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25 July – 3 August 2010

Item 10A of the Provisional Agenda: Report on the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab States

SUMMARY

This document presents a synthesis and analysis of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab States submitted in accordance with Decision **32 COM 11.B**. It provides information on the data provided by the Arab States Parties on the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* at the national level (Section I), as well as the data provided on the World Heritage properties (Section II). It also includes sub-regional action plans which were formulated by the Arab Focal Points at the final Regional meeting, intended to serve as a platform for the establishment of a Regional Programme for the forthcoming years.

This document is presented as follows:

Executive Summary

Introduction

Part I: Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* by the States Parties: Results of Section I of the Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

Part II: World Heritage properties: Results of Section II of the Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

Part III: Recommendations for an Action Plan: issues arising from the final Regional meeting

Part IV: Draft Decision for the World Heritage Committee

Appendices: Sub regional action plans and common themes identified at the final Regional meeting for Periodic Reporting in the Arab States

Draft Decision: 34 COM 10A, see Part IV

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since the adoption of the 1972 *World Heritage Convention*, the Arab States Parties have been active actors in its implementation. Indeed, all 18 Arab States have ratified the *World Heritage Convention* and have, with often limited resources, employed their efforts in the preservation and conservation of their heritage.

Today, 64 properties (plus the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls) are located in 15 Arab States Parties. The great majority of the Arab World Heritage properties are archaeological sites followed by historic cities. The challenges they face are multi-fold and ongoing and, over the years, the World Heritage Committee has examined and passed decisions on a multitude of state of conservation reports on the regions' properties. Successful conservation and preservation measures and efforts led to the removal of three properties from the World Heritage List in Danger, yet today five World Heritage properties in the Arab region remain inscribed on the List in Danger.

Since the First Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab States (which examined properties inscribed before 1993), there have been several World Heritage successes in the region. There have been two new States Parties to the Convention, 16 States Parties with Tentative Lists, 31 Nomination Files have been submitted, and 22 properties have been inscribed on the World Heritage List. Despite these successes, however, the Arab States remain largely under-represented in terms of natural properties and transboundary nominations thereby not adequately reflecting the diversity of heritage in the Arab region on the World Heritage List.

The aim of this report is to present the state of World Heritage in the Arab States, both in terms of its successes and the challenges faced, and to present the priorities which the Arab Focal Points for the Periodic Reporting exercise identified as needing to be at the very forefront of the activities undertaken over the next six years.

This report, prepared under World Heritage reporting mechanisms introduced in 1998 in application of Article 29 of the *World Heritage Convention*, constitutes the second Periodic Report on the state of World Heritage in the Arab States. The information contained herein is based on data received in the reports submitted electronically on-line by the States Parties, regarding the overall application of the *World Heritage Convention* (Section I) and the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties (Section II). Furthermore, the data analysis contained in this report was prepared by an international expert in close coordination with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

It should be noted that the analysis presented in the report is divided into three sub-regions: (1) The Gulf sub-region (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen), (2) The Maghreb sub-region (Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia), and (3) The Middle East sub-region (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, Syria). This was done following the request of the Arab Focal Points themselves, who considered that the countries grouped in each sub-region faced similar issues and challenges which often differed to those faced by other Arab sub-regions. Indeed, it was deemed that a sub-regional grouping would allow for the various nuances and particularities to be brought into the forefront, rather than be drowned into a homogenisation of the region. Moreover, in a concern to respond to the desire of the Focal Points to highlight particularities and specificities, the particular country comments given by the Focal Points throughout the questionnaire were duly taken into account and are reflected, wherever necessary, throughout the data analysis presented in this report. Finally, wherever this is possible, the data analysed in this report is compared to that of the First Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab States (2000) in an attempt to draw out areas where there has been some change, or not, between

the First and Second Cycles. Given that the questionnaire of the Second Cycle differs to that of the First Cycle, however, this has not been possible for all questions.

The report is divided into four parts. After an overview of the exercise and of the World Heritage properties located in the Arab region, the first part plunges into an analysis of Section I of the questionnaire, namely, on the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in the Arab States. This part analyses the data provided on, among others, general policy development, Tentative Lists and the status of services for protection, conservation and presentation. Part II provides an analysis on World Heritage properties and, in particular, on the main factors affecting the properties, as well as on issues of management, financing, protective measures, and information and awareness building among others. Part III of the report provides recommendations for an action plan to be elaborated over the coming year. These recommendations are the fruit of the final Regional meeting which took place in Algiers in February 2010 with the Arab States' Focal Points, the Advisory Bodies, the World Heritage Centre and ALECSO. The scope of the meeting was to assess the Periodic Reporting exercise and to propose recommendations for sub-regional Action Plans which would address both the lacunae and challenges of the region as well as provide a way forward in the safeguarding of World Heritage in the Arab Region by serving as a platform upon which the Arab Regional Programme for the following six years would be based. Part IV of this report provides the draft Decision proposed to the World Heritage Committee. Finally, the appendices to this report present information produced at the Final Regional meeting on the priorities identified by the Focal Points at the sub-regional level as well as the common priorities which were noted for all sub-regions and their respective actions and recommendations.

Overall, the answers provided by the States Parties showed that there is a lack of financing and of human resources which need to be addressed. In addition, increased co-operation between various departments was identified as being of great importance at the national and local levels. Moreover, inventories, the modernization of national lists, and the idea of discussing Tentative Lists at the regional level were key issues which were identified as being in need of being tackled. The Periodic Reporting exercise also noted the priority need for increased training and the maintaining of professional networks in the Arab Region. There was also an insistence on the utmost importance of involving local communities as much as possible in World Heritage processes. Linked to this was an increased need for awareness and capacity building as well as the gathering and dissemination of information on World Heritage in Arabic. Here, the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH, newly created Category II Centre under the auspices of UNESCO) in Bahrain, was asked to take an active role. Finally, one of the main points noted during the Periodic Reporting exercise was that while transboundary nominations were encouraged for the future, the need to focus more actively on presenting nominations of natural sites in the Arab region was considered a priority. Indeed, with only four natural properties and one mixed property currently on the World Heritage List, it was unanimously agreed that efforts needed to be made towards filling this representative gap.

In conclusion, the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting exercise carried out between 2008 and 2010 has provided an opportunity to reflect on the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in the Arab States. It has increased awareness and has allowed for site managers of World Heritage properties to meet fellow colleagues from the region as well as come into contact with UNESCO, sometimes for the very first time. It has provided Arab World Heritage professionals with the platform to increase awareness among their governments and institutions and to voice the challenges and concerns they are faced with in their work. This exercise has also provided the Arab States Focal Points with the opportunity to take a lead in drawing up their sub-regional action plans which will shape the Regional Programme for World Heritage over the coming years. The Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting has been an important achievement for the Arab Region and has fostered increased co-operation both on the regional level and with the World Heritage Centre. It has also greatly served to update the database containing a wealth of information on World Heritage in the Arab States at the World Heritage Centre.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The World Heritage Centre and the Arab States Unit would like to express its gratitude to the Arab States Parties through all the Focal Points and site managers involved in this activity for their diligence, efforts, and continuing commitment and hard work for the success of this exercise. Thanks are particularly extended to Dr Jukka Jokilehto for his essential contribution in the presentation and analysis of the data contained within the Periodic Reporting questionnaire. A special note of thanks to Ms Youmna Tabet for the perusal of all the answers from the States Parties.

The World Heritage Centre expresses its gratitude to the Sector of Culture and National Heritage of the Kingdom of Bahrain and to the Ministry of Culture of Algeria for having hosted, respectively, the launch and final regional meetings for Periodic Reporting, as well as the the Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO for its valuable financial support. Thanks are also extended to the Jordanian, Moroccan, and Qatari authorities in whose countries the sub-regional workshops for Periodic Reporting took place, as well as to ALECSO, notably for translating the questionnaire into Arabic.

The World Heritage Centre thanks the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee, ICOMOS, ICCROM, and IUCN, for their continuous assistance and active participation in the meetings. Finally, the World Heritage Centre would also like to thank the four Mentors who accompanied the Focal Points and site managers all along the exercise and UNESCO's field offices in Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Doha, and Rabat for their support.

INTRODUCTION

Article 29 of the *World Heritage Convention* stipulates that Periodic Reporting on the implementation of the Convention is a procedure by which States Parties, through the intermediary of the World Heritage Committee, transmit to UNESCO's General Conference the status of the implementation of the *Convention* in their respective territories. The *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* state the following:

199. *States Parties are requested to submit reports to the UNESCO General Conference through the World Heritage Committee on the legislative and administrative provisions they have adopted and other actions which they have taken for the application of the Convention, including the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties located on their territories.*

200. *States Parties may request expert advice from the Advisory Bodies and the Secretariat, which may also (with agreement of the States Parties concerned) commission further expert advice.*

201. *Periodic Reporting serves four main purposes:*

- a) *to provide an assessment of the application of the World Heritage Convention by the State Party;*
- b) *to provide an assessment as to whether the outstanding universal value of the properties inscribed on the World Heritage List is being maintained over time;*
- c) *to provide up-dated information about the World Heritage properties to record the changing circumstances and state of conservation of the properties;*
- d) *to provide a mechanism for regional co-operation and exchange of information and experiences between States Parties concerning the implementation of the Convention and World Heritage conservation.*

202. *Periodic Reporting is important for more effective long term conservation of the properties inscribed, as well as to strengthen the credibility of the implementation of the Convention.*

1. FIRST CYCLE OF PERIODIC REPORTING

The strategy for Periodic Reporting was outlined in document *WHC-98/CONF. 203/06* presented at the 22nd session of the World Heritage Committee in Japan (Kyoto, 1998). An overall approach to periodic reporting for the Arab States and Africa was presented to the World Heritage Committee at its twenty-third session (working document *WHC-99/CONF.209/12*).

The Arab States were selected as the first region to submit Periodic Reports. The exercise was carried out in a limited timeframe. This cycle was experimental in nature and it concerned properties inscribed from 1978 to 1992. The exercise concerned 12 States Parties having inscribed properties on their territories, 41 cultural, one mixed, and two natural properties. The questionnaire consisted of two sections: Section I for the State Party, and Section II for each property concerned. The questionnaires were distributed and filled in on paper, and further studied by two international experts.

Only 11 Section I reports were received as one State Party (Libya) did not submit this part of its report. Regarding Section II, reports were received for 39 properties, namely: Algeria six properties, Egypt five properties, Iraq one property, Jordan two properties, Lebanon four properties, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya five properties, Mauritania one property, Morocco three properties, Sultanate of Oman one property, Syrian Arab Republic four properties, Tunisia five properties, Yemen two properties. The report was presented to and approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 24th session (Cairns, Australia, 2000; document *WHC-2000/CONF.204/7*).

The Regional Programme for the Arab States was developed on the basis of the findings of the Periodic Reporting, and was approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 27th session in 2003 (document *WHC.03/27.COM/INF.20A*). The Report and the Regional Programme were further published in 2004 (*World Heritage Reports*, issue 11, UNESCO).

Between 2000 and 2006, the other regions undertook the Periodic reporting. In the course of this exercise, the World Heritage Committee decided (Decision **7 EXT.COM 5**, 2004) “to study and reflect on the first cycle of Periodic Reporting”, as some general conclusions were drawn from the completion of the first cycle and some issues and lessons were identified.

The main results and recommendations of the Periodic Reporting Reflection meetings were presented to the World Heritage Committee in 2007 (document *WHC-07/31.COM/11D.1*), while the revised Periodic Reporting questionnaire for the Second Cycle, prepared in detail by a Working Group established by Decision **30 COM 11G**, was adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 32nd session in 2008 (document *WHC-08/32.COM/INF.11E*).

2. SECOND CYCLE OF PERIODIC REPORTING

At its 32nd session, the World Heritage Committee decided on the preparation of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting (Decision **32 COM 11E**) and on the launching of the exercise with the Arab States (document *WHC-08/32.COM/11B*; Decision **32 COM 11 B**) at the forefront, as had been the case in the First Cycle.

Consequently, the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the States Parties and the Advisory Bodies, initiated a programme of activities in order to facilitate the Periodic Reporting exercise for the States Parties. These were reported to the World Heritage Committee at its sessions in 2008 and 2009 (documents *WHC-08/32.COM/11B*; *WHC-09/33.COM/11A*). A crucial part of the programme was the organisation of a series of meetings in and with the States Parties in order to inform the relevant authorities of the changes made to the Periodic Reporting questionnaire as compared to the 1st Cycle, and the expected results. Seventeen States Parties participated in the meetings, except only the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

The States Parties had access to the questionnaire online. This had been previously partially pre-filled by the World Heritage Centre according to the information available in order to facilitate the task. Sub-regional workshops (in Amman, Doha and Meknes) were organized in order to provide additional support regarding the questionnaire, and how to complete it, to the States Parties.

The questionnaire consists of two parts, one regarding general information on the protection and management of World Heritage at the national level, and the second providing detailed reports on individual properties. The questionnaire was articulated under the following principal subheadings:

Section I

1. *Introduction*
2. *Inventories/Lists/Registers for Cultural and Natural Heritage*
3. *Tentative List*
4. *Nominations*
5. *General Policy Development*
6. *Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation*
7. *Scientific and Technical Studies and Research*
8. *Status of Financial and Human Resources*
9. *Training*
10. *International Cooperation*
11. *Education, Information and Awareness Building*
12. *Conclusions and Recommended Actions*
13. *Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise*

Section II

1. *World Heritage Property Data*
2. *Statement of Outstanding Value*
3. *Factors Affecting the Property*
4. *Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property*
5. *Summary and Conclusions*
6. *Conclusions of Periodic Reporting Exercise*

The Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise in the Arab States concerned 18 States Parties, 15 of which have properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. The activity concerned 64 properties, however only 59 reports were received as one State Party did not participate. The Old City of Jerusalem was not included in the exercise.

3. ORGANISATION OF THE PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE IN THE ARAB STATES

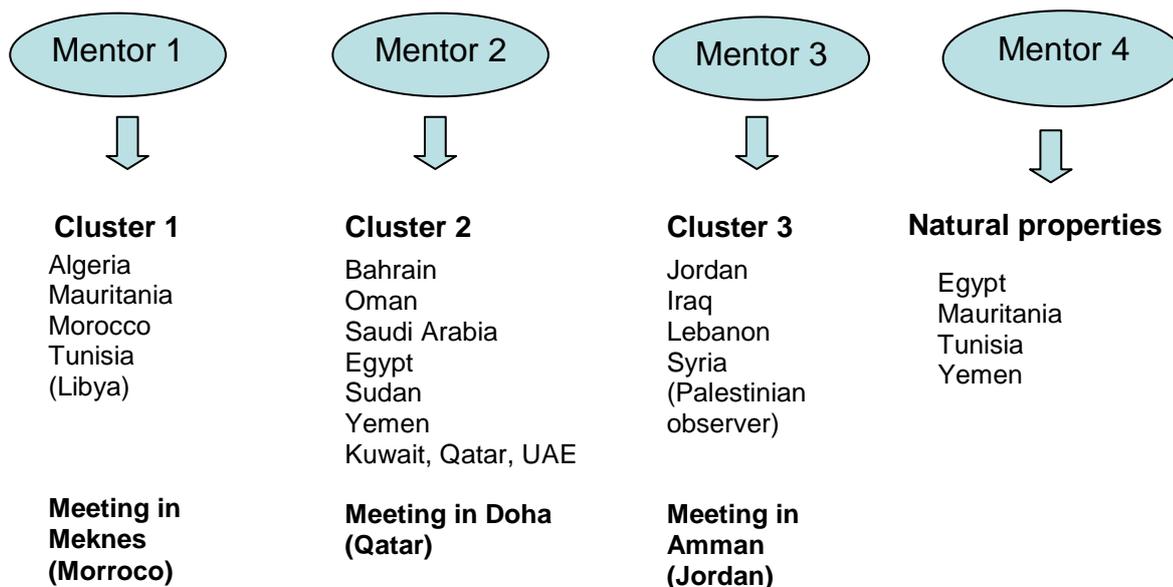
The Periodic Reporting exercise was coordinated by the World Heritage Centre in liaison with the Advisory Bodies (IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM) and the national Focal points, as previously presented in Document *WHC-09/33.COM/11A*.

As a first step, the World Heritage Centre contacted all concerned States Parties inviting them to identify and designate their national Focal points responsible for coordinating the exercise at the national level, and for working with the site managers of the World Heritage properties in their country in order to provide the requested information. Then, the World Heritage Centre undertook the pre-filling of the questionnaire on the basis of the information available at the Centre through the Nomination files, the first cycle of Periodic Reporting and the Retrospective Inventory. In addition, ALECSO generously offered to translate the revised Questionnaire into Arabic in order to facilitate the work of the site managers who used this version as a support document. To this end, the “user’s guide” was also translated into Arabic.

Considering that the pre-filled questionnaire can only be accessed through the World Heritage web site and that the finalization and submission also need to be done on-line, detailed explanations and individual passwords were provided to the Focal points and, further, to all site managers designated by their authorities.

Finally, a system of ‘Mentoring’ was proposed to accompany the Focal Points and Site managers throughout the process. The selected Mentors’ area of responsibility was to provide guidance and assistance to the States Parties in the process, wherever requested, by electronic mail. The Mentors also participated in all meeting and, in three cases (Oman Yemen and Algeria), they provided guidance in the country concerned itself. In addition, IUCN Amman provided mentorship for all the nature properties in the region.

It was proposed that in the interest of efficiency, and following an even distribution of number of properties per country, the Arab States would be distributed into three sub-regional clusters during the sub-regional workshops, depicted in the diagram below:



The first Regional meeting launching the exercise took place in Manama, Bahrain, from 14-17 December 2008 at the invitation of the Bahraini authorities. Fourteen States Parties participated in this meeting, as Algeria, Libya, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates did not attend. Since that date, Algeria, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates designated their Focal Points and participated in the exercise.

The principal aim of this launch meeting was to present the questionnaire to the Focal points, clarify any queries relating to the tool, and initiate the drafting of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for properties that did not yet have it (Decision **31 COM 11D.1**). Both the presentation of the Periodic Reporting Questionnaire and the work of drafting retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value were accompanied by the Mentors and by the three Advisory Bodies who had already identified their Focal Points for the exercise and accompanied the entire process of Periodic Reporting.

Following the Regional meeting in Bahrain, and during the course of 2009, three sub-regional workshops with the Focal points and all site managers of the World Heritage properties of each of the above mentioned Clusters, were organised. These sub-regional workshops took place in Amman, Jordan, for Cluster 3 (6-9 April 2009), Doha (Qatar) for Cluster 2 (27-30 April 2009) and Meknes, Morocco, for Cluster 1 (2-5 June 2009). The aim was to provide more specific guidelines for the Periodic Reporting questionnaire, especially on Section II for the benefit of the site managers, as well as progress on the drafting of Statements of Outstanding Universal Value. All of the Arab States Parties of each Cluster (except Libya) were represented in these meetings which proved extremely useful and constructive for both Focal points and Site managers who took the opportunity to clarify questions regarding the filling of the questionnaire as well as guidance on the drafting of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, by the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and the Mentors.

Following the sub-regional meetings and the submission of the questionnaires, a data synthesis and analysis of the results was undertaken by the World Heritage Centre with the help of the Advisory Bodies. Data was extracted from the questionnaires which had been submitted by the Focal points, and a synthesis of the data providing a snap-shot of the area on a regional, subregional and site-specific level, and was presented to the Focal points for their consideration and analysis. This presentation of the data took place at the final Regional meeting which was held in Algiers (Algeria) from 1-4 February 2010. Its aim was the examination of the draft Synthesis Report and the assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise, and was structured along four main axes:

1. The draft Synthesis was reviewed and its content discussed;
2. Themes were identified for each question of the questionnaire's Section I;
3. Based on the above themes, the participants were divided per sub region in order to set Actions and Recommendations which would serve as implementing the main themes identified;
4. Following the sub-regional themes, several common priorities, actions, and recommendations were identified and agreed upon.

It is important to note that during this meeting, the Focal Points requested that the assessment be done on the sub-regional level, namely that the Arab Region be divided into Middle East (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, and Syria), the Maghreb (Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, and Tunisia), and the Gulf region (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen). Apart from an obvious geographic clustering, this sub-regional distribution had as its main aim to group together countries with similar challenges and opportunities in order to exchange relevant knowledge and experience, as well as to address these issues in a more efficient and effective manner.

Following the final Regional meeting, the sub-regional Action Plans identified by the Arab States' Focal Points as well as the assessment of the exercise and the comments of the Synthesis Report, were worked upon and inserted alongside the data provided in the questionnaires which had previously been submitted. The fruit of the data presented in the questionnaires, the meetings organised with the Focal Points and the Site Managers, and the ongoing consultation with the Focal Points in particular, is presented in this Report.

