Item 12 of the Provisional Agenda: Requests for international assistance

A. NATURAL HERITAGE

TRAINING

The Bureau at its eighteenth session in December 1994 considered eight requests for supporting the training of natural heritage specialists. The Bureau worked on the assumption that the training budget for 1995 will be at the same level as that of 1994 and gave priority to supporting training activities in Africa and in less developed countries.

Out of the eight requests examined, all but one were approved by the Bureau. Due to budgetary constraints, the Bureau did not approve the sum of US$20,000 requested by the organizers of a training seminar on protected area management in Europe. The Bureau urged that the organizers raise the funds needed through alternative sources in Europe.

The summary descriptions of the training activities examined by the Bureau and its decisions/recommendations are contained in the Bureau Report working document WHC-94/CONF.003/13.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION

The Bureau considered the rapid growth in the demand for
technical cooperation funds and recommended that in the future, at least one third of the annual budget for technical co-operation be targetted towards natural World Heritage sites. Out of the four requests for technical cooperation for strengthening management of natural World Heritage sites, the sum of US$19,000 for the Srebarna Nature Reserve (Bulgaria) was approved. The Bureau requested that the US$30,000 request for developing a system of trails in the Kilimanjaro National Park (Tanzania) be reformulated to consider the more urgent priorities for a new management plan for the Park.

The two requests from Indonesia, indicated below were recommended for approval by the Committee.

A.1 Ujong Kulon National Park (INDONESIA)

Background: The site was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1991. US$ 20,000 were granted in 1994 by the World Heritage Fund to establish a guard post and staff presence in the eastern sector of the Park. This activity has been completed.

Indonesia is up to date with its dues to the World Heritage Fund.

Description of the request: The project is being developed with the advice of UNESCO's Regional Field Science Office in Indonesia and the assistance of a technical adviser for the Government of New Zealand, who has been working on the project. The present proposal involves the establishment of a water system to supply the needs of two villages (Cibadak/Cimanggu). The project, based on an earlier technical analysis by New Zealand, will provide for the development of: (a) safe drinking water supply; (b) irrigation for rice paddies and (c) freshwater for fish ponds. The Park authority and local people have agreed to sign an agreement which will lead to reduced pressure on the Park from (i) resource extraction; (ii) shifting cultivation within the Park; (iii) hunting for protein. Its estimated cost is US$50,000 and should be completed in July 1995.

National and other contributions: The Directorate of Nature Protection, Department of Forestry and WWF-Indonesia will provide technical and management staff for project implementation. In addition, the Government is committed to the staff and operational costs for the Park. Detailed project costs are not yet available but will be developed by Indonesian authorities as material and labour costs are calculated prior to the preparation of the contract.

Amount requested from the Fund: The amount requested from the Fund is US$50,000

Action: The Bureau recommends to the Committee, the approval of this request for an amount of US$ 40,000.
A.2 Komodo National Park (Indonesia)

**Background:** Komodo National Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1991. In 1994 the site received US$ 49,500 for equipment (a patrol boat), staff training and a rural appraisal project. The patrol boat has assisted considerably in reducing coral blasting, wardens have been trained as qualified divers and consensus techniques. The project has been completed except for a report on the rural appraisal exercise which is expected in November. Visitors to the site have increased from 17,000 in 1992 to 22,000 in 1993. Indonesia has paid its dues to the World Heritage Fund.

**Description of the request:** The project aims to continue the project carried out in 1994 by further strengthening the Park infrastructure and improving visitor service facilities. The breakdown of the project is as follows:

- (a) additional patrol boat: US$ 22,900
- (b) renovation of information centres: US$ 9,400
- (c) repair and extension of the jetty at Loh Liang: US$ 3,750
- (d) purchase of a boat trailer: US$ 2,400
- (e) procurement of GPS/GIS equipment: US$ 19,000
- (f) training programme for professional wood carvers: US$ 6,000

National and other contributions: The Government provides US$ 255,000 for staff and operational costs in the Park.

**Action:** The Bureau recommends to the Committee the approval for the amount of US$40,000 for (a) and (e) above.

B. CULTURAL HERITAGE TRAINING

The Bureau at its eighteenth session in December 1994 examined the total of eleven requests, five submitted by ICCROM and six by State Parties, for training activities related to cultural properties, the sum total of which exceeded US$ 1 million. While welcoming the considerable increase in training requests which indicate the growing realization by the State Parties of the need to enhance the capacity of human resources for the protection and preservation of cultural properties, the limited financial resources of the World Heritage Fund required the Bureau to give
priority to requests submitted by developing countries benefiting in particular, the site managers. In accordance with the previous decisions by the Committee, training activities in situ, as well as those addressing the specific national, sub-regional and regional needs were given preference over the provision of "regular contribution to annual courses" organized at the headquarters of training institutions.

