Item 11 of the Provisional Agenda:


SUMMARY

This document is presented pursuant to Decision 40 COM 12 and contains a progress report on the work of the Policy Compendium Working Group and the preparation of the first draft Policy Compendium.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 11
I. BACKGROUND

1. The World Heritage Committee, at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011), decided to “establish a four-year cycle for updating the Operational Guidelines and that the Operational Guidelines should be restricted to operational guidance, and a new document, ‘Policy Guidelines’, be developed as a means to capture the range of policies that the Committee and the General Assembly adopt” (Decision 35 COM 12B).

2. At its 37th session, the World Heritage Committee requested that ICCROM, in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and IUCN, prepare a scoping document outlining the framework, scope and content of the Policy Compendium (Decision 37 COM 13). At this time, the World Heritage Centre highlighted that due to financial constraints, the preparation of a scoping study and the future Policy Compendium would be subject to the availability of extra-budgetary funds.

3. At the beginning of 2015, Australia confirmed its financial support for preparing the Policy Compendium document through a Funds-in-Trust (FIT) mechanism at UNESCO. A scoping study on the development of the Policy Compendium was prepared by ICCROM with the help of a consultant and in consultation with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and IUCN.

4. The scoping study was submitted to the World Heritage Committee for review at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016). The study proposed a two-phase process for the development of the Policy Compendium. The first phase would be to collect existing policies and to present them to the World Heritage Committee for review. Following that phase, the draft Policy Compendium would be reviewed for consistency between individual policies and a streamlined text would be presented for approval. An expert Working Group would be formed from staff of the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies, and experts from different regions of the world (paying attention to the balance among regions and of expertise in cultural and natural heritage).

5. The scoping study was approved by the World Heritage Committee along with its proposal to rename the document ‘A Compendium of Policy of the World Heritage Convention’, in short ‘Policy Compendium’, in order to avoid confusion between the ‘Operational’ and ‘Policy’ Guidelines. With Decision 40 COM 12, the World Heritage Committee requested that the World Heritage Centre organise the work and report on the progress of work and submit the first draft Policy Compendium as reviewed by the expert Working Group for examination at its 42nd session in 2018.

6. In accordance with the recommendations of the scoping study and further to its approval by the World Heritage Committee, the World Heritage Centre proceeded to implement Phase 1 thanks to the financial support of the Australian government. During Phase 1, the draft Policy Compendium evolved considerably as a result of three significant steps undertaken in the process. An overview of these steps is provided below.
II. STEP I. PREPARATORY WORK AND THE FIRST COMPILATION OF POLICIES

7. The first step involved contracting a consultant to work together with the World Heritage Centre on the preparation of a compilation of World Heritage policies for later review by the expert Working Group. The development of this compilation entailed choosing an appropriate thematic structure for the first draft Policy Compendium and assembling existing policies along these lines. Based on the recommendations of the scoping study, the 5C’s structure - derived from the five strategic objectives for the World Heritage Convention - was chosen, and this approach was further developed through the definition of subcategories of policy.

8. Extensive research of World Heritage policy documents, World Heritage Committee Decisions, the Operational Guidelines and other key policy-related documents was carried out and the selected texts were organised according to the ‘5C’s’ structure. This first compilation of World Heritage policies was finalised in October 2017 and served as a background document for the expert Working Group.

III. STEP II. THE EXPERT WORKING GROUP: REVIEW AND REVISION

9. The second step focused on the review and revision of the compilation. An expert Working Group was convened and the approach to the work and overarching principles regarding aims and scope of the Policy Compendium were defined.

10. The expert Working Group was established in the last quarter of 2017 and is composed of representatives of the UNESCO Advisory Bodies (ICCROM, ICOMOS, IUCN), professionals working in the field of cultural and natural heritage and staff members of the World Heritage Centre and is based on the principles of geographic and gender-balanced representation. The first meeting of the expert Working Group took place at UNESCO Headquarters from 6-7 December, 2017. In order to ensure that participants were adequately prepared for the meeting, in November 2017 the World Heritage Centre circulated the compilation of World Heritage policies (see paragraph 7) to group members prior to the meeting.

11. During the meeting, the expert Working Group discussed the remit of its work and agreed on fundamental questions such as identifying the key target audiences for a World Heritage Policy Compendium, the scope of the work in general, the desired outcomes of the first stage of the project, as well as establishing the working methods of the Working Group.

Scope and Outcomes

12. It was established that Phase 1 would consist of producing a first draft Policy Compendium for further development in Phase 2 of the Policy Compendium

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1 The 5 Strategic Objectives of the World Heritage Convention (Credibility, Conservation, Capacity Building, Communication, Communities). These ‘5Cs’ were defined in the Budapest Declaration on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention (2002) and by the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee (Christchurch, 2007) and are targeted at strengthening the Credibility of the World Heritage List, ensuring the effective Conservation of World Heritage properties, promoting the development of effective Capacity-building in States Parties, increasing public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through Communication, and enhancing the role of Communities in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
project, in line with the scoping study. It was clarified that preparing the first draft of the *Policy Compendium* was not an exercise in policy drafting, but rather in identifying and organising existing policies. With regard to content, a key outcome of the meeting was establishing a hierarchy of documents to be considered and further defining the type of policies to be included in the *Policy Compendium*. This included the identification of policy in decisions taken by the World Heritage Committee or the General Assembly of States Parties (Decision 37 COM 13, paragraph 6) and the establishment of the scope of decisions to be taken into account. It was emphasised that the *Policy Compendium* should only contain information that has been adopted by the Committee and/or the General Assembly. This means that much information related to policy contained in context documents such as mission reports, working documents, reports of expert meetings etc. would not be integrated into the first phase of the work, unless they are well reflected in the World Heritage Committee or General Assembly decisions and resolutions.

13. The organisation of the *Policy Compendium* was likewise discussed and a decision on the appropriate conceptual framework was made. It was agreed to maintain the proposed 5 C’s structure, based on the five strategic objectives for the *World Heritage Convention* (as per paragraph 7) with a new introductory section to contain general policies outside the scope of the 5 C’s.

14. It was also recognised that some policy decisions actually apply to more than one of these headings but this is likely to be true of all possible systems of classification. This means that in a paper document some policies will have to be included more than once or cross-referenced, while in the longer term, an optimal solution would be to establish the *Policy Compendium* as an online tool (reference manager) with policies tagged appropriately to each thematic area.

15. It was agreed that the terminology and organisation of the *Policy Compendium* should conform as far as possible with other World Heritage tools and systems (e.g. State of Conservation, Periodic Reporting).

16. A discussion on the relationship between the *Policy Compendium* and the *Operational Guidelines* highlighted the complexity of separating policy and operational matters within the *Operational Guidelines*. It was concluded that in the interests of consistency and completeness, and given the long-term aim established by the World Heritage Committee (see paragraph 1 and Decision 35 COM 12B), all policy references included within the *Operational Guidelines* should be included in the *Policy Compendium*.

**Target Audiences**

17. With regards to the target audiences it was noted that the World Heritage Committee and the States Parties to the Convention are the primary audience for the *Policy Compendium*, with those directly involved in the processes of implementation and the management of World Heritage properties (including Advisory Bodies to the Convention, regional offices of UNESCO, regional and local authorities, site managers, owners of/within World Heritage properties, local communities including indigenous peoples, and other relevant stakeholders) as another major audience. There is also a wider audience of academics and others with an interest in the *World Heritage Convention*. It was agreed that in accordance with Decision 40 COM 12, stakeholders should be consulted in the development process. Given the financial constraints it was decided that the most
cost-effective and inclusive form of consultation would be an online consultation with World Heritage stakeholders.

18. It was agreed that a consultation survey would be developed by the World Heritage Centre in consultation with the expert Working Group and carried out prior to the next working meeting (scheduled for March 2018). A detailed workplan for the production of the first draft Policy Compendium in the lead up to the 42 COM was established and the expert Working Group divided into four sub-groups. Each sub-group was tasked with reviewing specific sections of the draft Policy Compendium and proposing changes and/or inclusions for discussion at the second session of the Working Group in March 2018.

IV. STEP III. CONSULTATION AND REFINEMENT: THE FIRST DRAFT POLICY COMPENDIUM

19. The third step for the development of the first draft Policy Compendium was the consultation and refinement phase. An online consultation with key World Heritage stakeholders was carried out while the work of the Working Group continued remotely, via e-mail and the SharePoint platform, UNESTEAMS, and was coordinated by the World Heritage Centre.

Online Consultation with World Heritage Stakeholders

20. Between February and March 2018, the World Heritage Centre carried out an online consultation with key World Heritage stakeholders on the first draft of the Policy Compendium. This inclusive online consultation invited States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, World Heritage Committee Members, UNESCO Category 2 Institutes and Centres (C2Cs) specializing in World Heritage and civil society organisations with activities in the fields covered by the World Heritage Convention to review a summary of the proposed content, structure and format of the future Policy Compendium. Participants completed the online survey and provided feedback and comments to the World Heritage Centre in March 2018. As the first instance of such direct consultation between the World Heritage Centre and civil society organisations, the survey marked not only an important step in the development of the Policy Compendium, but in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in general.

21. The results of the consultation were collated by the World Heritage Centre in March 2018 and presented for review by the expert Working Group in the form of a report containing statistics, approval ratings, narrative comments and suggestions organised by topic.

22. Over 75 individuals participated in the consultation survey. A breakdown by participant type, region and gender can be found below:
Participation by key stakeholder:

State Party 81%
Civil Society 11%
C2C 8%

Participation by region:

EUR 60%
LAC 12%
ARB 9%
APA 8%
AFR 11%
Participation by gender:

![Pie chart showing gender distribution]

23. The results of the survey demonstrated an overwhelmingly positive reception of the proposals for the structure, content and format of the *Policy Compendium*. With regard to specific comments, a number of recurring topics were identified. In terms of content: factors affecting the property, sustainable development, local communities’ involvement and categories of World Heritage. Specific proposals for inclusion of certain policies were made, and while respondents were strongly in favour of an online format of the *Policy Compendium*, it was noted by a number of respondents that a hard copy was also indispensable.

Responses regarding the structure, content and format of the *Policy Compendium*:

1. Content reflects key issues and policy areas with regards to World Heritage

![Pie chart showing responses]

Yes 97%
No 3%
24. The second meeting of the expert Working Group took place in March 2018 at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris. Over the course of the three-day working meeting the participants considered the results of the consultation, working through specific comments and consecutively noting points for implementation.

25. Both during the second meeting and over the course of the remote work carried out in the weeks following the meeting, the Working Group carried out a policy-by-policy review, supplementing areas identified as lacking, eliminating duplications of policy and making decisions on elements considered as non-policy. An appendix of relevant policy documents beyond the scope of the type of texts agreed upon for inclusion in the compendium was drafted. Finally, the first draft underwent a final editorial review for formatting and presentation by the World Heritage Centre. The final version of the first draft Policy Compendium is available in Annex I of this document and an outline of the methodological framework is detailed below.
V. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE FIRST DRAFT POLICY COMPENDIUM

26. The starting point for the methodological framework are Decisions 35 COM 12B of the World Heritage Committee stating that the range of policies that the Committee and the General Assembly adopt, should be captured in a new document. As per the Scoping Study endorsed by Decision 40 COM 12, the primary objective of the draft Policy Compendium is to compile already existing policies adopted by the Committee and the General Assembly through their decisions and resolutions since the entry into force of the Convention, and to make these policies accessible through the establishment of a coherent structure. The intention is not to replace the texts adopted by the World Heritage Committee and the General Assembly or the Operational Guidelines.

27. The mandate for preparing the Policy Compendium did not include developing recommendations for new policies, however, one consequence of the work carried out was the identification of areas where further policy may need to be developed for improved decision-making by the World Heritage Committee.

28. Relevant standard-setting texts and other documents of the UN system are included in an annex of the draft Policy Compendium.

29. In order to give a more holistic approach, a case law analysis, based on decisions of the World Heritage Committee concerning State of Conservation of World Heritage Properties and Nominations, was carried out. Approximately 400 decisions concerning state of conservation of individual properties were consulted. Decisions were selected based on research on themes and possible threats (State of Conservation database at whc.unesco.org/en/soc). The current state of conservation of specific sites was not a consideration in the selection of decisions to include or not in the draft Policy Compendium: the threshold was that the Committee applied the policy contained in the decisions in a consistent way. In support of this, policies based on case law were only included in the draft Policy Compendium if at least three similar decisions had been taken. With regard to nominations, more than 350 Decisions on specific nominations were consulted. A detailed list of the decisions and documents referred to is included in an annex of the draft Policy Compendium.

30. The following hierarchy of texts was established to reflect the nature of the policies included:
   o The Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
   o Strategies, policies and declarations on World Heritage adopted by the World Heritage Committee and the General Assembly of States Parties to the 1972 Convention
   o The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention
   o Recommendations and other relevant documents adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO
   o Documents and Decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee, primarily emerging from individual cases (case law)
31. With regard to the presentation of the *Policy Compendium*, it was concluded that both an online tool and a document format would be the optimal solution. The online format would enhance usability and is viewed as the most appropriate means to present World Heritage policies in a structured way and reflect the overlapping nature of many policies, which touch on many themes or subcategories according to the current index proposed. Further work on the format of the online tool, the presentation of the information and the standards to be used will be necessary and a feasibility study should be undertaken by the World Heritage Centre in this regard. The World Heritage Centre has already carried out a similar task when it developed the highly successful database on state of conservation decisions, which has received 1 million visitors since its launch in 2012.

32. In line with the conclusions of the expert Working Group (as per paragraph 15) as well as the results of the online consultation regarding the optimal final format for the *Policy Compendium*, the World Heritage Centre is formulating a proposal for an online tool (reference manager) to be developed for the *Policy Compendium*. Key questions will be considered, including whether existing open-source software should be utilised or whether a customized tool should be developed. An outline of the resources needed and draft budget for the development will be included in the proposal.

**VI. COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH**

33. Information on the development of the *Policy Compendium* has been made available on a dedicated *Policy Compendium* webpage (http://whc.unesco.org/en/policy-compendium) on the World Heritage Centre website. The *Policy Compendium* webpage features a background and description of the project, Committee working documents and links to news items such as the completion of working meetings and the carrying out of the online consultation with stakeholders. The webpage is regularly updated with an overview of activities undertaken.

34. A visual identity for the project was established, and has been transmitted through the website and the production of materials for dissemination to stakeholders.

**VII. PHASE 2: TOWARDS A FINALISED POLICY COMPENDIUM**

35. The World Heritage Centre will continue implement Phase 2 of the two-phased approach, as per the scoping study contained in WHC/16/40.COM/12 and endorsed with Decision 40 COM 12, further elaborating the *Policy Compendium*, checking for consistency and streamlining the texts of the policies and organising reviews by the expert Working Group to ensure that changes improve consistency and usability but do not introduce alteration of substance.