The table hereunder indicates the main timelines of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab States:

February-July 2008	August-November 2008	December 2008
Contacts with SP to prepare the exercise and identify national Focal points	Pre-filling of the questionnaire by WHC Reminders to SP	First Regional meeting with designated national Focal points in Bahrain
January 2009	February 2009	April – June 2009
Filling of section I of the questionnaire by national Focal points The Focal points provide explanations to the site coordinators/managers: 1. on filling section II 2. on drafting Statements of OUV	Continuation of filling of section I of the questionnaire by national Focal points Filling of section II of the questionnaire by site managers	3 Cluster meetings with Focal points and site managers Filling of section II of the questionnaire by site managers Progress report to the 33rd session of the WH Committee
July 2009	August-December 2009	February 2010
31 July: deadline for submitting the questionnaire and the retrospective Statements of OUV	Compilation and analysis of data 1st draft of the synthesis to be presented to the Focal points	Final Regional Meeting to discuss the draft synthesis and elaborate an Action Plan
March-June 2010	July 2010	September 2010-June 2011
Integration of results of the final Regional meeting in the Synthesis and conclusions Drafting of document for the WH Committee	Presentation of the Periodic Report to the 34th session of the WH Committee	Continuation of sub-regional consultations in order to finalise the draft Action Plans into a Regional Programme

4. STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

This report is structured according to the questionnaire for Periodic Reporting. It draws conclusions from the synthesis and proposes preliminary recommendations for the development of a Regional action plan for the strengthened application of the *World Heritage Convention* in the Arab region. It should be noted that the analysis presented in the report is divided into three sub-regions: (1) The Gulf sub-region (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen), (2) The Maghreb sub-region (Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia), and (3) The Middle East sub-region (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, Syria). This was done following the request of the national Focal Points themselves, who considered that the countries grouped in each sub-region faced similar issues and challenges which often differed to those faced by other Arab sub-regions. Indeed, it was deemed that a sub-regional grouping would allow for the various nuances and particularities to be brought into the forefront, rather than be drowned into a homogenisation of the region. Moreover, in a concern to respond to the desire of the Focal Points to highlight particularities and specificities, the particular country comments given by the Focal Points throughout the questionnaire were duly taken into account and are reflected, wherever necessary, throughout the data analysis presented in this report. Finally, wherever this is possible, the data analysed in this report is compared to that of the First Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab

States (2000) in an attempt to draw out areas where there has been some change, or not, between the First and Second Cycles. Given that the questionnaire of the Second Cycle differs to that of the First Cycle, however, this has not been possible for all questions.

The data and results presented herewith are the outcomes of ongoing consultation with the Arab Focal Points, in particular of the discussions held during the final Regional meeting, which was held in order to take stock of the data compiled during the exercise, to review the draft synthesis and to identify the main priorities for the Arab region for the upcoming elaboration of the Regional Programme.

STATES PARTIES	Properties inscribed before 2008	Section I reports	Number of Section II reports submitted	Number of SoOUV existing or submitted
ALGERIA	6 C + 1 C/N	submitted	7	7
BAHRAIN	1 C	submitted	1	0
EGYPT	6 C + 1 N	submitted	7	1
IRAQ	3 C	submitted	3	1
JORDAN	3 C	submitted	3	3
KUWAIT	0	submitted	N/A	N/A
LEBANON	5 C	submitted	5	5
LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA	5 C	not submitted	not submitted	0
MAURITANIA	1C + 1 N	submitted	2	2
MOROCCO	8 C	submitted	8	8
OMAN	4 C	submitted	4	1
QATAR	0	not submitted	N/A	N/A
SAUDI ARABIA	1 C	not submitted	1	1
SUDAN	1 C	submitted	1	1
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	5 C	submitted	5	5
TUNISIA	7 C + 1N	submitted	8	8
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0	submitted	N/A	N/A
YEMEN	3 C + 1 N	submitted	4	2
TOTAL:	59 C + 1 C/N + 4 N + Jerusalem	15 Section I reports submitted	59 Section II reports submitted	45 SoOUV existing or submitted
18 States Parties	65	15	59	45

5. OVERVIEW OF THE WORLD HERITAGE IN THE ARAB STATES

The World Heritage properties in the Arab States represent major highlights of the world's cultural and natural heritage. Many of these properties were amongst the first to be inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979 and the early 1980s. The following grouping is proposed as an indication of the types and cultural relationships of this heritage. The classification is based on the definition of the principal justifications for inscription, but it is noted that many of these could also be classified under other headings, in particular as several properties have covered a large time span and bears testimony of many successive periods.

Natural and Mixed Sites

The *Wadi Al-Hitan (Whale Valley)*, in Egypt, contains invaluable fossil remains of the earliest, now extinct, suborder of whales, Archaeoceti, which demonstrates the emergence of the whale as an ocean-going mammal from a previous life as a land-based animal. Three natural heritage properties represent biodiversity, including *Ichkeul National Park* (Tunisia) and *Banc d'Arguin National Park* (Mauritania), which are important for example for migrating birds, as well as *Socotra Archipelago* (Yemen), which has exceptionally rich and distinct flora and fauna.

The Arab Region has one inscribed Mixed Cultural-Natural property: *Tassili n'Ajjer* (Algeria), inscribed under criteria: (i)(iii)(vii)(viii), which is of great geological interest, as well as having one of the most important groupings of prehistoric cave art in the world, illustrating the evolution of human life on the edge of the Sahara from 6000 BC to the first centuries of the present era. Closely related to the Tassili are the *Rock Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus* (Libya), inscribed under criterion (iii).

Monuments and Sites of Ancient Civilisations

The archaeological sites of Egypt, Iraq and Sudan represent some of the most significant vestiges of the ancient civilisations, including *Memphis and its Necropolis - the Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur*, the capital of the Old Kingdom of Egypt and the Pyramids, as well as *Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis*, the city of the god Amon and capital of Egypt during Middle and New Kingdoms. The *Nubian Monuments* include the magnificent Temples of Ramses II at *Abu Simbel*, and the Sanctuary of Isis at *Philae*, which were saved from the rising waters of the Nile thanks to the first international campaigns launched by UNESCO in 1960. Further south in the Nile Valley, *Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region* (Sudan) bear testimony to the Napatan (900-270 BC) and Meroitic (270 BC to AD 350) cultures of the second kingdom of Kush. The sites are still important to local people, being places of folk-life miracles.

The proto-historic *Archaeological Sites of Bat, Al-Khutm and Al-Ayn* (Oman) date from the 3rd millennium BC, and are considered the most complete collection of settlements and necropolises of that period in the world. The ancient city of *Ashur* (Iraq) on the Tigris River in northern Mesopotamia, also dating back to the 3rd millennium BC, was the first capital of the Assyrian Empire from the 14th to 9th centuries BC, as well as being associated with the god Ashur. The archaeological tell of *Qal'at al-Bahrain - Ancient Harbour and Capital of Dilmun* (Bahrain) bears testimony to many successive layers of human occupation from 2300 BC to AD 16th century. The site bears testimony to the ancient Dilmun civilisation, an important trading people, which prior to the discovery of this site was only known from written Sumerian references.

Cities and Sites of Antiquity

The Ancient Middle East has many outstanding living historic cities, founded several millennia ago. One of the oldest is the *Ancient City of Damascus* (Syria), founded in the 3rd millennium BC, which has the renowned Great Mosque of the Umayyads, built on a site earlier occupied by important sanctuaries, and is said to enclose the shrine to Saint John the Baptist. The *Ancient City of Aleppo*

(Syria) developed at the crossroads of several trade routes especially from the 2nd millennium BC. It was ruled successively by the Hittites, Assyrians, Arabs, Mongols, Mamluks and Ottomans. The *Old City of Jerusalem* is the holy city and symbol for three world religions; Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

The Phoenicians were a seafaring people, originally based in the area of present-day Lebanon, and had their best period from 1200 to 800 BC. They established a series of trading colonies around the entire Mediterranean Sea. One of the oldest settlements is *Byblos*, inhabited since Neolithic times and associated with the history of the Phoenician alphabet. *Baalbek*, another Phoenician city known as Heliopolis in the Hellenistic period, has some of the finest examples of Imperial Roman architecture. From *Tyre* the Phoenicians ruled the sea, founding trading colonies such as the *Archaeological Site of Carthage* (Tunisia), which became a rival to the Romans and was destroyed by them in 146 BC. Other Phoenician trading posts include the *Punic Town of Kerkuane* (Tunisia), abandoned ca. 250 BC, as well as *Dougga/Thugga* (Tunisia), the *Archaeological Site of Sabratha* (Libya), and *Tipasa* (Algeria), which were later rebuilt by the Romans.

The Arab Region includes a number of ancient Greek or Roman sites, of which many have earlier origins. The *Ancient City of Bosra* was the capital of the Roman province of Arabia on the caravan route to Mecca. Others include the ancient city of the *Site of Palmyra* (Syria), the ancient Greek colony of the *Archaeological Site of Cyrene* (Libya), and the other Roman settlements: *Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna* (Libya), *Timgad, Djémila* (Algeria), the *Archaeological Site of Volubilis* (Morocco), and *Amphitheatre of El Jem* (Tunisia).

The large fortified city of *Hatra* was the capital of the first Arab Kingdom, and reflected the influence of the Parthian Empire. Its fortifications were strong enough to withstand the Roman invasion in the 2nd century AD. The frankincense, obtained from the trees in the *Land of Frankincense* (Oman), was one of the most important luxury trading items in the ancient world. The site also includes outstanding examples of medieval fortified settlements in the Persian Gulf Region.

The ancient caravan cities of *Petra* (Jordan) and *Al-Hijr Archaeological Site (Madâin Sâlih)*, formerly known as Hegra, represent the Nabataean civilization. Both properties feature well-preserved monumental rock-carved tombs with decorated elevations that bear testimony to a great variety of influences, including Hellenistic and Roman.

Byzantine and Christian Sites

The Orthodox Monastery of the *Saint Catherine Area* (Egypt) stands at the foot of Mount Horeb where, according to the Old Testament, Moses received the Tablets of the Law. This monastery has great importance to the study of Byzantine and Crusader architecture and Christian spirituality. The holy city of *Abu Mena* (Egypt) is an important site for Christianity and for researchers of Coptic history, being built over the tomb of the martyr Menas of Alexandria, who died in AD 296. The *Ouadi Qadisha (the Holy Valley)* is one of the most important early Christian monastic settlements in the world, and the related *Forest of the Cedars of God (Horsh Arz el-Rab)* represents the remains of a great forest of cedars of Lebanon, highly prized in antiquity for the construction of major religious and royal buildings.

The archaeological site of *Um-er Rasas (Kastrom Mefa'a)* started as a Roman military camp, and has remains from the Roman, Byzantine and Early Muslim periods. The mosaic floor of St. Stephen's church is appreciated as a masterpiece of human creative genius, and the site was strongly associated with monasticism and the spread of monotheism, including Islam. The castles of *Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din* (Syria) illustrate the exchange of Western and Eastern influences in fortified architecture during the time of the Crusades (11th - 13th centuries). The Crac des Chevaliers was built by the Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem starting in the 12th century, and continued by the Mamluks in the late 13th century; it ranks among the best-preserved examples of the Crusader castles. The Qal'at Salah El-Din (Fortress of Saladin) retains

features from its Byzantine beginnings in the 10th century, and has later additions by the Ayyubid dynasty.

Cities of the Islamic Period

The Umayyad Caliphate, a large empire whose capital was Damascus, is represented particularly by two Islamic sites: *Anjar* (Lebanon) and *Quseir Amra* (Jordan), both dating from the 8th century AD. A successor of the Umayyads was the Abbasid empire (8th to 13th centuries), which extended from Tunisia to Central Asia and had its capital in Baghdad. It is represented by the *Samarra Archaeological City* (Iraq). The *Historic Cairo* was founded in the 10th century as the capital of the Fatimid Caliphate, who ruled in Maghreb, Egypt, Sicily and Malta.

In Tunisia, the city of *Kairouan* with its Great Mosque, originally founded in 670, and the *Medina of Sousse*, an important commercial and military port, flourished during the Aghlabid dynasty in the 9th century. The *Medina of Tunis*, which is of antique origin, was one of the wealthiest cities in the Islamic world under the Almohads and the Hafsids, from the 12th to 16th centuries.

In Algeria, the *Kasbah of Algiers* was one of the finest coastal cities in the Mediterranean, and integrates Ottoman and French colonial constructions. The ruins of *Al Qal'a of Beni Hammad* bear testimony to the first capital of the Hammamid Emirs, founded in the 11th century, and destroyed in 1152.

In Morocco, the *Medina of Tétouan (Titawin)* was particularly important from the 8th century onwards as the principal contact between Morocco and Andalusia. The *Medina of Marrakesh* was founded in the 11th century by the Almoravids, and it became an important political, economic and cultural centre. The *Medina of Fez*, founded in the 9th century, flourished under the Marinids in the 13th and 14th centuries. The *Historic City of Meknes*, established in the 11th century, became the capital of the Alawite dynasty in the 17th century.

In Yemen, the fantastically decorated towering cities include the *Old City of Sana'a*, which has been inhabited for some 2500 years; it became a major centre for the propagation of Islam in the 7th and 8th centuries. The *Old Walled City of Shibam* has been documented at least from the 3rd century AD, and the *Historic Town of Zabid*, renowned for its University, was a capital city from the 13th to the 15th centuries.

In Oman, the *Bahla Fort* was built in mud brick and stone in an oasis in the 13th and 14th centuries. It is one of a series of historic fortresses located at the foot of the Djebel Akhdar highlands. In recent years, it has been subject to a major restoration campaign.

Traditional Habitat

The region of Maghreb offers several outstanding examples of traditional vernacular settlements built in unbaked earth. In Libya, these include the *Old Town of Ghadames*, 'the pearl of the desert', considered one of the oldest of the so-called pre-Saharan cities. Other examples are the *Ksar of Ait Ben-Haddou* (Morocco), along an old caravan route, the *Ancient Ksour of Ouadane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata* (Mauritania), founded in the 11th and 12th centuries, and the five fortified cities (*ksour*) of the *M'Zab Valley* (Algeria) founded in the 10th century by the Ibadites.

In Oman, the *Aflaj Irrigation Systems*, which date back to ca. AD 500, represent a widely diffused system of water management in traditional settlements, making it possible to inhabit desert areas. This property includes numerous medieval watchtowers to defend these vital irrigation systems.

Recent Heritage

More recent heritage is represented by the *Portuguese City of Mazagan (El Jadida)* (Morocco), built as a fortified colony in the 16th century, and taken over by the Moroccans in 1769. It is an early example of the realisation of the Renaissance ideals integrated with Portuguese construction

technology. The *Medina of Essaouira* (Morocco) is a fine example of late-18th century military architecture based on European influences (such as Vauban) in North-African context.

Criteria used for Inscription

Regarding the use of the justification of the Outstanding Universal Value, it is noted that the World Heritage criteria have changed over time. The criteria have been applied as follows in the Region:

- Criterion (i), regarding '*masterpiece of human creative genius*' has been used for 17 out of 61 properties inscribed on cultural criteria (28%), e.g. *Memphis, Thebes, and the Nubian Monuments*, as well as *Bosra, Damascus, Baalbek and Kairouan*.
- Criterion (ii) on '*interchange of human values*' has been used for 26 properties (43%), including medinas and Roman archaeological sites.
- Criterion (iii), '*exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilisation*', has been used for 41 properties (67%), including especially the archaeological sites, which are the majority of all properties.
- Criterion (iv), '*outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble*', has been used for 36 properties (59%), including especially historic cities and ancient monuments.
- Criterion (v), '*traditional human settlement, land use or sea use*', has been used for 15 properties (25%), including historic cities, such as *Cairo, Marrakesh, and Shibam*, and traditional settlements, such as *M'Zab Valley, and Aflaj Irrigation Systems*.
- Criterion (vi), '*associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs*', has been used for 22 properties (36%), including *Sana'a, Kairouan, and Damascus*, as well as *Saint Catherine Area, Old City of Jerusalem, Carthage, Bosra, Thebes, Memphis and the Nubian Monuments*.
- Of the natural criteria, criterion (vii), '*superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional beauty*', was used for the Mixed Property: *Tassili n'Ajjer*.
- Criterion (viii), '*representing major stages of earth's history*', was used for two properties: *Tassili n'Ajjer and Wadi Al-Hitan*.
- Criterion (ix), '*on-going ecological and biological processes*', was used for one property: *Banc d'Arguin*.
- Criterion (x), '*significant habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity*', was used for three properties: *Banc d'Arguin, Ichkeul, and Socotra Archipelago*.

Categories used for the Periodic Reporting analysis

It is to be noted however that the typology based on historic periods presented above is not the one which is used along the Periodic Report. Indeed, taking into consideration the format of the Section II of the questionnaire, it was considered as more relevant to distinguish the properties along the following four categories:

Natural Heritage: There are only four natural heritage properties in the Arab States, plus one mixed site. The factors that are reported to have a significant negative impact include water infrastructure and land conversion.

Archaeological sites: They form the majority of World Heritage in the Arab States. Building and commercial development, as well as the construction of infrastructures, are having a significant negative impact on a number of them. The local conditions have a negative impact on several properties, including the impact of wind, relative humidity, dust, pests, temperature, water, and micro-organisms. Changes in social and cultural uses are reported on several properties to result

in the loss of identity. Generally, changes in traditional life style and the society's capacity of valuing heritage are indicated as increasingly significant challenges that are difficult to meet by the current management. Illegal activities have an increasing impact on several properties. Military training, war and terrorism are also mentioned.

Historic Cities: Seventeen historic cities of the Arab States have been inscribed on the World Heritage List. The problems that are faced here range from housing and commercial development to ground water pollution, the impact of local physical conditions, and the changes in ways of traditional life. The control of new housing development and illegal destruction of traditional housing are seen as problems in several historic urban areas. Changes in traditional ways of life and consequent loss of the society's capacity to value heritage and identity can be associated with globalisation and the negative impacts of tourism and recreation.

Other Types of Heritage: Under the heading: "other" (although this terminology is not appropriate), the remaining "isolated" properties have been grouped, which include the Mixed Natural-Cultural Site of Tassili n'Ajer (Algeria) and several monumental ensembles. The problems they face range from physical problems affecting the structural integrity to the management of the context, and are similar to those already listed above. Changes in traditional ways of life and consequent problems to management are present here too, as well as the impact of climate change and severe weather events.

PART I

IMPLEMENTATION BY STATES PARTIES: RESULTS OF SECTION I OF THE PERIODIC REPORTING QUESTIONNAIRE

1. INTRODUCTION

At present, 18 Arab States have ratified, accepted or accessed the *World Heritage Convention*. The States Parties are the following in the order of ratification:

Egypt 07/02/1974 R;	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya 13/10/1978 R;
Iraq 05/03/1974 Ac;	Yemen 2 07/10/1980 R;
Sudan 06/06/1974 R;	Mauritania 02/03/1981 R;
Algeria 24/06/1974 R;	Oman 06/10/1981 Ac;
Tunisia 10/03/1975 R;	Lebanon 03/02/1983 R;
Jordan 05/05/1975 R;	Qatar 12/09/1984 Ac;
Syrian Arab Republic 13/08/1975 Ac;	Bahrain 28/05/1991 R;
Morocco 28/10/1975 R;	United Arab Emirates 11/05/2001 A;
Saudi Arabia 07/08/1978 Ac;	Kuwait 06/06/2002 R

The Arab States, which responded to Section I of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire on the situation in the State Party in terms of World Heritage, include the following 15 States Parties:

- *The Gulf sub-region:* Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Yemen;
- *The Middle East sub-region:* Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, Syria;
- *The Maghreb sub-region:* Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia.

National reports were not received from the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.

It can be noted that the 18 States Parties of the Arab Region represent 9.7% of the total of the States Parties that have ratified the Convention. Instead, the 65 properties in the Arab States represent 7.3% of the total of World Heritage properties (as of 2009). While the average of properties per State is ca. 4.8, the average in the Arab Region is 3.6. This means that there are relatively less properties inscribed per number of States Parties compared to the total of States Parties.

First Cycle Reports

In the 1st Cycle, 10 States Parties delivered the Section I report within the established deadline. Algeria's report was presented at a later date. Therefore, the published version of the First Cycle (2004) included reports from 11 States Parties and on 39 properties.

Changes from Previous Cycle

Compared to the First Cycle, two more States Parties in the Arab Region have accessed or ratified the World Heritage Convention: United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. This brings the total number of States Parties in this region to 18.

It is noted moreover that many of the States Parties in the Arab Region have been through a period of transformation. At the same time, the previous, experienced senior personnel who were responsible for the protection and conservation of heritage resources have often retired. A new generation has entered the offices. As a result, the present Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting

has become a valuable learning experience and a concrete contact with the international community under the auspices of UNESCO.

2. IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPERTIES (INVENTORIES, LISTS, REGISTERS FOR CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE)

2.1 - *If the State Party has established inventories/lists/registers of cultural heritage, at what level(s) are they compiled and what is their current status?*

2.2 - *If the State Party has established inventories/lists/registers of natural heritage, at what level(s) are they compiled and what is their current status?*

Two States Parties indicate that there are no inventories. Generally, national inventories are more used than regional or local inventories. Indeed, it is observed that in several States Parties of the Arab region, heritage inventories are prepared only on the national level. The tables below report the current state of the inventories; the numbers indicate the number of States Parties:

2.1 Cultural Heritage	Done	Advanced	Commenced	None
National Level	5	5	2	2
Regional Level	3	3	1	1
Local Level		4	2	2
Other Registers	1	1		
	36%	36%	14%	14%
2.2 Natural Heritage	Done	Advanced	Commenced	None
National Level	3	6	2	1
Regional Level	2	3	2	1
Local Level	1	4	2	2
Other Registers				
	21%	43%	14%	7%

2.3 - *Are inventories/lists/registers adequate to capture the diversity of cultural and natural heritage in the State Party?*

Inventories, lists or registers are considered satisfactory in capturing the diversity of cultural and natural heritage by three out of 14 States Parties (20%). Eight States Parties (60%) consider that they capture some heritage diversity. Inventories are not considered adequate by one State Party.

