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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Forty-second session

Manama, Bahrain
24 June-4 July 2018

Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda: Follow-up to the World Heritage Capacity-Building strategy and Progress report on the World Heritage-related category 2 centres

RESUME

By Decision **41 COM 6**, the World Heritage Committee requested the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM to submit a progress report on the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy and the activities of the category 2 centres related to World Heritage for examination by the Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 6, see Part III.

I. FOLLOW UP TO THE CAPACITY- BUILDING STRATEGY

1. The World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy (WHCBS) was approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session (Paris, 2011) (Decision **35 COM 9B**). The Strategy was developed by ICCROM and IUCN in collaboration with ICOMOS, the World Heritage Centre, and other capacity-building partners such as the UNESCO category 2 centres in various regions of the world. The work was made possible by contributions from the World Heritage Fund and the Swiss Government, which also provided professional expertise.
2. Since the adoption of the WHCBS, the Advisory Bodies, the World Heritage Centre and capacity-building partners have been working to implement capacity-building activities at both the regional and international levels to address the needs of heritage practitioners, institutions (decision and policy makers) and other networks and communities (civil society at large). Reinforcement of the capacity-building pillar of the *Convention* continues to be a priority to equip States Parties with the relevant expertise to protect and manage their sites, as well as to ensure that the World Heritage List remains representative, credible and balanced.

A. Implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy

3. Implementation continues on the World Heritage Leadership Programme which was launched in September 2016 in response to the Capacity-Building Strategy. The programme, made possible with generous funding from the Ministry of Climate and Environment of Norway, marks a new step in improving nature-culture conservation practice carried out through the World Heritage Convention. The programme supports the contribution of World Heritage properties to sustainable development as foreseen in the Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the World Heritage Convention. The programme is implemented by ICCROM and IUCN in collaboration with ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre. The Swiss Federal Office of Culture has also contributed significantly to the implementation of several courses, and other capacity building partners such as universities and Category 2 Centres are also partnering on specific activities of the programme or allied activities.
4. World Heritage Leadership aims to build the skills of practitioners working through the World Heritage Convention. It takes into account the totality of conservation practice, so that World Heritage can provide leadership to achieve innovation and excellence within the conservation sector. The World Heritage Leadership programme integrates nature and culture from the outset, centring on areas where World Heritage has the most compelling potential to address pressing challenges, such as climate change and impacts from development.
5. Five modules make up the programme, including 1) Effective Management: Nature, Culture, and Communities; 2) Resilience; 3) Impact Assessment; 4) Learning Sites; and 5) Leadership Networks. The World Heritage Leadership Programme has now entered into its second year of implementation.
6. Two workshops on how to link the resource manuals on the management of cultural and natural heritage took place in the past year. The first workshop, took place during the Culture Nature Journey as part of the ICOMOS General Assembly held in Delhi in December 2017, and the second in January 2018 in Gland at IUCN headquarters. The participants agreed that the final product should be simple, easily accessible, and with multiple entry points for different users, provided as an overall package of services rather than a single publication in the format of a book. Most importantly, the workshop narrowed down the target audience of the product to the site coordinating team and its immediate institution together with the Focal Points of the World Heritage Convention.
7. In terms of structure, it was agreed that the already existing manuals and materials needed to be respected, and that resources should not be used on replicating work. An on-line capacity building

platform was suggested as a solution to host all related materials needed for better heritage management, where materials ranging from general principles and guidelines to hands-on tools and worksheets for specific purposes could be accumulated in a user-led way. Different media will be utilized for delivering different content, grouped under certain themes that would address different types of heritage and management issues. A number of cross cutting themes were identified to be addressed throughout the new platform. These themes include the development of landscape approaches linking nature, culture and people; people centred and rights based approaches; and resilience addressed in a daily context. A scoping study is currently being carried out for the on-line platform.