36. Meanwhile, the World Heritage Committee may wish to request that the expert Working Group formulate recommendations on the areas they have identified as having little formal policy approval to support them, where policy was implicit, or where the policy elements are contained in other reference documents.
VIII. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision: 42 COM 11

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/11,


3. Thanks the Government of Australia for their commitment and financial contribution in view of the development of a Policy document for a better implementation of the World Heritage Convention;

4. Commends the Working Group of experts and the World Heritage Centre for the preparation of the draft Policy Compendium;

5. Also commends the World Heritage Centre for successfully carrying out an inclusive online consultation with World Heritage stakeholders and welcomes the positive feedback received;

6. Takes note with appreciation of the first draft Policy Compendium and requests the World Heritage Centre and the Working Group of experts to continue the work of Phase 2 of elaborating the Policy Compendium, and organize inclusive consultations with key stakeholders as appropriate;

7. Reiterates that Phase 2 is to be organized in line with the brief provided by the Scoping Study and also requests that the World Heritage Centre and the expert Working Group, in the course of their work, explore possible gaps where policy may need to be developed or refined, and further requests that the final Policy Compendium be submitted for examination and approval to the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;

8. Also takes note of the recommendation for the development of the Policy Compendium as an online tool and furthermore requests that the World Heritage Centre continue to explore the feasibility of this option and calls upon States Parties to provide extra-budgetary funds to finance this initiative.
List of Annexes to Document 42 COM 11

Annex I- First draft Policy Compendium
ABSTRACT
This document contains a draft Policy Compendium for the World Heritage Convention. It should be read in conjunction with the recommendations of the expert Working Group contained in Working Document 18/42.COM/11

THE DRAFT POLICY COMPENDIUM
2018
For examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session, Manama, Bahrain (24 June - 4 July 2018)
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### Progress Report on the Draft Policy Compendium

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Introduction to the draft World Heritage Policy Compendium

Within the overall context of the development of a Compendium of Policy of the World Heritage Convention, and in line with World Heritage Committee Decisions 35 COM 12B, 37 COM 13, 39 COM 12 and 40 COM 12, this document represents a draft Policy Compendium. This draft is the outcome of the work of Phase 1 of the two-phased approach of the Policy Compendium initiative, as outlined in the Scoping Study (WHC/16/40.COM/12) prepared by ICCROM and the World Heritage Centre in 2016 and approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016).

Phase 1 of the Policy Compendium Initiative – Collection of Existing Policies and the Draft Policy Compendium

The work to date on the elaboration of the Policy Compendium has entailed preparatory work (the Scoping Study) and initial research and analysis by the World Heritage Centre which resulted in the preparation of a first compilation of policies. This was followed by extensive review and refinement by a Working Group of nature and culture experts and consultation with key World Heritage stakeholders, and finalisation for submission to the World Heritage Committee. The work has been organised and coordinated by the World Heritage Centre and was implemented through financial support from the government of Australia via a Funds-in-Trust (FIT) mechanism at UNESCO.

Background and Methodological Framework of the draft Policy Compendium

Background

The starting point for the methodological framework of the draft Policy Compendium is Decision 35 COM 12B of the World Heritage Committee stating that the range of policies that the Committee and the General Assembly adopt should be captured in a new document. As per the Scoping Study endorsed by Decision 40 COM 12, the primary objective of the draft Policy Compendium is to compile already existing policies adopted by the Committee and the General Assembly through their decisions and resolutions since the entry into force of the Convention, and to make these policies accessible through the establishment of a coherent structure. The intention is not to replace the texts adopted by the World Heritage Committee and the General Assembly or the Operational Guidelines.

Target Audiences

With regards to the target audiences it was noted that the World Heritage Committee and the States Parties to the Convention are the primary audience for the Policy Compendium, with those directly involved in the processes of implementation and the management of World Heritage properties (including Advisory Bodies to the Convention, regional and local authorities, site managers, owners of/within World Heritage properties, local communities, including indigenous peoples, and other relevant stakeholders) as another major audience. There is also a wider audience of academics and others with an interest in the World Heritage Convention. It was agreed that in accordance with Decision 40 COM 12, stakeholders should be consulted in the development process and this was carried out through an online consultation in February – March 2018.
Scope of policies

The mandate for preparing the *Policy Compendium* did not include developing recommendations for new policies, however, one consequence of the work carried out was the identification of areas where further policy may need to be developed for improved decision-making by the World Heritage Committee.

In order to give a more holistic approach, a case law analysis, based on decisions of the World Heritage Committee concerning State of Conservation of World Heritage Properties and Nominations was carried out. Approximately 400 decisions concerning state of conservation of individual properties were consulted. Decisions were selected based on research on themes and possible threats (State of Conservation database at [http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc](http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc)). The current state of conservation of specific sites was not a consideration in the selection of decisions to include or not in the *Policy Compendium*: the criteria was that the Committee applied the policy contained in the decisions in a consistent way. In support of this, policies based on case law were only included in the *Policy Compendium* if at least three similar decisions had been taken. With regard to nominations, more than 350 Decisions on specific nominations were consulted. A detailed list of decisions and documents referred to is included in the Annexes of this document.

The following hierarchy of texts was established to reflect the nature of the policies included:

- The Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- Strategies, policies and declarations on World Heritage adopted by the World Heritage Committee and the General Assembly of States Parties to the 1972 Convention
- The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention
- Recommendations and other relevant documents adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO
- Documents and Decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee, primarily emerging from individual cases (case law)

It was also noted that there were a range of policies and strategic documents which might be relevant to the work of the World Heritage Committee that do not fall into the categories above. These include relevant standard-setting texts and other documents of UNESCO and the UN system as well as texts from World Heritage manuals and tools. These are referenced in Annex I of the draft *Policy Compendium*.

Structure of the *Policy Compendium*

- The document is organized around the 5 Strategic Objectives of the World Heritage Convention, with an introductory section containing general policies. In order to make it clearer, subcategories were created per Objective.
- Most of the included texts could be part of different subcategories. In order to avoid a large number of repetitions, the selected texts are considered under just one subcategory. This consideration could be changed in the future phase of work.
- In order to easily identify the original context of each text, all the extracted paragraphs refer to the original source.
• The extracted paragraphs keep the original wording of the Document or Decision. In the interests of coherence, in certain cases minor changes have been made, and these are identified with square brackets.

• A higher number of references in one or another category does not mean any type of hierarchy or consideration about the importance of the theme. It is related to the existing references in the consulted documents. Imbalances among categories should be considered for future phases of the work on the Policy Compendium.

• For those paragraphs related to case law on the state of conservation, the content of the paragraphs is not linked to one single decision, but to different decisions which have had a similar approach to a specific subject. In some cases, the wording could be similar to some particular decisions on the state of conservation of a site, however the text has the aim to highlight common approaches to general issues promoted by the World Heritage Committee, and not to any issue on a specific site.

**Format of the Policy Compendium**

With regard to the presentation of the *Policy Compendium*, it was concluded that both an online tool and a document format would be the optimal solution. The online format would enhance usability and is viewed as the most appropriate means to present World Heritage policies in a structured way and reflect the overlapping nature of many policies, which touch on many themes or subcategories according to the current index proposed. Further work on the format of the online tool, the presentation of the information and the standards to be used is foreseen in Phase 2 of the Policy Compendium work.

**Consistency between World Heritage tools and systems**

It was agreed that the terminology and organisation of the *Policy Compendium* should conform as far as possible with other World Heritage tools and systems (e.g. State of Conservation, Periodic Reporting).

In the interests of consistency and completeness, and given the long-term aim established by the World Heritage Committee (Decision 35 COM 12B), all policy references included within the *Operational Guidelines* are included in this draft *Policy Compendium*.

**Abbreviations and References**

- **OGs** – Refers to paragraphs extracted from The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*.

- References such as Decision 35 COM 12B refer to decisions of the World Heritage Committee. References such as CONF 003 XII.46 refer to decisions of the World Heritage Committee prior to 2003.

- References such as 21 GA 2B refer to resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention*. References such as CONF 206 53-73 refer to resolutions of the General Assembly of States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention* prior to 2003.
In some cases, subtitles have been included in different chapters or sub-chapters. These subtitles are included with the purpose of facilitating the user, although they are not necessarily part of the relevant document or decision. The subtitles are indicated in underlined italics.
1 General Policies regarding the World Heritage Convention

1.1 Fundamental World Heritage policies

**THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

Preamble. “(...) It is essential (...) to adopt new provisions in the form of a convention establishing an effective system of collective protection of the cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value, organized on a permanent basis and in accordance with modern scientific methods (...).”

Article 4. “Each State Party to this Convention recognizes that the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage referred to in Articles 1 and 2 and situated on its territory, belongs primarily to that State. It will do all it can to this end, to the utmost of its own resources and, where appropriate, with any international assistance and co-operation, in particular, financial, artistic, scientific and technical, which it may be able to obtain”.

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 4** “The cultural and natural heritage is among the priceless and irreplaceable assets, not only of each nation, but of humanity as a whole. The loss, through deterioration or disappearance, of any of these most prized assets constitutes an impoverishment of the heritage of all the peoples of the world. Parts of that heritage, because of their exceptional qualities, can be considered to be of “Outstanding Universal Value” and as such worthy of special protection against the dangers which increasingly threaten them”.

**OG 7** “The [World Heritage] Convention aims at the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of cultural and natural heritage of Outstanding Universal Value”.

**OG 14** “States Parties are encouraged to bring together their cultural and natural heritage experts at regular intervals to discuss the implementation of the Convention. States Parties may wish to involve representatives of the Advisory Bodies and other experts as appropriate”.

**OG 25** “In order to facilitate the implementation of the Convention, the Committee develops Strategic Objectives, (...) to ensure that new threats placed on World Heritage are addressed effectively”.

**OG 26** The current Strategic Objectives (also referred to as “the 5 Cs”) are the following:

1. Strengthen the Credibility of the World Heritage List:
2. Ensure the effective Conservation of World Heritage Properties;
3. Promote the development of effective Capacity-building in States Parties:
4. Increase public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through Communication;
5. Enhance the role of Communities in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

**POLICY FOR THE INTEGRATION OF A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE INTO THE PROCESSES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

1. “(...) [The World Heritage Convention] is an integral part of UNESCO’s overarching mandate to foster equitable sustainable development and to promote peace and security (...)”.

Progress Report on the Draft Policy Compendium WHC/18/42.COM/11
3. “By identifying, protecting, conserving, presenting and transmitting to present and future generations irreplaceable cultural and natural heritage properties of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), the World Heritage Convention, in itself, contributes significantly to sustainable development and the wellbeing of people. At the same time, strengthening the three dimensions of sustainable development that are environmental sustainability, inclusive social development, and inclusive economic development, as well as the fostering of peace and security may bring benefits to World Heritage properties and support their OUV, if carefully integrated within their conservation and management systems”.

8. “In applying a sustainable development perspective within the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, States Parties should also recognize the close links and interdependence of biological diversity and local cultures within the socio-ecological systems of many World Heritage properties. These have often developed over time through mutual adaptation between humans and the environment, interacting with and affecting one another in complex ways, and are fundamental components of the resilience of communities. This suggests that any policy aiming to achieve sustainable development will necessarily have to take into consideration the interrelationship of biological diversity with the local cultural context”.

9. “All dimensions of sustainable development should apply to natural, cultural and mixed properties in their diversity. These dimensions are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, with none having predominance over another and each being equally necessary. States Parties should therefore review and reinforce governance frameworks within management systems of World Heritage properties in order to achieve the appropriate balance, integration and harmonization between the protection of OUV and the pursuit of sustainable development objectives. This will include the full respect and participation of all stakeholders and rights holders, including indigenous peoples and local communities, the setting up of effective inter-institutional coordination mechanisms and provisions for the systematic assessment of environmental, social, and economic impacts of all proposed developments, as well as effective monitoring through continuity in data collection against agreed indicators”.

**DECISION 41 COM 7**

“Integrated approaches for the conservation of natural and cultural heritage

37. Recalling that the World Heritage Convention explicitly links the concepts of cultural and natural heritage, highlights the importance of promoting integrated approaches that strengthen holistic governance, improve conservation outcomes and contribute to sustainable development;

38. Notes with appreciation the growing interest and efforts by the States Parties and heritage practitioners to develop and apply integrated approaches to conservation of natural and cultural heritage, and encourages the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, in cooperation with universities and other relevant actors, to continue and expand these efforts, in accordance with the Policy Document for the integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the Convention (2015)”.

**1.2 UNESCO standard-setting texts and synergies with other Conventions and Programmes**

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 41** “The World Heritage Committee recognizes the benefits of closer co-ordination of its work with other UNESCO programmes and their relevant Conventions (…)”. 

Progress Report on the Draft Policy Compendium WHC/18/42.COM/11
OG 42 “The World Heritage Committee with the support of the Secretariat will ensure appropriate coordination and information-sharing between the World Heritage Convention and other Conventions, programmes and international organizations related to the conservation of cultural and natural heritage”.

OG 44 Selected global Conventions and programmes relating to the protection of cultural and natural heritage

UNESCO CONVENTIONS AND PROGRAMMES

- Protocol I (1954)
- Protocol II (1999)


Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)
  https://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/

Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (2001)

  http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001325/132540e.pdf

Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme
  http://www.unesco.org/mab/

  http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001429/142919e.pdf

Other Conventions

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar) (1971)

  http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/text.shtml


Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)

UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects (Rome, 1995)
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (New York, 1992)
https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf

**DECISION 37 COM 7**

3. [The World Heritage Committee] “Takes note of the efforts of the World Heritage Centre and partners to try to minimize the impacts of conflicts on the properties by raising the awareness of the parties concerned and mobilizing financial support for their conservation, and appreciates the United Nations Security Council resolution 2100 of 25 April 2013 to ensure that, for the first time, the protection of cultural and historical sites, in collaboration with UNESCO, has been included in the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA); launches an appeal to UNESCO and to the Parties to The Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954)”.

**DECISION 40 COM 7**

15. [The World Heritage Committee] “recommends that the World Heritage Centre strengthen its relations with other organizations working on Climate Change, particularly with the UNFCCC and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) secretariats, and specifically with regard to the effect of Climate Change on World Heritage properties, and also requests the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to work with IPCC with the objective of including a specific chapter on natural and cultural World Heritage in future IPCC assessment reports”.

**DECISION 41 COM 7**

22. [The World Heritage Committee] “reiterates the importance of States Parties undertaking the most ambitious implementation of the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (...) and strongly invites all States Parties to ratify the Paris Agreement at the earliest possible opportunity and to undertake actions to address Climate Change under the Paris Agreement consistent with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances, that are fully consistent with their obligations within the World Heritage Convention to protect the OUV of all World Heritage properties”.

**CASE LAW**

“In order to contribute to a better coordinated approach to the implementation, a coordinated and increased synergy with related instruments and other relevant international instruments (other UNESCO conventions in the field of culture, as well as other biodiversity conventions) is promoted” *(based on the state of conservation Decisions)*.

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1 The promotion of collaboration is present in different decisions and documents. See for example: WHC-12/36.COM/12A and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.5A.1 (related to Decision 36 COM 5A.1, where the Committee takes note with appreciation of the results of the activities undertaken by the World Heritage Centre over the past year in pursuit of its five strategic objectives as presented in document WHC-12/36.COM/5A.1).
1.3 Shared Responsibility and International Cooperation

**General**

**WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

Article 6.

"1. Whilst fully respecting the sovereignty of the States on whose territory the cultural and natural heritage mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 is situated, and without prejudice to property right provided by national legislation, the States Parties to this Convention recognize that such heritage constitutes a world heritage for whose protection it is the duty of the international community as a whole to co-operate.

2. The States Parties undertake, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, to give their help in the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 11 if the States on whose territory it is situated so request.

3. Each State Party to this Convention undertakes not to take any deliberate measures which might damage directly or indirectly the cultural and natural heritage referred to in Articles 1 and 2 situated on the territory of other States Parties to this Convention".


"International cooperation and shared responsibility through the World Heritage Convention ensures effective conservation of our common cultural and natural heritage, nurtures respect and understanding among the world’s communities and cultures, and contributes to their sustainable development”.

3. “Through cooperation, we seek:
   - A sustainable environment in which States Parties are encouraged, supported and assisted by the international community to fully meet their obligations and enjoy their rights under the World Heritage Convention;
   - Local, national and international communities, both now and in the future, which feel a connection to, engage with and benefit from the world’s natural and cultural heritage;
   - A World Heritage List that is a credible, relevant and representative selection of the world’s most outstanding heritage sites;
   - A World Heritage system which remains transparent, equitable, accountable and efficient in an ever-changing world”.

**RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION, AT NATIONAL LEVEL, OF THE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

66. “Member States should co-operate with regard to the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage, seeking aid, if it seems desirable, from international organizations, both intergovernmental and non-governmental. Such multilateral or bilateral co-operation should be carefully co-ordinated and should take the form of measures such as the following:
   a) exchange of information and of scientific and technical publications;"

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b) organization of seminars and working parties on particular subjects;
c) provision of study and travel fellowships, and of scientific, technical and administrative staff, and equipment;
d) provision of facilities for scientific and technical training abroad, by allowing young research workers and technicians to take part in architectural projects, archaeological excavations and the conservation of natural sites;
e) co-ordination, within a group of Member States, of large-scale projects involving conservation, excavations, restoration and rehabilitation work, with the object of making the experience gained generally available”.

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 215** “The Committee develops and coordinates international co-operation in the area of research needed for the effective implementation of the *Convention*. States Parties are also encouraged to make resources available to undertake research, since knowledge and understanding are fundamental to the identification, management, and monitoring of World Heritage properties”.

International Assistance

**OG 189** “The Committee shall allocate a specific, significant portion of the World Heritage Fund to financing of possible assistance to World Heritage properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger”.

**OG 233** “The *Convention* provides International Assistance to States Parties for the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage located on their territories and inscribed, or potentially suitable for inscription on the World Heritage List. International Assistance should be seen as supplementary to national efforts for the conservation and management of World Heritage and Tentative List properties when adequate resources cannot be secured at the national level”.

**OG 237** “States Parties in arrears of payment of their compulsory or voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund are not eligible for international assistance, it being understood that this provision does not apply to requests for emergency assistance”.

**OG 238** “To support its Strategic Objectives, the Committee also allocates International Assistance in conformity with the priorities set out in its decisions and in the Regional Programmes it adopts as a follow up to Periodic Reports”.

**OG 239** “(…) The following considerations govern the Committee’s decisions in granting International Assistance:

a. the likelihood that the assistance will have a catalytic and multiplier effect (“seed money”) and promote financial and technical contributions from other sources;
b. when funds available are limited and a selection has to be made, preference is given to:
   o a Least Developed Country or Low Income Economy as defined by the United Nations Economic and Social Council’s Committee for Development Policy, or
   o a Lower Middle Income Country as defined by the World Bank, or
   o a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), or
   o a State Party in a post-conflict situation;
c. the urgency of the protective measures to be taken at World Heritage properties;
d. whether the legislative, administrative and, wherever possible, financial commitment of the recipient State Party is available to the activity;”
e. the impact of the activity on furthering the Strategic Objectives decided by the Committee;
f. the degree to which the activity responds to needs identified through the reactive monitoring process and/or the analysis of regional Periodic Reports;
g. the exemplary value of the activity in respect to scientific research and the development of cost effective conservation techniques;
h. the cost of the activity and expected results; and
i. the educational value both for the training of experts and for the general public”.

OG 240 “A balance will be maintained in the allocation of resources between cultural and natural heritage and between Conservation and Management and Preparatory Assistance”.

Regional cooperation

OG 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”.

OG 205bis “The Periodic Reporting process is used as an opportunity for regional exchange and cooperation and to enhance active co-ordination and synchronization between States Parties, particularly in the case of transboundary and transnational properties”.

1.4 Heritage Policies at National Level

WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

Article 5.

“To ensure that effective and active measures are taken for the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage situated on its territory, each State Party to this Convention shall endeavour, in so far as possible, and as appropriate for each country:

(a) to adopt a general policy which aims to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community and to integrate the protection of that heritage into comprehensive planning programmes;
(b) to set up within its territories, where such services do not exist, one or more services for the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage with an appropriate staff and possessing the means to discharge their functions;
(c) to develop scientific and technical studies and research and to work out such operating methods as will make the State capable of counteracting the dangers that threaten its cultural or natural heritage;
(d) to take the appropriate legal, scientific, technical, administrative and financial measures necessary for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of this heritage; and
(e) to foster the establishment or development of national or regional centres for training in the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage and to encourage scientific research in this field”.

Article 17.

“The States Parties to this Convention shall consider or encourage the establishment of national public and private foundations or associations whose purpose is to invite donations for the protection of the cultural and natural heritage”.

**Recommendation concerning the Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and Natural Heritage**

3. “In conformity with their jurisdictional and legislative requirements, each State should formulate, develop and apply as far as possible a policy whose principal aim should be to co-ordinate and make use of all scientific, technical, cultural and other resources available to secure the effective protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage”.

4. “The cultural and natural heritage represents wealth, the protection, conservation and presentation of which impose responsibilities on the States in whose territory it is situated, both vis-a-vis their own nationals and vis-a-vis the international community as a whole; Member States should take such action as may be necessary to meet these responsibilities”.

**Operational Guidelines**

**OG 15** “While fully respecting the sovereignty of the States on whose territory the cultural and natural heritage is situated, States Parties to the Convention recognize the collective interest of the international community to cooperate in the protection of this heritage. States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, have the responsibility to:

a) ensure the identification, nomination, protection, conservation, presentation, and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage found within their territory, and give help in these tasks to other States Parties that request it;

b) adopt general policies to give the heritage a function in the life of the community;

c) integrate heritage protection into comprehensive planning programmes;

d) establish services for the protection, conservation and presentation of the heritage;

e) develop scientific and technical studies to identify actions that would counteract the dangers that threaten the heritage;

f) take appropriate legal, scientific, technical, administrative and financial measures to protect the heritage;

g) foster the establishment or development of national or regional centres for training in the protection, conservation and presentation of the heritage and encourage scientific research in these fields;

h) not take any deliberate measures that directly or indirectly damage their heritage or that of another State Party to the Convention;

i) submit to the World Heritage Committee an inventory of properties suitable for inscription on the World Heritage List (referred to as a Tentative List);

j) make regular contributions to the World Heritage Fund, the amount of which is determined by the General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention;

k) consider and encourage the establishment of national, public and private foundations or associations to facilitate donations for the protection of World Heritage;
l) give assistance to international fund-raising campaigns organized for the World Heritage Fund;
m) use educational and information programmes to strengthen appreciation and respect by their peoples of the cultural and natural heritage defined in Articles 1 and 2 of the Convention, and to keep the public informed of the dangers threatening this heritage;
n) provide information to the World Heritage Committee on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and state of conservation of properties".
2 Policies regarding CREDIBILITY of the World Heritage List

2.1 Nominations to the World Heritage List

**WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

Article 4

“Each State Party to this Convention recognizes that the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage referred to in Articles 1 and 2 and situated on its territory, belongs primarily to that State. It will do all it can to this end, to the utmost of its own resources and, where appropriate, with any international assistance and co-operation, in particular, financial, artistic, scientific and technical, which it may be able to obtain”.

Article 6

1. “Whilst fully respecting the sovereignty of the States on whose territory the cultural and natural heritage mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 is situated, and without prejudice to property right provided by national legislation, the States Parties to this Convention recognize that such heritage constitutes a world heritage for whose protection it is the duty of the international community as a whole to cooperate.

2. The States Parties undertake, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, to give their help in the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 11 if the States on whose territory it is situated so request”.

Article 11

1. “Every State Party to this Convention shall, in so far as possible, submit to the World Heritage Committee an inventory of property forming part of the cultural and natural heritage, situated in its territory and suitable for inclusion in the list provided for in paragraph 2 of this Article. This inventory, which shall not be considered exhaustive, shall include documentation about the location of the property in question and its significance.

2. On the basis of the inventories submitted by States in accordance with paragraph 1, the Committee shall establish, keep up to date and publish, under the title of “World Heritage List,” a list of properties forming part of the cultural heritage and natural heritage, as defined in Articles 1 and 2 of this Convention, which it considers as having outstanding universal value in terms of such criteria as it shall have established. An updated list shall be distributed at least every two years.

3. The inclusion of a property in the World Heritage List requires the consent of the State concerned. The inclusion of a property situated in a territory, sovereignty or jurisdiction over which is claimed by more than one State shall in no way prejudice the rights of the parties to the dispute”.

**BUDAPEST DECLARATION ON WORLD HERITAGE**

[The World Heritage Committee invites States Parties to the Convention to]

3b. “identify and nominate cultural and natural heritage properties representing heritage in all its diversity, for inclusion on the World Heritage List”.

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**Operational Guidelines**

**OG 48** “Nominations of immovable heritage which are likely to become movable will not be considered”.

**OG 50** “States Parties are invited to submit nominations of properties of cultural and/or natural value considered to be of "Outstanding Universal Value" for inscription on the World Heritage List”

**OG 53** “Nominations presented to the Committee shall demonstrate the full commitment of the State Party to preserve the heritage concerned, within its means. Such commitment shall take the form of appropriate policy, legal, scientific, technical, administrative and financial measures adopted and proposed to protect the property and its Outstanding Universal Value”.

**OG 122** “Before States Parties begin to prepare a nomination of a property for inscription on the World Heritage List, they should become familiar with the nomination cycle, described in Paragraph 168. It is desirable to carry out initial preparatory work to establish that a property has the potential to justify Outstanding Universal Value, including integrity or authenticity, before the development of a full nomination dossier which could be expensive and time-consuming. Such preparatory work might include collection of available information on the property, thematic studies, scoping studies of the potential for demonstrating Outstanding Universal Value, including integrity or authenticity, or an initial comparative study of the property in its wider global or regional context, including an analysis in the context of the Gap Studies produced by the Advisory Bodies. This first phase of work will help to establish the feasibility of a possible nomination and avoid the use of resources on preparing nominations that may be unlikely to succeed. States Parties are encouraged to seek upstream advice from the relevant Advisory Body(ies) for this first phase as well as to contact the World Heritage Centre at the earliest opportunity in considering nominations to seek information and guidance”.

**OG 123** “Participation in the nomination process of local communities, indigenous peoples, governmental, non-governmental and private organizations and other stakeholders is essential to enable them to have a shared responsibility with the State Party in the maintenance of the property. States Parties are encouraged to prepare nominations with the widest possible participation of stakeholders and to demonstrate, as appropriate, that the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples has been obtained, through, inter alia, making the nominations publicly available in appropriate languages and public consultations and hearings”.

**OG 128** Nominations may be submitted at any time during the year, but only those nominations that are "complete" (see paragraph 132 and Annex 5) and received by the Secretariat on or before 1 February will be considered for inscription on the World Heritage List by the World Heritage Committee during the following year. Only nominations of properties included in the State Party’s Tentative List will be examined by the Committee (see paragraphs 63 and 65).

**Decision 30 COM 6**

4. [The World Heritage Committee] "Endorses the “Strategy for Natural Heritage work of the Centre", presented as Document WHC-06/30.COM/INF.6A and welcomes the Centre’s on-going cooperation with the biodiversity conventions through the Biodiversity Liaison Group and its participation in the Issue-based Modules Project of UNEP to develop tools to help countries implement their commitment under multilateral environmental agreements".
2.2 Mixed Properties and Cultural Landscapes

**OG 46** “Properties shall be considered as "mixed cultural and natural heritage" if they satisfy a part or the whole of the definitions of both cultural and natural heritage laid out in Articles 1 and 2 of the *Convention*.”

**DECISION 41 COM 9B**

4. “[The World Heritage Committee] [r]eiterates that due to the complexity of mixed site nominations and their evaluation, States Parties should ideally seek prior advice from IUCN and ICOMOS, if possible at least two years before a potential nomination is submitted, in compliance with Paragraph 122 of the Operational Guidelines”

**Cultural Landscapes**

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 47** “Cultural landscapes are cultural properties and represent the "combined works of nature and of man" designated in Article 1 of the *Convention*. They are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of the physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and of successive social, economic and cultural forces, both external and internal”.

**OG, ANNEX 3, DEFINITION**

7. “[Cultural Landscapes] ... should be selected on the basis both of their Outstanding Universal Value and of their representativity in terms of a clearly defined geo-cultural region and also for their capacity to illustrate the essential and distinct cultural elements of such regions”.

9. “Cultural landscapes often reflect specific techniques of sustainable land-use, considering the characteristics and limits of the natural environment they are established in, and a specific spiritual relation to nature. Protection of cultural landscapes can contribute to modern techniques of sustainable land-use and can maintain or enhance natural values in the landscape. The continued existence of traditional forms of land-use supports biological diversity in many regions of the world. The protection of traditional cultural landscapes is therefore helpful in maintaining biological diversity”.

2.3 Outstanding Universal Value (including authenticity, integrity and protection and management)

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 78** “To be deemed of Outstanding Universal Value, a property must also meet the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity and must have an adequate protection and management system to ensure its safeguarding”.

2.3.1 Definition of Outstanding Universal Value and attributes of Outstanding Universal Value

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 49** “Outstanding Universal Value means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international
community as a whole. The Committee defines the criteria for the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List”.

**DECISION 30 COM 9**

3. “[The World Heritage Committee], [c]onscious that outstanding universal value is a concept that shall embrace all cultures, regions and peoples, and does not ignore differing cultural interpretations of outstanding universal value because they originate from minorities, indigenous groups and/or local peoples,”

4. “Recognises that the identification of outstanding universal value on the basis of the established criteria needs to be analysed also in their cultural and natural context, and that in some instances, the tangible and intangible interpretations cannot be separated”.

**DECISION 32 COM 9**

9. “[The World Heritage Committee] [r]einforces the rigorous, objective and consistent application of the three key tests to determine Outstanding Universal Value as set out in the Operational Guidelines:

   a) the property must meet one or more of the 10 criteria (Paragraph 77);
   b) the property must meet the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity (Paragraphs 79/95); and
   c) the property must have an adequate protection and management system in place to ensure its safeguarding (Paragraph 78)”.

**2.3.2 Definition and use of World Heritage Criteria**

**WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

Article 11

5. “The Committee shall define the criteria on the basis of which a property belonging to the cultural or natural heritage may be included in either of the lists mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 4 of this article”.

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 77** “[Concerning criterion vi, related to heritage] …to be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance, the Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria”.

**CONF 003 XII.46**

“The Committee decided to enter Auschwitz concentration camp on the List as a unique site and to restrict the inscription of other sites of a similar nature.”

**CC-79/CONF.003/13**

35. (v) “Particular attention should be given to cases which fall under criterion (vi) so that the net result would not be a reduction in the value of the List, due to the large potential number of nominations as well as to political difficulties. Nominations concerning, in particular, historical events or famous people could be strongly influenced by nationalism or other particularisms in contradiction with the objectives of the World Heritage Convention”.

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CC-80/CONF .016/10

19. (a) "Because of the educational and public information purposes of the World Heritage List, the criteria for the inclusion of properties in the List have been elaborated with a view to enabling the Committee to act with full independence in evaluating the intrinsic merit of a property without regard to any other consideration (including the need for technical co-operation support).

(f) The criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties in the World Heritage List should always be seen in relation to one another and should be considered in the context of the definitions set out in Article 1 of the Convention”.

Modifications to the criteria used to justify inscription on the World Heritage List

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 166** “Where a State Party wishes to have the property inscribed under additional, fewer or different criteria other than those used for the original inscription, it shall submit this request as if it were a new nomination (including the requirement to be previously included on the Tentative List – see paragraph 63 and 65). This re-nomination must be received by 1 February and will be evaluated in the full year and a half cycle of evaluation according to the procedures and timetable outlined in paragraph 168. Properties recommended will only be evaluated under the new criteria and will remain on the World Heritage List even if unsuccessful in having additional criteria recognized”.

2.3.3 **Authenticity**

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 79** “Properties nominated under criteria (i) to (vi) must meet the conditions of authenticity. Annex 4 which includes the Nara Document on Authenticity, provides a practical basis for examining the authenticity of such properties and is summarized below”.

**OG 80** “The ability to understand the value attributed to the heritage depends on the degree to which information sources about this value may be understood as credible or truthful. Knowledge and understanding of these sources of information, in relation to original and subsequent characteristics of the cultural heritage, and their meaning as accumulated over time, are the requisite bases for assessing all aspects of authenticity”.

