



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

World Heritage

31 COM

Distribution Limited

WHC-07/31.COM/INF.5A
Paris, 23 May 2007
Original: English/French

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

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

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Thirty first Session

Christchurch, New Zealand
23 June – 2 July 2007

**Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda: Report of the World Heritage Centre on
its activities and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's
Decisions**

INF.5A: Report of the Advisory Bodies on their activities

SUMMARY

This document presents the reports of the Advisory Bodies on their activities

Report on activities undertaken in connection with the World Heritage Convention

2006

A Introduction

At the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee (Durban, 2005), a sum of USD 1,035,900 was allocated by the Committee to ICOMOS for carrying out its activities as Advisory Body for the Committee in connection with the cultural heritage for 2006-2007.

For 2006, an initial contract, no. 3250020179, was signed on 29 March 2006 for the following activities:

- evaluation of nominations for the World Heritage List (work performed mainly in 2005 for presentation to the Committee in July 2006);
- carrying out of thematic studies;
- participation at the 30th session of the Committee (Vilnius, 2006)
- participation at the expert meetings and other meetings organised by the World Heritage Centre, and
- analysis of the tentative lists.

The contract was paid for in instalments on 10 April 2006, 31 May 2006, 10 August 2006 and 31 December 2006.

During the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee (Vilnius, 2006), a sum of USD 80,000 was allocated by the Committee to ICOMOS to cover its advisory work in connection with the reports on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and to carry out reactive monitoring missions (work performed from September 2006 to May 2007 for presentation to the Committee in July 2007). A second contract, no. 600004, was signed on 21 December 2006, with three payment instalments scheduled on 31 December 2006, 26 March 2007 and 31 July 2007.

B Evaluation of nominations for the World Heritage List

For the 2006 cycle, which begins in March 2005 and ends in July 2006, ICOMOS has been requested to evaluate 30 properties nominated for inscription. Of the 30 evaluations:

- 22 concerned new cultural or cultural/natural (mixed) properties,
- 4 concerned properties which had been referred back in the past,
- 3 concerned extensions of properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List, and
- 1 concerned minor modifications.

Amongst the nominations, one was for a cultural/natural (mixed) property, and one was for a transboundary property. The nominations were made by 30 States Parties to the World Heritage Convention.

Technical evaluation missions were organised in July-October 2005 for 25 properties for which dossiers had been sent to ICOMOS at the start of the year. Overall, and in strict compliance with the principles and procedures set out in "Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention", and in particular Section III.E and Annex 6:

- 25 experts from 22 countries were involved in the evaluation missions (a list of the missions is provided in an annex to the financial statement);
 - 1 evaluation mission was carried out jointly with the IUCN concerning the nomination of a cultural/natural property;
 - 5 ICOMOS International Scientific Committees were consulted;
 - 27 National Committees were questioned;
- in addition to individual experts about the outstanding universal value of all the properties concerned, their authenticity and their integrity, their protection, their conservation and their management.

Written evaluations were prepared and examined by the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel at a 2-day meeting in January 2006 (14-15 January 2006). The additional documentation requested from the States Parties by 31 January 2006 and received by 31 March 2006 was examined at a working group meeting of the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel on 10 April 2006. The texts of the evaluations, approved by the Panel and accompanied by recommendations, have been printed and made available (in English and French) to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre for issue in accordance with the deadlines set out for the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee (Vilnius, 2006). An ICOMOS delegation took part in the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee (8-16 July 2006) and the ICOMOS evaluations were presented to the Committee supported by Power Point presentations.

In 2006, ICOMOS launched the evaluation procedure for 33 properties to be examined by the Committee in June-July 2007: the preparatory work and all the property evaluation missions (with one exception) were carried out from March to December 2006. This task will form part of a contract to be signed with the World Heritage Centre in the spring of 2007; it will therefore be presented in the 2007 activity report. When the contract is signed, ICOMOS will present proposals to the World Heritage Centre for the harmonisation of advisory body contracts, so as to avoid in the future time lags between the work and the contracts.

C Reports on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties

The World Heritage Centre regularly and throughout the year consults the advisory body about problems or threats relating to properties inscribed on the World Heritage List or on the tentative lists of the States Parties. Complementary research was conducted, particularly through the ICOMOS networks, documents were studied and written reports were submitted to the Centre, which produced the final draft of a working document submitted to the Committee in July 2006.

For its part, ICOMOS immediately passes on to the World Heritage Centre any information received through its networks concerning the state of conservation of World Heritage properties and/or the threats facing such properties, so that the World Heritage Centre can keep its files up to date, gather information from the States Parties concerned, and where necessary launch the reactive monitoring procedure.

In 2006, ICOMOS was asked to draw up reports on the state of conservation of 80 properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger, to be examined by the World Heritage Committee at its 30th session (Vilnius, 2006). In a number of cases (20), ICOMOS sent monitoring missions to the sites (several of these were joint missions with UNESCO). Activities relating to the monitoring of the state of conservation of world heritage properties are covered by a separate contract.

Experience has shown that the different but complementary roles of the Centre and of the advisory bodies are not always clearly understood; this ambiguity is not favourable in terms of the preservation of the properties. ICOMOS therefore welcomes the measures taken in 2006 to draw a clearer distinction between responsibilities in the drafting of reports about the state of conservation of properties, and will report on this issue in the 2007 activity report.

D Evaluation of International Assistance Requests

In all, 27 International Assistance Requests (technical, preparatory, emergency, training) were submitted to ICOMOS for evaluation and comments from January to October 2006. ICOMOS welcomes the new procedures put in place by the World Heritage Centre to deal with these requests.

Furthermore, the Advisory body was called on several times to discuss its experience in the field of international assistance by the consultant of the World Heritage Centre who was preparing the evaluation of International assistance presented to the Committee at Vilnius (WHC-06/30.COM/14A).

