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**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL  
ORGANIZATION**

**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD  
CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

**30th Anniversary  
(1972-2002)**

**WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

**Twenty-sixth session**

**Budapest, Hungary  
24 - 29 June 2002**

**DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE 26th SESSION OF  
THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

This is the report adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 26th session. Summary Records of the discussions will be available as an information document (WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.15).

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## 1 OPENING SESSION

The 26th session of the World Heritage Committee was opened on 24 June 2002 in Budapest, Hungary by Dr Henrik Lilius (Finland), Chairperson. The 21 members of the Committee attended the session: Argentina, Belgium, China, Colombia, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Hungary, India, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Oman, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, South Africa, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zimbabwe.

60 States Parties to the World Heritage Convention who are not members of the Committee were represented as observers: Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, France, Gambia, Germany, Grenada, Holy See, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Yemen and Yugoslavia. The Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to UNESCO also participated at this session as an observer.

Representatives of the Advisory Bodies to the Committee, namely the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of the Cultural Property (ICCROM), the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) also attended the meeting.

### **26 COM 1** The World Heritage Committee,

Accepts the presence of the following international governmental organizations (IGOs), international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at the session:

- Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO)
- Bird Life International
- International Council of Museums (ICOM)
- Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)
- Mihai Eminescu Trust
- Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF)
- Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)
- Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC)
- Simon Wiesenthal Centre
- United Nations Foundation (UNF)
- World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (FMACU)

The List of Participants is included as Annex I to this document.

## **2 REPORTS ON 30 YEARS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

**26 COM 2** The World Heritage Committee,

Decides, with regret, not to open this item of the agenda in view of the time constraints.

## **3 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND TIMETABLE**

*Documents:* WHC-02/CONF.202/1 Rev.3  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.1 Rev.2

**26 COM 3.1** The World Heritage Committee decides:

1. To restrict the discussion on item 19 "Revision of the Rules of Procedure" on ways to proceed in order to facilitate decision making on this agenda item at its 27th<sup>1</sup> session;
2. To postpone the discussion on item 7 "Report of the Secretariat" until later in the week in order to allow delegations further time to examine the document<sup>2</sup>.

**26 COM 3.2** The World Heritage Committee,

Establishes the following working method for the adoption of its Report (based on the procedures of the Executive Board of UNESCO):

1. The Report to be adopted by the Committee shall consist of a complete set of decisions taken at its session. The text of each decision shall be adopted when the item is discussed, to the extent possible;
2. The Summary Records of the discussions held in the plenary session shall be circulated separately from the Report and will be provided to the Committee as an information document.

**26 COM 3.3** The World Heritage Committee,

Adopts the working method, as established in **26 COM 3.2**, at its present session on an experimental basis, with the understanding that:

1. The Report and the Summary Records shall be submitted simultaneously, in so far as possible, the first for adoption, and the latter for information;
2. The Report (compilation of decisions) adopted by the Committee during this session shall be published not later than one month after its close;

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with decision **26 COM 26**, this item is included in the agenda of the extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee in March 2003.

<sup>2</sup> In accordance with decision **26 COM 27**, this item is included in the agenda of the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee in June/July 2003.

3. A completed draft text of the Summary Records shall be submitted to members of the Committee, observers and Advisory Bodies for correction of their own statements. The revised text of the Summary Records shall be published not later than three months after the close of the session;
4. The above-mentioned procedure is to be applied for this session pending a full discussion on the revision of the Rules of Procedure and working methods.

#### **4 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSONS AND RAPPORTEUR**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.3*

**26 COM 4** The World Heritage Committee,

Elects Mr Tamás Fejérdy (Hungary) as Chairperson and Ms Bénédicte Selfslagh (Belgium) as Rapporteur. The following Committee members are elected as Vice-Chairpersons: China, Egypt, Greece, Mexico and South Africa.

#### **5 REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR ON THE 26TH SESSION OF THE BUREAU OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/2*

**26 COM 5** The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the Report of the Rapporteur of the 26th session of the Bureau.

#### **6 PROTECTION OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/3;  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.16*

**26 COM 6.1** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Recalling all the United Nations resolutions related to the conflict and in particular Resolutions 1397, 1402 and 1403 of the Security Council of the United Nations, the Resolution 53/27 of the General Assembly on Bethlehem-2000 and the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention (1949) and its additional Protocols;
2. Noting the provisions of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The Hague, 1954) and other relevant international legal instruments;
3. Taking note of the Executive Board decision taken at its 164th session (164EX/3.1.1);
4. Deplores the destruction and damage caused to the cultural heritage of Palestine;

5. Emphasizing the exceptional universal value of cultural heritage in Palestine;
6. Considers that, until the conditions for the inscription of this heritage on the World Heritage List are fulfilled, appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure its protection;
7. Invites the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, to assist with the task of establishing an inventory of this cultural and natural heritage, assessing state of conservation and the measures for its preservation and rehabilitation;
8. Further decides to provide financial support for the implementation of this task and that part of this contribution should be used for training and capacity building of Palestinians specialists in the field of preservation and safeguarding of cultural and natural heritage;
9. Appeals to the concerned parties to co-operate with the Director-General in his efforts in the protection of the cultural and natural heritage in Palestine;
- 10 Invites the Director-General to report on the execution of this decision during the 27th session of the Committee in 2003.

**26 COM 6.2**      The World Heritage Committee,

Requests the Director-General, as a consequence of decision **26 COM 6.1**, to seek additional resources to complement the contribution from the World Heritage Fund, with a view to launching the first phase of the plan of action before the end of 2002, and to strengthen its operational phase in the following year<sup>3</sup>.

**26 COM 6.3**      The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the declarations made by the Observers of Palestine and Israel after the adoption of decisions **26 COM 6.1** and **26 COM 6.2** and decides to include them *in extenso* in the Summary Records.

**7**      **REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT ON THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN SINCE THE 25TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**  
*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.6*

**26 COM 7**      The World Heritage Committee,

Decides, in view of the time constraints to defer the discussion of this item until the next ordinary session of the World Heritage Committee in 2003.

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<sup>3</sup> See also decision **26 COM 24.2.5**.

**8 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/4*

**26 COM 8.1** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Endorses the objectives of the International Congress entitled *World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility*;
2. Thanks the Italian Government for offering to host and participate in the funding of the Congress;
3. Authorizes the use of the World Heritage Emblem for the Congress;
4. Invites the Director-General, when the auspices of the World Heritage Committee and the World Heritage Emblem are requested for an international conference or congress, to submit the concept and the draft programme to the Committee for its approval.

**26 COM 8.2** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the proposed programme of activities co-organized or supported by UNESCO in the framework of the 30th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention;
2. Encourages States Parties to develop and implement activities to promote the Anniversary and to communicate the outcomes of these activities to the Centre for transmission to the Committee.

**26 COM 8.3** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the proposal to publish a work on 30 years of implementation of the World Heritage Convention;
2. Encourages the World Heritage Centre to develop a work plan for this publication in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies;
3. Requests the World Heritage Centre to apply high-quality control standards for the preparation of the publication;
4. Invites the World Heritage Centre to identify possible extrabudgetary funding sources for the publication.



## 9 BUDAPEST DECLARATION ON WORLD HERITAGE

Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/5

### 26 COM 9 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Noting that in 2002, United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, the World Heritage Committee celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 1972;
2. Considering that in 30 years, the Convention has proven to be a unique instrument of international co-operation in the protection of cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value;
3. Adopts the Budapest Declaration on World Heritage as follows:

#### BUDAPEST DECLARATION ON WORLD HERITAGE

1. *We, the members of the World Heritage Committee, recognize the universality of the 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the consequent need to ensure that it applies to heritage in all its diversity, as an instrument for the sustainable development of all societies through dialogue and mutual understanding;*
2. *The properties on the World Heritage List are assets held in trust to pass on to generations of the future as their rightful inheritance;*
3. *In view of the increasing challenges to our shared heritage, we will:*
  - (a) **encourage** countries that have not yet joined the Convention to do so at the earliest opportunity, as well as join other related international heritage protection instruments;
  - (b) **invite** States Parties to the Convention to identify and nominate cultural and natural heritage properties representing heritage in all its diversity, for inclusion on the World Heritage List;
  - (c) **seek to ensure** an appropriate and equitable balance between conservation, sustainability and development, so that World Heritage properties can be protected through appropriate activities contributing to the social and economic development and the quality of life of our communities;
  - (d) **join to co-operate** in the protection of heritage, recognizing that to harm such heritage is to harm, at the same time, the human spirit and the world's inheritance;
  - (e) **promote** World Heritage through communication, education, research, training and public awareness strategies;

(f) *seek to ensure the active involvement of our local communities at all levels in the identification, protection and management of our World Heritage properties;*

4. *We, the World Heritage Committee, will co-operate and seek the assistance of all partners for the support of World Heritage. For this purpose, we invite all interested parties to co-operate and to promote the following objectives:*

(a) *strengthen the **Credibility of the World Heritage List**, as a representative and geographically balanced testimony of cultural and natural properties of outstanding universal value;*

(b) *ensure the effective **Conservation of World Heritage properties**;*

(c) *promote the development of effective **Capacity-building measures**, including assistance for preparing the nomination of properties to the World Heritage List, for the understanding and implementation of the World Heritage Convention and related instruments;*

(d) *increase **public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through Communication**.*

5. *We will evaluate, at our 31st session in 2007, the achievements made in the pursuit of the above mentioned objectives and in support of this commitment.*

*Budapest, 28 June 2002*

## **10 OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS WITH REFORMS AND STRATEGIC REFLECTION**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.206/6*

**26 COM 10** The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the overview of progress made with reforms and strategic reflection.

## **11 WAYS AND MEANS TO REINFORCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/7 Rev<sup>4</sup>*

**26 COM 11** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of document WHC-02/CONF.202/7 to be amended as requested by the Committee before it is given public access;

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<sup>4</sup> As amended by decision **26 COM 11**.

2. Recalls the decision of the 164th session of the Executive Board on the establishment of a working group to explore and examine ways and means of creating necessary conditions for prevention of the intentional destruction of culturally important monuments and sites (164 EX/48 and 164 EX/51);
3. Invites the Director-General to consider the role of the World Heritage Convention with regard to initiatives being developed to explore and examine ways and means of creating necessary conditions for the prevention of intentional destruction of culturally important monuments and sites;
4. Further invites the Director-General to inform the World Heritage Committee at its 27th session (June/July 2003) on the developments concerning these initiatives and to provide the Committee at each of its sessions with a comparative table of state of ratification to all UNESCO cultural heritage conventions.

**12 POLICY AND LEGAL ISSUES CONCERNING THE INSCRIPTION OF PROPERTIES ON THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER AND THE POTENTIAL DELETION FROM THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/8  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.12*

**26 COM 12** The World Heritage Committee,

Decides, in view of the time constraints, to defer the decision on this item until its extraordinary session in March 2003<sup>5</sup>.

**13 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ANALYSES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST AND TENTATIVE LISTS AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF UNDERREPRESENTED CATEGORIES OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/9*

**26 COM 13** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Recalls the objectives of the Global Strategy adopted by the Committee in 1994 and the decisions concerning the representivity of the World Heritage List adopted by the Committee (Cairns, 2000);
2. Emphasizes that the main objective is to facilitate the tasks of the States Parties to identify properties of potential outstanding universal value, prepare tentative lists and nominations;
3. Invites ICOMOS to:

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<sup>5</sup> See also decision **26 COM 26**.

1. revise the broad categories presented as agreed at its 24th session [Cairns, 2000, VI.2.3.2 (ii) and (iii)], clearly defining each of them, and adopt a multiple approach combining (a) geographical, regional and (b) chronological factors, with (c) the diversity of uses (e.g. religious, civil, military etc.) and (d) thematic analysis (e.g. cultural landscapes, urban centres);
  2. identify the gaps and underrepresented categories based on this approach;
  3. enlarge the composition of the Steering Committee and involve more experts with a broader interdisciplinary background;
  4. complete the bibliography (Annex IV of document WHC-02/CONF.202/9) including references to reports on meetings and studies in conformity with the proposal by the 26th session of the Bureau (WHC-02/CONF.202/2, para. VII.7);
4. Invites IUCN to:
1. give greater emphasis to the analysis of biodiversity both in terms of qualitative and quantitative richness and endemism;
  2. continue with the development of a methodology which allows to evaluate objectivity realms, biomes and biogeographical regions and which takes into account global studies on specific features (e.g. geological/fossil sites) as well as other variables;
  3. define categories within each biogeographical unit towards a classification system;
5. Encourages ICOMOS and IUCN to:
1. take into account the comments provided by the Committee on Phase I of the analysis, and in particular to move from a quantitative to a qualitative analysis in Phase II;
  2. look for common denominators in particular with regard to mixed properties and cultural landscapes;
6. Recommends a close collaboration between the Advisory Bodies and the Centre in the development of the analysis;
7. Invites States Parties to undertake in-depth analysis of their tentative lists on the national level working towards a more inclusive identification of diverse heritage categories with special attention to, but not exclusively, underrepresented types of heritage;
8. Encourages States Parties to include natural heritage in their tentative lists;

9. Requests the Centre to co-ordinate the harmonization of tentative lists and thematic workshops with the States Parties and the Advisory Bodies, while addressing the particularity of each region;
10. Requests the Director-General to provide the detailed report on the analysis compiled by the Advisory Bodies in time for the 28th session of the Committee in 2004.

#### **14 NOMINATIONS TO BE EXAMINED IN 2003 AND 2004**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/10Rev.*

##### **26 COM 14** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Accepts as “complete” all nominations listed as "complete" and "almost complete" in Table A of document WHC-02/CONF.202/10 Rev and agrees that they be examined at the 27th session of the Committee in 2003;
2. Accepts for examination at the 27th session of the Committee in June/July 2003, on an exceptional basis in view of the transitional period, the three nominations: Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka (India), Takht-e Soleyman (Iran), and Matobo Hills (Zimbabwe), which have been made complete following the deadline of 1 February 2002. (Consequently, the nomination of Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka, India, a site belonging to an underrepresented category, is by this action substituted for the nomination of Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park, India, in Table A). In total, 28 nominations will be examined in 2003;
3. Decides that, in the future, all nominations will be accepted only if they are "complete" - as defined in the *Operational Guidelines* - at the time of the deadline and abolishes hereafter the category of "almost complete”;
4. Requests the Secretariat to establish and submit at each Committee session a list of all nominations received, including the date of reception, an indication of their status "complete" or "incomplete", as well as the date at which they are considered as “complete” in conformity with the *Operational Guidelines*.

#### **15 PROPOSED WORLD HERITAGE VISUAL IDENTITY AND LEGAL PROTECTION OF THE EMBLEM**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/11  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.7  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.8*

##### **26 COM 15** The World Heritage Committee:

1. Invites the Director-General to take the necessary actions to ensure the legal protection of the World Heritage emblem and "World Heritage" name and its derivatives;

2. Decides to postpone the discussion on the manual and visual identity to its 27th session in June/July 2003.

## **16 DISCUSSION ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE AND UNESCO**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/12*

**26 COM 16** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Conscious of the need for further reflection on these issues;
2. Decides to postpone this discussion<sup>6</sup>;
3. Resolves that the working document shall not be distributed publicly until a final decision is reached by the Committee.

## **17 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE AND REVISED STRUCTURE OF THE BUDGET OF THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND**

### **17 A STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/13A*

**26 COM 17.1** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Adopts the following Strategic Objectives:
  1. Strengthen the Credibility of the World Heritage List;
  2. Ensure the effective Conservation of World Heritage properties;
  3. Promote the development of effective Capacity Building in States Parties;
  4. Increase public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through Communication.
2. Invites the Director-General to develop performance indicators for each of the Strategic Objectives to be presented to the 27th session of the Committee (June/July 2003) to enable the Committee to measure the success of the implementation of the Objectives over time.

### **17 B WORLD HERITAGE PROGRAMMES**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/13B*

**26 COM 17.2** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the information contained in working document WHC-02/CONF.202/13B on an analysis of the major conservation issues identified through a review of the

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<sup>6</sup> In accordance with decision **26 COM 27**, this item is included in the agenda of the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee, June/July 2003.

international assistance requests, state of conservation reports and the periodic reporting exercise;

2. Further notes the implementation status of the four World Heritage Programmes (Sustainable Tourism, Cities, Earthen Architecture and Forests) adopted by the Committee at its 25th session in December 2001 and initial proposals for future Programmes;
3. Invites the Director-General to develop new Regional Programmes based on the needs specifically identified through the regional periodic reporting exercise with a view to achieve the new Strategic Objectives and to submit these programmes for consideration and adoption at the 27th session of the Committee in June/July 2003;
4. Further invites the Director-General to propose targets (outputs) and a timetable for their implementation.

## **17 C WORLD HERITAGE PARTNERSHIPS INITIATIVE (WHPI)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/13C  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.13*

### **26 COM 17.3**            The World Heritage Committee,

1. Welcomes the World Heritage Partnerships Initiative as a means to achieve, on an experimental basis, a new systematic approach to partnerships;
2. Acknowledges that the work undertaken in identifying partnerships and criteria for new World Heritage partnerships is in progress;
3. Invites the Director-General to further develop a regulatory framework for the Partnerships Initiative to be added to the Committee's guidelines relating to the use of the World Heritage name, emblem and patronage;
4. Encourages the Director-General to ensure that the Initiative supports the Strategic Objectives adopted by the Committee;
5. Considers that funds generated through the World Heritage Partnerships Initiative should be channeled, to the extent possible, through the World Heritage Fund;
6. Requests the Director-General to ensure that the overheads charged on partnership contributions are appropriated to support the World Heritage Centre;
7. Emphasises that the overseeing authority for monitoring progress and performance of the World Heritage Partnerships Initiative rests with the Committee, and that the Initiative is launched on an experimental basis;
8. Welcomes the proposal to develop performance indicators for evaluating the Initiative for consideration by the Committee in 2003 and to submit progress reports, and invites the Director-General to submit to the Committee at its 30th session in 2006 an evaluation of the Initiative up to end of 2005.

**17 D REVISED BUDGET STRUCTURE**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/13DRev.*

**26 COM 17.4** The World Heritage Committee,

Decides, in view of the time constraints to defer this item until its extraordinary session in March 2003<sup>7</sup>.

**18 REVISION OF THE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/14A*

*WHC-02/CONF.202/14B*

**26 COM 18** The World Heritage Committee,

Decides, in view of the time constraints to defer this item until its extraordinary session in March 2003.<sup>8</sup>

**19 REVISION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/15*

**26 COM 19** The World Heritage Committee,

Decides, in view of the time constraints to defer the discussion of this item until its extraordinary session in March 2003.<sup>9</sup>

**20 PERIODIC REPORTING: REPORT ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE IN AFRICA**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/16*

**26 COM 20** The World Heritage Committee,

1. Expresses its satisfaction with this excellent Periodic Report for Africa 2001 noting that it gives direction for future World Heritage activities in Africa;
2. Noting that the Action Plan is already being implemented, requests that the activities specified therein should be restructured in line with the new Strategic Objectives and Article 5 of the World Heritage Convention;
3. Encourages Afro-Arab bi-regional co-operation and networking, based on the similarities of problems and suggested solutions revealed by this Periodic Report and the one for Arab States;

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<sup>7</sup> See also decision **26 COM 26**.

<sup>8</sup> See also decisions **26 COM 26** and **26 COM 28**.

<sup>9</sup> See also decision **26 COM 26**.



4. Emphasizes that the implementation of the World Heritage activities in Africa should be linked with other initiatives within UNESCO, with the Global Agenda and other Conventions, and particularly with the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD);
5. Adopts the Periodic Report for Africa 2001 subject to its restructuring<sup>10</sup>;
6. Requests that a progress report on the implementation of the action plan be presented to its 27th session in June/July 2003.

