



The work which drives us forward in the year 2003 is closely linked to the main results we achieved at the end of last year.

The World Heritage Committee has made it very clear what our objectives should be. We must work to strengthen the credibility of a representative and geographically balanced World Heritage List, as we work for further effective conservation of World Heritage properties. In order to develop effective capacity-building measures we will continue our task of providing assistance for preparing nominations to the List. And in the all important field of communication, our aim remains the improvement of public awareness.

In order to carry out all of these goals we have developed a number of tools. As the Congress of Experts in Venice showed, the ever-increasing area of partnerships with the private sector will enable us to move forward more rapidly. We are also consolidating our technical action through a series of programmes (such as regional programmes focusing on Africa) and new partners (for example, linking tourism and conservation).

As we move forward, we need to continue with reforms in our working methods and procedures, finalize them and put them into practice. We will need to work with the Committee and Advisory Bodies in order to finalize the revised *Operational Guidelines*, taking into account the need to clarify certain issues, such as the procedures for inscription of properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

This is a time of year when the World Heritage Centre receives many nominations for inscription on the World Heritage List, some from countries which have no sites inscribed. We are now in the second year of the Committee's decision to limit the number of nominations to thirty. We are working with the Committee, Advisory Bodies and States Parties to improve the quality of nominations, to define boundaries and ultimately to improve our ability to ensure protection.

We all look forward to working with you in the year ahead!

Francesco Bandarin, Director, World Heritage Centre

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“This is a moment when we need to work together for conflict prevention by increasing our intercultural and inter-religious knowledge in order to promote cultural diversity. Now cultural heritage can be a vector for economic development, especially in fragile societies.”

José Maria Ballester, Director of Culture, Cultural and Natural Heritage, Council of Europe, at the International Congress of Experts: World Heritage 2002 Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility, November 2002, Venice, Italy.

Co-operation Agreement with Belgian Government

On 28 November 2002 the Belgian government and the WHC signed a new co-operation agreement in order to improve the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Under the agreement the Belgian Federal Office for Scientific, Technical and Cultural Research (OSTC) is to provide a yearly budget of 150,000 euros for 2003 – 2007 for research related to the implementation of the *Global Strategy* and technical assistance to improve information tools for the conservation of sites or new nominations. Activities to increase public awareness of conservation and threats to World Heritage will also be funded.

The OSTC is launching a two-year project to establish a monitoring database system for the five World Heritage sites in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which are inscribed on the

Danger List. The project will develop base maps for the sites using satellite images, analyze vegetation change and establish a database which integrates existing spatial field data on ecological monitoring as well as data from wildlife surveys. Scientific research will be carried out at two Belgian universities: the University of Gent and the Catholic University of Louvain-La-Neuve.

The project will work closely with the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation and various conservation NGOs active in the DRC. The project complements other work carried out by the WHC and funded by the UN Foundation and the Directorate-General for Development Co-operation of Belgium to conserve the DRC's sites threatened by the armed conflict in the region. Once the project comes to an end, conclusions will be drawn as to how to integrate modern remote sensing technologies with field-based monitoring activities to improve World Heritage conservation.



Participants in the Hanoi workshop

Periodic Reporting in Asia and the Pacific

The WHC and the Viet Nam National Commission for UNESCO organized a Workshop for the Preparation of Regional Synthesis Periodic Reports on Natural and Mixed World Heritage Properties in Asia and the Pacific, held from 20-22 January in Hanoi, Viet Nam. The meeting was supported by the World Heritage Committee, the Ministry of Culture and Information and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam. Participants from Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam attended, as well as representatives from IUCN, the WHC and the regional and national World Heritage offices in Jakarta and Hanoi.

The purpose of the workshop was to prepare the Regional Synthesis Report on the basis of the national periodic reports submitted by the States Parties. Discussions were held on how to prepare the Regional Synthesis Report, and on how to ensure on-going participation of the States Parties in the Report. States Parties' representatives provided valuable insights and contributions to the preparation of the text. Participants also agreed on the content and structure for the Report, which is to be presented to the World Heritage Committee at its 27th session in Suzhou, China in June 2003.

Regional follow-up actions for the next six years were elaborated, including some specific recommendations to the World Heritage Committee for the implementation of the *Convention* in this region. The workshop also looked at capacity building and training activities for natural heritage and protected areas relating to the World Parks Congress in September 2003.