Four requests benefiting cultural properties, for amounts under US$30,000 each were approved by the Bureau session in December 1994, while four other requests could not be approved by the Bureau for reasons of budgetary constraints, the details of which are provided for the record, in the Bureau Report working document WHC-94/CONF.003/13.

The Bureau, moreover, recommended three other requests exceeding the sum of US$30,000 each, for approval by the Committee. The summary descriptions of these are provided below.

B.1. ICCROM/CRATerre (International Centre for Earthen Constructions) : Training for a professional team; and a craftsmen-technician team for the restoration and maintenance of the Palaces of Abomey, Benin.

Background: The Palaces of Abomey are inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. The Heritage Directorate of Benin, in cooperation with ICCROM, launched a restoration and maintenance project for the Palaces of Ghezo and Glélé (US$ 258,600). This project will only be valid if the nationals, architects by profession, receive specialized training required to carry out interventions with earthen structures. After having acquired the necessary knowledge, they will be able to direct the team of craftsmen who will implement the restoration programme for the structures and ensure their maintenance.

Description of the project: The training of the architects comprises three stages:

1. Participation by 2 Benin architects working at the Heritage Directorate at specialized sessions on earthen constructions given by CRATerre in Grenoble, and in Rome by ICCROM.

2. Participation in courses on new computer techniques on the management of the state of the structures.

3. Training in Grenoble of a laboratory technician able to perform autonomously the necessary analyses prior to all interventions.
The training programme for the craftsmen comprises three stages:
1. Elaboration of a specialized pedagogical programme.
2. Elaboration of appropriate didactic equipment.
3. The two-week course, to be given to 20 craftsmen-technicians working on the site of Abomey. The professional team will be composed of 2 instructors from CRATerre and 2 Benin architects having previously attended the CRATerre course in Grenoble.

Amount requested from the Fund: US$ 44,000
- Amount covered by ICCROM and the Italian Government US$ 96,690

Action: The Bureau, upon evaluating this request recommends the Committee to approve the allocation of the amount of US$ 33,000.

B.2 Regional Training Course of Maghreb Architects for the Conservation and Protection of Cultural Monuments and Sites (1994 and 1995, Tunisia)

Background: In June 1993, the Maghreb Ministers of Culture of the five countries concerned adopted the principle of a regional training course for architectural conservation, and requested the National Heritage Institute of Tunisia to ensure its implementation.

US$ 15,000 for Preparatory assistance was granted in 1993 from the World Heritage Fund, and the Committee approved in December 1994 an additional US$50,000 for the implementation of the first year of this two-year course in 1994.

Tunisia has paid its dues to the World Heritage Fund.

Description of the request: This two-year (1994-1995) post university course, for about twenty graduates from the region, is organized by the National Heritage Institute of Tunisia in close pedagogical and technical collaboration with ICCROM and ICOMOS. The course aims at training highly specialized architects capable of preserving and prolonging Maghrebian cultural life in all its historical and cultural forms, including historical (Greco-Roman, Turkish and Spanish) as well as modern (Italian and French)
influences. Special emphasis is given to the study of properties, parks, buildings and historical centres in a context of urban development and integrated rurality. This course was planned and organized in close collaboration with similar courses already being given in Europe, and particularly in Madrid (Spain).

a) The teaching body (approximately thirty persons over a period of two years, chosen with ICCROM) is composed of Tunisian and international specialists for the fields not represented in Tunisia.

b) The programme established with ICCROM covers two university years (one semester per year, in 1994 and 1995) in Tunis (INP) and in different training areas with:

- one year of courses and seminars (30 hours x 25 weeks);
- one year of personal supervised studies adapted to the specific needs of each student, and resulting in the presentation of a thesis;
- internships in field work and research programmes of the Heritage Institute, particularly in Carthage and the Medina of Tunis, sites inscribed on the World Heritage List;
- the subjects taught especially concern art history and intervention policies, documentation and methods of analysis, technical diagnosing and intervention, the built and natural environment, the various aspects of management, especially those of tourism and legislation for protection, as well as training in research methods and the preparation of a thesis;
- at the end of these two years, the student will receive a certificate or diploma allowing him/her to enroll for the Tunisian state examination for the recruitment of architects of historical monuments.

c) About twenty candidates are recruited, half of them Tunisian and the others from countries of the Maghreb, selected every two years amongst the holders of a degree in architecture and with a minimum of two years' experience. The selection is made in accordance with the profiles and after interviews with the candidates.

d) This course, which will be repeated, is in the first instance aimed at architects of the Maghreb countries but could afterwards be extended to other Arab and Islamic countries.