## **21 STATE OF CONSERVATION OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED ON THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER AND ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

*Documents:* WHC-02/CONF.202/17  
WHC-02/CONF.202/18  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.9  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.10  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.11

### **GENERAL ISSUES**

**26 COM 21.1** The World Heritage Committee,

Invites the Director-General to seek further coordination, and possibly the establishment of a permanent mechanism of consultation, with the World Bank on projects related to World Heritage properties.

**26 COM 21.2** The World Heritage Committee,

Invites the Director-General to present in written form information and draft decisions on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21.3** The World Heritage Committee,

Invites the Director-General to present a report and statistics on the state of conservation reports of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger at its extraordinary session in March 2003.

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<sup>10</sup> See also related decisions **26 COM 17.1** and **26 COM 17.2**.

**21(a) STATE OF CONSERVATION OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED ON THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

**NATURAL HERITAGE**

**26 COM 21 (a) 1 Srebarna Nature Reserve (Bulgaria)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Invites the State Party to shortly finalize the management plan and confirm its adoption by the Government and to submit a calendar of activities for preparing a proposal for a transborder World Heritage area in the Danube Delta in cooperation with other concerned States Parties;
2. Urges the State Party to take necessary action to purchase the portable electric generator to ensure the rapid closing of the sluice gates as and when needed and to minimize the risks of contamination from any future toxic spills;
3. Recommends that the site be removed from the List of World Heritage Danger, effective from the date at which the State Party submits to the Centre, IUCN and the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, a copy of the approved management plan, and a statement committing the necessary resources for the timely implementation of the plan.

**26 COM 21 (a) 2 World Heritage sites of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Regrets the widespread damage caused by the volcanic eruption in January 2002 and requests the Director-General to transmit its sympathies and solidarity to the people of Goma through appropriate UN and other channels;
2. Requests the Director-General to consult with the UN authorities and other appropriate partners to put in place natural-disaster-prevention and risk-assessment systems to protect lives and minimize damage to property in the event of future eruptions;
3. Notes the efforts of the UNESCO/DRC/United Nations Foundation (UNF) Project to support the conservation of all five World Heritage sites of DRC and requests that a detailed progress report be submitted for examination by the Committee at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
4. Takes note of the fact that the state of conservation of Garamba, Kahuzi Biega and Salonga National Parks and the Okapi Faunal Reserve remain unchanged from conditions reported to the 25th session of the Committee;

5. Expresses its serious concerns over the illegal encroachments and settlements in Kiolirwe and Kararuma in the Virunga National Park, some of them being attributed to people coming from across the border with Rwanda, and requests the Centre to urgently find ways and means to alert the authorities in Goma and in Rwanda of the need to fully respect the integrity of the Virunga National Park;
6. Calls for urgent and high-level diplomatic initiatives to check illegal encroachments and settlements threatening the Virunga National Park and to ensure that all authorities in Eastern DRC and Rwanda respect the international significance and neutrality of World Heritage sites and assist site staff and other conservation authorities to effectively protect those sites;
7. Welcomes the forthcoming visit of the Director-General to the DRC, Rwanda and Uganda in early 2003 and requests the Director-General to take all possible steps to promote transborder co-operation between the DRC, Rwanda and Uganda for the conservation of Virunga National Park and other World Heritage sites in the Great Lakes Region of Africa;
8. Recommends that the Centre concentrate its efforts to strengthen conservation in areas in and around the World Heritage sites of the DRC that are returning to normality as on-going UN peace-building efforts in the country take root;
9. Invites its Chairperson and the Director-General to take all other possible diplomatic measures, e.g. writing to the UN Secretary General, to Heads of States and important personalities in other concerned States Parties etc., to build international solidarity to promote peace and other necessary conditions for effective World Heritage conservation in Eastern DRC;
10. Retains the five National Parks: Virunga, Garamba, Kahuzi Biega and Salonga and the Okapi Faunal Reserve on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 3      Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve (Guinea/Côte d'Ivoire)**  
*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Expresses its pleasure to welcome Liberia as a State Party to the Convention;
2. Congratulates the exemplary collaboration between the three States Parties, UN and conservation NGOs for establishing a sound framework for transborder collaboration for the conservation of the Mt Nimba ecosystem;
3. Invites the three Parties to review the draft tri-national framework agreement and finalise it as soon as possible, and that Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire resolve their differences in the boundary of the Dere-Tiapleu Forest in an amicable and effective manner;
4. Decides to retain the site in the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 4 Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (India)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes with concern the continuing threats posed by insurgency and its impacts on the state of conservation of the site, particularly in its Eastern and the Western Ranges but also acknowledges several favourable conservation trends including: finalization of the management plan that is awaiting State Government approval, progressive reconstruction of camps and guard posts and increasing staff ability to carry out on-site management actions;
2. Invites the Government of India and the State Government of Assam to investigate the possibilities of including the state of conservation of Manas as an agenda item in on-going discussions and dialogues with the militant and rebel leaders, and as part of appropriate bilateral talks between India and Bhutan;
3. Notes with satisfaction that the cordial working relations between staff of the Manas World Heritage area and their counterparts in the Royal Manas National Park of Bhutan are helpful in the conservation of the site;
4. Notes with satisfaction that the Government has included Manas as part of the Project Elephant and is facilitating the work of economic development committees to improve participatory planning and rural development projects;
5. Invites the Centre and IUCN to co-operate with the State Party to find ways and means of financing a number of projects prepared by the site Director and the feasibility of using the trust fund established by the State Government of Assam as a financing mechanism for attracting resources from international and national donors;
6. Invites the State Party to consider inviting another UNESCO/IUCN mission, within the next four years, to review progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the IUCN mission undertaken in February 2002;
7. Decides to retain the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 5 Air and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Invites the State Party to submit a detailed report on the vehicle, purchased using the resources of the World Heritage Fund, which has been reported stolen, and as part of the same report address the staffing, infrastructure development, management and security issues impacting the integrity of the site;

2. Calls for an up-to-date assessment on the state of implementation of the rehabilitation plan for the site approved by the Bureau in 1999 and a review of the sustainability of donor and government financing for the conservation of the Natural Reserves;
3. Urges the Centre and IUCN to work with the State Party on the preparation of such a report for submission to its 27th session in June/July 2003;
4. Decides to retain the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 6 Ichkeul National Park (Tunisia)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee:

1. Notes that a workshop to define the indicators, benchmarks and other components of a scientific monitoring programme to guide the Committee's future assessments of the performance of the rehabilitation programme for the Ichkeul Lake National Park, will be organized in September 2002 using funds provided under an emergency grant of US\$50,000 from the World Heritage Fund in May 2002;
2. Invites the State Party to submit a detailed report on the results of the emergency assistance project, including a description of the monitoring programme, its financing and plans for its implementation, for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
3. Decides to retain the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 7 Everglades National Park (United States of America)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes with satisfaction that concerns raised by IUCN regarding the recent issue of mining permits relate to limestone quarries outside the World Heritage area and commends the State Party's decision to allocate US\$4.1 million on wastewater management improvements within the Everglades region;
2. Invites the State Party to co-operate with IUCN and the Centre to prepare a report for submission to its 27th session in June/July 2003, containing the steps it intends to take to develop action plans and define parameters and conditions to monitor progress in the restoration of the integrity of the site, with a view to facilitating the Committee's future considerations for removing the site from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
3. Decides to retain the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 8 Yellowstone National Park (United States of America)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes that the State Party has prepared the draft Supplementary Environmental Impact Study and has received 350,000 comments which are currently being evaluated;
2. Urges the State Party to continue to report on Yellowstone's snowmobile phase-out and other efforts to ensure that winter travel facilities respect the protection of the Park, its visitors, and its wildlife;
3. Invites the State Party to co-operate with IUCN and the Centre to prepare a report for submission to its 27th session in June/July 2003, containing steps it intends to take to develop action plans and define parameters and conditions to monitor progress in the restoration of the integrity of the site with a view to facilitating the Committee's future considerations for removing the site from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
4. Decides to retain the site in the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**26 COM 21 (a) 9 Butrint (Albania)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the report provided by the State Party and welcomes the progress made to enhance the protection, preservation and presentation of the World Heritage site;
2. Reiterates the recommendations made by the Bureau at its 25th session, notably regarding the enlargement of the Butrint National Park Board to include, at the national and regional level, all relevant authorities to ensure a strong and effective co-ordination of the management of the World Heritage site;
3. Urges the State Party to take all appropriate measures, at the national level, to ensure that the Butrint National Park Law be enacted as soon as possible in order to better protect the site;
4. Reiterates its recommendation to the State Party to work closely with the Centre for the smooth implementation of emergency assistance from the World Heritage Fund;
5. Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, a report on the measures taken to comply with these recommendations for examination at its next session in June/July 2003;

6. Decides to retain this site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM. 21 (a) 10 Angkor (Cambodia)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes with appreciation the recent return of the two Angkor sculptures from the Academy of Fine Arts of Honolulu to the National Museum of Phnom Penh;
2. Notes that support has been provided to the International Co-ordination Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of Angkor (ICC) by new partners (Switzerland and India) and expresses appreciation for the support of the Municipality of Paris to strengthen the Documentation Centre;
3. Urges the State Party to make available to its 27th session in June/July 2003, within the framework of the Periodic Reporting Exercise for the Asia-Pacific Region, a report with technical details on all activities carried out over the past ten years;
4. Decides to retain the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 11 Group of Monuments at Hampi (India)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of India and the State Government of Karnataka for establishing a "Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority" to ensure effective co-ordination of conservation and development activities within the Hampi World Heritage areas;
2. Encourages the State Party and the authorities concerned to continue their efforts in the formulation of a comprehensive management plan and to this end requests the World Heritage Centre to continue co-operating with the concerned authorities;
3. Invites the State Party to submit a technical co-operation request to mobilize national and international resources and expertise to finalize this comprehensive management plan;
4. Requests the State Party to report by 1 February 2003 on the progress made in removing the threats facing the site through corrective measures and the state of conservation of the site, for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
5. Decides to retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 12 Bahla Fort (Oman)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the Omani authorities for the substantial achievements in the advancement of conservation works at the Fort, and for engaging in the preparation of the Management Plan;
2. Recommends that the State Party ensure as a matter of urgency the necessary technical supervision of the conservation works being implemented at the site, and that a comprehensive survey and analysis of cultural and natural values of the Bahla Oasis and its surroundings be included in the scope of work of the consultant firm;
3. Expresses its concern with regard to the proposed construction of a new market within the site and suggests that an environmental impact assessment be made of this new construction on the values of the site;
4. Requests that the State Party transmit to the Centre a copy of all reports prepared by the consultant as well as any technical documentation relating to the proposed construction of the new market within the Oasis, including an assessment of its potential impact on the values of the site;
5. Requests the State Party to submit by 1 February 2003, a report on the progress of all the above-mentioned issues for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
6. Decides to retain the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 13 Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore (Pakistan)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Reiterates its request made to the State Party at its 24th session to take corrective measures to remove the threats to the property and to clarify ownership, land-use and the legal status of the land within 60 meters of the partially demolished hydraulic works, particularly in view of the Punjab Special Premises Ordinance applicable to the site;
2. Takes note with appreciation of the positive actions taken and being planned by the State Party and the Centre for the rehabilitation of the Shalamar Gardens and in elaborating a comprehensive management plan for the site, although regretting the delays in implementing the emergency assistance activity for taking corrective measures to remove the threats to the property;



3. Requests the State Party and the Centre to continue their co-operation in order to ensure that an integrated conservation, management and development plan is elaborated, adopted and implemented as soon as possible;
4. Requests the State Party and the Centre to report to its 27th session in June/July 2003, on the progress made in removing the threats to the site;
5. Decides to retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 14 Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the important work initiated by the local authorities and congratulates the State Party for its declared willingness to correct the present situation;
2. Requests the State Party to present a progress report by 1 February 2003 on the work carried out for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
3. Decides to maintain, in agreement with the State Party, the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 15 Rice Terraces of the Philippines Cordilleras (Philippines)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Expresses its deep concern over the situation that calls for urgent corrective measures as the fragile natural environment continues to be affected by:
  1. uncontrolled construction of shelters on the Rice Terraces;
  2. climate-induced erosion of the Rice Terraces;
  3. abandonment of the Rice Terraces;
  4. unsustainable agricultural practices for the local communities;
2. Expresses its appreciation of the State Party's action to establish a permanent effective body to co-ordinate and lead efforts to rehabilitate the Rice Terraces in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee at its 25th session;
3. Urges the State Party to take all steps to ensure a smooth and efficient hand-over between the abolished Banaue Rice Terraces Task Force (BRTTF), the Governor of the Ifugao Province, who has been temporarily mandated to manage the World Heritage property, and the proposed new authority being established for the Rice Terraces;
4. Commends the State Party for allocating US\$1 million for the repair of damaged irrigation systems;

5. Requests the Centre, to take all steps to release without delay the requested technical co-operation assistance (US\$75,000) allocated by the Committee at its 25th session;
6. Requests the State Party to provide a report by 1 February 2003, on the state of conservation of the site and the progress made in removing the threats to the site, for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
7. Decides to retain the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 16 Old City of Zabid (Yemen)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Recommends the Yemeni authorities to strengthen, in close consultation with the Centre, the coordination of all efforts for the safeguarding of the Historic Town of Zabid;
2. Requests the Centre to finalize the outline of the Urban Conservation Plan and technical specifications for the repair of residential buildings, in view of a clear distribution of roles and responsibilities among the responsible Yemeni authorities and the international community of donors;
3. Encourages the State Party to establish at the site a Technical Unit, to act as a partner for the local authorities, UNESCO and other international players in the finalization and implementation of the Urban Conservation Plan;
4. Decides to retain the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (a) 17 Natural and Cultural-Historical Region of Kotor (Yugoslavia)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/18*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes that preliminary consultations took place between the Centre and the State Party concerning the state of conservation of Kotor;
2. Requests the authorities to invite a UNESCO-ICOMOS mission to evaluate the restoration of the site and its current state of conservation;
3. Requests the mission to provide a recommendation as to whether or not the site could be removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**21(b) REPORTS ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF PROPERTIES  
INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

**NATURAL HERITAGE**

**26 COM 21 (b) 1 World Heritage Natural Properties of Australia**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Notes that information exchange on the state of conservation of several properties of Australia is underway between the State Party, the Australian Committee for IUCN and the Centre and that a National Periodic Report will be prepared by the State Party for examination at the 27th session of the Committee in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 2 Pirin National Park (Bulgaria)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/17  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.9*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the results of the report provided by the UNESCO-IUCN mission to the site and the number of existing and potential threats to the site's values and integrity, including boundary issues, the lack of a management plan, and a new ski development proposal with forest disturbance;
2. Welcomes the response by the State Party to the concerns contained in the mission report, and acknowledges the support provided by the Swiss Government to the Bulgarian-Swiss Biodiversity Conservation Project, in the preparation of the Management Plan for the site;
3. Urges the State Party to implement the recommendations of the mission and take remedial actions to ensure that the World Heritage values of the site are protected. These actions should include: the development of effective management mechanisms, restoration of the forest ecosystem of disturbed areas, the creation of a scientific advisory body and the provision of an interim management plan awaiting the management plan which should be finalized as a matter of urgency;
4. Welcomes the immediate response by the State Party to some of the concerns raised by the mission and invites the authorities to apply for international assistance as indicated in the mission report;
5. Defers the decision on the inscription of Pirin National Park on the List of World Heritage in Danger until its 27th session, with decisions on this to be based on an assessment of the State Party's response to the UNESCO/IUCN Mission Report.

**26 COM 21 (b) 3 Nahanni National Park (Canada)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Expresses strong concern with regard to the zinc mine, as well as the findings of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) report, including the comments on the inadequacy of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA) to resolve the issues of land use and policy conflicts involving the site and its surroundings;
2. Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, information on how the concerns and recommendations contained in the MVEIRB report will be addressed in relation to the impact on the World Heritage site to be examined by the Committee at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
3. Encourages the State Party to extend the site.

**26 COM 21 (b) 4 Wood Buffalo National Park (Canada)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, information on the status of the proposal to build a winter road and, specifically, the outcome of the appeals submitted to the Federal Court to be heard in the second half of 2002 for examination by the Committee at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 5 Cocos Island National Park (Costa Rica)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the state of conservation report and the decision by the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII. 44-46, and
2. Decides to review the proposed extension of the property under item 23 Nominations<sup>11</sup>.

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<sup>11</sup> See decision **26 COM 23.4**.

**26 COM 21 (b) 6     **Taï National Park (Côte d’Ivoire)****

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Requests the State Party to provide a detailed report of the wildlife poaching situation at the site, including information on reported intentions to reopen hunting throughout the country and follow-up to the recommendations. If affirmative, the State Party should elaborate the plans and methods it proposes to regulate and control the activity at the World Heritage site;
2. Urges the State Party to invite a monitoring mission to assess the state of conservation of the site with the aim of informing the Committee whether the site should be placed on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**26 COM 21 (b) 7     **Galapagos Islands (Ecuador)****

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee:

1. Notes that there has been significant progress on invasive-species and marine conservation, quarantine and institutional strengthening actions, notably through the implementation of the UNESCO/United Nations Foundation (UNF)/Charles Darwin Foundation, Global Environment Facility (GEF)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) projects. There have been clear signs of Government commitment to conservation, most notably the successful nomination of the Galapagos Marine Reserve for World Heritage status and the mobilization of resources to support reserve management. However, these positive steps are increasingly undermined by the failure to complete and promulgate the Special Regulations, without which the Special Law for Galapagos – and particularly the environmental components thereof - cannot be properly implemented;
2. Urges the State Party to adopt as soon as possible the Regulations deriving from the Special Law for Galapagos, as recommended by the 25th session of the Committee in 2001 at the time of inscription of the Galapagos Marine Reserve on the World Heritage List.

**26 COM 21 (b) 8     **Caves of the Aggtelek and Slovak Karst (Hungary/Slovakia)****

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Notes the state of conservation report and the decision by the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII. 19-22.

**26 COM 21 (b) 9 Sundarbans National Park (India)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee:

1. Invites the State Party to provide up-to-date information on the current status of the Public Interest Petition (PIP) on the impacts of tiger prawn seed harvesting and the measures taken by authorities to address the concerns raised by the PIP;
2. Recommends that the State Party with the participation of Indian experts and the experts of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of IUCN, consider undertaking a review in order to provide additional inputs regarding methodologies and techniques used for tiger census to improve reliability of estimates of the tiger population in the Sundarbans, as well as a rigorous scientific ungulate study to establish the available prey base;
3. Notes the offer of support to the State Party from IUCN and the IUCN/SSC Cat Specialist Group;
4. Invites the State Party to consider these issues within the context of the review of the state of conservation of the site as part of the Periodic Reporting process now underway for reporting at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 10 Kaziranga National Park (India)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the National and State Government for having provided adequate resources to establish and maintain control over poaching, encroachment and illegal activities;
2. Notes that the level of on-the-ground staff presence, law enforcement and patrolling mechanisms backed up by relevant communication facilities are satisfactory;
3. Invites the National and State Governments to accelerate the finalization of the management plan, ensure the steady and predictable flow of technical and financial support and recognizes the need to introduce consultative and transparent management planning processes. In this way the needs of local communities would be integrated, while informing and educating them on the Park's local, national and global significance;
4. Urges the authorities concerned to explore ways and means of developing, as part of the management planning process, (a) an outreach and community strategy, (b) conservation education and awareness programmes, (c) a research agenda focusing on key management issues, (d) tourism-related activities and programmes;

5. Urges the Centre to co-operate with the State Party to explore ways and means to increase direct support for the site from the World Heritage Fund, donors such as the UN Foundation and other sources.