E Other activities linked to the implementation of the Convention

a) Preparation of documents and thematic studies

After studying the results of *Analysis of the World Heritage List and of the tentative lists: Filling the gaps* (Suzhou, 2004), the World Heritage Committee asked ICOMOS to complete its analysis of the tentative lists, to work on disparities in the World Heritage List by paying due attention to all the States Parties and regions of the world, and to continue its thematic studies. ICOMOS has gathered the necessary information and completed the study. The document *"The World Heritage List, Filling the Gaps - an action plan for the future"* has been published in French and English and was made available to the World Heritage Centre and the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in March 2006. It was presented to the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee (Vilnius, 2006). In the light of the Action Plan proposed in the study and the decisions taken at the Kazan meeting (April 2005), ICOMOS submitted to the World Heritage Committee at Vilnius proposals for Resource Manual publications for the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention and proposals for thematic studies (WHC-06/30.COM/9). The working document of the Vilnius Committee (WHC-06/20.COM/INF.9) proposes two documents from the advisory body relating to the application of the concept of "outstanding universal value".

The thematic study on *Rock Art: Latin America and the Caribbean* was made available to the World Heritage Committee at Vilnius. It provides information about the characteristics of the region's rock art, significant sites, the state of documentation and research in this field, the conditions of conservation and protection of the sites, and the threats facing them. Work to finalise the rough draft of the document *"Preliminary advice on the preparation of nominations of rock art for the World Heritage List"*, presented at the World Heritage Centre, is continuing.

The presentation of the study *"An analysis of Threats to World Heritage Sites 1994-2004"* (May 2005) to the World Heritage Committee, deferred from the 29th session (Durban 2005), took place at Vilnius.

For the *Periodic Report for Europe* the efforts of the advisory body were also mobilised for an analysis and overview of Section II of the report, the specific reports for each property prepared by the States Parties of the region. It contributed to the preparation of the final overview of the Periodic Report and the Action plan for Europe during the working sessions organised by the Centre's Europe Unit in March 2006. This overview forms part of the Vilnius Committee's working document: *Presentation of Sections I and II of the periodic report for Europe (2005-2006)* [WHC-06/30.COM:11A.1]. In addition, ICOMOS took part in the reflection and study meeting concerning the first cycle of Periodic Reporting - Reflection Year - held at the headquarters of UNESCO in Paris on 2-3 March 2006. This meeting, the second after that in Berlin (November 2005), led to the establishment of the terms of reference for the Reflection Year, and to an initial evaluation of the process set up for the first cycle in all the regions, and of the format adopted for the questionnaire. The results of the meeting were presented in the working document of the World Heritage Committee at Vilnius (WHC-06/30.COM/11G).

Following the *Periodic Reporting - North America* and at the request of Canada and the United States of America, ICOMOS has carried out a revision of the Statements of Significance of twelve properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. The texts were presented to the World Heritage Committee meeting at Vilnius (WHC-06/30.COM/11B.Add).

Several *themes relating to the state of conservation of natural and cultural properties* were developed in working documents for the World Heritage Committee meeting at Vilnius, to which ICOMOS made contributions. These were the *Risk reduction strategy* on world heritage sites (WHC-06/30.COM/7.2) and *Effects of climate change* on world heritage properties (WHC-06/30.COM/7.1). The Advisory body gave assistance to the World Heritage Centre to identify cultural heritage experts who took part in the meeting on the theme of "Climate change and World Heritage" (UNESCO, Paris, 17-18 March 2006), whose results underpin the preparation of the working document concerned.

The World Heritage Centre this year launched a reflection on the theme of *Historic urban landscape* which will continue until 2008. ICOMOS has been called on by the Centre to take part in the reference group for this initiative. It therefore attended the group's first meeting on the theme of "Recommendation concerning the conservation of historic and traditional ensembles and their role in contemporary life" (UNESCO, 1976), organised on 25 September 2006 (UNESCO, Paris).

b) Thematic meetings

In addition to the meetings already mentioned, ICOMOS has been represented at several meetings concerning the development of the Global Strategy, and more generally other aspects of the World Heritage Convention. The meetings concerned are as follows:

6 January 2006	UNESCO Institute of Statistics: Meeting on Statistical Indicators for Site Management and Conservation of Archaeological Sites, Annual meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, Montreal (Canada)
14-15 January 2006	ICOMOS World Heritage Panel, ICOMOS, Paris (France)
25 January 2006	Meeting of the Advisory bodies with the World Heritage Centre about the Global Training Strategy, ICCROM, Rome (Italy)
26-27 January 2006	First annual meeting of the Advisory bodies with the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, Rome (Italy)
10-11 February 2006	Revitalization of Historical Urban Fabrics, Naples (Italy)
19-23 February 2006	International Meeting on Tourism Planning at Major World Heritage Archaeological Sites, Grenada (Spain)
2-3 March 2006	Second meeting on the Reflection Year concerning the Periodic Reporting of the World Heritage, UNESCO, Paris (France)
12-16 March 2006	Training workshop on World Heritage Sites Management – their tangible and intangible aspects, UNITAR, Hiroshima (Japan)
16-17 March 2006	Experts workshop on Climate change and the World Heritage, UNESCO, Paris (France)
16-17 March 2006	Meeting of experts to review the field manual for repair and retrofitting of earthquake-damaged vernacular architecture in Kashmir, New Delhi (India)
24-25 March 2006	ICOMOS Metropolis Planning meeting, Van Alen Institute, New York City (U.S.A.)
10-11 April 2006	Meeting of the working group of ICOMOS World Heritage Panel, ICOMOS, Paris (France)

