



editorial

The 6th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee met in Paris from 17 to 22 March to discuss some of the key policy and management issues related to the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* (see page 2). This session also prepared part of the work of the 27th session to be held in Suzhou, China from 29 June to 5 July 2003.

This next Committee meeting will be particularly rich, as a number of important items will be discussed, including the final text of the *Operational Guidelines*. In particular, the meeting in China will address issues such as Periodic Reporting in the Asia and Pacific region, the state of conservation of properties on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger, and nominations of new sites to be inscribed in 2003.

The Asia and Pacific region Periodic Reporting exercise is the third in the series of Periodic Reporting. The Committee will examine national periodic reports from twenty-seven Asian and twelve Pacific States Parties. This will be the first opportunity for many Pacific countries, among them the new States Parties, to present the situation of heritage in their sub-region. Actions taken for the Arab and African regions, following their Periodic Reporting exercises (2000 and 2001/2002), will also be discussed.

During the meeting, more than seventy reports on the state of conservation of properties will be discussed. Over thirty-five nominations, in addition to extensions to existing sites, will also be discussed.

The Suzhou meeting will consider the World Heritage Fund budget for 2004 – 2005, and will also discuss the Global Training Strategy and the Global Strategy for a balanced and representative World Heritage List.

Furthermore, the Committee will discuss the number of new nominations to be examined in the future and will evaluate the 'Cairns decision' on the current ceiling, which has been set at thirty.

The report of the activities of the World Heritage Committee to be presented to the 32nd session of the UNESCO General Conference in October will be adopted at this session.

The Committee will also focus on the Strategic Objectives set out at the 26th session in Budapest, Hungary: the Credibility of the List, the effective Conservation of World Heritage properties, the development of effective Capacity building, and the increase in public awareness through Communication. It will examine the tools for their implementation, including the Principles for World Heritage, World Heritage Programmes and the World Heritage Partnerships Initiative.

Francesco Bandarin, Director, World Heritage Centre

contents

“A Draft Declaration on the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage... will be presented to the 167th session of the Executive Board in September 2003 and to the General Conference next October. Though not a binding instrument, this Declaration will reinforce existing fundamental principles preventing and prohibiting the intentional destruction of cultural heritage in both wartime and peacetime.”

UNESCO Director-General, Koichiro Matsuura, at the opening of the 6th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee, 17 March 2002, Paris

1 Editorial - Francesco Bandarin
Director of the World Heritage Centre

2 The 6th Extraordinary Session of the Committee

Interview with the Argentine Ambassador to UNESCO

Tourism and World Heritage

3 Modern Heritage in Asia

World Heritage in Young Hands

The Nordic World Heritage Foundation

World Heritage In Danger

4 For Your Information

What Are They Doing?

Calendar

6th Extraordinary Session of the World Heritage Committee

The 6th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 17 to 22 March. 71 States Parties were present as well as representatives of IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM and a number of observers. A delegation from the city of Suzhou, China, as well as China's National Commission for UNESCO attended and held several meetings to prepare for the 27th session of the Committee in Suzhou, China (29 June - 5 July, 2003).

At the request of the 26th session of the World Heritage Committee (Budapest, June 2002), this extraordinary session was held to discuss policy issues concerning the *World Heritage Convention*.

The World Heritage Committee revised the Rules of Procedure to take into account the new cycle of World Heritage Committee meetings now to be held mid-year, in June/July.



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The Committee considered the policy and legal issues on whether or not State Party consent is required for the inscription of a property on the List of World Heritage in Danger or for its deletion from the World Heritage List. The Committee decided to retain the current wording of the *Operational Guidelines* regarding reactive monitoring, the inclusion of properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger and deletion of properties from the World Heritage List.

The Committee discussed the revision of the *Operational Guidelines* and asked the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, to carry out a number of additional and final tasks in order to present revised user-friendly *Guidelines* to the World Heritage Committee for adoption at its 27th session in Suzhou, China.

