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World Heritage

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

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

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

**Tenth Extraordinary Session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room XII
9 November 2011, 2.00-3.00 pm**

SUMMARY RECORDS

Item 1 of the Agenda: Opening of the session

The tenth extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee was opened by H.E. Mrs. Eleonora Mitrofanova, **Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee**.

The 21 Members of the World Heritage Committee were present: Australia, Bahrain, Barbados, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Iraq, Jordan, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Arab Emirates.

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

Item 2 of the Agenda : Adoption of the Agenda

Document: WHC-11/10EXT.COM/2

Decision: **10 EXT. COM 2**

The **Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee** briefly explained the reasons of the convening of this session with regards to the election of the candidate of the Asia-Pacific Region to the position of Vice-Chairperson and to the election of the Rapporteur of the 36th session of the Committee.

She also explained that since the mandate of the Rapporteur of the 35th session of the Committee, Mr Ali Ould Sidi (Mali) finished at the end of the 35th session and since the Rapporteur of the 36th session had not been designated in June, these functions shall be exercised - as per Article 16.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee - by a Vice-Chairperson in the English alphabetical order of States members of the Bureau commencing with the country of the Rapporteur. She therefore introduced the Rapporteur of the session, Mrs Skumsa Mancotywa (South Africa).

The **Director of the World Heritage Centre** presented the Agenda items.

The **Chairperson** asked if there were comments on the agenda.

Since there were no comments, the **Chairperson** declared the Decision **10 EXT.COM 2** adopted and closed Item 2 of the Agenda.

Item 3 of the Agenda: Elections to the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee

Document: WHC-11/10EXT.COM/3

Decision: **10 EXT. COM 3**

The **Chairperson** reminded the Committee members about the already elected Vice-chairpersons of the 36th session of the Committee (France, Mexico, South Africa and United Arab Emirates) and that it was decided to suspend Rule 13.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Heritage Committee in order to be able to elect the fifth Vice-chairperson (Asia and Pacific Region) as well as the Rapporteur of the 36th session, after the elections to the World Heritage Committee that were held during the 18th session of the General Assembly of States Parties.

The Chairperson also recalled that in accordance with Article 8.1 of the *World Heritage Convention*, the term of office of members of the World Heritage Committee, which have been newly elected by the General Assembly would begin at the end of the 36th session of the General Conference (11 November 2011). Consequently, given the fact that the 10th extraordinary session was taking place before that date, the Committee would still be constituted by the “past” members.

The Chairperson also indicated the need, as recommended by the UNESCO Legal Advisor, to suspend Rule 13.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Heritage Committee which provides that “[t]he Committee, at the end of each ordinary session, shall elect, from amongst those members whose term continues through the next ordinary session, a Chairperson, five Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur who shall remain in office until the end of that session”; in order to allow the World Heritage Committee, at this 10th extraordinary session, to elect members of its Bureau from those whose term of office has not yet begun.

Adding that the application of Rule 13.1 of its Rules of Procedure may be suspended by a two-thirds majority of the States members present and voting, in accordance with Rule 52 of its Rules of Procedure, the Chairperson asked whether there were any objections to the suspension of Rule 13.1.

Having no objection, the Chairperson asked whether there were any proposals for both the Vice-Chairperson and the Rapporteur.

The Delegation of **Thailand** proposed Malaysia to the position of Vice-Chairperson.

Since this proposal received universal support, the **Chairperson** declared Malaysia elected as Vice-Chairperson to the Committee, for the Asia-Pacific Region.

The Delegation of the **Russian Federation** proposed **Mrs. Beatrix Hernandez (Mexico)** to the position as Rapporteur of the Committee.

Les délégations de la **Suisse**, de la **France** et du **Cambodge** expriment leur appui à cette proposition.

The Delegation of **Barbados** also expressed its full support to this proposal.

Since this proposal received full support, the **Chairperson** congratulated Mrs. Beatrix Hernandez (Mexico) and declared her elected as Rapporteur of the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee.

Mrs. Beatrix Hernandez took the floor to express her thanks for her election and all the warm support received.

The **Chairperson** declared the Decision **10 EXT.COM 3** adopted and closed Item 3 of the Agenda.

As an outgoing Committee member, the Delegation of **Nigeria** took the floor to thank personally the World Heritage Centre and UNESCO for their work in cultural heritage. It further pledged Nigeria's continued support to the Committee.

With all the Agenda items of the tenth extraordinary session successfully completed, the **Chairperson** thanked all present warmly for their work and looked forward to seeing them all in Saint Petersburg (Russian Federation) in 2012 for the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee. The session closed at 2.25pm.