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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL  
ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD  
CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Twenty-seventh session  
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room XII  
30 June - 5 July 2003

**Item 17 of the Provisional Agenda: The relationship between the World Heritage Committee and UNESCO**

## SUMMARY

This document is presented in two parts:

### **I. Background**

### **II. Draft Decision proposed by Saint Lucia to the 26th session of the World Heritage Committee (Budapest, June 2002)**

#### **Action required:**

The Committee may wish to:

Take a decision following discussion of these issues in the context of the Draft UNESCO Programme and Budget (32 C/5) (see Document WHC-03/27.COM/16) as well as in the context of the Draft Decision proposed by Saint Lucia to the 26th session of the World Heritage Committee (Budapest, June 2002) (see Section II of the present document).

## **I. BACKGROUND**

1. During the 25th session of the World Heritage Committee (Helsinki, December 2001) clarification was sought on the relative roles of the UNESCO governing bodies (General Conference and Executive Board) and the World Heritage Committee<sup>1</sup>.
2. Following examination of document WHC-02/CONF.201/7, the 26th session of the Bureau (April 2002) requested that further information be provided to the Committee<sup>2</sup>.
3. The above-mentioned information was provided to the 26th session of the World Heritage Committee (Budapest, June 2002) in document WHC-02/CONF.202/12.
4. After debating this issue, the Committee decided to postpone the discussion to the 27th session of the Committee and to await a final decision of the Committee prior to any public distribution of the working document WHC-02/CONF.202/12<sup>3</sup>.
5. One of the issues discussed during the debate on this agenda item at the 26th session of the World Heritage Committee (Budapest, June 2002) was the World Heritage Committee's involvement in the preparation of the Draft UNESCO Programme and Budget (32C/5, 2004-2005).
6. At present the draft C/5 is being adjusted following the 166th session of the Executive Board in order to be presented for adoption to the 32nd session of the General Conference (29 September-18 October 2003).
7. At the time of preparation of this document, no further information on the preparation of the draft C/5 had been received by the World Heritage Centre. The Secretariat will present an oral report with additional input on this subject to the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> See Report of the 25th session of the World Heritage Committee (Helsinki, December 2001), III.16

<sup>2</sup> See document WHC-02/CONF.202/12

<sup>3</sup> See Decision 26 COM 16 and paragraph 16 of the Summary Record of the 26th session of the World Heritage Committee (Budapest, June 2002) (WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.15)

## II. DRAFT DECISION PROPOSED BY SAINT LUCIA TO THE 26TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (BUDAPEST, JUNE 2002)

*The World Heritage Committee,*

1. *Having examined document WHC-02/CONF.202/12,*
2. *Noting Articles 8 to 15 of the Convention underlining the Committee's responsibilities for the Protection of the World Heritage,*
3. *Recalling the Resolution adopted by the Committee at its 21st Session in Naples (1997),*
4. *Considering the importance of co-operation between the World Heritage Committee, UNESCO and its governing Organs through appropriate mechanisms ensuring transparency, communication and harmonisation of policies and respect of objectives,*
5. *Bearing in mind that the World Heritage Committee should be in a position to give opinions on Unesco's activities, initiatives or programmes that affect the very object and purpose of the World Heritage Convention,*
6. *Recalling the process of consulting the Committee on the Unesco Medium Term Strategy (C/4) in Phuket (1996),*
7. *Invites the Director-General to consult the Committee prior to the preparation of the relevant parts of the Draft C/4 starting with the draft revisions to the 31 C/4 (2002-2007) conceived as a rolling strategy;*
8. *Further invites the Director-General to consult the Committee prior to the preparation of the relevant parts of the Draft Unesco Programme and Budget (C/5);*
9. *Requests the Director-General to clearly define within Unesco's Programme and Budget (C/5) the respective roles of the Centre, the Culture Sector and all other units, so as to avoid overlapping responsibilities in regard to the objectives of the Convention.*