norway	Expert Meeting on the Arctic	Jeanne Pagnan
11-12 December 2007	Aranjuez, Spain	Expert Meeting on the Authenticity and Integrity of Cultural Landscapes	Tim Badman

IUCN staff also met with various States Parties, organisations and individuals throughout the year in relation to the management and monitoring of natural World Heritage properties.

## 2.5 International Assistance Requests

In 2007, IUCN evaluated 25 international assistance requests, provided comments on each of them to the World Heritage Centre and presented its comments at three meetings of the Review Panel in Paris. Where possible, IUCN consulted with its regional and country offices and with its expert commissions to ensure that local and global perspectives were considered in providing the best advice possible. For each international assistance request approximately 2-3 hours of work were required, involving at least two staff at IUCN headquarters.

## 3. Monitoring Activities

IUCN's monitoring activities focused on:

- (a) preparing and presenting the annual state of conservation report to the Committee;
- (b) implementing and reporting on monitoring missions;
- (c) providing technical advice on all matters relating to monitoring including periodic reporting; and
- (d) generally supporting the role of the Convention in ensuring the conservation and management of World Heritage properties.

IUCN's technical advice to the Committee, drawing on expertise in its regional and country offices, and large networks of experts, was broadly commended by the Committee at its 31st session. In 2007, as in previous years, the added value of IUCN's involvement in the World Heritage Convention may be seen through the extensive voluntary input from experts in IUCN offices and commissions.

Overall, it should be noted however, that with the growing number of World Heritage properties and threats to them, monitoring activities are increasing rapidly and demanding more and more IUCN work, as well as extensive voluntary input from IUCN offices and commissions. In particular, monitoring missions are increasingly complex and politically sensitive, and significant input from senior staff or top experts is required in these missions and in the review of mission and state of conservation reports. Additional work relating to periodic reporting and specific issues such as climate change and disaster risk reduction have not been fully resourced by the World Heritage contracts and have put increased pressure on IUCN. This has required additional staff time, subsidised by IUCN, from the Global Programme on Protected Areas and other IUCN global and regional programmes. It is therefore strongly recommended that in the preparation of draft decisions for the Committee, the resulting workload in terms of missions and other follow-up, be carefully assessed by the

World Heritage Centre and IUCN to ensure that it is feasible within the budget available under the annual monitoring contract.

Recognizing the increasingly important role of monitoring activities, and a number of process and resource issues, IUCN explored ways of improving the process with natural heritage experts of the World Heritage Centre during a fruitful retreat held in Paris in January 2008.

IUCN and WCPA members continued to manage and implement the IUCN / UNESCO / UNF project Enhancing Our Heritage: Monitoring and Managing for Success in World Natural Heritage sites, and the final project reports for all pilot sites are now available at: <http://www.enhancingheritage.net/>.

### **3.1 State of Conservation Research, Reports and Recommendations**

IUCN gathers and validates, on a regular basis and from a variety of sources, large amounts of data and information relating to the state of conservation of World Heritage properties, including from the World Heritage Centre, members of its expert commissions (in particular WCPA and SSC), regional and country offices, IUCN members and other organisations and individuals around the world. Ongoing research also involved regular reviews of the internet, journals, newspapers, newsletters, and other relevant publications. This information was verified through IUCN's networks of experts to ensure a balanced and technically sound approach was taken in response to reported threats. Wherever possible, practical solutions were identified and proposed to address issues at specific sites.

IUCN submitted to the World Heritage Centre in April 2007 draft state of conservation reports and recommendations for 58 natural and mixed World Heritage properties. These were prepared based on State Party reports as well as the information gathered from a variety of credible sources between July 2006 and March 2007. Following the initial submission, IUCN worked closely with the World Heritage Centre to finalise the documents and draft decisions. IUCN finally presented its reports and recommendations to the Committee in Christchurch (see section 2.4.1).

IUCN requests that it be noted that it is increasingly difficult to adequately review State Party reports in time for the Committee meeting, as more and more State Party reports are received well after the deadline of 1 February, sometimes even 1-2 months late. In addition, many State Party reports do not address specifically the requests by the Committee, or do not present relevant up-to-date or clear information. IUCN hopes that the guidance provided to States Parties in Decision 31 COM 7B.131 will encourage clearer, better and more timely state of conservation reports.