**26 COM 21 (b) 11 Komodo National Park (Indonesia)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Notes the state of conservation report and the decision by the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII.3 – XII.5.

**26 COM 21 (b) 12 Lorentz National Park (Indonesia)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Invites the State Party to determine, as soon as possible, the appropriate time for a UNESCO/IUCN mission to the site, and inform the Centre and IUCN well in advance of the date so that the mission can be planned in order to address all issues relevant to strengthening the state of conservation of this site;
2. Requests the State Party to elaborate on the continuing problems with the Park border and concession in advance of the mission;
3. Recommends that a detailed report on the mission be presented to its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 13 Aeolian Islands (Italy)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the positive outcome of the Court case on the legitimacy of the Landscape Territorial Plan;
2. Expresses concern that another Court decision is delaying the adoption and implementation of the key instrument for management of the site;
3. Requests further information from the State Party with respect to the mining of pumice within the World Heritage site;
4. Urges the State Party to prohibit expansion of pumice extraction, as it may impact on the values for which the site was inscribed on the World Heritage List;

5. Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, a report on this situation for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 14 Mount Kenya National Park/Natural Forest (Kenya)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the efforts of the State Party to address conservation problems at this site, particularly in relation to encroachment control and implementation of community projects;
2. Requests the State Party to provide for review by the Centre and IUCN: a final copy of the Kenya Forests Working Group (KFWG)/Laikipia et al. Report; a map of the proposed Sirimon Forest excision, clearly showing its relationship to the World Heritage site, as well as the location of the increase in plantation forest, and an update on the proposed excision including information on any Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken for the excision and the consideration of the impacts on the World Heritage site, including measures to be employed to mitigate these impacts;
3. Welcomes the invitation from the State Party for a mission to the site in the second half of 2002.

**26 COM 21 (b) 15 Gunung Mulu National Park (Malaysia)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes that no decision regarding the possible extension of the Gunung Mulu World Heritage site to include the Gunung Buda National Park has been made;
2. Recommends that the Centre and IUCN continue to communicate with the State Party and raise the issue of the possible participation of indigenous people in the planning of the extension of the World Heritage site at the appropriate time in the future.

**26 COM 21 (b) 16 Banc d'Arguin National Park (Mauritania)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Urges the State Party to undertake a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study for the road that complies with internationally recognized standards, in collaboration with interested donors;



2. Notes the completion of the German International Cooperation (GTZ) study on the legality of oil exploration within the Park and requests that it be submitted to IUCN and the Centre for review;
3. Urges the State Party to develop and implement urgent measures to protect the Park, above all to guarantee the long-term regeneration of Mauritania's marine resources, in the face of the intense and unsustainable pressure on the nation's fisheries and to extend the areas exclusively reserved for traditional fishing;
4. Encourages other States Parties to the Convention to comply with internationally recognized methods for sustainable exploitation of the fish stock in order to protect the resources of other State Parties, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention.

**26 COM 21 (b) 17 Sian Ka'an (Mexico)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Welcomes the efforts of the State Party to regulate tourism development at Sian Ka'an, and invites it to monitor closely the development on private property;
2. Notes that the State Party has submitted copies of the maps prepared for the Coastal Development Plan showing how it relates to the World Heritage site boundaries;
3. Requests the State Party to report by 1 February 2003, on the impact on the site of the removal of the moratorium on construction for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
4. Invites the State Party to inform on the progress made in updating the Management Programme and proposed measures to be taken to ensure its application.

**26 COM 21 (b) 18 Royal Chitwan National Park (Nepal)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2*

*WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Notes the state of conservation report and the decision by the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII.6 – XII.10.

**26 COM 21 (b) 19 Lake Baikal (Russian Federation)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes that there remain serious concerns relating to the state of conservation of this site, particularly with regard to pollution impacts, including from the Baikalsk Pulp and Paper Mill, the lack of progress with the Federal Law on the "Protection of Lake Baikal", the establishment of the Baikal Commission, and uncertainties about gas exploration and exploitation in the Selenga Delta;
2. Requests the State Party to provide:
  1. Precise time-schedules for the implementation of the first stage of the Baikalsk Pulp and Paper Mill (BPPM) Programme in the next 1-2 years;
  2. For the Baikal Law: a map of the zones, indicating clear and logical borders;
  3. For the Baikal Commission: documentation detailing the establishment of the co-ordination body, including means of establishment, mandate, composition, date of commencement of duties, competence;
  4. Concerning the Baikal Seals: information on the training of legal hunters and establishment of a sound monitoring regime;
  5. For the Gas Exploration in the Selenga Delta: clear statement of intentions if and when gas is found through "scientific research";
3. Recommends that regular meetings between the State Party, the UNESCO Moscow Office and IUCN-Commonwealth Independent States (CIS) be encouraged to improve co-operation and communication, and that a meeting between the State Party, the World Heritage Centre and IUCN be held before the end of 2002;
4. Requests a detailed report by 1 February 2003 on all actions undertaken to address the threats to the World Heritage values of the site, taking into account the benchmarks of the mission report noted by the 25th session of the Committee in 2001;
5. Decides, having noted the new report provided by the State Party and the comments provided by IUCN, to defer the decision on the inclusion of Lake Baikal on the List of World Heritage in Danger until its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 20 Volcanoes of Kamchatka (Russian Federation)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Notes the state of conservation report and the decision by the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII. 30-33.

**26 COM 21 (b) 21 Doñana National Park (Spain)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the State Party for its continued efforts towards the conservation of the site, and in particular the initiatives for the Iberian Lynx population;
2. Urges the State Party to give priority to promoting integrated regional land-use planning in order to minimise impacts related to irrigation and road design, construction and management around the site.

**26 COM 21 (b) 22 Ngorongoro Conservation Area (United Republic of Tanzania)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Acknowledges the support provided by the State Party to produce the *Ngorongoro Crater Ungulate Study*, while requesting the State Party to implement its recommendations;
2. Urges the State Party to consider imposing a moratorium on new development in and around the Crater (Crater Highlands), until the impacts of the current lodges, road system and other tourism developments are assessed, with particular emphasis on water usage;
3. Requests the State Party submit a report on the state of conservation of the site, including its response to the *Ngorongoro Crater Ungulate Study*, by 1 February 2003 for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 23 Serengeti National Park (United Republic of Tanzania)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Urges the States Parties of the United Republic of Tanzania and Kenya to initiate a dialogue on the transboundary effects on the Serengeti World Heritage site from

changes in the upstream catchment, and to request that IUCN, through its Regional Office for Eastern Africa, support the process leading to this dialogue.

**26 COM 21 (b) 24 Giant's Causeway and Causeway Coast (United Kingdom)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the state of conservation report and the decision by the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII. 36- 40;
2. Notes the new information that a mission has been invited to the site.

**26 COM 21 (b) 25 St Kilda (United Kingdom)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Notes the state of conservation report and the decision by the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII. 41-43.

**26 COM 21 (b) 26 Henderson Island (United Kingdom)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Recommends the State Party to implement, as a matter of urgency, the 1995 Management Plan for this site, with provision for its on-going improvement (based on input received and lessons learnt) and to provide a report on the situation by 1 February 2003 for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 27 Great Smoky Mountains National Park (United States of America)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the efforts of the site management and the National Park Service to address air-quality problems;
2. Expresses the hope that the implementation of the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) standards will have a significant positive effect on air quality at the site;

3. Requests the State Party to keep the Committee informed of actions taken at Federal and State levels to address the air-pollution problems affecting the site.

**26 COM 21 (b) 28 Mammoth Cave National Park (United States of America)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Expresses strong concern regarding the potential impacts of the proposed development and the lack of a comprehensive environmental assessment, in particular noting the potential impacts for hydrocarbon and chemical spills from this type of development and the gaps in hydrogeological information;
2. Urges that a research programme be conducted to include analysis of alternative site options and a detailed structural geologic and hydro-geologic study with a study of water flow patterns in a range of climatic conditions between the Graham Springs Basin and Mammoth Cave Basin in order to determine the risk to the World Heritage site;
3. Requests that the State Party keep the Committee informed of progress with the Inter-modal Transportation Authority (ITA) report *Site Evaluation and Design Assistance for the Proposed Kentucky Trimodal Transpark*, the progress of research and the status of the Transpark project.

**26 COM 21 (b) 29 Ha Long Bay (Vietnam)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2*

*WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Notes the state of conservation report and the decision of the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII.11– XII.13.

**MIXED CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

**26 COM 21 (b) 30 Kakadu National Park (Australia)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Expresses its concern to the State Party about new leaks of contaminated water at the Ranger uranium mine and the Jabiluka mineral lease adjacent to Kakadu National Park. The Committee is also concerned about reported shortcomings in the regulatory reporting procedures at both mine sites and deficiencies in the management of ore stockpiles at the Ranger mine which reduce public confidence, in the management and monitoring of the two sites. Finally, the Committee

stresses the need to adopt a strict environmental regime appropriate to a World Heritage property;

2. Notes the report of the Supervising Scientist which concluded that the environment and people downstream of the mine were not at risk at any time during or after the incident. Nevertheless, the State Party recognizes the need to follow international best practice. To this end the Minister for Environment and Heritage has discussed these issues with the Traditional Owners of Kakadu, Energy Resources of Australia Ltd. (ERA) and the Supervising Scientist;
3. Notes that the State Party has reported that the mining company has made a commitment to meet ISO14001 standards of environmental management at both Jabiluka and Ranger by July 2003;
4. Requests the State Party to provide details of how these new, more stringent conditions will be fully met by ERA;
5. Notes that the State Party will co-operate with the Australian Senate Inquiry which will examine the regulatory, monitoring and reporting regimes at Ranger, Jabiluka and uranium operations elsewhere in Australia. The State Party will also co-operate with the Northern Territory technical review into the regulation of the Ranger and Jabiluka operations;
6. Welcomes the fact that the Minister has decided to appoint a suitably qualified conservation NGO representative to the Alligator Rivers Region Technical Committee (ARRTC), and will consult with NGOs on this appointment. ARRTC, at the request of the World Heritage Committee, continues to monitor and review the water management and other environmental issues at Jabiluka and Ranger, including those referred to in document WHC-02/CONF.202/17;
7. Is pleased to note with satisfaction that a cultural heritage management workshop was recently organized by Australia ICOMOS and the Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation with the support of Environment Australia. The Committee requests ICOMOS to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of continuing co-operative efforts with Traditional Owners in this regard;
8. Requests that the State Party report on progress on all the issues raised above by 1 February 2003 for review by its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 31 Tongariro National Park (New Zealand)**

*Documents:* WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17

The World Heritage Committee,

Notes the state of conservation report presented in paragraphs XII.47 to XII.52 of document WHC-02/CONF.202/2.

**26 COM 21 (b) 32 Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/17  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.10*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the mission recommendations as well as of the recommendations made by the Bureau;
2. Expresses its very serious concern about the continued inadequacy of the management and planning arrangements for the Sanctuary while recognizing the recent progress made in certain aspects, particularly the management of the Camino Inca and the establishment of the new Presidential decree;
3. Encourages the Peruvian authorities to continue co-operating with the World Heritage Centre in view of the implementation of measures leading to an improved management of the site, in particular through funds already allocated, the nomination of a site manager for the implementation of the Master Plan and the participation of all the stakeholders through inter-sectorial work;
4. Requests the State Party to submit by 1 February 2003, a progress report for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 33 Hierapolis-Pamukkale (Turkey)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Notes the state of conservation report and the decision of the Bureau presented in paragraphs XII.53 to XII.55 of document WHC-02/CONF.202/2.

**CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**26 COM 21 (b) 34 Archaeological site of Tipasa (Algeria)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Expresses strong concern with regard to the situation incompatible with maintaining the outstanding universal values of the site, which had justified its inscription on the World Heritage List;
2. Invites the World Heritage Centre to send a new mission to Tipasa, to discuss with the State Party immediate safeguarding measures to be undertaken and to halt all on-going or future actions that might affect the integrity of the site and its buffer zone;

3. Recommends that the Centre assist the State Party in preparing and implementing a remedial plan for the site, including visitor management and public-awareness programmes, linking the site and its environment;
4. Requests the World Heritage Centre to submit a report on this site for examination by the Committee at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
5. Decides to inscribe the Archaeological Site of Tipasa on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

## **26 COM 21 (b) 35 Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Reiterates its recommendations made at its 25th session at the time of the inscription of the property;
2. Recalls paragraph 22 of the *Operational Guidelines*: “Where the intrinsic qualities of a property nominated are threatened by action of man and yet meet the criteria and conditions of authenticity or integrity...an action plan should be submitted with the nomination file. Should the corrective measures submitted by the nominating State not be taken within the time proposed by the State, the property will be considered by the Committee for delisting in accordance with the procedures adopted by the Committee.”;
3. Expresses its serious concern about the Wien-Mitte urban development project, adjacent to the World Heritage site of Vienna and located in the buffer zone of the site, and in particular about the architectural solutions and the height of the proposed towers;
4. Recognizes the need to develop and rehabilitate the area above the Bahnhof and acknowledges that from the economic and urban transport point of view no major impacts on the World Heritage values of the protected zone are to be expected;
5. Requests the State Party to provide by 1 October 2002 detailed information demonstrating that the recommendations made by the Committee at the time of the inscription have been taken into account. In case the State Party cannot provide the assurance for an acceptable solution, which conforms with the Committee’s recommendation, the Committee will start the process of delisting the site in accordance with the established procedures;
6. Strongly recommends to limit any future large redevelopment activities in the buffer zone;
7. Expresses concern for the restoration practices currently observed in the Historic Centre, and requests the authorities to establish building renovation regulations and authorisation procedures appropriate to its status as a World Heritage property;



8. Recommends to the State Party to continue to improve its technical capacities in the field of historical building conservation, in order to ensure a more efficient control of any possible negative impacts. Timely information on planned interventions should be provided to the World Heritage Centre, in compliance with Paragraph 56 of the Operational Guidelines;
9. Decides to examine the situation at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 36 The Walled City of Baku with the Shirvanshah' s Palace and Maiden Tower (Azerbaijan)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Welcomes the invitation by the national authorities for a joint UNESCO - ICOMOS mission to be undertaken to the site as soon as possible;
2. Requests that a report of the mission be presented for examination by the Committee at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 37 Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur (Bangladesh)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined the state of conservation of the property, the findings and recommendations of the April 2002 UNESCO expert mission, new information provided by the State Party and ICOMOS;
2. While commending the authorities for their efforts to increase the protection of the property, expresses concern over the deterioration of the terracotta plaques and the structure and partial loss of authenticity of the property through the systematic removal and replacement of the 9<sup>th</sup>-century terracotta plaques which originally decorated the lower terraces of the Vihara walls;
3. Noting that a UNESCO mission will be organized in July 2002 to hold consultations with the authorities to enhance conservation, management and presentation of the property;
4. Requests the authorities together with the UNESCO mission to:
  1. consider the nomination of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger in order to mobilize the significant international financial and technical resources for addressing the conservation challenges facing the property;

2. elaborate an action plan to enhance long-term conservation and management of the site, and to remove the ascertained and potential threats facing the property;
5. Encourages the authorities to submit an international assistance request;
6. Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, a report on the state of conservation of the property for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 38 Historical Centre of the City of Goiás (Brazil)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, a progress report on the restoration works carried out on the property, for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 39 Historic Area of Québec (Canada)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the report transmitted by the State Party;
2. Congratulates the Canadian authorities on the actions undertaken in accordance with the recommendations made by the ICOMOS mission and by the 25th session of the Committee;
3. Requests the State Party to continue working in close consultation with ICOMOS and the Centre;
4. Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, a progress report on this matter for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 40 Churches of Chiloé (Chile)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the State Party for the rapidity of its intervention and for the detailed study provided summarizing the important damage caused by the winds;
2. Recommends that the requested emergency assistance be granted in order to finalize the work as soon as possible;

3. Requests the State Party to submit by 1 February 2003, a detailed progress report on the restoration works, for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 41 Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor (China)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the state of conservation report and decision of the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII.78-83.

**26 COM 21 (b) 42 Historical Ensemble of the Potala Palace, Lhasa (China)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined the report on the state of conservation of this property and further information provided by the Centre;
2. Takes note of the additional information presented by the State Party;
3. Encourages the State Party to continue its efforts to rehabilitate and enhance the state of conservation of this World Heritage property;
4. Expresses its appreciation to the State Party for welcoming the proposal for a joint UNESCO-ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to examine the state of conservation of the property and to undertake consultations with the site management authorities;
5. Requests that a joint UNESCO-ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission with this mandate be organized before the 27th session of the Committee;
6. Decides to examine the findings and recommendations of this mission at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 43 Colonial City of Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the state of conservation report and adopts the decision of the Bureau, contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII, 116-117;
2. Requests the State Party to provide a report by 1 February 2003, to include additional information on progress made, as well as on the report of the

Environment Secretariat and on the decisions taken concerning the draft law on monumental heritage, to be examined by the 27th session of the Committee in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 44 Islamic Cairo (Egypt)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the State Party for its great commitment towards the rehabilitation of Islamic Cairo, and particularly for having opened the debate on the current restoration and conservation projects and initiated, in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre, the activities that the Committee recommended at its 25th session, including the Conservation Handbook;
2. Recommends that these activities be continued and strongly encourages the State Party to concentrate its efforts on the priorities indicated in the conclusions of the International Symposium, including awareness programmes for the inhabitants of Islamic Cairo, in close consultation with the Centre and through periodical technical missions by UNESCO experts who would review and advise on current projects;
3. Reiterates its recommendation to the State Party to invest adequate resources towards capacity building in the area of urban and architectural conservation for the staff of the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

**26 COM 21 (b) 45 Memphis and its Necropolis, the Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur (Egypt)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the proposed project to execute a tunnel under the Plateau of the Pyramids;
2. Further notes, with satisfaction, the assurances provided by the Delegate of Egypt that this proposal would not be implemented;
3. Requests the Centre to report on the progress on this matter at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 46 City-Museum Reserve of Mtskheta (Georgia)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Strongly urges the State Party of Georgia to provide before the 1 September 2002, a report on the on-going constructions and degradations at the site;
2. Requests the Government authorities to ensure that all these works are halted and that no further restoration works or constructions in close proximity to the Cathedral be undertaken;
3. Requests that the authorities invite an UNESCO-ICOMOS mission to the site in the near future and that a report be presented for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 47 Classical Weimar (Germany)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the state of conservation report and the decision of the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII, 101-102.

**26 COM 21 (b) 48 Hanseatic City of Lübeck (Germany)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the information provided by ICOMOS on the meeting held in Lübeck;
2. Requests the German authorities to provide a detailed report on the results of the meeting, including the progress of the project by 1 February 2003;
3. Further asks the authorities to provide information in a timely manner on any planned interventions within the site, in compliance with article 56 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

**26 COM 21 (b) 49 Acropolis, Athens (Greece)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the information provided concerning the construction project located outside the site, outside the buffer zone and outside of the historic centre of Athens;

2. Requests the State Party to give urgent consideration to a redefinition of the buffer zone in order to better protect the visual setting of the monument;
3. Requests the State Party to undertake a visual impact study, notably concerning the site of the Acropolis;
4. Further requests the State Party to provide information on any development projects which have an impact on the visual integrity of the World Heritage site;
5. Invites the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, a report on these matters for examination by its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 50      Ajanta Caves / Ellora Caves (India)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the state of conservation report and the decision of the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII, 84-86 and the additional information provided by the State Party at this session.

**26 COM 21 (b) 51      Sun Temple of Konarak (India)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the state of conservation report and the decision of the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraph XII, 87 and the additional information provided by the State Party at this session.

