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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL  
ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL  
AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Twenty-seventh session  
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room XII  
30 June - 5 July 2003

**Item 6B of the Provisional Agenda: Follow-up to Periodic Reporting in the Arab States and Africa and preparations in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Europe and North America**

**SUMMARY**

This document provides the Committee with:

- I. A progress report on follow-up to Periodic Reporting in the Arab States (see also WHC-03/27.COM/INF.20 A and Draft Decision **27 COM 20B.1**)
- II. A progress report on follow-up to Periodic Reporting in Africa (see also WHC-03/27.COM/INF 20B and INF. 20C and Draft Decision **27 COM 20B.2**)
- III. A summary of preparations for Periodic Reporting in Latin America and the Caribbean (see Draft Decision **27 COM 20B.5**)
- IV. A summary of preparations for Periodic Reporting in Europe and North America (see Draft Decision **27. COM 6B**)

**Draft Decision 27 COM 6B:** see paragraph 10.

## **PROGRESS REPORT ON FOLLOW-UP TO PERIODIC REPORTING IN THE ARAB STATES**

1. As follow-up to the Periodic Reporting for the Arab States, a Regional Programme has been developed and is presented to the Committee as WHC-03/27.COM/ INF.20A (see Draft Decision **27 COM 20B.1**).

## **PROGRESS REPORT ON FOLLOW-UP TO PERIODIC REPORTING IN AFRICA**

2. As follow up to the Periodic Reporting for Africa in 2001/2002, a Regional Programme for natural heritage properties has been developed and is presented to the Committee as WHC-03/27.COM/INF.20C.

As a complement to this Programme the Africa 2009 Programme will continue (WHC-03/27.COM/INF.20B and Draft Decision **27 COM 20B.2**).

## **SUMMARY OF PREPARATIONS FOR PERIODIC REPORTING IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

3. In accordance with the strategy and work plan for the periodic reporting process in the region, the Secretariat organised periodic reporting meetings for States Parties in South America (Montevideo, Uruguay, March 2002) and Central America/ Mexico (Campeche, Mexico, May 2002). Cuba and the Dominican Republic also participated in the meeting in Campeche. These meetings were attended by periodic reporting focal points of the States Parties and the Advisory Bodies as well as by some regional experts. Following these meetings, the States Parties were requested to submit the periodic reports by the end of 2002. As of mid April 2003 approximately seventy percent of the reports had been received.

4. A periodic reporting meeting for the Caribbean will be held in Haiti from 17 to 19 June 2003. This meeting will bring together representatives of 14 Caribbean States Parties, including the most recent signatories Barbados and St Vincent and the Grenadines, the focal points of the Advisory Bodies and regional experts. The objectives of the meeting are to assess, through the periodic reports of States Parties, the state of the application of the Convention in the Caribbean, to assess the impact of past Global Strategy and Capacity Building activities and to lay-out the lines of action for a future comprehensive capacity building programme. A preliminary outline of a Programme Caribbean 2004-2014 is presented in WHC-03/27.COM/20B (see Draft Decision **27 COM 20B.5**).

5. In order to make full use of the expertise available in the region, the Secretariat has established a Regional Group of Experts that will assist in the analysis of the periodic reports and the preparation of the regional synthesis report. This group is composed of the focal points of the Advisory Bodies and a number of high-level regional experts.

## **SUMMARY OF PREPARATIONS FOR PERIODIC REPORTING IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA**

6. In accordance with the strategy and work plan for the periodic reporting process in the region, a number of meetings were organized in the first half of 2003.

7. For North America for which the reports on Section I and II are to be presented in 2005, the two States Parties organized the first joint periodic reporting meeting in Los Angeles (USA) from 13-16 January 2003. The focal points of the two States Parties, representatives of the national authorities, all site managers and a Centre representative attended the event. The meeting not only reviewed the process, but also decided about the timetable and the questionnaire to be used.

8. An information meeting for periodic reporting for Europe was organized on 22 January 2003 and all States Parties were informed of the proposed timetable and encouraged to nominate their national coordinators in a timely fashion. The 1st joint Conference of European and World Heritage Network held in Nicosia, Cyprus from 7 to 10 May 2003, has been organised by the Council of Europe and its Herein team in collaboration with UNESCO. This meeting brought together representatives of the European States Parties, a focal point of ICOMOS and Centre staff, including technical experts. The objectives of the meeting were to review the proposed timetable and process for both Sections I and II for the European exercise due in 2005 and 2006. The meeting also addressed the collaboration process with the Herein programme and issues related to the technical aspects. A number of States Parties have still not replied to the Circular Letter of 27 November 2002 and have not designated their national coordinators for this exercise despite the deadline of 31 December 2002. A database of all national coordinators/focal points has been built up and will be made available to all States Parties. Furthermore, CDs containing all nomination dossiers of the sites inscribed between 1978 and 1998 have been produced with considerable staff effort in the Centre. These are being transmitted to all 42 States Parties who are required to report on these sites.

9. A number of States Parties have organized national periodic reporting meetings (e.g. United Kingdom, Italy) to inform both the national authorities and the site managers about the process envisaged.

### **DRAFT DECISION**

10. The Committee may wish to adopt the following decision.

#### **27 COM 6B**

*The World Heritage Committee,*

*Notes the progress made to date in the preparation for the Periodic Reporting in Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe and North America.*