Ref. : CL/WHC-06/03  Date : 8 March 2006

Subject: European Periodic Reporting on the application of the World Heritage Convention and on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties: presentation of results to the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee (Vilnius, Lithuania, July 2006)

Madam/Sir,

I hereby have the pleasure to acknowledge and thank you for the timely submission of the reports on Section II. The World Heritage Centre together with the relevant resource persons is in the final process of analysing the information in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies. The European regional report on Periodic Reporting will be presented to the World Heritage Committee, during its 30th session to be held in Vilnius (Lithuania) from 8 to 16 July 2006.

However, I would like to point out that the World Heritage Centre has not yet received all reports in their hard copy version duly signed. May I therefore kindly ask you to ensure the urgent submission of the signed hard copies of the Section II reports by 28 April 2006 at the latest.

During the meeting of the European Focal points in Berlin, Germany, 8-9 November 2005, elements for an Action Plan (Annex I) and the Berlin Appeal (Annex II) were discussed and adopted.

They form the basis for the overall Action Plan which will be presented in the working document on the European Periodic Reporting for the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee as well as for the elaboration of the five sub-regional synthesis reports.
Please note that, next to the presentation of the overall European Periodic Reporting results at the plenary session, an informal lunch meeting on the sub-regional reports is envisaged. We would appreciate if your State Party could appoint a representative to this meeting.

With this Circular Letter we also inform the Council of Europe and the European Commission of these results of a major World Heritage exercise which provided substantial information and assessments of European cultural and natural heritage as well as the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in the 48 European States Parties.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

F. Bandarin
Director
UNESCO World Heritage Centre

cc: Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee
ICOMOS, ICCROM, IUCN
UNESCO Field Offices in Moscow and Venice
Nordic World Heritage Foundation
Chair of the Working Group on Periodic Reporting
Rapporteur of the Working Group on Periodic Reporting

Annex II: Berlin Appeal