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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

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Seville, Spain
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**Item 10 of the Provisional Agenda: Global Strategy for a representative,
balanced and credible World Heritage List**

10B Global Training Strategy

SUMMARY

This document contains information on the progress achieved in implementing the Global Training Strategy (GTS) since December 2004.

This document is composed of 3 parts:

- Part I: reports on the activities implemented within the framework of the GTS since December 2004;
- Part II: reports on the Resource Manuals
- Part III: explains the new approach adopted with the development of World Heritage Training and Research Institutes

Draft Decision: 33 COM 10B see point IV.

Background

1. The Global Training Strategy and Priority Action Plan for World Cultural and Natural Heritage were adopted by the World Heritage Committee during its 25th session (Helsinki, 2001) (See Document *WHC-01/INF.208/24*). With intermittent review by the Committee, the Global Training Strategy pursued the following principal strategic objectives in relation to the use of training within the Committee's work:
 - a) To strengthen orientations which give priority to training as a means to improve implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*;
 - b) To encourage proactive use of the World Heritage Fund to develop and/or strengthen capacity building of professionals, managers, and administrators involved in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* at site and national levels;
 - c) To integrate concern for cultural and natural heritage within a single training framework, based on a common philosophy and approach ;
 - d) To ensure that selection and conception of training activities reflect the results of ongoing Committee needs assessments including results coming from the Periodic Reporting and Global Strategy frameworks;
 - e) To ensure World Heritage training activities and materials are carried out and produced to the highest standards of pedagogical excellence while giving adequate attention to advance preparation and follow-up.
2. The Priority Action Plan intended to implement the Global Training Strategy anticipated a 5 – 10 year framework outlining specific training programmes and modules to be developed within regions and/or by themes. This framework was meant to address training needs in three areas:
 - a) Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*
 - b) Site management of World Heritage properties
 - c) Scientific, technical and traditional skills for conservation of cultural and natural properties.
3. The Global Training Strategy entrusted to ICCROM in 1994 concerned only cultural heritage while the Global Training Strategy adopted in Helsinki in December 2001 covers both cultural and natural heritage. Since then, IUCN continued its efforts to deepen and strengthen the attention given to natural heritage training. As called for in the Global Training Strategy, IUCN has developed a *Global Framework Programme for Capacity Development on Natural Heritage*, set within the context of the Global Training Strategy, and based on the results of a number of important meetings and initiatives. This *Global Framework Programme for Capacity Development on Natural Heritage* was adopted by the Committee at its 7th Extraordinary session (Decision **7 EXT.COM 11**) and a progress report on it was presented at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007) in Document *WHC-07/31.COM/14*.
4. The following sections illustrate the activities carried out since 7th Extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee in the field of cultural heritage, since 31st session for natural heritage, the progress made on Resources Manuals since 32nd session (Quebec city, 2008), and the development of World Heritage Training and Research Institutes.