17-20 April 2006	"Heritage at Risk" conference - Preservation of 20th Century Architecture and World Heritage, Moscow (Russian Federation)
19-23 April 2006	US/ICOMOS International Symposium: From World Heritage to Your Heritage, Newport, Rhode Island (U.S.A.)
24-26 April 2006	Expert Meeting on Cultural Landscape Plantations in Western Curaçao, Curaçao
24-28 April 2006	Capacity building workshop for natural and cultural heritage professionals from Samoa, Tonga and Niue, Apia (Samoa)
2-5 May 2006	Meeting on Rock Art in the Caribbean, Guadeloupe (France)
4-5 May 2006	Donor's conference and launching of the African World Heritage Fund, Maropeng (South Africa)
7-11 May 2006	Sub-regional conference on Outstanding Universal Value and Authenticity & Integrity in a Caribbean context, Barbados
28 May-2 June 2006	International Expert Workshop for Enhanced Management and Planning of Cultural Landscapes, Pasargades and Persepolis (Iran)
31 May-2 June 2006	Organisation of World Heritage Cities: Conference on Inspiring Cities, Edinburgh (U.K.)
4-6 June 2006	Workshop on New approaches to urban conservation, Jerusalem (Israel)
10-13 June 2006	ICOMOS Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting and Workshop on Impact of Mass Tourism on Historical and Traditional Villages, Seoul and Andong (Republic of Korea)
13 June 2006	World Heritage Committee, Information meeting on the 30 th session of the WH Committee, UNESCO, Paris
8-16 July 2006	30th session of World Heritage Committee, Vilnius (Lithuania)
27 August-1 September 2006	International Disaster Reduction Conference, Davos (Switzerland)
7-8 September 2006	Second annual meeting of the Advisory bodies with the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, UICN, Gland (Switzerland)
20-24 September 2006	Europarc Conference, Oxford (United Kingdom)
25 September 2006	Meeting on Historic Urban Landscapes, UNESCO, Paris
The 22nd Valcamonica Prehistoric and Tribal Art Seminar: Rock Art and the World Heritage, Capo da Ponte (Italy), initially scheduled for 15-19 November 2006, has been postponed until 2007.	

c) Information

ICOMOS has a Documentation Centre whose data base is accessible online; all documents and publications can be consulted at the Centre every afternoon from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and by appointment.

The World Heritage archives are a daily working tool for our World Heritage Unit, and are also regularly consulted by both professional researchers and the administrations of States Parties wishing to prepare nominations.

The advisory body responds on an almost daily basis to information requests on the World Heritage Convention which are submitted to it by the States Parties, researchers, students and the general public.

F Statutory and administrative meetings

ICOMOS took part in the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee in Vilnius - Lithuania (8-16 July 2006), the Information Meeting for World Heritage Committee members - Paris, UNESCO (13 June 2006) and the informal meeting of the World Heritage Committee Bureau - Paris, UNESCO (8 November 2006).

ICOMOS took part in two meetings of the advisory bodies (IUCN, ICCROM and ICOMOS) with the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO which were held on 26-27 January 2006 (ICCROM, Rome, Italy) and 25-26 September 2006 (IUCN, Gland, Switzerland).

ICOMOS, Paris
March 2007

IUCN ACTIVITIES REPORT MARCH 2007

SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE IN 2006

1. Introduction

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) provides professional services each year to the World Heritage Committee in three areas: Advisory Services, Monitoring, and Training. Contracts for each of these areas are issued by the World Heritage Centre and are based on an approved allocation from the World Heritage Fund. This report provides a brief overview of the main activities carried out by IUCN in 2006 as well as some lessons learned and recommendations for the future.

IUCN's World Heritage activities are lead by IUCN's Programme on Protected Areas and World Heritage funding in 2006 covered one full time staff member, one intern whose position was recently upgraded to a full time staff member using 2006-2007 funding from the World Heritage Fund, and six person months of the time of senior PPA staff. The Programme drew heavily on expertise in IUCN's regional and country offices around the world and the IUCN expert commissions, above all the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and also the Species Survival Commission (SSC). This input from IUCN offices and commissions has been largely voluntary, with only small honorariums offered to experts involved in activities. A WCPA Vice Chair for World Heritage provided support and professional advice to IUCN's World Heritage processes. An IUCN World Heritage Panel of largely voluntary experts also advised IUCN in relation to its evaluation of new nominations.

2. Advisory Services

IUCN successfully completed all activities as per the Advisory Services contract for 2006, in particular focusing on input to the global strategy for World Heritage, evaluations of new nominations, and input to a variety of expert meetings.

2.1 Global Strategy

IUCN has continued its work on the Global Strategy for a Balanced, Representative and Credible World Heritage List in 2006 with the preparation of a 30 page paper on "The World Heritage List: Guidance and future priorities for identifying natural heritage of potential Outstanding Universal Value" which was presented to the Committee in Vilnius. This strategy paper represents an important update on previous work and provides guidance and future priorities for identifying natural heritage of potential OUV. This paper, together with other key documents on the concept of OUV, is available at: <http://www.iucn.org/themes/wcpa/pubs/worldheritage.htm>.

IUCN also continued its work in the thematic area of Geological World Heritage in 2006 and identified priorities for future theme studies in this field. In addition, IUCN has further developed its formal relationships with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG), and further strengthened its collaboration with the European Geoparks Network and Global Geoparks Network.

2.2 Evaluation of New Nominations

The evaluation of new nominations was a core part of IUCN's work in 2006, including the evaluation of nominations submitted by 1 February 2005 and 1 February 2006. Many of the nomination files were

very complex and the missions difficult to organise; therefore considerably more time was required for their evaluation. In order to allow for adequate evaluation of supplementary information from States Parties on their nominations, IUCN had proposed shifting the deadline for receiving supplementary information from 31 March to 28 February. However, at its 30th session in 2006, the Committee shifted the deadline for supplementary information from reception by 31 March to submission by 28 February, potentially leaving as little time as before. IUCN therefore recommends the Committee reconsider its decision at its 31st session in 2007 and to ensure the deadline of 28 February is the final date of reception, not submission, of supplementary information.