8. Other activities carried out included a workshop on Governance (also as part of the ICOMOS General Assembly) and the testing of the Enhancing our Heritage Toolkit for use on cultural sites. Testing sites are being selected from each region and a first workshop has been carried out in partnership with Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) in Bahrain, focusing on 12 properties in the Arab States region.
9. An integrated syllabus merging the existing Linking Nature and Culture Course and the People Centred Approaches Course has nearly been completed. A first integrated course was tested in October 2017 in Italy, following on earlier successful courses for each of the two themes. This course used case study sites from Herculaneum and Mt. Vesuvius in the Bay of Naples and the Dolomites in Northern Italy. A second course for the Africa region is currently being planned for Zambia at the World Heritage site of Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls in collaboration with the AWHF, ICOMOS, the World Heritage Centre, and Zambian authorities in August 2018 to further test the new syllabus.
10. In the area of resilience, a scoping study on Climate Change is being developed to diagnose the current situation in regard to the effects of climate change on heritage management. This study was used as part of a workshop in June 2018 at ICCROM. A task team will be created to discuss the modality of work on the most efficient way of revising the existing Disaster Risk Management manual to include a focus on climate change issues. It is expected that this work will form an integral part of the on-line platform.
11. Work is also continuing on the revision of advice on impact assessments. ICCROM and IUCN have established contacts with the International Association for Impact Assessment during their annual conference in South Africa, and it is expected that a workshop on the topic, with participation of the three Advisory Bodies, the World Heritage Centre, and other experts, will take place in September with the idea of developing a tool kit on Impact Assessment. Plans are also underway with WHITR-AP for the next course on HIA to take place in China in October.
12. In regard to Leadership Networks, the programme will host several activities in 2018, including partnership with the Government of Bahrain on the Sites Managers Forum as part of the 42nd Session of the World Heritage Committee.
13. On the topic of linking cultural and natural heritage conservation and management, in addition to the World Heritage Leadership Programme and the ICOMOS/IUCN Connecting Practice programme, Tsukuba University (Japan) is teaming up with IUCN, ICCROM, ICOMOS, and the World Heritage Centre to host a series of courses. The most recent course was held in September 2017, and covered the subject of sacred landscapes. It is expected that these courses will continue annually on different themes related culture-nature linkages.
14. The topic of monitoring of World Heritage properties was highlighted in a course carried out by ICCROM in partnership with the Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage and the Chinese State Administration of Cultural Heritage. The course took place at the Cultural Landscape of Honghe

Hani Rice Terraces World Heritage property and was attended by participants from around the world.

15. The area of disaster risk management, including post-conflict situations, remains a priority for ICCROM and its capacity-building partners. A design workshop was held in Rome in October 2017 on the topic of First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis. The workshop was a partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and the Prince Claus Fund. The purpose of the workshop was to refine the topics and modes of delivery for existing first aid training, identify content and teaching strategies for training of trainers, and develop activities towards the strengthening of the network of professionals working on first aid issues. The annual International Training Course (ITC) on Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage took place in Kyoto, Japan in September 2017 with partners Ritsumeikan University, ICCROM, the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS/ICORP, and ICOM. The theme for 2017 was on integrated management of movable and immovable heritage in times of disaster. SEAMEO-SPAFA in Bangkok, in partnership with Ritsumeikan University, ICCROM, and the Department of Archaeology of Myanmar held a training workshop on Post-Disaster Recovery for the Living Archaeological Urban Complex of Bagan.
16. In the Arab States Region, several activities were implemented over the past year by the ICCROM-Sharjah Regional Office including a series of short courses on conservation and documentation of built cultural heritage and the Arab Cultural Heritage Forum held in Sharjah from 6 – 8 February 2018. An Expert meeting on strengthening cultural heritage protection in the Arab region was also carried out in 2017 in the framework of the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee in Krakow, Poland.
17. In regard to physical conservation of built heritage including at World Heritage properties, ICCROM continues with courses related to specific materials. Three courses on conservation of wooden structures were held over the past year. A course on Wooden Architecture Conservation and Restoration took place at the World Heritage property of Kizhi Pogost in the Russian Federation in partnership with Petrozavodsk State University, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Karelia, and the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, and a regional course on Preservation and Restoration of Wooden Structures was held in partnership with the Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU) office in Nara, Japan. Both courses took place in September 2017. The biennial International Course on Wood Conservation Technology is taking place from 4 to 29 June 2018 in Oslo, Norway in partnership with the Riksantikvaren and NTNU. In regard to the conservation of stone, the 20th International Course on Stone Conservation took place from 19 March to 18 May 2018 in Mexico City and Chicanná, Mexico, in partnership with CNCPC-INAH.
18. ICCROM also continues to update information on regular training opportunities for World Heritage and for cultural heritage conservation in general as well as meetings, seminars, workshops, and other events and activities related to heritage conservation. This information is found in the “Classifieds” section of the ICCROM website as well as on ICCROM’s social media (Facebook and Twitter). These sources also contain significant information on conservation issues as well as educational and job opportunities in conservation.

