

Limited distribution

WHC-03/27.COM/12
Paris, 15 May 2003
Original: English/French

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 12 of the Provisional Agenda: International assistance requests

Background: The World Heritage Centre received 9 requests for International Assistance as of 5 May 2003 for funding under the year 2003 budget. Following the decision 6 EXT COM 5.1, these 9 requests are for the decision of the Committee. In order to facilitate the Committee's work, the **Summary table** on the following pages gives an overview of these requests as well as the amounts available for approval to date according to the types of heritage and categories of International Assistance. This table is followed by a reminder of the priorities and conditions for granting International Assistance as described in paragraphs 113-116 and 121 of the *Operational Guidelines*, as well as a reminder of the Committee's decisions relating to International Assistance.

Action by the Committee: The Committee is requested to

- take decisions concerning the approval of the 9 requests presented in this document;
- urge States Parties to respect the deadline for submission of International Assistance requests, as indicated in the *Operational Guidelines*;
- decide that no International Assistance request can be granted to a country which is in arrears with the World Heritage Fund, except for Training and Emergency Assistance.

All the requests already approved under the World Heritage Fund's 2002/2003 International Assistance budget will be available for consultation by the Committee upon request to the Secretariat.

Summary table of the requests presented in this document for funding in 2003:

N^o	Type of heritage	Region	State Party - title of activity	Amount requested (US\$)	Amount recommended for approval (US\$)
Preparatory Assistance (amount available under 2003 budget for approval as at 5 May: US\$ 176,500)					
1	Mixed	Europe	Hungary – Organisation of a workshop for the managers of World Heritage Sites in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe	15,000	15,000
2	Mixed	Africa	Kenya – Second International Experts Meeting on Great Rift Valley	69,101	69,101
Preparatory Assistance Sub-total				84,101	84,101
Technical Cooperation (amount available under 2003 budget for approval as at 5 May: US\$ 286,000, including US\$ 223,103 for cultural heritage and US\$ 62,897 for natural heritage)					
3	Cultural	Asia	India – Elaboration of a management plan for Hampi World Heritage property in Danger	28,250	28,250
4	Cultural	Arab States	Yemen – Follow-up actions for the implementation of safeguarding measures for the Historic Town of Zabid, World Heritage site in Danger	40,000	40,000
Technical Cooperation Sub-total				68,250	68,250
Training (amount available under 2003 budget for approval as at 5 May: US\$ 200,470, including US\$ 0 for cultural heritage and US\$ 200,470 for natural heritage)					
5	Cultural	Asia	Kazakhstan – Sub-regional Workshop for the Preparation of Periodic Reports on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and the State of Conservation of World Cultural Heritage sites in Central Asia	30,000	35,000
6	Natural	Arab States	Oman – Capacity building for the staff and rangers to manage the Arabian Oryx Sanctuary (AOS)	40,000	40,000
7	Cultural	Asia	Uzbekistan – Sub-regional workshop for the elaboration of a specific programme for the first 3 years of the Central Asian Earth 2002-2012 Programme combined with an on-the-job practical training activity at Khiva World Heritage site.	50,000	50,000

N^o	Type of heritage	Region	State Party - title of activity	Amount requested (US\$)	Amount recommended for approval (US\$)
8	Cultural	Asia	Bangladesh – Conservation training and organization of a workshop to elaborate a management plan for the Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur World Heritage site	301,520	35,000
Training Sub-total				421,520	160,000
Emergency assistance (amount available under 2003 budget for approval as at 5 May: US\$ 315,000)					
9	Cultural	Arab States	Iraq – Preparation of an urgent nomination of the ancient city of Ashur to the World Heritage List.	50,000	50,000
Emergency assistance Sub-total				50,000	50,000
TOTAL				623,871	362,351

	Number of preparatory assistance requests	Number of technical cooperation requests	Number of training requests	Number of emergency assistance requests	Total number of requests
Natural heritage	0	0	1	0	1
Cultural heritage	0	2	3	1	6
Mixed heritage	2	0	0	0	2
Total	2	2	4	1	9

Paragraphs 113-116 and 121 of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*

C. Order of priorities for the granting of international assistance

113. Without prejudicing the provisions of the Convention, which shall always prevail, the Committee agreed on the following order of priorities with respect to the type of activities to be assisted under the Convention:

- emergency measures to save property included, or nominated for inclusion, in the World Heritage List;
- preparatory assistance for drawing up tentative lists of cultural and/or natural properties suitable for inclusion in the World Heritage List as well as nominations of types of properties under-represented on the List and requests for technical co-operation;
- projects which are likely to have a multiplier effect (“seed money”) because they:
 - stimulate general interest in conservation;
 - contribute to the advancement of scientific research;
 - contribute to the training of specialized personnel;
 - generate contributions from other sources.

114. The Committee also agreed that the following factors would in principle govern its decisions in granting assistance under the Convention:

- (i) the urgency of the work and of the protective measures to be taken;
- (ii) the legislative, administrative and financial commitment of the recipient State to protect and preserve the property;
- (iii) the cost of the project;
- (iv) the interest for, and exemplary value of, the project in respect of scientific research and the development of cost/effective conservation techniques;
- (v) the educational value both for the training of local experts and for the general public;
- (vi) the cultural and ecological benefits accruing from the project, and;
- (vii) the social and economic consequences.

115. Properties included in the World Heritage List are considered to be equal in value. For this reason, the criteria proposed above make no reference to the relative value of the properties. A balance will be maintained between funds allocated to projects for the preservation of the cultural heritage on the one hand and projects for the conservation of the natural heritage on the other hand.

116. Requests for emergency, training, and technical co-operation shall be referred, if deemed necessary by the Secretariat, to the appropriate Advisory Bodies (IUCN, ICOMOS, and/or ICCROM) for professional review and evaluation, and its recommendations shall be presented to the Bureau and the Committee for action.

F. Conditions for the granting of international assistance

121. The conditions for and types of international assistance are established by Articles 19 to 26 of the World Heritage Convention. Establishing a parallel between the conditions of eligibility for the World Heritage Committee set out in Article 16 of the Convention, the Committee decided, at its thirteenth session (1989), that States who were in arrears of payment of their contributions to the World Heritage Fund would not be able to receive a grant of international assistance in the following calendar year, it being understood that this provision would not apply in case of emergency assistance and training as defined in these Guidelines. In making this decision, the Committee wished to emphasize the importance which it accorded to States Parties paying their entire contribution within the periods set out in Article 16 of the Convention.