2.4 - *Are inventories/lists/registers used to protect the identified cultural heritage?*

2.5 - *Are inventories/lists/registers used to protect the identified natural heritage?*

2.6 - *Are inventories/lists/registers used for the identification of properties for the Tentative List?*

Inventories are used frequently by 7 out of 14 States Parties to protect the identified **cultural heritage**. Inventories are sometimes used by five States Parties, and there are no inventories in two States Parties. Inventories are reported to be used frequently by eight States Parties to protect the identified **natural heritage**; they are sometimes used by two; there are no inventories for natural heritage in four out of 14 States Parties.

Use of Inventories	Frequent	Some use	Not actively	No Inventory
2.4 - Used to protect cultural heritage	7	5		2
2.5 - Used to protect natural heritage	8	2		4
2.6 - Used for identification of properties for TLs	8	4		2

Additional Comments (2.7)

Oman and **Egypt** note that inventories exist and are frequently updated. In Egypt the inventory is currently being incorporated into GIS system. While the inventory is generally the task of the government, **Sudan** indicates that universities, research centres and missions also hold registers of properties on the local and regional levels. Therefore, good coordination is necessary. **Syria** notes that the inventorying processes are generally too long, and mistakes can occur on the way. **Morocco** notes that there is a need for better coordination between those responsible for cultural and natural heritage. This could help in the identification of new types of sites that are not yet recognised. **Mauritania** is preparing a set of instruments for the preparation of a national inventory in collaboration with UNESCO. **Tunisia** recalls the many threats to heritage, and recommends reinforcement of the means to prepare inventories without delay, and mechanisms for their regular verification and updating.

First Cycle on Inventories

In the 1st Cycle, 10 out of 11 States Parties (91%) reported having an inventory of cultural properties, one State Party indicated having an inventory of natural sites. There were no inventories of mixed sites. All eleven States Parties indicated that there was an institution responsible for the preparation and updating of national inventories.

Changes from Previous Cycle

The questionnaire of the Second Cycle offers more details compared with the previous. It is noted that the preparation of inventories is a key issue and the basis for any further development of policies and strategies for protection and conservation. Several initiatives are being done in this regard.

3. TENTATIVE LIST

Of the Arab States Parties, all but two (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Kuwait, which however reports that the preparation of the Tentative List is under way) have Tentative Lists, which have been last updated as follows :

Algeria 2002 (6 properties)	Oman 1988 (2 properties)
Bahrain 2008 (6 properties)	Qatar 2008 (2 properties)
Egypt 2003 (31 properties)	Saudi Arabia 2006 (2 properties)
Iraq 2010 (9 properties)	Sudan 2004 (7 properties)
Jordan 2007 (16 properties)	Syria 2006 (15 properties)
Lebanon 1996 (9 properties)	Tunisia 2008 (4 properties)
Mauritania 2001 (3 properties)	United Arab Emirates 2008 (1 property)
Morocco 2006 (14 properties)	Yemen 2002 (10 properties)

3.1 - *In reference to your Tentative List, please indicate, as far as possible, the potential timetable for future nominations to the World Heritage List within the next six years.*

The following States Parties indicate an intention to propose new nominations in the coming years: Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen. Some States Parties have not yet decided the dates. Egypt and Iraq report that new nominations are not yet known, and Lebanon reports that new nominations are not foreseen.

3.2 - *In the process of preparation of your Tentative List, did you use any of the following tools to make a preliminary assessment of the potential Outstanding Universal Value?*

The following sources were indicated:

- UNESCO Global Strategy (Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Sudan, Syria)
- ICOMOS, Filling the Gaps (Egypt, Jordan)
- ICOMOS Thematic Studies (Lebanon)
- IUCN Thematic Studies (Lebanon)
- Meetings to harmonise Tentative Lists (Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Sudan)

3.3 - *Please rate level of involvement of the following (if applicable) in the preparation of the Tentative List*

It is clear from the table below that the National Government Institutions are the principle responsible for the preparation of Tentative Lists. However, this is often done in collaboration with site managers, and sometimes involving regional and local authorities, other governmental departments and UNESCO National Commission.

3.3 Involvement in Tentative Lists	Good	Fair	Poor	None	NA
National Government Institutions	10	1		3	
Regional authorities, etc	3	1		4	6
Local government	1	3	2	4	4
Other government departments	3	1	1	2	7
UNESCO National Commission	3	2	3	2	4
Local authorities related to the property	2	3	4	3	2
Local communities	1	3	3	4	3
Indigenous peoples	1	1	1	3	8
Landowners	1	2	1	4	6
Local industries		1	0	7	6
NGOs	2	1		6	5
Consultants	4	4	1	4	1
Site Managers	6	2	1	2	3

Inventories for the identification of properties for the Tentative List are used frequently by eight States Parties (57%); they are sometimes used by four States Parties (29%), and there are no inventories for this purpose in two of the 14 States Parties (14%). The questionnaire requested information on the institutions or persons who had participated in the preparation of Tentative Lists. In most cases, these are indicated to have been prepared by National Government institutions, often in collaboration with site managers or consultants. There is a somewhat different emphasis between the sub-regions. Thus national institutions are particularly emphasised in Maghreb and the Middle East, while the Gulf States indicate an equal involvement of state institutions with consultants. NGOs, local industries, land owners, and indigenous people are only rarely involved.

Points 3.4 and 3.5 of the Questionnaire report on the authority/authorities responsible for the approval and submission of the Tentative List. (This information is not included in this Summary report)

3.6. - Do you intend to update your Tentative List within the next six years?

All States Parties, except Syria, who have responded to the first part of the questionnaire, affirm that they have intention to update their Tentative List within the next six years.

Additional Comments (3.7)

Algeria notes that the Tentative Lists are now again in the process of being updated through discussions with the different stakeholders. **Morocco** intends to revise its Tentative List in order to harmonise it with the global Strategy and to verify it possibly on a regional basis. Also **Oman** has started work on a new updated list. **Sudan** notes that their list is greatly unbalanced and needs revision and harmonisation, taking into account the possibility of mixed sites. **Syria** noted that it verifies the Tentative List regularly every time new nominations are being considered. **Tunisia** and **Yemen** indicate the need to involve more stakeholders in the process of preparing lists.

First Cycle on Tentative Lists

In the 1st Cycle two out of 11 States Parties (18%) responded positively to questions regarding the association of local authorities with the process of preparation of Tentative Lists, and in case of the community in three States Parties. In seven States Parties (64%) there was an institution responsible for this purpose.

Changes from Previous Cycle

There is a notable advance in preparing and updating Tentative Lists since the first cycle.

4. NOMINATIONS

4.2 - Please rate level of involvement of the following (if applicable) in the preparation of the most recent nomination dossiers

Regarding the involvement of people and institutions in the preparation of World Heritage nominations, the States Parties generally take the main responsibility. Site managers and consultants are often involved, particularly in the Maghreb region. As in the case of Tentative Lists, the roles of indigenous peoples, land owners, local industries and NGOs is minor.

4.2 Involvement in Nominations	Good	Fair	Poor	None	NA
National Govt Institutions	13			1	
Regional etc	6	3		2	3
Local govt	4	4	3	1	2
Other govt	4	5		1	4
UNESCO National Comm.	2	4	2	3	3
Local authorities rel. Property	6	3	1	2	2
Local communities	4	2	1	6	1
Indigenous peoples	2		1	4	7
Landowners					
Local industries					
NGOs	2	3	2	1	6
Consultants	7	5	1	1	
Site Managers	10	2	1		1

4.3 - Please rate the perceived benefits in your country of inscribing properties on the World Heritage List

Regarding the perceived benefits of the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List, the States Parties are fairly unanimous regarding the benefits in terms of protection and conservation, i.e. strengthening protection, enhancing conservation, improving presentation, as well as enhancing prestige and increasing recognition. The benefit of World Heritage as catalyst for wider appreciation, as stimulus for development or as additional tool for lobbying is given less importance.

4.3 Benefits from WH List	High	Some	Limited	Low	NA
Strengthened protection	10	3	1		
Enhanced conservation practices	8	4	2		
Catalyst for wider appreciation	6	4	1	1	2
Improved presentation	5	7	1	1	
Enhanced prestige	4	7	3		
Increased funding	2	7	3	2	
Additional tool for lobbying	1	8	1	2	2
Stimulus for partnerships	3	6	2	3	
Increased recognition /tourism	4	7	2		1
Stimulus for development	3	3	5	3	

Additional Comments (4.4)

Several States Parties stress the importance of involving all stakeholders in the process of preparing nominations for the World Heritage List. However, this requires good coordination and appropriate educational programmes in order to guarantee informed involvement.

It is noted by **Morocco** that recent properties are much better managed in this regard, and the positive impact of the inscription on the state of conservation of the property is real. **Algeria** also stresses the need to guarantee to World Heritage properties protection that meets the international standards.

First Cycle on Nominations

In the 1st Cycle, the questions regarding the status of inscribed properties and proposals for inscription in the future, four out of 11 States Parties (36%) reported having engaged in an analysis of collaboration and cooperation with local authorities and the population regarding nomination. Four States Parties also reported having encountered obstacles and difficulties during the process.

Changes from Previous Cycle

From 1993 to 2008, there have been 22 new nominations inscribed on the World Heritage List. Three of these were natural properties, one of which (*Arabian Oryx Sanctuary*, Oman) was deleted from the List in 2007.

5. GENERAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT

5.1. - *Principal pieces of national legislation for the protection, conservation and presentation of the State Party's cultural and natural heritage.*

5.2. - *Additional legal instruments regarding conservation of heritage*

5.3. - *Comments*

The questionnaire provides an updated report on the national legislation in each country. **Algeria** reports that since 1998 the essential legal framework concerning the cultural and natural heritage has been revised and adapted to reflect the political and economic situation of the country. **Yemen** notes that the Government is currently implementing the Republic Declaration No 129/1997

authorising conservation policies, while the draft law for the Preservation of Historic Cities is still in preparation. The protection of natural heritage is based on the environment protection law dating from 1995. **Morocco** reports that the law 22-80, that is the basis of Moroccan conservation policies, is in the process of being revised and broadened into new types of heritage not considered in the past. The project should be completed in 2010-2011 and adopted in 2013.

5.4. - *Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulations) adequate for the identification, conservation and protection of the State Party's cultural and natural heritage?*

Regarding the adequacy of the current legislation, 10 out of 14 States Parties (73%) respond positively to the question of having an adequate legal framework while four States Parties (27%) report that it is inadequate. Several States Parties note that, in addition to the specific legislation protecting heritage, there are other legal measures that can be used in order to protect sites against destruction or other threats.

5.5. - *Can the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulations) for the identification, conservation and protection of the State Party's cultural and natural heritage be enforced?*

Regarding the possibility of reinforcing the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulations), two States Parties (14%) responded that they have excellent capacity/resources to enforce the legal framework. 11 States Parties (79%) responded that the existing capacity/resources could be strengthened, and one responded that it did not have effective capacity/resources to enforce the legal framework.

5.6. - *What other international conventions for the protection of cultural and/or natural heritage has the State Party adhered to?*

Several States Parties indicate that they are parties to other international conventions, including *the Hague Convention, the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat.*

5.7. - *Is the implementation of these international conventions coordinated and integrated into the development of national policies for the conservation, protection and presentation of cultural and natural heritage?*

Regarding the implementation of international Conventions, five States Parties confirmed that they have adequate coordination and integration, while seven States Parties indicated that they have limited coordination and integration.

5.5 Enforcement of Law			5.7 international conventions		
Excellent capacity	2	14%	Adequate coordination	5	36%
Could be strengthened	10	71%	Limited coordination	8	57%
No effective capacity	2	14%	No coordination	1	7%
No Legal framework	0	0%			

5.8. - *How effectively do the State Party's policies give cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of communities?*

Regarding the effectiveness of heritage policies in the life of communities, one State Party responded positively, while nine out of 14 indicated that while there are policies, there are also some deficiencies in the implementation. One State Party indicates that it has no specific policies, while three States Parties report that they have no formal policies, but the scope is achieved on an ad hoc basis.

5.9 - *How effectively do the State Party's policies integrate the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage into comprehensive/larger scale planning programmes?*

A similar response to point 5.8 is also given regarding the effectiveness of the integration of conservation policies into comprehensive planning programmes. One State does this effectively, eleven with some deficiencies, and two on ad hoc basis.

5.8 Function in Community Life			5.9 Larger-scale Planning Programmes		
Effective implementation	1	7%	Policies implemented effectively	1	7%
Policies with deficiencies	9	64%	Policies with deficiencies	11	79%
Achieved on ad hoc basis	3	21%	Achieved on ad hoc basis	2	14%
No specific policies	1	7%	No specific policies	0	0%

Additional Comments (5.10)

Lebanon notes that the State should have general policies for the conservation and valuation of heritage resources that would assist in better integrating these activities within the economic strategies. **Mauritania** notes that the eventual weaknesses in the implementation of heritage legislation are often due to the lack of human and financial resources. **Sudan** reports that the conservation and protection of heritage is well integrated in the constitution of the country. Also **Oman** notes that all legal instruments of the country are fully utilised to preserve the cultural and natural heritage. **Syria** notes that their latest law of 1999 has not been fully effective, because the national priorities of the country tend to be in other fields, such as health, education, etc. **Yemen** stresses the need to improve legal protection of historic cities, and to create an appropriate system to combine the efforts of the different authorities in the fields of culture and nature, including a link to international organisations.

First Cycle on General Policies

In the First Cycle, 6 out of 11 States Parties (55%) reported that efforts were made to integrate heritage in a national management and development policy at the national level. Four States Parties indicated that there were existing policies and plans aiming at assigning a function to cultural and natural heritage in the life of community. Seven indicated that these plans are integrated in a general planning and/or national conservation strategy.

Changes from Previous Cycle

It is noted that in many cases the legal framework does not necessarily meet the present-day requirements. Indeed, several States Parties have reported on initiatives in the improvement of legislation.

6. STATUS OF SERVICES FOR PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND PRESENTATION

6.1 - *To what degree do the principal agencies/institutions responsible for cultural and natural heritage cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of this heritage?*

The degree of collaboration by the principal agencies and institutions responsible for cultural and natural heritage in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of this heritage was considered effective by four States Parties. There was some cooperation with possible improvements in seven States Parties, and there was limited cooperation in three.

6.2 - *To what degree do other government agencies (e.g. responsible for tourism, defence, public works, fishery, etc.) cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of natural and cultural heritage?*

The cooperation of other government agencies (e.g. responsible for tourism, defence, public works, fishery, etc.) in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of natural and cultural heritage was considered effective in one State Party. There was some cooperation but with deficiencies in eight States Parties (60%), and limited cooperation in five States Parties.

6.1 Cooperation of Principal Agencies			6.2 Cooperation with other Gvt Agencies		
Effective cooperation	4	29%	All have effective cooperation	1	7%
Some cooperation	7	50%	Generally some cooperation	8	57%
Limited cooperation	3	21%	Limited cooperation	5	36%
No cooperation	0	0%	No cooperation	0	0%

6.3 - *To what degree do different levels of government cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of cultural and natural heritage?*

The cooperation of the different levels of government in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of cultural and natural heritage was considered effective in one State Party; there was some cooperation but with deficiencies in nine States Parties (64%), and limited cooperation in four States Parties.

6.4 - *Are the services provided by the agencies/institutions adequate for the conservation, protection and presentation of World Heritage properties in your country?*

No State considers having excellent capacity in providing services for the conservation of World Heritage. However, three States Parties report having adequate capacity, and eleven States Parties having some capacity.

6.3 Cooperation of different levels of government			6.4 Adequacy of services for WH		
All have effective cooperation	1	7%	Excellent capacity	0	0%
Generally some cooperation	9	64%	Adequate capacity	3	21%
Limited cooperation	4	29%	Some capacity	11	79%
No cooperation	0	0%	No capacity	0	0%

Comments on Services for Protection (6.5)

Algeria reports that collaboration between the different governmental agencies is more and more effective due to legal and management mechanisms that have been applied recently. In **Morocco**, over the past decade, there have been important works on infrastructures. These works have caused a new threat to heritage areas. This should be taken into account in an overall national strategy. **Mauritania** notes that there is some collaboration between the different ministerial departments. In Oman, the situation varies from site to site. In **Syria**, the government is providing a platform for the cooperation of the different stakeholders. In **Sudan**, it is proposed to establish site commissions/councils with the participation of the different stakeholders. **Egypt, Tunisia** and **Yemen** consider that capacity and cooperation of the different stakeholders needs to be improved.

First Cycle on Status of Services

In the First Cycle, the questions were formulated differently. Consequently, eight out of 11 States Parties (73%) reported that the conservation services depended on a Ministry, in one they depended on an inter-ministerial committee, and in three of a multi-sectorial committee. These services were responsible for the protection/conservation in nine States Parties (82%), presentation in eight (73%), and exploitation of the property in five (45%). All States Parties reported having identified fields where improvement would be desirable.

Changes from Previous Cycle

Collaboration between the different stakeholders concerned about heritage protection and management remains an issue that requires attention.

7. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH

7.1 - Is there a research programme or project specifically for the benefit of World Heritage properties?

7.2 List significant research projects

Regarding the issue of scientific and technical studies and research, only one State Party (7%) reports on a comprehensive research programme regarding World Heritage. This is referred to natural heritage. Some World Heritage related research is reported in four States Parties, and nine States Parties (64%) report that there is no research programme specifically addressing World Heritage.

Additional Comments (7.3)

Even though the above responses seem to give little attention to research, in the attached comments several States Parties indicate research initiatives. **Algeria** reports that there is some major research undertaken with foreign partners, as well as numerous research programmes at Algerian institutes and universities. A new law has also made archaeology and cultural heritage priorities eligible for funding. Other States Parties (e.g. **Oman, Sudan**) indicate that, while there may not be research specifically on World Heritage at the State Level, there are research programmes at specialised institutions and universities - as indicated in Section II. Others agree that such programmes are needed, and **Syria** notes that there would be need for a programme that 'brings together individuals, universities, professionals and government organizations to work on heritage preservation and documentation projects in an environment that perpetuates cooperative advantage; developing their capacities to engage resources beyond the capability of any single entity.' **Yemen** reports that an inventory of handicrafts has already been prepared as a first step.

First Cycle on Research

In the First Cycle, 10 States Parties (91%) responded positively to having undertaken research projects on World Heritage properties. In nine States Parties (82%), the results were available to directors of properties or to the local population. Eight States Parties (73%) indicated that there were fields where improvements could be made.

Changes from Previous Cycle

The formulation of the questions in the 2nd Cycle aims at a more precise response. While the results would seem to indicate that there is less research compared to the 1st Cycle, the question should be seen jointly with the Section II of the questionnaire, which gives more insight into the research at the site level.

8. FINANCIAL STATUS AND HUMAN RESOURCES

8.1 - *Please assess the relative importance of the following sources of funding for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage in your country*

The **sources of funding** come principally from National Government funds. These are sometimes accompanied by funding from secondary sources, including other levels of government, international multilateral funds, and World Heritage Fund. The Gulf States appear the most centrally oriented in this regard, while Maghreb and the Middle East tend to have broader-based financial sources.

8.1 - Sources of Funding	Major Sustain.	Major Fixed T.	Minor Sustain.	Minor Fixed T.	NA
National Government	8	1	5	0	0
Other Govt Departments	1	1	4	6	2
International	0	3	1	6	4
Multilateral	1	5	1	2	5
Bilateral	0	3	1	4	6
NGOs	0	2	0	3	9
Private	0	2	0	4	8
Other	0	0	0	1	13

8.2 - *Has the State Party helped to establish national, public and private foundations or associations for raising funds and donations for the protection of World Heritage?*

Four out of 14 States Parties (29%) report having helped to establish foundations or associations in order to raise funds for the protection of World Heritage.

8.3 - *Does the State Party have national policies for the allocation of site revenues for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage?*

Six States Parties (43%) report that there are national policies for the allocation of site revenues for the heritage conservation.

8.4 - *Is the current budget sufficient to conserve, protect and present cultural and natural heritage effectively at the national level?*

Nine States Parties (64%) consider the available budget acceptable. One of them considers that further funding would enable more effective conservation, two States Parties consider the budget acceptable to meet current needs, and six States Parties consider that it could be further improved to fully meet the conservation, protection and presentation needs. Five States Parties (36%) report that the budget is inadequate even for basic needs, and it presents serious constraints to the capacity to conserve heritage.

8.4 Current Budget?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Add to improve effectiveness	1	7%	1	0	0
Acceptable to current needs	2	14%	1	0	1
Acceptable but to improve	6	43%	1	2	3
Inadequate	5	36%	1	4	0

8.5 - *Are available human resources adequate to conserve, protect and present cultural and natural heritage effectively at the national level?*

Regarding the human resources, two States Parties report that human resources are adequate but that additional staffing would enable more effective conservation, protection and presentation to meet international best practice standards. Seven States Parties indicate that human resources exist but they are below optimum to conserve, protect and present cultural and natural heritage,

and five States Parties consider the human resources inadequate to fulfil the tasks of the conservation and management.