A revised budget structure for the World Heritage Fund was also discussed and adopted, which reflects the Strategic Objectives of the Committee (adopted in 2002) and is coherent with the structure of the budget proposed in the UNESCO Draft Programme and Budget, 2004-2005.

The Decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 6th extraordinary session are available at the following website:

<http://whc.unesco.org/archive/decrec03-6extcom.htm>

Tourism and World Heritage



Participants in the special session on World Heritage at the ITB in Berlin

On March 9 at the Berlin International Tourism Fair (ITB), the World Heritage Centre held a special session on World Heritage and Tourism Partnership Programmes: Working Together for Site Conservation. Eighty-five people from 25 countries attended, including tour operators, consulting firms, tourism-board officers, NGOs, institutions and foundations.

The name UNESCO, or the words 'World Heritage', are nowadays often used as part of a marketing strategy in the tourism industry. 'World Heritage' appears on brochures and pamphlets, and some tour operators set up and sell 'World Heritage tours'. This special session at the ITB pointed out the growing importance put on engagement with the tourism industry as an important element for site protection and conservation.

'While there are benefits and impacts associated with tourism to World Heritage sites, there needs to be an active exchange both to maximize the positive aspects of business and reduce negative impacts,' Francesco Bandarin, WHC Director, said at the session.

Dr Wolf Michael Iwand, Executive Director, Department of Environment, at the world's largest tour operator, TUI, expressed enthusiasm for partnerships with World Heritage natural sites, saying that priorities need to be set for protection efforts. He was convinced of the need for the tourism industry to respect carrying-capacity limits of the sites and suggested that the industry be involved in setting those limits.

Grand Circle Corporation, one of the United States' largest tour operators for the over-50 age-group, is entering into a partnership with the WHC, donating one hundred thousand dollars over the next five years, to various World Heritage sites. Maury Peterson, Director of the Grand Circle Foundation, said she sees partnership with UNESCO as a win-win deal that can benefit the sites as well as provide added value to the Grand Circle experience.

The RARE Center for Tropical Conservation, UNEP, UNESCO and UNF project links biodiversity conservation and sustainable tourism at six World Heritage sites in Latin America and Indonesia. The project aims to plan and use tourism in close co-operation with the local communities to help mitigate impacts to biodiversity.

'World Heritage sites in this project serve as a laboratory for sustainable tourism. Being a regional project, it draws the attention of governments and the private sector, since it is a generator of funds,' Art Pedersen, WHC Consultant on Tourism and Visitor Management, said.

Natarajan Ishwaran, WHC Chief Natural Heritage Section, who moderated the discussions, concluded that the range of visitor experience sought by tourists in World Heritage offers a variety of opportunities for collaboration between tourism and conservation. He called for the active engagement of the tourism industry to build long-term partnerships.

Interview with the Argentine Ambassador to UNESCO

The *Newsletter* spoke to H.E. Mr. Juan Archibaldo Lanus, Ambassador of the Argentine Republic to France and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO.



H.E. Mr. Juan Archibaldo Lanus, Argentine Ambassador

There is a growing trend towards co-operation among countries that have sites on the World Heritage List in adjacent areas. Argentina is co-operating with Brazil on their common sites at Iguazu/Iguaçu. It is working with Paraguay and Brazil for the better preservation of the ensemble of 16th- and 17th-century Jesuit missions in these countries. What can be learned from this type of activity?

Both as an observer and as a member of the World Heritage Committee, Argentina has participated actively in the discussions related to the new strategic orientation of the World Heritage List. For us, one valuable lesson from such discussions was the importance of transboundary nominations, not only as a way of controlling the ever-growing number of sites on the List, but mainly as a instrument of peace and co-operation between neighbouring States.

Argentina is working towards the nomination of Quebrada de Humahuaca. How would this site fit into this logic of co-operation? And how are you including the indigenous people in the planning of the nomination?