B. Regional Capacity-Building Strategies

19. As part of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy, the World Heritage Centre, Advisory Bodies, category 2 centres and interested States Parties have also been working on the development and implementation of regional capacity-building strategies:
 - a) In the region of Asia and the Pacific, training and capacity-building workshops were held in Bhutan, China, India and Pakistan to reinforce the capacities of States Parties with regard to the preparation of nomination dossiers, the sustainable management of World Heritage

properties, notably Cultural Landscapes, and the involvement of local communities (details on these activities can be found in Document WHC/18/42.COM/5A).

- b) Capacity-building is at the core of the strategy of the Regional Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean (2014-2024) and of the connected sub-regional action plans for the Caribbean, South America, and Central America and Mexico. The implementation of capacity-building objectives is strongly linked, in the Action Plan, to the development of the Category 2 Centres as operational clusters for the attainment of the objectives of the Conventions. It is in this context that during the period concerned the World Heritage Centre has continued to support the institutional consolidation of the two category 2 centres so far established in the LAC region: the Centre “Lucio Costa” for Capacity-Building on Heritage Management (C2C-LCC), of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and the Regional World Heritage Institute (C2C-ZAC) of Zacatecas (Mexico). At the same time, opportunities have been actively sought in view of the possible creation of a category 2 Centre for World Heritage in the Caribbean, whose functions could also cover the update and implementation of a new phase of the Caribbean World Heritage Capacity Building Programme. It is hoped that tangible results in this area will be recorded in the next months.

Following the evaluation carried out throughout 2016 and the establishment in 2017 of a revised six-year cooperation agreement with UNESCO (better focusing on World Heritage and collaboration with the World Heritage Centre), the “Lucio Costa” Centre for Capacity-Building on Heritage Management (Rio de Janeiro) established in the period concerned an updated planning of activities. This planning focuses on the promotion, training and research on natural and cultural heritage and the operationalization of the 8 capacity-building modules produced in the last trimester 2016. A specific agenda of activities to be implemented in close cooperation with the World Heritage Centre will be established in the second semester of 2018.

As concerns the Regional World Heritage Institute in Zacatecas (Mexico), important developments in terms of institutional consolidation have to be highlighted for the period concerned (see Part II below), as well as capacity building activities. As concerns capacity building activities, in April 2018, this Category 2 Centre hosted and organized, together with the World Heritage Centre, in close cooperation with the World Heritage Directorate of the Secretariat of Culture of Mexico, a sub-regional meeting to prepare the World Heritage Action Plan for Mexico and Central America (PAMAC), 2018-2023. Representatives of 9 countries and experts from ICOMOS, IUCN and ICCROM participated. Organized in follow-up to Decision 38 COM 10B.4, which encourages the States Parties of the LAC region to develop subregional agendas taking into account their specific needs, the meeting attained the following objectives:

- Development and approval a World Heritage Action Plan for Mexico and Central America (PAMAC), 2018-2023, as a follow-up to the PARALC, 2014-2024;
- Establishment of a Strategy for Strengthening Capacities for Mexico and Central America;
- Identification of a Pilot Projects Program from each State Party, reflecting the priority lines of the Action Plan, to serve as best practices in the sub-region;
- The meeting was also an opportunity to identify activities and projects to improve the levels of conservation and management of world heritage sites in the countries of Mexico and Central America, in light of the results of the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting in LAC.

- c) The Europe and North America Unit has created a proposal to establish a regional and sub-regional training programme on Heritage Impact Assessments. Each training programme will be devoted to mitigating specific regional and sub-regional heritage risk factors. For example, programmes designed for eastern and central Europe will focus on development and

urbanization, while programmes designed for western and northern Europe will deal with subjects such as renewable energy sources, wind farms, etc. (For all capacity building activities in the Europe and North America Region see also document WHC/18/42.COM/5A).