IUCN evaluated 14 nominations in the 2005-2006 cycle (those submitted by 1 February 2005), involving 10 field missions to 8 natural sites, 1 mixed site, and 1 cultural landscape, and presented the results of its evaluations to the Committee meeting in Vilnius.

The evaluation process involved: (1) preparation of datasheets by UNEP-WCMC for each new natural and mixed nomination; (2) up to 100 experts carrying out desk reviews of the nominations; (3) field missions to all new natural and mixed nominations and one cultural landscape; (4) regular communication with the States Parties in relation to their nominations; (5) review of a considerable amount of supplementary information received by the deadline of 31 March 2006; and (6) two meetings of the IUCN World Heritage Panel in January and April 2006. In addition, the Panel spoke by conference call with each of the experts who carried out the field missions.

Following this, the evaluation reports and recommendations were completed and sent for translation into French, the overall evaluation report was compiled, including maps and photos, formatted and printed in-house. IUCN submitted to the World Heritage Centre 300 English copies and 130 French copies of the final evaluation report. IUCN finally presented the results of its evaluations to the Committee in Vilnius, and responded to the questions of the Committee (see point 2.4.1).

IUCN has also evaluated 13 nominations for natural and mixed properties in the 2006-2007 cycle (those submitted by 1 February 2006), involving field missions to 11 natural sites and 1 mixed site, and will report in detail on this evaluation process in the 2007 activities report.

2.3 Implementation of Recommendations from the Christina Cameron Review

In 2006, IUCN has continued with the implementation of a number of the 26 recommendations from the external review of its evaluation process, undertaken by Dr. Christina Cameron in 2005. This included improvements in the involvement of its networks in the evaluation process and filling the position of WCPA Vice Chair World Heritage. IUCN has also taken a policy decision to establish and fund a new senior level position in IUCN's Programme on Protected Areas in Gland. The Special Advisor World Heritage is expected to start in mid 2007 and will play a key role in implementing the recommendations of the Christina Cameron review and will help raising the funds necessary for this. It should be noted that the full implementation of all recommendations has been estimated to cost more than US\$ 800,000 in the first year and US\$ 400,000 per year thereafter in addition to IUCN's current budget for World Heritage Advisory Services of about US\$ 400,000 per year.

2.4 World Heritage Meetings

IUCN contributed to a large number of meetings relevant to World Heritage in 2006, from statutory meetings to meetings of partners working in World Heritage properties. There is a constant demand for IUCN to participate in meetings and unfortunately it is not able to be present in all cases.

2.4.1 Meeting of the World Heritage Bureau and Committee

A strong IUCN delegation, including four staff from IUCN headquarters, the WCPA Vice Chair for World Heritage and three WCPA experts, participated in the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee, held from 8-16 July 2006 in Vilnius, Lithuania. IUCN's input to the Committee focused on (a) presentation of its evaluation reports on properties nominated to the World Heritage List; (b) presentation of its state of conservation reports, including reports on monitoring missions, on World Heritage properties under threat; (c) presentation of its preliminary 2004 analysis of threats to World Heritage properties; (d) providing technical advice on all matters relating to World Heritage as required by the Committee; (e) contributing to discussions on administrative and procedural matters; and (f) organising a side event on the Enhancing our Heritage project.

Most of the IUCN recommendations were accepted by the Committee. In the cases of some debate, IUCN sought to work with all parties to find the most suitable solution without compromising its objective, technical role while aiming to ensure the highest level of protection for World Heritage properties and the maintenance of the credibility of the World Heritage Convention. IUCN was very active in the corridors as well to meet with States Parties seeking technical advice on the management and conservation of their World Heritage properties, or in the preparation of forthcoming evaluation or monitoring missions. The IUCN delegation worked closely with World Heritage Centre staff to ensure the successful and smooth-running of the Committee session.

2.4.2 Meetings of the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies

IUCN attended two official meetings of the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies in 2006 (26-27 January 2006 in Rome and 25-26 September 2006 in Gland). These meetings are essential for effective preparation for the Committee meetings and for highlighting key operational and strategic issues of concern for the Advisory Bodies and the Centre. They greatly contribute to a more cohesive working relationship between the Centre and the Advisory Bodies. IUCN also reviewed in cooperation with ICOMOS and the Centre the new nominations for completeness in February 2006.

2.4.3 Other Meetings relevant to World Heritage

IUCN attended two expert meetings on World Heritage and climate change (23 January 2006 and 16-17 March 2006 in Paris) and contributed considerably to the preparation of the background documents for these meetings. IUCN and WCPA experts also attended the following key meetings in 2006 with full or partial support from funds available under World Heritage contracts:

Dates	Location	Meeting	IUCN / WCPA Expert
2-3 March 2006	Paris	Second Meeting on Periodic Reporting Reflection Year	Georgina Peard
29 March 2006	Limoges	Meeting of the European Geoparks Network	Tim Badman
25-29 April 2006	Everglades	Expert Meeting on Benchmarks for Removal of Danger List	David Sheppard
13 June 2006	Paris	Information Meeting for States Parties	Georgina Peard
19 June 2006	Cambridge	Meeting with UNEP-WCMC	Georgina Peard
18-22 September 2006	Hohe Tauern	WCPA Steering Committee Meeting	Allen Putney
16-18 October 2006	Osnabrück	Training Workshop on World Natural Heritage sites in South-Eastern Europe	Jörg Lohmann

28 October – 1 November 2006	Insel Vilm	Training Workshop on Management Plans for World Natural Heritage sites	Peter Ogden Pierre Galland Bettina Ohnesorge
6-7 November 2006	Paris	First Workshop on Periodic Reporting Questionnaire	Bastian Bomhard
8 November 2006	Paris	Informal Bureau Meeting	Bastian Bomhard
9-10 November 2006	Paris	Third Meeting on Periodic Reporting Reflection Year	Pierre Galland

2.5 International Assistance Requests

In 2006, IUCN evaluated and provided comments on about 20 international assistance requests. Where possible, IUCN consulted with its regional and country offices and with its expert commissions to ensure that local and global perspectives were considered in providing the best advice possible. For each international assistance request approximately 2 - 3 hours of work were required, involving at least two staff at IUCN headquarters.