8.5 Human Resources?		%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Add to improve effectiveness	2	14%	0	2	0
Adequate to current needs	0	0%	0	0	0
Exist but below optimum	7	50%	3	2	2
Inadequate	5	36%	1	2	2

Additional Comments (8.6)

Regarding the contribution of the different agencies in funding, National Government funding is clearly the primary sustainable funding source. For example, **Oman** reports that heritage protection is fully funded by the National Government; funds are made available both as part of a five-year Development Programme and on the basis of an annual budget. **Algeria** reports that the financing of the conservation of heritage is based on the requirements presented in this field. **Mauritania** notes that a decree is in preparation for the implementation of law 2005-046 regarding a national fund for cultural heritage. Several States Parties however note that funding is inadequate, and for example **Morocco** proposes that there would be need to diversify the sources in order to improve the resources. **Sudan** notes that most revenues from visitors go to regional governments.

Regarding the availability of human resources, the general response is that these are below optimum or even inadequate to guarantee heritage conservation. **Lebanon** notes that it would be necessary to augment the financial resources in order to be able to hire more human resources. **Tunisia** indicates that, while there exists university training in the conservation of cultural heritage, the employment of the graduates remains limited due to restrictions in public recruitment and a lack of favourable conditions for the establishment of private firms specialised in conservation. Also **Morocco** reports that there is lack of appropriate assignment of human resources in the different administrations, particularly in historic towns, and there is need to better specify the profiles of the different professionals required in the area of conservation (conservators, heritage mediators, economists, etc.).

First Cycle on Funding

In the First Cycle, the focus was on Fund Raising: eight out of 11 States Parties (73%) indicated that national and/or private foundations or associations had been created to encourage fund-raising. Seven (64%) noted that they had annual grants for the conservation of WH properties. No governments had made voluntary contributions other than the mandatory to improve the work of the Convention.

Changes from Previous Cycle

Financing conservation of heritage has continued being a State responsibility. There is however an increasing interest in diversification, considering that the budgets are generally not sufficient compared to the needs. The question of human resources is a constant problem. It is noted that some of the senior conservation experts have retired since the 1980s and 1990s. There is now a new generation that is gaining experience and gives hope for the future.

9. TRAINING

9.1 - *Provide details about formal training / educational institutions / programs (up to a maximum of five) relevant to World Heritage.*

The following numbers of institutions providing training are mentioned in the report. The training programmes are of different kinds, including conservation oriented (e.g. Lebanon), tourism (e.g. Jordan), excavations (e.g. Iraq). Below is the number of training programmes listed:

Algeria: 4 institutions
 Bahrain: 2 institutions
 Egypt: 4 institutions
 Iraq: 2 institutions
 Jordan: 5 institutions
 Kuwait: 1 institution
 Lebanon: 1 institution

Mauritania: 1 planned
 Morocco: 1 institution
 Oman: none
 Sudan: 4 institutions
 Syria: 1 institution
 Tunisia: none
 Yemen: none

9.2 - *Please assess the training needs in the following fields identified in your country for conservation, protection and presentation of cultural and natural heritage.*

The training needs that are mentioned extend to almost everything, from conservation and education to visitor management and risk preparedness. There is not too much difference between the sub-regions, even though the Gulf and Maghreb seem to come out with more needs than the Middle East. Here, particularly conservation, education, promotion, site interpretation, community outreach, and risk preparedness appear to stand out. In the Middle East, emphasis is on education, interpretation and administration. Generally speaking, most training needs are indicated to be high in the Gulf sub-region and in Maghreb. Instead, States Parties in the Middle East generally indicate training needs as medium or low.

9.2 Training Needs	High	Medium	Low	Very Low
Conservation	7	4	2	1
Education	6	4	3	1
Promotion	6	4	3	1
Interpretation	7	4	1	1
Administration	5	6	2	1
Visitor Management	5	3	5	1
Community outreach	8	2	3	1
Risk preparedness	5	6	1	2
Enforcement (custodians)	4	4	3	2
Other	1			

9.3 - *Does the State Party have a national training/ educational strategy to strengthen capacity development in the field of heritage conservation, protection and presentation?*

No State Party indicates having a national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation, protection and presentation that is effectively implemented. Nevertheless, five States Parties indicate there is a national strategy for capacity development but there are deficiencies in implementation. Six States Parties have no national strategy but capacity development is done on an ad hoc basis. Three States Parties report not having any national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation.

Additional Comments (9.4)

There is a common recognition of the importance of training even though several States Parties do not have national training programmes in heritage conservation. **Oman** and **Sudan** note that in the absence of a local specialised institute, training needs are covered through international cooperation. This can be done for example at foreign universities, with ICCROM, and with the help of foreign archaeological missions. Several States Parties, including **Syria** and **Lebanon**, urge the development of national training strategies in the future. **Yemen** calls for a training strategy specifically for World Heritage at all levels with the support of ICCROM and the World Heritage Centre. **Tunisia** notes that such training should be integrated into the sub-regional framework. **Bahrain** reports that various university departments have started including World Heritage-related subjects in their curricula. **Morocco** notes that there are differences between the natural and cultural heritage administrations; for example risk preparedness is better organised in the field of natural heritage.

First Cycle on Training

In the First Cycle, six out of 11 States Parties (55%) responded positively to having identified training needs. Seven States Parties (64%) indicated that training opportunities exist. One State reported that there were World Heritage training modules and programmes, and four had training available for staff regarding natural and cultural heritage. Six States Parties indicated that measures had been taken to encourage scientific research in support of training, and eight out of 11 indicated that improvements would be desirable.

Changes from Previous Cycle

In the 1990s, there were various bilateral, regional and international initiatives in training conservation professionals. However, some of these have been discontinued in the meantime. At the moment, there are new initiatives, such as ICCROM's Athar programme, which has targeted managers in all Arab States, and can be considered a useful reference for sub-regional and national programmes as well.

10. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

10.1 - If your country co-operated with other States Parties for the identification, protection, conservation and preservation of the World Heritage located on their territories since the last periodic report, please indicate the type of co-operation that best describes your activities.

Regarding the cooperation with other States Parties for the identification, protection, and conservation of World Heritage, most do not respond. However, collaboration in training is mentioned by Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen. Morocco mentions collaboration with UN agencies; Oman notes bilateral and multilateral collaboration, Yemen also mentions collaboration in financing. Regarding twinning of properties with other at a national or international level, only Syria responds positively. Mauritania mentions the UNESCO programme of cultural itineraries concerning Maghreb and Sub-Saharan Africa. Sudan mentions that it has a fair degree of cooperation with UN agencies responsible for the protection of natural and cultural heritage, and that more than 30 archaeological missions work in the country every year. Tunisia notes that international cooperation in all its forms is a field that should be developed in order to sustain the efforts of the States Parties in the conservation of heritage resources, and particularly to strengthen their capacity in relevant areas. Yemen calls for all stakeholders to strengthen collaboration.

10.1 International	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
No cooperation	1	7%			1
Participation in UN	4	29%		3	1
Bi-lateral/Multi-lateral	6	43%	2	2	2
Financial support	6	43%	2	2	2
Contributions to private	3	21%		2	1
Participation in international	3	21%	1	2	
Sharing in capacity building	7	50%	3	2	2
Hosting international courses	12	86%	4	5	3
Distribution of information	4	29%	2	1	1

10.2 - Do you have World Heritage properties that have been twinned with others at a national or international level?

No twinning is indicated.

Additional Comments (10.3)

Gulf sub-region: **Kuwait** indicates the need to invite experts to train staff. **Oman** reports that there are several joint activities within the Gulf sub-region and as part of the Gulf Corporation Council (GCC), which are related to heritage. There are some initiatives with other Arab countries. **Yemen** notes that all stake holders and governmental authorities concerned, including Embassies, should work together, under the umbrella of Ministry of Culture and Environment in order to facilitate international cooperation concerning preservation and promotion of World Heritage.

Middle East sub-region: **Lebanon** recommends that there is need to undertake research and cultural and professional exchanges at regional or international levels. **Sudan** has cooperation with the UN agencies responsible for the protection and the preservation of the natural and the cultural heritage. More than 30 archaeological missions take the field every year according to bilateral agreements, or having limited projects, including: United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, USA, Hungary, Peru, Czech Republic. **Syria** notes that there is a need to have international cooperation in the preparation of Management Plans.

Maghreb sub-region: **Algeria** has participated in short courses and forums related to World Heritage. **Mauritania** mentions the UNESCO programme on cultural itineraries in Maghreb and Sub-Saharan Africa. **Morocco** notes that they participate in bilateral programmes with a number of States Parties, as well as in the EUROMED Heritage programme assisting in the identification, promotion and valorisation of heritage. **Tunisia** declares that international cooperation is fundamental in the conservation of cultural and natural heritage.

First Cycle on International Cooperation

In the First Cycle, nine out of 11 States Parties (82%) responded positively to the question regarding collaboration with other States Parties. Four States Parties (36%) had bilateral or multilateral activities for the conservation of WH properties. Two States Parties indicated that WH properties had been twinned to others.

Changes from Previous Cycle

International cooperation was one of the important features of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting. It was understood that there is a lot of potential, e.g. in professional exchange of experiences and training programmes.

11. EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND AWARENESS BUILDING

11.1. Media used for World Heritage sites promotion

Regarding the media used to promote World Heritage properties, several States Parties do not respond. However, Mauritania notes that there is an important programme of information, awareness raising and education organised in collaboration with the United Nations and ministerial departments related to culture. This is expected to offer positive results by 2011. Maghreb countries also mention the World Monument Day celebrations of 18 April.

11. Education Media	NA	Information	Awareness	Education	International	National	Regional	Local
Publications	0	13	12	11	8	13	6	8
Films, TV	0	11	11	7	8	13	7	9
Media campaigns	4	9	8	6	5	9	4	7
Internet	1	10	8	6	11	11	7	7
Postage, Stamps, Medals	7	3	4	2	2	6	1	3
World Heritage Day	9	4	4	4	2	5	3	5
Translation of WHC publications	8	6	3	1	1	4	1	1
Other	10	2	2	2	1	2	1	1

11.2.1 - Does the State Party have a strategy to raise awareness among different stakeholders about conservation, protection and presentation of World Heritage?

Regarding the frequency of education programmes, the Middle Eastern countries indicate organised school visits as the most outstanding form of education, followed by courses for students, activities of UNESCO Clubs and Youth forums. Some report that they do have strategies even though there are some deficiencies in implementation. However, most countries indicate that they have no strategies regarding awareness raising even though something is done on an ad hoc basis.

11.2.2 - Please rate the level of general awareness of the following audiences about World Heritage in your country

Regarding the general awareness about World Heritage, the highest rates of awareness are reported in Mauritania, Lebanon, Sudan, Syria and Bahrain. Of the different audiences, decision makers and tourism industry seem to stand out most positively. Middle East also indicates high rate of awareness among the young generation. The private sector stands out negatively, followed by indigenous peoples and the general public.

11.2.2 Level of Awareness	Good	Fair	Poor	None	NA
Private sector		5	8	1	
Youth		9	5		
Communities in/around site	2	6	4	1	1
Tourism industry	3	7	4		
Decision makers	7	4	3		
Indigenous peoples		4	3		7
General public		7	6	1	

11.2.3 - Does the State Party participate in UNESCO's World Heritage in Young Hands programme?

Five States Parties report that they participate in UNESCO's *World Heritage in Young Hands* programme (Oman, Egypt, Lebanon, Algeria, Morocco), and of these Oman has integrated the programme into its school curricula. Three States Parties report that they have intention to participate in the future (Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan), and six States Parties report that they do not participate.

11.2.4 - If yes, please rate the level of frequency of the following activities:

Regarding the five States Parties that already participate in the UNESCO programme, the frequency of the different initiatives is reported as follows:

- *Courses for teachers*: Oman regularly; Lebanon and Morocco often; Egypt occasionally;
- *Courses for students*: Lebanon and Morocco often; Oman occasionally;
- *Youth forums*: Algeria regularly; Lebanon and Morocco often; Oman once;
- *Skill training*: Egypt and Lebanon often; Morocco once;
- *School visits*: Mauritania often; Oman, Egypt, and Lebanon once;
- *UNESCO Club*: Lebanon and Morocco often; Oman and Egypt once.

Additional Comments (11.2.5)

Regarding the initiatives taken in the different States Parties, **Algeria** reports that there are programmes of promotion and awareness organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture; for example, the sectors of environment and tourism are developing a national strategy for the promotion of the cultural and natural heritage. **Morocco** considers the importance of stressing the economic value of heritage as an incentive for wealth and employment. It indicates that more importance should be placed on educating the young in order to create more conscientious future generations. **Mauritania** reports that the strategy being developed would take into account education, information and awareness building. **Syria** is concerned about many traditional arts lacking inheritors and subscribers.

First Cycle on Education and Awareness

In the First Cycle, nine out of 11 States Parties (82%) reported awareness-raising measures for decision-makers, property owners and the public on heritage protection. Three States Parties (27%) indicated that they had public-awareness programmes, and five (45%) participated in the UNESCO programme: 'Participation of Young People in the Preservation and Promotion of World Heritage'.

Changes from Previous Cycle

There is an increasing awareness of the need to inform and involve the local authorities and the local communities in the conservation management and maintenance processes of World Heritage properties. This awareness is reflected particularly at the site-management level, where the management are more closely in contact with the people.

12. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

12.1 - State Party's implementation of the World Heritage Convention

This section gives a summary of responses to previous points, regarding: the identification of heritage, inventories, Tentative Lists, Legal framework, integration of conventions, communities, larger-scale planning, status of services, research, resources, training, international cooperation, awareness building.

12.2. - Actions for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention

These are not indicated by the States Parties.

12.3. - Priority Actions Assessment

The following are indicated as priority actions:

- *Development of Inventories* (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Sudan, Syria);
- *Enforcement of legal regulations* (Bahrain, Egypt, Syria);
- *Coordination between legal instruments* (Jordan, Morocco, Oman, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia);
- *National strategy in conservation* (Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Syria);
- *Capacity building in conservation* (Iraq, Kuwait, Morocco, Sudan);
- *Training* (Egypt, Tunisia);
- *Increase Staff* (Lebanon);
- *Establish the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage* (Bahrain).

Additional Comments (12.3.3)

Gulf sub-region: **Bahrain** proposes the establishment of a Regional Centre concerning World Heritage in the Arab States. **Kuwait** notes that there is need to have better coordination between ministries and to improve acquisition of knowledge from scientific institutions. **Oman** reports that a high level coordination between all concerned authorities will be arranged to address the priority issues, as well as identifying proper actions indicating the timeframe and responsible authority for implementation. **Yemen** suggests that the role of the Focal Points should be strengthened with proper coordination and monitoring mechanisms between all responsible institutions.

Middle East sub-region: **Lebanon** stresses the importance of wider diffusion of information about World Heritage using different media. **Sudan** notes that there should be a coordinating agency linked with the ministries dealing with culture, youth, sport, tourism, wild life, environment, urban development and education. **Syria** reports that the cultural policy in the country is inadequate and resources are poor; therefore implementation is difficult.

Maghreb sub-region: **Morocco** notes that it would be important to integrate the implementation of international conventions into the organisational chart of the Ministry of Culture. **Mauritania** stresses the importance of raising awareness about World Heritage properties.

PART II

WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES: RESULTS OF SECTION II OF THE PERIODIC REPORTING QUESTIONNAIRE

1. WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY DATA

World Heritage Properties

From 1979 to 1982, there were 24 properties in the Arab Region inscribed on the World Heritage List. Another group of 19 nominations were inscribed in the 1980s. Only few properties were inscribed in the 1990s. Since 2000, 14 properties have been inscribed at a rate of one to two sites per year.

The natural heritage site of Arabian Oryx Sanctuary (Oman), which was inscribed in 1994, was delisted by the decision of the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session, in 2007 (Decision 31COM 7B.11):

[...]

12. Concludes with regret that, having further consulted IUCN and being convinced that as a result of the reduction of the Sanctuary under Omani Law, the property has deteriorated to the extent that it has lost its Outstanding Universal Value and integrity;

13. Decides to delete the Arabian Oryx Sanctuary (Oman) from the World Heritage List.

At present, the Arab Region has 65 properties on the World Heritage List, including the Old City of Jerusalem. During the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting, reports have been received on 59 properties in 15 States Parties. Reports were not received on the five properties in Libya; Jerusalem was not considered in the exercise.

The 59 properties on which reports were received are here classified as follows:

- **Natural heritage:** 4 (7%)
- **Archaeological sites:** 28 (47%)
- **Cities:** 17 (29%)
- **Other types:** 10, including **one Mixed Cultural-Natural Heritage** property (17%)

The properties are distributed in the sub-regions as follows:

- **The 'Gulf sub-region' (10):** Bahrain 1; Oman 4; Saudi Arabia 1; Yemen 4;
- **The 'Middle East sub-region' (24):** Egypt 7; Iraq 3; Jordan 3; Lebanon 5; Sudan 1; Syria 5;
- **The 'Maghreb sub-region' (25):** Algeria 7; Mauritania 2; Morocco 8; Tunisia 8.

17 of the 59 World Heritage properties have been inscribed as serial. One of them is 'natural heritage'; twelve are 'archaeological sites', three are 'cities', and one is here classified as 'other'. The list is given in the order of the year of inscription.

Name of Property	State	Type	Inscribed	Component parts
Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis	Egypt	Archaeo.	1979	3
Historic Cairo	Egypt	City	1979	5
Memphis and its Necropolis; the Pyramid fields from Giza to Dahshur	Egypt	Archaeo.	1979	2
Nubian Monuments from Abu Simbel to Philae	Egypt	Archaeo.	1979	10
Tipasa	Algeria	Archaeo.	1982	3
Medina of Marrakesh	Morocco	City	1985	2
Archaeological Sites of Bat, Al-Khutm and Al-Ayn	Oman	Archaeo.	1988	3
Ancient Ksour of Ouadane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata	Mauritania	Archaeo.	1996	4
Land of Frankincense	Oman	Archaeo.	2000	4
Medina of Essaouira (formerly Mogador)	Morocco	City	2001	2
Gebel Barkal and the sites of the Napatan Region	Sudan	Archaeo.	2003	5
Um er-Rasas (Kastrom Mefa'a)	Jordan	Archaeo.	2004	2
Qal'at al-Bahrain; ancient Harbour and Capital of Dilmun	Bahrain	Archaeo.	2005	2
Aflaj Irrigation Systems of Oman	Oman	Archaeo.	2006	5
Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din	Syrian AR	Other	2006	2
Samarra Archaeological City	Iraq	Archaeo.	2007	10
Socotra Archipelago	Yemen	Nature	2008	18

List of World Heritage in Danger

So far, seven out of the 59 World Heritage properties reported in the 2nd Cycle have been or are on the List of World Heritage in Danger. The following list gives the properties currently included as well as those that have been but are now removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger:

- **Abu Mena** (Egypt), World Heritage in 1979, **In-Danger List since 2001** due to a land-reclamation programme and irrigation scheme which have caused a dramatic rise in the water table, and the destruction of cisterns and collapse of overlying structures.
- **Ashur** (Qal'at Sherqat) (Iraq); World Heritage in 2003; **In-Danger List since 2003** due to proposed construction of a large irrigation dam downstream of the archaeological site;
- **Bahla Fort** (Oman), World Heritage in 1987, **In-Danger List from 1988 to 2004** due to deterioration of traditional fabric and lack of proper management plan.
- Historic Town of **Zabid** (Yemen), World Heritage in 1993; **In-Danger List since 2000** due to deterioration of old buildings and replacement by concrete buildings; original urban fabric losing its character; lack of technical or financial support.
- **Ichkeul National Park** (Tunisia), World Heritage in 1980, **In-Danger List from 1996 to 2006** due to the construction of dams that had a devastating impact on the wetland values;
- **Samarra Archaeological City** (Iraq); World Heritage in 2007; **In-Danger List since 2007**; problems caused by abandonment, political instability, and military occupation.

- **Tipasa** (Algeria), World Heritage in 1982; **In-Danger List from 2002 to 2006** due to: deterioration of the archaeological vestiges; impact of uncontrolled visitation and urban development; lack of monitoring, means and personnel.

NB: The Old City of **Jerusalem** and its Walls, World Heritage in 1981, on the Danger List since 1982, has not been considered in the present Periodic Reporting exercise.

First Cycle on Inscribed Properties

The 1st Cycle of the Periodic Reporting included reports of 39 properties out of 44 inscribed in the period from 1978 to 1992. During this period, of the properties concerned in the Periodic Report only one was inscribed on the World Heritage In-Danger List: Bahla Fort (Oman), as well as Jerusalem, which was not reported in this Cycle.

Changes from Previous Cycle

From 1993 to 2008, 22 new properties were inscribed on the World Heritage List. Since 1993, six more were included on the In-Danger List, making a total of seven, plus Jerusalem. Three of these have since been removed from this List due to successful conservation and management actions.

2. STATEMENT OF OUTSTANDING VALUE

The basic requirement for inscription of properties to the World Heritage List is their Outstanding Universal Value. In 2005, the revised *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* included the following definition of Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

155. *The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should include a summary of the Committee's determination that the property has outstanding universal value, identifying the criteria under which the property was inscribed, including the assessments of the conditions of integrity or authenticity, and of the requirements for protection and management in force. The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value shall be the basis for the future protection and management of the property.*

The Committee's decisions regarding the first inscriptions to the World Heritage List only included a mention of the numbers of the criteria. Later on, more details were provided and justification was outlined for each criterion.