- d) In the Africa region, the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), worked closely with the World Heritage Centre to strengthen capacities in the key areas of risk management further to the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Africa Region and the regional Action Plan (2012-2017). As a follow-up to the two previous workshops in disaster risk management for World Heritage site managers and community representatives in Namibia (2016) and (Cameroon 2017), another Francophone Risk Preparedness Workshop took place in Yaoundé (Cameroon) from 9 to 18 October 2017. Organized by the AWHF in partnership with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the World Heritage Centre, and Cameroon's Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, the workshop brought together 18 professionals from heritage and other related fields, representing 7 African countries (Angola, Cameroon, Central Africa, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal and Togo) to assess risk situation, develop mitigation mechanisms and risk management plan for seven properties in the represented countries, and put in place a follow-up mechanism. The workshop also promoted youth by including two young Cameroonian women who attended the Anglophone (2016) and Francophone (2017) African World Heritage Regional Youth Forums.

In line with the objective of the Action Plan to increase the number of World Heritage sites in the Africa region and to strengthen the capacities of African cultural and natural heritage practitioners to generate and submit dossiers with justified OUV, the World Heritage nomination support programme was launched in 2016 by the African World Heritage Fund in collaboration with the Centre for Heritage Development in Africa (CHDA) and the Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA), with technical support from the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies. As part of this four-year programme, a two-day evaluation meeting comprising 18 participants from the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, ICOMOS, IUCN, AWHF, CHDA, EPA, Angola, Mozambique, South Africa and Tunisia was convened in June 2017 in Johannesburg (South Africa). The participating experts produced a priority list of 20 sites in 20 African countries (including Egypt) and agreed on a revised programme format focusing on one training course per year supported by a series of technical and awareness raising meetings and activities. Preparations are also underway for capacity building to be provided to 20 participants (September/October 2018) from Anglophone countries in West Africa (Ghana, Liberia, and Sierra Leone). It is important that these countries, which are in the initial stages of implementing the Convention, strengthen their national capacities for the effective implementation of the Convention.

As a direct response to the urgent need to build African capacities in safeguarding World Heritage properties, and to promote culture and education in Africa, the World Heritage Centre organized a workshop on "World Heritage and Education Institutions in Africa" in Masvingo (Zimbabwe) from 26 to 28 April 2018. The three-day workshop provided a platform for English-speaking academics from over 20 key African educational institutions, site managers and African World Heritage experts to exchange on matters related to capacity-building in heritage conservation and management in Africa. The participants formulated a series of recommendations on heritage curricula and enhanced involvement of educational institutions in World Heritage processes in Africa.

- e) In the Arab States region, the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) based in Manama (Bahrain) continues to provide technical assistance to the Arab States Parties to reinforce the management and conservation of World Heritage properties. The Centre has reinforced its performance by recruiting additional staff members. Throughout the past year, ARC-WH organized several training workshops on the World Heritage Convention, the preparation of nomination files, management plans and state of conservation reports, and the

updating of Tentative Lists, which helped to reinforce the capacities of heritage professionals in the region. It also conducted a number of awareness raising and communication activities to sensitize the public, particularly youth and students, to the importance of preserving World Heritage in the Arab States. Based on its continued collaboration with IUCN through the Tabe'a partnership programme, ARC-WH organized training workshops on sustainable management of natural heritage and supported technically the states parties in addressing specific management issues. ARC-WH is using the Enhancing Our Heritage (EoH) toolkit to provide training for site managers of natural and mixed properties, and to cultural landscapes in the Arab Region. ARC-WH pursues its support to the "Amal in Heritage Programme" in cooperation with Global Heritage Fund, for the rapid assessment of cultural heritage during times of disaster and conflicts, through the elaboration of a dedicated application. It also continues to support the World Heritage Centre on regular basis in monitoring the state of conservation of inscribed properties. ARC-WH staff take an active part in all the World Heritage Centre's technical meetings and workshops related to World Heritage in the Arab States; it also regularly translates technical and statutory documents into Arabic and disseminates them on their dedicated Website.