I. Progress report on the Global Training Strategy for cultural and natural heritage

A. Progress report on the Global Training Strategy for cultural heritage

5. Since the 7th Extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee (UNESCO, 2004), the Global Training Strategy has continued to be implemented both at the international and regional levels for cultural heritage in all three key areas of the strategy: improved implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, improved management for World Heritage sites, and strengthened technical, scientific, and traditional skills for conservation.
6. In the first area of the Global Training Strategy, improvement in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, a main focus of training in the previous three years has been the development of the conceptual framework and materials. This has helped in the creation of Statements of Outstanding Universal Value as mandated by the World Heritage Committee in the revised *Operational Guidelines* of 2005. This work has led to the organization of workshops, in close cooperation with ICOMOS, IUCN and the World Heritage Centre, in the Arab States Region and sub-Saharan Africa to increase the capacity of professionals in drafting Statements of Outstanding Universal Value as the first step in the Periodic Reporting process. In the Arab States, these workshops were combined with a more general training on the Periodic Reporting process itself. In sub-Saharan Africa, these more general training workshops on Periodic Reporting will begin later in 2009. Other regions will also carry out workshops on both Statements of Outstanding Universal Value and Periodic Reporting in the future as the Periodic Reporting cycle proceeds. With regard to the nomination process, of particular note are the workshops being sponsored by the African World Heritage Fund, in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies, the Centre for Heritage Development in Africa, and the Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA). A first workshop was held in Lesotho in November 2008 for Anglophone countries, while a second one was carried out in May 2009 in Benin for Francophone countries. Capacity building for nominations is also dealt with through the creation of a resource manual on the topic (see below).
7. In the second area of the Global Training Strategy, improved management of World Heritage sites, a second resource manual is in preparation for cultural heritage sites as a companion to one already being tested for natural heritage sites. The manual for cultural heritage sites will be based on ongoing research at ICCROM on the topic of management systems. Specific courses in this area include the annual AFRICA 2009 regional course (3 months) on management planning, and the ATHAR programme (Arab States) core regional course, held every two years. ICCROM has also teamed up with the new regional training institute in China, WHITR-AP on a two-week course on management planning, held in Shanghai, China in 2008. Capacity building for management of World Heritage sites is also being carried out at post-graduate level at a number of universities/institutions around the world. These include (but are not limited to) Tsukuba University in Japan, Brandenburg Technical University Cottbus in Germany, and the World Heritage at Work Masters programme in Italy (associated with the University of Turin, the Polytechnic University of Turin and other organizations).
8. In the third area of the Global Training Strategy, strengthening of technical, scientific, and traditional skills for conservation, ICCROM launched a new course, Conservation of the Built Heritage in 2007 (based on its earlier Architectural Conservation Course), and restarted the Course on the Conservation of Stone in 2009. These are in addition to courses already being carried out on Wood conservation and Modern Architecture conservation. These courses, while not aimed specifically at a World Heritage audience, often have professionals working at World Heritage sites as participants. In addition, in

2009, a workshop on World Heritage cultural landscapes was a part of the Conservation of the Built Heritage Course. Technical, scientific, and traditional skills are also promoted as part of the AFRICA 2009 and ATHAR programmes as well as other national and regional courses being carried out by World Heritage partners.

9. Over the past 5 years, considering the addition of a number of university programmes (cf. above-mentioned) dealing with World Heritage conservation, as well as the push within the World Heritage system for the creation of a series of category 2 regional centres for World Heritage training and research (cf. below), ICCROM feels that the need has come for an updating of the Global Training Strategy to take into account these new training resources and to ensure a well planned approach to capacity building for cultural and natural heritage. Furthermore ICCROM strongly believes that the time has come to provide clear directions and to understand the resource implications of this Strategy. It is thus proposed to organise a major meeting in the next biennium with a view to present a revised Global Training Strategy and to this end request the Committee to approve a USD 30,000 amount for this purpose (included in ICCROM's proposed Budget, see Document on Budget *WHC-09/33.COM/16B*).

B. Progress report on the Global Training Strategy for natural heritage

10. A workshop was organised at IUCN Headquarters in June, 2008 to bring together a small group of key people to discuss coordinated approaches to natural World Heritage training and capacity development. The Workshop included representatives of IUCN; ICCROM; the World Heritage Centre; cooperating academic institutions (BfN International Nature Conservation, Germany; Mweka College, United Republic of Tanzania; World Heritage Training and Research Institute: Asia-Pacific, China; Wildlife Institute, India; UNITAR, Japan; the University College of Dublin, Ireland); and the African World Heritage Fund. The workshop developed an updated and integrated strategy for natural World Heritage Training and Capacity Development.
11. IUCN considers that, with an annual budget of USD 26,000, natural World Heritage training and capacity development is the most critically underfunded aspect of the *Convention*. In response, a specific proposal for a five year programme has been developed to translate the workshop recommendations into an integrated, costed, and time-bound plan of work that can be coordinated with training on cultural World Heritage, and used as the basis for fundraising. A December 2008 draft of the proposal has been consulted with ICCROM and the World Heritage Centre. The budget covers activities that will be implemented by the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM and IUCN, and as such is the first joint proposal for an integrated programme of work. The proposal has been informed by the experience gained during implementation of the Enhancing our Heritage Programme on Management Effectiveness.
12. The following activities are addressed in the proposal: 1) inter-institutional coordination, 2) research and analysis, 3) financing, 4) training modules, 5) cooperating academic institutions, 6) ad hoc training events, 7) designated training sites, 8) World Heritage experts, 9) approval processes for institutions, events, and experts, and 10) evaluation and reporting.
13. The annual cost of the integrated programme is estimated at up to EUR 1,153,450, or almost EUR 6 million during a five year period of the programme. It is proposed that the States Parties consider allocating extra-budgetary financial resources for this critical programme. This funding would be complemented by support from foundations and the private sector. Full support of the World Heritage Committee will be a prerequisite for moving this initiative forward.