Decisions of the Committee

- (a) **The allocation of international assistance between cultural and natural heritage:** At its nineteenth session (Berlin, Germany, 4-9 December 1995), the Committee decided that half of training and one third of technical co-operation would be reserved for natural sites (Paragraph XIII of the Report of the nineteenth session of the Committee).
- (b) **International assistance requests related to the state of conservation reports of the same properties:** At its twentieth session (Mérida, Mexico, 2-7 December 1996), the Committee decided to consider international assistance requests together with reports on the state of conservation of the same properties (Paragraph XII of the Report of the twentieth session of the Committee).
- (c) **Evaluation by the Advisory Bodies:** At its twentieth session (Mérida, Mexico, 2-7 December 1996), the Committee requested the Secretariat 'to call upon the advice of the experts of the appropriate bodies (ICOMOS, IUCN and ICCROM), according to paragraph 102 of the Operational Guidelines'. (Paragraph XII of the Report of the twentieth session of the Committee).

REQUEST N° 1
Preparatory assistance
Mixed heritage
Central and Eastern Europe

State Party: HUNGARY

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2002: all dues paid

Name of Activity: Organisation of a workshop for the managers of World Heritage Sites in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: US\$ 15,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site:

- Training Assistance (1999) US\$ 33.840 (Integrated Urban Conservation Training Workshop and Seminar for Central European Historic City Managers)
- Preparatory Assistance (2001) US\$ 17.800 (Organising a meeting for the harmonisation of tentative lists within the same geo-cultural area)
- Training Assistance (2001) US\$ 20.000 (Training for the Protection and Management of natural or mixed World Heritage sites in Central and Eastern Europe)

Background:

Hungary has recently begun in-depth involvement in the preparation of management plans and establishing of international expert contacts.

Objectives:

Elaborating a general method for the preparation of management plans for the natural and cultural heritage sites of the region.

Project plan:

Schedule:

Day 1 – Theoretical background presentations and discussions

Day 2 – Practical presentations – exchange of experiences

Day 3 – Exercises – preparation of joint submission and evaluation of themes

Day 4 – Conclusion: discussion of future cooperation

Anticipated output:

Provide the involved specialists with sufficient knowledge and awareness of the significance, role and meaning of management plans.

Total activity budget (in US\$):	30,000
National or other contributions (in US\$):	15,000

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):		15,000
1. Office expenses		5,000
2. Translation support		1,000
3. Planning and preparation of report and its publication		5,000
4. Administrative assistance		4,000

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

1. Comments provided by IUCN:

IUCN supports this request on the basis of the State Party considering the following points:

- The workshop should concentrate solely on management planning and not on the preparation of nominations at the same time.
- It will be important to involve international experts in management planning as resource persons.
- A balance between natural and cultural experts and participants should be ensured.
- The State Party should submit a more detailed programme and IUCN would be happy to comment on this if requested.

2. Comments provided by ICOMOS:

ICOMOS supports this international assistance request, and suggests that not only World Heritage site managers should participate in the workshop, but also specialists in management plan preparation.

The report of the meeting should be prepared in such a way that it can be used as an information tool for other States Parties in relation to management planning.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Secretariat supports this preparatory assistance request for the amount requested. The workshop should also take into account recent publications for the management of sites (including visitor management for World Heritage properties and management of protected landscapes).

<p>Action by the Committee: The Committee may wish to approve this request for the total amount of US\$ 15,000, as the Chairperson cannot approve a request from his own country.</p>

REQUEST N° 2
Preparatory Assistance
Mixed heritage
Africa

State Party: KENYA

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2002: US\$ 300 of outstanding dues

Name of Activity: Second International Expert Meeting on Great Rift Valley

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: US\$ 69,101

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site:

- Preparatory Assistance (2000), US\$30,000
- Preparatory Assistance (2002), US\$15,000

Background:

Following a number of nominations from the Great Rift Valley which have been deferred or referred, the First International Expert Meeting held at The Dead Sea, shores of Israel from 30 September to 4 October 2002 developed a conceptual framework for the Great Rift Valley aiming at: promoting the efforts being made by some States Parties to prepare nominations for sites located in the Great Rift Valley and the existence of many sites in the Great Rift Valley that are culturally and naturally rich, and that can provide opportunities to further the socio-economic standing of the communities involved; taking into account various relevant Conventions and Agreements linked directly or indirectly to the Rift Valley; recognizing the importance for strengthening partnerships among the States Parties concerned.

The First Expert Meeting resulted in a proposed Action Plan concerning the Great Rift Valley and a timetable which include: the production of the proceedings of the First Meeting; the submission of report and recommendations to the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee and the submission of the initial assistance request by State Party (Kenya) for the Second Expert Meeting; submission of recommendations to the World Parks Congress in Durban, South Africa; the holding of the Second Expert Meeting on the Great Rift Valley in Nairobi, Kenya; and States Parties meeting in connection with the 28th Session of the World Heritage Committee in 2004.

Objectives:

The main objectives are as follows:

1. Review the recommendations of the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee to be held in Paris in 2003;
2. Define and refine a statement for submission to the Worlds Parks Congress in Durban;
3. Review progress in identification by States Parties of sites and progress in inventories for tentative listing and for eventual nomination; and a review on those already inscribed in view of enlarging buffer zones and re-nomination under different criteria;
4. Promotion of regional and international, regional, sub-regional and national partnerships for the protection of migratory species and for the Great Rift Valley;
5. Mainstreaming the Great Rift Valley in UNESCO programmes.

Project plan:

Participants:

* Countries on the Rift Valley such as: Turkey, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Botswana, Rwanda, Syria, and Yemen Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Palestinian Authority;

* Advisory Bodies, ICOMOS, IUCN and ICCROM;

* Organizations such as NEPAD, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), IGGAD, AMCEN, UNEP Conventions Coordination Unit, Convention on Migratory Species, Convention on Biological Diversity, African Conventions on Nature Protection, etc.

Anticipated output:

Improve the tentative listing relating to the Great Rift Valley.