The 5th IUCN World Parks Congress

The fifth IUCN World Parks Congress will be held in Durban, South Africa from 8-17 September 2003. The World Heritage Centre is taking an active role in the planning and preparation of one of the 'cross-cutting' themes of the Congress: World Heritage.

The aim of the IUCN World Parks Congress, which meets every ten years as the main global forum for protected areas, is to ensure that global awareness of protected areas is increased.

The Congress expects some 2,500 participants, who will debate the 'frontier issues' of protected areas. The Congress is to adopt 'The Durban Accord', a succinct joint policy statement for Protected Areas in the 21st century. It will produce a user manual of case studies, best practice and recommended steps ahead, all based on the main workshops and the cross cutting themes (World Heritage, Marine Protected Areas, and Communities & Equity Issues). Governance issues for protected areas, new models for their management, including the involvement of traditional owners will be discussed.

Durban will provide a forum for the development of strategic alliances between protected areas and other sectors, such as tourism, forestry, water supply and mining. The Congress is also expected to develop a range of lasting initiatives for protected areas in Africa.

Dam in Iraq

UNESCO organized a mission to Iraq from 18–28 November 2002 to assess the impact on archaeological sites from the flooding of a large area consequent to the decision to build a dam on the Tigris River south of Mossul, which is due to be completed by 2006.

The site of Ashur, the first capital of the Assyrian empire and the religious centre of Assyria, has been nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List, but is in real danger of water infiltration and seepage. Sixty-three other sites, which have been identified so far in the zone of the reservoir, are to be flooded by the end of 2006.

The State Board of Antiquities has started an intensive salvage excavation campaign. In order to co-ordinate the archaeological fieldwork until 2006, the Iraqi authorities intend to establish a well-equipped local research centre for the entire project, for which UNESCO's assistance has been requested. Authorities are also calling for support from the international community.

UNESCO's assistance was requested in planning a salvage project for the excavation areas and in providing expertise regarding the feasibility of building a protective wall for the main site. The results of the mission will be incorporated into the nomination file of Ashur, submitted by the Iraqi authorities under an emergency procedure (para 67 of the *Operational Guidelines*), and will be examined by the Committee at its upcoming session in June 2003.



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After a break for the Venice Congress of Experts, the Newsletter returns to conversations with Ambassadors from States Parties on the Committee.

Interview with Indian Ambassador to UNESCO

The *Newsletter* asked H.E. Mrs Neelan D. Sabharwal, India's Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, what she felt was the greatest challenge facing the Committee.

The Committee is uniquely positioned to promote the World Heritage Convention on the principles of equity, co-operation and common concerns of all its States Parties.

The Committee has done important work in recognizing new concepts of cultural and natural heritage over the past 30 years to bring greater representativity to the World Heritage List. But even today, 50 percent or more of the sites on the List are from one region. In my view, the solution lies not merely in formulating new criteria but in creating additional programmes and pro-active processes for improving technical assistance and developing expertise in under-represented countries.

What is your assessment of the reforms being undertaken?

The Committee has taken some initiatives to redress the geographical imbalance including a decision to restrict nominations to 30 on an experimental basis.

However, the selection of World Heritage based artificially on a country quota approach would be to miss the very rationale of the programme, which has to be seen in a much wider perspective of

antiquity, the vastness and cultural diversity, the wealth and value of the heritage. Instead of departing from basic principles, what is important is to allocate resources to this programme commensurate with the magnitude of its importance.

What is the way forward for heritage conservation?

Conservation needs in the developing countries are different from those in the developed world. As with environment, the needs of heritage conservation and development should be balanced. For this, new and innovative approaches must be considered for sustainable conservation and management of heritage.

We must also recognize that heritage protection is a continuous process. Indeed, inscription on the List is a vital link in this process. Even though India, for example, has a well-established environmental and archaeological conservation set-up and an active non-governmental community of experts, World Heritage programmes have successfully contributed to reinforcing commitment of policymakers, raising awareness among communities and upgrading skills for protection of heritage.

Interview with South African Ambassador to UNESCO

The *Newsletter* spoke to H.E. Mrs Thuthukile Edy Skweyiya, Ambassador of South Africa to France and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO.

South Africa was the host to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, and will host the Fifth World Parks Congress in Durban in September 2003. What is the link for you between World Heritage and sustainable development?

There are many spin-offs from inscription on the World Heritage List. Parks are where people live, where they get their nourishment, their medication. The local communities have been brought in to the management of these sites. This has created jobs. Education has made people aware of the usefulness of these sites. There is also the promotion of eco-tourism. This is sustainable development.

Do you see new partnerships as a key to World Heritage?