### **3.2 Monitoring Missions**

In 2007, IUCN implemented and reported on an unprecedentedly large number of 14 reactive monitoring missions. The first ever reinforced monitoring mission took place in August 2007 to Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It should be noted that implementing such a large number of missions has in total taken up some eight person months of IUCN staff time. Furthermore, due to budget constraints, IUCN continues to draw heavily on volunteer input from its regional and country offices and expert commissions for these missions; however, this situation is unsustainable.

### **3.3 Periodic Reporting**

In 2007, IUCN was actively involved in the reflection year and ongoing review of the periodic reporting process, and IUCN and WCPA experts attended related meetings in Paris in January, September and November 2007 (see table in section 2.4.3). With support from the

host countries and/or the World Heritage Centre, WCPA experts also attended a number of follow-up meetings of the European periodic reporting process, but due to resource constraints not all such meetings at the regional or sub-regional level could be attended. IUCN notes that although Advisory Body participation is often expected in periodic reporting meetings it is not in general funded.

#### **4. Training Activities**

IUCN receives a small contract each year to advise in and support the implementation of the Global Training Strategy for Natural Heritage. In 2007, funding under this contract supported the preparation, testing and presentation of the draft resource manuals on the preparation of nominations and management plans for natural properties, the preparation and presentation of an Action Plan for Fundraising for the Global Training Strategy for Natural Heritage, and the provision of input to or involvement in regional or thematic workshops.

IUCN continued its work on two resource manuals on the preparation of nominations and management plans for natural properties. The draft resource manuals were presented to the Committee in Christchurch and widely circulated for comments. All comments received are being considered in the finalisation of the resource manuals, and it is anticipated that the final resource manuals will be presented to the Committee in Quebec City in the format agreed with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM.

IUCN prepared and presented to the Committee in Christchurch an Action Plan for Fundraising for the Global Training Strategy (requested in Decision 29 COM 10). The action plan, included in working document WHC-07/31.COM/14, elaborates on strategic considerations and alternative mechanisms for obtaining ongoing funding for capacity building, and closes with twelve action points. IUCN is currently following up on this action plan with ICCROM and the World Heritage Centre.

IUCN and WCPA experts were actively involved in a large number of World Heritage training or capacity building workshops in 2007 including two workshops organised by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) in cooperation with IUCN and the World Heritage Centre and held on the Isle of Vilm, Germany (see table in section 2.4.3). WCPA experts were also involved in training workshops organised by the Venice office of UNESCO, UNITAR, and the Bellagio Forum, and other regional or thematic workshops.

Further activities in 2007 included the preparation of two training workshops for Central and West African States Parties to be held in Brazzaville, Congo and Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in March and May 2008, and the preparation of a strategic planning workshop on the further development and implementation of the Global Training Strategy for Natural Heritage to be held with training experts, ICCROM and the World Heritage Centre at IUCN headquarters in June 2008. IUCN also prepared, in consultation with ICCROM, and presented at the Advisory Bodies meeting held in Paris in January 2008 a discussion paper on a coordinated approach to World Heritage training. The paper recommends priorities for improving the delivery of World Heritage training and key actions for training in nominations, site management and risk management. These recommendations will be followed up at the strategic planning workshop on natural heritage training.

#### **5. Conclusions**

IUCN considers it has undertaken all World Heritage Services in an effective, efficient and professional manner in 2007. IUCN would highlight the following conclusions from the year under review:

Deadline for supplementary information: IUCN recommends the World Heritage Committee to reconsider its decision at its 32nd session in 2008 and to ensure the deadline of 28 February is the final date of reception, not submission, of supplementary information to allow for adequate evaluation of supplementary information in a professional way.

Dealing with resource issues: A key challenge is that the workload associated with World Heritage is still increasing rapidly each year, but the increase in workload is not associated with an adequate increase in resources to IUCN from the World Heritage Fund, especially in relation to monitoring. The recent depreciation of the US dollar has put an additional, severe financial strain on IUCN's World Heritage activities, and this will inevitably and increasingly affect IUCN's capacity to carry out all the contractual activities if it continues. There will thus be a need to more sharply prioritise tasks under the three World Heritage contracts and to say no when adequate resources are not available. There is also a need to allow IUCN more flexibility in the management of its World Heritage budgets as, at the time of preparation of budget proposals, it is for example not possible to predict the exact number, cost and timing of missions for the next 1-2 years. It is also not possible to predict 1-2 years in advance developments such as the recent depreciation of the US dollar, which is currently estimated (March 2008) to result in a 20 percent reduction (i.e. 290,400 Swiss francs) in IUCN's 2008-2009 biennium budget, and as a result IUCN will have to request an extra allocation from the Committee.