C. Other Capacity-Building Activities

20. The Swaziland National Trust Commission (SNTC), with the support of the AWHF and the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA), convened a three-day national workshop (1-3 November 2017) on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Zulwini (Swaziland). The 25 participants represented various stakeholders groups including ministries responsible for heritage and other policymakers. As Swaziland has no sites inscribed on the World Heritage List since ratifying the World Heritage Convention in 2005, the workshop will serve to encourage the Swaziland authorities to prepare sound nominations.
21. A capacity-building workshop was organized in Germany in April 2017, within the framework of International Assistance under the World Heritage Fund and with the support of the Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH) Aachen for three engineers from the Afghan Ministry of Information and Culture and from the Ministry of Water and Energy on geology, hydrology, conservation, and engineering.
22. Regional capacity building in the Arab States focussed on several pilot experiences. These are: creating regional synergies and promoting exchanges of experiences in preparing nomination files (Djerba, Tunisia, in cooperation with ALECSO – September 2017); preparing an integrated management plan through a participatory process (Petra, Jordan, 2016-2018); urban conservation amidst development pressures (Algiers, Algeria, January 2018); Vocational Training Workshops on Stone Masonry and Restoration Techniques in the Ancient City of Aleppo (Aleppo, Syria, August–September 2017). These initiatives allowed in-depth insight into each of the subjects and led to sensitizing policy and decision makers to the processes of the World Heritage Convention in terms of conservation and management. In the case of Aleppo, the training aimed at enhancing skills to provide jobs through the reconstruction and recovery of the city.
23. In the Latin American and the Caribbean region, a number of Capacity Building activities have been implemented during the period concerned, in the framework of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy (WHCBS) and in line with the priorities identified by the Regional Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean (PARALC 2014-2024) and of the connected sub-regional actions plans.

In the Caribbean sub-region, the first phase of the project "Préservation du patrimoine et appui au secteur touristique" (PAST) in Haiti, financed by the World Bank (2,600,000 USD), was finalized, with a number of activities focusing on capacity building for heritage institutions, improvement in conservation and management plans and sustainable tourism strategies. An updated planning was

agreed with donors, beneficiaries and stakeholders for phase II (2018-2020). Also in the Caribbean, the report related to the workshop “Inventorying the Cultural and Natural Heritage of Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines” conducted in Carriacou, Grenada in the first trimester of 2017, was finalized with a set of recommendations, consolidated with a list of existing inventories, and a bibliography, and distributed to beneficiaries and stakeholders (November 2017).

The project “Towards a Sustainable Community Tourism Strategy in the Valley of Viñales” (Cuba) also constitutes a significant capacity-building component. Financed by the Spanish cooperation, it includes capacity-building activities for the actors, especially local communities, involved in the site management, the elaboration of a methodology of the Sustainable Community Tourism Strategy as well as the production of studies and tools. The project is entering its operational phase. In South America, the implementation of the Japan Funds-in-Trust project “Support to the reinforcement of the participative management structure of the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System” started in 2016, and continued successfully in 2017. The six State Parties involved participated in different international capacity building workshops on HIAs, databases to monitor the state of conservation of the property and its intangible heritage elements, disaster risk management, and conservation of stone and earthen structures. The project is expected to be finalized in 2019.

Another capacity-building project worth mentioning is “Risk Management Plan for the City of Quito” (Ecuador), implemented in 2017 thanks to the financial support of the Spanish cooperation. The purpose of the project is to design and implement a Risk Management Plan for Quito that can also function as a model at national and regional level. This initiative included the organization of a workshop, the elaboration of a methodology for the preparation of an Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management, a second workshop open to national participants and the completion of the Risk Management Plan. Its finalization is expected by the end of the current year.

Numerous Capacity Building initiatives – focusing on the objectives and priorities of the Regional Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean (2014-2024) and related sub-regional action plans – have been undertaken in a number of countries in the three LAC sub-regions, mainly through the relevant Field Offices, and have been reported in Document WHC/18/42.COM/5A.