NEPAD, the New Partnership for Africa's Development, places the primary responsibility for Africa's future with Africans. Expertise from the international community is important. One of the objectives of the upcoming World Parks Congress is sustainable African heritage through partnerships.

South Africa is a regional leader. What role do you have to play in World Heritage in southern Africa?

South Africa has been a democracy since 1994. But ever since 1990, when exiles were allowed to return, we have been incul-

cating values of preservation and conservation. We learnt in exile from interacting in Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia. The ANC then brought back this practical experience of development of heritage.

We are latecomers to World Heritage, but we already have four sites on the List. This shows the level of commitment of our government. Now we are sharing our knowledge and expertise and resources in some instances with Namibia and Botswana, and with Lesotho in the near future. We also proposed, through the Southern African Development Community, SADC, joint management of parks and the opening up of borders for the free movement of animals and people.

What role does South Africa have to play on the Committee?

The *Operational Guidelines* are skewed towards developed countries. We have to reform in a way that will accommodate developing countries, to encourage them to put forward nominations to the List. We should have the same number of sites from the South as from the North.

I would just like to add one thing. We don't promise to be experts at hosting conferences. But we do hope people will come in their thousands to the World Parks Congress and to the periphery events. Heritage is the responsibility of us all in the North and in the South.



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The Italian Ambassador to UNESCO: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility

Following the success of the International Congress of Experts, 'World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility', organized by UNESCO with the support of the Italian Government, held in Venice, Italy in November 2002, to mark the 30th anniversary of the *Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*, the *Newsletter* asked Italy's Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, H.E. Mr Francesco Caruso, what this meeting and the nine workshops preceding it, had accomplished.

The week of activities in and around Venice was first of all a real tribute to the *Convention* and its universal vocation for the safeguard and preservation of both cultural and natural heritage. The workshops and the Experts' Congress also emphasized how the *Convention* has reached out to regions and countries not represented in the early years. Finally, great consideration was given to the work of conservation and how it is financed. It is clear that in order to send experts into the field, furnish dossiers and management reports, carry out training and capacity building, more money and personnel are needed. The States Parties' mandatory contribution of one percent of their annual UNESCO dues is clearly not sufficient. Extra-budgetary funds, such as the Italian Funds-in-Trust, are significant. But there is a growing need to open up the management of the *Convention* to partnerships with financial groups, banks and private companies. Venice showed how the public and private sectors can and should work together.

The Congress of Experts was entirely financed by the Italian government, the Veneto Region, and the province and municipality of Venice. I was particularly satisfied that other cities in Italy, in conjunction with the universities, participated in organizing the nine workshops which preceded the Congress, so that some 550 participants could share their scientific expertise.

What would you say was the importance of this Congress?

I think there is an important political aspect to this Congress. After September 11th it has become all the more necessary to affirm the diversity of culture and avoid uniformization. But our aim is also to avoid the expansion of all 'isms'. Terrorism and fundamentalism develop where there is a lack of understanding and respect for the culture of others. Better communication can be used as an instrument of culture so that people become aware of the cultural identity of others.

What do you see as the task ahead?

The Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Culture of Italy, Nicola Bono, is going to invite States Parties to attend a one-day follow-up meeting in May at the Villa d'Este World Heritage site at Tivoli, near Rome, so that we can continue the momentum generated by the Congress of Experts and the nine workshops in order to improve the exchange of views and identify the best solutions.



H.E. Mr Francesco Caruso, Italian Ambassador to UNESCO, with UNESCO Director-General Koichiro Matsuura

THE 13TH ICOMOS GENERAL ASSEMBLY was held in Madrid, Spain from 1-5 December. The following officers were elected: *President: MICHAEL PETZET; Secretary General: DINU BUMBARU; Deputy Secretary General: RAY BONDIN; Treasurer General: GIORA SOLAR (also responsible for World Heritage); Deputy Treasurer General: SHERIDAN BURKE; Vice Presidents: GUSTAVO ARAOZ, SHERIDAN BURKE, YUKIO NISHIMURA, CARLOS PERNAUT, CHRISTIANE SCHMUCKLE-MOLLARD.* There are 21 members elected to the Executive Committee.

Modern Heritage for the Americas

Some 50 people attended a regional meeting on modern heritage for the Americas, held from 11 – 13 December 2002 in Monterrey, Mexico, organised by the World Heritage Centre and the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia of Mexico (INAH), with the support of the government of the Netherlands, the government of Nuevo Leon and the City of Monterrey.