## **ICCROM World Heritage Activities 2007**

**Final Report**  
Rome, 31 March 2008

### **INTRODUCTION**

The following is a summary final report of activities prepared by ICCROM for the World Heritage Committee. It outlines major activities carried out in each area of service, in the period 1 January – 31 December 2007. ICCROM support to the Committee, during the period of this report, has been provided principally by Joseph King (ICCROM World Heritage Coordinator), Gamini Wijesuriya (Deputy World Heritage Coordinator), Zaki Aslan, Sadahiko Tanaka, Webber Ndoro, Baba Keita, Valerie Magar and Elena Incerti Medici all under the direction of ICCROM Director-General, Mounir Bouchenaki. ICCROM professional staff, knowledgeable of regional issues, and members of the ICCROM network also contribute substantially to support these activities. Leaving aside the support provided to AFRICA 2009, professional time equivalent approximately to that of 1 full time staff member was contributed by ICCROM from January to December 2007 to World Heritage activities, over and above any amounts provided in contracts between ICCROM and the World Heritage Centre. Unless otherwise indicated, the costs for items listed below are funded under the ICCROM Service Contract with the World Heritage Centre, #4500039915.

#### **1. PARTICIPATION IN BUREAU AND COMMITTEE STATUTORY AND PLANNING MEETINGS, AND PREPARATION OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

In 2007, ICCROM took part in the following meetings:

- Meeting of the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre, Paris, France, 25 – 26 January 2007 – ICCROM represented by Joseph King.
- Informal Meeting of the World Heritage Committee, Paris, France, 4 June 2007 – ICCROM represented by Gamini Wijesuriya.
- World Heritage Committee Meeting, 31st Session, Christchurch, New Zealand, 23 June - 2 July 2007 – ICCROM represented by Mounir Bouchenaki, Joseph King, and Gamini Wijesuriya.
- Meeting of the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre, Paris, France, 10 – 12 September 2007 – ICCROM represented by Joseph King and Gamini Wijesuriya.

- Meeting of the General Assembly of States Parties, Paris, France, 24 – 25 October 2007 – ICCROM represented by Mounir Bouchenaki. (*This mission was funded through external funding sources.*)

## **2. INVOLVEMENT IN REVIEW OF REQUESTS FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED MATTERS**

From January to December 2007, ICCROM was invited to review 28 requests for international assistance. These reviews have been carried out by ICCROM staff knowledgeable in project areas, and ICCROM partners and network members. The following requests were evaluated by ICCROM (numbers next to the name of the State Party indicate multiple requests or revised requests resubmitted for comment):

- Preparatory Assistance: Albania (2), Chad, Dominican Republic (2), Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Syria (3), Tajikistan, Viet Nam;
- Training and Research Assistance: Egypt, India, Liberia, Mongolia, Poland, Russia;
- Technical Assistance: Cambodia, Nepal, Senegal;
- Educational/Promotional Assistance: Ethiopia (2), New Zealand;
- Emergency: Afghanistan (2), Chile.

ICCROM participated in the following Advisory Bodies/World Heritage Centre International Assistance Panel meetings:

- Paris, France, 25 January 2007 – ICCROM represented by Joseph King.
- Paris, France, 4 June 2007 – ICCROM represented by Gamini Wijesuriya.
- Paris, France, 11 September – ICCROM represented by Joseph King and Gamini Wijesuriya.

ICCROM also made a substantial contribution to the development of assessment criteria for International Assistance requests which were approved by the Committee at its 31st session in Christchurch.

## **3. MANAGING AND COORDINATING TRAINING FOR WHICH FUNDS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

During 2007, ICCROM began three projects which will result in the creation of training materials for the better implementation of the World Heritage Convention. Those three projects are briefly described below.