As from 2007, the World Heritage Committee has inscribed properties while adopting at the same time a *Statement of Outstanding Universal Value*, which includes a brief description of the property and its qualities, justification of the criteria, as well as statements regarding the conditions of its integrity, authenticity, protection and management. Consequently, three properties in the Arab States were inscribed with a full Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (Socotra, Samarra and Al Higr).

At its 31st session, the World Heritage Committee, recognising the crucial importance of these Statements, requested that Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value be drafted for all World Heritage properties inscribed prior to 2007 (decision **31 COM 11 D.1**), para.7: *Recognizing the pivotal importance of Statements of Outstanding Universal Value in all World Heritage processes, urges States Parties, in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to prepare all missing Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for properties in their territory before the launching of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting in their Region.*

Ideally, such Statements should be drafted and approved by the World Heritage Committee before starting the Periodic Reporting exercise. Considering the time constraints, the Arab States Parties had to draft these Statements while responding to the Periodic Reporting questionnaire. Fifty retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value (out of 61 requested) have been drafted by the States Parties and 42 considered as complete for onwards revision by the Advisory Bodies (see Document *WHC-10/34.COM 8E*). The exercise has shown that the Outstanding Universal

Value of several properties needed to be redefined in order to better represent their qualities and specificity.

Of the 59 properties concerned in the present report, 35 properties (59%) are said to have their OUV maintained, authenticity preserved, integrity intact, and other values predominantly intact. In 10 properties (17%), OUV has been impacted but the situation is being addressed through effective management actions. In one property (Abu Mena), the OUV has been seriously impacted, but the report indicates that the situation can be or is being addressed through management. Seven properties (12%) report that their authenticity has been compromised; in one case seriously. Nine properties (15%) report that their integrity has been compromised; in two cases seriously. Sixteen properties (27%) indicate that the other values have been impacted but are being addressed through management; in one property these values are seriously impacted. The situation of the In-Danger List is reported as follows:

- **Abu Mena** (Egypt), In-Danger List from 2001; authenticity and integrity are seriously compromised; the OUV of the property has been seriously impacted by factors described in the report, and also other important heritage values are degraded.
- **Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat)** (Iraq); In-Danger List from 2003; the authenticity is reported to be preserved, and the integrity of the property is intact; OUV has been maintained, and other important heritage values are predominantly intact.
- **Historic Town of Zabid** (Yemen), In-Danger List from 2000; both authenticity and integrity of the property are reported compromised. Moreover, the report notes that OUV '*has been impacted by factors described in this report, but this situation is being addressed through effective management actions*'.
- **Samarra Archaeological City** (Iraq); In-Danger List from 2007; the authenticity is reported to be preserved, and the integrity of the property is intact; OUV has been maintained, and other important heritage values are predominantly intact.

First Cycle on statements of value, authenticity and integrity

In the First Cycle, 34 out of 39 properties (87%) were reported to have maintained the values under which they were inscribed; five did not respond. In 29 properties (74%), their authenticity and integrity were reported to have been retained; six were reported negatively. In eight properties, changes were expected in the future.

Changes from Previous Cycle

Comparing the reports of the first cycle with the second cycle, more properties seem to have been impacted in their OUV, authenticity and integrity. While in the first cycle only one property of those concerned here was on the In-Danger List, six more sites were inscribed since 1993. However, three properties have been removed from the In-Danger List during the second cycle.

3. FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROPERTIES

The factors affecting World Heritage properties are complex and depend on many causes. It is therefore not easy to summarise them. The following is an attempt to highlight the most significant factors, especially when their impact is reported as increasing.

Natural Heritage: There are only four natural heritage properties in the Arab States, plus one mixed site. The factors that are reported to have a significant negative impact include water infrastructure and land conversion. The former has an increasing trend, while the latter is

decreasing. To these can be added livestock farming, which is static. Furthermore, also drought and desertification are present, of which the former is increasing and the latter static. National parks have an increasing problem with wild plant collection. The other issues mentioned are minor or not significant. Most of them are decreasing or static, including, e.g., military training, which is decreasing. The impact of tourism is not yet considered significant even though it is increasing.

Archaeological sites form the majority of World Heritage in the Arab States. Building and commercial developments as well as the construction of infrastructures are having a significant negative impact on a number of them. In some cases, the trend is static, in others it may be increasing. Problems of solid waste are present in some properties, but this is mostly seen as a minor problem. Surface or ground water pollution are a problem particularly in Abu Mena and Ancient Thebes (Egypt), but in both cases, management is reported to have high response capacity. In biological resource use, the impact of land conversion and livestock farming are having an increasing impact on some properties, as well as quarrying and water extraction. The local conditions have a negative impact on several properties, including the impact of wind, relative humidity, dust, pests, temperature, water, and micro-organisms. Changes in social and cultural uses are reported on several properties to result in the loss of identity. Generally, changes in traditional life style and the society's capacity of valuing heritage are indicated as increasingly significant challenges that are difficult to meet by the current management. Illegal activities have an increasing impact on several properties. Military training, war and terrorism are also mentioned.

Historic Cities: Seventeen historic cities of the Arab States have been inscribed on the World Heritage List. The problems that are faced here range from housing and commercial development to ground water pollution, the impact of local physical conditions, and the changes in ways of traditional life. The control of new housing development and illegal destruction of traditional housing are seen as problems in several historic urban areas, including in Zabid (Yemen), which is on the In-Danger List. In certain cities, this is also associated with accommodation of visitors, as well as commercial and industrial developments. Effects arising from the use of transport infrastructure as well as from localised and major linear utilities are added to these. Pollution from solid waste, from ground and surface-water, as well as from air pollution forms another group of problems. Regarding the local conditions, relative humidity is indicated as significant in several historic towns, often associated with pests and micro organisms. Changes in traditional ways of life and consequent loss of the society's capacity to value heritage and identity, can be associated with globalisation and the negative impacts of tourism and recreation. Deliberate destruction of heritage is indicated as significant in some cities. Terrorism is reported having increasingly significant impact in Shibam, where management has medium response capacity. Climate change is reported as the cause of flooding; storms, temperature change, and drought. To these can be added avalanches or landslides and erosion in some areas.

Other Types of Heritage: Under the heading: "other" (although this terminology is not appropriate), the remaining "isolated" properties have been grouped, which include the Mixed Natural-Cultural Site of Tassili n'Ajer (Algeria) and several monumental ensembles. The problems range from physical problems affecting the structural integrity to the management of the context, and are similar to those already listed above. Thus, control of housing development and transport, increasing pollution, and the impact of local conditions, such as micro-organisms are noted by several sites. Changes in traditional ways of life and consequent problems to management are present here too, as well as the impact of climate change and severe weather events.

First Cycle on Factors affecting Properties

In the First Cycle, 26 out of 39 properties (67%) were considered at risk of natural catastrophes affecting the integrity of the site. The Periodic Reports demonstrated that the authorities responsible for the heritage at the property level were largely concerned by the effects of development on the visual and structural integrity of the properties, in 23 (59%) and 21 (54%) cases respectively. Amongst the factors affecting the visual integrity of the site, the reports often

mentioned illegal constructions and the deterioration of natural landscapes surrounding the properties.

Changes from Previous Cycle

The questionnaire of the Second Cycle is much more detailed than in the First Cycle. It proposes to prepare a point of reference for the site managers, taking into account the negative as well as the positive impacts. It is noted that there is increasing awareness of the threats that come from the outside of the actual World Heritage area, whether concerning the pressures from development, from general planning strategies, or from environmental causes.

4. PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING OF THE PROPERTY

4.1 Boundaries of World Heritage Property and Buffer Zone

4.1.1 - Buffer Zone status

4.1.2. - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain OUV?

4.1.3. - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain OUV?

At the present, 43 out of 59 properties (73%) have a buffer zone. Six properties (10%) do not have a buffer zone and note that one is not needed. Ten properties (17%) have no buffer zone, but indicate that there is a need for one. In 29 properties (49%), the boundaries and buffer zones are considered adequate to maintain OUV. In the case of 9 properties (15%), the definition of buffer zones could be improved, and in one the lack of appropriate buffer zone makes it difficult to maintain OUV.

4.1.1 Buffer zone status	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
There is a buffer zone	42	74%	6	20	16
There is no buffer zone and it is not needed	6	11%		1	5
There is no buffer zone but it is needed	9	16%	3	3	4
4.1.2 Adequacy of WH Boundaries	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Boundaries are adequate to maintain OUV	45	78%	7	19	19
Boundaries do not limit maintaining OUV	12	21%	2	4	6
Boundaries have inadequacies re. OUV	1	2%		1	
4.1.3. Adequacy of Buffer Zone	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Buffer zones are adequate for OUV	29	50%	4	14	11
Bz do not limit OUV but could be improved	9	16%	1	4	4
Inadequacies in buffer zones	1	2%		2	
No buffer zone when inscribed	19	33%	4	5	9

4.1.4. - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

4.1.5. - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

In the case of 44 properties (75%), the boundaries of the World Heritage area are reported to be known by the local community as well as by the management authority. In the case of 26 properties (44%), also the buffer zone boundaries are known by both.

Additional Comments (4.1.6)

Gulf sub-region: **Oman** is in the process of verifying the buffer zones of the Bahla Fort as part of the Management Plan, as well as the buffer zones of the Archaeological Sites of Bat (etc.). In the case of Aflaj Irrigation Systems, Oman reports that the buffer zone is too far away from the communities for them to know the boundaries. **Yemen** indicates that they are in the process of defining the buffer zones for the historic towns of Zabid, Sana'a and Shibam.

Middle East sub-region: **Egypt** is in the process of verifying and adopting the buffer zones for Abu Mena and the Ancient Thebes, as well as indicating the boundaries of Saint Catherine Area. The buffer zone of Wadi Al-Hitan area is to be extended to enclose further relic areas. **Iraq** indicates that the buffer zone of Ashur needs to be marked. Jordan is proposing to verify the buffer zones of Petra and Quseir Amra. **Lebanon** declares that all their properties need to have clear buffer zones established with proper regulations. **Syria** proposes to modify the buffer zone of Bosra to be more compatible with local needs. In Palmyra this was done in 2008. Also the buffer zone of Damascus is in process, as well as the second buffer zone of Saladin's Castle. **Sudan** is preparing maps indicating all boundaries in order to inform all stakeholders and to guarantee that the boundaries be respected in any future development.

Maghreb sub-region: In **Algeria**, the buffer zones of Timgad and of the three sites of Tipasa (two parks and the mausoleum) have been defined. In the case of M'Zab Valley, the conservation plan is in process and will contribute to the definition of regulations for surrounding areas. In **Mauritania**, the buffer zone of Banc d'Arguin needs to be defined. **Morocco** indicates that measures are required to inform all stakeholders of the boundaries and related regulations in the case of the Portuguese City of Mazagan. In **Tunisia**, the buffer zones of the Amphitheatre El Jem and of Dougga need verification. The Management Plan prepared for Ichkeul in 2007 indicates the appropriate buffer zone. The boundaries of Kairouan and the Medina of Tunis need to be redefined. The boundaries of the Medina of Sousse need to be presented and made known to the local authorities and residents in order to improve the land-use control also in the surrounding area.

First Cycle on Boundaries

In the First Cycle, 31 out of 39 properties (79%) were considered to have appropriate boundaries, and 32 properties (82%) reported that the Buffer Zone boundaries were appropriate. An extension was being considered in 3 properties.

Changes from Previous Cycle

The preparation of the retrospective Statements of OUV and the Periodic Reporting have given the incentive and opportunity to again recognise and specify the significance and values of the World Heritage properties. At the same time, the boundaries of several properties are also being verified and redefined. The process is expected to improve the protection of the World Heritage areas and result in better land-use control of the buffer zones and surrounding areas.

4.2 Protective Measures

4.2.1. - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and/or traditional)

This question seeks information about the primary basis for the protection of the inscribed property; please identify whether the protection is primarily the legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and/ or traditional status of the property. The responses reflect the specific situation in the case of each property.

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) is considered to be adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the World Heritage property in 27 out of 58 properties (47%). In 25 properties (43%) there are deficiencies in implementation. In six cases the legal framework is reported to be inadequate: Shibam, Zabid, Sana'a, Bosra, Crac des Chevaliers, Medina of Tunis.

4.2.2 Legal Framework in WH Area	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Adequate	27	47%	2	4	21
Some deficiencies	25	43%	4	18	3
Inadequate	6	10%	3	2	1

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the property?

In 19 cases (33%), also the Buffer Zone is considered to have adequate legal framework; in 20 (34%) there are reported deficiencies in implementation, and in 3 properties the buffer zone lacks adequate legal protection: Bosra, Aleppo, Crac des Chevaliers.

4.2.3 Legal Framework in Buffer Zone	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Adequate	19	33%	3	4	12
Some deficiencies	20	34%	2	12	6
Inadequate	3	5%		3	
No Buffer Zone when inscribed	16	28%	4	5	7

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework in the **area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone** is considered adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the property in 27 out of 58 properties (47%). In 22 (38%) some deficiencies are reported in implementation. In six cases, the legal framework is considered inadequate: Zabid, Sana'a, Damascus, Bosra, Wadi Al-Hitan, and Marrakesh. In the case of three properties, there is no legal framework outside the World Heritage area and buffer zone: Shibam, Quseir, and M'Zab Valley.

4.2.4 Legal Framework outside	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Adequate	27	47%	2	9	16
Some deficiencies	22	38%	4	11	7
Inadequate	6	10%	2	3	1
No Legal Framework	3	5%	1	1	1

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) be enforced?

In 11 out of 58 properties (19%), the properties are considered to have excellent **capacity and resources to enforce** legislation and regulations in the World Heritage property: Al-Hijr, Palmyra, Hatra, Saint Catherine, Abu Mena, Timgad, Al Qal'a of the Beni Hamad, Fez, Tassili n'Ajjer, Kerkouane, Ichkeul National Park. At 46 properties (79%) the enforcement of legal framework is acceptable. One property reports major deficiencies: Kasbah of Algiers.

4.2.5 Enforcement of Legal Framework	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Excellent	11	19%	1	4	6
Acceptable	46	79%	8	20	18
Major deficiencies	1	2%			1
No capacity/Resources	0	0%			

Additional Comments (4.2.6)

It is noted in some cases that even though a site may have the legal provisions in place, there are cases where these are not upheld.

Gulf sub-region: In **Oman**, a new law for the protection of Aflaj Irrigation Systems is being finalised. **Yemen** is concerned about slow process for the legal protection of the historic towns of Zabid and Sana'a.

Middle East sub-region: **Iraq** notes that the site managers of Ashur and Hatra should be legally authorised to act independently. **Syria** notes that the legislation for the conservation of World Heritage properties is inadequate for the present situation, and would need to be updated.

Maghreb sub-region: In **Algeria**, the regulations for the protection of Kasbah of Algiers are being finalised. In Tipasa, the protection is defined 200m outside the boundaries of the World Heritage area. In **Morocco**, in the case of Ksar of Ait-Ben Haddou, while the regulations per se are adequate, there are problems in enforcement. In Morocco, regarding the medinas of Essaouira, Fez, Marrakesh, Mazagan, and Volubilis, the local authorities and population should be better informed in order to guarantee legal enforcement and better implementation of the protection measures. In Meknes, the regulations date from 1913 and need urgent updating. In Tetouan, the regulations are currently being finalised, and are expected to improve the situation. In **Tunisia**, attention is drawn for the need of a conservation master plan (*Plan de Sauvegarde et de Mise en Valeur*, PSMV) for the historic urban areas, in particular Kairouan and Sousse.

First Cycle on Legal Framework

In the First Cycle, 100% of properties were considered to have been inscribed within an effective legal or institutional framework, including management mechanisms and/or planning control.

Changes from Previous Cycle

Notwithstanding the optimistic statement of 100% protection in the First Cycle, the current Periodic Reporting has shown that there are lacunae in the legal framework and its enforcement. As a result, there has been a general move by the professionals and authorities involved in World Heritage to update the legal framework and improve its enforcement. In several cases, the legal processes are on-going or being finalised at the present.

4.3 Management System and Plan

4.3.1. - Management System

This question seeks information about the various management tools used to help protect the inscribed property. (Details are not included in this summary.)

4.3.2. - Management Documents

This section lists the current known documents for management; e.g. any of the documents listed in 4.3.1 above that are currently in force, or in the process of approval or revision for your World Heritage property. (Details are not included in this summary.)

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national/ federal; regional/ provincial/ state; local/municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

Regarding the coordination between institutions involved in the management, 16 out of 58 report excellent, 40 that it could be improved.

4.3.3 Coordination?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Excellent coordination	16	28%	3	2	10
Could be improved	40	69%	6	21	13
Little or none	2	3%		1	1

4.3.4 - Is the management system/plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The system is reported to be fully adequate in 17 properties out of 58, and partially adequate in 26 properties, amounting together to 74%. There is no system in 12 properties, and in three it is not adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value.

4.3.4 System in place?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
System is fully adequate	17	29%	2	7	8
Partially adequate	26	45%	5	13	8
Not Adequate	3	5%		1	2
No System	12	21%	2	3	7

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

At the following 15 out of 58 properties the management systems exists and is fully implemented and monitored: Frankincense, Al-Hijr, Nubian Monuments, Memphis, St. Catherine, Ashur, Hatra, Samarra, Aleppo, Djémila, Timgad, Tassili n'Ajjer, El Jem, Ichkeul National Park, Punic Town of Kerkouane. At 31 properties, the management system is partly implemented. In 12 cases, there is no management system in place: Bat, Sana'a, Zabid, Damascus, Crac des Chevaliers, Palmyra, Essaouira, Meknes, Fez, Tetouan, Mazagan, Volubilis.

4.3.5 Implementation?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Fully Implemented	15	26%	2	7	6
Partially Implemented	31	53%	4	14	13
Not Implemented	0	0%			
No System	12	21%	3	3	6

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work/action plan and is it being implemented?

At 9 properties there is an annual action plan, which is fully implemented: Land of Frankincense, Al-Hijr, Saint Catherine Area, Aleppo, Timgad, Tassili n'Ajjer, Volubilis, Ichkeul National Park, Punic Town of Kerkouane. At 31 properties the plan exists and many activities are carried out, in 14 cases only few activities are carried out. Four properties have no annual plans.

4.3.6 Annual Work Plan?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
All Activities implemented	9	16%	2	2	5
Many Activities done	31	53%	2	12	17
Few Activities	14	24%	3	9	2
No Plan exists but it is needed	2	3%	1		1
No Plan	2	3%	1	1	

4.3.7. - *Please rate the cooperation/relationship of the following with World Heritage property managers/coordinators/staff*

The management system is based on the cooperation or relationship with several groups of potential stakeholders: local communities/residents, local/municipal authorities, indigenous peoples, landowners, visitors, researchers, tourism industry, industry. According to the reports, the most relevant groups include researchers, the municipal authorities, visitors and community residents, while industry, indigenous peoples and tourism are less present.

4.3.7 Cooperation	Commun	Municip	Indigen	Owners	Visitors	Research	Tourism	Industry
Good	13	19	7	8	25	37	12	1
Fair	30	31	17	21	19	16	19	4
Poor	12	7	5	13	8	5	15	12
None	2	1	3	6	3	0	6	9
NA	1	0	26	10	3	0	6	32
Good + Fair	43	50	24	29	44	53	31	5
	74%	86%	41%	50%	76%	91%	53%	9%

Local communities are reported to have good cooperation in the archaeological sites of Bat - Al-Khutm - Al-Ayn, Al-Hijr, Anjar, Abu Mena, the Ksour of Mauritania, Timgad, Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou, Tassili n'Ajjer; in the historic cities of Shibam, Damascus, and Marrakesh, as well as in the natural heritage properties of Banc d'Arguin, and Wadi Al-Hitan.

Indigenous peoples are indicated having good cooperation in Al-Hijr, Ksour of Mauritania, Tyre, Abu Mena, Kairouan, Shibam, and Wadi Al-Hitan.

Visitors are indicated as having good cooperation in several archaeological properties. In case of cities, good cooperation with visitors is reported in Damascus, Marrakesh, Tetouan, and Mazagan.

4.3.8. - *If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and/or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?*

It is noted that no local community is resident in or near three properties: Al-Hijr, Quseir Amra, Wadi Al-Hitan. In the case of four properties, the local community is indicated as participating directly in all relevant decisions relating to management (Mazagan, Tassili, Thebes, Ichkeul). The local community contributes to some decisions in the cities of Tétouan and Shibam, as well as in Ksar Ait-Ben-Haddou, the Aflaj systems, the Ksour of Mauritania, and Banc d'Arguin.

4.3.8 Local Community	All Propert.	%	Arch. Site	City	Other	Nature
Participate directly	4	7%	1	1	1	1
Contribute to some decisions	6	10%		2	3	1
Some input	28	48%	14	10	4	
Little or no input	17	29%	11	4	2	
No local community	3	5%	2			1

4.3.9. - *If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and/or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?*

For twenty properties (34%), it is indicated that there are no indigenous peoples associated with the site. There are three properties, where the indigenous peoples are indicated as participating in all relevant decisions: Ksour of Mauritania, Tassili n'Ajjer and Ichkeul National Park. The indigenous peoples contribute to some decisions in: Kairouan, Marrakesh, Petra, the Aflaj systems, and Banc d'Arguin.