Amount requested under the Fund: US$50,000
- Pedagogical management:
  indemnities of the Director  
  US$ 5,000

- Remuneration of the architect coordinator
  (US$ 3,000 x 12 months)  
  US$36,000

- Travel, living expenses and professional fees
  of 5 non-Tunisian teachers
  for five days each  
  US$ 9,000

**Other contributions:**

- Tunisia:
  US$ 148,000 (professional fees for Tunisian teachers and logistics of the course in Tunis: buildings, office facilities, general expenses, secretariat...);  

- Bilateral Tunisian-Italian cooperation:
  US$ 53,000 for 1994;

- Bilateral Tunisian-French cooperation:
  500,000 FFR. (approximately US$90,000) for the period 1994-1996, to cover part of the costs of the French experts, equipment and documentation;

- UNESCO Regular programme:
  US$ 25,000 for travel and scholarships of the students were financed by the Sector of Culture under the 1994-1995 biennium, in 1994.

- The Getty Grant Programme
  approved US$120,000 for the period 1994-1996 to cover several scholarships for non-Tunisians and course expenses.

**Action:** The Bureau recommends the Committee to approve this request of US$ 50,000 for 1995.
B.3 Regional Meeting of Directors of Cultural Offices in Latin America and the Caribbean (April 1995, Cartagena, Colombia)

Background: Latin American and Caribbean countries have shared similar historic development recognizable in the similitude of their pre-Hispanic, Colonial, Republican and contemporary structures. Today, they share the problems related to recovering, valuing and preserving this heritage. The meeting of those responsible for managing the region's cultural heritage is therefore indispensable to provide a forum to share experiences and difficulties and to develop joint policies and projects.

Description of the request: A three-day meeting to be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia from 25-27 April 1995 aims to gather some 30 international and national experts in cultural site management. The meeting will provide a training opportunity centred on the following objectives:

- to promote the principles of the World Heritage Convention relevant to the heritage of Latin America and the Caribbean;
- to make a comparative analysis of the preliminary lists of these properties in the Latin American and Caribbean region for nomination on the World Heritage List;
- to establish policies for the management and development of the region's heritage;
- to share experiences and propose common projects to preserve the cultural and natural heritage of the region.

Themes, issues and problems to be discussed in particular are:

- The World Heritage List
- Monitoring of cultural properties
- The World Heritage Fund
- Cultural landscapes
- Archaeological sites in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Historic centres in the region
- Monuments in the region

Participants foreseen are: the Directors of the Cultural Heritage Offices of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Peru, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela, in addition to resource persons and experts from the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, ICOMOS, international experts in historic centres, archaeological heritage and other international and national experts of the region.
Amount requested under the Fund: US$45,000
National contribution (COLCULTURA): US$26,419
Other organizations: US$16,561

Action: The Bureau, upon examining this request suggested that the Colombian authorities may wish to focus the scope of this meeting, both in terms of the theme and geographical coverage. The Latin America and the Caribbean region being both vast and diverse in spite of many similitudes and shared heritage, it was felt that the training objectives could perhaps be better achieved at a sub-regional level. The Bureau therefore recommends the Committee to approve a provision for US$45,000 to be allocated at a later date from budgetary appropriations other than training which may be available upon the approval of the 1995 budget.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION REQUESTS

The Bureau at its eighteenth session in December 1994 examined ten technical co-operation requests for cultural properties, two submitted by ICCROM and eight by State Parties. Noting the increasing number of threats to the preservation of the World Heritage cultural sites and the complexities in both the prevention and mitigation of such threats, the Bureau emphasized the necessity of an interdisciplinary approach, especially in the preparation of and updating of a management plan of the sites. In view of the many requests and the need to allocate adequate resources to ensure the attainment of the desired impact of any given technical co-operation activity, the Bureau decided to give preference to those requests with catalytic affect as well as to those addressing cultural properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Out of the ten requests, three requests below the amount of US$30,000 were approved by the Bureau while two, deemed to be of lesser priority were not recommended for approval, the details of which are provided in the Bureau Report working document WHC-94/CONF.003/13. The five requests presented below are recommended by the Bureau for approval by the Committee.

B.4 Old City of Dubrovnik (Croatia)

Background: The site was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979, and since 1991 has been on the World Heritage in Danger List.

The site has so far received the following assistance from the World Heritage Fund: 1992 - 19,000 US$, 1993 - 30,000 US$
The present request concerns the launching of the second phase of rehabilitation programmes in Dubrovnik, including improved coordination of restoration work and support for the establishment of a documentation centre.