### **3.1 Research Activity for Preparation of Statements of Significance and the Outstanding Universal Value for Cultural Sites**

Following the adoption of the revised *Operational Guidelines* in 2005, there has been some confusion in regard to Statements of Significance and Statements of Outstanding Universal Value. This project aims to clarify the concepts and develop recommendations to ensure that all partners in World Heritage from the site level up can use these concepts as effectively as possible for the protection of World Heritage properties. The work is being carried out in collaboration with the other Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre. This project was begun in 2007 and will be finalized in 2008. (*This activity is financed under contract # 4500038614*)

### **3.2 Research Activity on Management Systems for World Heritage Properties**

The requirements for management plans and/or other management systems for sites being nominated for the World Heritage List is not always clear to States Parties and site managers. This research proposes to clarify the concept of management systems, provide

examples of effective management systems in place at World Heritage properties and other cultural heritage sites, and provide orientations to site managers for the understanding and development of management systems. The work is being carried out in collaboration with the other Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre. This project was begun in 2007 and will be finalized in 2008. *(This activity is financed under contract # 4500042922)*

### **3.3 Development of a Resource Manual on Planning for Reducing Risks at World Heritage Properties**

As part of the partnership with the World Heritage Centre on Disaster Risk Reduction, ICCROM is working to develop a resource manual aimed at States Parties and site managers for developing plans for reducing risks from disasters at World Heritage sites. The work is being carried out in collaboration with the other Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre. This project was begun in 2007 and will be finalized in 2008. *(This activity is financed under contract # 4500039004)*

## **4. REACTIVE MONITORING MISSIONS TO WORLD HERITAGE SITES**

From January to December 2007, the following Reactive Monitoring missions were carried out by ICCROM:

- Chan Chan, Peru, 19 – 24 February 2007. A joint ICCROM/ICOMOS/WHC reactive monitoring mission was carried out – ICCROM was represented by Nelly Robles Garcia, ICCROM Council member.
- Butrint, Albania, 17 – 21 April 2007. A joint ICCROM/ICOMOS/WHC reactive monitoring mission was carried out – ICCROM was represented by Gamini Wijesuriya.
- Moscow, Russian Federation, 6 – 14 December 2007 – ICCROM was represented by Gamini Wijesuriya. *(This mission was funded directly by the World Heritage Centre.)*
- Jerusalem, 27 February – 2 March 2007. A joint ICCROM/ICOMOS/WHC reactive monitoring mission was carried out to look at issues related to the Mughrabi Gate – ICCROM was represented by Mounir Bouchenaki. *(This mission was funded directly by the World Heritage Centre.)*

## **5. MANAGING PROJECTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE**

### **5.1 Coordination of the AFRICA 2009 Programme, in cooperation with partners (African cultural heritage organizations, EPA, CHDA, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and CRATerre-ENSAG)**

The secretariat and general project management of AFRICA 2009 are carried out at ICCROM in cooperation with the programme partners (African cultural heritage organizations, World Heritage Centre, CRATerre-ENSAG, EPA, and CHDA). Funding for the programme comes from Sida through the Swedish National Heritage Board, the Norwegian, Finnish, and Italian Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the World Heritage Fund, and ICCROM. During 2007, a number of activities were carried out within the programme including courses, thematic seminars, networking, and in situ projects. Notably in 2007, a one-month technical course on the World Heritage nomination process was held in Rwanda. In addition, the site of Twyfelfontein or /Ui//aes in Namibia, was inscribed as a World Heritage site. This site had been the subject of a technical course on conservation of rock art sites in 2006. *(The total expenditure for Africa 2009 for 2007 was €1,244,783. The World Heritage contribution for 2007 was € 52,050 under contract # 4500042412 – “Regional Programme AFRICA 2009 for 2007”)*

## **5.2 Participation in the Development of a New Programme on Conservation of Earthen Architecture**

- During 2007, a process was launched by the World Heritage Centre for the development of a new programme on conservation of earthen architecture. During this time, a formal planning meeting took place in Paris, France on 22 November. ICCROM was represented at this meeting by Joseph King. Subsequently, programme development has continued and a project document and promotional material are being prepared. *(The mission in November was funded directly by the World Heritage Centre.)*

## **6. INVOLVEMENT IN REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC ISSUES AND THEMES PERTINENT TO THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

From January to December 2007, ICCROM took part in the following scientific meetings on themes pertinent to the World Heritage Committee:

- Regional Workshop on Historic Urban Landscapes, St. Petersburg, Russia, 29 – 31 January 2007 – ICCROM represented by Joseph King. *(This mission was funded primarily through external funding sources.)*
- Expert Workshop on Benchmarks and Chapter IV of the Operational Guidelines, 2 – 3 April 2007 – ICCROM represented by Joseph King *(This mission was funded primarily through external funding sources.)*
- Regional Conference on Historic Urban Landscapes in the Americas, Recife, Brazil, 12 – 15 November 2007 – ICCROM represented by Gamini Wijesuriya. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