Total activity budget (in US\$):	84,101
Contribution from Kenya national commission for UNESCO (in US\$)	15,000
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):	69,101
1. International Participants: 25 participants from 22 countries on the Rift Valley:	39,423
2. Participation of UNESCO Staff: 4 staff members (WHC-SC/ECO-SC/HYD)	12,812
3. Local Organization	14,213
4. Miscellaneous (booklet, publishing)	2,653

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

1. Following to the "Great Rift Valley Brainstorming Meeting" that was held in March in World Heritage Centre between partners World Heritage Centre, IUCN, UN Foundation and Israel National commission, the Representative from IUCN, Ms Peard gave her agreement.

2. ICOMOS sent provisional comments on 4 April; ICOMOS fully supports this request for preparatory assistance, but notes that the budget for this meeting seems to be expensive, and suggests that the Kenya National Commission give a more important financial support especially for administrative costs and for local organization. For these reasons ICOMOS suggests that the request be approved for the reduced overall amount of US\$ 50,000.

ICOMOS proposes that the duration of the meeting should not exceed 5 days.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Secretariat fully supports the request and sees it as an important way of enforcing and promoting the concept of transboundaries nomination.

<p>Action by the Committee: As this request is of interest for many countries in different regions, the Committee may wish to approve this request for an amount of US\$ 69,101 though it is above the Preparatory Assistance ceiling of US\$ 30,000, under the condition that the State Party has paid its outstanding dues to the World Heritage Fund (US\$ 300) by the time of the 27th Committee session.</p>

REQUEST N° 3
Technical Cooperation
Cultural heritage
Asia

State Party: INDIA

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2002: all dues paid

Name of Activity: Elaboration of a management plan for Hampi World Heritage property in Danger

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: US\$ 28,250

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site:

- Training Assistance (2002) US\$ 17,370

Background:

The World Heritage Committee at its twenty third session in 1999 decided to inscribe the Hampi property on the List of World Heritage in Danger, expressing deep concern over the partial construction of two cable-suspended bridges within the protected archaeological areas of Hampi. The Committee also requested the national authorities concerned to urgently elaborate a comprehensive conservation, management and development plan, with the assistance of the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre.

Objectives:

The main objectives are as follows:

1. Engage international experts in rural development and heritage management (recommended by UNESCO and ICOMOS) to provide assistance in the elaboration of the comprehensive management plan (months 1-2)
2. Carrying out a full and comprehensive needs-assessment of the local communities, visitors and sustainable heritage protection, supported by sound data analysis, to be elaborated by the Government of Karnataka and the Archaeological Survey of India, with international experts recommended by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (months 1-8)
3. Undertaking of a full comprehensive feasibility study for exploring all possible means of meeting the needs of the archaeologists, conservators, local community members and visitors, in relation to the construction of the bridges (months 1-8)
4. Urgent formulation of a comprehensive conservation, development and management plan following international conservation norms, with the co-operation of the Government of Karnataka and the Archaeological Survey of India, with the technical assistance of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (months 1-8)

Project plan:

Schedule:

This activity is expected to last 12 months.

Anticipated output:

A management plan for Hampi World Heritage property in Danger

Total activity budget (in US\$):	28,250
National or other contributions (in US\$):	N/A
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):	28,250
1. International experts costs	18,880
2. National experts costs	9,370

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

Both ICCROM and ICOMOS support the request to elaborate a management plan for Hampi. However, both suggest reformulation in order to better address the needs of the property. To this end, a consultation meeting was organized on 19 March 2003 between ICCROM and the Indian authorities. The detailed work plan and budget are being reformulated by the Indian authorities in close co-operation with ICCROM.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The World Heritage Centre supports this activity and recommends approval of US\$ 28,250, subject to the Advisory Body's submitting a sound activity plan and budget breakdown to be endorsed by the World Heritage Committee Chairperson.

Action by the Committee: The Committee may wish to approve this request for an amount of US\$ 28,250 , subject to the Advisory Body's submitting a sound activity plan and a revised budget breakdown to be endorsed by the Chairperson

REQUEST N° 4
Technical Cooperation
Cultural heritage
Arab States

State Party: YEMEN

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2002: all dues paid

Name of Activity: Follow-up actions for the implementation of safeguarding measures for the Historic Town of Zabid, World Heritage site in Danger.

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: US\$ 40,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site:

- Emergency assistance (1994) US\$ 30,000
- Promotion (1995) US\$ 15,000
- Technical cooperation (1998) US\$ 19,000
- Emergency assistance (2001) US\$ 75,000
- Emergency assistance (2002) US\$ 31,918

Background:

This property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1993 (criteria ii, iv, vi) and on the List of the World Heritage in Danger in 2000, because of the loss of its economic and cultural role, the disappearance of 35% of the town's urban texture, the buildings of which are collapsing or already replaced by modern constructions. Therefore, an economic and cultural revitalisation is proposed in order to allow Zabid to be again able to provide modern services to its region.

June 2001 -The Council of Ministers ordered to stop all construction activities in Zabid and a new High Committee for the safeguarding of Zabid approved an Action Plan in order to implement the 9 urgent measures.

After the approval of an Emergency Assistance Request, missions of international experts in socio-economy, town planning, building conservation and management were decided: in September 2001, February 2002 and June 2002 to assess the state of conservation and decide priority actions.

In December 2002 - The Centre submitted to the Authorities a Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan of Zabid and its regulations and discussed it with the stakeholders (the Dutch UCHP, SFD, KFW) so as to obtain their approval for its implementation. Also, a new Action Plan, including UNESCO in a supervisory coordinating role, has been agreed upon and will need to be implemented in 2003. This new Action Plan has been distributed to the major stakeholders according to the recommendations and priorities defined in the Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan and has been recognised as the reference for future interventions.

Despite all the above progress, the situation in Zabid remains very worrying and the awareness, lobbying and follow-up organised by the World Heritage Centre since May 2001, should be pursued.

Objectives:

- Implementation and follow-up of the new approved Action Plan;
- Finalisation of the Urban conservation Plan, and training of GOPHCY staff on follow-up on the works and operations and to handle the implementation of the Preliminary Conservation Plan;
- Launching of an awareness campaign in the City, and forming a House of the Heritage

Project plan:

- 1) Finalise the Urban Conservation plan including all the missing information with both GOPHCY and the MoPWUD.
- 2) Assist in initial phase of operation of the Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan and the regulations in Zabid.
- 3) Organise Coordination Meetings with all the concerned parties to review progress of Action Plan and take necessary measures.
- 4) Assist in the setting up and building capacity of the Technical Unit (House of the Heritage in Zabid) in charge of the Urban Conservation Plan within Zabid, by organising the training of staff in the use of IT equipment and software, establishing clear procedures for their daily work, documentation and reporting duties.
- 5) Set up an awareness campaign, in cooperation with GOPHCY and the local authorities and NGOs to present the Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan to the community of Zabid, explain its mechanisms and procedures and integrate concerns and specific needs into the Urban Plan.