3. Monitoring Activities

IUCN's monitoring activities focused on: (a) drafting and presenting the annual state of conservation report to the Committee; (b) implementing and reporting on monitoring missions; (c) providing technical advice on all matters relating to monitoring including periodic reporting; and (d) generally supporting the role of the Convention in ensuring the conservation and management of World Heritage properties. IUCN's technical advice to the Committee, drawing on expertise in its regional and country offices, and large networks of experts, was broadly commended by the Committee at its 30th session. In 2006, as in previous years, the added value of IUCN's involvement in the World Heritage Convention may be seen through the extensive voluntary input from experts in IUCN offices and commissions.

Overall, it should be noted however, that with the growing number of World Heritage properties and threats to them, monitoring activities are increasing rapidly and demanding more and more IUCN staff time, as well as extensive voluntary input from IUCN offices and commissions. In particular, monitoring missions are increasingly complex and sensitive, and significant input from senior staff or top experts is required in these missions and in the review of mission and state of conservation reports. Additional work relating to periodic reporting and specific issues, such as climate change, in 2006 have not been fully resourced or budgeted for by the World Heritage contracts and have put increased pressure on the limited staff available. This has required additional staff time from the Programme on Protected Areas and other IUCN programmes which has been subsidised by IUCN. It is therefore recommended that in the preparation of draft decisions for the Committee under the state of conservation report, the resulting workload in terms of missions and other follow-up, be carefully assessed by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to ensure that it is feasible within the budget available.

IUCN and WCPA members continued to develop and implement the IUCN / UNESCO / UNF project, Enhancing Our Heritage: Monitoring and Managing for Success in World Natural Heritage sites, and were involved in planning a roll out phase to spread the project beyond the pilot sites.

3.1 State of Conservation Research, Reports and Recommendations

IUCN gathers, on a regular basis and from a variety of sources, large amounts of information relating to the state of conservation of World Heritage properties, including from the World Heritage Centre, members of its expert commissions (in particular WCPA and SSC), regional and country offices, IUCN members and other organisations and individuals around the world. Ongoing research also involved regular reviews of the internet, journals, newspapers, newsletters, and other relevant publications. This information was verified through IUCN's networks of experts to ensure a balanced and technically sound approach was taken in response to reported threats. Wherever possible, practical solutions were identified to address issues at specific sites.

IUCN submitted to the World Heritage Centre in April 2006 draft state of conservation reports and recommendations for some 50 natural and mixed World Heritage sites. These were prepared based

on State Party reports as well as the information gathered from a variety of sources between July 2005 and March 2006. Following the initial submission, IUCN worked closely with the World Heritage Centre to finalise the document and draft decisions. IUCN finally presented its reports and recommendations to the Committee in Vilnius, and responded to the questions of the Committee (see point 2.4.1).

It should be noted that IUCN finds it increasingly difficult to adequately review State Party reports in time, as more and more State Party reports are received well after the deadline of 1 February, sometimes as late as in March or April. This makes it very difficult to validate information. In addition, many State Party reports do not address specifically the requests by the Committee, or relevant up-to-date information is often hidden in rather vague reports following the format for periodic reports. IUCN therefore suggests the World Heritage Centre provide the States Parties with clear guidelines on how to prepare their state of conservation reports.

3.2 Monitoring Missions

Funding under the 2006 contract covered the costs of an unprecedented large number of 12 missions, including to Cameroon, China, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Philippines, Portugal and Tunisia. In addition, funding under the 2005 contract covered the costs of 1 mission to Greece in early 2006. Funding from the extra allocation approved by the Committee in Vilnius at the request by IUCN subsequently covered 2 missions to Honduras and Zambia / Zimbabwe in late 2006. Full mission reports have been prepared for all of these and results were partly reported to the Committee in 2006 or will be reported to the Committee in 2007. It should be noted that implementing such a large number of missions has in total taken up more than 6 person months of IUCN staff time. Furthermore, due to budget constraints, IUCN continues to draw heavily on volunteer input from its regional and country offices and expert commissions for these missions.

3.3 Periodic Reporting

In 2006, IUCN was actively involved in the reflection year and ongoing review of the Periodic Reporting process. IUCN and WCPA experts attended key meetings such as the 2nd and 3rd meeting on the Periodic Reporting reflection year (2-3 March and 9-10 November 2006 in Paris) as well as the 1st workshop on the simplification of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire (6-7 November 2006 in Paris).

Also in 2006, IUCN has reviewed together with ICOMOS the revised Statements of Significance submitted by Canada and the USA through the Periodic Reporting process. The aim of this pilot case was to assess the process, workload and budget required in revising Statements of Significance for World Heritage properties and to agree on the most appropriate format for these statements. Key conclusions of this pilot case were included in document WHC-06/30.COM/11G and indicated that the revision of a Statement of Significance takes about 4 hours (or half a day).

4. Training Activities

IUCN receives a small contract each year to advise in and support the implementation of the Global Training Strategy in relation to natural heritage. In 2006 funding under this contract supported work for example in preparing and testing two resource manuals and providing input to regional or thematic workshops. Overall IUCN considers that it needs to focus its work on World Heritage training on priority areas, and in this regard welcomes and supports the initiative to prepare targeted resource manuals that will allow other training institutions to provide well-informed training where needed.