Close to two dozen experts, selected for their professional work and experience in the field of conservation of 19th- and 20th-century heritage, debated the issues of identification, protection and conservation of properties and sites of the planned and built heritage of the Americas in the last two centuries.

In line with the *Global Strategy* adopted in 1994 by the World Heritage Committee to encourage a more balanced and representative World Heritage List, the expert meeting was organised around a series of presentations of properties and sites of modern heritage in the Americas. These were prepared by individual experts who conducted comparative analyses and inductive exercises to arrive at a definition of general issues



Participants in the regional meeting on modern heritage in Monterrey, Mexico

related to the identification and conservation of modern heritage through a discussion of actual cases. Such sites as La Plata, and Buenos Aires in Argentina, Aterro de Flamengo in Rio de Janeiro, Valparaíso in Chile, Casa Estudio Luis Barragán, Mexico, the canal area in Panama and the parkway system in Minneapolis were examined, among others, as case studies.

The meeting recommended the encouragement of identification and selection of modern heritage properties. It called for additional efforts to be made to get States Parties to include proposals for modern heritage in their tentative lists. Specific follow-up proposals included the production of a reference document on modernity, modernisation and the different expressions of modern heritage for the Americas and the Caribbean as a tool to help promote better understanding, identification, protection and listing of this heritage. The meeting also recommended the development of a set of indicators for the monitoring of, and continued focus on, monuments, buildings, urban complexes, industrial or engineering works, sites and cultural landscapes of modern heritage from the 19th and 20th centuries.

Five Key Conservationists in the DRC Die

The UNESCO/UNF programme for the World Heritage sites of the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Biodiversity Conservation in Regions of Armed Conflict, mourns the loss of five of its key people. On 8 December, 2002 Jean Nlamba, Karl Ruf and Kambale Saambili were on a road near Beni, DRC, when a bus, going at high speed, hit their vehicle head on, killing all three instantly. Earlier in the year Jean Mafuko Girineza and Muhindo Mesi died of natural causes.

Jean Nlamba had been counterpart Co-ordinator for the UNESCO/UNF/DRC programme since August 2002, and was due to take over the Co-ordination Unit for Kinshasa in 2003. He was an honest, reliable and excellent administrator and dedicated conservationist. His loss to the project is great.

Karl Ruf was Director of the Gilman International Conservation Project for the Okapi Faunal Reserve and an active partner in the UNESCO/UNF/DRC programme. Karl had been involved in DRC conservation since 1979. He raised support for re-establishing the Okapi Station at Epulu, ran the GIC project and gradually developed more support for the ICCN (Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature). Karl will be sadly missed for his work, his dedication, humour and no-nonsense attitude.



Jean Nlamba, Kambale Saambili and Karl Ruf

Kambale Saambili Hyacinthe had worked for the GIC Epulu project since 1988, in charge of their research programme, and since 2000, as Programme and Research Officer. In the words of a colleague, 'he was a friend to the job.'

Jean Mafuko Girineza, who died in March 2002 of a liver tumour, was Chief Warden at Garamba National Park. When the first civil war broke out in 1996, he remained at the Park despite considerable personal risk, and was able to get anti-poaching patrols started again even though occupying forces stayed in the Park and had disarmed the guards. For a year and-a-half he was counterpart in the Co-ordination Unit of the UNESCO project.

Conservator-in-Chief Muhindo Mesi, who died of a terminal illness in September 2002, was well-respected. He had wide experience in the Garamba and Virunga World Heritage sites.

We pay homage to these five valuable colleagues and salute all they have done. Our deepest sympathy goes out to their families.

World Heritage in Danger



Simen National Park
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Simen National Park (Ethiopia)

Simen National Park is home to a diminishing population of one of the world's rarest animals, the *walia* ibex, a species of goat found nowhere else in the world. Located in the Amhara National Regional State (ANRS) in north-western Ethiopia, Simen National Park is also the only protected area harbouring the rare endemic Simen fox and gelada baboon, interesting bird species such as bearded vultures and augur buzzards, as well as twenty endemic plant species.

Since the Park was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1978, its governing body has made a strong commitment to the conservation of the site. However, due to 17 years of civil war, tourism, poaching, road construction, human population increase within the site, as well as intense agricultural activities and over-grazing of domestic livestock, the Park's World Heritage values continue to deteriorate.