II. Resource Manuals

A. Progress report on the Resource Manuals

14. The World Heritage Committee by its Decision **32 COM 18** endorsed the revised timeline for the World Heritage Resource Manuals Series to be published in 2008/2009 and allocated a total amount of USD139,577 to support the development and publication of the Resource Manuals presented in Document *WHC-08/32.COM/18*. It encouraged States Parties to contribute extra-budgetary funding to support the publication of titles within the Series. It also requested the World Heritage Centre to present a prioritized list of titles for the Resource Manual Series to the World Heritage Committee at its 33rd session in 2009.
15. Since the 32nd session of the Committee (Quebec City, 2008), the Resource Manual Series was discussed by the Editorial Board (members from ICCROM, ICOMOS, IUCN and WHC) in September 2008 and in January 2009 at the occasion of two annual Advisory Bodies meetings. The discussions concerned: 1) progress made in the preparation and field-testing of the following manuals: (a) *Preparing World Heritage Nominations*; (b) *Managing Natural World Heritage Properties*; (c) *Managing Cultural World Heritage Properties*; (d) *Tourism, Public Use and Presentation / Interpretation of World Heritage Properties* and (e) *Disaster Risk Reduction*; 2) budget issues linked to their publication and 3) the list of future titles.
16. In order to maximize the funds available, the Editorial Board decided to focus on preparing print-ready online PDF versions of the manuals rather than printed publications. Nevertheless, printed versions of the titles are aimed for as soon as possible in order that countries/sites without internet access are not left out.
 - a) *Preparing World Heritage Nominations*. The merging of the natural and cultural parts, prepared respectively by IUCN and ICOMOS (both as the lead agencies), into one joint publication was undertaken. The harmonized draft version will be circulated at the 33rd session of the Committee. The finalized PDF version is planned for November 2009.
 - b) *Managing Natural World Heritage Properties*. Thanks to the generous assistance of the Netherlands Funds in Trust US\$40,000 were contributed towards the drafting and field-testing of this Manual given that funds available through the World Heritage Fund were insufficient. A first draft for field-testing will be prepared by IUCN by end February 2010 with the aim to finalize the Manual by mid 2010.
 - c) *Managing Cultural World Heritage Properties*. ICCROM, as the lead agency for the preparation of this Manual, aims to have a draft ready for field-testing by the end of the year.
 - d) *Disaster Risk Reduction*. Field-testing and consolidation of received comments is currently being undertaken by ICCROM, and the finalization of the Manual is planned for end August 2009.

B. Prioritized list of resource manuals

17. The Editorial Board discussed the future titles planned: (a) *Tourism, Public Use and Presentation / Interpretation of World Heritage Properties*; (b) *Establishment of Tentative*

Lists; (c) Monitoring World Heritage Properties and (d) Vulnerability Assessment of World Natural and Cultural Heritage to Climate Change Impacts.

18. Rather than envisage the first three titles as separate publications, the Editorial Board decided to develop them as components of the two main manuals on Nominations and Management and build them into these two publications to be made available on the web and as CDs. Thus, Tentative Lists should be part of the Nominations Manual, while Monitoring and Tourism are to be built into the Management Manual. Funds should be invested into making the Resource Manuals more user-friendly and effective by developing interactive formats and content as on-line material or on CDs rather than print or static PDF online publications.
19. Furthermore, in addition to the above multi-layered manuals on Nominations and Management, two further Manuals are proposed: (a) *Vulnerability Assessment of World Natural and Cultural Heritage to Climate Change Impacts* – this title was already approved by the 32nd Committee; and (b) *Assessing Impacts of Proposed Developments on World Heritage* - a new title intended to provide guidance for sites going through fast developments and infrastructure projects and which aims to respond to an urgent need identified for a capacity-building tool for heritage managers to apply heritage safeguarding policies adopted by major development banks.
20. The prioritized list for future Resource Manuals development is proposed as follows:
 - 1) Tentative Lists as a component of the *Nominations* Manual;
 - 2) *Monitoring and Tourism/Public Use* as a component of the two *Management* Manuals (natural and cultural properties);
 - 3) *Vulnerability Assessment of World Natural and Cultural Heritage to Climate Change Impacts*;
 - 4) *Assessing Impacts of Proposed Developments on World Heritage*.
21. An amount of US\$141,000 is requested for approval by the 33rd session of the Committee for the development of the first two elements of the above list during the biennium 2010-2011 (See Document on Budget *WHC-09/33.COM/16B*). Extra-budgetary resources will be sought in order to enable the preparation of the other two titles.