24. In the framework of the European Union (EU) funded project “UNESCO Cultural World Heritage Sites in Europe”, a second round of capacity building workshops was organized enabling site managers and tourism stakeholders to deepen their knowledge on marketing and communication including the use of social media for the sites participating in the initiative. 34 sites across 19 countries are participating in the project. The featured sites are grouped into four cultural heritage themes, or journeys—Royal Europe, Ancient Europe, Romantic Europe and Underground Europe—which intertwine to tell fascinating stories of Europe's heritage and history and help travellers discover European culture in a new light. The website has practical information and tools to support travellers in planning their European holidays based on local knowledge about the destinations' cultural heritage. The website will be published in June 2018, initially in English, Chinese and French. The project aims to raise the profile of World Heritage in certain tourism source markets, particularly in China. This is particularly significant in 2018, which is both the European Year of Cultural Heritage and the EU-China Tourism Year, where the project will feature prominently. The project is being implemented by UNESCO and National Geographic with the support of the European Union and Seabourn Cruise Line.
25. Another example of a capacity-building activity that facilitates the sharing of best practices in heritage management among site managers is the thematic network developed within the framework of the World Heritage Marine Programme since 2010. This currently includes 49 marine sites in 37 countries, and allows for the continuous exchange of information and good practices through a web-based platform, newsletters, regional meetings and triennial global site managers conferences. The Programme will now start implementing projects that aim to train marine

managers in the development of climate adaptation strategies and appropriate management responses to the adverse effects of climate change.

26. The World Heritage programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) has organized a thematic technical workshop on “Heritage/Environmental Impact Assessments for the Pacific Island States” in Suva and Levuka, Fiji (November 2017) together with the category 2 centre at the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITR-AP), and in cooperation with the Department of Heritage and Arts in Fiji and the Pacific Heritage Hub, with financial support from the World Heritage Fund, the UNESCO/Netherlands Funds-in-Trust and WHITRAP (see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1415/>). The workshop was attended by representatives from almost all Pacific Small Islands Member States (13 out of 14), including site managers, government officials with a professional background in field-based cultural and/or natural heritage conservation and management. The workshop was able to increase capacities with regard to Environmental/Heritage Impact Assessments, in an effort to ensure the safeguarding of cultural and natural heritage and foster the resilience of Pacific SIDS communities; it also addressed management planning processes and enhanced the participants’ ability to develop policies and strategies. Finally, the workshop promoted the exchange of experiences and information among participants and institutions.

II. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE WORLD HERITAGE-RELATED CATEGORY 2 CENTRES

27. Part II of this document presents activities and recent news and developments regarding the category 2 institutes and centres related to World Heritage, one of the key players for the implementation of the WHCBS.

A. Overview

28. There are currently nine category 2 centres related to World Heritage. Agreements have been signed for seven centres: Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) (Bahrain); Regional Heritage Management Training Centre "Lucio Costa" (Brazil), World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITR-AP) (China); Centre on World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region (WNHMT) (India); International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture and World Heritage Studies (Italy); Regional World Heritage Institute in Zacatecas (Mexico) and African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) (South Africa). The agreement for the latter entered into force in June 2018. Agreements have not been signed yet for two centres: the International Centre for Rock Art and the World Heritage Convention (Spain) which was approved by the UNESCO General Conference in 2011, and the Regional Centre for Human Evolution, Adaptations and Dispersals in South East Asia (CHEADSEA) (Indonesia) which was approved by the UNESCO General Conference in 2017.
29. In conformity with the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres adopted by the General Conference at its 37th session, external evaluations have been undertaken for two centres: the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) (Bahrain) and the Regional Heritage Management Training Centre "Lucio Costa" (Brazil). Further to these evaluations, the Executive Board, at its 202nd session (October 2017), decided to renew for their designation as centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) and authorized the Director-General to sign the corresponding agreements. The renewal agreement for ARC-WH was signed in April 2018, and the renewal agreement for the Regional Heritage Management Training Centre "Lucio Costa" (Brazil) was signed on 13 June 2018.
30. As mentioned above, since the previous session of the World Heritage Committee, a new category 2 centre related to World Heritage was created: the Regional Centre for Human Evolution, Adaptations and Dispersals in South East Asia (CHEADSEA) (Indonesia). The General Conference, at its 39th session (November 2017), approved the establishment of this centre and

authorized the Director-general to sign the corresponding agreement. This is the first category 2 centre established in Indonesia relating to the *World Heritage Convention*.