**OG 81** “Judgments about value attributed to cultural heritage, as well as the credibility of related information sources, may differ from culture to culture, and even within the same culture. The respect due to all cultures requires that cultural heritage must be considered and judged primarily within the cultural contexts to which it belongs”.

**OG 84** “The use of all these sources permits elaboration of the specific artistic, historic, social, and scientific dimensions of the cultural heritage being examined. "Information sources” are defined as all physical, written, oral, and figurative sources, which make it possible to know the nature, specificities, meaning, and history of the cultural heritage”.

**OG 85** “When the conditions of authenticity are considered in preparing a nomination for a property, the State Party should first identify all of the applicable significant attributes of authenticity. The statement of
authenticity should assess the degree to which authenticity is present in, or expressed by, each of these significant attributes”.

OG 86 “In relation to authenticity, the reconstruction of archaeological remains or historic buildings or districts is justifiable only in exceptional circumstances. Reconstruction is acceptable only on the basis of complete and detailed documentation and to no extent on conjecture”.

CC-79/CONF.003/13

35. (iv) “The authenticity of a cultural property remains an essential criterion”.

2.3.4 Integrity

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG 87 “All properties nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List shall satisfy the conditions of integrity”.

OG 88 “Integrity is a measure of the wholeness and intactness of the natural and/or cultural heritage and its attributes. Examining the conditions of integrity, therefore requires assessing the extent to which the property:

a) includes all elements necessary to express its Outstanding Universal Value;

b) is of adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes which convey the property’s significance;

c) suffers from adverse effects of development and/or neglect.

This should be presented in a statement of integrity”.

OG 89 “For properties nominated under criteria (i) to (vi), the physical fabric of the property and/or its significant features should be in good condition, and the impact of deterioration processes controlled. A significant proportion of the elements necessary to convey the totality of the value conveyed by the property should be included. Relationships and dynamic functions present in cultural landscapes, historic towns or other living properties essential to their distinctive character should also be maintained”.

OG 90 “For all properties nominated under criteria (vii) - (x), bio-physical processes and landform features should be relatively intact. However, it is recognized that no area is totally pristine and that all natural areas are in a dynamic state, and to some extent involve contact with people. Human activities, including those of traditional societies and local communities, often occur in natural areas. These activities may be consistent with the Outstanding Universal Value of the area where they are ecologically sustainable”.

OG 91 “In addition, for properties nominated under criteria (vii) to (x), a corresponding condition of integrity has been defined for each criterion”.

2.3.5 Protection and Management

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG 96 “Protection and management of World Heritage properties should ensure that their Outstanding Universal Value, including the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity at the time of inscription, are sustained or enhanced over time. A regular review of the general state of conservation of properties, and
thus also their Outstanding Universal Value, shall be done within a framework of monitoring processes for World Heritage properties, as specified within the Operational Guidelines”.

**OG 97** “All properties inscribed on the World Heritage List must have adequate long-term legislative, regulatory, institutional and/or traditional protection and management to ensure their safeguarding. This protection should include adequately delineated boundaries. Similarly States Parties should demonstrate adequate protection at the national, regional, municipal, and/or traditional level for the nominated property. They should append appropriate texts to the nomination with a clear explanation of the way this protection operates to protect the property”.

*Legislative, regulatory and contractual measures for protection*

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 98** “Legislative and regulatory measures at national and local levels should assure the protection of the property from social, economic and other pressures or changes that might negatively impact the Outstanding Universal Value, including the integrity and/or authenticity of the property. States Parties should also assure the full and effective implementation of such measures”.

*Management systems*

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 108** “Each nominated property should have an appropriate management plan or other documented management system which must specify how the Outstanding Universal Value of a property should be preserved, preferably through participatory means”.

**OG 109** “The purpose of a management system is to ensure the effective protection of the nominated property for present and future generations”.

**OG 110** “An effective management system depends on the type, characteristics and needs of the nominated property and its cultural and natural context. Management systems may vary according to different cultural perspectives, the resources available and other factors. They may incorporate traditional practices, existing urban or regional planning instruments, and other planning control mechanisms, both formal and informal. Impact assessments for proposed interventions are essential for all World Heritage properties”.

**OG 111** “In recognizing the diversity mentioned above, common elements of an effective management system could include:

- a) a thorough shared understanding of the property by all stakeholders, including the use of participatory planning and stakeholder consultation process;
- b) a cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and feedback;
- c) an assessment of the vulnerabilities of the property to social, economic, and other pressures and changes, as well as the monitoring of the impacts of trends and proposed interventions;
- d) the development of mechanisms for the involvement and coordination of the various activities between different partners and stakeholders;
- e) the allocation of necessary resources;
- f) capacity-building; and
- g) an accountable, transparent description of how the management system functions”.

Progress Report on the Draft Policy Compendium WHC/18/42.COM/11
Effective management involves a cycle of short, medium and long-term actions to protect, conserve and present the nominated property. An integrated approach to planning and management is essential to guide the evolution of properties over time and to ensure maintenance of all aspects of their Outstanding Universal Value. This approach goes beyond the property to include any buffer zone(s), as well as the broader setting. The broader setting, may relate to the property’s topography, natural and built environment, and other elements such as infrastructure, land use patterns, spatial organization, and visual relationships. It may also include related social and cultural practices, economic processes and other intangible dimensions of heritage such as perceptions and associations. Management of the broader setting is related to its role in supporting the Outstanding Universal Value.

States Parties are responsible for implementing effective management activities for a World Heritage property. State Parties should do so in close collaboration with property managers, the agency with management authority and other partners, and stakeholders in property management.

The Committee recommends that States Parties include risk preparedness as an element in their World Heritage site management plans and training strategies.

World Heritage properties may support a variety of ongoing and proposed uses that are ecologically and culturally sustainable and which may contribute to the quality of life of communities concerned. The State Party and its partners must ensure that such sustainable use or any other change does not impact adversely on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. For some properties, human use would not be appropriate. Legislations, policies and strategies affecting World Heritage properties should ensure the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value, support the wider conservation of natural and cultural heritage, and promote and encourage the active participation of the communities and stakeholders concerned with the property as necessary conditions to its sustainable protection, conservation, management and presentation.

The delineation of boundaries is an essential requirement in the establishment of effective protection of nominated properties. Boundaries should be drawn to incorporate all the attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value and to ensure the integrity and/or authenticity of the property.

For properties nominated under criteria (i) - (vi), boundaries should be drawn to include all those areas and attributes which are a direct tangible expression of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, as well as those areas which in the light of future research possibilities offer potential to contribute to and enhance such understanding.

For properties nominated under criteria (vii) - (x), boundaries should reflect the spatial requirements of habitats, species, processes or phenomena that provide the basis for their inscription on the World Heritage List. The boundaries should include sufficient areas immediately adjacent to the area of...
Outstanding Universal Value in order to protect the property's heritage values from direct effect of human encroachments and impacts of resource use outside of the nominated area”.

OG 102 “The boundaries of the nominated property may coincide with one or more existing or proposed protected areas, such as national parks or nature reserves, biosphere reserves or protected cultural or historic districts or other areas and territories. While such established areas for protection may contain several management zones, only some of those zones may satisfy requirements for inscription”.

**Buffer Zones**

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

OG 103 “Wherever necessary for the proper protection of the property, an adequate buffer zone should be provided”.

OG 104 “For the purposes of effective protection of the nominated property, a buffer zone is an area surrounding the nominated property which has complementary legal and/or customary restrictions placed on its use and development to give an added layer of protection to the property. This should include the immediate setting of the nominated property, important views and other areas or attributes that are functionally important as a support to the property and its protection. The area constituting the buffer zone should be determined in each case through appropriate mechanisms. Details on the size, characteristics and authorized uses of a buffer zone, as well as a map indicating the precise boundaries of the property and its buffer zone, should be provided in the nomination”.

OG 105 “A clear explanation of how the buffer zone protects the property should also be provided”.

OG 106 “Where no buffer zone is proposed, the nomination should include a statement as to why a buffer zone is not required”.

OG 107 “Although buffer zones are not part of the nominated property, any modifications to or creation of buffer zones subsequent to inscription of a property on the World Heritage List should be approved by the World Heritage Committee using the procedure for a minor boundary modification (see paragraph 164 and Annex 11). The creation of buffer zones subsequent to inscription is normally considered to be a minor boundary modification”.

CC-79/CONF.003/13

52. (c) “The [nomination] form should emphasize the importance of adequate buffer zones and ask for details on measures taken by the State Party on the establishment of such zones”.

**DECISION 32 COM 7.1**

“[The World Heritage Committee] notes the detailed report provided by the expert meeting which reflects on a wide range of issues relevant to World Heritage and buffer zones and also notes the publication under preparation for the World Heritage paper series; Requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to use the terms “property” and “buffer zone” in all documents, and to stop using the term “core zone”.

**Minor modifications to the boundaries**
OG 163 “A minor modification is one which has not a significant impact on the extent of the property nor affects its Outstanding Universal Value”.

OG 164 “If a State Party wishes to request a minor modification to the boundaries of a property already on the World Heritage List, it must be prepared in compliance with the format of Annex 11 and must be received by 1 February by the Committee through the Secretariat, which will seek the evaluation of the relevant Advisory Bodies on whether this can be considered a minor modification or not. The Secretariat shall then submit the Advisory Bodies’ evaluation to the World Heritage Committee. The Committee may approve such a modification, or it may consider that the modification to the boundary is sufficiently significant as to constitute a significant boundary modification of the property, in which case the procedure for new nominations will apply”.

Significant modifications to the boundaries

OG 165 “If a State Party wishes to significantly modify the boundary of a property already on the World Heritage List, the State Party shall submit this proposal as if it were a new nomination (including the requirement to be previously included on the Tentative List – see paragraph 63 and 65). This re-nomination shall be presented by 1 February and will be evaluated in the full year and a half cycle of evaluation according to the procedures and timetable outlined in paragraph 168. This provision applies to extensions, as well as reductions”.

2.4 Comparative Studies

OG 132.3 [For a nomination to be considered as "complete", the following requirements (see format in Annex 5) are to be met: (…) In section 3.2, a comparative analysis of the property in relation to similar properties, whether or not on the World Heritage List, both at the national and international levels, shall be provided. The comparative analysis shall explain the importance of the nominated property in its national and international context”.

CC-79/CONF.003/13

35. (i) “In its justification of the outstanding universal value of the property nominated, each State should, whenever possible, undertake a sufficiently wide comparison”.

DECISION 7 EXT.COM 4A

III. COMPARATIVE ANALYSES

7. “[The World Heritage Committee] Decides that comparative analyses by States Parties as part of the nomination dossier shall be undertaken in relation to similar properties, whether or not on the World Heritage List, both at the national and international levels”.
2.5 Tentative Lists

**World Heritage Convention**

Article 11.

“Every State Party to this Convention shall, in so far as possible, submit to the World Heritage Committee an inventory of property forming part of the cultural and natural heritage, situated in its territory and suitable for inclusion in the list provided for in paragraph 2 of this Article. This inventory, which shall not be considered exhaustive, shall include documentation about the location of the property in question and its significance”.

**Operational Guidelines**

OG 62 “A Tentative List is an inventory of those properties situated on its territory which each State Party considers suitable for nomination to the World Heritage List. States Parties should therefore include, in their Tentative Lists, details of those properties which they consider to be of potential Outstanding Universal Value and which they intend to nominate during the following years”.

OG 63 “Nominations to the World Heritage List are not considered unless the nominated property has already been included on the State Party’s Tentative List”.

OG 64 “States Parties are encouraged to prepare their Tentative Lists with the participation of a wide variety of stakeholders, including site managers, local and regional governments, local communities, NGOs and other interested parties and partners”.

OG 65 “States Parties shall submit Tentative Lists to the Secretariat, at least one year prior to the submission of any nomination. States Parties are encouraged to re-examine and re-submit their Tentative List at least every ten years”.

OG 68 (...) “The sole responsibility for the content of each Tentative List lies with the State Party concerned. The publication of the Tentative Lists does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever of the World Heritage Committee or of the World Heritage Centre or of the Secretariat of UNESCO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its boundaries”.

OG 70 “Tentative Lists are a useful and important planning tool for States Parties, the World Heritage Committee, the Secretariat, and the Advisory Bodies, as they provide an indication of future nominations”.

OG 73 “States Parties are encouraged to harmonize their Tentative Lists at regional and thematic levels. Harmonization of Tentative Lists is the process whereby States Parties, with the assistance of the Advisory Bodies, collectively assess their respective Tentative List to review gaps and identify common themes. The outcome of harmonization can result in improved Tentative Lists, new nominations from States Parties and co-operation amongst groups of States Parties in the preparation of nominations”.

2.6 Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List

**Operational Guidelines**

OG 54 “The Committee seeks to establish a representative, balanced and credible World Heritage List in conformity with the four Strategic Objectives adopted by the Committee at its 26th session” (Budapest, 2002)
OG 55 “The Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List is designed to identify and fill the major gaps in the World Heritage List. It does this by encouraging more countries to become States Parties to the Convention and to develop Tentative Lists (...) and nominations of properties for inscription on the World Heritage List”.

OG 57 “All efforts should be made to maintain a reasonable balance between cultural and natural heritage on the World Heritage List”.

OG 59 “To promote the establishment of a representative, balanced and credible World Heritage List, States Parties are requested to consider whether their heritage is already well represented on the List and if so to slow down their rate of submission of further nominations (...).”

OG 71 “Tentative Lists should be drawn selectively and on the basis of evidence that supports potential Outstanding Universal Value. States Parties are encouraged to consult the analyses of both the World Heritage List and Tentative Lists prepared at the request of the Committee by ICOMOS and IUCN to identify the gaps in the World Heritage List. These analyses could enable States Parties to compare themes, regions, geo-cultural groupings and bio-geographic provinces for prospective World Heritage properties”(...).

OG 72 "(...) In addition, States Parties are encouraged to consult the specific thematic studies carried out by the Advisory Bodies".

OG 74 “To implement the Global Strategy, cooperative efforts in capacity-building and training may be necessary to assist States Parties to acquire and/or consolidate their expertise in the preparation, updating and harmonisation of their Tentative List and the preparation of nominations”.

CONF 002 VII.1-3

PRESENTATION OF THE EVALUATION REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE DRAFT STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE

(...) 

VII.2 Following in-depth discussions, the Committee adopted, with a certain number of revisions, the conclusions, goals and the recommendations with which they had been presented, as constituting not only a strategy as such, but strategic orientations for the future, aimed at the different actors concerned with the implementation of the Convention, e.g. the States Parties, the World Heritage Committee, the advisory organizations and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

VII.3 These strategic orientations are presented as Annex II to the present report. The Committee requested the World Heritage Centre to send them to all States Parties to the Convention. ....

WHC-92/CONF.002/12

[Relevant extracts from Annex II]

B. STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Goal Promote completion of the identification of the world heritage Objectives
Complete the global study and appropriate thematic studies

Assist, where necessary, in identification of sites and preparation of nominations

2. Goal  Ensure the continued representativity and credibility of the World Heritage List

Objectives

- Maintain objective and consistent review and evaluation procedures;
- Refine and update criteria for evaluation of natural/cultural heritage nominations;
- Promote consideration for inscription from all geo/cultural regions of the world;
- Consider situation of qualifying for listing”.

WHC-95/CONF.203/16

X.17 … “The Committee, in the light of earlier discussions:

- invites States Parties to nominate types of sites presently under-represented on the World Heritage List;
- invites States Parties attending the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau to be represented by both cultural and natural heritage specialists;
- requests States Parties to communicate regularly to the Centre updated addresses of the national institutions primarily responsible for cultural and natural heritage;
- asks the World Heritage Centre to undertake efforts to strengthen the links to natural heritage institutions in States Parties to the Convention;
- requests the Centre to work on an overall global strategy for natural heritage in close cooperation with IUCN and ICOMOS”.