## **7. COLLABORATION WITH THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE AND/OR STATES PARTIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF WORLD HERITAGE SITES**

### **7.1 Advice on the creation of a UNESCO Category II Centre in China: World Heritage Training and Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific (WHITR-AP)**

ICCROM has been actively participating with the People's Republic of China and the World Heritage Centre in the development of the new UNESCO Category II World Heritage Training and Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific. Towards this end, ICCROM hosted an intern from the Shanghai sub-centre for 4 months from November 2006 through February 2007. Following this internship, ICCROM took part in the International Symposium on the Organization and Operation of WHITR-AP held at Tongji University in Shanghai. This symposium was attended by Mounir Bouchenaki, Joseph King, and Gamini Wijesuriya. At the symposium, an MoU was established between ICCROM and the Shanghai sub-centre for the implementation of joint activities. Subsequent to the symposium, work began on the planning of a first training activity on site management to take place in 2008. *(This activity was funded through external funding sources.)*

### **7.2 National Seminar on the World Heritage Convention in Lesotho**

From 1 – 7 March 2007, Webber Ndoro took part as a resource person in a national seminar in Lesotho to introduce the World Heritage Convention to professionals in that country. The mission was at the invitation of the UNESCO Cluster Office in Windhoek, Namibia. *(This activity was funded through UNESCO Windhoek.)*

### **7.3 Collaboration with the Asian Academy**

ICCROM and UNESCO Bangkok, the partners in the Asian Academy for Heritage Management, carried out a field school, from 1 – 11 April 2007, at the Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications World Heritage property (Sri Lanka) in collaboration with the Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology of the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka. The theme of the field school was Cultural Impact Assessment and Underwater Cultural Heritage, and it was attended by 18 participants from countries in the region. (This activity was funded by ICCROM and through external funding sources.)

#### **7.4 Advice on the [Ancient City of Aleppo](#), Syria**

From 3 – 6 April 2007, Mounir Bouchenaki undertook a mission to the Ancient City of Aleppo (Syria) to give advice on various conservation and development actions being undertaken at the property. Zaki Aslan then represented ICCROM in May at a symposium on “Rehabilitation of the Old City of Aleppo – Sharing the Experience” organized by GTZ, the Aga Khan Trust for Culture and the City of Aleppo. *(These missions were funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.5 Seminar on the Historic Centre of Naples, Italy**

From 4 – 5 May 2007, Mounir Bouchenaki undertook a mission to Naples (Italy), for a seminar entitled “Il Centro Storico UNESCO di Napoli: Responsabilità a Confronto” organized by the Italian Institute for Philosophical and Historical Studies. This meeting discussed the state of conservation of the World Heritage property. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.6 International Symposium to Discuss the Concepts and Practices in the Conservation and Restoration of Historic buildings in East Asia**

In response to a World Heritage Committee decision, the People’s Republic of China organized an International Symposium to Discuss the Concepts and Practices in the Conservation and Restoration of Historic Buildings in East Asia. The symposium took place from 24 – 28 May 2007, and ICCROM was represented by Mounir Bouchenaki, Joseph King, and Gamini Wijesuriya. The symposium discussed conservation issues in the region, in general, and looked specifically at the three World Heritage Properties in Beijing. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.7 UNESCO-Association Vocations Patrimoine Fellowships for World Heritage Site Managers**

ICCROM took part in the jury selection process for the UNESCO-Association Vocations Patrimoine Fellowships for World Heritage Site Managers on 6 June 2007. Gamini Wijesuriya represented ICCROM on the jury. *(This mission was funded partially through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.8 International Conference on UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Europe**

From 13 – 14 June 2007, Mounir Bouchenaki undertook a mission to Lübeck, Germany, for an international conference on “UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Europe: A Network for Cultural Dialogue and Cultural Tourism”. The conference took place within the framework of the German European Union Presidency. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.9 Steering Committee for the Masters Programme, “World Heritage at Work”**

ICCROM was asked to be a member of the steering committee set up to guide the development of the “World Heritage at Work” Masters Programme, a partnership of the University of Turin, the Polytechnic of Turin, SiTI, and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre. Towards this end, Joseph King attended two meetings of the steering committee, the first on 15 June 2007 in Turin, Italy, and the second on 26 September 2007 in Paris, France. ICCROM has also provided advice on the various drafts of the programme. *(This activity was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.10 Ad Hoc Experts Group and 16th Technical Committee of the ICC for the World Heritage Property of Angkor, Cambodia**