Quebrada de Humahuaca is precisely an example of how a transboundary World Heritage site can be developed. If the outstanding universal value of this site is recognized by the Committee at its 27th session in China, Humahuaca will represent the first stage of a much larger transboundary

nomination that we are starting to examine with Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru: 'Camino del Inca' – the Inca Trail.

Our national constitution recognizes the pre-existence, both from the ethnic and cultural point of view, of the Argentine indigenous people – who, in fact, are part of our local communities. Argentina assigns a particular importance to the participation of such local communities in the protection of their cultural and natural heritage, and we promoted the inclusion of an explicit reference to such concern in the *Budapest Declaration*. Consequently, the authorities of our Province of Jujuy, who are responsible for the nomination dossier of Quebrada de Humahuaca, have worked side by side with the local communities in the area as regards the diverse aspects of the preparation of the nomination, and keep in permanent contact with them.

Despite the difficult economic situation in Argentina, your government is still managing to give high priority to the preservation and conservation of cultural and natural heritage. How do you do it?

With hard work, an imaginative use of scarce resources, and the personal commitment of different authorities, officers and staff, at all levels, from our competent governmental areas. The World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO Office in Montevideo proved to be more than solid partners in support of such efforts. But our greatest stimulus comes from the Argentine people, who are increasingly aware of the importance of preserving our heritage.



Modern Heritage in Asia

The 'Second Regional Meeting on Modern Heritage: Asia', organised by the World Heritage Centre, the Chandigarh College of Architecture, mAAN (modern Asian Architecture Network) and DOCOMOMO (Documentation and Conservation of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the Modern Movement), with financial support from the Government of the Netherlands, was held from 24 to 27 February in Chandigarh, India. The meeting was officially opened by Lt. Gen. Jack Frederick Ralph Jacob, PVSM, (Retd.), Governor Punjab and Administrator Chandigarh (U.T.). Addresses were given by Francesco Bandarin, Director WHC and Karan A. Singh, Finance Secretary-cum-Secretary Engineering & Urban Development and Chief Administrator Capital Project.

The thirty experts debating the identification, conservation and documentation of the built heritage of the 19th and 20th centuries agree: there is no unity to modernity on this vast continent. The form modernity has taken in Asia is closely linked to the specific political, economic, social and cultural

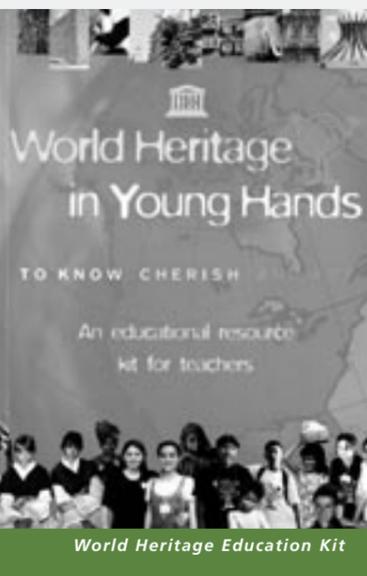
conditions, as well as traditional regional and sub-regional ways of understanding and ordering space, such as geomancy, feng-shui and mandala. These differences, the meeting decided, need to be taken into account during identification and assessment of modern heritage properties and sites, and in the selection for national tentative lists.

Inherent in the concept of modernity, as a process for the development of a new consciousness of self, participants said, was the development of a critical approach to one's environment, beginning in the 18th century. A recurrent theme of the meeting was the relationship between East and West, especially concerning the evaluation of the impact of modernity and the contact and communication among different peoples and countries.

Although participants discussed individual buildings and architecture in the strict sense, several presentations focused on the identification and management of significant urban and vernacular areas and the role of local populations in the process of preservation.

Some of the properties and sites presented during the expert meeting triggered discussion on the test of authenticity. Participants agreed that authenticity essentially refers to the innovative and creative quality of a property, as well as the values it represents.