III. World Heritage Training and Research Institutes

22. The rapidly growing importance of the preservation of cultural and natural resources of the planet has highlighted the important role of the wide development of international cooperation by UNESCO in order for the Organization to accomplish its mission. Category 2 centres placed under the auspices of UNESCO are strongly assisting the implementation of UNESCO programmes, both financially and technically, and supporting the protection and promotion of the cultural and natural heritage in all its forms.
23. At its 34th session (October 2007), the General Conference of UNESCO approved the establishment in China of the World Heritage Training and Research Institute for the Asia and the Pacific Region, as a category 2 institute under the auspices of UNESCO. The *World Heritage Training and Research Institute for the Asia and the Pacific Region* (WHITR-AP) has publicly announced the start of the one-year Advanced Course in World Heritage Conservation and Management in September 2009 in China, for which 10 Fellowships have been made available by the Chinese Ministry of Education for applicants from developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.
24. The Executive Board of UNESCO at its 181st session (April 2009) welcomed the

proposals submitted by the Kingdom of Bahrain and by the Government of Brazil for the establishment in Bahrain of an Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) (see Document *WHC-09/33.COM/INF.10B*) and for the establishment in Brazil of a Regional Heritage Management Training Centre for South America, respectively. The Board recommended to the General Conference that it approves at its 35th session (October 2009) the establishment in Bahrain and in Brazil of such centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

25. In parallel, other similar proposals for the establishment of Training and Research Institutes/Centres are currently being discussed by a number of States Parties to assist UNESCO in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in their respective regions and sub-regions and to provide a means to undertake specialized training and research activities in the field of the management of World Heritage properties at regional and sub-regional level, as a concrete step forward to also implement one of the main outcomes of the Periodic Reporting exercise, i.e. the fulfilment of training priority needs identified in the various regional reports.
26. Such initiatives also aim at federating the numerous regional energies towards the promotion and preservation of the cultural and natural heritage and the mobilization of regional and international financial support for the conservation of World Heritage. It is rooted in the principles of the *World Heritage Convention*, which stresses the importance of efforts by States Parties “to foster the establishment or development of national or regional centres for training in the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage and to encourage scientific research in this field” (Article 5).
27. Proposals for the establishment of such centres are autonomous and sovereign initiatives of States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention* but are seen as elements of the cooperation between States Parties and UNESCO to federate joint efforts in favour of training and research capacities in the field of World Heritage at regional and sub-regional levels, thus answering the needs of capacity building and training priorities identified in the various Periodic Reports and as a concrete implementation of the Global Training Strategy adopted by the World Heritage Committee.
28. The World Heritage Centre is supporting States Parties in organizing a global network of training and research institutions related to World Heritage that could be established as category 2 centres under the auspices of UNESCO, so that all sub-regions of the World be gradually and progressively covered.
29. The World Heritage Centre will cooperate with Category 2 Centres in creating synergies with the **network** Forum UNESCO-University and Heritage (FUUH) **and other** specific World Heritage related curricula worldwide, so as to establish a network of knowledge and capacities in the field of World Heritage.

IV. Draft Decision

Draft Decision: 33 COM 10B

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-09/33.COM/10B,

2. Recalling Decisions **7 EXT.COM 11, 31 COM 14, 32 COM 18** adopted respectively at its 7th Extraordinary session (UNESCO, 2004), 31st (Christchurch, 2007), and 32nd sessions (Quebec City, 2008),
3. Welcomes the establishment of the World Heritage Training and Research Institutes in Bahrain and Brazil and requests the World Heritage Centre to inform regularly the Committee on the development of such Institutes;
4. Requests the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, IUCN and the States Parties and supporting institutions to prioritise identification of extra-budgetary funds for the implementation the Natural World Heritage Training and Capacity Development Programme proposal;
5. Decides to allocate US\$141,000 for developing interactive formats of the finalized manuals and for the development of the following two titles of Resource Manuals during the biennium 2010-2011:
 - a) Tentative Lists as a component of the Nominations Manual;
 - b) Monitoring and Tourism/Public Use as a component of the two Management Manuals (natural and cultural properties).