31. The International Centre on Space Technologies for Cultural and Natural Heritage (HIST), based in China, while not administratively related to Culture Sector, deals with heritage protection and takes part in coordination meetings. It is administratively affiliated to the Natural Sciences Sector of UNESCO.
32. Progress reports prepared by each of the category 2 centres in 2018 will be posted on the website of the World Heritage Centre (see: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/category2centres/>). Amongst all pertinent information concerning the activities of the centres, the reports include a table indicating programmes and activities that are implemented or planned within the framework of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy.

B. Coordination

33. The sixth Annual Coordination Meeting of the UNESCO World Heritage-related category 2 institutes and centres took place in Robben Island, South Africa, from 11 to 14 February 2018. Twenty-two participants attended the meeting, including representatives of six category 2 centres from all the five regions of the world, the Advisory Bodies and the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (representing the Director of the World Heritage Centre at this meeting). A number of South African institutions also participated and contributed to discussions. The overall objective of the meeting was to reflect on how to foster the enhancement of the interregional cooperation and use it as a tool to efficiently implement the Convention. The meeting reviewed the implementation of the recommendations made at the previous annual meeting, discussed the means to reinforce the cooperation of the centres and foster partnerships with universities, UNESCO Chairs and other stakeholders, and reflected on the ways to encompass Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the programmes and activities of the centres.
34. The UNESCO Culture Sector organized the Second Coordination Meeting with UNESCO category 2 institutes and centres (C2Cs) and UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs related to Culture, on 23-27 November 2017 (UNESCO Headquarters), with an overarching theme of culture as an enabler of sustainable development. The meeting launched the online Forum of UNESCO Chairs and C2Cs, as a tool to support effective communication, information sharing and research. The Forum was developed by UNESCO in close collaboration with the Institute for African Culture and International Understanding (IACIU) (Abeokuta, Nigeria), the Kadir Has University (Istanbul, Turkey) and the Polytechnic University of Valencia (Spain).
35. Two thematic workshops were held in conjunction with the above-mentioned meeting (November 2017): “Advocacy and Communication for Enhancing Culture’s Role in the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda”, and “UNESCO 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape” (HUL). The latter informed the stakeholders about the guidelines for the preparation of reports by Member States on the application of the 2011 Recommendation on HUL. These guidelines, including a questionnaire, have been developed by the Secretariat and approved by the Executive Board, in view of reporting to the General Conference in 2019. Participants discussed the possible involvement of UNESCO Chairs and Networks in documenting HUL good practices. Presentations illustrated successful HUL approach to various urban challenges, in the 5 regions of the world. The workshop concluded that the HUL approach is an efficient tool for aligning the New Urban Agenda with the Sustainable Development Goals.
36. A side event was also held in conjunction with the above-mentioned meeting (November 2017), concerning the launch of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting (2018–2024). The World Heritage Centre presented the outcomes of the Periodic Reporting Reflection period (2015–2017), including the improvements and new content introduced into the questionnaire, the training and guidance materials being developed by the World Heritage Centre, and the role and involvement of Category

2 Centres and UNESCO Chairs in the Third Cycle in the context of the more State Party-driven approach of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting, as requested by the Committee (Decision **41 COM 10A**). More information is provided in Document WHC/18/42.COM/10A.

III. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision 42 COM 6

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/6,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 6** (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Commends the progress made in the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy (WHCBS);*
4. *Notes with appreciation the ongoing commitment of the Government of Norway to the six-year, World Heritage Leadership Programme, as well as the ongoing support for capacity building by the Government of Switzerland;*
5. *Calls upon other States Parties and organizations to provide additional funding and support for the implementation of the World Heritage Leadership Programme and other activities as part of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy at the international and regional levels;*
6. *Takes note of the development of the regional capacity-building strategies and initiatives, and also calls upon States Parties and all concerned partners and stakeholders to follow up on the implementation of the strategies developed for each region;*
7. *Welcomes the progress made by the category 2 centres related to World Heritage in implementing their activities and further calls upon interested stakeholders to support these activities;*
8. *Requests the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM to submit a progress report on the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy and the activities of the category 2 centres related to World Heritage for examination by the Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.*