The endangered *walia* ibex tends to have some natural protection in the steep escarpments at the eastern boundary of the Park. Large areas of the unique Afro-Alpine habitat in the region, which are the main stronghold for the Ethiopian wolf, remain outside the Park and some efforts are underway to reduce poaching on the ibex and to protect the wolf by modifying Park boundaries. However, a systematic monitoring regime to track wildlife population trends is not yet in place.

A World Heritage Centre/IUCN mission in April 2001 concluded that the environmental conditions and conservation activities were not yet sufficiently improved to consider the Park to be out of danger. In December 2001 the Committee adopted specific benchmarks (including boundary re-alignment to extend ibex and fox habitats; re-settlement of villagers from the core zone; and redirecting of Park traffic), as a basis for the future monitoring of progress in improving the state of conservation of Simen. The Committee urged the State Party and its site-level partners to be aware of the need to implement the project in close consultation with all stakeholders, including local communities.

The Committee recommended that the Centre and IUCN collaborate with Ethiopia to raise international awareness and to mobilize necessary funding for rehabilitation measures in order to ensure the eventual removal of the site from the List of World Heritage in Danger as soon as possible.

Within the framework of the Global Strategy, a **Workshop on Potential Natural and Mixed World Heritage Nominations from Central Asia**, was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan from 16-19 December in order to assist notably Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in identifying potential natural and mixed sites for World Heritage nomination. 35 representatives from the States Parties in Central Asia, as well as experts and the IUCN, ICOMOS and the WWF participated.

The **German World Heritage Foundation** has been formed by the two Hanseatic towns of Stralsund and Wismar (newly-inscribed on the World Heritage List) in order to help preserve World Heritage sites and to assist potential World Heritage sites in preparing their nominations. Two projects have already been carried out in Mongolia and Ukraine. Cities, communities and private partners can contact Brigitte Mayerhofer +49-80-30765101, e-mail: info@welterbestiftung.de or consult the Foundation's homepage: www.welterbestiftung.de

Entries are now being accepted for the **UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage 2003 Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation**. Projects involving buildings more than fifty years old and which were completed within the last ten years are eligible for consideration. Complete programme information is available at <http://www.unescobkk.org/culture/heritageawards>. The deadline is 31 March 2003.

The first two issues of World Heritage Manuals and Papers are now available. Consultant Arthur Pedersen's **'Managing Tourism at World Heritage Sites: a Practical Manual for World Heritage Site Managers'** synthesizes the body of literature on tourism and visitor management in a context of sustainable tourism, providing practical advice and management processes for World Heritage site managers. **'Investing in World Heritage: Past Achievements, Future Ambitions, a Guide to International Assistance'**, co-ordinated by WHC Deputy-Director Minja Yang, and researched and written by Jehanne Phares and Cynthia Guttman, focuses on the international assistance granted under the World Heritage Fund by giving an account of its range of activities and evaluating its achievements. To obtain either document, contact wh-info@unesco.org

What Are They Doing ?

From 5-7 Dec., **Francesco Bandarin**, WHC Director, attended the seminar 'Protecting Cultural and Natural Heritage in the Western Hemisphere: Lessons from the Past, Looking to the Future' organized by the Center for Urban Development Studies (CUDS) at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, in co-operation with US/ICOMOS and the WHC. The seminar was opened by **Ismail Serageldin**, Director of the Library of Alexandria, Egypt and moderated by **François Vigier**, Director of the CUDS. On 3 Dec. Mr Bandarin attended the UN General Assembly session dedicated to the UN Year for Cultural Heritage. **Tamás Fejérdy**, World Heritage Committee Chairman, along with the President of the Hungarian Parliament **Katalin Szily**, the Minister of Culture Gabor Gorgey, and the President of the National World Heritage Committee **Kalman Varga**, all spoke at celebrations in Budapest in Dec. to mark the 30th anniversary of the *Convention*. The celebrations, in the spirit of the *Budapest Declaration*, were, Mr Fejérdy said, 'an occasion to develop communication and sensitize the public about World Heritage issues.' From 2-12 Jan., Mr Bandarin was in Cuba to review the state of conservation of World Heritage sites. He met with **Marta Arjona**, President of the National Cultural Heritage Council and **Eusebio Leal**, Historian of La Havana. He also met the Director of the UNESCO regional office for culture, Mr **Francisco Lacayo Parajón**. WHC Deputy-Director **Minja Yang**, attended a seminar on the Forum on European World Heritage Cities on 17 Jan. in Luxembourg where she met with **Guy Dockendorf**, Director-General of the Ministry of Culture. Within the France-UNESCO Convention, she was in Benin from 13-21 Jan. to help prepare a nomination dossier. She was also in New Delhi from 25-30 Nov. to participate in the national seminar for periodic reporting, organised by the Archeological Survey of India. **Natarajan Ishwaran**, WHC Chief Natural Heritage Section, was in the USA from 29 Jan.-4 Feb. to meet with UNF and other partners. **Carmen Negrín**, Chief WHC/LAC Unit, along with **Marjaana Kokkonen**, Associate Expert, were in Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles, Caracas and Los Roques, Venezuela from 5-9 Dec. to discuss with authorities about a transboundary marine World Heritage nomination in