Participants agreed that there should be further co-operation with UNESCO, specialized NGOs and universities, and that inventories should be developed with the advice of professional networks (mAAN, DOCOMOMO). It was recommended that research and training programmes be investigated, as well as the drafting of comparative studies on the universal significance of planned and built modern cities in Asia, with cross references to Europe and Africa.



World Heritage in Young Hands

A World Heritage in Young Hands (WHYH) planning meeting was held at UNESCO Headquarters on 7 March. The meeting was attended by 40 professionals concerned with World Heritage Education (WHE), including experts, government representatives as well as staff from different UNESCO sectors and regional offices.

This 'think-tank' meeting took stock of current views on World Heritage and the involvement of young people in order to draw

up a road map for the future of the project and to propose a mid- and long-term project strategy.

In order to move World Heritage Education into the mainstream of concern, participants agreed, among other things, that culture and education ministers must be sensitized to the need of integrating WHE into national curricula. The meeting also suggested connecting with existing networks among world federations, NGOs and museums.

The think tank recommended that World Heritage Youth Fora should be linked more often to skills-development courses, which could be organized through sub-regional events. While agreeing that World Heritage sites cannot be considered as playgrounds for children, participants noted that practiced skills are much more effective for children than theoretical knowledge. They encouraged related out-of-school activities.

Participants strongly supported the use of information and communication technologies, where possible, and called for the development of more CD-ROM games and visual animations linked to World Heritage.

The meeting also recommended that during teacher-training sessions on the use of the World Heritage Education Kit, discussion should be facilitated among teachers, site managers, WHC staff, museum staff and university students.

A series of proposals were brought forward, including the dedication of a UN year to WHYH, the creation of a project directory of donor opportunities for fundraising, the publication of a youth-friendly version of the *World Heritage Convention*, as well as legal protection of the 'Patrimonito' mascot. The participants also called for the identification of famous patrons and celebrities as role models to disseminate the WHE message.



Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru)

The vast and fragile site of Chan Chan Archaeological Zone, the biggest city in pre-Columbian America, was the capital of the Chimú Kingdom which reached the height of its power in the 15th century before the establishment of the Inca empire. The planning of this huge city reflects a strict political and social strategy, divided into nine walled 'citadels' made from adobe brick and mud. These 'palaces' form independent units containing temples, cemeteries, gardens, reservoirs and symmetrically arranged rooms. The citadels are thought to have been the living quarters, burial places and warehouses of the aristocracy. The bulk of the city's population lived outside the citadels in much more modest quarters.

Chan Chan was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1986, the same year that it was inscribed on the World Heritage List. Its earthen structures are quickly damaged by natural erosion as they are exposed to air and rain. The site has suffered from pillaging, illegal occupation of land and the impact in 1998 of torrential rain and flooding due to El Niño, the warm Pacific current that affects climate worldwide.

The illegal occupation of the land on the site should be completely halted after approval of a Decree. The Master Plan must now be developed to set up a security system, implement emergency preservation projects, and repair roofs, drainage and other damage due to El Niño. A team of mounted police, carrying out day and night rounds was established in 2002. A dozen guards on the site have had an immediate positive effect on the protection of the site.

The State Party is to present a progress report to be examined by the Committee at its 27th session in Suzhou, China, 29 June-5 July 2003.

The Nordic World Heritage Foundation

Foundation to UNESCO as a regional centre under UNESCO auspices. The regional centre would be funded by Norway and supported by the Nordic governments.

The Kingdom of Norway has proposed the association of the Nordic World Heritage

In March 2002, the Nordic World Heritage Office was officially converted into the Nordic World Heritage Foundation in order to eventually become a centre under the auspices of UNESCO. The Office had been working since March 1996, with an annual budget of US\$300,000, in supporting the implementation and promotion of the *World Heritage Convention* in the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) as well as the Baltic States, and assisted with several projects in Africa and Asia. An international evaluation, undertaken in 2001, recommended that the Office be set up on a permanent basis.