**26 COM 21 (b) 52      Sangiran Early Man Site (Indonesia)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the State Party for hosting the UNESCO Training Seminar on Conservation, Preservation and Management of Zhoukoudian and Sangiran Cultural World Heritage Sites in April 2002, supported by the World Heritage Fund;
2. Notes the absence of a permanent site-management authority supported by both conservation and development authorities and expresses its gratitude to the authorities for establishing a "Co-ordinating Board for the Protection and Management of Sangiran World Heritage Site";

3. Encourages the Board to elaborate a comprehensive management plan for the property, including a systematic monitoring scheme;
4. Encourages the authorities to seek technical and financial co-operation from the World Heritage Fund and through UNESCO agreements in order to increase the capacity of the officers responsible for the conservation, preservation and management of the property and to enhance site interpretation and presentation as well as community awareness;
5. Requests the World Heritage Centre to assist the authorities in mobilizing resources in an appropriate and timely manner;
6. Notes that recent archaeological excavations surrounding the existing World Heritage property have revealed valuable archaeological and scientific deposits;
7. Encourages the authorities to consider extending the World Heritage property to include the newly excavated areas of potential World Heritage value.

**26 COM 21 (b) 53 Meidan Emam, Esfahan (Iran)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Congratulates the high level of conservation of the public monuments composing the Historic Centre of Esfahan, including the Meidan Emam World Heritage area;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the State Party for its efforts to implement the recommendation of the 1995 UNESCO mission to extend the World Heritage protected area to include key monuments and historic architectural ensembles representing the Safavid period urban planning scheme, and encourages the authorities to submit by 1 February 2003 the final nomination for the extension;
3. Expresses concern over the new commercial complex being constructed within the "Conservation Protective Zone of Esfahan Historic City" which replaced a historic caravanserai and negatively impacts upon the skyline of the historic city;
4. Noting that the height of the new structure violates the maximum limitation of the construction within the Protective Zone, strongly recommends that the authorities redesign the commercial complex to ensure that height restrictions and regulations established by the Iranian Cultural Heritage Organization are followed;
5. Requests that the joint mission scheduled in early July 2002, be undertaken by an ICOMOS expert and an international urban planner and funded under the France - UNESCO Co-operation Agreement, to examine together with the authorities concerned, ways and means of limiting the negative impact caused by this new construction;
6. Requests the State Party to submit by 1 February 2003, a report on the state of conservation of the property for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 54 Town of Luang Prabang  
(Lao People's Democratic Republic)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Upon examination of the findings of the UNESCO-ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission, expresses great concern over the ill-designed public works, particularly the road widening in the protected urban wetlands area and the riverbank consolidation along the Mekong financed under the Asian Development Bank loan which undermine the World Heritage value of the site, and the lack of compliance with the conservation plan (PSMV), despite its official adoption by the local and national authorities;
2. Endorses the 8-point corrective measures proposed by the mission;
3. Invites the Director-General to write to the President of the Asian Development Bank requesting the latter to support the local authorities of Luang Prabang in reinforcing the urban conservation and management capacity;
4. Requests the Centre to discuss the modalities for the implementation of the corrective measures;
5. Further requests the Centre and the Advisory Bodies to provide technical support to the State Party in the implementation of the proposed corrective measures;
6. Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, a progress report on the implementation of corrective measures for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 55 Byblos (Lebanon)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the State Party for its efforts, in conjunction with the World Bank, for the rehabilitation of the Old City of Byblos and its social and economic revitalization;
2. Expresses concern for some of the proposed interventions, which would be incompatible with the outstanding universal values that justified the inscription of the site on the World Heritage List;
3. Invites the State Party to ensure that adequate resources, possibly within this project, be made available to support the necessary conservation and presentation works within the archaeological area, and especially the strengthening of the capacity and number of local staff of the Directorate-General for Antiquities;



4. Requests the Secretariat to approach urgently the World Bank in order to obtain a complete set of the preparatory studies on Byblos carried out in the framework of the World Bank Project, for careful examination by the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and the Committee, before a final agreement is reached between the Government of Lebanon and the World Bank on the scope of the activities within this project;
5. Invites the State Party to discard plans for an extension of the jetty, and to engage in a thorough investigation of the under-water areas surrounding the site and the harbour;
6. Encourages the Lebanese authorities to develop a comprehensive urban conservation plan, including provisions for the areas adjacent to the archaeological site, the medieval enclosure, the areas of archaeological potential on the two sides of the Decumanus Maximus, and the zones to the North and South of Byblos, to protect the site and its buffer zones from further encroachments;
7. Strongly encourages the State Party to submit international assistance requests under the World Heritage Fund, to complement the World Bank funding, in order to accomplish the above-mentioned recommendations;
8. Requests the State Party to submit by 1 February 2003, a report on the progress of the situation for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 56 Tyre (Lebanon)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the State Party and the World Bank for the very important actions proposed in favour of the cultural heritage of Tyre;
2. Requests that attention be paid to the need to ensure the protection of all archaeological areas within the World Heritage site, and especially those currently not excavated and exposed to risk of encroachment;
3. Recommends that ways and means be explored to integrate into the scope of the World Bank Project, the preparation of a comprehensive archaeological map of the entire World Heritage site of Tyre, if necessary through applying for complementary international assistance from the World Heritage Fund;
4. Strongly encourages the State Party to make all possible efforts to ensure that the structure of the Directorate-General for Antiquities be permanently and considerably strengthened as a matter of urgency to ensure that the extraordinary opportunity provided by the World Bank Project to build capacities in the conservation and management of the cultural heritage not be missed;
5. Requests the State Party to provide assurances on the protection of the archaeological areas to be expropriated, and to submit, by 1 February 2003, a

report on the status of the Highway Project, as well as on the alleged plan to develop the Natural Reserve, for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 57 Curonian Spit (Lithuania/Russian Federation)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the information provided concerning the serious environmental risks of this project;
2. Urges the State Party of the Russian Federation to provide by 1 October 2002 a report on the oil exploration project and to carry out the Environmental Impact Assessment in collaboration with Lithuanian experts;
3. Requests the two States Parties to cooperate closely to develop effective environmental protection measures;
4. Encourages furthermore the two States Parties to collaborate in undertaking comprehensive risk assessments and develop emergency contingency plans taking into account a range of risk scenarios and to provide a report on the situation by 1 February 2003 for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 58 City of Luxembourg: its Old Quarters and Fortifications (Luxembourg)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the report provided by the State Party on the actions undertaken by the authorities of Luxembourg in adapting the project as requested by the Committee and local authorities, thus removing any grounds for objection;
2. Notes with satisfaction the projects regarding the conservation and protection of the archaeological remains, which are to be implemented in the near future;
3. Requests the State Party to continue working in close co-operation with ICOMOS and the Centre in the implementation of the project.

**26 COM 21 (b) 59 Ancient Ksour of Ouadane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata (Mauritania)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Recommends to the State Party to integrate the Action Plan developed by the World Heritage Centre into its national strategy aiming at the safeguarding of the

cultural heritage, as well as the social and economic revitalization of the cities, and more specifically in the framework of the project "Safeguarding and Presentation of Mauritanian World Cultural Heritage" and in the chapter "Integrated Urban Development" of the Strategic Framework of the Fight Against Poverty, funded by the World Bank;

2. Requests the State Party to ensure, in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and through an appropriate institutional mechanism, that all interventions at the four cities are jointly coordinated and compatible with the outstanding universal values justifying their inscription on the World Heritage List;
3. Invites the State Party to ensure that, following the result of the organizational and institutional audit of the legal and institutional framework of the heritage sector, necessary resources be attributed for the functioning of the competent management and technical structure for the conservation of World Heritage and the training of its personnel.

**26 COM 21 (b) 60 Historic Centre of Puebla (Mexico)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Adopts the recommendations contained in the report of the ICOMOS monitoring mission undertaken 12-14 May 2002;
2. Notes with satisfaction that these recommendations are being attended by the local authorities;
3. Requests that a progress report be submitted by 1 February 2003 for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 61 Ksar Ait Ben Haddou (Morocco)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Thanks the State Party for its commitment towards the rehabilitation of this World Heritage site, shown by the numerous initiatives undertaken under the thrust of the Site Management Commission;
2. Expresses its concern at the launching of a series of important infrastructure projects at the site while the listing procedure is not yet completed, and especially in the absence of an adequate management plan prepared according to recognized international scientific standards, as well as of a management structure capable of ensuring the overall technical coordination and the monitoring of the various initiatives;

3. Reiterates its request to the Moroccan authorities to adopt, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre, the necessary measures for the creation of a technical team and the preparation of a management plan and, to this end, encourages the State Party to apply for international assistance through the World Heritage Fund;
4. Requests the State Party to submit, by 1 February 2003, a report on the progress accomplished, for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 62 Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha (Nepal)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined the report on the state of conservation of the property and new information provided by the Centre, the State Party and ICOMOS;
2. Recognizes the need for presenting this pilgrimage centre in an appropriate manner;
3. Expresses grave concern over the intrusive and heavy construction of the new Maya Devi Temple recently built over the archaeological remains within the core zone of Lumbini in spite of the existence of archaeological deposits in the immediate vicinity of the already exposed archaeological remains of the Maya Devi Temple;
4. Considering that a UNESCO reactive monitoring mission, originally organized to assist the authorities in finalizing the design of the Maya Devi Temple shelter, was undertaken between 25 June - 2 July 2002;
5. Decides to examine further information and recommendations of this mission at its 27th session;
6. Requests the State Party in the interim period to provide information concerning the existing conservation codes applicable to this property and management mechanisms that ensure the protection of the World Heritage values of the property;
7. Requests that a report on the state of conservation of the property be submitted by 1 February 2003 for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 63 Chavin Archaeological site (Peru)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the state of conservation report and the decision taken by the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraph XII, 125-127;

2. Encourages the State Party to finalize and implement the management plan;
3. Recognizes the efforts carried out by the State Party in order to preserve the site, in particular by applying priority measures in the framework of the emergency plan;
4. Requests that a progress report be submitted by 1 February 2003 for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 64 Historic Centre of Lima (Peru)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Congratulates the State Party on the rapid actions undertaken following the tragic fire of 29 December 2002;
2. Encourages the State Party to reinforce its efforts in the implementation of preventive measures against potential natural and man-made risks in the so-called high-risk area of the Historic Centre of Lima;
3. Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, progress report on the measures taken for the rehabilitation and safeguarding of the site, for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003;
4. Requests to carry out, as soon as possible, a reactive monitoring mission on the construction plan for modern buildings in the historic centre and to provide by 1 February 2003, a report for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 65 Auschwitz Concentration Camp (Poland)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the report provided on Auschwitz Concentration Camp and its surroundings and thanks the State Party for its commitment concerning this site;
2. Urges, however, the State Party to finalize the management plan for the site as well as to urgently address the social and commercial development problems in the vicinity of the sites;
3. Requests that an approved management plan and timetable for the implementation of the recommendations of the international mission be submitted by 1 February 2003 for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 66 Cultural Landscape of Sintra (Portugal)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the report provided by the State Party;
2. Congratulates the Portuguese authorities for the actions undertaken in view of the preservation and protection of the World Heritage site;
3. Recalls the practical steps recommended by the joint IUCN-ICOMOS mission and adopted by the Bureau at its 24th extraordinary session: creation of an independent Cultural Landscape Advisory Committee; creation of an advisory body/association of residents; the establishment of a public information, research and archives centre; and an adjustment of the high protection area of the Natural Park to coincide with the core area of the World Heritage site;
4. Urges the State Party to submit by 1 February 2003, a detailed report on these recommendations as well as a detailed management plan for the site for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003.

**26 COM 21 (b) 67 Historic Centre of Sighisoara (Romania)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/17  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.11*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the report of the joint UNESCO-ICOMOS mission undertaken to the site;
2. Notes with great concern the poor state of conservation of the World Heritage site and the high potential negative impacts, cultural as well as environmental, of the proposed theme park project on the site;
3. Recalls paragraphs 80 to 82 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
4. Urges the State Party:
  1. To enhance the state of conservation of the property as a matter of urgency before the Committee considers any steps towards its inclusion on the List of World Heritage in Danger; and in this regard, to seek immediately both national and international funding and to request, for the most urgent restoration works, technical co-operation assistance for the preservation and protection of the World Heritage site. The Committee recalls that funds could be made available, upon request of the State Party, from the World Heritage Fund;
  2. To establish, as a matter of urgency, a World Heritage coordination team, attached to the city administration, responsible for management, in order to

prepare an overall management plan, including management of tourism, for the World Heritage site;

3. To take into account the critical social issues of the city and region in any further developments in and around the city of Sighisoara; and to take into account the existing potential development represented notably by a series of World Heritage sites in the region, in particular for cultural itineraries and cultural tourism;
5. Takes note with satisfaction of the intention of the Romanian authorities to relocate the proposed theme park, which was planned at a distance of 1.5 km from the World Heritage site;
6. Requests furthermore the State Party to avoid constructing the Park in the vicinity of World Heritage sites in Transylvania;
7. Requests the State Party to define, as soon as possible, a management plan for the site;
8. Requests the State Party to provide by 1 February 2003, a report on this matter and on the status of the project for examination at its 27th session in June/July 2003;

**26 COM 21 (b) 68 Spissky Hrad and its Associated Cultural Monuments (Slovakia)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the state of conservation report and the decision of the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraph XII, 106-107.

**26 COM 21 (b) 69 Old City of Salamanca (Spain)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the ICOMOS mission report indicating that the auditorium project in the Old City of Salamanca is likely to greatly alter the immediate vicinity of several historic monuments in the centre of which its construction is foreseen and could also alter the outstanding values for which the site was inscribed on the World Heritage List;
2. Recommends that the State Party seek another location for this project, the utility of which is not disputed;

3. Recommends, with regard to the management of the World Heritage site, that the State Party avoid making minor modifications to the present safeguarding plan and elaborate a new adapted and sustainable management plan.

**26 COM 21 (b) 70 Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites (United Kingdom)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the state of conservation report and the decision of the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraph XII, 108-109.

**26 COM 21 (b) 71 Colonia de Sacramento (Uruguay)**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Recommends that the State Party involve the local community in the finalization of the management plan of the site;
2. Recommends that the major development project proposed by the Buquebus ferry company at the harbour of Colonia de Sacramento be postponed until proper assessment of the project is available.

**26 COM 21 (b) 72 My Son Sanctuary (Viet Nam)**

*Documents: WHC-02/CONF.202/2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/17*

The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note the decision of the Bureau contained in document WHC-02/CONF.202/2, paragraphs XII 98-100.

**22 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/19*

**26 COM 22** The World Heritage Committee<sup>12</sup>,

1. Thanks the Minister of Information and Culture for honouring the Committee by his participation at its 26th session;

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<sup>12</sup> See also related decision **26 COM 23.2** and **26 COM 23.3**, and **26 COM 24.2.4**.



2. Congratulates the authorities and people of Afghanistan for their efforts to protect the heritage in Afghanistan during the long years of conflict;
3. Welcomes the priority importance attached by the Government of Afghanistan for the safeguarding of their natural and cultural heritage;
4. Expresses appreciation for the efforts made by UNESCO, the Advisory Bodies, donor governments and the non-governmental organizations supporting the re-establishment of the heritage protection and conservation authorities in Afghanistan;
5. Adopts the recommendations in document WHC-02/CONF.202/19 and decides to annex them to this list of decisions (Annex II);
6. Encourages continued international solidarity with Afghanistan, particularly by calling upon experts from the countries in the region to foster co-operation among States Parties sharing common cultural roots;
7. Requests the Director-General and the Advisory Bodies to continue assisting the Government of Afghanistan in elaborating a medium and long-term action plan for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and in mobilizing international support for operations benefiting the natural and cultural heritage of Afghanistan<sup>13</sup>;
8. Requests the Director-General to support the Afghan authorities in preventing illicit excavation and in establishing local monitoring, protection and conservation mechanisms for the Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam and other sites;
9. Urges the Government of Afghanistan to become signatory to the *Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict*, (The Hague, 1954) and its two Protocols, the *UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property*, the *UNIDROIT Convention* and other international legal instruments protecting cultural and natural heritage;
10. Strongly urges the neighbouring countries of Afghanistan to co-operate in strengthening control of their national borders to prevent further illicit traffic of Afghan heritage;
11. Invites the Director-General to organize actions similar to those undertaken in Angkor (Cambodia) with the International Council of Museums (ICOM) to increase the Afghan national capacity to prevent illicit trafficking of heritage.

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<sup>13</sup> See decision **26 COM 24.2.4**.

**23 INFORMATION ON TENTATIVE LISTS AND EXAMINATION OF NOMINATIONS OF CULTURAL AND NATURAL PROPERTIES TO THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER AND THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

*Documents:* WHC-02/CONF.202/20 Rev.  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.4  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.4 Add.1  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.4 Add.2  
WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.5

**23A TENTATIVE LISTS**

**26 COM 23.1** The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the Tentative Lists as set out in document WHC-02/CONF.202/20 Rev.

**23B NEW INSCRIPTIONS ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

**26 COM 23.2** The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam, Afghanistan** on the World Heritage List on the basis of *cultural criteria (ii), (iii) and (iv)*:

*Criterion (ii):* The innovative architecture and decoration of the Minaret of Jam played a significant role in the development of the arts and architecture of the Indian sub-continent and beyond.

*Criterion (iii):* The Minaret of Jam and its associated archaeological remains constitute exceptional testimony to the power and quality of the Ghurid civilization that dominated its region in the 12th and 13th centuries.

*Criterion (iv):* The Minaret of Jam is an outstanding example of Islamic architecture and ornamentation in this region and played a significant role in their further dissemination.

**26 COM 23.3** The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam, Afghanistan** on the List of World Heritage in Danger, with the agreement of the State Party.

**26 COM 23.4** The World Heritage Committee,

Approves the extension of the marine zone of **Cocos Island National Park, Costa Rica** on the basis of the existing *natural criteria (ii) and (iv)*.

**26 COM 23.5** The World Heritage Committee,  
Inscribes the Saint Catherine Area, Egypt on the basis of *cultural criteria (i), (iii), (iv) and (vi)*:

- Criterion (i)*: The architecture of St Catherine's Monastery, the outstanding collection of manuscripts and religious books, the artistic treasures that it houses, and its domestic integration into a rugged landscape combine to make it an outstanding example of human creative genius.
- Criterion (iii)*: St Catherine's Monastery is one of the very early outstanding examples in Eastern tradition of a Christian monastic settlement located in a remote area. It demonstrates an intimate relationship between natural grandeur and spiritual commitment.
- Criterion (iv)*: Ascetic monasticism in remote areas prevailed in the early Christian church and resulted in the establishment of monastic communities in remote places. St Catherine's Monastery is one of the earliest of these and the oldest to have survived intact, being used for its initial function without interruption since the 6th century.
- Criterion (vi)*: The St Catherine's area, centred on the holy mountain of Mount Sinai (Jebel Musa, Mount Horeb), like the Old City of Jerusalem, is sacred to three world religions: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism.

**26 COM 23.6** With regard to the **Saint Catherine Area, Egypt** the World Heritage Committee:

1. Invites the State Party to prepare a visitor-management plan for the monastery and to implement the 1998 sustainable development plan for the town of St Catherine;
2. Further invites the State Party to submit a progress report in these areas by 1 February 2004 for examination at its 28th session in 2004.

**26 COM 23.7** The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the Historic Centres of Stralsund and Wismar, Germany on the basis of *cultural criteria (ii) and (iv)* :

- Criterion (ii)*: Wismar and Stralsund, leading centres of the Wendish section of the Hanseatic League from the 13th to 15th centuries and major administrative and defence centres in the Swedish kingdom in the 17th and 18th centuries, contributed to the development and diffusion of brick construction techniques and building types, characteristic features of Hanseatic towns in the Baltic region, as well as the development of defence systems in the Swedish period.