4.3.9 Indigenous peoples	All Propert.	%	Arch. Site	City	Other	Nature
Participate in all relevant decisions	3	5%			2	1
Contribute to some decisions	5	9%		2	2	1
Some input	15	26%	8	5	2	
Little or no input	15	26%	9	4	2	
No indigenous people	20	34%	11	6	2	1

4.3.10. - *Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and/or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?*

It can be noted that for 33 properties (57%), it is indicated that there is not contact with any kind of industry. On the other hand, six properties are reported to have regular contacts and cooperation. Three of these are archaeological sites: Nubian Monuments, Thebes and Palmyra; two properties are historic cities: Damascus and Shibam, and one is a natural heritage site: Ichkeul National Park.

4.3.10 Cooperation /Industry	All Propert.	%	Arch. Site	City	Other	Nature
Regular contact/cooperation	6	10%	3	2		1
Some cooperation	14	24%	5	5	4	
Little or no cooperation	5	9%	2	1	1	1
No contact	33	57%	18	9	5	1

Additional Comments (4.3.11/12)

Gulf sub-region:

Bahrain reports that the principal problem is coordination between stakeholders; the Steering Committee meets rather infrequently. In **Oman**, the finalised Management Plan of the Fort of Bahla will provide an effective Action Plan. **Yemen** stresses the importance and urgency of involving stakeholders to guarantee sustainable conservation management in Sana'a and Zabid, where however several major steps have been taken to avoid further decline of the properties.

Middle East sub-region:

Egypt reports that there are regular meetings and coordination between the stakeholders in the case of the Nubian Monuments and Saint Catherine Area. Egypt reports that there is on-going process to improve heritage legislation, which is expected to be adopted by the Parliament and implemented as soon as possible. **Iraq** stresses the need to involve the local population in the management process (Ashur). **Lebanon** urges the implementation of the management plans (Baalbek, Byblos, Ouadi Qadisha, Tyre). In Baalbek the zoning plan has been modified, in Byblos and in Tyre there are new urban master plans. In **Sudan**, the regional development plan obliges the national authorities to reinforce the legal and management tools for Gebel Barkal. Sudan also notes that the management plan of Gebel Barkal is not implemented properly due to lack of vision by local authorities, shortage of personnel, lack of funding and training.

Syria reports that the integrated process for the rehabilitation of the historic town has improved the quality of life, increased the opportunities for local economic development, and strengthened the cultural identity of the old city of Aleppo. Also the Committee for Industry has participated in the decision-making process. Presently the aim is to integrate the Old City of Aleppo into an overall strategy of urban development. In Bosra, a Protection Committee has been established in 2007 to guide the implementation of the master plan; the first phase has now been completed. Syria also notes that the Antiquities law lacks proper instruments for enforcement (Damascus). In the case of Crac des Chevaliers and Saladin Fortress, there exists a yearly conservation plan. However, there is need for a broader vision and involvement of the local population in the process. Also in Palmyra, it is noted that the involvement of local population and the private sector is essential for good management.

Maghreb sub-region:

In **Algeria**, the Kasbah of Algiers has been declared a *Secteur Sauvegardé* in 2005, involving 45ha. Presently, the State is taking emergency measures. However, the involvement of and the collaboration with the local population is considered a necessity. In Tipasa, an annual action plan has been prepared by the management office including regular maintenance and upkeep for the site. The first phase is complete, and the finalisation is expected in 2010. In Tassili n'Ajjer, the legal framework has been strengthened, including the creation of new guardian system. At the same time, it is proposed to improve the management plan so as to better take into account the cultural-natural specificities of the site.

In **Mauritania**, the new heritage law gives better guarantees for protection. The full implementation of the management plan of the Ksour is waiting for the approval of the fund for the conservation of historic urban areas. However, various activities are already being carried out. The exploration of petrol in the region is expected to contribute to improve living conditions in the Ksour. Regarding the Park of Banc d'Arguin, there are new decrees from 2000 and 2006 changing the management responsibilities, which also includes participatory activities. At the same time, there is debate regarding the impact of mining on heritage resources in the region.

In **Morocco**, the Ksar of Ait-Ben Haddou is listed as 'national heritage' in 2004. A management plan is in preparation here as well as in the Archaeological Site of Volubilis. In Meknes, management plan is in preparation. In the Medina of Essaouira, a new authority has been created for better planning and control in the urban area. At the same time, it is regretted that a local programme for rehabilitation has been discontinued. There is an urgent need to prepare and implement a management plan, which should be based on an improved collaboration between the authorities and stakeholders. Management plans are also required for Marrakesh and Tétouan. In Meknes, the World Heritage inscription has contributed to better awareness of the civil society, NGOs as well as decision makers.

In **Tunisia**, the management of Kairouan is entirely in the hands of the Association de la Sauvegarde de la Medina; the property owners are only assisting in financing. In the case of Dougga, it is noted that the participation of the local authorities as well as the indigenous population is fundamental for the preservation of the property. In the medinas of Sousse and Tunis, the management system and plan are not sufficient and need urgent renewal.

First Cycle on Management

In the First Cycle, 19 out of 39 properties (49%) were reported to be managed at the site level, nine (23%) at the local level, and 14 (36%) at the central administration level. Six properties (15%) had a functional management plan; 20 (51%) reported that this was in preparation or being updated. Consultation involved local population in nine properties (23%). Consultation used existing human resources in 14 properties (36%). It included regular monitoring in 23 properties (59%). Local population was involved in the implementation of the management plan in 13 properties (33%).

Changes from Previous Cycle

The Second Cycle questionnaire and added comments have given a much more detailed picture of the situation of legal protection in World Heritage properties. Indeed, it can be observed that there have been many changes for the better. In several properties there is new legislation and new management plans are being implemented. At the same time, it is noted that there are also properties without a proper management plan, or where the implementation of such plans suffers from lack of collaboration between the different levels of administration. Furthermore, the comments by States Parties have brought out great awareness of the need to empower and involve the local population in the management process as a vital element for the success of such processes.

4.4 Financial and Human Resources

Financial Resources

Regarding the assessment of the financial resources, six out of 59 properties (10%) were reported to have a sufficient budget for effective management to international standards. In 32 properties (54%), the budget was considered acceptable, but could be improved. 16 (27%) considered the available budget inadequate, presenting serious constraints, and five had no budget though it would be needed. Regarding future funding, 48 properties (81%) indicate that the existing sources of funding were secure in the medium-term planning, and planning was underway to secure funding in the long term.

The financial resources to the conservation and management of World Heritage in the Arab States come mostly from the State Government. On the second level are regional and local governments, multilateral funding and international donations. In 12 properties (21%), no fees are collected. In seven, fees are collected and they make a substantial contribution to the management of the property; in 22 (38%) the fees provide some contribution. In 15 fees are collected, but do not contribute to the management budget.

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (Do not provide monetary figures but the relative percentage of the funding sources)

The following table gives the average percentage per sub-region of the figures indicated in the budgets of the properties, based on the average of the past five years.

4.4.1 - Type of Funding	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Multilateral		8%	4%
International Donations	9%	9%	3%
National Government	79%	55%	68%
Regional Government	1%	6%	14%
Local Authority	2%	18%	8%
In-country donations, NGO	9%	1%	1%
Visitor charges			2%
Commercial operators			
Other grants	2%	3%	

Comparing the different types of properties, i.e. Archaeological Sites, Cities, Nature and Other, it can be observed that the central government funding dominates in all categories. This is particularly the case with archaeological sites and the category of 'Other', which includes several national monuments. Nevertheless, dealing with natural heritage sites, there are also international multilateral funds and international donations, as well as some regional and local authority contributions. In the case of historic cities, the contributions of the local and regional authorities have a role in the budget. In addition, there are some international donations.

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

In the case of 32 properties the budget is acceptable, while in six the managers consider that more funding would help to improve the efficiency of managing the World Heritage property. Together this amounts to 65%. There is no budget in five properties, and 15 report that it is inadequate.

4.4.3 - Is current budget sufficient?	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Sufficient but more funding needed	6	10%	1	2	3
Budget is acceptable	32	55%	4	10	18
Budget is inadequate	15	26%	4	8	3
There is no budget	5	9%		4	1

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

Some 81% of the properties declare that the funding is secure. This question may be interpreted in the framework of the funding resource, which is most the National Government.

4.4.4 - Existing sources secure?	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Funding is secure	47	81%	6	17	24
Not Secure	11	19%	3	7	1

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

While most sustainable funding comes from the government, 17 properties (29%) report a major flow of economic benefits to local communities. In 27 (47%) there is some flow; in 12 (20%) the potential is recognised, and in two there are no economic benefits to local community.

4.4.5 - Economic benefits to local community?	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Major flow of benefits	17	29%	1	5	11
Some flow of benefits	27	47%	2	15	10
Potential benefits	12	21%	6	2	4
No economic benefits	2	3%		2	

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

The following table shows that almost all properties have some equipment, even though some 34% indicate that this is inadequate. Maintenance of the equipment is reported to be well done only in eight properties, while the others content with basic or ad hoc maintenance, and 4 properties indicate no maintenance.

4.4.6 - Equipment sufficient?	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Adequate equipment	12	21%	3	3	6
Some equipment but constrains to management	21	36%	3	5	13
Some equipment but overall inadequate	20	34%	3	12	5
Little or no equipment	1	2%			1
4.4.7 - Maintenance of equipment?	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Equipment is well maintained	8	14%	2	1	5
Basic maintenance	30	52%	3	11	16
Ad hoc maintenance	16	28%	4	8	4
Little or no maintenance	4	7%		4	

Additional Comments on Finances (4.4.8)

Gulf sub-region: In **Bahrain**, it is noted that while government funding has secured the long-term conservation, private contributions are also required in the future.

Middle East sub-region: **Egypt** reports that for Saint Catherine Area there is an EU funded project related to site management and handicrafts. **Sudan** has no defined budget allocated for Gebel Barkal, but the State sometimes releases funds for urgent needs. It is proposed ways be searched to use funds from tourism for the conservation and management of the property. **Syria** reports that the existing sources of funding from Aleppo City Council are sustainable. In the case of Bosra, it is noted that the Syrian State administration is complicated and centrally managed with limited resources with the exception of restoration.

Maghreb sub-region: In **Algeria**, decisions have been taken regarding finances of Kasbah d'Alger. Much will depend on the future management plan. Tassili has a programme for the preservation of biological diversity, financed by the Government and GEF. In Tipasa the only funding is coming from the State apart from some assistance from UNESCO. In M'Zab Valley, there is a government programme for a regional museum, an interpretation centre, a house of culture, and an office for the protection and promotion of the Valley. In **Mauritania**, there are various funding initiatives within the framework of historic cities. In Park banc d'Arguin, a fund of 15-20 million euro is being created with dividends expected for 2011. In **Morocco**, at Ksar d'Ait-Ben Haddou, a special account is being established to serve the needs of the property. At Medina d'Essaouira, it is noted that there are a number of projects financed by other Departments for the infrastructures and emergency interventions. However, these are not sufficient to meet the needs. In Fez, there is no fixed budget to assist in the conservation, but the available funds vary from year to year. Furthermore, the situation with the different departments of the city is complex and it is not easy to respond to the questionnaire. In Marrakesh, it is noted that finances are not easy, and the income from tourism goes directly to a national fund, and Marrakesh can only benefit on an ad hoc basis. In Tétouan, it is confirmed that the local and national authorities are aware of the benefits that investment in the safeguard and rehabilitation of the medina can offer. In Meknes, it is reported that the finances come from multiple sources, and the project needs are many. It is hoped that the future management plan will assist in better coordinating these activities. In **Tunisia**, a project of conservation has been undertaken at the Amphitheatre of El Jem, which includes the improvement of the infrastructures. In Dougga, there is a scientific programme for a site interpretation centre.

Human resources

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

Regarding the availability of human resources, 10 out of 59 properties (17%) indicate having adequate human resources; 36 properties (61%) note that these are below optimum; in 10 they are inadequate, and three report that they have no dedicated human resources to management of the property.

4.4.12 - Human Resources?	Nr	%	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Human resources are adequate	9	16%	2	2	5
Resources exist but are below minimum	36	62%	6	11	19
Human resources are inadequate	10	17%	1	9	
There are no dedicated human resources	3	5%		2	1

Regarding the possibility of the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property to help develop local expertise, 17 properties (29%) indicate that a capacity development plan/programme is in place and implemented; 19 (32%) indicate that it is partially implemented but most work is done by external staff; 12 (20%) report that it is not being implemented, and 11 report no capacity to develop local expertise.

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Regarding the availability of professionals in the different disciplines, it is noted that conservation professionals, administrators, professionals involved in enforcement, and researchers are generally the most active. Instead, professionals representing promotion, outreach and risk preparedness are less so.

4.4.13 Professionals	The Gulf				Middle East				Maghreb			
	Good	Fair	Poor	None	Good	Fair	Poor	None	Good	Fair	Poor	None
Research	3	4	1	1	4	13	3	4	3	14	6	2
Promotion	2	1	2	2	3	7	8	5		8	11	4
Outreach		2	4	2	3	5	11	5		3	7	7
Interpretation	3	3	1	1	5	9	7	3		7	12	4
Education	2	2	3		2	13	4	3		5	10	8
Visitor Management	2	2	1	3	5	3	7	2		15	6	3
Conservation	5	3	1		6	11	6	1	4	14	6	1
Administration	3	5	1		6	12	5	1	4	17	4	
Risk Preparedness	3	2	3	1	3	9	8	4		3	8	9
Tourism	2	2	3	2	3	12	8	1	2	10	10	2
Enforcement	2	4	1	2	12	8	4		6	13	4	2

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Regarding the availability of training varies from sub-region to sub-region. The properties in the Middle East sub-region are indicated to be best provided with training availability, followed by Maghreb and the Gulf.

4.4.14 Training	The Gulf				Middle East				Maghreb			
	High	Med	Low	None	High	Med	Low	None	High	Med	Low	None
Research	1	2	3	3	4	11	4	3	3	9	8	5
Promotion		3	1	4	4	9	7	2		7	11	6
Outreach		1	6	1	4	6	10	4		5	7	6
Interpretation		1	2	4	4	10	7	1	1	7	6	8
Education		2	2	3	2	10	5	5	1	5	10	9
Visitor managem.		1	2	4	4	11	7	1	1	9	6	7
Conservation	2	4	1	1	6	11	2	2	4	12	7	2
Administration	2	4	1	1	6	10	6		4	11	8	1
Risk Preparedness	1	1	2	4	4	8	6	3		2	7	11
Tourism	1	1	3	2	4	11	6	2	3	9	7	5
Enforcement	2	1	1	3	10	8	2	2	4	10	4	6

Additional Comments on Human Resources (4.4.16)

Gulf sub-region: **Bahrain, Oman, Yemen,** and **Sudan** report on the lack of local expertise in various fields. Therefore, intensive training programmes would be needed.

Middle East sub-region: In **Egypt**, EU provides funding for training local community activities, maintenance and preservation in Saint Catherine Area. In **Syria**, Aleppo has an active programme involving citizens, planning and promoting initiatives in the redevelopment process. Bosra, Damascus and Crac des Chevaliers report on the lack of expertise, and propose workshops to be organised on specific needs.

Maghreb sub-region: In **Algeria**, there is great need to train young architects, archaeologists and other disciplines in the management of heritage resources. **Mauritania** has some initiatives of training personnel, but these are only partly implemented. **Morocco** reports on pressing needs of personnel. Indeed, in Ksar d'Ait-Ben-Haddou, the projects are executed by external staff. In Medina d'Essaouira, it is proposed to establish special team that would serve several departments and could also assist in training personnel. In Fez, all projects are based on local skills and contribute at the same time to training. In Tétouan, the teams working in conservation are generally qualified, but the situation could be improved. In Marrakesh, the teams working in the maintenance and repair need to be reinforced. In Meknes, most technicians, architects and engineers working with historic buildings lack proper training. There would be need for continuous training of local technicians. The technical assistance to the work sites is assured by the inspections. Also **Tunisia** reports on the urgent need to improve and augment qualified conservation technicians and professionals.

First Cycle on Financial and Human Resources

Several sources are noted to finance preservation programmes of World Heritage properties, including national contributions from the state budget, complemented by the provincial and local authorities. Some additional income is provided by Associations, Foundations and private individuals, or by foreign missions engaged in historical and archaeological research and excavations. However, these sources are sporadic, irregular, and generally insufficient.

In a majority of cases the expertise required for the protection and conservation of World Heritage properties was insufficient at the local level. Specialised institutes for heritage sciences and techniques remained rare in the Arab World and usually failed to cover all the fields of preservation or to respond to the needs of property personnel.

Changes from Previous Cycle

Comparing the current situation with the First Cycle Report, it seems that there is little change. There continues to be an urgent need of human resources. And, there is a continuous need for on-site training of local teams, technicians, professionals and administrators.

4.5 Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Regarding the knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained, 24 out of 58 properties (one did not respond) indicate that there is sufficient knowledge of the values of World Heritage property. 27 indicate that there are gaps; six report that the knowledge is not sufficient, and one indicates that there is little or no knowledge.

4.5.1 Knowledge of OUV?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Sufficient	24	41%	3	7	14
Sufficient but with Gaps	27	47%	5	12	10
Not sufficient	6	10%	1	4	1
Little or none	1	2%	0	1	0

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

Regarding the existence of a planned programme of research at the property, directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of OUV, 16 properties indicate there is a comprehensive and integrated programme of research. 18 indicate that there is considerable research but not directed towards management; 23 indicate that there is small amount of research, but it is not planned, and one reports that there is no research.

4.5.2 Planned Programme?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Comprehensive / integrated	16	28%	3	7	6
Considerable not directed	18	31%	0	7	11
Small amount	23	40%	6	9	8
No Research	1	2%	0	1	0

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

In 39 (68%) properties the results of research are shared with local and national agencies or even more widely. The others only share the results with local partners or not at all.

4.5.3 Research Results Shared?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Shared widely	12	21%	1	5	6
Shared: Local / National	27	47%	3	12	12
Shared: local partners	8	14%	1	1	6
Not shared	11	19%	4	6	1

Additional Comments (4.5.5)

Gulf sub-region: **Bahrain** reports on a number of research project under way in Bahrain Qal'at. **Oman** notes that no research is really carried out apart from some reports by researchers. **Saudi Arabia** has research and excavations with French archaeologists. **Yemen** reports on lack of systematic research.

Middle East sub-region: In **Egypt**, at Saint Catherine's Area there are many studies being carried out, but there is lack of funding. In **Iraq**, the site of Ashur needs specialised library and the development of an archive. In **Jordan**, there is need for specialised knowledge on wall paintings and mosaics. Sudan has no scientific research, apart from the archaeological excavations. In **Syria**, there is some individual research, but there is need of better programming and coordination.

Maghreb sub-region: In **Algeria**, Tassili, Timgad, Tipasa, and M'Zab Valley report on research initiatives related to the protection of the site, inventory, and promotion. In **Mauritania**, a scientific observatory has been established in Park Banc d'Arguin by PNBA in 2007. In **Morocco**, at Ksar d'Ait-Ben Haddou there has been a number of research projects over the past 20 years, but they are not published. In Morocco, it is further proposed that UNESCO encourage research in the field of anthropology. It is also proposed that universities and research centres should be more involved in heritage-oriented research. Coordination remains a problem. In **Tunisia**, in the case of Ichkeul, it is proposed that a comparative study of similar sites would be useful. The medinas of Sousse and Tunis urge a wider diffusion of research results at the national, regional and even international levels.

First Cycle on Scientific, technical and educational studies

In the first Cycle, eight (21%) properties were reported to have hosted scientific studies; 30 had no such studies; 20 (51%) hosted research/development programmes, while 12 had not. Eight (21%) properties reported that new management techniques had been applied to the property, including Internet access and GIS.

Changes from Previous Cycle

The situation compared to the First Cycle does not seem to have changed much. There continues to be a need for research oriented towards the conservation and management of heritage resources. This needs good coordination. Universities and research centres should be encouraged to support heritage oriented research, which also needs to be better diffused in the international context.

4.6 Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

The World Heritage emblem is reported to have been displayed in many locations at the property and is easily visible to visitors in 14 properties (24%). In 18 properties (31%), the emblem is in one location easily visible to visitors; 17 properties (29%) have not displayed the emblem. (4.6.1)

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups.

Regarding awareness and understanding of the outstanding values of the property, the highest rates are given to visitors and tourism, followed by local authority. Local community, local land owners and local businesses are only at around 50% of appreciation. Regarding the indigenous peoples, nearly half of the properties indicate that this is not applicable as a category.

4.6.2 - Awareness	Community	Authority	Indigenous	Owners	Visitors	Tourism	Business
Excellent	10	22	4	7	26	23	4
Average	22	22	12	19	26	27	20
Poor	21	9	14	19	3	5	15
None	4	1	4	4	1	1	10
NA	1	4	24	9	2	2	9

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

Regarding the availability of a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property, three properties indicate that there is a planned and effective education/awareness programme; 41 (69%) have some programmes but mostly ad hoc, and 15 (25%) have not organised any awareness programmes.

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

The role that the designation of a World Heritage property has played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities is reported to be important in 12 cases (20%), while in 40 properties (68%) World Heritage designation is considered to have partially influenced education or could be improved. In seven properties, there has been no influence.