CONF 203 IX.1

IX.22 … “The Committee adopted the following decisions:

2) The Committee stressed the urgent need to establish a representative World Heritage List and considered it imperative to ensure more participation of those States Parties whose heritage is currently underrepresented on the World Heritage List. The Committee requested the Centre and the advisory bodies to actively consult with these States Parties to encourage and support their active participation in the implementation of the Global Strategy for a credible and representative World Heritage List through the concrete regional actions described in the Global Strategy Action Plan adopted by the Committee at its twenty-second session.

3) Given the purposes of the World Heritage Convention, the policy of the Committee regarding nominations should have two parts: i) the Committee should value all nominations from all States Parties and ii) the Committee should strategically expend its resources to increase nomination of sites from parts of the world which are presently not represented or underrepresented”.

WHC-99/CONF206/7 (ANNEX II)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. “Agrees to give its full support for the implementation of the Convention, in the States Parties whose heritage is still under-represented on the List,
2. Recognizes the interest of all the States Parties and the advisory bodies in preserving the authority of the 1972 Convention, by improving, through appropriate means, the representativity of the World Heritage List which must reflect the diversity of all cultures and ecosystems of all regions.

3. Endorses the objectives of the Global Strategy while reaffirming the sovereign rights of the States Parties and the sovereign role of the General Assembly”.

**DECISION 27 COM 14**

(…) “[The World Heritage Committee decides to focus on] improving the geographic distribution of properties on the World Heritage List (…)”.

**WHC-07/16.GA/9**

2. “The Global Strategy proposed specifically to ‘move away from a purely architectural view of the cultural heritage of humanity towards one which was much more anthropological, multi-functional and universal’.”

4. (…) “those aspects of the Global Strategy directly relevant to improving those three characteristics attributed to the List. As such, it is important to recall that:

- “Representativity refers to: ensuring representation on the World Heritage List of properties of outstanding universal value from all regions” (2000 Working Group on the Representativity of the World Heritage List);
- Balance refers to: “ensuring that key bio-geographical regions or events in the history of life are reflected in the World Heritage List” (Expert Meeting Parc de La Vanoise, 1996; WHC.96/CONF.201/INF.08)”.  
- Credibility refers to: “ensuring a rigorous application of the criteria established by the Committee for both inscription and management, and ensuring representativity and balance of sites, in order that the World Heritage List as a whole is not undermined” (Expert Meeting Parc de La Vanoise, 1996; WHC.96/CONF.201/INF.08; and as reviewed during the development of the 1992 ICOMOS Global Study)”.


“The tentative list of cultural and natural sites should be used in the future as a planning tool with a view to reducing any imbalances in the World Heritage List”.

“Regional Plans of Action should be updated and developed within the framework of the Global Strategy”.

**2.7 Upstream Process**

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 122** “Before States Parties begin to prepare a nomination of a property for inscription on the World Heritage List, they should become familiar with the nomination cycle, described in Paragraph 168. It is desirable to carry out initial preparatory work to establish that a property has the potential to justify Outstanding Universal Value, including integrity or authenticity, before the development of a full nomination dossier which could be expensive and time-consuming… States Parties are encouraged to seek upstream advice from the relevant Advisory Body(ies) for this first phase as well as to contact the World Heritage Centre at the earliest opportunity in considering nominations to seek information and guidance”.

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OG 122 FOOTNOTE “Upstream Processes: In relation to the nomination of sites for inscription on the World Heritage List, “Upstream processes” include advice, consultation and analysis that occur prior to the submission of a nomination and are aimed at reducing the number of nominations that experience significant problems during the evaluation process. The basic principle of the upstream processes is to enable the Advisory Bodies and the Secretariat to provide support directly to States Parties, throughout the whole process leading up to a possible World Heritage nomination. For the upstream support to be effective, it should ideally be undertaken from the earliest stage in the nomination process, at the moment of the preparation or revision of the States Parties’ Tentative Lists”.

2.8 Transnational and serial properties

CC-79/CONF.003/13

i. “States Parties may propose in one single nomination several individual cultural properties, which may be in different geographical locations but which should:
- be linked because they belong to the same historico-cultural group, or
- be the subject of a single safeguarding project, or
- belong to the same type of property characteristic of the zone

The geographical zone in which these properties are situated should be delimited and the cultural properties individually described and also precisely localized.

Each State Party submits only the cultural properties situated on its territory (even if these properties belong to an ensemble which goes beyond its borders) but it may come to an agreement with another State Party in order to make a joint submission”.

CC-80/CONF.016/10

“19 (e) States Parties may propose in a single nomination a series of cultural properties in different geographical locations, provided that they are related because they belong: (i) to the same histórico-cultural group or (ii) to the same type of property which is characteristic of the geographical zone and provided that it is the series as such and not its components taken individually, which is of outstanding universal value”.

DECISION 7 EXT.COM 4A

"II. TRANSBOUNDARY AND TRANSNATIONAL NOMINATIONS

6) [The World Heritage Committee] Decides to consider as:
(a) transboundary nomination, only a property jointly nominated as such, in conformity with Article 11.3 of the Convention, by all concerned States Parties having adjacent borders;
(b) transnational nomination, a serial nomination of properties located in the territory of different States Parties, which need not be contiguous and which are nominated with the consent of all States Parties concerned”.

DECISION 29 COM 18A

3. “[The World Heritage Committee] Aware of the need to specify the submission modalities for the nomination of transboundary or transnational serial properties on the World Heritage List,
4. (…):
a) The States Parties co-authors of a transboundary or transnational serial nomination can choose, amongst themselves and with a common understanding, the State Party which will be bearing this nomination; and
b) This nomination can be registered exclusively within the ceiling of the bearing State Party”.

**DECISION 41 COM 8B.50**

“The World Heritage Committee,

(…)

2. Noting that some large complex serial transnational nominations may benefit from an agreed nomination strategy before their official submission,

3. Commends the involved States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS for their work towards a solution for a feasible nomination process for the remainder of the serial transnational property Frontiers of the Roman Empire and also commends the States Parties for having participated in the preparation of the Thematic Study, and the development of an overall Nomination Strategy for the whole Roman frontiers and a detailed strategy for the European section of the Roman Frontier;

4. (…)

5. Emphasizes that, if and when, it takes note of a nomination strategy, this is not prejudicial and does not imply that the complex serial transnational nominations proposed would necessarily lead to an inscription on the World Heritage List”.

**Transboundary properties**

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

OG 134 “A nominated property may occur:

a) on the territory of a single State Party, or

b) on the territory of all concerned States Parties having adjacent borders (transboundary property)”.

OG 135 “Wherever possible, transboundary nominations should be prepared and submitted by States Parties jointly in conformity with Article 11.3 of the Convention. It is highly recommended that the States Parties concerned establish a joint management committee or similar body to oversee the management of the whole of a transboundary property”.

OG 136 “Extensions to an existing World Heritage property located in one State Party may be proposed to become transboundary properties”.

**Serial properties**

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

OG 137 “Serial properties will include two or more component parts related by clearly defined links:

a) Component parts should reflect cultural, social or functional links over time that provide, where relevant, landscape, ecological, evolutionary or habitat connectivity.

b) Each component part should contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as a whole in a substantial, scientific, readily defined and discernible way, and may include, inter alia,
intangible attributes. The resulting Outstanding Universal Value should be easily understood and communicated.

c) Consistently, and in order to avoid an excessive fragmentation of component parts, the process of nomination of the property, including the selection of the component parts, should take fully into account the overall manageability and coherence of the property (see paragraph 114).

and provided it is the series as a whole – and not necessarily the individual parts of it – which are of Outstanding Universal Value”.

OG 138 “A serial nominated property may occur:

a) on the territory of a single State Party (serial national property); or
b) within the territory of different States Parties, which need not be contiguous and is nominated with the consent of all States Parties concerned (serial transnational property)”.

OG 139 “Serial nominations, whether from one State Party or multiple States, may be submitted for evaluation over several nomination cycles, provided that the first property nominated is of Outstanding Universal Value in its own right. States Parties planning serial nominations phased over several nomination cycles are encouraged to inform the Committee of their intention in order to ensure better planning”.

2.9 Types of World Heritage property

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG ANNEX 3, PARAGRAPH 5 “The World Heritage Committee has identified and defined several specific types of cultural and natural properties and has adopted specific guidelines to facilitate the evaluation of such properties when nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List. To date, these cover the following categories, although it is likely that others may be added in due course:

a) Cultural Landscapes; (see Section 2.3 above)
b) Historic Towns and Town Centres;
c) Heritage Canals;
d) Heritage Routes”.

2.9.1 Historic town

Definition and Categories

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG ANNEX 3, PARAGRAPH 14 “Groups of urban buildings eligible for inscription on the World Heritage List fall into three main categories, namely:

(i) towns which are no longer inhabited but which provide unchanged archaeological evidence of the past; these generally satisfy the criterion of authenticity and their state of conservation can be relatively easily controlled;
(ii) historic towns which are still inhabited and which, by their very nature, have developed and will continue to develop under the influence of socio economic and cultural change, a situation that renders the assessment of their authenticity more difficult and any conservation policy more problematical;
(iii) new towns of the twentieth century which paradoxically have something in common with both the aforementioned categories: while their original urban organization is clearly recognizable and their authenticity is undeniable, their future is unclear because their development is largely uncontrollable”.

**DECISION 29 COM 5D**

The World Heritage Committee,

(...)

3. Takes note of the report [of the international conference on “World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture - Managing the Historic Urban Landscape” (Vienna, 12-14 May 2005)] and welcomes the Vienna Memorandum adopted at the above-mentioned international conference;

4. Encourages States Parties to integrate the notion of historic urban landscape in nomination proposals and in the elaboration of management plans of properties nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List;

5. Also encourages States Parties to integrate the principles expressed in the Vienna Memorandum into their heritage conservation policies;

6. Requests the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre to take into account the conservation of the historic urban landscape when reviewing any potential impact on the integrity of an existing World Heritage property, and during the nomination evaluation process of new sites”.

**2.9.2 Canals and heritage routes**

*Heritage Canals*

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG ANNEX 3**

Definition

17. “A canal is a human-engineered waterway. It may be of Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of history or technology, either intrinsically or as an exceptional example representative of this category of cultural property. The canal may be a monumental work, the defining feature of a linear cultural landscape, or an integral component of a complex cultural landscape”.

*Inscription of Heritage Canals on the World Heritage List*

**OG ANNEX 3**

18. “Authenticity depends holistically upon values and the relationships between these values. One distinctive feature of the canal as a heritage element is its evolution over time. This is linked to how it was used during different periods and the associated technological changes the canal underwent. The extent of these changes may constitute a heritage element.

19. The authenticity and historical interpretation of a canal encompass the connection between the real property (subject of the Convention), possible movable property (boats, temporary navigation items) and the associated structures (bridges, etc) and landscape.
20. The significance of canals can be examined under technological, economic, social, and landscape factors (…)

*Heritage Routes*

Definition

**OG ANNEX 3**

22. “The concept of heritage routes is shown to be a rich and fertile one, offering a privileged framework in which mutual understanding, a plural approach to history and a culture of peace can all operate.

23. A heritage route is composed of tangible elements of which the cultural significance comes from exchanges and a multi-dimensional dialogue across countries or regions, and that illustrate the interaction of movement, along the route, in space and time”.

*Inscription of Heritage Routes on the World Heritage List*

**OG ANNEX 3**

Definition

24. “The following points should be considered when determining whether a heritage route is suitable for inscription on the World Heritage List:

i. The requirement to hold Outstanding Universal Value should be recalled.

ii. The concept of heritage routes:
   - is based on the dynamics of movement and the idea of exchanges, with continuity in space and time;
   - refers to a whole, where the route has a worth over and above the sum of the elements making it up and through which it gains its cultural significance;
   - highlights exchange and dialogue between countries or between regions;
   - is multi-dimensional, with different aspects developing and adding to its prime purpose which may be religious, commercial, administrative or otherwise.

iii. A heritage route may be considered as a specific, dynamic type of cultural landscape, just as recent debates have led to their acceptance within the Operational Guidelines.

iv. The identification of a heritage route is based on a collection of strengths and tangible elements, testimony to the significance of the route itself.

v. The conditions of authenticity are to be applied on the grounds of its significance and other elements making up the heritage route. It will take into account the duration of the route, and perhaps how often it is used nowadays, as well as the legitimate wishes for development of peoples affected.
   - These points will be considered within the natural framework of the route and its intangible and symbolic dimensions”.

2.9.3 **Science Heritage, including Astronomy**

**DECISION 35 COM 9C**

"The World Heritage Committee,
3. Notes the information provided on the Recommendations of the Science and Technology Expert Working Group in the context of World Heritage Nominations (London, 2008) and subsequent discussions on revisions to the Operational Guidelines;

5. Encourages States Parties to take into account the recommendations provided by the Science and Technology Expert Working Group in the context of World Heritage Nominations (London, 2008), as well as recommendations developed within the framework of the Thematic Initiative “Astronomy and World Heritage” while preparing nominations to the World Heritage List and requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to integrate relevant issues into a future expert meeting on criterion (vi)".
3 Policies regarding Conservation of World Heritage properties

3.1 Protection, Conservation and Management of World Heritage properties [Buffer zones and restoration/rehabilitation/reconstruction/transnational properties ...]

**POLICY FOR THE INTEGRATION OF A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE INTO THE PROCESSES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

“All dimensions of sustainable development should apply to natural, cultural and mixed properties in their diversity. These dimensions are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, with none having predominance over another and each being equally necessary. States Parties should therefore review and reinforce governance frameworks within management systems of World Heritage properties in order to achieve the appropriate balance, integration and harmonization between the protection of OUV and the pursuit of sustainable development objectives. This will include the full respect and participation of all stakeholders and rights holders, including indigenous peoples and local communities, the setting up of effective inter-institutional coordination mechanisms and provisions for the systematic assessment of environmental, social, and economic impacts of all proposed developments, as well as effective monitoring through continuity in data collection against agreed indicators”.

15. “States Parties should ensure that biological and cultural diversity, as well as ecosystem services and benefits for people that contribute to environmental sustainability, are protected and enhanced within World Heritage properties, their buffer zones and their wider settings. To this end, States Parties should:

   i. Integrate consideration for biological and cultural diversity as well as ecosystem services and benefits within the conservation and management of all World Heritage properties, including mixed and cultural ones,

   ii. Avoid, and if not possible mitigate, all negative impacts on the environment and cultural diversity when conserving and managing World Heritage properties and their wider settings. This can be achieved by promoting environmental, social and cultural impact assessment tools when undertaking planning in sectors such as urban development, transport, infrastructure, mining and waste management - as well as by applying sustainable consumption and production patterns and promoting the use of renewable energy sources”.

25. “The management and conservation of World Heritage properties should contribute to fostering inclusive local economic development and enhancing livelihoods, compatibly with the protection of their OUV”.

**THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE’S NATURAL HERITAGE STRATEGY**

4. Apply the Ecosystem Approach (...): promote integration of the ecosystem approach principles into all stages of planning and management of World Heritage sites (...).
OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG 86 “In relation to authenticity, the reconstruction of archaeological remains or historic buildings or districts is justifiable only in exceptional circumstances. Reconstruction is acceptable only on the basis of complete and detailed documentation and to no extent on conjecture”.

OG 96 “Protection and management of World Heritage properties should ensure that their Outstanding Universal Value, including the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity at the time of inscription, are sustained or enhanced over time. A regular review of the general state of conservation of properties, and thus also their Outstanding Universal Value, shall be done within a framework of monitoring processes for World Heritage properties, as specified within the Operational Guidelines”.