the southern Caribbean Islands. From 1-4 Dec. Ms Negrin was in Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, to participate in the celebration of the 5th anniversary of the inscription of Willemstad on the List. **Sarah Titchen**, WHC Chief Policy and Statutory Implementation Unit, along with WHC consultant Maria-Luisa Bascur attended an expert meeting in Brussels from 9-12 Dec. on the preparation of a draft declaration concerning the intentional destruction of cultural heritage. **Mechtild Rössler**, WHC Chief Europe & North America Unit, participated in the first periodic reporting meeting for the European region organized by Canada and the USA with the site managers and staff from the National Park Service and Parks Canada in Los Angeles, USA from 13-16 Jan. She attended the conference on 'Contemporary Architecture and Design in Historic Urban Areas', in Riga, Latvia, from 5-7 Dec. **Jean-Marie Vincent** and **Marie-Noël Tournoux** from the Convention France/UNESCO were in Riga on 20 Dec., to participate in the seminar: 'Preservation and Development of Riga Historical Centre Today and in the Future.' **Junko Taniguchi**, WHC Asia Unit, was in Afghanistan from 19-25 Jan. to elaborate the nomination dossiers of Bamiyan Valley, Nu Gunbad and Bandi e Amir, and to organize a capacity-building activity with the Afghan authorities and the UNESCO Kabul Office. On 10 Jan., she was in Tokyo, where she discussed with the Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC) the Ajanta-Ellora JBIC Conservation and Tourism Development project, and future co-operation between WHC and JBIC. **Giovanni Boccardi**, WHC Chief Arab States Unit, and **Mario Hernandez**, WHC specialist Information Management, were in the United Arab Emirates from 9-15 Jan. to meet with officials, on implementing the *World Heritage Convention*, ratified in 2001 by the UAE. **Fernando Brugman**, joined the WHC in Sept. 2002 as an associate expert from the Netherlands. He is trained in the field of international relations and history, and is currently working on the state of conservation of Spanish sites and the periodic reporting for the Europe/North America region.



Fernando Brugman



The World Heritage Review No. 28, December 2002. The leader article in this issue focuses on Industrial Heritage Sites in the United Kingdom from Ironbridge Gorge to New Lanark, bearing witness to the Industrial Revolution. Other articles feature Kairouan, the first holy city of the Maghreb; four great Rainforest sites on the Australian Continental Plate; Kazan Kremlin, the only Tatar fortress still surviving in the Russian Federation; and Monte Alban, a pre-Columbian archaeological site.

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17 to 22 March

6th Extraordinary Session of the World Heritage Committee, UNESCO Headquarters. Paris.
Information: n.dhumal@unesco.org

26 to 30 March

Conference on Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Context: Reinforcing Regional Initiatives and Partnerships for the Rational Use of Natural Areas. (IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Co-operation, Ministry of Environment for the Region of Andalusia, Spanish Ministry of Environment). Madrid, Spain.
Information: uicnmed@iucn.org

29 to 31 March

Regional Seminar on the Conservation of Earthen Structures. (Government of Oman, CRATERE). Muscat, Oman.
Information: m.raabe@unesco.org

24 to 26 April

6th US/ICOMOS International Symposium: Managing Conflict and Conservation in Historic Cities: Integrating Conservation with Tourism, Development and Politics. Annapolis, Maryland, USA.
Information: symposium@usicomos.org,
fax: 1-202-842-1861,
<http://www.icomos.org/usicomos/>

7 to 10 May

3rd Conference of European Heritage Network and 1st Joint Conference of European and World Heritage Network. Nicosia, Cyprus.
Information: c.delsol@unesco.org

22 to 24 May

Conference on World Heritage. (Netherlands National Commission, Ministry of Education and Culture). Amsterdam, Netherlands.
Information: scunesco@nuffic.nl

25 to 29 May

40th Annual IFLA Congress: Landscapes on the Edge. Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
Information: <http://www.ifla2003.com>

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