*Criterion (iv):* Stralsund and Wismar have crucial importance in the development of the building techniques and urban form that became typical of the Hanseatic trading towns, well documented in the major parish churches, the town hall of Stralsund, and the commercial building types, such as the *Dielenhaus*.

The inscription is for two historic centres.

Historic Town Centre	Area	Buffer Zone
Stralsund	80 ha	340 ha
Wismar	88 ha	108 ha
Total	168 ha	448 ha

**26 COM 23.8** With regard to the **Historic Centres of Stralsund and Wismar, Germany**, the World Heritage Committee,

Recommends to the German authorities that special attention be given to the regulation of the design of modern details and the appropriate use of materials and technology in the rehabilitation of historic structures. The height and design of any new building or addition considered as essential within the historic core area and in its surroundings should respect the traditional skyline and character of the historic town.

**26 COM 23.9** The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Upper Middle Rhine Valley, Germany** on the basis of *cultural criteria (ii), (iv) and (v)*:

*Criterion (ii):* As one of the most important transport routes in Europe, the Middle Rhine Valley has for two millennia facilitated the exchange of culture between the Mediterranean region and the north.

*Criterion (iv):* The Middle Rhine Valley is an outstanding organic cultural landscape, the present-day character of which is determined both by its geomorphological and geological setting and by the human interventions, such as settlements, transport infrastructure, and land-use, that it has undergone over two thousand years.

*Criterion (v):* The Middle Rhine Valley is an outstanding example of an evolving traditional way of life and means of communication in a narrow river valley. The terracing of its steep slopes in particular has shaped the landscape in many ways for more than two millennia. However, this form of land-use is under threat from the socio-economic pressures of the present day.

**26 COM 23.10** The World Heritage Committee,

Approves the extension of **Budapest, the Banks of the Danube and the Buda Castle Quarter, Hungary** with the **Andrássy Avenue and the Millennium Underground Railway** on the basis of the existing *cultural criteria (ii) and (iv)*.

**26 COM 23.11** With regard to **Budapest**, and in particular the **Andrássy Avenue (1872-85) and the Millennium Underground Railway (1893-96), Hungary**, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the Hungarian authorities to: (a) consider measures to improve the public spaces and street amenities; (b) propose incentives that could stimulate the conservation of residential housing in the World Heritage area, and (c) improve control of the growing automobile traffic.

**26 COM 23.12** With regard to **Budapest, the Banks of the Danube and the Buda Castle Quarter, Hungary**, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the Hungarian authorities to extend the buffer zone of the World Heritage area to the western side of the existing property, on the Buda side of the town.

**26 COM 23.13** The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Tokaji Wine Region Cultural Landscape, Hungary** on the basis of *cultural criteria (iii) and (v)*:

*Criterion (iii)* The Tokaji wine region represents a distinct viticultural tradition that has existed for at least a thousand years and which has survived intact up to the present.

*Criterion (v)* The entire landscape of the Tokaji wine region, including both vineyards and long established settlements, vividly illustrates the specialized form of traditional land-use that it represents.

The Tokaji Wine Region is a serial nomination of a core area and six historic cellars:

Site	Towns	Area (ha)	Buffer Zone (ha)
Tokaji Wine Region	Tokaj, Bodrogkeresztúr, Bodrogkisfalud, Mád, Mezőzombor, Rátka, Szegi, Tarcal, Tállya	13,245	74,879
Ungvári Cellar	Sátoraljaújhely	4.0	
Rákóczi Cellar	Sárospatak	0.8	
Köporosi Cellars	Herceggút	1.7	
Gomboshegyi Cellars	Herceggút	2.0	
Oremus Cellars	Tolcsva	0.9	

Tolcsva Wine Museum Cellars	Tolcsva	0.6	
	TOTAL AREA	13,255 ha	74,879 ha

**26 COM 23.14** With regard to the **Tokaji Wine Region Cultural Landscape, Hungary**, the World Heritage Committee.

Recommends to the Hungarian and Slovakian authorities to continue to collaborate towards a transboundary extension of the property on the World Heritage List.

**26 COM 23.15** The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya, India** on the basis of *cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi)* :

*Criterion (i):* The grand 50m-high Mahabodhi Temple of the 5th-6th centuries is of immense importance, being one of the earliest temple constructions existing in the Indian sub-continent. It is one of the few representations of the architectural genius of the Indian people in constructing fully developed brick temples in that era.

*Criterion (ii)* The Mahabodhi Temple, one of the few surviving examples of early brick structures in India, has had significant influence in the development of architecture over the centuries.

*Criterion (iii):* The site of the Mahabodhi Temple provides exceptional records for the events associated with the life of Buddha and subsequent worship, particularly since Emperor Asoka built the first temple, the balustrades, and the memorial column.

*Criterion (iv):* The present Temple is one of the earliest and most imposing structures built entirely in brick from the late Gupta period. The sculpted stone balustrades are an outstanding early example of sculptural reliefs in stone.

*Criterion (vi):* The Mahabodhi Temple Complex in Bodh Gaya has direct association with the life of the Lord Buddha, being the place where He attained the supreme and perfect insight.

**26 COM 23.16** With regard to the **Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya, India**, the World Heritage Committee,

Recommends to the Indian authorities to develop an overall management plan to protect the values of the World Heritage site. Such a plan should include a provision for regular monitoring of conditions at the site, including the impact that tourism may have on the religious and spiritual significance of the place.

**26 COM 23.17** The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Late Baroque Towns of the Val di Noto (South-Eastern Sicily), Italy** on the basis of *cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iv) and (v)*:

*Criterion (i):* This group of towns in south-eastern Sicily provides outstanding testimony to the exuberant genius of late Baroque art and architecture.

*Criterion (ii):* The towns of the Val di Noto represent the culmination and final flowering of Baroque art in Europe.

*Criterion (iv):* The exceptional quality of the late Baroque art and architecture in the Val di Noto lies in its geographical and chronological homogeneity, as well as its quantity, the result of the 1693 earthquake in this region.

*Criterion (v):* The eight towns of south-eastern Sicily that make up this nomination, which are characteristic of the settlement pattern and urban form of this region, are permanently at risk from earthquakes and eruptions of Mount Etna.

This serial nomination concerns eight towns in the southeast of Sicily:

Town	Province	Area	Buffer
Caltagirone	Catania	22.90 ha	47.86 ha
Catania	Catania	38.50 ha	80.13 ha
Militello Val di Catania	Catania	1.43 ha	27.48 ha
Modica	Ragusa	9.00 ha	34.00 ha
Noto	Siracusa	21.38 ha	48.09 ha
Palazzolo Acreide	Siracusa	1.37 ha	33.74 ha
Ragusa	Ragusa	17.39 ha	29.32 ha
Scicli	Scicli	0.82 ha	5.18 ha
	TOTAL	212.76 ha	305.80 ha

**26 COM 23.18** The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Ancient Maya City of Calakmul, Campeche, Mexico** on the basis of *cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)*:

*Criterion (i):* The many commemorative stelae at Calakmul are outstanding examples of Maya art, which throw much light on the political and spiritual development of the city.

*Criterion (ii):* With a single site Calakmul displays an exceptionally well preserved series of monuments and open spaces representative of Maya architectural, artistic, and urban development over a period of twelve centuries.

*Criterion (iii):* The political and spiritual way of life of the Maya cities of the Tierras Bajas region is admirably demonstrated by the impressive remains of Calakmul.

*Criterion (iv):* Calakmul is an outstanding example of a significant phase in human settlement and the development of architecture.

**26 COM 23.19** With regard to the **Ancient Maya City of Calakmul, Campeche, Mexico**, the World Heritage Committee,

Recommends to the State Party that the practice of retaining trees within the monumental structures of the site be reconsidered, in light of the possible structural damage that these trees may cause and the visual impact of the trees on spaces that were traditionally open.

**26 COM 23.20** The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Historic Inner City of Paramaribo, Suriname** on the basis of *cultural criteria (ii) and (iv)*:

*Criterion (ii):* Paramaribo is an exceptional example of the gradual fusion of European architecture and construction techniques with indigenous South American materials and crafts to create a new architectural idiom.

*Criterion (iv):* Paramaribo is a unique example of the contact between the European culture of the Netherlands and the indigenous cultures and environment of South America in the years of intensive colonization of this region in the 16th and 17th centuries.

**26 COM 23.21** The World Heritage Committee,

Defers the nomination proposal of the **Wooden Churches of Southern Little Poland, Poland** with the understanding that the State Party will provide a comprehensive management plan for the six churches in accordance with paragraphs 6(v) and 24(b)(2) of the *Operational Guidelines*.

**26 COM 23.22** The World Heritage Committee,

Defers the nomination proposal of the **Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy, Italy** with the understanding that the State Party will provide a comprehensive management plan for the nine *Sacri Monti* in accordance with paragraphs 6(v) and 24(b)(2) of the *Operational Guidelines*.

## **23C NEW INSCRIPTIONS ON THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER**

**26 COM 23.23** The World Heritage Committee,

Recalls its decision to inscribe the following properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger:



1. Archaeological Site of Tipasa, Algeria (**26 COM 21 (b) 34**);
2. Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam, Afghanistan (**26 COM 23.3**)

## **24 ADJUSTMENTS TO THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND BUDGET FOR 2002-2003**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/21*

**26 COM 24.1**            The World Heritage Committee,

Takes note of the accounts of the World Heritage Fund for the biennium 2000-2001 approved by the UNESCO Comptroller annexed to the document WHC-02/CONF.202/21.

**26 COM 24.2**            The World Heritage Committee,

1. Decides to reinstate the originally budgeted amount for the Global Strategy biennial budget Chapter II.1 for the Caribbean region. The final figures thus become US\$20,000 for the year 2002, and US\$25,000 for the year 2003;
2. Decides to create a line “Additional services ICOMOS/IUCN” under Chapter II.3 for an amount of US\$20,000 to compensate for workload increases and unbalances between the Advisory Bodies;
3. Decides to reduce in compensation the amounts provided for the *Operational Guidelines* under Chapter I.3 by US\$28,000 for 2003;
4. Decides that an amount of US\$150,000 be provided for the assistance to Afghanistan<sup>14</sup> (US\$50,000 in year 2002 and US\$100,000 in year 2003), to finance the following activities to support national efforts for rehabilitating Afghan cultural and natural heritage : in 2002, Training for National Capacity Building and an IUCN mission for elaborating a natural heritage national plan; in 2003, elaboration of project proposals by the World Heritage Centre to mobilize international technical and financial support; Natural Heritage Documentation for elaborating a Tentative List; Cultural Heritage Documentation for re-establishing the national inventory and for elaborating a Tentative List; conservation and management of the Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam; preparation of the reformulation of the nomination dossier of the Monuments and Sites of Bamiyan Valley; examining the state of conservation and formulating a nomination dossier for the Lakes of Bandi-e-Amir;
5. Decides that a financial allocation of US\$150,000 be provided in favour of the protection of the cultural heritage of the Palestinian territories<sup>15</sup> in year 2003 from the Emergency Reserve Fund in support to the following actions envisaged: definition of a detailed plan of action for the implementation of the foreseen activities, and particularly for the establishment of an inventory of the cultural and

<sup>14</sup> See also decision **26 COM 22**.

<sup>15</sup> See also decisions **26 COM 6.1** and **26 COM 6.2**.

natural heritage of potential outstanding universal value within the Palestinian Territories; the assessment of its state of conservation and the identification of measures for its preservation and rehabilitation; as well as for the training and capacity building of Palestinian specialists in the field of preservation and safeguarding of cultural and natural heritage and heritage information management. Selected conservation measures could be also included in the Plan of Action.

**26 COM 24.3** The World Heritage Committee,

Decides, in accordance with the decision **26 COM 24.2**, to decrease the Contingency Reserve amount blocked in accordance with the decision adopted at its 17th session (1993), from US\$2,000,000 to US\$1,500,000.

## **25 INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/22*

### **25.1 INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS APPROVED BY THE BUREAU**

**26 COM 25.1** The Bureau of the World Heritage Committee meeting during this session, approves the following international assistance requests:

#### **PREPARATORY ASSISTANCE**

**26 COM 25.1.1** CULTURAL (Niger) *Preparation of the nomination file of the City of Agadez*

US\$30,000 for funding in 2003, the Bureau requests the State Party to prepare a management plan along with the nomination dossier.

**26 COM 25.1.2** CULTURAL (Bahrain) *Preparatory Assistance for Qal'at al-Bahrain Property on a tentative list*

US\$26,500 for funding in 2003.

**26 COM 25.1.3** CULTURAL (Turkmenistan) *Preparation of the nomination dossier of Kunya Urgench Property on a tentative list*

US\$30,000 for funding in 2003, subject to the State Party paying its dues for 2001 and 2002.

#### **TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION**

**26 COM 25.1.4** NATURAL (Guinea) *Biodiversity Conservation project for the Mount Nimba World Heritage Site in Danger*

US\$30,000 for funding in 2003.

## EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

**26 COM 25.1.5** CULTURAL (Lao PDR) *Emergency Assistance for inventorying the Plain of Jars Property on a tentative list*  
US\$60,000 for funding in 2003.

**26 COM 25.1.6** CULTURAL (Georgia) *Elaboration of an Emergency Rehabilitation Plan for Tbilisi Historic District following the earthquake of 25 April 2002*

Subject to the receipt of a detailed budget breakdown and workplan from the State Party and support by the Advisory Bodies of this additional information:

US\$50,000 for funding in 2002 and a second instalment for US\$25,000 for funding in 2003.

## 25.2 INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE

**26 COM 25.2** The World Heritage Committee approves the following international assistance requests:

### TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

**26 COM 25.2.1** CULTURE (Cape Verde) *National Programme for Culture and Heritage – Elaboration of an Inventory of Cape Verde’s heritage properties*  
US\$35,000 for funding in 2003, subject to the State Party paying its dues from 1994-2002.

**26 COM 25.2.2** CULTURAL (Algeria) *Elaboration of a Preliminary Plan of Conservation and Development of the M'Zab Valley*  
US\$35,000 for funding in 2003, subject to the State Party paying its dues for 2001 and 2002: The Committee requests the World Heritage Centre to co-ordinate the implementation of the activity in close collaboration with the national authorities concerned.

**26 COM 25.2.3** NATURAL (Colombia) *Preparation of the Management Plan for Los Katios National Park*  
US\$43,000 for funding under the remaining funds allocated for natural heritage Technical Co-operation of 2002, subject to IUCN supporting the additional clarifications provided by the State Party relative to the budget breakdown and workplan.

## TRAINING ASSISTANCE

**26 COM 25.2.4** MIXED (South Africa) *Organisation of the Regional Workshop "African Heritage and Sustainable Development*

US\$59,070 for funding in 2002, allocating US\$ 20,000 from Technical Co-operation reserved for Natural Heritage and US\$ 39,070 from Training for 2002, provided that a detailed budget breakdown is submitted by the State Party and approved by the IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM.

**26 COM 25.2.5** CULTURAL (Algeria) *Creation of a training centre at the Kasbah of Algiers*

US\$50,000, for funding in 2003 provided that the State Party clarifies the points raised by ICCROM.

**26 COM 25.2.6** CULTURAL (Afghanistan) *Training for national and local authorities in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Afghanistan, particularly focusing on the elaboration of Tentative Lists and the formulation of nomination dossiers of potential World Heritage properties*

US\$42,860 as part of the US\$50,000 Emergency Package for 2002.

**26 COM 25.2.7** MIXED (China) *Virtual Congress on World Heritage Management for Asia and the Pacific Architecture for Sustainable World Heritage Tourism*

US\$12,300 for funding in 2002. The Committee requests the Centre to utilize US\$10,000 from the Programme Initiative for Tourism.

**26 COM 25.2.8** CULTURAL (Turkmenistan) *Reinforcement of the capacities of the Department for Protection and Restoration of Monuments, Turkmenistan to conserve Ancient Merv*

US\$38,814 for funding in 2003 for this activity.

**26 COM 25.2.9** CULTURAL (Uzbekistan) *Restoration of the medersa "Rachid" at Bukhara and creation of an international training centre for the conservation of architectural heritage*

US\$21,960 for funding in 2003. The Committee requests the State Party to provide clarifications concerning the programmes for the theoretical courses and practical work.

## 25.3 GENERAL ISSUES

### 26 COM 25.3 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes that the currently applied procedures and mechanism for the application of international assistance, and in particular emergency assistance, need improvement to increase effectiveness and efficiency;
2. Decides to examine ways and means of enhancing the system for the allocation of international assistance within the framework of the "Revision of the *Operational Guidelines*", with a view to assure direct links between International Assistance and the Committee's Strategic Objectives of "Credibility, Conservation, Capacity building and Communication"<sup>16</sup>.

## 26 PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 27TH SESSION OF THE BUREAU OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, March 2003)

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/23*

### 26 COM 26 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Decides to convene an extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee at UNESCO Headquarters in March 2003, in accordance with rules 2.2 and 9.3 of the Rules of Procedure;
2. Adopts the provisional agenda for the extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee (Annex III), limiting the agenda of the session to those items of the present session on which discussion and/or decision was deferred, with an additional item on the selection of the nominations to be examined by the Committee in 2004 if more than 30 complete new nominations, in compliance with the Cairns decision<sup>17</sup>, are received by the World Heritage Centre by 1 February 2003;
3. Decides to convene a short session of the Bureau during the extraordinary session of the Committee to approve international assistance requests.

## 27 PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 27TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (Suzhou, China, 30 June - 5 July 2003)

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/24*

### 26 COM 27 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Thanks the Government of China for their kind and generous invitation to host the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee in Suzhou, China from 30 June - 5 July 2003;

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<sup>16</sup> See related decisions **26 COM 18** and **26 COM 26**.

<sup>17</sup> See document WHC-2000/CONF.204/21, VI.2.3 Representivity of the World Heritage List, 3. Nominations

2. Decides that items relating to the implementation of the Convention should be discussed as early as possible in the agenda for the meeting;
3. Adopts the provisional agenda for the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee (Annex IV).

## **28 OTHER BUSINESS**

**26 COM 28**                    The World Heritage Committee,

Requests the World Heritage Centre to revise the March 1999 *Operational Guidelines* to reflect the revised calendar and cycle for World Heritage Statutory Meetings as adopted by the Committee at its 24th session (Cairns, 2000). The revision should reflect the new 1 February deadline for receipt of state of conservation reports, international assistance requests and nominations from States Parties<sup>18</sup>.

## **29 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

*Document: WHC-02/CONF.202/25*

**26 COM 29**                    The World Heritage Committee,

Adopts the decisions presented in WHC-02/CONF.202/25, with amendments as agreed.

## **30 CLOSURE OF THE SESSION**

The 26th session of the World Heritage Committee was closed on 29 June 2002 by the Chairperson, Mr Tamás Fejérdy (Hungary). He thanked the Committee for their work and also thanked the Spanish authorities for having provided Spanish interpretation at this session in addition to the working languages.

The World Heritage Committee thanked the Chairperson and also the Hungarian authorities for their hospitality and the excellent organisation of the session.

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<sup>18</sup> See related decisions **26 COM 18** and **26 COM 26**.



**WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE  
COMITE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL**

**Vingt-sixième session / Twenty-sixth session**

**Budapest, Hungary / Budapest, Hongrie  
24 - 29 June 2002 / 24 - 29 juin 2002**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS / LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS**

**I. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE/ ETATS MEMBRES DU COMITE**

**ARGENTINA/ ARGENTINE**

**Pataro, Maria Susana**  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Dirección de Organismos  
Internacionales  
Esmeralda 1212 Piso 11  
1007 Buenos Aires

**Gonzalez, Ariel**  
First Secretary of Embassy  
Permanent Delegation of  
Argentina to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Rolandi, Diana**  
Directora  
Instituto Nacional de Antropología  
3 de Febrero  
1378-1426 Buenos Aires

**Balabusic, Ana Maria**  
Administración de Parques  
Nacionales  
Relaciones Institucionales y  
Cooperación Internacional  
Alsina 1418 6° Piso  
Capital Federal Buenos Aires

**Olmos, Rolando**  
Secretary of Embassy  
Embassy of Argentina  
Vérhalom u. 14-16  
1024 Budapest  
Hungary

**BELGIUM/ BELGIQUE**

**H.E. Mr Haesendonck, Yves**  
Ambassadeur  
Délégation de la Belgique  
auprès de l'UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

**Goedleven, Edgard**  
Head of the Division Monuments  
And Sites Ministry of Flanders  
Division Monuments and Sites  
Koning Albert II Laan 20 Bus 7  
B- 1000 Brussels

**Selfslagh, Bénédicte**  
Relations Internationales  
Division du Patrimoine, DGATLP  
Ministère de la Région Wallonne  
P/a 30 Avenue Junot  
75018 Paris  
France

**Demeter, Stephane**  
Attaché  
Direction Monuments et Sites  
Ministère de la Région Bruxelles-  
Capitale  
Rue du Progrès, 80  
B-1030 Bruxelles

**Devillers, Gislaine**  
Direction de la Protection  
Division du Patrimoine, DGATLP  
Ministère de la Région Wallonne  
Rue des Brigades d'Irlande, 1  
B-5100 Jambes

**Van Aerschot-Van Haeverbeeck,  
Suzanne**

Assistant to the Director  
Ministry of Flanders  
Division of Monuments and Sites  
Waistraat 1  
B- 3000 Leuven

**Van Lindt, Paul**  
Assistant to the Director  
Ministry of Flanders  
Division of Monuments and Sites  
Koning Albert II Laan 20 Bus 7  
B-1000 Brussels

**CHINA/ CHINE**

**H.E. Mr Zhang, Xuezhang**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegation to UNESCO  
23, Bd. Pasteur  
75015 Paris  
France

**Guo, Zhan**  
Secretary General of  
ICOMOS/China  
State Administration of Cultural  
Heritage  
10, North Chaoyangmen Street  
Beijing 100020

**Hu, Zhongping**  
Assistant Director  
Ministry of Construction China  
9 Sanlihe Road Baiwanzhuang  
Beijing

**Jagre, Losang Dainzin**  
Vice Mayor, Lhasa City  
22 Jiang Road  
Lhasa, Tibet



**Shao, Jianlin**

Deputy Secretary General  
Suzhou Municipal Government  
180, Sanxiang Road  
Suzhou 215004

**Sheng, Weiwei**

Deputy Director  
Foreign Affairs Office  
State Administration of Cultural  
Heritage  
10, North Chaoyangmen Street  
Beijing

**Tsering, Dorji**

Deputy Director  
Chenguan District  
8, East Beijing Road  
Lhasa, Tibet

**Wang, Fengwu**

Vice Director  
Ministry of Construction  
9, Sanlihe Road  
Beijing

**Yang, Zhijun**

Director  
Dept. for Protection of Monuments  
and Sites  
10, North Chaoyangmen Street  
Beijing

**Zhao, Jianrong**

Division Chief  
Ministry of Construction  
9, San Li He Road  
Beijing 100835

**Zou, Qishan**

First Secretary  
Délégation Permanente de China  
auprès de l'UNESCO  
23, Bd. Pasteur  
75015 Paris  
France

**C. S. Chan, Stephen**

Department Head of Cultural  
Heritage  
Macao Cultural Institute  
Rua Pedro Coutinho, No 27, 2 C  
Macao

**Ho, Heidi**

President  
Macao Cultural Institute  
Av. de Amizade, Praceta de  
Miramar, N°87-U, Edif San On  
Macao

**Chen, Du**

Deputy Director  
Suzhou Public Security Bureau  
Dashi Touxiang Alley  
Suzhou

**Chen, Rong**

Deputy Director  
Suzhou Cultural and Broadcasting  
Bureau  
88 Remin Road  
Suzhou

**Chen, Xicheng**

Deputy Director  
Construction Department Yunnan  
Province  
209 Xichang Road,  
Kunming, Yunnan

**Fang, Xiaoyu**

Mayor of Anyang City  
Hongqi Road,  
Anyang City, Henan

**Jin, Hongxian**

Deputy Director  
Suzhou City Planning Bureau  
182 Shiguan Street  
Suzhou

**Li, Yangseng**

Deputy Secretary General  
Municipal Peoples Government of  
Angang  
37 Reamin Road  
Anyang City, Henan

**Liang, Yongning**

Professor  
World Heritage Management Office  
of Yunnan  
Kuning University of Science and  
Technology  
Kunming, Yunnan

**Ling, Yan**

Officer  
Construction Department of  
Yunnan China  
209 Xichang Road  
Kunming, Yunnan

**Liu, Wen**

Vice Director  
Construction Department of  
Yunnan  
209 Xichang Road  
Kunming, Yunnan

**Pan, Yue**

Deputy Director  
Suzhou Foreign Affairs Office  
253 Shuhui Road  
Suzhou

**Qin, Jianmin**

Deputy Director  
Tourism Bureau of Macao  
47, Huanbinnan Road  
Anyang City, Henan

**Qiu, Xiaoxiang**

Deputy Director  
Suzhou Construction Bureau  
23, Jinfan Road, Suzhou

**Wang, Chunjie**

Director  
Municipal Cultural Bureau Anyang  
City  
Jiefang Road  
Anyang, Henan

**Xu, Li**

Deputy Director  
Suzhou Reception Office  
Suzhou

**Yu, Feng**

Interpreter  
Suzhou Foreign Affairs Office  
253, Zhuhui Road  
Suzhou

**Zhou, Suning**

Section Chief  
Administration of Gardens of  
Suzhou  
280, Renming Road  
Suzhou

**Da Luz, Augusto Jose**

Advisor  
Macao Foundation  
Av. Republica No. 6  
Macao

**COLOMBIA/ COLOMBIE****H.E. Mr Galan Sarmiento,  
Augusto**

Ambassador  
Permanent Delegation of Colombia  
to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Gonzales, Katya**  
Directora de Patrimonio  
Vice-ministra de Cultura  
Cra 8 No. 69-60  
Bogota

**Rodriguez, Edgar Emilio**  
Advisor, National Parks System  
Ministerio Del Medio Ambiente  
Carrera 10 No. 20-30  
Bogota

**H.E. Mr Pinilla, Belarmino**  
Ambassador  
Embassy of Colombia in Budapest  
Józsefhegyi u. 28-30  
1025 Budapest  
Hungary

**Alarcón Lopez, Martha Irma**  
Counsellor  
Embassy of Colombia in Budapest  
Józsefhegyi u. 28-30  
1025 Budapest  
Hungary

**Londoño, Maria Elena**  
Assistant to the Ambassador  
Embassy of Colombia  
Józsefhegyi u. 28-30  
1025 Budapest  
Hungary

#### **EGYPT/ EGYPTE**

**Gaballa, Ali Gaballa**  
Professor  
Ministry of Culture  
10, Road 298, New Maadi  
Cairo

**H.E Mr Abbas, Mohamed**  
Ambassador to Hungary  
Egyptian Embassy in Budapest  
Hungary

**Maksoud, Mohamed Abdel**  
General Director of Egyptian  
Antiquities S.C.N. Cairo Abb  
Asiyia

**Ghabbour, Samir**  
Rapporteur,  
Egyptian National MAB Committee  
Egyptian National Commission for  
UNESCO  
17 Kuwait Street, Dokki  
Cairo

**Ramzy, R.E.**  
Deputy Assistant  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Cairo

#### **FINLAND/ FINLANDE**

**H.E. Mr Hamilo, Esko**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegate of Finland to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Lilius, Henrik**  
Director General  
National Board of Antiquities  
P.O. Box 169,  
00511 Helsinki

**Ehrström, Margaretha**  
Senior Officer of Cultural Affairs  
National Board of Antiquities  
P.O. Box 169  
00511 Helsinki

**Flander, Jukka-Pekka**  
Senior Adviser  
Ministry of the Environment  
P.O. Box 35,  
00023, Government

**Heikkinen, Satu**  
Special Adviser  
Ministry of Education  
P.O. Box 29  
00023, Government

**Perttunen, Irma-Liisa**  
Counsellor  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs  
Katajanokanlaituri 3  
P.O. Box 176  
00161 Helsinki

**Salonen, Paivi**  
Senior Adviser  
Ministry of Education  
P.O. Box 29  
00023, Government

#### **GREECE/ GRECE**

**H.E. Mr Vassilikos, Vassilis**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegate of Greece to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Rallis, Alexandros**  
Deputy Permanent Delegate  
Permanent Delegation of Greece to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Methodiou, Helene**  
Conseiller on Cultural Affairs  
Permanent Delegation of Greece to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris

**Tselenti-Papadopoulou, Niki**  
Direction of Byzantine and Post-  
Byzantine Monuments  
Ministry of Culture  
Bouboulinos 20-22  
Athens 10286

**Loulopoulou, Theodota**  
Ministry of Culture  
6, Saripolou Street  
Athens

#### **HUNGARY/ HONGRIE**

**Pintér, Tamás**  
Head of the Secretariat of the  
Hungarian World Heritage  
Committee  
Színházu 5-9  
Budapest 1014

**Cselovszki, Zoltán**  
National Office of Cultural Heritage  
Táncsics 1  
1014 Budapest

**Deák, Ildikó**  
Counsellor  
Ministry of Cultural Heritage  
Wesselényi u. 20-22  
1107 Budapest

**H.E. Mr Fasang, Árpád**  
Ambassador of Hungary to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Fejérdy, Tamás**  
Director of Inspection  
National Office of Cultural Heritage  
Táncsics Mihály Utca 1  
Budapest 1014

**Gresiczki, Péter**  
Secretary General  
Hungarian National Commission  
for UNESCO  
Báthori u. 10.  
Budapest, 1054

**Herboly, Edith**  
Secretariat of Hungarian World  
Heritage Committee  
Színház u. 5-9.  
Budapest, 1014

**Bassa , Lia Dr**  
Secretariat of the Hungarian World  
Heritage Committee  
Színházu 5-9  
Budapest 1014

**Jelen, János**  
Member of the Delegation  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Nagy Imre tér 4  
Budapest 1027

**Nagy, Gergely**  
Secretary General  
Hungarian ICOMOS Committee  
Szabolcska u. 7.  
Budapest 1114

**Szilassy, Zoltán**  
Dep. Head of Department  
Ministry of Environment and Water  
Management  
Költő u. 21.  
Budapest, 1121

**Tardy, János**  
Deputy State Secretary  
Ministry of Environment and  
Water Management  
Költő Utca 21  
Budapest 1121

## INDIA/ INDE

**Gopalaswami, N.**  
Leader of the Delegation  
Department of Culture, Government  
of India  
R.No. 502, Shastri Bhawan  
New Delhi 110001

**H.E. Mrs Sabharwal, Neelam**  
Ambassador and Permanent  
Delegate of India to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

**Menon, Kasturi Gupta**  
Director General  
Archaeological Survey of India  
Janpath  
New Delhi 110001

**Poonacha, K. P.**  
Director  
Archeological Survey of India  
Janpath  
New Delhi 110001

**Srivastava, Asheem-Kumar**  
Deputy Inspector General (Wildlife)  
Ministry of Environment & Forests  
Paryavaran Bhavan, Cgo Complex,  
Lodhi Road  
New Delhi 110003

## LEBANON/ LIBAN

**H.E. Mr Moussawi, Hussein**  
Ambassador,  
Head of the Lebanese Delegation  
Embassy of Lebanon-Budapest  
Sasadi Út 160  
Budapest 1112  
Hungary

**Tabet, Jad**  
Expert au Comité du patrimoine  
mondial  
33 bis Ave. Reille  
75014 Paris  
France

## MEXICO/ MEXIQUE

**H.E. Mr Barros-Valero, Javier**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegation of Mexico to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

**Curi, Antonio Gonzalez**  
Gobernador de Campeche  
Calle 8 S/N  
Campeche, Campeche

**Dr Lopez Morales, Francisco  
Javier**  
Director Patrimonio Mundial  
Instituto Nacional de Antropología  
e Historia (INAH)  
Puebla 95  
Mexico D.F 06700

**Gallina, Maria Pia**  
Directora de Captación Financiera y  
Cooperation en Areas Naturales  
Protegidas  
Camino Al Ajuseo 200 3 Piso  
Cpl.Jardines Eu La Montana, Del.  
Halpan C.P. 14200

**Carrasco Vargas, Ramon**  
Arqueologo de Calakmul  
INAH  
Puebla 95  
Mexico D.F 06700

**Cervantes, Epifanio Hernández**  
Presidenete Municipal de Calakmul  
Municipality of Calakmul  
Campeche

**Haddad, Viviana Kuri**  
Subdirectora Patrimonio Mundial  
INAH  
Puebla 95  
Mexico D.F 06700

**Martinez, Jose Luis**  
Ambassador of Mexico  
Mexican Embassy in Budapest  
Hungary

**Sánchez, Rafael Tatua**  
Director de Promotion  
Gobierno de Campeche  
Calle 8 S/N  
Campeche, Campeche

**Arroyo, Raul Sergio**  
Director General  
Instituto Nacional de Antropología  
e Historia  
Cordoba 45, Col. Roma,  
C.P. 061140 Mexico D.F.

**Arellano, Alfredo**  
Director, Sian Ka'an Biosphere  
Reserve  
National Commission on Protected  
Areas  
Blvd. Kukulcan.Ku. 4.8 Zona  
Hotilera  
Cancun, Quintana Roo 77500

## **NIGERIA**

**H.E. Mr Omolewa, Micheal**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegation of Nigeria to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

**Dr. Eluyemi, Omotoso**  
Director General  
National Commission for Museums  
and Monuments  
Cotonou Crescent  
Abuja

**Nwafor, Young M. O.**  
Deputy Permanent Delegate  
Permanent Delegation of Nigeria to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

**Anjorin, Funlayo Rashi**  
Deputy Director  
Federal Ministry of Culture &  
Tourism  
Bullet House, Abuja

**Eboreime, Joseph**  
Coordinator  
National Museum  
Plot 2018 P.M.B 171 Garki  
Abuja

**Liasu, Sikiru Akinlabi**  
Assistant Director  
National Commission For Museums  
and Monuments  
Plot 2018, Cotonou Crescent  
P.M.B. 171, Wuse Zone 6  
Abuja

**Othman, Fatima**  
Counsellor  
Permanent Delegation of Nigeria to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Okoliko, Abrams**  
Embassy of Nigeria  
Árvácska Utca 6  
Budapest 1022  
Hungary

**Yusuf, Hauwa Ladidi**  
Media Correspondent  
Permanent Delegation of Nigeria to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

## **OMAN**

**H.E. Dr Hassan, Musa Bin Jaafar Bin**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegation of Oman to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

**Al Wahaibi, Mohammed**  
Ministry of Heritage and Culture  
P.O. Box 668  
Muscat

**Al-Hajari, Ahmad Salim**  
Ministry of Heritage and Culture  
P.O. Box 668  
Muscat

## **PORTUGAL**

**H.E. Mr Mathias, Marcello**  
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate  
Permanent Delegation of Portugal  
to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

**Aurélio, Diogo Pires**  
President  
Portuguese National Commission  
for UNESCO  
Av. Infante Santo 42-50  
1350 Lisboa

**Franca, José-Augusto**  
National Commission for UNESCO  
Rua Escola Politecnica 49-4  
1200-069 Lisboa

## **REPUBLIC OF KOREA/ REPUBLIQUE DE COREE**

**H.E. Mr Suh, Dae-Won**  
Ambassador of the Republic of  
Korea  
to the Republic of Hungary  
Embassy of the Republic of Korea  
1062 BP Andrassy ut 109,  
Budapest  
Hungary

**Kim, Jong Hyuk**  
Director General, Cultural Policy  
Planning Bureau  
Cultural Properties Administration  
920 Dunsan-dong  
Daejeon

**Lee, Sang Hak**  
Director, Cultural Cooperation  
Division  
Cultural Affairs Bureau  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and  
Trade  
77-6 Sejong-no, Jongno-gu,  
Seoul

**Kang, Dae-Soo**  
Second Secretary  
Permanent Delegation of the  
Republic of Korea to UNESCO  
1, Rue de Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Huh, Kwon**

Director of Education and Culture  
Korean National Commission for  
UNESCO  
C.P.O Box 64  
Seoul

**Yun, Soon-Ho**

Deputy Director, General Services  
Division  
Cultural Properties Administration  
920 Dunsan-dong  
Daejeon

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION/  
FEDERATION DE RUSSIE****Makovetski, Igor**

President  
ICOMOS-Russia  
1, Proezde Novadeitchy  
Moscow 119435

**Butorin, Alexey**

Secretary  
Russian World Heritage Committee  
Viborgskaya, 8-3  
Moscow 125 212

**Potapova, Natalia**

Chief, Dept. of Preservation of  
Heritage  
Piatnitskya 29  
Moscow

**SAINT LUCIA/ SAINTE LUCIE****Lacoeuilhe, Vera**

Head of Delegation  
Permanent Delegation of St. Lucia  
to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Romulus, Giles**

Natural Resources Expert  
St. Lucia National Trust  
PO. Box 595 Castries

**SOUTH AFRICA/  
AFRIQUE DU SUD****Graham, Louise**

Deputy Permanent Representative  
South African Embassy  
59 Quai d'Orsay  
Paris 75343 Cedex 07  
France

**THAILAND/ THAILANDE****Wichiencharoen, Adul**

Chairman, National Committee for  
Natural and Cultural Heritage  
Office of Environmental Policy and  
Planning  
60/1 Pibunwattana Rama 6  
Bangkok 10400

**Rungrujee, Borvornvate**

Director of General Management  
Div.  
Fine Art Department  
81/1 Sri Ayuttaya Road  
Bangkok 10300

**Chamornmarn, Prasertsuk**

Office of Environmental Policy and  
Planning  
Roma 6 Rd Payalhai  
Bangkok 10400

**Nanta, Siriporn**

Assistant Secretary  
National Committee for WHC of  
Thailand  
OEPP Piboon Wattana  
Rama 6 Road  
Bangkok 10400

**Ratana, Lukanawarakul**

Government Officer  
Royal Forest Department  
National Park Division  
Bangkok 10900

**Siriwan, Manit**

Office of Environmental Policy  
And Planning  
6011 Pibunwattana 7 Rama 6 Rd  
Bangkok 10400

**Sretarugsa, Apiwat**

Director, Resource and  
Conservation Office  
Royal Forest Department  
Bangkok 10900

**UNITED KINGDOM OF  
GREAT BRITAIN AND  
NORTHERN IRELAND/  
ROYAUME UNI DE GRANDE  
BRETAGNE ET D'IRLANDE  
DU NORD****H.E. Mr Stanton, David**

Ambassador, Permanent Delegate  
of the United Kingdom. to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Evans, Sheelagh**

Head, Historic Environment  
Protection  
Department for Culture, Media &  
Sport  
2/4 Cockspur St.  
London SW14 5DH

**Thackray, David**

Head of Archeology  
The National Trust  
33 Sheep St.  
Cirencester Glos. G17 1RQ

**Weighell, Tony**

Scientific Advisor  
Joint National Conservation  
Committee  
Monestonehouse, City Rd.  
Peterborough