Anticipated output:

- A Government clear commitment towards the city for a better and credible technical counterpart at the site level for the implementation of the Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan
- Obtain the consensus of the local inhabitants and stakeholders for its implementation
- Begin the implementation of the Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan
- Install a House of the Heritage in Zabid and begin the training of the staff.

Total activity budget (in US\$):	10,388,000
Contribution from the national Agency (GOPHCY in US\$):	168,000
Contribution from other national, regional and international organisations (in US\$):	10,180,000
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):	40,000
1. Project Co-ordinator - International consultant Architect	23,000
2. Awareness campaign	5,000
3. Special unit for the follow-up on Zabid	6,500
4. Miscellaneous	5,500

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

ICOMOS supports this international assistance request for finalizing the urban conservation plan and for setting up an awareness campaign for the inhabitants of Zabid.

Comments of the Secretariat:

This request was submitted to the Chairperson in February 2003 as emergency assistance. The Chairperson considered that this request should be more appropriately a Technical cooperation activity, taking into account that the conditions at the site do not seem to fit with the definition of emergency as described in the Operational Guidelines.

In consequence, the Secretariat would like to propose that this request, submitted to the Committee as a Technical Cooperation Assistance, be approved with the following revised work-plan:

New workplan: due to the need to get a clear commitment from the Government and to raise awareness to obtain consensus of the local inhabitants and stakeholders for the implementation of the Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan, the project plan has been modified to integrate this objective.

Accordingly, this request, with the World Heritage Centre as coordinator, will focus on the following activities:

- Assist in the initial phase of operation of the Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan and in the regulations in Zabid.
- Organise a Stakeholders Meeting with representatives from the Government, the city (authorities, population), the donors, to present the Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan, facilitate discussions in order to get clear commitments from the Central authorities to adopt the Plan and provide the GOPHCY with appropriate means to play its role through a House of the Heritage.
- Assist in the setting up and building capacity of the Technical Unit (House of the Heritage in Zabid) in charge of the Urban Conservation Plan within Zabid, by organising staff training in the use of IT equipment and software, establishing clear procedures for their daily work, documentation and reporting duties.
- Set up an awareness campaign, in cooperation with GOPHCY and the local authorities and NGOs to present the Preliminary Urban Conservation Plan to the community of Zabid, explain its mechanisms and procedures and integrate concerns and specific needs into the Urban Plan.

Action by the Committee: The Committee may wish to approve this request for an amount of US\$ 40,000.

REQUEST N° 5
Training
Cultural heritage
Asia

State Party: KAZAKHSTAN

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2002: all dues paid

Name of Activity: Sub-regional Workshop for the Preparation of Periodic Reports on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and the State of Conservation of World Cultural Heritage sites in Central Asia.

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: US\$ 30,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site: none for Periodic Reporting.

Background:

The World Heritage Committee, at its twenty-second session held in 1998, invited States Parties to submit periodic reports every six years using the Format and Explanatory Notes for periodic reports approved by the World Heritage Committee.

The periodic reporting exercise of the Asia-Pacific Region will be examined by the World Heritage Committee under the new schedule in June 2003. For most Central Asian State Parties, where the rich cultural and natural heritage is underrepresented on the World Heritage List, this Periodic Reporting Exercise will be applicable for part I - Progress report on the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention. The only two sites for which state of conservation reports are required are in Uzbekistan.

To date, Kazakhstan has no World Heritage cultural site. Kazakhstan is preparing the nomination dossiers for two cultural sites, the Architectural complex of Ahmed Jasawi and the archaeological site of the medieval town of Yasi Turkestan and the Archaeological Complex and the petroglyphs of Tamgaly for eventual inscription on the World Heritage List.

However as Central Asian State Parties only recently became party to the World Heritage Convention, a workshop to discuss ways and means of enhancing the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in this sub-region is necessary and timely.

Objectives:

The main objectives are as follows:

1. Review information required for the Periodic reports by participants (national policy makers, conservation experts, site-managers) of the five Central Asian Republics;
2. Discuss experiences, challenges, lessons learnt in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention;
3. Provide a forum to exchange opinions and concerns in the preservation and management of World heritage;
4. Discuss strategic priorities for enhancing the implementation of the World Heritage Convention at national and local levels.

Project plan:

Schedule:

Duration: 5 days

Provisional date: October/November 2003

Participants:

* Policy makers, Conservation and Management planning directors and experts from the Ministry of Culture, site managers (2 participants from Azerbaijan, 2 participants from Iran, 4 participants from Kyrgystan, 4 participants from Tajikistan, 6 Participants from Turkmenistan, 6 participants from Uzbekistan, 6 participants from Kazakhstan)

* an international expert from UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 2 international experts (one for monitoring and management, one from CRATerre), Regional Advisors for Culture in the Asia Pacific Region, UNESCO Almaty Office, UNESCO Tashkent Office (8)

Tentative Programme

Day 1 - Experiences, challenges, lessons learnt in the implementation of the Convention and priorities for enhancing the implementation at regional, national and site level

Day 2 - Field work: visit to Tamgaly archaeological site

Day 3 - Conservation challenges in Central Asia

Day 4 - Tools for heritage conservation, monitoring and management (Periodic reporting, GIS and other mapping tools)

Day 5 - Heritage conservation and presentation of petroglyphs and earthen architecture (case studies).

Anticipated output:

Review the Periodic Reports of the five Central Asian States Parties and elaborate strategic action plans and recommendations to strengthen the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Total activity budget (in US\$)		30,000
Contribution from the Kazakh Government		In kind
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):		30,000
1. Travel and participants' per diem		23,272
2. Organisation cost of the regional seminar		3,200
3. Personnel		2,000
4. Publication		1,528

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

ICOMOS recommends to include training in conservation methods in the objectives and to add the legislative framework, training and research needs to the discussions on day 4 of the workshop. Furthermore, ICOMOS suggests that an expert from ICOMOS participates in the meeting and that the costs for the fees of international experts be calculated on the basis of the six working days.

The request was transmitted to ICCROM on 4 December 2002 and a reminder was sent on 21 February 2003.