The new Foundation acts as a focal point for bringing Nordic countries together in their collective attempt to fulfil the intentions and requirements of the *Convention*. It has given support to UNESCO's World Heritage Centre by facilitating technical expertise, disseminating information and contributing to projects. It mobilizes funds from bilateral and multilateral sources and facilitates assistance for natural and cultural World Heritage conservation efforts in developing countries. In the framework of these objectives, the Foundation acts as a regional and international centre, supporting the follow-up of the Committee's Global Strategy.

The Nordic World Heritage Foundation co-ordinates all its activities with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and works with international partners on projects addressing the imbalance of the World Heritage List and mainstreaming the World Heritage work into international development co-operation.

The objective of the Foundation is to strengthen its contribution to the medium-term strategies of UNESCO in the field of culture, aiming especially to enhance the link between culture and development through capacity-building and sharing of knowledge.

Once the auspices have been granted, the working of the Foundation will be evaluated before the end of 2008, which is the initially foreseen duration of the proposed agreement with UNESCO.

For more information: <http://www.nwhf.no>



The temple of Yuzhengong was destroyed by a fire last January

On 3 February, **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** deposited its instrument of ratification, bringing the number of States Parties to 176. The *World Heritage Convention* will come into force for this State Party on 3 May.

The second session of the **Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts on the Preliminary-Draft Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage** met at UNESCO Headquarters from 24 February-1 March. A third session will be convened on 10 June, for the finalization of the preliminary draft for submission by the UNESCO Director-General to the Executive Board and to the 32nd General Conference for consideration and possible adoption.

An international meeting of experts, **'Harmonization of the Arab Tentative Lists of Natural World Heritage Sites'**, hosted by Egypt's Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Egyptian National Commission and the Egyptian National Man & Biosphere (MAB) Committee, convened in Cairo, Egypt from 17-20 February to discuss natural areas that could be of World Heritage value, and especially serial and transboundary sites.

In January, the 1,000-year-old temple of Yuzhengong, part of the World Heritage site, **Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains**, was completely destroyed by a fire. No one was injured in the blaze. A monitoring mission was undertaken by the State Administration of Cultural Heritage of China in mid-February. The results of this mission will be reported to the World Heritage Committee at its next session in Suzhou, China.

In mid-January, young people from Jamaica, Bahamas, Barbados, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines met in Kingston, Jamaica at the launch of UNESCO's **Youth Poverty Alleviation through Tourism and Heritage Project**, Youth PATH Project, for a three-day workshop to develop skills for the documentation of cultural and heritage sites to enhance tourism for domestic and international visitors.

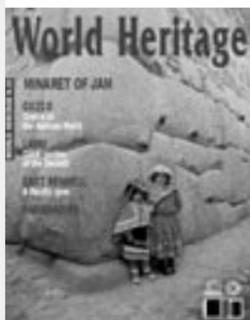
What Are They Doing ?

WHC Director **Francesco Bandarin** was in Nepal from 20-24 February, to accompany the World Heritage Committee Chairperson, **Tamás Fejérdy**, in the high-level mission to the Kathmandu Valley World Heritage site. **Ray Bondin**, Chairperson of the ICOMOS Committee on Historic Cities and Villages also took part in the mission. Along with **Natarajan Ishwaran**, WHC Chief Natural Heritage Section, Mr Bandarin went to Washington, D.C. and New York from 29 January-5 February to attend a series of meetings with several WHC partners to explore new avenues of collaboration. He attended the board meeting of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation in Oslo, Norway from 8-10 January. **Tamás Fejérdy**, World Heritage Committee Chairperson, was at the WHC from 21 January-5 February to participate in the information meeting organized for the States Parties, as well as to meet with members of the Committee, representatives of regional units, representatives of UNESCO's different sectors and divisions. From 24-28 February, WHC Deputy-Director, **Minja Yang**, and UNESCO Special Advisor, **Yves Dauge**, were in Laos to discuss with the national and local authorities about measures for the protection and conservation of Luang Prabang. Ms Yang was in Turkey from 6-8 February for a workshop on the rehabilitation of Istanbul's historic centre, as well as a meeting with the European Project group and the President of the Technical University of Istanbul, **Nuran Gülersoy**. **Peter Bridgewater**, former Director UNESCO Division of Ecological Sciences, has been selected as the new Secretary-General of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. He will replace outgoing Secretary General **Delmar Blasco** in August. In addition to meetings in Washington, D.C. and New York (see above), **Natarajan Ishwaran** was in Thailand from 15-23 February for the IUCN/International Timber Trade Organization workshop 'Transborder Initiatives for the Conservation of Tropical Rainforests' and meetings with Thai authorities. **Mechtild Rössler**, WHC Chief Europe and North America Unit, headed an international mission to the Giant's Causeway and Causeway Coast in Northern Ireland, UK from 16-19 February, carried out jointly with **Marija Zupancic-Vicar**, former minister