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

Regarding the information on the OUV of the property, 4 properties indicate that this is presented and interpreted in an excellent manner: Qal'at al-Bahrain, Kerkouane, Ichkeul and Ouadane. At 39 properties (66%) presentation of information on OUV could be improved. At eleven properties it is not considered adequate: Sana'a, Zabid, Bahla Fort, Aleppo, Damascus, St. Catherine Area, Essaouira, Fez, Ait-Ben-Haddou, M'Zab Valley, Tassili n'Ajjer. At four properties, information on OUV is not presented: Gebel Barkal, Um er-Rasas, Palmyra and Crac des Chevaliers.

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property.

The listed services include: visitor centre, site museum, information booths, guided tours, visitor trails, information material, transport, and other. It is noted that the most frequently offered services for visitors include: trails, at least adequate in 60% of properties, and guided tours in 57% of the properties. These are followed by site museums that is adequate at least on 28 properties (48%), and information material is offered by 45% of properties. An adequate or excellent visitor centre exists on 18 properties.

4.6.6 Services	Visitor C	Museum	Booths	Tours	Trails	Material	Transport	Other
Excellent	7	13	4	11	8	6	9	1
Adequate	11	15	13	22	27	20	16	7
Poor	11	5	12	16	9	17	12	5
Not provided	16	19	15	1	6	8	8	2

Additional Comments (4.6.7)

Sudan proposes that a realistic awareness plan should be worked out. In **Syria**, Aleppo notes that the WH status has not had much influence, but the national listing has had an important role. There is need to develop and package didactic kits for teaching at Bosra. Students form a large part of the visitors but it is difficult to find suitable material to hand to them is noted at Crac des Chevaliers. There is now a visitor centre in Palmyra. In **Algeria**, Kasbah d'Alger notes that education remains a weak point. Tassili has an education programme. In Tipasa there have been short courses on various issues but in the 1990s. **Mauritania** has awareness programmes being carried out.

First Cycle on educational studies

In the first Cycle, 34 properties (87%) reported having made efforts to promote public information targeted at both the public at large and the local residents; three properties (8%) indicated that efforts had been made to promote awareness of WH values to residents and visitors.

Changes from Previous Cycle

There does not seem to be much change from the previous cycle. Education remains an area of interest, but there is relatively little concrete realisation.

4.7 Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

The trends in annual visitations have been provided for the last five years on a yearly basis. However, not all properties have given the information, and there are great differences from country to country, and also from property to property. Therefore, it is difficult to provide a synthetic picture of the situation.

In the *Gulf sub-region*, Bahrain indicates that the visitor trend is rising. In Oman only Frankincense Trails are indicated, where the trend is stable. In Yemen, the trend of visitation is decreasing.

In the *Middle East sub-region*, Egypt has a fairly static situation with some increase. Lebanon has had a downturn five years ago, but the trend has been increasing in the past three years. In Iraq, Hatra has had minor increase, while in Ashur and Samarra the trend has turned to increasing in the past two or three years. In Jordan, there was an increase five years ago; at the present the situation is stable. In Sudan, Gebel Barkal had an increased two to three years ago, but currently visitation is decreasing.

In *Maghreb sub-region*, Algeria has had an increase in visitation in most properties. In Morocco, instead, most properties are stable after an earlier increasing trend. In Tunisia, visitation has been variable over the past five years. Banc d'Arguin in Mauritania has an increasing trend.

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

The most frequently used sources are the statistics of entry tickets, followed by statistics of accommodation, information from tourism operators, and visitor surveys. Less frequently are used transport and other data.

4.7.2 Statistics	Entry Tickets	Accommodation	Transport	Tourism	Surveys	Other
Properties	44	21	8	17	15	9
Source % /total	76%	36%	14%	29%	26%	16%

It can be noted that about half of the estimates have been based on one indicator (mostly entry tickets, especially in archaeological sites). Two indicators have been used in some 19% of the cases (e.g. entry tickets and visitor surveys, or accommodation and tourism data). Some properties have used even four indicators: the historic towns of Zabid, Aleppo, Cairo, Tétouan, and Mazagan, as well as the properties of Gebel Barkal, and Tyre. Five sources have been used in the case of Byblos.

4.7.4 Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Regarding an appropriate visitor use management plan for the World Heritage property, nine (16%) indicate that this is effectively managed and does not impact OUV. In 34 (57%) properties there is some management but improvements could be made. 17 report that the use is not effectively managed.

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

Regarding the contribution of tourism industry to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property, 11 (19%) properties report that there is excellent cooperation between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present OUV and increase appreciation. 34 (57%) indicate that there is limited cooperation or contacts are confined to administrative or regulatory matters. In 14 (24%) cases, there is little or no contact.

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

Fees that are collected provide a substantial contribution to the management cost on seven properties (13%): Frankincense, Thebes, Nubian Monuments, Ichkeul, Kairouan, Kerkuane, and Carthage. The fees offer some contribution in 21 properties (38%), and no contribution in 15

properties (27%). No fees are collected in 12 properties. Bahla Fort, which is closed for restoration, is not indicated. There is authority to collect fees in Shibam, but this is not done.

Additional Comments (4.7.7)

Gulf sub-region: **Bahrain** notes that there is intention to offer training to tourist guides in the future. Oman notes that there are so far no visitors to the Archaeological Sites of Bat, and the Bahla Fort (**Oman**) is still under restoration. **Yemen** notes that there is a lack of visitor management plans in Zabid and Sana'a.

Middle East sub-region: **Egypt** reports that the cost of visitor management is covered by the Supreme Council of Antiquities. In Saint Catherine Area, there is need for more information to be offered to an increasing number of visitors. **Iraq** notes that Ashur should have a visitor centre and start training the guides. In **Lebanon** the increasing number of visitors requires proper management in Ouadi Qdisha. In Tyre and Anjar the number of visitors depends on the fluctuation of the political situation. In **Sudan**, the guides are given by the tourist companies, and the local authority collects entrance fees in Gebel Barkal. In **Syria**, Aleppo notes that tourism strategies should be worked out in close contact with the community. Bosra is lacking proper facilities. Damascus lacks proper visitor management. The Aga Khan Foundation is collaborating with the government to prepare a management plan for Saladin Castle.

Maghreb sub-region: In **Algeria**, there are plans to provide structures for the orientation of visitors in the Kasbah of Algiers. In Tassili efforts are made to develop sustainable tourism. In Timgad, in certain periods, the number of visitors is difficult to control. In the vast M'Zab Valley, the entrance of visitors is strictly limited; only one commune assures guided visits. **Mauritania** has a strategy of ecotourism prepared for the period 2010-14 to encourage sustainable tourism in Park banc d'Arguin. In **Morocco**, visitor management plans are planned in Medina of Essaouira, and an in-depth study on visitors is proposed in Marrakesh. In **Tunisia**, various properties report of the need to better manage visitors in collaboration with tourism operators.

First Cycle on Facilities, tourism and promotion

In the first Cycle, 17 (44%) had information centres for visitors, 20 (51%) a site museum, 10 (26%) trails, 26 (67%) hotels, 29 (74%) parking lots, 24 (62%) convenience areas, 22 (56%) had first aid centres. Information was available on 25 properties (64%). Eleven properties reported that there was need to revise legal/administrative measures related to tourism.

Changes from Previous Cycle

The visitation of World Heritage properties in the Arab Region has varied depending on a number of issues not directly related to the site itself. There seems to be an increasing consciousness of the need to improve visitor management, developing collaboration between government institutions, tourism operators, the local authorities, and the local community.

4.8 Monitoring World Heritage Properties

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

Regarding the existence of a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value, 21 (36%) indicate that there is a such a programme does exist and that it is relevant to management needs and OUV. In 20 properties (34%) there is considerable monitoring, but not directed to management or OUV. Seventeen properties (29%) have some unplanned monitoring, and one has none.

4.8.1 Monitoring Programme?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Comprehensive monitoring	21	36%	2	9	10
Not specific on Needs	20	34%	4	4	12
Little Amount of monitoring	16	28%	2	11	3
No Monitoring	1	2%	1	0	0

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used in monitoring how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is being maintained?

The information for the definition of key indicators for measuring the state of conservation in monitoring OUV is considered sufficient in nine properties (15%), and could be improved in 32 properties (54%). Fourteen properties (24%) have enough information, but the key indicators have not been defined, and four properties have little or no information available.

4.8.2 Key Indicators?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Information is sufficient	9	16%	2	1	6
Information could be improved	32	55%	3	15	14
Information exists but indicators are not done	13	22%	3	5	5
There is no Information	4	7%	1	3	0

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

Monitoring is mostly carried out by the World Heritage managers and secondly by researchers. The local government and local community have generally average or poor involvement. The NGOs are involved only in exceptional cases, while industry and indigenous peoples hardly participate.

4.8.3 Monitoring	Excellent	Average	Poor	None	NA
WH Staff	35	17	4	2	1
Local Government	6	26	22	4	1
Community	6	19	23	7	4
Researcher	19	23	10	2	5
NGO	6	12	13	13	15
Industry	0	5	9	21	24
Indigenous	0	5	15	10	29

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

Five properties report having completed the implementation of the recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee. 38 properties (66%) report that the implementation is underway. Two properties indicate that the implementation has not yet started. Thirteen properties note that the issue is not relevant.

Additional Comments (4.8.5/6)

Gulf sub-region: **Bahrain** notes that the monitoring system of Qal'at should be better formalised in the context of the management plan. **Yemen** notes that monitoring will be integrated into the conservation plan that is being prepared.

Middle East sub-region: In **Egypt**, a working group is preparing guidelines for informing the population about the significance of the site of Saint Catherine. In Lebanon, monitoring is being planned in Tyre. In **Sudan**, monitoring is part of the management plan of Gebel Barkal, but has not been implemented so far. In Syria, Bosra considers that monitoring is a step forward in the preservation of the site.

Maghreb sub-region: In **Algeria**, the emergency works undertaken recently have had a big impact on the residents. Decisions are being taken in contact with the stakeholders, including the construction of the Metro, so as not to have a negative impact on OUV. In Tassili, monitoring has helped to develop a coherent action plan. In the M'Zab Valley, monitoring is guaranteed by the coordinated action of the different authorities. In **Mauritania**, Park banc d'Arguin has an excellent monitoring system. In **Morocco**, a local committee has been established at Ksar of Ait-Ben Haddou to monitor the property. In Fez, monitoring is carried out by the State authority. In Marrakesh, a major effort would be needed to establish an effective monitoring system involving the relevant stakeholders. In Tétouan, monitoring has improved somewhat but could be done even better. In **Tunisia**, Ichkeul reports that the indicators to monitor the ecology are considered satisfactory. In Tunis, there is need for reinforcement and better coordination of the personnel responsible for monitoring.

First Cycle on Facilities, tourism and promotion

In the first Cycle, 33 properties (85%) reported that there were regular monitoring activities. 21 (54%) indicated that key indicators were used to assess the situation at the property level. In eight properties (21%), measures were taken following recommendations by World Heritage Committee.

Changes from Previous Cycle

Compared to the previous situation, there seems to have been more attention to management at the site level, even though the issues were already present at the time of the First Cycle.

5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

The section 5.1 of the questionnaire was designed so as to highlight the six most important factors identified in Part 3, and giving more detailed management responses to these factors. (See Part 3 above)

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

The section 5.2 of the questionnaire was intended to allow for the elaboration of the management needs identified in Part 4, and for more details about the corrective measures currently used. (See Part 4 above)

5.3. *Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property* considering the answers given in part 4 on protection, management and monitoring of the property and the summary of factors affecting the property (question 5.1) and management needs (question 5.2).

The following tables offer a summary based on the assessment of the authenticity, integrity, OUV and other values that the property had at the time of inscription. It is noted that some 60% of the properties are considered to have maintained their Outstanding Universal Value, have their integrity intact, have well preserved their authenticity (when relevant), and have also other related values predominantly intact.

5.3.1 - Following the analysis undertaken for this report, what is the current state of Authenticity of the World Heritage property?

According to the reports, some 78% of properties have well preserved their authenticity, while it is compromised in the case of eight properties (Bosra, Crac des Chevaliers, Zabid, Sana'a, Shibam, Carthage, Wadi Al-Hitan), and seriously in one (Abu Mena). Authenticity is not lost in any property.

5.3.1 Authenticity?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Preserved	45	78%	6	18	21
Compromised	8	14%	3	4	1
Seriously Compromised	1	2%	0	1	0
Lost	0	0%	0	0	0
NA	2	3%	0	1	1

5.3.2 - Following the analysis undertaken for this report, what is the current state of Integrity of the World Heritage property?

The integrity is reported to be intact in 81% of properties, and compromised in nine properties: Palmyra, Bosra, Crac des Chevaliers, Zabid, Sana'a, Shibam, Carthage, Thebes and Historic Cairo. It is considered seriously compromised in two properties: Damascus and Abu Mena, but is not considered to have been lost in any.

5.3.2 Integrity?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Intact	47	81%	6	17	22
Compromised	9	16%	3	5	3
Seriously Compromised	2	3%	0	2	0
Lost	0	0%	0	0	0

5.3.3 - Following the analysis undertaken for this report, what is the current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The Outstanding Universal Value is considered to have been well maintained in 47 properties (81%), while it is impacted in ten properties: Sana'a, Zabid, Palmyra, Cairo, Bosra, Crac des Chevaliers, Damascus, Aleppo, Memphis and Carthage. OUV is considered seriously impacted in the case of Abu Mena, but not lost in any.

5.3.3 OUV?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Maintained	47	81%	7	16	22
Impacted but managed	10	17%	2	7	1
Seriously impacted	1	2%	0	1	0
Lost	0	0%	0	0	0

5.3.4 - What is the current state of the property's other values?

The other values related to the properties are reported to be predominantly intact in 41 properties (71%), partially degraded in 16, and seriously degraded in one: Abu Mena.

5.3.4 Other Values?	Nr	%	Gulf	M-East	Maghreb
Predominantly intact	41	71%	9	15	17
Partially degraded	16	28%	0	8	7
Degraded	1	2%	0	1	0
Severely degraded	0	0%	0	0	0

6. CONCLUSIONS OF THE PERIODIC REPORT

The last part of the questionnaire asked the States Parties to rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in the relation to several areas. The table below gives the percentage of averages in the different sub-regions.

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

The following table gives the average of estimated rates of impacts on World Heritage status of the properties in relation to the indicated areas. The higher the percentage, the more positive is the impact.

6.1 - Conclusions of Periodic Reporting	Gulf	Middle East	Maghreb
Conservation	89%	85%	86%
Research and Monitoring	72%	80%	82%
Management Effectiveness	78%	78%	80%
Quality of life for locals	63%	68%	74%
World Heritage Recognition	75%	77%	81%
Education	69%	76%	72%
Infrastructure Development	72%	72%	79%
Funding for the Property	83%	74%	80%
International Cooperation	75%	80%	77%
Political Support for Conservation	88%	76%	85%
Legal/Policy Framework	72%	77%	88%
Lobbying	66%	68%	79%
Institutional Coordination	75%	76%	83%
Security	75%	83%	80%

The conclusive table, based on the average of the responses, shows that the impact of the World Heritage status has been strongest in relation to the conservation of the properties. It is seen in the field of research and monitoring, the effectiveness of management, funding the management of the property. The impact is also felt in an improved political support for conservation (especially in the Gulf and Maghreb sub-regions), as well as, especially in Maghreb, in the improvement of the legal and policy framework, the institutional framework, and security. The impact is seen less in the improvement of the quality of the local community, education, and political lobbying. There appears to be lack of impact also in institutional coordination and infrastructure development.

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to World Heritage status

Several comments note that the World Heritage status has given a positive impact on the awareness of the significance of the property and its conservation management (Dougga, Gebel Barkal, Ichkeul, Tétouan, Qal'at al-Bahrain, Tipasa, M'Zab Valley, Meknes). Damascus reports that the old city is in danger of losing its endearing character due to aggressive investors. A part of population is fleeing pollution and selling their properties to become trendy restaurants and boutique hotels. The castles of Crac des Chevaliers and Saladin are reported to be in good condition due to regular restoration and monitoring. Kasbah of Algiers reports that the General Urban Master Plan (PDAU) is being revised jointly with World Heritage managers and respecting conservation requirements. Marrakesh is reported to be still well preserved, but the medina is in need of a proper management plan. Saint Catherine Area underlines the importance of collaboration with the Supreme Council of Antiquities to guarantee the preservation of the authenticity of this ensemble still used as a monastery.

6.3 - Entities involved in the Preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

The following table shows the number of properties that mention that a particular entity has been involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report, i.e. the section reporting on the individual World Heritage properties. It is noted that the total number of properties responding to this question was 57.

6.3 Entities involved in Periodic Report	Number	%
Governmental institution responsible for the property	54	94.7%
Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff	56	98.2%
Staff from other World Heritage properties	23	40.4%
Non Governmental Organization	5	8.8%
Indigenous peoples	3	5.3%
Local community	13	22.8%
Donors	4	7.0%
External experts	11	19.3%
Advisory bodies	14	24.6%
Others	7	12.3%

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

To the question regarding the clarity of the questionnaire, 46 properties out of 57 (81%) responded YES. Eleven properties (19%) responded NO.

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

There are a number of comments, occasionally even contradictory. The questionnaire is considered perfect by some (Bat, Meknes, Tunis), while others have found it sometimes difficult to understand and interpret (Aleppo, Sousse). Training in the preparation of reports is suggested for site managers (Saint Catherine Area). It is proposed that in some yes/no questions, there should also be a field for 'other'. It is also noted that the space is not always enough to give all necessary information.

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

It can be noted that the support offered by the State Party and UNESCO were mostly appreciated as good or very good.

6.6 - Support for completing questionnaire	UNESCO	State Party	Advisory Body
Very good	31	39	15
Good	21	18	25
Fair	1		7
Poor	3		3
NA	1		7

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

Regarding the accessibility of information required to complete the Report, the managers of 11 properties (20%) out of 55 rated it very good; by 36 properties (65%) it was rated good; by six properties (11%) it was rated fair, and by two properties (4%) the accessibility was rated poor. Three properties did not respond to this question.

6.8 - Has the Periodic Reporting process improved the understanding of the following?

Regarding the improvement of the understanding of World Heritage related issues, 37 properties (65%) have responded positively to all points. The issues that have not received full recognition include Management effectiveness, Managing the property to maintain OUV, and the World

Heritage Convention itself. The property's OUV is understood by 95% of the properties, while the concept of OUV 'only' by 91%.

6.8 Improvement of understanding	Nr	%
The World Heritage Convention	49	86%
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value	52	91%
The property's Outstanding Universal Value	54	95%
The concept of Integrity and/or Authenticity	50	88%
The property's Integrity and/or Authenticity	50	88%
Managing the property to maintain OUV	48	84%
Monitoring and reporting	50	88%
Management effectiveness	45	79%

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

There are 41 responses to this question regarding follow-up by UNESCO, State Party, Site Managers and Advisory Bodies. Taking the maximum rating as $4 \times 4 = 16$, seven properties indicate the maximum, i.e. excellent response by all four. Most responses indicate 'satisfactory', with some exceptions, including the indication of no follow-up.

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

The reports on several properties indicate the need to prepare the Statement of OUV (which indeed has been prepared by most Arab States as part of the Retrospective initiative), to revise the geographic information table, and complete the maps. Furthermore, Ashur and Dougga/Thugga indicate their wish to review the name of the property.

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

There are only a few comments, all positive, regarding the Periodic Reporting Exercise. Meknes, Tipasa and Volubilis note the benefits to the conservation of the property, and the synoptic vision of the current situation obtained as a result of the exercise. The report on Saint Catherine Area concludes the report nicely as follows:

"That what was presented in this report is the beginning of a new phase of dealing with the heritage of the world through the institutions of government and the States parties, as well as through the site managers as they are entrusted with affairs of the site. It is also a World Heritage site, not only the property of the State Party, but belongs to the whole world."

PART III: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AN ACTION PLAN

ISSUES ARISING FROM THE FINAL REGIONAL MEETING

The Final Regional Meeting for the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise in the Arab States Parties was organised in Algiers from 1 to 4 February 2010. The meeting was attended by the Focal Points of 14 States Parties as well as by the Advisory Bodies (IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM), ALECSO, UNESCO field offices in the Region and the World Heritage Centre. The scope of the meeting was to assess the Periodic Reporting exercise and propose recommendations for sub-regional Action Plans. In the discussions, the participants reflected on the challenges and successes of the exercise and its usefulness to the safeguarding of the World Heritage in the Arab Region. The following is a summary of their comments, as expressed.

General Observations

The Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting was considered a good exercise, and there was an enormous advance compared to the First Cycle. This time the process was much better organised and coordinated, involving electronic support, several sub-regional meetings and continuous contacts. The States Parties were more actively involved through the designation of the national Focal Points and the participation of all World Heritage site managers.

In the Arab Region, there are still many problems and challenges. At the same time, there have been many successes, and the conservation of many properties has been improved. The challenges are multiple. An important issue is the need to move from the national level to the sub-regional and regional levels, and to establish better cooperation between all Arab States. A good opportunity for this will be the Centre that is being created in Bahrain for World Heritage in Arab Region.