The Croatian authorities have submitted a report on the state of conservation of this World Heritage in Danger site, and on the work of reconstruction which has been undertaken since the tragic events of 1991/1992 when the city was bombed.

Croatia has paid its dues for 1994 to the World Heritage Fund.

**Description of the request:** The project should provide support to the establishment of a co-ordinating unit in Dubrovnik, whose tasks would be to organize, manage and monitor restoration activities in the Old City. Such an office would, inter alia, a) serve as a clearing-house for local, national and international authorities; b) function as a documentation centre for reconstruction activities, creating the necessary databases; c) mediate between local institutions and international organizations in identifying training needs for experts, students and craftsmen; d) organize promotional activities; e) assist in the elaboration of a high quality tourism development plan.

The estimated cost of the project is US$ 250,000.

**National and other contributions:** The City of Dubrovnik will provide the premises for the co-ordination office and documentation centre. The Croatian National Commission will provide one permanent professional staff qualified in cultural heritage conservation, for at least 6 months a year, as well as the basic equipment (PC, printer, fax, photcopying machine, etc.). The City of Dubrovnik will provide one staff for the documentation centre. Additional funds for office equipment may be contributed by a German donor through the German National Commission for UNESCO.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** US$ 50,000 for, inter alia,

- a) equipment for the documentation centre;
- b) expertise for the development of a tourism development plan;
- c) promotional and educational material and activities on World Heritage in Dubrovnik.

**Action:** The Bureau recommends the Committee to approve this request for the full amount of US$ 50,000.
B.5 Wieliczka Salt Mine (Poland)

Background: The Wieliczka Salt Mine, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1978, and on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1989, is a massive underground complex, with some 2,000 chambers and 300 km of corridors, from which 7.5 million cubic meters of salt have been removed during 700 years of excavation. Relief carvings in the rock salt walls, life-size sculptures, and well-preserved equipment of mining and medieval times attract as many as 5,000 visitors per day. Annually about 150,000 cub.m. of salt brine is pumped from the site to control ground water intrusion and 20,000 to 30,000 cub.m. of sand slurry are backfilled in lower levels to stabilize the formation. The site's function today is primarily a cultural one; its salt is extracted only as a by-product of the site-conservation activities.

Description of the request: In view of the severe degradation by dissolution of the earliest salt sculptures, due to too much moisture brought in by current air ventilation, the Maria Sklodowska-Curie Joint Fund II, under the auspices of the US-Polish Joint Commission, funded in 1992 an environmental monitoring effort to determine the causes of the site's deterioration. In 1993, the World Heritage Fund provided supplementary support for a technical seminar at which United States and Polish experts evaluated the data and prepared recommendations for long-term conservation of the sculptures. As a result, the present request aims at executing the recommended conservation strategy, i.e., to cool and dehumidify air entering the mine during summer, using a commercially available air-conditioning system which would be mounted next to the entrance building.

The estimated cost for equipment, shipping costs and operator training is US$ 170,000; the installation of the system would cost US$ 65,000 and the microclimate monitoring US$ 25,000. Altogether, the estimate amounts to US$ 260,000.

National contribution: The Polish Government is spending this year approximately 8 million dollars for maintenance and conservation of the mine. The Marie Curie Fund is providing US$ 70,000 and an additional US$ 25,000 have been requested from this Fund (for microclimate monitoring of treatment efficacy).

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: The amount of US$ 100,000 is requested from the Fund.

Action: The Bureau recommends to the Committee the approval of this request for the amount of US$ 100,000.

B.6 Kathmandu Valley (Nepal)

Background: The Kathmandu Valley World Heritage site is composed of seven Monument Zones (Kathmandu Darbar Square, Patan
Darbar Square, Bhaktapur Darbar Square, Swayambhu, Baudhanath, Pashupati, and Changu Narayan) which together represent the array of historic and artistic achievements of the inhabitants of this Valley. Inscribed on the World Heritage List by decision of the third session of the World Heritage Committee on 26 October 1979, the inscription of this cultural site was approved on the basis of cultural criteria (iii), (iv), and (vi).

Management policies and national legislations to ensure the protection of this World Heritage Site are in the process of being reviewed in view of the increasing encroachment of tourism facilities, other commercial activities and expansion of various physical infrastructure for modern services, posing further challenge to the efforts of the national cultural authorities to maintain the integrity of the large and complex site.