4.1 World Heritage Resource Manuals

In 2006, IUCN has continued its work on two resource manuals on the preparation of nominations and management plans for natural properties. IUCN and WCPA experts have further reviewed and revised the first drafts completed in 2005 and started to compile relevant case studies. The resource manual on management plans was also tested in detail at a training workshop (see point 4.2). Consolidated drafts of the two resource manuals will be presented to the Committee in Christchurch.

4.2 Regional and Thematic Workshops

IUCN and WCPA experts were actively involved in the following key training or capacity building workshops in 2006. WCPA members Mr. Peter Ogden and Ms. Steffi Eissing led a workshop on "How to manage a World Natural Heritage Site?" on the Isle of Vilm, Germany, from 28 October – 1 November 2006. The workshop, part of a successful seminar series which is being organised by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) in collaboration with IUCN from 2005-2007, was further supported by Ms. Bettina Ohnesorge from IUCN's Programme on Protected Areas and WCPA member Dr. Pierre Galland. It provided practical guidance on management planning in Central and Eastern Europe and tested the draft resource manual on management plans. In addition, Dr. Jörg Lohmann from IUCN's Programme Office for South-Eastern Europe attended the symposium on "World Heritage natural site and cultural landscapes in South-Eastern Europe" held in Osnabrück, Germany, from 16-18 October 2006. He gave a presentation on IUCN's World Heritage activities in the region as well as the forthcoming draft resource manual on management plans.

5. Conclusions and Lessons Learnt

IUCN considers it has undertaken all World Heritage Services in an effective, efficient and professional manner in 2006. IUCN would highlight five lessons learnt from the year under review:

The need to prioritise: A key challenge is still that the workload associated with World Heritage is increasing rapidly each year, but the increase in workload is not associated with an adequate increase in resources to IUCN from the World Heritage Committee, especially in relation to monitoring. There will thus be a need to more sharply prioritise tasks under the three IUCN contracts and to say no when adequate resources are not available;

The need for follow-up and funding: IUCN has continued with the implementation of a number of the recommendations of the Christina Cameron review to further improve its evaluation process. However, it should be noted that considerable additional resources are necessary for the implementation of all the recommendations, and therefore IUCN is currently exploring fundraising options;

The need for budgets based on item costs: At the time of preparation of draft budgets, it is not possible to predict the exact number and timing of evaluation and monitoring missions requested for the next 1-2 years, which has lately posed a big problem to IUCN's implementation of such missions. There is thus a need for more flexibility allowing for adjustment of budgets based on unpredictable item costs;

The need for compliance and guidance: More and more State Party reports are received only well after the deadline of 1 February, and many State Party reports are inadequate in terms of format and content, as they do not address specifically the requests by the Committee. IUCN therefore suggests the World Heritage Centre provide the States Parties with clear guidelines on how to prepare their state of conservation reports;

The need to reconsider the deadline for supplementary information: IUCN recommends the World Heritage Committee to reconsider its decision at its 31st session in 2007 and to ensure the deadline of 28 February is the final date of reception, not submission, of supplementary information to allow for adequate evaluation of supplementary information in a professional way.



**ICCRUM
World Heritage Activities 2006**

Final Report
Rome, 31 March 2007

INTRODUCTION

The following is a summary final report of activities prepared by ICCROM for the World Heritage Committee. It outlines major activities carried out for each area of service, in the period 1 January – 31 December 2006. ICCROM support to the Committee, during the period of this report, has been provided principally by Joseph King (ICCRUM World Heritage Coordinator), Gamini Wijesuriya (Deputy World Heritage Coordinator), Zaki Aslan, Sadahiko Tanaka, Webber Ngoro, Baba Keita, Valerie Magar and Elena Incerti Medici all under the direction of Acting Director General, Richard Lindo (from 1 January – 28 February), and ICCROM Director-General, Mounir Bouchenaki (starting 1 March). ICCROM professional staff knowledgeable of regional issues, and members of the ICCROM network also contribute substantially to support these activities. Leaving aside the support provided to AFRICA 2009, professional time equivalent approximately to that of one full staff member was provided to the Committee by ICCROM from January to December 2006. Unless otherwise indicated, the costs for items listed below are funded under the ICCROM Service Contract with the World Heritage Centre, #4500032612.

1. PARTICIPATION IN BUREAU AND COMMITTEE STATUTORY AND PLANNING MEETINGS, AND PREPARATION OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

In 2006, ICCROM took part in the following meetings:

- Meeting of the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre, Rome, Italy, 26 – 27 January 2006 – attended by Richard Lindo, Joseph King, and Gamini Wijesuriya. ICCROM hosted this meeting at its premises in Rome.
- World Heritage Information Meeting, Paris, France, 13 June 2006 – attended by Joseph King.
- World Heritage Committee Meeting, 30th Session, Vilnius, Lithuania, 8 - 13 July 2006 – attended by Mounir Bouchenaki, Joseph King, and Gamini Wijesuriya.
- Meeting of the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre, Gland, Switzerland, 25 - 26 September 2006 – attended by Gamini Wijesuriya.
- Informal Meeting of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee, Paris France, 9 November 2006 – attended by Gamini Wijesuriya.

2. INVOLVEMENT IN REVIEW OF REQUESTS FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND RELATED MATTERS

From January to December 2006, ICCROM was invited to review 31 requests for international assistance. These reviews have been carried out by ICCROM staff knowledgeable in project areas, and ICCROM partners and network members. The following requests were evaluated by ICCROM:

- Preparatory Assistance: Bangladesh, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Marshall Islands (2), Palau, Angola, Mongolia, Guinea, Philippines, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Kyrgyzstan, Croatia;
- Training Assistance: Liberia, Turkmenistan, Kenya, Brazil, Egypt, South Africa, Russian Federation;
- Technical Assistance: Nepal, Jordan, Morocco, Papua New Guinea;
- Educational/Promotional Assistance: Latvia, Morocco;
- Emergency: Mexico, Indonesia, Chile, Mali.