From 2 – 6 July, Mounir Bouchenaki took part in the Ad Hoc Experts Group and 16th Technical Committee meeting of the ICC for the World Heritage Property of Angkor, Cambodia. The group of experts undertook a visit to the site from 2 – 4 July with the Technical Committee meeting from 5 – 6 July. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.11 Mission on Training Needs for Heritage Professionals in Israel**

From 14 – 20 July 2007, Joseph King undertook a mission to look at training needs for heritage professionals in Israel. The invitation came from the Israeli National Commission for UNESCO and looked at needs for World Heritage training in addition to larger training needs for immovable heritage conservation. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.12 Mission to Upper Svaneti World Heritage Property in Georgia**

From 4 – 11 August, Valerie Magar undertook a mission to the World Heritage property of Upper Svaneti in Georgia to assess the condition of the painted churches and icons in the region and to indicate a strategy for their conservation. The mission included churches in the village of Chazhashi which is on the World Heritage List as well as other churches in the area. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.13 Seminar on Control and Management of Urban Planning in Spanish World Heritage Sites**

From 27 – 28 September 2007, Joseph King participated in a seminar on, “Control and Management of Urban Planning in Spanish World Heritage Sites”. The seminar came as a result of a World Heritage Committee decision regarding urban development within or near Spanish World Heritage properties. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.14 Conference on World Heritage and Heritage Routes in Greece**

On 28 September 2007, Mounir Bouchenaki took part in a conference on World Heritage and Heritage Routes, sponsored by the Ministry of Culture of Greece. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.15 Collaboration with States Parties in Southeastern Europe on Archaeological Conservation at the Butrint World Heritage Property**

From 1 – 26 October 2007, ICCROM carried out a training entitled, “Archaeological Conservation Course: Diagnosis and Conservation” at the World Heritage property of Butrint in Albania. The course was attended by 10 participants from 6 States Parties in the region and looked at various problems and issues related to the conservation of the World Heritage

property as part of the course programme. Four worksites were also selected for hands-on conservation work as part of the course. *(This activity was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.16 National Conference on Italian World Heritage Sites Inscribed on the World Heritage List**

From 15 – 16 December 2007, Mounir Bouchenaki undertook a mission to Florence (Italy), to participate in a national conference on “Italian World Heritage Sites Inscribed on the World Heritage List” and to participate in the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the inscription of Florence on the World Heritage List. *(This mission was funded through external funding sources.)*

#### **7.17 Collaboration with the ATHAR Programme**

From January to December 2007, the following activities of the ATHAR programme were carried out in favor of World Heritage sites *(Activities funded by financial partners of the ATHAR programme)*.

- From 10 June – 12 July 2007, the ATHAR Core Regional Course on Conservation of Heritage Sites in the Arab Region was held in Amman, Jordan.
- The ATHAR programme produced two publications in Arabic related to World Heritage, *Risk Preparedness for World Cultural Heritage Sites* by Herb Stovel (part of the WHC-ICCROM-ICOMOS series), and *Introducing Young People to Heritage Site Management and Protection: A Practical Guide for Secondary School Teachers in the Arab Region*.
- Discussions were ongoing in 2007 to develop an MoU for cooperation on the ATHAR programme among ICCROM, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and ALECSO. It is expected that the MoU will be finalized in 2008.
- ICCROM has also continued its collaboration with UNESCO in regard to training/capacity building of Iraqi professionals to better conserve their heritage sites (including World Heritage sites). Towards this end, Zaki Aslan participated as a lecturer in one course organized in Amman by UNESCO and JICA. ICCROM also implemented a training course for Iraqi professionals in Istanbul, Turkey.

### **8. INVOLVEMENT IN PERIODIC REPORTING**

From January to December 2007, ICCROM took part in the following meetings on the Periodic Reporting process:

- World Heritage Periodic Reporting Reflection Year: Second Meeting of the Working Group on the Simplification of the Questionnaire and the Establishment of Indicators, Paris, France, 22 – 23 January 2007 – ICCROM represented by Joseph King.
- Meeting on the World Heritage Periodic Reporting Reflection Year, Paris, France, 24 January 2007 – ICCROM represented by Joseph King.