for the environment of Slovenia, who represented IUCN. **Herman van Hooff**, Advisor for World Heritage in Latin America & the Caribbean and Advisor for Culture in MERCOSUR, attended a seminar on the management of the Caminos Andinos-Camino Inca from 26-28 February in Tilcara, Jujuy, Argentina where he met with the new Director of the National Institute of Culture of Peru, archaeologist **Luis Lumbreras**. From 3-8 February, **Ron van Oers**, WHC Consultant for Urban Conservation and Management, organized and participated in a thematic expert meeting on **'Wooden Urban Heritage for the Caribbean Region'**, held in Georgetown, Guyana. **Vesna Vujcic-Lugassy**, WHC Promotion, Publication and Education Unit, participated in a teacher-training course, the first of its kind in France, 'Education for World Heritage in the Alsace Region' from 29-30 January in Strasbourg, France. From 16-22 February, **Natsue Saito**, Associate Expert WHC Asia Unit, went to Bangladesh where she held consultations with relevant national authorities on future international assistance for the Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur, as well as on preparatory assistance for the Mahasthangarh Tentative List site and periodic reporting for Asia. **Lazare Eloundou** joined WHC in March as a Programme Specialist in the Africa Unit. His field of specialization is architecture, heritage conservation and town planning. Before joining the WHC, he worked for the Africa 2009 Programme. **Flora van Regteren Altena** joined the WHC in February as an Associate Expert from the Netherlands. She is trained in the field of architectural and fine art history, and is currently working on projects related to African cultural heritage. **Nathalie Gagnon** joined the WHC in March as Assistant Administrative Officer in the Administrative Unit. She worked in research and development and management in Canada and the US before joining UNESCO's Office of the Budget in 1995.



Participants in the high-level mission to Kathmandu Valley



The *World Heritage Review* No. 29, February 2003. The leader article in this issue focuses on the *Minaret of Jam* in Afghanistan, the most remarkable vestige of the Ghurid culture that dominated the region in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries AD. Other articles feature the *City of Cuzco*, Peru, the former capital of the Inca Empire; *Paramaribo*, capital of Suriname, a former Dutch colonial city; *Lamu Old Town*, a Swahili port on the coast of Kenya; and *East Rennell* in the Solomon Islands, the second-largest raised coral atoll in the world.

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- 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, United States.
Information: <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, Chypre.
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>
- 9 to 12 June**
3rd International Congress on Culture and Development (Cuban Ministry of Culture, UNESCO, UNICEF, OEI, SELA).
La Habana, Cuba.
Information: patrim@min.cult.cu
- 18 to 20 June**
Europa Nostra, 40th Anniversary Congress: Common features of Europe's cultural identity: the role of heritage and civil society. Strasbourg, France (Council of Europe).
Information: www.europanostra.org, co@europanostra.org
- 29 June to 5 July**
27th session of the World Heritage Committee. Suzhou, China.
Information: n.dhumal@unesco.org

The World Heritage newsletter

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