**Young, Christopher**

Head, World Heritage and  
International Policy  
English Heritage  
23 Savile Row  
London W1S 2ET

**ZIMBABWE****Munjeri, Dawson**

Deputy Permanent Delegate of  
Zimbabwe to UNESCO  
Permanent Delegation of Zimbabwe  
12 Rue Lord Byron  
75008 Paris  
France

**Kumirai, Albert**

Director (Western Region)  
National Museums & Monuments  
of Zimbabwe  
P.O. Box Bulawayo

## II. ORGANISATIONS ATTENDING IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY/ORGANISATIONS PARTICIPANT A TITRE CONSULTATIF

### INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION AND THE RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY (ICCROM) / CENTRE INTERNATIONAL D'ETUDES POUR LA CONSERVATION ET LA RESTAURATION DES BIENS CULTURELS (ICCROM)

**Stanley-Price, Nicholas**  
Director General  
Via di San Michele, 13  
Rome 00153  
Italy

**Stovel, Herbert Samuel**  
Programme Director  
Via di San Michele, 13  
Rome 00153  
Italy

### INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES (ICOMOS) / CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES (ICOMOS)

**Petzet, Michael**  
President  
Pentenriederstrasse 17  
82152 Krailling  
Germany

**Cleere, Henry**  
World Heritage Coordinator  
49-51, Rue de la Fédération  
75015 Paris  
France

**Fowler, Peter**  
Consultant  
11 Amwell St  
London EC1R 1UL  
United Kingdom

**Luxen, Jean-Louis**  
Secretary General  
49-51, Rue de la Fédération  
75015 Paris  
France

**Durighello, Regina**  
Deputy Coordinator  
49-51, Rue de la Fédération  
75015 Paris  
France

**Jokilehto, Jukka**  
Consultant  
Via Anicia 6  
Rome 00153  
Italy

**Solar, Giora**  
Treasurer General  
P.O.Box 20263  
Tsor Hadasa  
Israel

**Bourdin, Gwenaelle**  
Assistant  
49-51, Rue de la Fédération  
75015 Paris  
France

### THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION (IUCN) / UNION MONIDALE POUR LA NATURE (IUCN)

**Sheppard, David**  
Head of Protected Areas Program  
28 Rue Mauverney,  
CH 1196-Gland  
Switzerland

**Phillips, Adrian**  
Vice Chair-World Heritage  
IUCN World Commission on  
Protected Areas  
The Old Rectory  
Dumbleton  
Near Revesham WR11 7TG  
United Kingdom

**Peard, Georgina**  
Assistant  
28 Rue Mauverney,  
1196-Gland  
Switzerland

### III. OBSERVERS/OBSERVATEURS

#### (i) STATES PARTIES TO THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION / ETATS PARTIES A LA CONVENTION DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

##### ALGERIA/ALGERIE

**Baghli, Sid Ahmba**  
Conseiller Culturel  
Délégation Permanente d'Algérie  
auprès de l'UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

##### **Boukacem, Abdelmadjst**

Director of Site (Bastu)  
Ministère de la Culture  
23 Bd. Amara Rachid  
B.E.O Alger

##### **Ghessab, Abdel Kader**

Directeur General  
Agence Nationale d'Archéologie et  
du Patrimoine  
2, Place Ben Badis  
16000 Alger

##### AFGHANISTAN

##### **Raheen, Sayed M.**

Ministry of Information And  
Culture  
c/o UNESCO Kabul Office  
Kabul

##### AUSTRALIA/ AUSTRALIE

##### **H.E. Mr. Peek, Matthew**

Ambassador  
Permanent Delegate of Australia to  
UNESCO  
4, Rue Jean Rey  
75015 Paris  
France

##### **Keeffe, Kevin**

Assistant Secretary  
World Heritage Branch,  
Environment Australia  
GPO Box 787  
Canberra 2601

##### AUSTRIA/ AUTRICHE

##### **Böck, Brigitte**

Director  
Federal Ministry for Education  
Science And Culture  
Minoritenplatz 5  
A-1014 Vienna

##### **Horcicka, Hans**

Director  
Federal Ministry for Education  
Science And Culture  
Minoritenplatz 5  
A-1014 Vienna

##### **Giefing, Richard**

Manager of Neusiedler See  
Burgenländische Landesregierung  
A-7000 Eisenstadt

##### **Klotz, Arnold**

Stadt Wien  
City Planning Director  
Rathaus  
A-1082 Vienna

##### **Zunke, Rudolf**

Mayor's Office of Vienna (Md-Bd)  
Rathaus  
A-1082 Vienna

##### BENIN

##### **Lissan, Edith**

Conseiller  
Délégation du Benin auprès de  
l'UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75732 Paris  
France

##### BRAZIL/ BRESIL

##### **Alvarez, Vera Cintia**

Head of the Multilateral Cultural  
Affairs Division  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Itamaraty Room 40  
70170-900 Brasilia DF

##### **Gabsch, Rodrigo**

Secretary  
Brazilian Embassy in Hungary  
Déibáb u. 30  
1062 Budapest  
Hungary

##### BULGARIA/ BULGARIE

##### **Pirovska, Galina**

Head, Dept. of Research and  
Professional Qualifications  
Ministry for Culture  
6, Kniaz Dondukov blvd.  
Sofia 1000

##### CAMEROON/ CAMEROUN

##### **Neba'ane Asombang, Raymond**

Senior Lecturer  
Department of Cultural Heritage  
Department of Arts and  
Archaeology  
P.O. Box 6544  
Yaounde

##### CANADA

##### **H.E. Mr. Hamel, Louis P.**

Ambassadeur  
Délégué Permanent du Canada  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

##### **Cameron, Christina**

Director General  
Parks Canada  
25 Eddy Street  
Hull K1A 0M5

##### **Pinkerton, John**

Advisor to Executive Director of  
Ecological Integrity  
National Parks Directorate  
Parks Canada  
25 Eddy St  
Hull, Quebec K1A 0M5

## CHILE/ CHILI

**Rogers, Alejandro**  
Délégué Permanent Adjoint  
Mission Permanente du Chili auprès  
de l'UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis, Paris 75015  
France

**Fernandez Illanes, Samuel**  
Ambassador  
Embassy of Chile in Egypt  
1, Saleh Ayoub Street, 7th Floor,  
Apt.N°74  
Zamalek, El Cairo  
Egypt

**Angel, Cabeza**  
Secretario Ejecutivo  
Consejo Monumentos Nacionales  
Alameda 651  
Santiago de Chile

**Morales, Soledad**  
Third Secretary - Embassy of Chile  
Embassy of Chile in Hungary  
Budapest  
Hungary

## COTE D'IVOIRE

**Tahoux Touao, Martine**  
Directrice  
Centre de Recherche en Ecologie  
(CRE)  
Université d'Abodo-Adjamé  
BP 109  
Abidjan 08

## CYPRUS/CHYPRE

**Hadjisavvas, Sophocles**  
Director  
Department of Antiquities  
Museum St, 1  
Nicosia

## CZECH REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE

**Benes, Michael**  
Secrétaire pour les Affaires  
culturelles de l'UNESCO  
Ministère de la Culture  
Milady Horáková 139  
160 41 Praha 6

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC/

## REPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE

**S.Exc. Madame DESPRADEL,  
Lil**  
Ambassadeur  
Délégué permanent de la  
République Dominicaine auprès de  
l'UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015  
France

## ERITREA/ ERYTHREE

**Misginna, Haile Michael**  
Observer  
Cultural Assets Rehabilitation  
Project  
P.O. Box 724  
Asmara

## FRANCE

**S.Exc. Musitelli, Jean**  
Ambassadeur  
Délégué permanent de la France  
auprès de l'UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
Paris 75015

**Caillart, Eva**  
Chargée de Mission - Coopération  
Internationale  
Direction de l'architecture et du  
patrimoine  
Ministère de la Culture  
8 Rue Vivienne  
Paris 75002

**Dumesnil, Catherine**  
Commission Nationale Française  
pour l'UNESCO  
57, Bd. des Invalides  
75700 Paris 07 SP

**Poisson, Olivier**  
Inspecteur Général des Monuments  
Historiques  
Ministère de la Culture  
10, Rue du Parc Royal  
75003 Paris

## GAMBIA/ GAMBIE

**H. E Mr Joof, William John**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegate of Gambia to  
UNESCO  
117, Rue Saint-Lazare  
75008 Paris  
France

**Gulyas, Gáspár**  
Com. Consul  
Gambia Consul  
Nagyszalonta u. 15  
1118 Budapest  
Hungary

**Suha György**  
Consul General  
Consulate of the Gambia, Budapest  
Nagyszalonta u. 15  
1118 Budapest  
Hungary

## GERMANY/ ALLEMAGNE

**Ringbeck, Birgitta**  
Head of Delegation  
Ministry of Urban Development  
and Culture  
Fürstenwall 25  
40190 Düsseldorf

**Hofmann-Göttig, Joachim**  
Secretary of the State  
Ministry of Education, Family and  
Youth  
Rhinland-Palatinate  
Mittlere Bleiche  
D-55116 Mainz

**Bersch, Walter**  
Forum Mittelrheintal E. V.  
Karmeliterstr. 2  
D-56154 Boppard

**Mayerhofer, Brigitte**  
Managing Director  
Foundation for the Support of the  
World Heritage Concept  
Rossinistrasse 1  
D-80803 München



**Schüler-Beigang, Christian**  
Head, Secretariat for World  
Heritage in Rhineland-Palatinate  
State Office for Monument  
Conservation  
Schillerstrasse 44  
D-55116 Mainz

**Spelsberg, Irmela**  
ICOMOS Germany  
Friedrichshallerstr. 38  
D-14199 Berlin,

**Von Droste, Bernd**  
Advisor  
92, Rue de Tennerolles  
F-92210 Saint Cloud  
France

**Von Wagner, Jakob**  
German Embassy  
Botschaft Budapest  
D-11020 Berlin

#### **GRENADA/ GRENADA**

**Haddad, Chafica**  
First Secretary  
Permanent Delegation of Grenada  
to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

#### **HOLY SEE/ SAINT SIEGE**

**Poli, Tullio (Mons.)**  
Officer  
Secretariat of State  
Section for Relations with States  
I-00120 Città Del Vaticano  
Vatican City State

**Cséfalvay, Pál (Mons.)**  
Director  
Christian Museum  
Mindszenti Tér 3  
2500 Esztergom  
Hungary

#### **HONDURAS**

**S.Exc. Mme. Mendieta de  
Badaroux, Sonia**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegation of Honduras  
to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris

**Rivera Prats, Marco Aurelio**  
Permanent Delegation of Honduras  
to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

#### **ICELAND/ ISLANDE**

**Benediktsson, Stefán**  
Director  
Nature Conservation Agency  
Skulagata 21  
105 Reykjavik

#### **IRAN**

**Beheshti, Seyed Mohammad**  
Deputy Minister  
Iranian Cultural Heritage  
Organization  
Azadi Ave. Zanjan St.  
Tehran

**Dr. Vatandoust Haighighi,  
Abdolrasool**  
Iranian Cultural Heritage  
Organization  
Azadi Ave., Zanja St.  
Tehran

**Safaei, Javad**  
Counsellor  
Permanent Delegation of Iran to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

#### **INDONESIA/ INDONESIA**

**H.E.Mr Soehendro, Bambang**  
Ambassador to UNESCO  
Permanent Delegation of Indonesia  
to UNESCO  
11, Place Vauban  
75007 Paris  
France

#### **ISRAEL**

**Turner, Michael**  
Chairman  
Israel World Heritage Committee  
25 Caspi St.  
Jerusalem

**Yedid, Mordechai**  
Deputy Director General  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
8 Beit Hakerem St.  
Jerusalem

#### **ITALY/ ITALIE**

**H.E. Mr Caruso, Francesco**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegate  
Permanent Delegation of Italy to  
UNESCO  
1 rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Panaro, Mario**  
Chief of Bureau III  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs-DGPC  
Piazzale della Farnesina 1  
Rome 00194

**Marchetti, Luciano**  
Soprintendente Regionale  
dell'Umbria  
Ministero Beni e Attività Culturali  
Piazza Della Repubblica 78  
Perugia 06100

**Malara, Pasquale Bruno**  
Soprintendenza Regionale per il  
Piemonte  
Ministero Beni e Attività Culturali  
Piazza San Giovanni, 2  
10122 Torino

**Verderame, Giovanni Battista**  
Embassy of Italy in Hungary  
Budapest

**Vicenti, Enrico Vincenzo**  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Piazza della Farnesina 1  
ROME 00194

**Molina, Alessandra**  
First Secretary  
Permanent Delegation of Italy to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris, France

**Rossi, Giovanna**  
Programme Officer  
Ministry of the Environment  
Via Cristoforo Colombo 44  
Rome 00147

#### **JAPAN/ JAPON**

**H.E. Mr. Takahashi, Fumiaki**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegation of Japan to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Yoshikawa, Toru**  
Third Secretary  
Permanent Delegation of Japan to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Ito, Hiroto**  
Official  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Shiba Koen 2-11-1  
Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8519

**Nakano, Rimi**  
Deputy Director  
Monuments and Sites Division  
Agency For Cultural Affairs  
3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 100-8959

**Hirasawa, Tsuyoshi**  
Associate Specialist for Cultural  
Properties  
Agency For Cultural Affairs  
3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 100-8959

**Kitagawa, Daijiro**  
Associate Specialist for Cultural  
Properties  
3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 100-8959

**Inaba, Nobuko**  
Head of Conservation Advisory  
Office  
National Research Institute for  
Cultural Properties  
14-43 Ueno-Koen, Taito-ku  
Tokyo 110-8713

**Horiuchi, Hiroshi**  
Senior Planning Officer  
Ministry of the Environment  
1-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 100-8960

**Yoneda, Kumiko**  
Senior Research Scientist  
Japan Wildlife Research Center  
3-10-10 Shitaya Taito-ku  
Tokyo 110-8676

#### **JORDAN / JORDANIE**

**Abu Dayyeh, Abdel Sami,**  
Assistant to the Director General  
Department of Antiquities  
P.O.Box 88  
Amman 11118

#### **KAZAKHSTAN**

**Abikenor, Arman O.**  
Second Secretary  
Hungarian Embassy of Kazakhstan  
Kapy Út 59  
Budapest 1025  
Hungary

**Tazhibayer, Erlan S.**  
Chargé d'Affaires  
Embassy of Kazakhstan  
Kapy Út 59  
Budapest 1025  
Hungary

#### **LITHUANIA/ LITUANIE**

**Marciulionyte, Ina**  
Vice Minister  
Ministry of Culture  
J.Basanaviciaus 5  
Vilnius

#### **LUXEMBOURG**

**Hoscheit, Jean-Marc**  
Délégué permanent auprès de  
l'UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Kraemer, Jean-Pierre**  
Ministry of Culture  
c/o Permanent Delegation to  
UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Reuter, Louis**  
Administration of Public Buildings  
c/o Permanent Delegation of  
Luxembourg to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Herr, Jean**  
Architect  
c/o Permanent Delegation of  
Luxembourg to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

#### **FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA / EX-RÉPUBLIQUE YOUGOSLAVE DE MACÉDOINE**

**Biceva, Kristina**  
Central European University  
Budapest  
Hungary

#### **MOROCCO/ MAROC**

**S.Exc. Mme. Bennani, Aziza**  
Ambassador  
Déléguée Permanente du Maroc  
auprès de L'UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

#### **NAMIBIA/ NAMIBIE**

**Andjamba, Tshikarepo Akwillinus**  
Director  
National Monuments Council  
P/Bag 13335  
Windhoek

**Strauss, Andre**  
Deputy Director, Cultural Heritage  
Ministry of Basic Education, Sport,  
Culture  
P/Bag 13186, Windhoek

## NEPAL

**H.E. Mr. Bahadur, Indra**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegation of Nepal to  
UNESCO  
Royal Nepalese Embassy in France  
45, Rue des Acacias  
75017 Paris  
France

## NETHERLANDS/ PAYS BAS

**Gimbrere, Sabine**  
Head of Delegation  
Senior Advisor, International  
Affairs  
Ministry for Culture  
P.O. Box 25000  
2700 HZ Zoetermeer

**Voorneveld, Herald**  
Deputy Permanent Delegate  
Permanent Delegation of the  
Netherlands to UNESCO  
7, rue Eblé  
75007 Paris  
France

**De Jong, Robert**  
Coordinator  
Department for Conservation  
P.O. Box 1100,  
3700 Ba Zeist

**Epskamp, Cornelis Petrus**  
Netherlands National Commission  
for UNESCO  
Kortenaerkade, 11  
2502 LT The Hague

## NEW ZEALAND/ NOUVELLE ZELANDE

**Te Heuheu, Tumu**  
Head of Delegation, Paramount  
Chief  
Ngati Tuwharetoa  
PO Box 10-420  
Wellington

**Manuera, Eru**  
Tumuaki Kaupapa Atawhai  
Department of Conservation  
PO Box 10-420  
Wellington

**Sheppard, Brian**  
Senior Issues Manager  
Department of Conservation  
PO Box 10-420  
Wellington

## NICARAGUA

**De Los Angeles Flores Loaisiga,  
Ximena**  
Déléguée Permanente  
Délégation de Nicaragua auprès de  
l' UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

## NORWAY/ NORVEGE

**Holtane, Einar**  
Deputy Director General  
Ministry of Environment  
P.V. 8013  
0030 Oslo

**Vinsrygg, Synnove**  
Senior Adviser  
Nordic World Heritage Foundation  
P.O. Box 8196 Dep.  
Oslo N-0034

## PAKISTAN

**Szigetvári, Mária**  
Assistant  
Embassy of Pakistan  
Adonis Utca 3/A  
Budapest 1125  
Hungary

## PERU/ PEROU

**Tejada, José Alberto Carrion**  
Executive Director of Cultural  
Affaires  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Ucayali 363  
Lima 1

## PHILIPPINES

**Ongpin-Recto, Deanna**  
Foreign Affairs Advisor to  
UNESCO  
Permanent Delegation of the  
Philippines to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**H.E. Mr Del Rosario, Alejandro**  
Ambassador of Philippines to  
Hungary  
Phillipine Embassy to Hungary  
Budapest  
Hungary

**Serrano, Yolanda**  
Minister Counsellor  
Phillipine Embassy to Hungary  
Budapest  
Hungary

## POLAND/ POLOGNE

**Orlowski, Tomasz**  
Secretary General  
Polish National Commission for  
UNESCO  
Palac Kultury i Nauki, 7 pietro  
00-901 Warszawa

**Tomaszewski, Andrzej**  
Representant du Ministère  
Ministère de la Culture  
Leszcyńska 6 M. 14  
00-339 Warszawa

## ROMANIA/ROUMANIE

**Burcea, Alin**  
Secretary of State  
Ministry of Tourism  
Str. Apolodor 17, Sector 5  
Bucharest

**Ghisa, Alexandru**  
Counsellor  
Embassy of Romania  
Thököly Út 72  
Budapest 1146  
Hungary

**Mitan, Octavian**  
Personal Counsellor  
Ministry of Tourism  
Str. Apolodor 17  
Bucharest

**Opris, Ioan**  
State Secretary  
Ministry of Culture and Religious  
Affairs  
Piata Presei Libere 1  
Bucharest

**Sinigalia, Tereza**  
Director  
Ministry of Culture and Religious  
Affairs  
Piata Presei Libere 1  
Bucharest

**SAUDI ARABIA/ARABIE  
SAOUDITE**

**H.E. Mr. Al Adel, Fida**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Delegate of Saudi  
Arabia to UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Abualhassan, Hussein**  
Director of Publications  
PO Box 53598  
Riyadh 11593