OG 97 “All properties inscribed on the World Heritage List must have adequate long-term legislative, regulatory, institutional and/or traditional protection and management to ensure their safeguarding. This protection should include adequately delineated boundaries. Similarly States Parties should demonstrate adequate protection at the national, regional, municipal and/or traditional level for the nominated property. They should append appropriate texts to the nomination with a clear explanation of the way this protection operates to protect the property”.

OG 98 “Legislative and regulatory measures at national and local levels should assure the protection of the property from social, economic and other pressures or changes that might negatively impact the Outstanding Universal Value, including the integrity and/or authenticity of the property. States Parties should also assure the full and effective implementation of such measures”.

OG 108 “Each nominated property should have an appropriate management plan or other documented management system which must specify how the Outstanding Universal Value of a property should be preserved, preferably through participatory means”.

OG 112 “Effective management involves a cycle of short, medium and long-term actions to protect, conserve and present the nominated property. An integrated approach to planning and management is essential to guide the evolution of properties over time and to ensure maintenance of all aspects of their Outstanding Universal Value (…)”.

DECISION 39 COM 7

8. [The World Heritage Committee] “takes note of the increasing number of State of Conservation reports due to inadequate management systems or plans and urges States Parties to ensure that management systems and plans are in place at the time of inscription”.

DECISION 40 COM 7

Integrated management, Decision making, Governance

23. “Noting with concern that the lack of an integrated management approach is reported to cause challenges to the coordination of management and decision making processes of properties where different authorities are involved, in particular in the cases of mixed, serial, and transboundary properties, urges States Parties to establish appropriate mechanisms in order to facilitate a coordinated approach to the management of all properties, in line with the requirements of the
Operational Guidelines as laid out in Paragraphs 112, 114, and 135, and encourages States Parties with contiguous natural properties on either side of their international borders, which are not listed as transboundary properties, to establish appropriate mechanisms for cooperation between their respective management authorities and ministries”.

24. Also encourages States Parties to promote recognition and awareness across all relevant national and regional agencies of the World Heritage status of the properties on their territory, and to develop mechanisms to ensure consideration of impacts on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) in the decision making processes of relevant ministries, before permits are issued for developments that could negatively impact the OUV”.

**DECISION 41 COM 7**

15. “[The World Heritage Committee] encourages (...) the reflection on reconstruction within World Heritage properties as a complex multi-disciplinary process, towards developing new guidance to reflect the multi-faceted challenges that reconstruction brings, its social and economic context, the short- and long-term needs of properties, and the idea of reconstruction as a process that should be undertaken within the framework of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the properties”.

16. Urges States Parties to include risk mitigation measures in the management plans of World Heritage properties to address the potential effects of conflicts or disasters on their integrity;

(...) 

24. “Also recalls the need for all States Parties to continue, and where necessary to strengthen all efforts to build resilience of World Heritage properties to Climate Change, including by further reducing to the greatest extent possible all other pressures and threats, and by developing and implementing climate adaptation strategies for properties at risk of Climate Change impacts”.

### 3.2 Monitoring [Periodic Reporting, heritage under threat, Danger List, Delisting, ...]

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 96** “Protection and management of World Heritage properties should ensure that their Outstanding Universal Value, including the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity at the time of inscription, are sustained or enhanced over time. A regular review of the general state of conservation of properties, and thus also their Outstanding Universal Value, shall be done within a framework of monitoring processes for World Heritage properties, as specified within the *Operational Guidelines*”.

**OG 173** “The World Heritage Committee requests that reports of missions to review the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties include:

   a) an indication of threats or significant improvement in the conservation of the property since the last report to the World Heritage Committee; 
   b) any follow-up to previous decisions of the World Heritage Committee on the state of conservation of the property; 
   c) information on any threat or damage to or loss of Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and/or authenticity for which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List.”

**OG 181** “In addition, the threats and/or their detrimental impacts on the integrity of the property must be those which are amenable to correction by human action. In the case of cultural properties, both natural
factors and human-made factors may be threatening, while in the case of natural properties, most threats will be human-made and only very rarely a natural factor (such as an epidemic disease) will threaten the integrity of the property. In some cases, the threats and/or their detrimental impacts on the integrity of the property may be corrected by administrative or legislative action, such as the cancelling of a major public works project or the improvement of legal status”.

**Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties**

“States Parties and managers of individual World Heritage properties will consider undertaking site-level monitoring, mitigation and adaptation measures, where appropriate”.

**The UNESCO World Heritage Centre’s Natural Heritage Strategy**

4. “Apply the Ecosystem Approach (…): consider landscape/seascape level issues when monitoring the state of conservation of World Heritage sites (…)”.

**Decision 31 COM 5.2**

5. [The World Heritage Committee] (…) “underlines that reinforced monitoring is a constant cooperative process with the State Party concerned, which will always be undertaken in full consultation and with its approval”.

**Decision 41 COM 7**

**Operational Guidelines**

30. “Notes with concern increasing vandalism at World Heritage properties and encourages States Parties to improve monitoring and security measures as well as awareness raising on the detrimental effects of vandalism, and to consider introducing creative solutions to allow visitors to express themselves without leaving permanent marks or damage”.

**Reactive Monitoring**

OG 169 “Reactive Monitoring is the reporting by the Secretariat, other sectors of UNESCO and the Advisory Bodies to the Committee on the state of conservation of specific World Heritage properties that are under threat. To this end, the States Parties shall submit specific reports and impact studies each time exceptional circumstances occur or work is undertaken which may have an impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property or its state of conservation. Reactive Monitoring is also foreseen in reference to properties inscribed, or to be inscribed, on the List of World Heritage in Danger (…). Reactive Monitoring is also foreseen in the procedures for the eventual deletion of properties from the World Heritage List (…)”.

OG 170 “When adopting the process of Reactive Monitoring, the Committee was particularly concerned that all possible measures should be taken to prevent the deletion of any property from the List and was ready to offer technical co-operation as far as possible to States Parties in this connection”.

**List of World Heritage in Danger**

OG 9 “When a property inscribed on the World Heritage List is threatened by serious and specific dangers, the Committee considers placing it on the List of World Heritage in Danger. When the Outstanding Universal Value of the property which justified its inscription on the World Heritage List is destroyed, the Committee considers deleting the property from the World Heritage List”.

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OG 182 “The Committee may wish to bear in mind the following supplementary factors when considering the inclusion of a cultural or natural property in the List of World Heritage in Danger:

a) Decisions which affect World Heritage properties are taken by Governments after balancing all factors. The advice of the World Heritage Committee can often be decisive if it can be given before the property becomes threatened.

b) Particularly in the case of ascertained danger, the physical or cultural deteriorations to which a property has been subjected should be judged according to the intensity of its effects and analyzed case by case.

c) Above all in the case of potential danger to a property, one should consider that:
   i) the threat should be appraised according to the normal evolution of the social and economic framework in which the property is situated;
   ii) it is often impossible to assess certain threats such as the threat of armed conflict as to their effect on cultural or natural properties;
   iii) some threats are not imminent in nature, but can only be anticipated, such as demographic growth.

d) Finally, in its appraisal the Committee should take into account any cause of unknown or unexpected origin which endangers a cultural or natural property”.

OG 183 “When considering the inscription of a property on the List of World Heritage in Danger, the Committee shall develop, and adopt, as far as possible, in consultation with the State Party concerned, a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, and a programme for corrective measures”.³

Deletion

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG 192 “The Committee adopted the following procedure for the deletion of properties from the World Heritage List in cases:

a) where the property has deteriorated to the extent that it has lost those characteristics which determined its inclusion in the World Heritage List; and

b) where the intrinsic qualities of a World Heritage site were already threatened at the time of its nomination by human action and where the necessary corrective measures as outlined by the State Party at the time, have not been taken within the time proposed (…)”

Periodic Reporting

OG 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. It is also an important tool for assessing the implementation by States Parties and World Heritage properties of policies adopted by the World Heritage Committee and the General Assembly”.

³ In relation to OG 183, there are several decisions from different properties related to the desired state of conservation. See for example 31 COM 7A.16, 31 COM 7A.21, 36 COM 7A.34, 36 COM 7B.102, 38 COM 7A.23, 39 COM 7A.13, 39 COM 7A.18, 41 COM 7A.19, 41 COM 7A.23.
3.3 Impact Assessments

**Policy for the integration of a sustainable development perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention**

9. (…) “appropriate balance, integration and harmonization between the protection of OUV and the pursuit of sustainable development objectives will include (…) provisions for the systematic assessment of environmental, social, and economic impacts of all proposed developments, as well as effective monitoring through continuity in data collection against agreed indicators”.

**Operational Guidelines**

**OG 172** “The World Heritage Committee invites the States Parties to the Convention to inform the Committee, through the Secretariat, of their intention to undertake or to authorize in an area protected under the Convention major restorations or new constructions which may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. Notice should be given as soon as possible (…) and before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, so that the Committee may assist in seeking appropriate solutions to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is fully preserved”.

**Decision 35 COM 12 E**

15. (c) “[The World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties to] …be proactive in relation to development and conservation of World Heritage properties by conducting a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) at the time of nomination to anticipate the impact of any potential development on the Outstanding Universal Value”.

**Decision 39 COM 7**

11. “[The World Heritage Committee] taking note of the benefits to States Parties of systematically utilizing Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) in the review of development projects, encourages States Parties to integrate the EIA/HIA processes into legislation, planning mechanisms and management plans, and reiterates its recommendation to States Parties to use these tools in assessing projects, including assessment of cumulative impacts, as early as possible and before any final decision is taken, and, taking into account the need for capacity-building in this regard, requests the States Parties to contribute financially and technically towards the development of further guidance regarding EIA/HIA implementation, by the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre, based on case studies and field experience”.

**Case Law**

“[The World Heritage Committee requests the States Parties] to provide, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, detailed information on the planning and design of proposed and on-going projects, which may impact on the visual integrity of the World Heritage property or its immediate and wider setting, and undertake a visual impact study, for review by the Advisory Bodies, prior to approval and
implementation and before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse” (*Based on case law on decisions on the state of conservation*).⁴

“[The World Heritage Committee requests the States Parties] to ensure that development is not permitted if it would impact individually or cumulatively on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property” (*based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation*).⁵

### 3.4 Disaster Risks Management

**STRATEGY FOR REDUCING RISKS FROM DISASTERS AT WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES**

7. “(...)”

a) Cultural and natural heritage, with their related technologies, practices, skills, knowledge systems and ecosystem’s goods and services can play an important positive role in reducing risks from disasters at all phases of the process (readiness, response and recovery), and hence in contributing to sustainable development in general”.

b) The key to an effective reduction of risks from disasters is advance planning and the building of a culture of prevention”.

c) In developing plans for reducing risks at World Heritage properties it is essential to give adequate consideration to cultural diversity, age, vulnerable groups and gender perspective”.

d) Property occupants and users, and concerned communities in general, should be always involved in planning for disaster risk reduction”.

e) The protection of the Outstanding Universal Value and the integrity and authenticity of World Heritage properties from disasters implies consideration for the associated intangible aspects and movable items that contribute directly to its heritage significance”.

(...).

9. The five objectives [of the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disaster at World Heritage Properties] are the following: (...).

**Table 1 Objectives and Priority Actions**

1) Strengthen support within relevant global, regional, national and local institutions for reducing risks at World Heritage properties;

*Global actors for disaster reduction should give more consideration to cultural and natural heritage among the issues to be considered when defining their strategic goals and planning their development cooperation activities. At the same time, general disaster reduction strategies at regional, country and local levels must take into account and integrate concern for world cultural and natural heritage in their policies and implementation mechanisms.*

2) Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of disaster prevention at World Heritage properties;

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⁵ See for example Decisions 36 COM 7B.8, 38 COM 7B.62, 38 COM 7B.69, 39 COM 7B.15, 40 COM 7B.105, 41 COM 7B.42.
The building of a culture of prevention, at all levels, is one of the key elements for a successful disaster reduction strategy. Experience shows that reacting a posteriori, especially as far as heritage is concerned, is an increasingly ineffective way of responding to the needs of people affected by disasters. Training, education and research, including on relevant traditional knowledge, are the most effective ways of developing a culture of preparedness (…).

3) Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks at World Heritage properties;

The first step to reduce disasters and mitigating their impact is the identification of possible risk factors including from global agents such as climate change. The vulnerabilities from disasters to World Heritage properties must be therefore identified, assessed in their level of priority and closely monitored, so as to inform the appropriate risk management strategies.

4) Reduce underlying risk factors at World Heritage properties;

When a disaster occurs, there are a number of underlying factors that can significantly aggravate its impact. These include land/water and other natural resources management, industrial and urban development, and socio-economic practices. Removing the root causes of vulnerability implies often the identification and reduction of underlying risk factors associated to human activities.

5) Strengthen disaster risk preparedness at World Heritage properties for effective response at all levels.

The worst consequences of natural or human-made disasters can often be avoided or mitigated if all those concerned are prepared to act according to well conceived risk reduction plans, and the necessary human and financial resources, and equipment, are available.

**POLICY FOR THE INTEGRATION OF A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE INTO THE PROCESSES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

16. “In the face of increasing disaster risks and the impact of climate change, States Parties should recognise that World Heritage represents both an asset to be protected and a resource to strengthen the ability of communities and their properties to resist, absorb, and recover from the effects of a hazard. In line with disaster risks and climate change multilateral agreements, States Parties should:

i. Recognise and promote – within conservation and management strategies – the inherent potential of World Heritage properties for reducing disaster risks and adapting to climate change, through associated ecosystem services, traditional knowledge and practices and strengthened social cohesion.

ii. Reduce the vulnerability of World Heritage properties and their settings as well as promote the social and economic resilience of local and associated communities to disaster and climate change through structural and non-structural measures, including public awareness-raising, training and education. Structural measures, in particular, should not adversely affect the OUV of World Heritage properties;

iii. Enhance preparedness for effective response and ‘building-back-better’ in post-disaster recovery strategies within management systems and conservation practice for World Heritage properties”.

**DECISION 36 COM 7C**

5. “[The World Heritage Committee requests States Parties] to make every endeavour to take into consideration disaster risks, including from human-induced hazards, in the management plans and systems for the World Heritage properties located in their territories”.

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3.5  Factors affecting properties

3.5.1  Buildings and development (e.g. Commercial development; Housing; Industrial areas; Interpretative and visitation facilities; Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure)

**RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE**

Preamble

“the dynamic nature of living cities. [must be recognized] However, (…) rapid and frequently uncontrolled development is transforming urban areas and their settings, which may cause fragmentation and deterioration to urban heritage with deep impacts on community values, throughout the world”.

**RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE**

Preamble

In order to support the protection of natural and cultural heritage, emphasis needs to be put on the integration of historic urban area conservation, management and planning strategies into local development processes and urban planning, such as, contemporary architecture and infrastructure development, for which the application of a landscape approach would help maintain urban identity”.

**RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE**

22. “Conservation of the urban heritage should be integrated into general policy planning and practices and those related to the broader urban context. Policies should provide mechanisms for balancing conservation and sustainability in the short and long terms. Special emphasis should be placed on the harmonious, integration of contemporary interventions into the historic urban fabric. In particular, the responsibilities of the different stakeholders are the following:

(a) Member States should integrate urban heritage conservation strategies into national development policies and agendas according to the historic urban landscape approach. Within this framework, local authorities should prepare urban development plans taking into account the area’s values, including the landscape and other heritage values, and features associated therewith;

(b) Public and private stakeholders should cooperate, inter alia, through partnerships to ensure the successful application of the historic urban landscape approach;

(c) International organizations dealing with sustainable development processes should integrate the historic urban landscape approach into their strategies, plans and operations;

(d) National and international non-governmental organizations should participate in developing and disseminating tools and best practices for the implementation of the historic urban landscape approach”

**DECISION 34 COM 7C**

8. “Given the percentage of threats related to Development and infrastructure projects and to high-rise buildings (…) [the World Heritage Committee] stresses the need for structured heritage impact assessments of major projects to be carried out at the earliest opportunity in order to assess the impact of potential projects on Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties”.