3. MANAGING AND COORDINATING TRAINING PROJECTS FOR WHICH FUNDS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

3.1 Long Distance Training Course on Urban Conservation at CECI in Pernambuco, Brazil 2005 - 2006

A distance training course on Urban Conservation was implemented by CECI from 2 May 2005 – 8 April 2006. From May to November, the activities of the programme consisted of 24 distance learning classes combining lectures, exercises, and practical works. The residential part of the course took place in Brazil from 6 March to 7 April 2006 and consisted of the elaboration of a preliminary project for a conservation management system for the historic centre of the World Heritage city of Olinda. This residential component of the course was attended by 22 participants. In order to encourage the regionalization of this important course, ICCROM, through the World Heritage Fund, covered the costs of two resource persons, one each from Ecuador and Cuba, in order to prepare for a future expansion of the residential part of the course to those two countries. Funding was also provided to cover costs of a number of the participants. *(This activity is funded under contract # 4500027475 - Residential Component of CECI Long Distance Learning Course.)*

3.2 Activities in Lithuania in support of Northeastern Europe, 2005 - 2006

In cooperation with the Old Town Renewal Agency (OTRA) in Vilnius, Lithuania, ICCROM carried out two activities during the period 2005 – 2006. The first of the activities was the development of a case study on the Old Town Revitalization Agency and the Revitalization Strategy of the World Heritage Site of Vilnius. The second activity was to organize and implement a seminar on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture and Development: Management of the Historic Urban Landscape in the Baltic Countries. The case study, with a supporting CD-ROM, was completed in December 2006. The seminar took place in Vilnius from 7 to 8 December with participants from Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. The meeting was also attended by a representative of the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM, and was opened by the former chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, Ina Marciulionyte. *(This activity is funded under contract # 4500027412 – Activities in Lithuania in support of the sub-region of North-eastern Europe.)*

3.3 Workshop on Integrating Traditional Knowledge Systems and Concern for Cultural and Natural Heritage into Risk Management Strategies

As a follow-up to the “Thematic meeting on Cultural Heritage Risk Management at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction” held in Kobe, Japan from 18 - 22 January 2005, ICCROM in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre, implemented a workshop on “Integrating Traditional Knowledge Systems and Concern for Cultural and Natural Heritage into Risk Management Strategies”. The meeting took place on 31 August 2006 as part of the larger International Disaster Reduction Conference (IDRC) held in Davos, Switzerland. This session focused on the need to give greater consideration to traditional knowledge as a supplement to existent technologies in place to reduce risk, as well as the benefits of creating integrated systems on local, regional and national scales which take into account the importance of cultural heritage. Also discussed was the draft World Heritage Strategy for Reducing Risk from Disasters at World Heritage Properties, which addresses both the benefits of traditional knowledge and the lack of concern for heritage in disaster preparedness and risk reduction. One of the outcomes of this meeting was the inclusion of heritage into the IDRC Davos 2006 Declaration. *(This activity was funded under contract # 4500031492 – Organizing a Workshop on “Integrating Traditional Knowledge Systems and Concern for Cultural and Natural Heritage into Risk Management Strategies”.)*

4. REACTIVE MONITORING MISSIONS TO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

From January to December 2006, the following Reactive Monitoring missions were carried out by ICCROM:

- Djenne, Mali, 13 – 18 March 2006. A joint ICCROM/ICOMOS/WHC reactive monitoring mission was carried out, with ICCROM represented by consultant Bakonirina Rakotomamonjy.
- St. Louis, Senegal, 25 – 28 April 2006. A joint ICCROM/ICOMOS/WHC reactive monitoring mission was carried out, with ICCROM represented by staff member Baba Keita.
- Lalibela, Ethiopia, 12 – 19 June 2006. A joint ICCROM/ICOMOS/WHC reactive monitoring mission was carried out, with ICCROM represented by consultant, Katri Lisitzin. (*This activity was funded under contract # 4500032506 – Reactive Monitoring Mission to Lalibela, Ethiopia.*)

5. MANAGING PROJECTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

5.1 Coordination of the AFRICA 2009 Programme, in cooperation with partners (African cultural heritage organizations, World Heritage Centre, and CRATerre-EAG)

The secretariat and general project management of AFRICA 2009 are carried out at ICCROM in cooperation with the programme partners (African cultural heritage organizations, World Heritage Centre, CRATerre-EAG, EPA, and CHDA). Funding for the programme comes from SIDA through the Swedish National Heritage Board, the Norwegian, Finnish, and Italian Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the World Heritage Fund, and ICCROM. During 2006, a number of activities were carried out within the programme including courses, thematic seminars, networking, and in situ projects. Notably in 2006, the Regional Course on Conservation and Management of Immovable Cultural Heritage sites, devoted eight weeks to the development of a draft management plan for part of the World Heritage site of the Royal Palaces of Abomey. In addition, a technical course on conservation and documentation of rock art sites dedicated ten days to the issue of preparing nominations for the World Heritage List at the site of Twyfelfontein which is on the tentative list of Namibia. In 2006, two sites, the Senegambian Stone Circles (Senegal and the Gambia) and the Kondoa Rock Art Sites (Tanzania), were inscribed on the World Heritage List after the preparation of the nomination had been completed as part of AFRICA 2009 site projects. (*The total expenditure for Africa 2009 for 2006 was €1,096,362. The World Heritage contribution for 2006 was US\$ 80,000 under contract # 4500035009 – “Regional Programme AFRICA 2009 for 2006”*)

6. INVOLVEMENT IN REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC ISSUES AND THEMES PERTINENT TO THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

From January to December 2006, ICCROM took part in the following scientific meetings on themes pertinent to the World Heritage Committee:

- World Heritage and Climate Change, Paris, France, 16 – 17 March 2006. ICCROM represented by Joseph King.
- International Meeting on World Heritage of Portuguese Origin, Coimbra, Portugal, 27 – 29 April 2006. ICCROM represented by Gamini Wijesuriya. (*The majority of costs for this activity were funded by the State Party.*)
- Historic Cities in the 21st Century – Towards New Approaches in Urban Conservation, Jerusalem, 4 – 6 June 2006. ICCROM represented by Joseph King.
- Planning Meeting on the Proposed UNESCO Recommendations on the Safeguarding of Historic Urban Landscapes, Paris, France, 25 September 2006. ICCROM represented by Joseph King.
- Preparatory meeting on the Climate Change Policy Development Meeting held in February 2007, Paris, France, 9 November 2006. ICCROM represented by Gamini Wijesuriya.