Comments of the Secretariat:

This request was submitted on 23 July 2002 for an activity which was to take place in September 2002. By the time the request was submitted, there was no longer any funds available for 2002. Therefore, the Centre recommends that the proposed workshop be organised in October/November 2003 as a sub-regional workshop for Central Asian World Cultural Heritage to follow-up on the recommendations of

the World Heritage Committee during its examination of the Regional Periodic Reports. As a conclusion, following the suggestions of ICOMOS, the Centre recommends the approval of the request, increasing the total amount approved by US\$ 5,000 to adequately finance the participation and fees of ICOMOS and international experts.

Action by the Committee: Provided ICCROM supports the request, the Committee may wish to approve this request for Training Assistance for the increased amount of **US\$ 35,000** under Technical Cooperation budget, bearing in mind that the Training budget for cultural heritage is exhausted, and recommending that the State Party and the World Heritage Centre organise the workshop as a sub-regional workshop for Central Asian World Cultural Heritage to follow-up on the Periodic Reporting Exercise and the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee (27th session June/July 2003) including training in conservation methodology within the workshop.

REQUEST N° 6

Training

Natural heritage

Arab States

State Party: OMAN

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2002: all dues paid

Name of Activity: Capacity building for Staff and Rangers to Manage the Arabian Oryx Sanctuary (AOS).

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: US\$ 40,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site:

- Preparatory Assistance (1995), US\$ 15 000
- Training Assistance (1999), US\$ 40 000
- Training Assistance (2000), US\$ 40 000 (re-approval of 1999 request)

Background:

The Arabian Oryx Sanctuary was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1994 (criteria N iv). This natural site is the place of the re-introduction project for the Arabian Oryx and contains aspects linked to natural phenomena as well as geological and geo-morphological features. The training will be focused on the management of the natural resources and the involvement of the local communities inside the sanctuary area.

With the aid of funds from UNESCO (1995, US\$ 15 000), a management plan was drawn up. However, the implementation of this management plan is still pending mainly for lack of trained staff. The complexity of the sanctuary with its inhabitants, domestic animals, natural wildlife resources and physical features presents a challenge in terms of successful management.

The present staff needs to have more knowledge in order to manage this complex situation. This knowledge should be given through a training, which aim should be to move one step closer to effective management.

Objectives:

The main objective is to increase the capacity of the existing staff and rangers for the management of the World Natural Heritage site of AOS by providing training on management issues, such as monitoring animals and plants and dealing with local communities and stakeholders.

Project plan:

Schedule:

Duration: 7 days at least

Place: Arabian Oryx Sanctuary

Participants:

- * Ministry of Regional Municipalities, Environment & Water Resources (MRME&WR)
- * Office of the Advisor for Conservation of the Environment, Diwan of Royal Court.

* resource persons and trainers from Jordan, Egypt; Nature Conservation experts in Oman; White Oryx project experts

* trainee participants: AOS rangers and management staff; Nature Conservation staff in Oman; White Oryx project rangers.

Themes, issues and problems to be taught:

- Management of biodiversity
- Protection of plant resources
- Addressing problems such as overgrazing, uncontrolled off-road driving, and open access.
- The role of protected area manager and rangers
- Techniques of wildlife monitoring.

Tentative programme:

Lecture on theory 70%, practical field work 30% which should include: plant identification, plant collection, management of *herbarium*, baseline studies, and bird identification, weather station management, extension work, wildlife monitoring.

Anticipated output:

Improve the effective management of the AOS.

Total activity budget (in US\$):	40,000
National or other contributions:	In kind
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):	40,000
1. Travel and participants' per diem	27,000
2. Logistics	6,000
3. Publication	4,000
4. Miscellaneous	3,000

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

In relation to this request IUCN has a few queries and comments to make:

- The number of participants is not indicated.
- Other themes or issues that could be included in the training programme are stakeholder involvement and conflict resolution, as well as visitor management. IUCN will be happy to provide the names of suitable experts from the region that can assist further with the development of the training programme if this request is approved.
- The budget seems quite high for a training activity oriented to only one World Heritage site, in particular the cost of the conference hall. There is also an overlapping of costs for local transport to be met by the national agency and the request for extra funds for travel and 4WD, on top of air tickets. It is essential to know the number of participants to be involved in order to make this budget more precise. It is not clear either what fees the resource persons will receive, as there are only budget lines for accommodation and allowances (presumably DSA).

While IUCN commends this training initiative, further information on the programme and specific details, particularly in terms of the budget, are required before IUCN can support this request for assistance from the WH Fund.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Secretariat agrees with IUCN's remarks and recommends the approval subject to additional information on budgetary matters.

Action by the Committee: The Committee may wish to approve the amount of **US\$ 40,000**, subject to additional information being provided to address queries raised by IUCN.

REQUEST N° 7
Training
Cultural heritage
Asia

State Party: UZBEKISTAN

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2002: US\$35,853 of outstanding dues

Name of Activity: Sub-regional workshop for the elaboration of a specific programme for the first 3 years of the Central Asian Earth 2002-2012 Programme combined with an on-the-job practical training activity at Khiva World Heritage site.

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: US\$ 50,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site: none

Background:

Within the framework of the Global Strategy for a more representative World Heritage List and following the Global Strategy Expert Meeting on Cultural Heritage in Central Asia (Turkmenistan, May 2000), the Central Asian Earth 2002-2012 programme was adopted by the five Central Asian Republics and endorsed by the World Heritage Committee at its 25th session in December 2001. It aims to build capacity for site-management authorities and technical experts in Central Asia for enhanced conservation, presentation, and management of existing or future World Cultural Heritage sites in this region through close co-operation at international, regional, sub-regional and national levels.

In addition to on-going or planned on-site activities, an in-depth survey was undertaken between 2002 and 2003 to identify common strengths and weaknesses faced by the national authorities in the conservation, presentation and management of their cultural heritage. In order to present and discuss the results of the in-depth survey at the sub-regional level and to elaborate common strategies for human and technical capacity-building in Central Asia, there is a need of a five day training workshop to take place in Khiva World Heritage site in September 2003, to be combined with an on-the-job conservation training activity on the ancient walls of Khiva, part of a World Heritage site.