**CASE LAW**

Progress Report on the Draft Policy Compendium WHC/18/42.COM/11
“[The World Heritage Committee recommends to] develop a comprehensive urban land use plan, which includes provisions for protection mechanisms and regulatory measures to ensure the adequate protection and control of the property and its landscape setting” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).  

“The World Heritage Committee recommends to] put in place appropriate protection and planning measures and to develop an integrated urban conservation and development tool, in the urban settlement and its wider context, in order to address development pressures, to protect the urban landscape and prevent the construction of new buildings that could have a visual impact” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).

3.5.2 Transportation infrastructure (e.g. Air transport infrastructure; Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure; Ground transport infrastructure; Marine transport infrastructure; Underground transport infrastructure)

**DECISION 40 COM 7**

25. “[The World Heritage Committee] notes with concern that the number of cases of ground transport infrastructure having potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of World Heritage properties is continuing to grow, and calls upon States Parties to carry out Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) early in the process of transportation planning to allow for potential impacts of the OUV, including those resulting from foreseeable associated future developments, to be identified prior to the development of specific projects.

26. Encourages States Parties to carry out Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) on ground transport projects, once they are designed, with multiple options to ensure that transportation needs can be met with minimal impacts on the OUV of World Heritage properties”.

**CASE LAW**

“[The World Heritage Committee requests] Heritage Impact Assessments and Environmental Impact Assessments of all significant development proposals in the property and of any major transportation infrastructure project, before approval for the schemes is granted and prior to making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, including definitive location and plans for construction, in order to identify any adverse impacts on the property and ways to mitigate these impacts, and to submit the HIA and the EIA to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).  

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6 See for example Decisions 34 COM 7A.27, 36 COM 7B.61, 41 COM 7B.41.
7 See for example Decisions 32 COM 7B.72, 32 COM 7B.84, 33 COM 7B.67, 36 COM 7B.88, 37 COM 7B.71, 40 COM 7B.49, 41 COM 7B.7, 41 COM 7B.40, 41 COM 7B.42, 41 COM 7B.53.
8 See for example Decisions 32 COM 7B.122, 36. COM 7B.80, 36 COM 7B.100, 37 COM 7B.65, 38 COM 7B.62, 39 COM 7B.91, 40 COM 7B.55, 41 COM 7B.31, 41 COM 7B.59, 41 COM 7B.69.
3.5.3 Utilities or Service infrastructure (e.g. Localised utilities; Major linear utilities; Non-renewable energy facilities; Renewable energy facilities; Water infrastructure)

**DECISION 40 COM 7**

17. "The World Heritage Committee [noting] with significant concern that an increasing number of properties are facing potential threats from major dam projects, considers that the construction of dams with large reservoirs within the boundaries of World Heritage properties is incompatible with their World Heritage status, and urges States Parties to ensure that the impacts from dams that could affect properties located upstream or downstream within the same river basin are rigorously assessed in order to avoid impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)."

**CASE LAW**

"[The World Heritage Committee recommends to] strengthen the protection of the immediate and wider setting of properties for addressing the impact of wind turbines, and to identify a wind turbine exclusion zone" *(based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).*

"[The World Heritage Committee requests to] conduct an adequate environmental impact study for the power transmission lines, before any decision is taken" *(based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).*

3.5.4 Pollution (e.g. Air pollution; Ground water pollution; Input of excess energy; Pollution of marine waters; Solid waste; Surface water pollution)

**CASE LAW**

"[The World Heritage Committee recommends to] enhance the regulation and monitoring of pollution, and to create management plans that consider options to address and to put in place adequate measures to mitigate the impact associated to the pollution, and its potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including the control of sources of pollution affecting the property" *(based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).*

3.5.5 Biological resource use/modification (e.g. Aquaculture; Commercial hunting; Commercial wild plant collection; Crop production; Fishing/collecting aquatic resources; Forestry /wood production; Land conversion; Livestock farming / grazing of domesticated animals; Subsistence hunting; Subsistence wild plant collection)

**CASE LAW**

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9 See for example Decisions 32 COM 7B.118, 34 COM 7B.83, 36 COM 7B.74, 41 COM 7B.45.


“[The World Heritage Committee requests States Parties to] assess the impacts of grazing, hunting and other human traditional activities on the biodiversity in the traditional use zone and develop a policy for the sustainable use of the natural resources in the traditional use zones in the property in close cooperation with the indigenous communities using these areas” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).12

“[The World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties to] ensure that no commercial logging can be permitted within the property/ to ban all commercial logging” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).13

“[The World Heritage Committee requests to] undertake research to determine the effects and negative impact of fishing activities on the OUV of the property and to work with communities to promote sustainable fishing practices” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).14

3.5.6 Physical resource extraction (e.g. Extractives industries, mining and mineral exploration, gas and oil exploration and exploitation)

**Decision 37 COM 7 and Decision 40 COM 7**

17. “[The World Heritage Committee] notes with significant concern that World Heritage properties are increasingly threatened by extractive industries (…), once again urges all States Parties to the Convention and leading industry stakeholders to respect the “No-go” commitment by not permitting extractive activities within World Heritage properties, and by making every effort to ensure that extractives companies located in their territory cause no damage to World Heritage properties, in line with Article 6 of the Convention”.

**CASE LAW**

“[The World Heritage Committee requests States Parties] not to explore or mine in World Heritage properties, in line with the Committee’s established position that mineral exploration and mining are incompatible with World Heritage status and the international policy statement of the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) of not undertaking these activities in World Heritage properties” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).15

[The World Heritage Committee] reiterates that mining activities and oil and gas exploration and exploitation are incompatible with World Heritage status (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).16

[When mining or other type of exploitation is foreseen, the World Heritage Committee requests to get] an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, meeting international standards, before any commencement

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12 Also included in Indigenous peoples. It could also be part of “Social/cultural uses of heritage”. See for example Decisions 32 COM 7B.41, 36 COM 7B.25, 40 COM 7B.79, 40 COM 7B.88.
13 See for example Decisions 37 COM 7B.26, 38 COM 7A.45, 41 COM 7A.19, 41 COM 7B.1, 41 COM 7B.4.
14 There are many decisions concerning fishing in World Heritage properties. See for example 40 COM 7B.85, 41 COM 7B.15, 41 COM 7B.17, 41 COM 7B.15, 38 COM 7B.62 and 38 COM 7B.84, among others.
15 See for example Decisions 35 COM 7B.22, 37 COM 7B.8, 40 COM 7B.104, 41 COM 7A.19.
16 See for example Decisions 38 COM 7B.80, 38 COM 7B.92, 40 COM 7B.71, 40 COM 7B.85.
of exploitation at the property and adjacent to the property (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation). 17

3.5.7 Local conditions affecting the fabric (e.g. Dust Micro-organisms; Pests; Radiation/light Relative humidity; Temperature; Water (rain/water table); Wind)

CASE LAW

"[The World Heritage Committee requests States Parties] to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the conditions as well as an analysis of ways to address the underlying causes of local conditions affecting the fabric, 18 and to elaborate a comprehensive strategy to address the impacts, including priority emergency measures, mitigation measures and an intervention programme" (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation). 19

3.5.8 Social/cultural uses of heritage (e.g. Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system; Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community; Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation; Indigenous hunting, gathering and collecting; Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses; Society's valuing of heritage)

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG 90 "For all properties nominated under criteria (vii) - (x), bio-physical processes and landform features should be relatively intact. However, it is recognized that no area is totally pristine and that all natural areas are in a dynamic state, and to some extent involve contact with people. Human activities, including those of traditional societies and local communities, often occur in natural areas. These activities may be consistent with the Outstanding Universal Value of the area where they are ecologically sustainable".

OG 119 "World Heritage properties may support a variety of ongoing and proposed uses that are ecologically and culturally sustainable and which may contribute to the quality of life of communities concerned. The State Party and its partners must ensure that such sustainable use or any other change does not impact adversely on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. For some properties, human use would not be appropriate. Legislations, policies and strategies affecting World Heritage properties should ensure the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value, support the wider conservation of natural and cultural heritage, and promote and encourage the active participation of the communities and stakeholders concerned with the property as necessary conditions to its sustainable protection, conservation, management and presentation".

CASE LAW

17 See for example Decisions 35 COM 7B.22, 36 COM 7B.1, 38 COM 7B.92.
18 For example, underlying causes of the rising water table / humidity / wind / micro-organisms and other local conditions affecting the fabric.
19 See for example Decisions 36 COM 7A.34, 37 COM 7A.23, 37 COM 7B.74, 38 COM 78A.1, 40 COM 7A.9, 40 COM 7A.14, 41 COM 7A.27, 41 COM 7A.32.
“[The World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties] …to take into account the traditional uses of local communities and to support the livelihoods of local communities through initiatives related to environmentally and culturally compatible options in order to prevent any threats from human activity to the “Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and to promote the sustainable exploitation of resources and sustainable livelihoods” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\(^{20}\)

“[The World Heritage Committee recommends States Parties to] consider measures in order to address ways to respect the cultural and spiritual values and practices, and sustain the spiritual associations at World Heritage properties” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\(^{21}\)

“[The World Heritage Committee recommends States Parties to] pay special attention to the living religious heritage at properties, and to adopt efficient regulatory and management instruments to allow for religious uses at concerned properties” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\(^{22}\)

“[For the impact of tourism, the World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties] …prior to any development of tourism facilities (resort development, ski facilities, golf resorts, etc.) that its potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) has been thoroughly assessed and to develop and implement a clear tourism strategy” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\(^{23}\)

3.5.9 Other human activities (e.g. Civil unrest; Deliberate destruction of heritage; Illegal activities; Military training; Terrorism; War)

**Decision 38 COM 7**

6. “Reiterating its utmost concern about the continued impacts on World Heritage properties due to the rising pressure from poaching, particularly of elephant, rhinoceros, and valuable timber species, linked to a growing illicit trade, and the increasing involvement of organized crime in this lucrative business, [the World Heritage Committee] reiterates its request to the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to strengthen their cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) to assist States Parties to implement the measures taken by the 16th Conference of the Parties of the CITES, and urges States Parties to ensure strong international collaboration and coordination to control the illicit trade in flora and fauna and their products”.

**Decision 41 COM 7**

35. [The World Heritage Committee] reiterates its utmost concern about the continued impacts of poaching and illegal logging on World Heritage properties driven primarily by the illegal trade of wildlife species and its products, and requests the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to take action, as resources permit, to strengthen the collaboration between the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the World Heritage Convention.

**Case Law**

\(^{20}\) See for example Decisions 38 COM 7B.61, 39 COM 7B.52, 39 COM 7B.61, 39 COM 7B.66, 40 COM 7A.37, 40 COM 7B.64, 40 COM 7B.86, 41 COM 7A.19, 41 COM 7B.19, 41 COM 7B.29, 41 COM 7B.35, 41 COM 7B.79.

\(^{21}\) See for example Decisions 38 COM 7B.53, 40 COM 7B.89, 41 COM 7B.96.

\(^{22}\) See for example Decisions 38 COM 7A.1, 38 COM 7B.32, 39 COM 7A.24, 41 COM 7A.32.

\(^{23}\) See for example Decisions 31 COM 7B.29, 37 COM 7B.28, 40 COM 7B.74, 41 COM 7B.32.
“[The World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties to] monitor wildlife and populations, including key species, in order to assess the populations and trends” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\textsuperscript{24}

“[The World Heritage Committee requests States Parties to] take all measures possible to halt poaching in the property” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\textsuperscript{25}

“[The World Heritage Committee requests States Parties to] promote traditional land management practices [and] reiterates its appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trade in wildlife and its products, including through the implementation of the CITES, and with the full engagement of transit and destination countries” (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\textsuperscript{26}

\subsection*{3.5.10 Climate change and severe weather events (e.g. Changes to oceanic waters; Desertification; Drought; Flooding; Other climate change impacts; Storms; Temperature change)}

\textbf{Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties}

Conclusions. “The following are [the] key principles:

i. in addressing the impacts of climate change on the outstanding universal value, integrity and authenticity of World Heritage properties, the World Heritage community will work in cooperation with other partners that also have responsibility, resources and expertise related to this challenge.

ii. The World Heritage Committee will be an advocate for relevant climate change research, and work to influence and support partners that are mandated and resourced to carry out such research.

iii. World Heritage properties will be used wherever appropriate and possible as a means to raise awareness about the impacts of climate change upon World Heritage to act as a catalyst in the international debate and obtain support for policies to mitigate climate change, and to communicate best practices in vulnerability assessments, adaptation strategies, mitigation opportunities, and pilot projects.

iv. Climate change will be considered in all aspects of nominating, managing, monitoring and reporting on the status of these properties.

v. In considering the threat posed by climate change to the OUV, authenticity and/or integrity of a World Heritage property, the World Heritage Committee will use the existing tools and processes”.

\textbf{Decision 29 COM 7b.a}

5. “[The World Heritage Committee] notes that the impacts of climate change are affecting many and are likely to affect many more World Heritage properties, both natural and cultural in the years to come”.

6. “Encourages all States Parties to seriously consider the potential impacts of climate change within their management planning, in particular with monitoring, and risk preparedness strategies, and to take early action in response to these potential impacts”.

\textsuperscript{24} This paragraph is not directly related to Human Use, but it usually appears at Decisions concerning poaching. See for example Decisions 37 COM 7B.11, 38 COM 7B.92, 40 COM 7B.69, 40 COM 7B.70, 41 COM 7A.15.

\textsuperscript{25} See for example Decisions 33 COM 7B.11, 38 COM 7A.45, 40 COM 7A.37.

\textsuperscript{26} See for example Decisions 32 COM 7B.41, 35 COM 7B.9, 38 COM 7B.14, 40 COM 7B.86.
10. “Strongly encourages States Parties and the Advisory Bodies to use the network of World Heritage properties to highlight the threats posed by climate change to natural and cultural heritage, start identifying the properties under most serious threats, and also use the network to demonstrate management actions that need to be taken to meet such threats, both within the properties and in their wider context,”

11. “Also encourages UNESCO to do its utmost to ensure that the results about climate change affecting World Heritage properties reach the public at large, in order to mobilize political support for activities against climate change and to safeguard in this way the livelihood of the poorest people of our planet”.

STRATEGY TO ASSIST STATES PARTIES TO IMPLEMENT APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT RESPONSES (ENDORSED BY WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE AT ITS DECISION 30 COM 7.1)

11. “The potential impacts of Climate Change range from physical, to social and cultural aspects. (…). Experience and lessons learned on addressing Climate Change impacts stress the need for using a number of management responses at national and local levels. The World Heritage Convention provides an opportunity to develop strategies to implement relevant actions in respect of cultural and natural heritage properties threatened by Climate Change. Given the complexity of this issue, States Parties may request guidance from the World Heritage Committee to implement appropriate management responses to face the threats posed by Climate Change on their natural and cultural properties inscribed on the World Heritage List”.

13. “Conservation is the management of change, and Climate Change is one of the most significant global challenges facing society and the environment today. The actions that need to be taken to safeguard heritage are threefold:

- Preventive actions: monitoring, reporting and mitigation of Climate Change effects through environmentally sound choices and decisions at a range of levels: individual, community, institutional and corporate.
- Corrective actions: adaptation to the reality of Climate Change through global and regional strategies and local management plans.
- Sharing knowledge: including best practices, research, communication, public and political support, education and training, capacity building, networking, etc.”

15. “It is noteworthy that there are strong links between natural and cultural heritage and the Climate Change issue could be used as an opportunity for the two parts of the Convention to be brought closer together”.