Description of the project: This technical co-operation project is centred on the presence of a resident expert as an International Technical Advisor for a period of 6 months to assist the Department of Archaeology and other concerned authorities to investigate, promote and develop the effective implementation of national legislations and regulations pertaining to the preservation and presentation of the Kathmandu Valley in accordance with the World Heritage Convention and its Operational Guidelines. The need for a resident International Technical Advisor (ITA) has been the subject of numerous discussions between representatives of the Nepali Government, UNESCO and ICOMOS, and within the context of the Committee's debate on the possibility of placing the Kathmandu Valley on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The expected outcome upon the termination of the 6-month period would be a written report on the state of conservation, containing: (a) review on the progress of the UNESCO/ICOMOS 16-point recommendations, (b) draft text on further amendments to the national legislations and regulations, as well as the management structure related to the preservation of Kathmandu Valley as a World Heritage Site, (c) a package of draft project documents prepared in either the standard UNDP-format or UNESCO Funds-in-Trust format, addressing activities that may require international co-operation as recommended by the eighteenth session of the Bureau, and (d) a written report on the state of conservation, illustrated by relevant photographs, drawings, maps and other documentation.

The estimated total cost of this 6-month project activities is US$ 62,500.

National contribution: The national contribution will be for US$ 10,000 for local expenses.

Amount requested from the Fund: US$ 52,500 (for consultant fees, daily subsistence allowance, international and local
transport, international communications cost, reporting and documentation cost).

**Action:** The Bureau recommends the Committee to approve this request for the full amount of US$ 52,000 in view of the critical state of conservation of this site which has been the focus of considerable debate at the seventeenth session of the Committee as well as the eighteenth session of the Bureau.

**B.7 The Complex of the Hue Monuments (Vietnam)**

**Background:** The World Heritage Hue Cultural Complex is composed of a total of 845 buildings in eight locations, of which the Royal Citadel including the Imperial City and the Forbidden Purple City comprises 447 buildings, while the seven Royal Mausoleums scattered throughout the valley of the Perfume River contains a total of 372 buildings. The majority of the buildings are built entirely or substantially of wood, much of it intricately carved and elaborately lacquered. The care of such buildings and their precious works of art, considerably damaged owing to the long period of neglect during the war and under adverse climatic conditions, require considerable conservation skills and laboratory equipment. Although a conservation laboratory was established 12 years ago within the Hue Conservation Centre, lack of trained personnel and equipment has hampered its effective functioning. Vietnam has no arrears with the World Heritage Fund.

**Description of project:** This request, therefore aims to address these problems through the purchase of new laboratory equipment, followed by on-the-job training activities. Two international experts are foreseen to undertake a two-month mission each for training of national trainers through actual conservation work to be undertaken during this period.

**National contribution:** US$ 6,040 out of a total estimated cost of US$ 114,530: however, the Vietnamese authorities shall be providing the backstopping to the project: operating costs, salaries, maintenance, etc. of the conservation laboratory.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** US$ 108,490 to meet the cost of laboratory equipment purchase (US$ 72,700); fees, travel and per diem costs of the two international consultants for the joint total of 4 work/months and publications cost.

**Action:** Given the impressive record of national efforts and achievements made in the preservation of this World Heritage Site, despite very limited international technical and financial cooperation received by Vietnam, and in view of the crucial need for substantive investment to overcome the present impasse, the Bureau recommends to the Committee, approval of this project for an amount
of US$108,000. The Bureau also recommends that the Committee requests the Vietnamese authorities to clear with the World Heritage Centre, the list of equipment, and the cost estimate (proforma invoice); as well as the selection of the international experts.

B.8 Historic Areas of Istanbul (Turkey)  
(Restoration of the mosaics of Hagia-Sophia)

Background: The mosaics of the Byzantine Church of Hagia-Sophia (Sainte-Sophie), are suffering from heavy degradation. Turkey has already received support from the World Heritage Fund as follows:

- US$ 30,000 approved in 1992

Turkey has no arrears with the World Heritage Fund.

Description of the Project for 1995: The breakdown for the sum of US$ 80,000 requested for the continuation of the work in 1995 is as follows: continuation of photogrammetric studies = US$ 10,000; purchase of material and equipment for restoration and conservation work = US$ 10,000; travel, remuneration and per diem for 8 high-level international experts for 40 days = US$60,000).

National contribution: In kind.

The Turkish authorities responsible for the conservation of cultural heritage, the Central Istanbul Laboratory for Conservation and Restoration, as well as the University of the Bosphorus, collaborate on this project, notably for the photogrammetric recordings of the dome, the analysis of the materials used, the study of structural stability problems of the building, and the exploration of the inner layers of the walls by seismic topography.

Action: The Bureau recommends the Committee to approve this request for the amount of $80,000 to complete the final phase of this restoration project.