Objectives:

The main objectives are as follows:

1. Examine and discuss the findings and results of the survey;
2. Elaborate and adopt the programme of activities for the coming two years;
3. Identify priority properties or areas for the implementation of capacity-building activities;
4. Strengthen partnerships in the Central Asian region for the implementation of the programme.
5. Begin the process of training trainers in the field of conservation planning and implementation

Project plan:

Schedule:

Day 1 - Experiences, challenges, lessons learnt in the implementation of the Convention

Day 2 - Presentation of the survey carried out by CRATerre-EAG - Discussion

Day 3 - Identification of common institutional and legal weaknesses for heritage conservation and of common needs in human and technical capacity-building -Discussion

Day 4 - Field visit of a selection of sites in Khiva and of potential sites in Khorezm and Karakapalkstan.

Day 5 - Elaboration and adoption of a two-year action plan

September-November 2003

The regional participants will take part in the pre-planning of structural consolidation works and finalization of the conservation project for the city wall of Khiva as a training exercise.

Trainers will carry on-the-job training of local craftsmen in the priority structural consolidation work.

Participants:

- * Resource persons from UNESCO World Heritage Centre (2)
- * International expert from CRATerre (1)
- * International expert from ICCROM (1)
- * UNESCO Tashkent Office (3)
- * UNESCO Almaty Office (1)
- * UNESCO Teheran Office (1)
- * Director, International Institute of Central Asian Studies (IICAS), Samarkand
- * Representative of UNESCO Chair in Historic Cities conservation, Samarkand
- * Regional Inspector for Termez, responsible for Fayaz-Tepa project
- * Director, Bukhara school of traditional building crafts
- * From each of the five Republics: 1 senior archaeologist, 1 senior conservator (preferably at the policy making level or at top management of national institution), 1 representative of National Commission for UNESCO.

Anticipated output:

Elaboration of a programme of strategic conservation activities in Central Asia for the next two years and commencement of a concrete on-the-job conservation and capacity building activity at a World Heritage property.

Total activity budget (in US\$):	50,000
National or other contributions:	In kind
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):	50,000
1. Travel of international participants:	12,362
2. Travel of participants from sub-region:	12,648
3. Travel of participants from Uzbekistan:	2,604
4. Personnel	10,000
5. Technical advisory and supervision missions	1,586
6. Organisational costs	8,500
7. Printing, editing and distribution of report (Russian and English)	1,500
8. Miscellaneous	800

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

The request was transmitted to ICCROM for comments on 11 April 2003.

ICOMOS considers that this request is well formulated and that the budget is reasonable; therefore ICOMOS supports this request.

Comments of the Secretariat:

In order to review the work undertaken between the concerned State Parties, Advisory Bodies and UNESCO under the first phase of the Central Asian Earth Programme in 2002 and 2003 and to appropriately elaborate future activities, the Secretariat recommends the approval of this request by the Committee.

<p>Action by the Committee: Provided that ICCROM supports the request, the Committee may wish to approve this request for Training Assistance for a total amount of US\$ 50,000 under the Technical Cooperation budget, bearing in mind that the Training budget for cultural heritage is exhausted.</p>
--

REQUEST N° 8
Training
Cultural heritage
Asia

State Party: BANGLADESH

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2002: US\$354 of outstanding dues

Name of Activity: Conservation training and organization of a workshop to elaborate a management plan for the Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur World Heritage site.

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: US\$ 301,520

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site:

- Technical Co-operation (1986) US\$ 20,000

Background:

The World Heritage Committee at its 26th session in June 2002 examined the state of conservation of the Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur for the first time since its inscription on the World Heritage List in 1985, and in particular examined the findings of a UNESCO mission undertaken by an ICOMOS international expert.

The Committee requested and encouraged the authorities to consider the nomination of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger in order (a) to mobilize the significant international financial and technical resources for addressing the conservation challenges facing the property; (b) to elaborate an action plan to enhance long-term conservation and management of the site; (c) to remove the ascertained and potential threats facing the property, and (d) to submit an international assistance request.

Following the Committee's decisions, a second UNESCO mission to Paharpur took place in October 2002, which concluded that the site was no longer facing immediate threats and danger as the inappropriate rehabilitation work had regrettably been completed leaving some irreversible changes to the authentic character of the property. However, to reverse the inappropriate work to the extent possible, specific measures were recommended.

The third UNESCO mission in February 2003 further assisted the authorities in implementing the UNESCO recommendations made during the October 2002 mission.

On 30 March 2003, the authorities of Bangladesh submitted two International Assistance requests, one for Training Assistance and one for Technical Co-operation, amounting to a total of US\$ 304,014.

Objectives:

The main objectives are as follows:

1. Have the staff of Paharpur site trained in the conservation of terracotta plaques, stone, wood and bronze materials, and also to the visitor's management;
2. Have an inventory and digitalization of terracotta plaques;
3. Enhance interaction activities with local communities.

Project plan:Schedule:

The activity is expected to last 12 months, commencing in 2003

Anticipated output:

Better conservation and enhanced conservation and management of the ruins of the Buddhist Vihara.

Total activity budget (in US\$):	304,014
National or local authorities contributions (in US\$):	2,494
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):	301,520
1. Training 1: Conservation for terracotta plaques	36,942
2. Training 2: Cataloguing and photo documentation technique	16,586
3. Training 3: Conservation for stone materials	11,428
4. Training 4: Conservation for bronze materials	10,218
5. Training 5: Conservation for wood materials	10,218
6. Training 6: Visitor's management	14,945
7. Enhancement of interaction activities with local communities	5,445
8. Training for site management of WH site	21,960
9. Workshop to socialize site management plan in local community of Mahasthangarh and its Environs	5,445
10. Workshop to draw a Tentative List for Bangladesh	7,355
11. Inventory and digitalization of terracotta plaques	20,976
12. Print catalogue of the terracotta plaques	34,000
13. Study of the existing drainage problem and monitoring the internal moisture context of the monument	50,002
14. Appointment of external reporter of state of conservation of the property	9,000
15. Technical assistance for GIS database for the Mahasthangr and its Environs	35,000
16. Draft of nomination file and management plan for the Mahasthangarh and its Environs	12,000

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

1) ICOMOS regards the requested budget as unrealistic, and supports a World Heritage Centre's suggestion to request the State Party to reformulate the request into a multi-year phased programme focused on capacity building.

2) ICCROM understands and supports the need for the proposed activities, particularly the elaboration of master plans and training for conservation techniques and site management. However, ICCROM believes that the State Party should reformulate the requests.

