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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

World Heritage Committee
Twelfth Session

(Brasilia, Brazil, 5-9 December 1988)

Item 13 of the Provisional Agenda: Nominations of Natural Sites to the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger

I. Nominations of Natural Properties to the World Heritage List

At its twelfth session, the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee examined seven nominations of natural properties, in the light of the evaluations of IUCN. The natural properties recommended for inscription, nominations to be deferred and the properties not recommended for inscription are listed under sections A, B and C, respectively.

A. Properties recommended for inscription on the World Heritage List

<u>Name of Property</u>	<u>Identification No.</u>	<u>Contracting State having submitted the nomination of the property in accordance with the Convention</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
<u>Wet Tropical Rainforests</u>	486	Australia	N(i),(ii), (iii),(iv)

The Bureau recommended that the Committee inscribe this property on the World Heritage List. The Bureau requested the Australian authorities to provide clarifications and further information on the following points:

- a) future management arrangements for the area. The Bureau noted that consultations were underway on the establishment of a joint Commonwealth/Queensland management authority to administer the site which were expected to be completed in September 1988;
- b) revision of the delimitation of the nominated area in order to make the nomination more coherent. The Bureau considered this revision was required in order to trim the boundaries to make the site a more manageable conservation unit, and to excise areas where human modification was judged unacceptable and to omit areas which did not contribute significant natural value;

c) land ownership by Aboriginal peoples and private citizens, and land uses for military training and others such as stock grazing and mining, as outlined in section 4 of the IUCN evaluation.

The Bureau furthermore recommended that the name of this property be reconsidered better to reflect the nature of the area. Finally, the Bureau urged the Australian authorities to pursue a public awareness campaign to promote greater understanding of the aims of the Convention and to generate increased support for the nominated site.

The Australian authorities have provided, via their letter and attachments dated 30 September 1988, a detailed report on the information and clarifications sought by the Bureau. This report was transmitted to IUCN on 3 October 1988. A revised evaluation of this site, has been prepared by IUCN.

<u>Parc national du</u>	475	Central African	N(ii)(iv)
<u>Manovo-Gounda</u>		Republic	
<u>St. Floris</u>			

The Bureau recognized that this property had the potential to meet two of the natural World Heritage criteria but that at the present time, the conditions of integrity were not fulfilled, notably due to activities which conflict with the conservation objectives such as grazing, poaching and hunting by a concession. The Bureau noted, however, that the Central African Republic authorities were fully committed to improve the protection of this site and that a ten-year project funded by the EEC/FED at a cost of \$27 million was just starting which would improve anti-poaching measures, access to the park and also develop research and basic infrastructure (provision of housing and staff). The Bureau encouraged the Central African Republic authorities to implement this project and requested that once it began to show results, they provide a progress report which would be submitted to the Committee. The Committee would then be in a position to follow the Bureau's recommendation to inscribe this site on the World Heritage List.

<u>Nanda Devi National Park</u>	335	India	N(iii),(iv)
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The Bureau recommended that this site be inscribed on the World Heritage List. The Bureau requested the Indian authorities to provide further information on the following points:

- a) the present status of the management plan;
- b) the frequency and the extent of patrolling within the "Inner Sanctuary";
- c) the future policy regarding provision for tourism, which should not detract from the wilderness qualities of the site;
- d) the present status of wildlife populations, particularly the large mammals such as the blue sheep, for which preparatory assistance could be provided under the World Heritage Fund.

By letter of 11 October 1988, the Permanent Delegation of India provided the following information on the above points:

- "a) The management plan of Nanda Devi National Park has not been prepared so far.
- b) Intensive patrolling is done in accessible areas within the inner sanctuary of the park.
- c) There is no proposal for development of tourism within the park area at present.
- d) No census of wildlife population has been done so far except for panthers which was done in 1984. The question of approaching World Heritage Fund for assistance in

implementing any technical project for the development of the park will be considered after the park has been included in the World Heritage List."

Sinharaja Forest Reserve 405 Sri Lanka N(ii),(iv)

The Bureau recalled that at its sixth session in 1982, this nomination had been deferred due to inadequate legislative protection although it was recognised that the site had the potential to meet criteria (ii) and (iv). The Bureau noted that the required legislation, the National Wilderness Heritage Act, had recently been passed in Sri Lanka but that the Sinharaja Forest Reserve had not yet come under the provisions of this Act. In the event that this legal matter was resolved by the time of the Committee session in December 1988, the Bureau recommended that the Committee inscribe this site on the World Heritage List.

Henderson Island 487 United Kingdom N(iii),(iv)

The Bureau recommended that this site be inscribed on the World Heritage List. The Bureau requested that the British authorities provide a description of the extent of the marine boundaries of the nominated site. The Bureau also wished to encourage the British authorities to:

- a) work with the Pitcairn islanders to ensure on-site protection;
- b) review the legal status of the island and consider up-grading this status to a nature reserve and prepare a management plan for the site;
- c) consider more involvement in the strengthening the protection of the site within the framework of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme and the Convention on the Protection of Natural Resources in the South Pacific and the Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific.

By letter of 11 October 1988, the British authorities informed the Secretariat that recommendations a) and b) had been conveyed to the Governor of Pitcairn Island for his careful consideration. With regard to c), the United Kingdom had signed the Convention for the protection of the National Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region on 16 July 1988. As concerns the extent of the marine boundaries, Henderson Island has a 3-mile territorial sea but the nomination is restricted to the Island itself.

B. Nominations deferred by the Bureau

Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve and adjacent forests 494 Madagascar

The Bureau welcomed this nomination which had the potential to meet criteria for inscription on the World Heritage List. However, the Bureau requested the Malagasy authorities and particularly the "Departement des Eaux et Forets" to revise the nomination to focus primarily on the Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve and to provide further information on the precise limits of the site and the status of the natural resources of the reserve. The Bureau also wished to encourage the Malagasy authorities in their efforts to strengthen the protection of the site and to draw up a management plan, for which preparatory assistance could be provided under the World Heritage Fund.

C. Properties not recommended for inscription on the World Heritage List

Hortobagy National Park Hungary

The Bureau noted that this site is of national and regional importance and has been designated under the Ramsar Wetland Convention as well as a biosphere reserve under

Unesco's Man and the Biosphere Programme. The Bureau was of the opinion however that the site did not meet the criteria for inscription on the World Heritage List.

II. List of World Heritage in Danger

The Bureau, on the basis of an oral report provided by the representative of IUCN, recommended that the procedures for removing from the List of World Heritage in Danger, Djoudj National Park (Senegal) and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (Tanzania) be initiated. Letters, dated 12th and 28th of July 1988 were sent to the authorities in Tanzania and Senegal, respectively, informing these States Parties of the recommendations of the Bureau .

For Djoudj National Park, the Director, Department of National Parks, Senegal in his letter of 31st August 1988 had confirmed the positive developments in the status of conservation of the Djoudj National Park and requested that the World Heritage Committee consider removing this site from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

For Ngorongoro Conservation Area, the authorities in Tanzania have requested, by letter of 27 September 1988, that, due to the continuous problem of poaching, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area should not be removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger. A request for technical cooperation has been submitted at the same time as this response.

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