

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTUREL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE
Ninth Ordinary Session
Unesco Headquarters, 2-6 December 1985

Inscription of the City of Cuzco and the Historic Sanctuary
of Machu Picchu on the World Heritage List

At its 9th session, the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee was informed of the contents of a letter from the Peruvian House of Representatives, dated 25th April 1985, which reproduced a declaration voted by this assembly subsequent to the inscription of the town of Cuzco and the historic sanctuary of Machu-Picchu on the World Heritage List. The Bureau requested that the letter be brought to the attention of the Committee. The text of the letter is given in the Annex to this document.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

Lima, 25 April 1985

To the Director-General of Unesco, Paris, France

Sir,

At yesterday's session, the Chamber of Deputies adopted the following motion :

The undersigned deputies, members of the Accion Popular Parliamentary Group,

CONSIDERING :

1. That the President of the Republic, Fernando Belaunde Terry, presented to the Mayor of Cuzco, Dr Daniel Estrada, at a public ceremony held on 2 April 1985, two certificates, sent by the Director-General of Unesco and by the Chairman of the World Heritage Committee, stating that the City of Cuzco and the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu had been included in the World Heritage List on 9 December 1983,
2. That these certificates were conferred on Cuzco and Machu Picchu by decision of the World Heritage Committee of Unesco, at its session held from 5 to 9 December 1983 in Florence, within the framework of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by the General Conference at its seventeenth session (Paris, 16 November 1972),
3. That both certificates specify that the World Heritage List identifies cultural and natural properties of outstanding universal value with a view to encouraging and supporting action undertaken to protect them for the benefit of humanity,
4. That the World Heritage Committee of Unesco, when deciding to place Cuzco and Machu Picchu on the World Heritage List, recommended that the protection of the Cuzco and Machu Picchu areas also comprise the neighbouring Inca villages and archaeological sites of the Urubamba Valley (implicitly including Pisac, Ollantaytambo, Vilcabamba and other archaeological parks of the Department of Cuzco), in accordance with a report drawn up by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs following the agreement reached by the Committee at its Florence session,
5. That Peru signed the instrument of accession to the above-mentioned Paris Convention on 5 October 1982, in conformity with Legislative Resolution n° 23349, adopted on the proposal of the Government of Fernando Belaunde Terry and promulgated on 21 December of that year,
6. That the inclusion of Cuzco and Machu Picchu in the World Heritage List was also brought about by the present Government, as a result of representations and vigorous efforts made since accession to the Paris Convention by the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the active participation of the then Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Peru to Unesco, Dr Luis Felipe Alarco, in constant collaboration with the parliamentary representatives of Cuzco,

7. That, as a result of the inclusion in the World Heritage List, Peru is entitled to request international assistance from the World Heritage Committee for the cultural property of outstanding value located in the City of Cuzco and the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu, in conformity with Articles 19-21 of the Paris Convention,

8. That, in accordance with Articles 22-26 of that Convention, the assistance of the World Heritage Committee may take the following forms :

- "(a) studies concerning the artistic, scientific and technical problems raised by the protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of the cultural and natural heritage, as defined in paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 11 of this Convention;
- (b) provision of experts, technicians and skilled labour to ensure that the approved work is correctly carried out;
- (c) training of staff and specialists at all levels in the field of identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of the cultural and natural heritage;
- (d) supply of equipment which the State concerned does not possess or is not in a position to acquire;
- (e) low-interest or interest-free loans which might be repayable on a long-term basis;
- (f) the granting, in exceptional cases and for special reasons, of non-repayable subsidies".

9. That, in response to the gracious decision of the World Heritage Committee, Law n° 23765 was drawn up, unanimously approved by the Legislative Chambers meeting on 15 December 1983 and promulgated by the Executive on 30 December of that year,

10. That it is stated in Law 23765 that "the city of Cuzco (including the Saqsaiwaman Archaeological Park and other archaeological sites of the Province of Cuzco) and the pre-Colombian sanctuary or archaeological park of Machu Picchu are the cultural heritage of the nation, in conformity with Article 36 of the Constitution and the Unesco Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,

11. That the said Law also designates as part of the cultural heritage of the nation the archaeological parks of Ollantaytambo, Pisac, Piquillaqta and Tipon and other archaeological sites and areas or historical property and movable objects of the Department of Cuzco classified as historical sites or monuments,

12. That, in accordance with the above, it is appropriate that the representatives of the nation express their satisfaction at the certificates awarded to Cuzco and Machu Picchu and at the same time urge that the Government continue to give priority to efforts to obtain the international assistance for which the Paris Convention makes provision, with particular reference to the project for the preservation of the historical site of the city of Cuzco, so that the problems affecting it may be overcome, in accordance with the studies carried out by the Departmental Development Corporation of Cuzco,

ACCORDINGLY:

Propose to the Chamber of Deputies the following motion :

THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES,

EXPRESSES its gratitude to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) and to the World Heritage Committee, for including the City of Cuzco and the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu in the World Heritage List, thereby giving them the status of part of the cultural heritage of humanity, as confirmed by the certificates issued under the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage referred to in Law n° 23765;

REITERATES its respects and congratulations to the people of Cuzco for this great honour;

CONGRATULATES the Executive for having initiated and completed the necessary procedures;

EXTENDS its congratulations to the officials who participated directly in those procedures, and more particularly the former Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Peru to Unesco, Dr Luis Felipe Alarco;

INVITES the Executive, as a matter of urgency, to take the necessary steps to obtain international assistance for Cuzco and Machu Picchu under the relevant provisions of the Unesco Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, giving priority to the project for the preservation of the historical site of the City of Cuzco.

Lima, 17 April 1985

(Signed) : Rodolfo Zamalloa Loaiza, Gilberto Muniz Caparo, Alfredo Callo Rodriguez, Valentin Paniagua Corazao, Sixto Bustamante Apaza.

We have the pleasure of bringing this document to your attention.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Ernesto Ocampo Melendez
Secretary to the
Chamber of Deputies

Flavio Paredes Flores
Under-Secretary and Librarian
to the Chamber of Deputies