ICCROM recommends that the State Party review the requests firstly according to objectives and secondly by types of activities, and prioritise the activities in a integrated work plan which shows the whole project duration (total months) and the timing of different activities.

With regard to the elaboration of the two master plans, one for Paharpur and the other for the Mahasthangarh Tentative List site, overlap can be foreseen between the two master plan elaborations in both physical treatment of the monuments, and site management. ICCROM therefore emphasizes importance of the profiles of international/regional/local resource persons and participants to maximize the benefit of proposed training and workshop activities. However, the proposed project descriptions are not sufficiently clear on this point.

With regard to the budget estimation, the total amount of US\$ 301,520 requested exceeds the maximum amount approved under the World Heritage Fund. The contribution by the State Party is limited to only US\$ 2,494 out of US\$ 304,014. Except for the "Emergency Assistance", the World Heritage Fund is usually used as a catalyzing investment by others, and is intended to cover some percentage of the direct project cost that does not include "programme support cost" and "mission costs for governmental officials". Office expenses such as photocopies, stationery, secretarial assistance, acoustic and audio-visual arrangements related to lecture presentation and field exercises are generally absorbed by the State Party, with the World Heritage Fund being used primarily to support the participation of lecturers and participants. In this context, ICCROM would recommend that the State Party consider the possibility of contributing a greater percentage of the project cost.

ICCROM would be delighted to assist the State Party in reformulation of the requests, if the State Party so wishes.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The World Heritage Centre supports the various activities contained within the requests in principle, but recommends that the activity focus on the priority needs of the property and to phase the activities in view of the overall amount requested (US\$ 304,014) which far exceeds the means under the World Heritage Fund. The Centre recommends that priority be given to the training for cataloguing and photo documentation technique with a view to improve the conservation of the terracotta plaques. To this end, the Centre recommends that an initial amount of US\$ 35,000 be approved by the Committee, subject to the authorities reformulating the proposed activities into a multi-year phased programme focused on capacity-building.

<p>Action by the Committee: The Committee may wish to approve this request for Training Assistance for an initial amount of US\$ 35,000 under the Technical Cooperation budget, bearing in mind that the Training budget for cultural heritage is exhausted, and subject to the request being reformulated with the Centre and the Advisory Bodies to meet the priority needs of the property. The final reformulated workplan and budget breakdown will need to be approved by the Chairperson.</p>
--

REQUEST N° 9
Emergency assistance
Cultural heritage
Iraq

State Party: IRAQ

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2002: US\$ 53,082 outstanding dues

Name of Activity: Preparation of an urgent nomination of the ancient city of Ashur to the World Heritage List.

Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund: US\$ 50,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site: none

Background:

The site of Ashur suffered from being exposed to rain and wind erosion and normal natural destruction. In the late seventies, the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage started a scientific programme, which consisted in resuming the work in the city, in particular by archaeological excavations, as well as by some consolidation and restoration work to strengthen the fragile exposed structures.

However, besides the natural weathering, the site is now under direct threat from the waters of the nearby reservoir that will be created by the Makhool Dam project, foreseen to be achieved by the end of 2006. Some parts of the southern area of the site risk to be inundated and the larger part of the site to be damaged by infiltration. It is of great importance and emergency to study the technical means to isolate and protect the site, to preserve the structures and to carry out salvage excavations in the endangered areas.

The preliminary form for the nomination of the ancient city of Ashur to the World Heritage List has been submitted to World Heritage Centre. No action has been taken for requesting nomination of the property for inclusion on the World Heritage List in Danger, however, the building of the Makhool Dam south of the site and the subsequent flooding of the area might lead to such a measure. Although the presently discussed retaining system on the site itself would affect the northern and eastern margins of the site, the development of an overall emergency action plan for Ashur is considered as extremely urgent.

At present, the following measures are carried out at the site of Ashur:

- Archaeological excavations by the Iraqi expedition.
- Archaeological excavations by the German expedition.
- Salvage excavations by the Iraqi expedition.

However, it is recognized that only an integrated approach will match the aims needed to protect and present the site adequately. Such an approach includes a restoration and conservation policy, the implementation of protective measures and the development of regulated tourist facilities.

Objectives:

1. Establishment of the Makhool Research Centre (MRC)

The aim of the centre is the coordination of any activities connected with the site of Ashur and the sites in the area which will be inundated by the Makhool Dam reservoir. The city of Ashur together with the sites

in its immediate hinterland constitute a settlement system which forms the matrix of the Assyrian civilisation.

Based on the Iraqi legislation, the Centre is under the supervision of the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage in Baghdad. A local/regional centre will have the advantage of immediate action and response. The implementation of measures can be directly controlled. The centre will have to be located in the vicinity of Ashur.

The MRC will embody the following functions:

- local representation of the SBAH,
- data and information pool for the project area,
- reference point for the archaeological expeditions in the area,
- logistic centre for computer-aided record systems and field-work equipment,
- location of image-processing laboratory,
- training centre for applied field-work methods (excavation, surveying, restoration, and conservation).

2. Elaboration of an emergency action plan for the site of Ashur

In view of the progress of the construction of the Makhool Dam and the submitted application for the inscription into the WHL, assistance for the improvement of the site management to fulfill the requirements of the World Heritage Committee, and for the elaboration of an emergency action plan for the site of Ashur is required. Based on the decisions of the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage as the relevant body of the Iraqi authorities, this plan will serve as a framework and guidelines for the salvage of the site of Ashur during the coming years through a number of different measures. It will also establish a management structure for the site in the future. It will have to be reviewed regularly and updated. The plan will develop proposals for the following issues:

- excavation strategy for the site of Ashur,
- strategies for on-site and off-site surveys in the Makhool Dam area and their implementation,
- framework for the implementation of restoration and conservation measures,
- archaeological/historical presentation and interpretation;
- landscaping;
- management of the site.

3. Evaluation and planning of protective measures for the site of Ashur

In order to protect the site of Ashur from the waters of the Makhool Dam reservoir, adequate measures are needed to prevent flooding and infiltration. On behalf of the Ministry of irrigation, the Furat Inc. Company is preparing an assessment study for the best possible way of protecting the site of Ashur by means of retaining structures. Based on the results of the UNESCO-mission in November 2002, further cooperation is requested in finalizing the assessment and the feasibility of the protection measures for the site of Ashur and in planning/designing their implementation.

Project plan:

Schedule:

The measures listed under *Objectives* 1-3 can be implemented immediately.