**Al-Saud, Abdullah**  
Director General of Museums  
Ministry of Education  
P.O. Box 3734  
Riyadh 11481

**SENEGAL**

**Dieng, Dame**  
Fédération Sénégalaise des clubs  
UNESCO  
c/o BREDA  
12 Avenue L.S. Senghor  
B.P. 3311  
Dakar

**SLOVAKIA/SLOVAQUIE**

**Dvorakova, Viera**  
Head of Division  
National Board of Monuments  
Preservation  
Cesta Nacerveny Most 6  
81406 Bratislava

**Klinda, Jozef**  
General Director  
Ministry of the Environment  
Namertie L. Stura 1  
81235 Bratislava

**Kosova, Katarina**  
General Director  
National Board of Monument  
Preservation  
Cesta Nacerveny Most 6  
81406 Bratislava

**Nováková, Katarina**  
Director  
Ministry of Environment  
Namertie L. Stura 1  
81235 Bratislava

**Dömény, Tamás**  
Head of Office  
Ministry of Environment  
nam. L. Stuna 1  
81235 Bratislava

**SLOVENIA/ SLOVENIE**

**Pirkovic, Jelka**  
State Under Secretary  
Ministry of Culture  
Cankarteva 5  
Si-1000 Ljubjana

**SPAIN/ ESPAGNE**

**Lafuente, Luis**  
Subdirector General de Protección  
del Patrimonio Histórico  
Ministry for Education, Culture and  
Sport  
Plaza del Rey nº1  
Madrid 28071

**Anon, Carmen**  
Conseiller  
Ministerio Cultura  
Puerto Santa Maria 49-1  
Madrid 28043

**SURINAME**

**Fokké, A. Stephen**  
Site Manager  
Urban Heritage Foundation  
Suriname  
Zeelandiaweg 7  
Fort Zeelandia  
Paramaribo

**SWEDEN/ SUEDE**

**Enflo, Hans**  
Deputy Director  
Ministry of Culture  
10333 Stockholm

**Hoberg, Birgitta**  
Senior International Officer  
National Heritage Board  
PO. Box 5405  
11484 Stockholm

**SWITZERLAND/ SUISSE**

**H.E. M. Feldmeyer, Denis**  
Ambassadeur  
Délégation Permanente de la Suisse  
auprès de l'UNESCO  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**Molinari, Marco**  
Commission nationale suisse pour  
l'UNESCO  
Ch-6622 Ronco S/Ascona

**SYRIA/SYRIE**

**Dibabou, Latif**  
Syrian Embassy in Hungary  
Harangvirág Út 3  
Budapest  
Hungary

**Moaz, Abdal Razza**  
Director General of Antiquities  
Ministry of Culture  
National Museum  
Rue Qast el Heir  
Damascus

**Nabil, Hassan**  
Syrian Embassy in Hungary  
Harangvirág Út 3  
Budapest  
Hungary

**TUNISIA/TUNISIE**

**Bouzoufta, Abdelwaheb**  
Chargé d'affaires de Tunisie à  
Budapest  
Embassy of Tunisia to Hungary  
Budakeszi 55/8  
Budapest 1021  
Hungary

**TURKEY/ TURQUIE**

**H. E. Mr. Özkocak, Varol**  
Ambassador  
Head of Delegation  
Director General for Cultural  
Affairs and External Promotion  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Anit Cd. 12 Tandogan  
Ankara

**Celik, Gülseren**  
Chief of Section  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Tandogan  
Ankara

**Tulin Sermin, Ozduran**  
Ministry of Culture /Architect  
Ktvk Gn.Md. Ulus  
06100 Ankara

**UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA/  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE**

**Cleary, Sharon J.**  
Chief, Office of International  
Affairs  
National Park Service  
1849 C St. NW  
Washington D.C. 20240

**Hart, Shirley**  
US Observer to UNESCO  
Embassy of the United States of  
America  
2, Av. Gabriel  
75008 Paris  
France

**Zweiben, Beverly**  
Deputy Director, UNESCO Issues  
Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520-6319

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES/  
EMIRATS ARABES UNIS**

**Al Qubaisi, Amal**  
Head of Cultural Heritage Unit  
Alain Université  
P.O. Box 41418  
Abu-Dhabi

**Abboudi, Nasser**  
Head, Dept. of Antiquities  
Ministry of Information and Culture  
P.O. Box 5027  
Shartah

**YEMEN**

**Mutaher, Aiman**  
Embassy of Yemen  
Józsefhegyi Út 28-30  
Budapest 1025  
Hungary

**Mohsen, Mohamed Abdullah**  
Embassy of Yemen  
Józsefhegyi Út 28-30  
Budapest 1025  
Hungary

**YUGOSLAVIA/  
YUGOSLAVIE**

**Stojkovic Pavelka, Brana**  
Institute for the Protection of  
Monuments  
Bozidara Adzije 11  
Belgrad

**Omcikus, Marko**  
Director  
Institute for the Protection of  
Monuments  
Bozidara Adzije 11  
Belgrad

**(ii) OTHER OBSERVERS / AUTRES OBSERVATEURS**

**BARBADOS/ BARBADE**

**Cummins, Alissandra**  
Chairperson  
Barbados National Commission for  
UNESCO  
Lodge Hill, St. Michael  
Barbados, W.F.

**PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION OF PALESTINE TO UNESCO/  
MISSION PERMANENTE D'OBSERVATION DE LA PALESTINE  
AUPRES DE L'UNESCO**

**H.E. Mr Abdelrazek, Ahmad**  
Ambassador,  
1, Rue Miollis  
75015 Paris  
France

**H.E. Mr Ghazal, Khaled**  
Ambassador of Palestine to Hungary  
Embassy of Palestine to Hungary  
Józsefhegyi 28-30  
Budapest, Hungary

(iii) **INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS / ORGANISATIONS GOUVERNEMENTALES INTERNATIONALES**

**ORGANIZATION OF WORLD HERITAGE CITIES / ORGANISATION DES VILLES PATRIMOINE MONDIAL (OWHC)**

**Ricard, Denis**

Secretary General  
Organisation of World Heritage Cities  
101 de La Promenade St. Nicolas  
Quebec  
Canada

**ISLAMIC EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION/ L'ORGANISATION ISLAMIQUE POUR L'EDUCATION LES SCIENCES ET LA CULTURE (ISESCO)**

**Rhiati Salih, Najib**

Directeur de la Planification  
du suivi et de l'évaluation  
Ave Attine- Hay Ryad  
Rabat  
Maroc

**INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS/ UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ARCHITECTES**

**Zahariade, Ana Maria**

Arch. Professor  
International Union of Architects  
Ion Ioinescu Str. 18  
Bucharest 74314  
Romania

**ARAB EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATION/ L'ORGANISATION ARABE POUR L'EDUCATION, LA CULTURE ET LA SCIENCE (ALECSO)**

**Awad, Rita**

Director  
Department of Programmes of Culture and Communication  
P.O. Box 1120  
Tunis  
Tunisia

**UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION/ FOUNDATION DES NATIONS UNIES**

**Wanner, Raymond**

Advisor  
United Nations Foundation  
9143 Sligo Creek Parkway  
Silver Spring, MD 20901

**ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE / ORGANISATION DE LA CONFERENCE ISLAMIQUE (OIC)**

**Jafar, Olia**

Deputy Permanent Observer of the OIC  
to the UN in Geneva  
ICC -20 Route Près Bois  
CP 1818  
CH- 1215 Geneva  
Switzerland

(iv) **NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS/ ORGANISATIONS NON-GOUVERNEMENTALES**

**THE MIHAI EMINESCU TRUST**

**Douglas-Home, Jessica**

Chairman  
The Mihai Eminescu Trust  
15 Clarendon Road  
London W11  
United Kingdom

**Zouain , Georges S.**

GAIA-Heritage  
Advisor to the Trust  
20-22, Rue des Acacias  
75017 Paris  
France

**SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTRE/ CENTRE SIMON WIESENTHAL**

**Samuels, Shimon**

Director for International Liaison  
Simon Wiesenthal Centre  
64, Avenue Marceau  
75008 Paris  
France

**UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH**

**Turk, Cate**

Postgraduate Student  
Dept. of Geography  
Drummond Street  
Edinburgh EH8 9XP  
United Kingdom

**BIRD LIFE INTERNATIONAL**

**O'Sullivan, John**

International Treaties Adviser  
Birdlife International  
RSPB, the Lodge  
Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL,  
United Kingdom

**Pritchard, Dave**

International Treaties Adviser  
Birdlife International  
RSPB, the Lodge  
Sandy, Bedfordshire SG9 2DL,  
United Kingdom

**NATURE CONSERVATION**  
**SOCIETY OF JAPAN (NACS-J)**

**Yoshida, Masahito**  
Executive Director  
Nature Conservation Society of  
Japan  
5-24 Sanbancho, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 102-0075  
Japan

**V. UNESCO SECRETARIAT / SECRETARIAT DE L'UNESCO**

Koïchiro Matsuura  
Director-General

Mounir Bouchenaki  
Assistant Director-General  
for Culture

**World Heritage Centre**

Francesco Bandarin  
Director

Minja Yang  
Deputy Director

Julian Poole  
Natarajan Ishwaran  
Elizabeth Wangari  
Mechtild Rossler  
Carmen Negrin  
Sarah Titchen  
Josette Erfan  
Giovanni Boccardi  
Junko Taniguchi  
Vesna Vujicic-Lugassy  
Frédérique Robert  
Peter Stott  
Mario Hernandez  
Joanna Serna-Sullivan  
Alexandra zu Sayn-Wittgenstein  
Feng Jing  
Maria Luisa Bascur  
David Martel  
Jane Degeorges  
Réjane Hervé-Smadja  
Marianne Raabe  
Nina Dhumal

**Legal Affairs/Affaires juridiques**

Abdulqawi Yusuf  
Director

John Donaldson  
Legal Advisor

**International Standards Section/  
Section des normes  
internationales**

Guido Carducci  
Chief of Section

**Bureau of Public Information /  
Bureau de l'information du public**

Elke Salas Rossenbach  
Chief of Editorial Section

Sophie Boukhari  
Carole Baroukh-Darmouni  
Isabelle Le Fournis

**Interpreters / Interprètes**

Mourad Boulares  
Chief Interpreter

Antoinette Bourdelet  
Catherine Lattanzio-Honthaas  
Chantal Bret  
Charles Speed  
David Shearer  
Evelyn Apaïre  
Claudine Caliste  
Ariane Corbin-Favier  
Julia Delille-Gomory

Béatrice Dunner  
Blandine Jeanne  
Claire Keefe  
Sandra Naeder  
Mary-Sol Tellier

**Translators/ Traductrices**

Sabine de Valence  
Anne Sauvêtre  
Brigitte Guérin

**RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE  
CONCERNING THE HERITAGE IN AFGHANISTAN**

(Note: see also decisions 26 COM 22 and 26 COM 24.2.4)

- 1. Implementation of the World Heritage Convention and protection of cultural and natural heritage properties in Afghanistan**
- 1.1 The Committee welcomes wholeheartedly the importance the Government of Afghanistan places on the protection of the natural and cultural heritage located in Afghanistan. Appreciating the extraordinary difficulties faced by the authorities in rehabilitating the natural and cultural heritage of Afghanistan, the Committee lends its full support to the Government of Afghanistan to increase the national capacity to conserve, present, manage and develop such heritage.
- 1.2 The Committee expresses its deep gratitude to the Government of Afghanistan for all its efforts to reactivate the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
- 1.3 The Government of Afghanistan is thanked for inviting the UNESCO World Heritage Centre - ICOMOS Fact-Finding and Consultative Mission undertaken between 28 April and 11 May 2002. The Committee examines the findings and recommendations of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre - ICOMOS Fact-Finding and Consultative Mission and expresses its appreciation to the Director of the Centre and ICOMOS Representative for undertaking the mission under difficult conditions.
- 1.4 Taking note of the postponement of the participation of the Representative of IUCN in the Fact-Finding and Consultative Mission, the Committee requests the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to re-organize an World Heritage Centre - IUCN Joint Mission to elaborate a preliminary natural heritage action plan and to commence the assessment of the state of conservation of potential natural World Heritage properties in Afghanistan as soon as the security situation permits.
- 1.5 The Committee expresses its gratitude to the Government of Afghanistan and the Director-General of UNESCO for the co-organization of the "International Seminar for the Rehabilitation of Afghanistan's Cultural Heritage" (Kabul, 27-29 May 2002) in spite of exceptionally difficult conditions. The Committee examines with appreciation, the report of the discussions, conclusions and recommendations of the "International Seminar for the Rehabilitation of Afghanistan's Cultural Heritage" presented by the Assistant Director-General for Culture.
- 1.6 The Government of Afghanistan is congratulated for submitting an international assistance request for supporting its efforts to increase national capacity in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention. The Committee supports this request and requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to provide support and co-operation to the authorities in implementing this activity.



**2. Documentation, national inventories, Tentative List and the reactivation of deferred nominations of properties to be inscribed on the World Heritage List**

- 2.1 The Committee takes note with grave concern, the lack of basic requirements to re-compile surviving documentation and archival resources of Afghanistan's cultural and natural heritage. The Committee underscores the importance of compiling databases for cultural and natural heritage in Afghanistan to re-establish the national inventories with a view to elaborate Tentative Lists of properties to be eventually nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List. The Committee requests the World Heritage Centre to mobilize international technical and financial support for providing basic equipment and tools for the monitoring, conservation, and management of natural and cultural heritage in Afghanistan.
- 2.2 To this end, the Committee calls upon States Parties to the World Heritage Convention with institutional capacity and technical resources to provide assistance to the authorities of Afghanistan in their efforts to re-compile their scientific documentation and to re-establish their national inventories of cultural and natural heritage properties.
- 2.3 The Committee expresses its appreciation to the World Heritage Centre, IUCN, ICCROM and ICOMOS for their immediate actions to commence the recompilation of scientific documentation for the reconstruction of the Afghan national inventories. However, while appreciating the preliminary assessment work undertaken by the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre to collate scientific documentation to elaborate national inventories of natural and cultural heritage, the Committee recognizes the need to continue assisting the authorities in view of the scope of the task. The Committee encourages the Government of Afghanistan to elaborate a Tentative List of properties which the authorities intend to nominate for inscription to the World Heritage List in the coming five to ten years, utilizing the scientific documentation collated together with the Advisory Bodies.
- 2.4 The Committee congratulates the Government of Afghanistan for submitting a reformulated nomination dossier of the Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam for inscription on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger. The Committee also expresses its appreciation to the World Heritage Centre and international experts for their efforts to assist the authorities in preparing the draft reformulated nomination dossier of Jam. Noting the need for establishing local monitoring and conservation mechanisms for the Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam, the Committee requests the World Heritage Centre to support the Afghan authorities with the Division of Cultural Heritage to ensure that the ICOMOS recommendations (Information Document WHC-02/CONF.202/INF.4.Add.2) for enhanced protection of the site are implemented.
- 2.5 The Committee encourages the Government of Afghanistan to further proceed in the reformulation of the deferred nominations of the Historic City of Herat and the Monuments and Archaeological Sites of Bamiyan Valley for possible examination by the Committee in 2004 or 2005. To assist the authorities in compiling necessary documentation and management plan for these two properties, the Committee requests the World Heritage Centre to provide technical support to the Afghan authorities.

2.6 The Committee encourages the Government of Afghanistan to prepare a nomination dossier for the Lakes of Bandi-e-Amir, with the assistance of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, for possible submission in February 2004.

### **3. Deliberate destruction, plundering and illicit traffic of heritage assets of Afghanistan**

3.1 The Committee expresses grave concern over the continued and systematic illegal plundering and looting of cultural and natural heritage properties located in Afghanistan, constituting an irreversible impoverishment of the common heritage of all the people in the world.

3.2 The Committee urges the Government of Afghanistan to become signatory to the UNESCO 1954 Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, its two Protocols, the UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, the UNIDROIT Convention and other international legal instruments protecting cultural and natural heritage.

3.3 The Committee notes with regret that of the 172 States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, only 91 are signatory to the UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

3.4 The Committee reiterates the appeal made by the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to all States Parties to become signatories to the UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property and the UNIDROIT Convention to prevent further illicit traffic of Afghan cultural heritage.

3.5 While recognizing that the Government of Afghanistan has the first and foremost duty to ban all illegal excavations within its territory and to strictly control its borders to prevent smuggling of illicitly acquired movable heritage resources, the Committee calls upon the neighboring countries of Afghanistan to co-operate in strengthening control of their national borders to prevent further illicit traffic of Afghan heritage.

3.6 Moreover, fully noting the significant constraints faced by the Afghan authorities in controlling illegal plundering and excavations within the country and transport of heritage, the Committee appeals urgently to those countries where Afghan heritage material is sold to provide co-operation to prevent further illicit traffic of such property.

3.7 Underscoring the importance for effective co-operation with NGOs such as the International Council on Archives (ICA) and the International Council of Museums (ICOM) amongst others, the Committee calls upon the Assistant Director-General for Culture to organize actions similar to those taken in Angkor (Cambodia) with ICOM to increase the Afghan national capacity to prevent illicit trafficking of heritage.

**4. Appeal to the international community to assist the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts to rehabilitate the country's endangered heritage**

- 4.1 Upon examination of the state of conservation of the principal monuments and sites, the deplorable and continuing looting of major archaeological properties throughout the country, and the conditions of the surviving inventories, documentation and archives of Afghan heritage, the Committee fully recognizes the overwhelming challenge to rehabilitate Afghanistan's cultural and natural heritage.
- 4.2 The Committee affirmed the need for significant mobilization of international and national support for the Afghan authorities and people to conserve and rehabilitate the country's endangered heritage.
- 4.3 The Committee notes with appreciation, all efforts made by the Director-General of UNESCO, the World Heritage Centre, the Division of Cultural Heritage and the Advisory Bodies in assisting the Afghan authorities in reactivating the World Heritage Convention and to conserve Afghan heritage. The Committee also expresses its appreciation to the various Governments and NGOs which have commenced or have plans to support the Afghan authorities in their efforts to rehabilitate their heritage. In particular, the Committee pays special tribute to all Afghan specialists and citizens who have made, and continue to make, extraordinary efforts to protect Afghanistan's irreplaceable heritage assets during the past two decades of difficult periods.
- 4.4 Convinced of the important role that cultural and natural heritage can play in the rehabilitation of Afghanistan, the Committee reiterates its appeal to the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, IGOs and NGOs active in the field of heritage conservation, to continue to publicize the great challenges facing Afghan heritage and to support the national efforts to enhance the protection and revitalization of this heritage.

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE  
WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (UNESCO HEADQUARTERS, PARIS,  
MARCH 2003)**

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2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Revision of the *Rules of Procedure*
4. Policy and legal issues concerning inscription of properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger and the potential deletion of properties from the World Heritage List
5. Revision of the *Operational Guidelines*
6. Revised structure of the budget of the World Heritage Fund
7. Nominations to be examined in 2004
8. Adoption of the report of the session
9. Closure of the session



**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 27TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (SUZHOU, CHINA, 30 JUNE - 5 JULY 2003)**

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	Great Smoky Mountains National Park	26 COM 21(b)27
	Mammoth Cave National Park	26 COM 21(b)28
	Yellowstone National Park	26 COM 21(a)8

<b>State Party/Territory</b>	<b>Property</b>	<b>Decision No.</b>
Uruguay	Historic Quarter of the City of Colonia del Sacramento	26 COM 21(b)71
Uzbekistan	Historic Centre of Bukhara	26 COM 25.2.9
Vietnam	Ha Long Bay	26 COM 21(b)29
	My Son Sanctuary	26 COM 21(b)72
Yemen	Old Town of Zabid	26 COM 21(a)16
Yugoslavia	Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor	26 COM 21(a)17