The questionnaire of the Periodic Reporting was generally well accepted, and it had provided an excellent incentive for a learning process. There were some difficulties in contacting the site managers and getting them involved in filling the questionnaire. It is noted that many site managers in the Arab Region have been appointed recently, and this was for many the first time to have close contact with the international community. There were some questions that were not well understood, which can be reflected in the answers. There were also problems in getting information on issues such as pollution. It was agreed that any factual errors could still be corrected.

The Periodic Reporting can be seen as a pioneering exercise, which is closely related with the communities. There is need to establish a continuous monitoring process, and the Periodic Reporting could be taken as a basic reference to be verified on a yearly basis. Networking is important, involving site directors, local administrations and politicians. There is need to engage the civil society and NGOs.

The Periodic Reporting has given an opportunity to start building up a profile of the region, which is strategic at the world level. We should remember that Arab States were amongst the first to ratify the *Convention*, and there was a large number of properties inscribed in the early years. Taking a look at the World Heritage in Arab States, it shows an enormous wealth of some of the most important monuments and sites in the world that we can be proud of.

Inventories

Inventories are a key issue that needs to be tackled in the coming years. The administrative systems differ from country to country, which poses a challenge for collaboration. The question can be raised if would not be useful to aim at the unification of systems of registration and listing in the different Arab States. The priorities should take into account natural heritage, as well as cultural landscapes and cross-boundary properties. To these could be added cultural routes. Often, such properties are relatively large and could easily involve more than one State. It is also for this reason that harmonisation of administrative processes would be an advantage.

Tentative Lists

The preparation of Tentative Lists implies that inventories be discussed at a regional level. There is need for countries to come together and learn from each other. There is need to discuss opportunities for trans-boundary properties. Natural heritage and cultural landscapes are a priority for Arab States. There is good potential for natural heritage properties to be nominated. There should be good coordination between natural and cultural heritage. There is need to establish mechanisms for cooperation between the different departments at the national level.

Nominations

In the early years of the World Heritage List, it was relatively easy to nominate. There were also some mistakes in the identification of the sites, which have been seen during the Periodic Reporting exercise, and could eventually be corrected in the future. There is need to involve local authorities, which requires clear explanation about what World Heritage means. There is need to establish a system where the citizens can access information at the national level.

General Policy Development

The principal challenge in the policy development is to modernise national laws. Nomination to the World Heritage List does not give protection automatically. Indeed, there are also countries that are lacking proper national legal framework. There are priorities that differ from country to country; some fight poverty for example. We should work to make heritage a higher priority. It is noted that ALECSO is proposing to submit a pilot legislation by October 2010, giving an opportunity to link national legislation with international conventions.

Status of Services

In the past, only specific departments were involved with heritage. Now, there is an increasing number of other partners and stakeholders. Therefore, collaboration and communication are now critical issues. Indeed, the meeting in Abu Dhabi (December 2005) had recommended that each country create a committee/agency for World Heritage. There is need to find solutions for good collaboration between State authorities and local communities. The role of national committees is important.

Scientific and Technical Research and Studies

It is important to identify critical issues related to the conservation and management of heritage resources. Research and technical studies should be coordinated on this basis. Often research is undertaken, but it is not properly diffused and valued. Research is the fundamental basis for acquiring knowledge about heritage in the region, and its protection and conservation management. Research is also the basis for the development of national and regional training programmes.

Financial and Human Resources

So far, most of the financial resources have come from the Central Government. The trend is now towards involving other funding sources. This is particularly crucial with the increasing size and complexity of heritage areas, involving more and more stakeholders. For example, some countries have large budgets for tourism, but it is not taken into account in heritage management. Often, even the income from visitors is not used for heritage management. The challenge will be to find means to integrate all the various sources. In Tunisia, since 1998, there is a new type of funding resource, generated by heritage itself. In Algeria, World Heritage properties are endowed on a yearly basis regarding all needs. It would be important to look for possibilities of self finance. The African Fund, created in collaboration with UNESCO is a good example, and it is also a source for Arab States of Africa.

Training

There is some training in Arab countries, including the Athar programme of ICCROM and various university courses. What seems to be emerging as a priority is site management. Site managers, often appointed recently, should be able to manage not only the cultural but also the economic and social dimensions of the heritage as a resource. There is need to consider also the issues of mise-en-valeur and valuation. All this also involves technical capacity, documentation, and communication skills. There is need to establish national and regional training strategies based on the identification of needs and priorities. There is need to link with the local population; technicians and experts are not necessarily the priority. Training should be looked at three levels: general training, technical skills, and population. While management seems to be a priority, there is also need to continue training architects and other specialists who are responsible for the scientific and cultural dimension.

International Collaboration

International collaboration is principally oriented towards research. Little is done in favour of conservation. There is relatively limited cooperation within the Mediterranean region, even though some countries have numerous foreign missions. There is need for more diversification, and research should move beyond the production of publications. There is need to improve coordination and involvement of national institutions.

Education, Information and Awareness Building

Awareness building and education are very important. In the past, heritage was an elite issue, and archaeological heritage was an inheritance from the colonial period. There is insufficient knowledge and scientific information. Archives are weak in Arab States. However, we need such documentation. There is need to assist in the identification and collection of information. People can be afraid that heritage recognition might result in confiscation of land. Local population needs information and encouragement. Today, we realise that heritage has added social value. The value of awareness raising is in the improved understanding and appreciation of heritage, and in protecting heritage.

PART IV: DRAFT DECISION PROPOSED TO THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Draft Decision: 34 COM 10A

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-10/34COM/10A,
2. Recalling Decisions 32 COM 11B and 33 COM 11A, adopted respectively at its 32nd session (Quebec, 2008) and 33rd session (Seville, 2009),
3. Expresses its sincere appreciation to the States Parties from the Arab region for their efforts in preparing and submitting their Periodic Reports and thanks especially all Focal Points and sites managers for their effective participation and commitment;
4. Notes with regret that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya did not participate in the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting and that two States Parties, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, while participating in the exercise, did not submit Section I of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire and encourages them to provide this information to complete the database;
5. Also notes the successful use of the electronic tool and the ensuing pertinent documentation gathered in the World Heritage Centre database for future monitoring and follow-up;
6. Thanks the Bahraini and Algerian authorities for hosting respectively the launch and closure meetings for the Periodic Reporting exercise and The Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO for its financial support;
7. Welcomes with satisfaction the synthesis report of the Arab States and endorses the sub regional Action Plans proposed by the Focal points during the Algiers final Regional meeting, and requests the World Heritage Centre to disseminate the Periodic Report in English, French and Arabic, for wide distribution in the region among all stakeholders;
8. Encourages the States Parties and all other World Heritage partners and stakeholders in the Arab States to co-operate actively and to take the necessary actions to follow-up in a concerted and concrete manner the implementation of the Action Plans for World Heritage in the region;
9. Further notes that the proposals contained in the Action Plans have considerable resource and workload implications for the Arab States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and encourages States Parties to contribute to their implementation through extra-budgetary funding;

10. Also welcomes the role that the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) in Bahrain can take in particular in terms of providing assistance to the Arab States Parties in reinforcing their capacity in implementation the World Heritage Convention;
11. Also requests the Arab States Parties to submit the remaining retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value as early as possible and not later than **1 February 2011**;
12. Further requests the States Parties to continue to work closely with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to further develop the Action Plans into an operational Regional Programme including priorities, time tables, and budgetary implications for the Arab States, tailored to sub-regional needs, and also requests the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report thereon at its 35th session in 2011.

APPENDICES
COMMON THEMES, PRIORITIES AND SUB-REGIONAL ACTION PLANS
IDENTIFIED AT THE FINAL REGIONAL MEETING

APPENDIX A. COMMON THEMES OF SECTION I IDENTIFIED

Point 2 – Inventories / Lists / Registers for Cultural and Natural Heritage

- Consider moving towards a common mechanism in the process of inventory to be established by States Parties in co-operation with the WHC and the Advisory Bodies.

Point 3 – Tentative Lists

- Necessity to revise and update Tentative Lists with UNESCO and the Advisory Bodies' assistance;
- Co-ordination between cultural and natural professionals within the States Parties;
- Co-ordination between cultural and natural professionals across States Parties within the area of trans-boundary properties;
- Focus on natural sites and cultural landscapes.

Point 4 – Nominations

- Importance of the participation of local communities in and around the property on the process of nominations;
- Efforts to elaborate natural heritage nominations.

Point 5 – General Policy Development

- Necessity to update national legislation in order to reflect international requirements;
- Necessity to implement national laws;
- Encouragement to ratify other International Conventions [recommendation].

Point 6 – Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

- Need for the cooperation and coordination between the different responsible institutions and agencies involved;
- Measures, including legal, at the national level to implement the legislation.

Point 7 – Scientific and Technical Studies and Research

- Access and diffusion of results;
- Support to the national institutions involved in research;
- Include the concept of Outstanding Universal Value while implementing research programmes.

Point 8 – Financial Status and Human Resources

- Explore the modalities of sustainable funding for World Heritage properties, including a self-financing funding mechanism as an additional layer or as an alternative.

Point 9 – Training

- Reinforcement of training in the domain of management of sites as a priority for valorising World Heritage properties;
- Reinforcement in new domains linked to the conservation of heritage, in particular community outreach and risk preparedness;
- Move beyond the mere conservation of heritage towards the sustainable development of sites, including the economic and social dimensions;
- Align ICCROM's Athar training programme with the training priorities identified;
- Mechanism towards the identification of training needs according to the specificities related to each sub-region.

Point 10 – International Co-operation

- Diversify and enlarge international co-operation to include preservation and conservation beyond excavations, publications and research;
- Insist on conservation, maintenance, restoration within a legal framework and with coordination at the national level in order to identify and select priorities - training of the actors of co-operation in this domain;
- Inter-Arab co-operation (refined in the working groups below; part B).

Point 11 – Information and Awareness Building

- Necessity to ensure appreciation/ownership of heritage at the national level through awareness building at all levels, notably by the local communities;
- Gathering and disseminating the existing documentation and materials on awareness-raising regarding the importance of heritage and its protection in Arabic;
- That the World Heritage Centre works in co-operation with the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) in Bahrain and ALECSO on this matter [recommendation].

Due to time constraints during the meeting, it was not possible to examine all chapters of the Section II of the Questionnaire. However, the need to focus on the issues of management plans and management systems as well as of monitoring was highlighted.

APPENDIX B. SUB-REGIONAL ACTION PLANS

B.1: Priorities identified by the Gulf Region (Focal points of: Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen)

Inventories

- Organise a sub-regional expert workshop to determine whether inventory systems are adequate or need reviewing;
- Use parameters to evaluate the appropriateness of inventory systems of States Parties;
- Implement results of the evaluation process, including expert missions to States Parties – country specific actions.

Tentative Lists

- Advisory Bodies to complete thematic studies contributing to national/regional discussions on thematic studies;
- Re-examine existing sites on Tentative Lists under the light of thematic studies;
- Facilitate the process of trans-boundary nominations via the Advisory Bodies;
- Workshop for the preparation of Tentative Lists.

Nominations

- Encourage each State Party to involve local communities in the nomination process through a sub-regional workshop to share best practices;
- Organise a workshop on the preparation of nominations with countries preparing nominations for 2012 (beyond strictly the Arab region) to share experiences;
- Athar training programme to also focus on the issue of training for the participation of local communities in the process of nominations;
- Mixed training activities between culture and nature professionals;
- World Heritage Centre & IUCN to organize an activity in the form of a workshop/meeting exclusively for natural heritage focal points on World Heritage in relationship to the other Conventions.

General Policy Development

- Undertake the mapping of the main needs and weaknesses in the States Parties, coordinated by the World Heritage Centre (in cooperation with ARC-WH) in Bahrain);
- States Parties with updated laws to share their experiences through the organization of workshop between cultural and natural focal points and their respective legal experts, including the effective applicability of national laws;
- Coordination and link with other international Conventions dealing with cultural heritage;
- IUCN to propose a focal point for these issues.

Services for protection, conservation and preservation

- Urge States Parties to create a coordination mechanism which enhances cooperation and coordination between the different responsible institutions;
- Request that Jordan publishes its experience in the form of a booklet on the creation of a National Committee for World Heritage.

Scientific and technical studies research

- Encourage networks of UNESCO Chairs, research institutions and Universities to be strengthened, with a focus on issues specific to World Heritage, notably through the Athar programme;
- ARC-WH to work alongside the Athar network in order to further support research (for example through the availability of scholarships) for the benefit of World Heritage properties.

Financial status and human resources

- Emphasise the value of World Heritage listing in order to stimulate economic contributions by small enterprises as well as States through, for example, the commissioning of research on the economic value added of World Heritage properties;
- Encourage the drafting of national action plan on the economic benefits of World Heritage listing.

Training

- Ask ICCROM to assess that the Athar programme responds to the needs in the region as these have surfaced from the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab States;
- Co-operation between the various Centres in the region and organization of a meeting between these actors to provide across spectrum training and information based on needs, with a particular focus on management, monitoring, and the economic dimensions of World Heritage listing.

International Co-operation

- Recommend to States Parties to re-assess international cooperation at the national level to include preservation and conservation;
- ALECSO to take the lead in terms of enhancing and promoting inter-Arab co-operation.

Information and awareness building

- World Heritage Centre and ARC-WH to ensure the availability and translation in Arabic of WH documentation and information material;
- Encourage States Parties to make use of the existing material (both written and visual) in awareness campaigns.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATION IN TERMS OF MONITORING: to put in place a monitoring mechanism in the form of annual meetings in order to assess the advancement of the priorities and goals set as a result of the Periodic Reporting exercise.

B.2: Priorities identified by the Maghreb sub-region **(Focal points: Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia)**

Inventories

Theme : Consider the possibility of a common mechanism for inventory procedures to be established by States Parties in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies

- Identification of national inventory systems: State-of-the-art analysis and proposals for improvement;
- Analysis of the current Tentative Lists and proposals for harmonisation at the sub-regional level (with particular focus on natural properties, cultural landscapes and mixed properties);
- Meeting in the Maghreb of the respective administrations responsible for natural and cultural heritage (appointment of a focal point for natural World Heritage).

Nomination dossiers

Theme: Participation of local populations in the preparation of nomination dossiers:

- Examine practical methods for the participation of local populations in the preparation of nomination files and identify good practice in this field.

General development policy

Theme: update national legislation in order to reflect international standards (each country)

- Update national legislation in order to introduce international standards (each country);
- Encourage the ratification of all heritage-linked international conventions.

Protection, conservation and presentation services

Theme : Establish cooperation and coordination between the different responsible institutions

- Convene national awareness raising workshops on World Heritage for decision-makers from the different ministries, including parliamentary commissions.

Scientific and technical research and studies

Theme : Access and diffusion of research results

- Request the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) to regroup the scientific and technical corpus concerning World Heritage in the region, upload it on the Internet and ensure its translation into Arabic;
- Encourage a research strategy and provide financial support for research projects in the field of World Heritage (through, for example, *Vocations Patrimoine* fellowships);
- Support heritage curriculums at Universities.

Explore methods for sustainable funding

- In the framework of reflection on the future of the Convention, invite the World Heritage Committee to examine sustainable funding methods for World Heritage properties, and in particular to respond to the need for human resources.

Strengthen training in the field of management

- Organise a workshop for managers based on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of World Heritage properties, and provide them with the opportunity to review the draft reference manual;
- Draft a Support Manual for management based on OUV of World Heritage properties by category of sites;
- Promote sub-regional training, in the framework of the Athar Programme among others, aimed at improving management capacities of managers/coordinators of World Heritage properties in the region, including:
 - Awareness raising on the need to associate cultural and natural properties;
 - New conservation fields;
 - Community participation;
 - Links with sustainable development (case studies) ;
 - Risk preparedness.

International cooperation

- Recommendation : to define priorities for international cooperation in the form of national specifications
- Recommendation: the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) should play the role of facilitator for inter-Arab cooperation in liaison with other partner organizations (AMU, ISESCO, ALECSO)
- Develop and establish a framework of cooperation around World Heritage properties of the Maghreb sub-region
- Establish a network of professionals
- Encourage cooperation between the Maghreb and the Sub-Saharan regions
- In due course, establish cooperation with the African Union

Need to ensure appreciation and adoption of heritage

Recommendation: to create consultative committees including local communities able to participate in the management of World Heritage properties

Action:

- Launch a heritage appreciation study for the public at a World Heritage property in each country of the sub-region;
- Establish a documentation unit at each World Heritage site.

B. 3: Priorities identified by the Middle East sub-region (Focal Points: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, Syria)

Inventories

- Define common approaches;
- Establish guidelines for Arab countries.

Tentative Lists

- Organise a workshop for the revision of the Tentative Lists for an improved coordination between the Arab countries;
- Encourage coordination between World Heritage natural and cultural professionals;
- Convene training workshops to help identify cultural landscapes and natural sites.

Nominations

- Initiate awareness raising workshops for local communities and encourage their participation in the nomination process;
- Hold a workshop for the Arab region focused on the preparation of nominations of natural sites.

General development policy

- Define the strong and weak points of the current laws and compare them with international laws;
- Define legal guidelines to be proposed in respect of the « model » law proposed by ALECSO;
- Draft a law in collaboration with the parties concerned for validation by the responsible bodies.

Protection, conservation and presentation services

- Create commissions to improve coordination between the different actors concerned with the management of natural and cultural sites.

Scientific and technical research and studies

- Create a Website listing all the publications concerning World Heritage in the Arab countries;
- Orient a part of university research on World Heritage properties (for instance conservation, management, studies on Outstanding Universal Value);

- Request States Parties to devote a part of the studies of research institutions to World Heritage properties and themes linked to this field;
- Encourage universities to introduce specializations in World Heritage.

Explore methods for sustainable funding

- Request States to establish a national fund for World Heritage;
- Consider an Arab fund for World Heritage.

Strengthen training

- Develop a training programme for site managers to improve the functioning of the site and encourage a dynamic of sustainable development whilst taking into account the characteristics of each site;
- Convene regular workshops on the World Heritage Convention;
- Provide training for monitoring and risk identification.

International cooperation

- The specifications for archaeological excavation missions carried out at the sites, should incorporate information concerning rehabilitation and restoration work at the site;
- Develop interregional cooperation for the implementation of the priorities identified.

Recommendation:

Implement the decision taken at the meeting of the Culture Ministers, Algiers, 2007.

Information, awareness raising and education

- Request the media and the Ministries of Information to promote the concept of World Heritage by means of documentaries diffused through regional channels;
- Request ALECSO and media organizations to collaborate with Arab countries in the diffusion of specific World Heritage programmes, as well as encourage cooperation with the Ministries of Education to incorporate this information into the school curricula;
- Encourage the distribution of UNESCO and Advisory Body publications.
- Create a televised spot for World Heritage.

APPENDIX C. COMMON PRIORITIES, ACTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS IDENTIFIED BY THE SUB-REGIONAL WORKING GROUPS

1. To channel training needs towards site management with a focus on sustainable development and funding, monitoring, public and community awareness

Action: organisation of a workshop/training on value based (OUV) management.

Action: organisation of a set of workshops / training programmes directly dealing with monitoring, public and community awareness.

Action: Workshop on World Heritage awareness for professionals.

Action: Request that Jordan publishes their experience of establishing a National Committee for World Heritage in the form of a booklet.

Recommendation: Ask ICCROM to ensure that the Athar programme responds to the needs in the region as these have surfaced from the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab States.

Recommendation: Cooperation between the various Centres in the region and organization of a meeting between these actors to provide across spectrum training and information based on needs, with a particular focus on management, monitoring, and the economic dimensions of World Heritage listing.

2. To find effective modalities to involve local communities in WH processes

Action: To define the practical modalities through which local community participation through a working group (exchanges of case-studies) and/or by launching a research on this topic.

Recommendation: Encourage each State Party to involve local communities in the nomination process through a sub regional workshop to share best practices.

3. To update national legislations in order to reflect international requirements

Action: Organisation of workshop between cultural and natural focal points and their respective legal experts for knowledge sharing and exchange, including the effective applicability of national laws.

Recommendation: Encourage States Parties to ratify all International Conventions relating to heritage.

Recommendation: Take as a reference the 'prototype law' elaborated by ALECSO and use it as an instrument for reviewing national laws.

- 4. To further develop nominations to include other categories, including natural properties, cultural landscapes through the re-assessment of national inventory systems and Tentative Lists, and to explore transboundary opportunities.**

Action: To organise a sub regional expert workshop to determine whether inventory systems are adequate or need reviewing.

Action: To organize a workshop/meeting exclusively for natural heritage focal points on World Heritage in relationship to the other Conventions.

- 5. To create a network of Institutions and heritage professionals, including natural, cultural, and legal experts**

Action: World Heritage Centre in cooperation with ALECSO, ARC-WH and Athar programme, on the creation, consolidation and effective use of such networks.

- 6. To assemble all documentation concerning WH in the region, to ensure its availability and translation into Arabic**

Action: World Heritage Centre and ARC-WH to ensure the availability and translation in Arabic of World Heritage documentation and information materials.

- 7. To encourage research relevant to OUV and to focus on the socio-economic dimensions associated with the benefits of WH listing within the framework of sustainable development**

Action: To commission research on the economic value added of World Heritage properties to emphasise the value of World Heritage listing in order to stimulate economic contributions by small enterprises as well as States Parties.

Action: To encourage the drafting of national action plans on the economic benefits of World Heritage listing.