Anticipated output:

A complete nomination dossier and management plan for the city of Ashur.

Total activity budget (in US\$):	50,000
National or other contributions (in US\$):	N/A
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):	50,000
1. Travel and experts' per diem	14,000

2. Assistance in the on-site and off-site surveys of the area (see 5.2)	5,000
3. Finalization of the feasibility study and planning/designing adequate protective measures for the site of Ashur (see 5.3)	3,000
4. Technical equipment and material for the MRC (see 5.1)	28,000

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

ICOMOS recommends that any possible assistance be given to prevent possible risks and threats to this site.

Concerning the specific causes of damage, as many of the causes of damage described in the request are related to normal decay resulting from neglect and natural elements, this does not justify emergency action and should be removed.

Concerning the list of remedial measures to be undertaken, ICOMOS underlines that only rescue, or salvage excavations, can be seen as remedial, or preventive measures.

ICOMOS supports the creation of the Makhool Research Centre and accepts the emergency plan for the centre, but suggests to give details regarding its staff, budget and work-plans. The lack of these information is also the reason why ICOMOS would not recommend assistance for the purchasing of any equipment, while recommends that such assistance be reconsidered following the establishment of the centre.

ICOMOS recommends that all possible assistance be provided for: surveys, an assessment mission, the elaboration of an emergency plan, a management plan, specific conservation plans and evaluation of the suggested retaining walls and other remedial measures. According to the request, these measures should amount to US\$ 22,000, however, ICOMOS believes that an amount of US\$ 30,000 would be more realistic.

Finally, since the main justification for emergency inscription on the World Heritage List is potential risk to a site, ICOMOS recommends that this site be immediately listed on the World Heritage List in Danger following its inscription.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Secretariat fully supports this request and recommends its approval for the requested amount. It also underlines the urgency of immediate action on the site of Ashur, especially following the events related to the armed conflict of March/April 2003.

In the absence of a formal Iraqi Government, and in the current period of uncertainty, it is of course difficult to assess whether the proposed Dam Project, considered vital for the local economy, will be continued and according to which timeframe. However, taking into account the exceptional circumstances and threats posed to the site (looting, devastation, etc.), the Secretariat believes that this activity will contribute significantly to improving the conservation of this property, by re-establishing some presence on the site, completing the surveys and developing risk-preparedness and conservation plans.

This request was submitted to the Chairperson in February 2003. The Chairperson decided that this request should be referred to the Committee for final decision, as in his opinion at that time it did not fit with emergency criteria.

Action by the Committee: The Committee may wish to approve this request for an amount of US\$ 50,000 .
--

DRAFT DECISIONS

Draft 27 COM 12

PREPARATORY ASSISTANCE

- **Draft 27 COM 12.1 MIXED** (Hungary) **Organisation of a workshop for the managers of World Heritage Sites in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe**

The World Heritage Committee decides to approve/not to approve US\$ 15,000 from 2003 funds.

- **Draft 27 COM 12.2 MIXED** (Kenya) **Second International Experts Meeting on Great Rift Valley**

The World Heritage Committee decides to approve/not to approve US\$ 69,101 from 2003 funds, under the condition that the State Party has paid its outstanding dues to the World Heritage Fund (US\$ 300) by the time of the 27th Committee session.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION

- **Draft 27 COM 12.3 CULTURAL** (India) **Elaboration of a management plan for Hampi World Heritage property in Danger**

The World Heritage Committee decides to approve/not to approve US\$ 28,250 from 2003 funds, subject to the Advisory Body submitting a sound activity plan and a revised budget breakdown to be endorsed by the Chairperson.

- **Draft 27 COM 12.4 CULTURAL** (Yemen) **Follow-up actions for the implementation of safeguarding measures for the Historic Town of Zabid, World Heritage site in Danger**

The World Heritage Committee decides to approve/not to approve US\$ 40,000 from 2003 funds.

TRAINING

- **Draft 27 COM 12.5 CULTURAL** (Kazakhstan) **Sub-regional Workshop for the Preparation of Periodic Reports on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and the State of Conservation of World Cultural Heritage sites in Central Asia**

The World Heritage Committee decides to approve/not to approve US\$ 35,000 from 2003 funds under the Technical Cooperation budget, the Training budget for cultural heritage being exhausted, recommending that the State Party and the World Heritage Centre organise the workshop as a sub-regional workshop for Central Asian World Cultural Heritage to follow-up on the Periodic Reporting Exercise and the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee (27th session June/July 2003) including training in conservation methodology within the workshop.

- **Draft 27 COM 12.6 NATURAL** (Oman) **Capacity building for the staff and rangers to manage the Arabian Oryx Sanctuary (AOS)**

The World Heritage Committee decides to approve/not to approve US\$ 40,000 from 2003 funds, subject to additional information being provided to address queries raised by IUCN.

- **Draft 27 COM 12.7** CULTURAL (Uzbekistan) ***Sub-regional Workshop for the elaboration of a specific programme for the first 3 years of the Central Asian Earth 2002-2012 Programme combined with an on-the-job practical training activity at Khiva World Heritage site.***

The World Heritage Committee decides to approve/not to approve US\$ 50,000 from 2003 funds under the Technical Cooperation budget, the Training budget for cultural heritage being exhausted.

- **Draft 27 COM 12.8** CULTURAL (Bangladesh) ***Conservation training and organization of a workshop to elaborate a management plan for the Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur World Heritage site.***

The World Heritage Committee decides to approve/not to approve US\$ 35,000 from 2003 funds under the Technical Cooperation budget, the Training budget for cultural heritage being exhausted, subject to the request being reformulated with the Centre and the Advisory Bodies to meet the priority needs of the property. The final reformulated workplan and budget breakdown will need to be approved by the Chairperson.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

- **Draft 27 COM 12.9** CULTURAL (Iraq) ***Preparation of an urgent nomination of the ancient city of Ashur to the World Heritage List***

The World Heritage Committee decides to approve/not to approve US\$ 50,000 from 2003 funds.

Draft 27 COM 12.10 *The World Heritage Committee,*

Urges States Parties to respect in future the deadline for submission of international assistance requests, as indicated in the Operational Guidelines, to ensure that the Secretariat, Advisory Bodies and Committee have adequate time to evaluate the requests;

Decides that no international assistance can be granted in future to a State Party, which is in arrears with its contributions to the World Heritage Fund, except for Emergency Assistance.