7. COLLABORATION WITH THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE AND/OR STATES PARTIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF WORLD HERITAGE SITES

7.1 Activities Related to the Jerusalem Action Plan

The Director General of ICCROM, as a member of the Group of Experts for Jerusalem, took part in a meeting of the Group of Experts from 4 – 5 September in Paris, France to look at progress on the Jerusalem Action Plan and to make recommendations for its continued development. From 1 – 8 November, ICCROM staff member, Joseph King took part in a UNESCO mission to Jerusalem to look at issues related to training as a part of the Jerusalem Action Plan. *(These activities were funded through the World Heritage Centre.)*

7.2 Workshop on Management Planning at the Kotor World Heritage Site, 9 – 15 January 2006

From 9 – 15 January 2006, ICCROM organized and implemented a workshop in Kotor to help professionals from Montenegro in the development of a management plan for the site. The work was carried out by Joseph King, along with consultant, Katri Lisitzin. The workshop was held in collaboration with the UNESCO Office in Venice, Italy. The workshop resulted in a better understanding of the steps necessary for the drafting of the management plan, along with a timeline for continued work. *(This workshop was carried out with funding from the British Council.)*

7.3 Management Planning for Robben Island, South Africa

Based on his participation in 2005 in a workshop on management planning at Robben Island, Webber Ndoro has continued to give advice to South African professionals involved in the development of the management plan for that site.

7.4 Management Planning for Tsodilo, Botswana

Webber Ndoro was involved in giving advice to professionals from Botswana on the development of the Tsodilo Management Plan. This included participation in a two-day workshop held in Botswana.

7.5 Africa World Heritage Fund

Webber Ndoro collaborated with other professionals from the region on the development of the Action Plan for the operations of the Fund. Work included participation in several meetings in Paris and Pretoria.

7.6 Collaboration with the ATHAR Programme

From January to December 2006, the following activities of the ATHAR programme were carried out in favor of World Heritage sites *(Activities funded by financial partners of the ATHAR programme):*

- From 18 November to 12 December, the Regional Course on Documentation and Management of Heritage Sites used the World Heritage site of Bosra, Syria as a main case study addressing World Heritage management issues in the Arab region. In addition, Karim Hendili, a representative of the World Heritage Centre, was invited to the course to introduce the World Heritage Convention and its processes.
- The ATHAR programme produced two publications in Arabic related to World Heritage, *Risk Preparedness for World Cultural Heritage Sites* by Herb Stovel (part of the WHC-ICCROM-ICOMOS series), and *Introducing Young People to Heritage Site Management and Protection: A Practical Guide for Secondary School Teachers in the Arab Region*.
- ICCROM staff member, Zaki Aslan, represented ICCROM as a lecturer at a joint UNESCO-Iraq/JICA course on cultural heritage conservation. The course was held at Umm Qais, Jordan from 27 July to 31 August 2006. Topics covered included international cooperation in conservation and World Heritage issues.

7.7 Third Training Workshop for the Conservation of the Koguryo Mural Paintings in the DPRK, 13 – 23 April 2006

ICCROM staff member, Ernesto Borrelli, took part in a training workshop for the conservation of the Koguryo mural painting at the Complex of Koguryo Tombs World Heritage site in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. He gave lectures on "diagnosis process" and "basic analytical tests", and drew up a list of equipment and materials for a basic conservation laboratory including ensuring their correct installation. *(This activity was funded under contract # 4500030726 – Participation in the 3rd training workshop for the conservation of the Koguryo mural paintings.)*

7.8 Technical support for the evaluation of conservation tests at the Prehistoric Rock-Art Sites in the Côa Valley, Portugal, 15-19 May 2006

ICCROM staff member, Valerie Magar, took part in a three-day visit to the Archaeological Park of Foz Côa (PAVC), in northeast Portugal, in order to assess conservation proposals for the rock art engravings. *(This activity was funded by the State Party.)*

7.9 Visit to the Cueva de las Manos, Rio Pinturas World Heritage Site, 14 – 26 October 2006

Valerie Magar, was invited by the Comisión Nacional Argentina para la UNESCO (CONAPLU) and the Dirección de Patrimonio Cultural de Santa Cruz to take part in a workshop on the management of the World Heritage Site of Cueva de las Manos. The two-day workshop gathered for the first time professionals from different institutions related with the management of the site, the site owners and managers from other World Heritage sites in Argentina. *(This activity was funded by the State Party.)*

8. INVOLVEMENT IN PERIODIC REPORTING

From January to December 2006, ICCROM took part in the following meetings on the Periodic Reporting process:

- Second Meeting on the Reflection Year on World Heritage Periodic Reporting, Paris, France, 2 – 3 March 2006. ICCROM represented by Joseph King.
- Meeting of the Working Group on the Simplification of the Periodic Reporting Questionnaire and the Setting Up of Indicators, Paris, France, 6 – 7 November 2006. ICCROM represented by Gamini Wijesuriya.
- Third Meeting of the Reflection Year on World Heritage Periodic Reporting, Paris, France, 9 – 10 November 2006. ICCROM represented by Gamini Wijesuriya.