16. “(…) Climate Change is one risk among a number of challenges facing World Heritage sites. This threat should be considered in the broader context of the conservation of these sites”.

DECISION 40 COM 7

14. “Taking note of the agreement reached during the 21st conference (COP21) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in 2015, [the World Heritage Committee] requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to assist States Parties to implement appropriate management responses to the adverse effects of Climate Change”.

DECISION 41 COM 7

22. “[The World Heritage Committee] also recalls the need for all States Parties to continue, and where necessary to strengthen all efforts to build resilience of World Heritage properties to Climate Change,”
including by further reducing to the greatest extent possible all other pressures and threats, and by developing and implementing climate adaptation strategies for properties at risk of Climate Change impacts”.

24. “[The World Heritage Committee] (…) recalls the need for all States Parties to continue, and where necessary to strengthen all efforts to build resilience of World Heritage properties to Climate Change, including by further reducing to the greatest extent possible all other pressures and threats, and by developing and implementing climate adaptation strategies for properties at risk of Climate Change impacts”.

CASE LAW

“[At site level, the World Heritage Committee recommends] …to monitor the impacts of global climate change and to develop adaptive management strategies and mitigation and adaptation measures to ensure the long-term protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the properties in response to climate and other environmental change” (Based on Case law further to decisions on the State of Conservation).27

3.5.11 Sudden ecological or geological events (e.g. Avalanche/ landslide; Earthquake; Erosion and siltation/ deposition; Fire (wildfires); Tsunami/tidal wave; Volcanic eruption)

CASE LAW

“[The World Heritage Committee] encourages the assessment of the impacts and the damage caused after a sudden ecological or geological event, and the planning and implementation of the necessary remedial measures, including with a view to strengthening the overall resilience of the properties, to identify mechanisms for adaptive conservation and to improve risk preparedness, together with prevention and monitoring strategies and disaster response plans” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).28

3.5.12 Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species (e.g. Hyper-abundant species; Invasive / alien freshwater species; Invasive / alien marine species; Invasive/alien terrestrial species; Modified genetic material; Translocated species)

BASED ON Decision 39 COM 7 AND Decision 41 COM 7

“[The World Heritage Committee] notes with concern the significant and continued threat posed by invasive alien species to natural World Heritage properties, [and] strongly encourages States Parties to develop adequately resourced strategies to eradicate invasive species that emphasize prevention and early warning and rapid response in World Heritage properties, and also calls on the international community to support invasive species eradication campaigns in affected properties.”

27 See for example Decisions 33 COM 7B.7, 33 COM 7B.11, 33 COM 7B.23, 34 COM 7B.14, 35 COM 7B.22, 36 COM 7B.4, 37 COM 7B.14, 38 COM 7A.29.

28 See for example Decisions 31 COM 7B.8, 31 COM 7B.45, 32 COM 7B.44, 34 COM 7A.16, 34 COM 7B.11, 34 COM 7B.42, 35 COM 7B.32, 36 COM 7C, 37 COM 7B.3, 37 COM 7B.20, 37 COM 7B.37, 40 COM 7B.11.
3.5.13 Management and institutional factors (e.g. Financial resources; Governance; High impact research / monitoring activities; Human resources; Legal framework; Low impact research / monitoring activities; Management activities; Lack of/inadequate Management systems/management plan)\(^{29}\)

**DECISION 38 COM 7**

3. “Noting with regret that issues related to Management Plan / System remain a serious cause for concern, [the World Heritage Committee] requests all States Parties to ensure that all World Heritage properties are managed in such a manner that their Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) is not put at risk and, whenever necessary, develop/update and fully implement Management Plans or Systems”.

**DECISION 40 COM 7**

23. “Noting with concern that the lack of an integrated management approach is reported to cause challenges to the coordination of management and decision making processes of properties where different authorities are involved, in particular in the cases of mixed, serial, and transboundary properties, urges States Parties to establish appropriate mechanisms in order to facilitate a coordinated approach to the management of all properties, in line with the requirements of the *Operational Guidelines* as laid out in Paragraphs 112, 114, and 135, and encourages States Parties with contiguous natural properties on either side of their international borders, which are not listed as transboundary properties, to establish appropriate mechanisms for cooperation between their respective management authorities and ministries;

24. Also encourages States Parties to promote recognition and awareness across all relevant national and regional agencies of the World Heritage status of the properties on their territory, and to develop mechanisms to ensure consideration of impacts on Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) in the decision making processes of relevant ministries, before permits are issued for developments that could negatively impact the OUV;”

**CASE LAW**

“[States Parties are responsible for] elaborating a comprehensive and integrated site management plan and to secur[ing] the necessary resources for its full implementation” *(based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation)*.\(^{30}\)

“[The World Heritage Committee requests the States Parties] to establish the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as a clearly defined and central element within the protection and management system for the property” *(based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation)*.\(^{31}\)

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\(^{29}\) See also subchapter 3.2. and 3.3. of this Background Document.

\(^{30}\) See for example Decisions 32 COM 7B.70, 33 COM 7B.116, 34 COM 7A.27, 35 COM 7B.131, 36 COM 7B.74, 40 COM 7B.50 and 41 COM 7A.42.

\(^{31}\) See for example Decisions 34 COM 7A.27, 36 COM 7B.8, 36 COM 7B.74, 41 COM 7B.47 and 41 COM 7B.47.
3.6 Tourism and Visitor Management

**Policy for the integration of a sustainable development perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention**

26. “World Heritage properties are important travel destinations that, if managed properly, have great potential for inclusive local economic development, sustainability and strengthening social resilience. Sustainable forms of tourism development, including community-based initiatives, should be accompanied by inclusive and equitable economic investment to ensure benefit sharing in and around World Heritage properties.

**Decision 34 COM 5F.2**

2. (…) The relationship between World Heritage and tourism is two way: tourism, if managed well, offers benefits to World Heritage properties and can contribute to cross-cultural exchange but, if not managed well, poses challenges to these properties (…) 

**Decision 34 COM 5F.2 Attachment A. Policy orientations: defining the relationship between World Heritage and tourism**

2. Tourism is critical for World Heritage:
   a) For States Parties and their individual properties,
      i. to meet the requirement in the *Convention* to ‘present’ World Heritage;
      ii. to realise community and economic benefits.
   b) For the *World Heritage Convention* as a whole, as the means by which World Heritage properties are experienced by visitors travelling nationally and internationally,
   c) As a major means by which the performance of World Heritage properties, and therefore the standing of the *Convention*, is judged,
      i. many World Heritage properties do not identify themselves as such, or do not adequately present their Outstanding Universal Value;
      ii. it would be beneficial to develop indicators of the quality of presentation, and the representation of the World Heritage brand.
   d) As a credibility issue in relation to: i. the potential for tourism infrastructure to damage Outstanding Universal Value
      i. the threat that World Heritage properties may be unsustainably managed in relation to their adjoining communities;
      ii. sustaining the conservation objectives of the *Convention* whilst engaging with economic development;
      iii. realistic aspirations that World Heritage can attract tourism.

**Report adopted by Committee with Decision 36 COM 5E.**

7. “If undertaken responsibly, tourism can be a driver for preservation and conservation of cultural and natural heritage and a vehicle for sustainable development. But if unplanned or not properly managed, tourism can be socially, culturally and economically disruptive, and have a devastating effect on fragile environments and local communities”.

18. “World Heritage and tourism stakeholders share responsibility for conservation of our common cultural and natural heritage of Outstanding Universal Value and for sustainable development through appropriate tourism management”.

Progress Report on the Draft Policy Compendium WHC/18/42.COM/11
DECISION 38 COM 7

5. “Also noting that tourism development in and around World Heritage properties is a key issue for their management, strongly encourages States Parties to ensure sustainable planning and management of tourism at World Heritage properties and to contribute to the implementation of the World Heritage Centre’s World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme”.

CASE LAW

[The World Heritage Committee recommends States Parties to] develop a comprehensive tourism management plan or a sustainable tourism strategy, including a set of measures to address the tourism pressure on the site (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).  

[At sites with a high tourism pressure, the World Heritage Committee requests States Parties] to put in place all necessary strategic, planning and management frameworks as well as legal regulations for cruise ship tourism, including identification of the sustainable carrying capacity of the site and an analysis of the impact on the World Heritage property by cruise ships (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).

3.7 Sustainable Development

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG 6 “(…) The protection and conservation of the natural and cultural heritage are a significant contribution to sustainable development”.

POLICY FOR THE INTEGRATION OF A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE INTO THE PROCESSES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

“In the current context of changing demographics and climate, growing inequalities, diminishing resources, and growing threats to heritage, the need has become apparent to view conservation objectives, (…) with a broader range of economic, social and environmental values and needs encompassed in the sustainable development concept”.

4. “In addition to protecting the OUV of World Heritage properties, States Parties should, (…) recognise and promote the properties’ inherent potential to contribute to all dimensions of sustainable development and work to harness the collective benefits for society, also by ensuring that their conservation and management strategies are aligned with broader sustainable development objectives. In this process, the properties’ OUV should not be compromised”.

5. “The integration of a sustainable development perspective into the World Heritage Convention will enable all stakeholders involved in its implementation, in particular at national level, to act with social responsibility (…)”.

See for example Decisions 35 COM 7B.17, 36 COM 7B.17, 36 COM 7B.78, 37 COM 7B.19, 38 COM 7B.27, 38 COM 7B.92, 39 COM 7B.61, 40 COM 7B.50, 40 COM 7B.74, 40 COM 7B.81.

Cruise ships are mentioned in many State of Conservation reports. Some examples can be found in Decisions 31 COM 7B.24, 38 COM 7B.27, 40 COM 7B.50 and 40 COM 7B.52, for example.
6. “States Parties should recognise, by appropriate means, that World Heritage conservation and management strategies that incorporate a sustainable development perspective embrace not only the protection of the OUV, but also the wellbeing of present and future generations”.

7. (…) the overarching principles are (…):
   - “Human Rights - The human rights embedded in the UN Charter and the range of broadly ratified human rights instruments reflect fundamental values that underpin the very possibility for dignity, peace and sustainable development. In implementing the World Heritage Convention, it is therefore essential to respect, protect and promote these environmental, social, economic, and cultural rights.34
   - Equality: The reduction of inequalities in all societies is essential to a vision of inclusive sustainable development. The conservation and management of World Heritage properties should therefore contribute to reducing inequalities, as well as its structural causes, including discrimination and exclusion.
   - Sustainability, through a long-term perspective: Sustainability, broadly defined, is inherent to the spirit of the World Heritage Convention. It should serve as a fundamental principle for all aspects of development and for all societies. In the context of the World Heritage Convention, this means applying a long-term perspective to all processes of decision-making within World Heritage properties, with a view to fostering intergenerational equity, justice, and a world fit for present and future generations”.

8. “States Parties should (…) recognize the close links and interdependence of biological diversity and local cultures within the socio-ecological systems of many World Heritage properties”.

9. “All dimensions of sustainable development should apply to natural, cultural and mixed properties in their diversity. These dimensions are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, with none having predominance over another and each being equally necessary. States Parties should therefore review and reinforce governance frameworks within management systems of World Heritage properties in order to achieve the appropriate balance, integration and harmonization between the protection of OUV and the pursuit of sustainable development objectives”.

13. “The role of World Heritage properties as a guarantee of sustainable development needs to be strengthened. Their full potential to contribute to sustainable development needs to be harnessed”.

14. “The World Heritage Convention promotes sustainable development, and in particular environmental sustainability, by valuing and conserving places of outstanding natural heritage value, containing exceptional biodiversity, geodiversity or other exceptional natural features, which are essential for human well-being. A concern for environmental sustainability, however, should equally apply to cultural and mixed World Heritage properties, including cultural landscapes. In implementing the Convention, States Parties should therefore promote environmental sustainability more generally to all World Heritage properties to ensure policy coherence and mutual supportiveness with other multilateral environmental agreements. This involves a responsible interaction with the environment in both cultural and natural properties, to avoid depletion or degradation of natural resources, ensuring long-term environmental quality and the strengthening of resilience to disasters and climate change”.

15. “States Parties should ensure that biological and cultural diversity, as well as ecosystem services and benefits for people that contribute to environmental sustainability, are protected and enhanced within World Heritage properties, their buffer zones and their wider settings (…)”.

34 Also included in item 6.2. Human Rights
24. “World Heritage properties, as cultural and natural heritage in general, offer great potential to alleviate poverty and enhance sustainable livelihoods of local communities, including those of marginalized populations. (...) The Convention should therefore contribute to promoting sustainable forms of inclusive and equitable economic development, productive and even employment and income-generating activities for all, while fully respecting the OUV of World Heritage properties”.

RECOMMENDATION ON THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE (PREAMBLE)

“The principle of sustainable development provides for the preservation of existing resources, the active protection of urban heritage and its sustainable management is a condition sine qua non of development.”

DECISION 41 COM 5C

5. “Reiterates the need to achieve the right balance between environmental, social and economic sustainability, while fully respecting and protecting the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties”.

DECISION 41 COM 7

37. “Recalling that the World Heritage Convention explicitly links the concepts of cultural and natural heritage, highlights the importance of promoting integrated approaches that strengthen holistic governance, improve conservation outcomes and contribute to sustainable development;

38. “[The World Heritage Committee] notes with appreciation the growing interest and efforts by the States Parties and heritage practitioners to develop and apply integrated approaches to conservation of natural and cultural heritage, and encourages the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, in cooperation with universities and other relevant actors, to continue and expand these efforts, in accordance with the Policy Document for the integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the Convention (2015).”
4 Policies regarding Capacity Building

4.1 General Capacity Building policies

**Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the World Heritage Convention**

11. “The integration of a sustainable development perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention will require the building of necessary capacities among practitioners, institutions, concerned communities and networks, across a wide interdisciplinary and inter-sectorial spectrum (…)”.

**Operational Guidelines**

**OG 211** “The objectives [of Educational Programmes] are:

a) to enhance capacity-building and research;
b) to raise the general public’s awareness, understanding and appreciation of the need to preserve cultural and natural heritage;
c) to enhance the function of World Heritage in the life of the community; and
d) to increase the participation of local and national populations in the protection and presentation of heritage”.

**OG 212** “The Committee seeks to develop capacity-building within the States Parties in conformity with its Strategic Objectives”.

**OG 213** “Recognizing the high level of skills and multidisciplinary approach necessary for the protection, conservation, and presentation of the World Heritage, the Committee has adopted a Global Training Strategy for World Cultural and Natural Heritage. The primary goal of the Global Training Strategy is to ensure that necessary skills are developed by a wide range of actors for better implementation of the Convention (…)”.

**OG 214** “States Parties are encouraged to ensure that their professionals and specialists at all levels are adequately trained. To this end, States Parties are encouraged to develop national training strategies and include regional co-operation for training as part of their strategies”.

4.2 Global Capacity Building Strategy

**World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy**

3. “The World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy proposes a paradigm shift to step beyond conventional training to embrace a capacity building approach. Current needs demonstrate that the audience for capacity building for World Heritage conservation and management activities is wide, diverse and growing. Creating and strengthening capacities of institutions and of networks that link the heritage sector to wider communities is as much a priority as the training of individual practitioners. Capacities reside on practitioners, institutions, and communities and networks, which are the target audiences for capacity building at the Strategy (…). Capacity building – whether of practitioners, institutions or communities and networks- is seen as a form of people-centered change that entails working with groups of individuals to achieve improvements in approaches to
managing cultural and natural heritage (...). Capacity building should be understood as the most cost-effective means by which World Heritage Committee can protect the Outstanding Universal Value and other values of World Heritage properties and ensure a mutually beneficial dynamic between heritage and society”.

4. “The Strategy also proposes a paradigm shift from treating natural and cultural heritage actors separately to the realization that capacity building actions can be strengthened by creating joint opportunities (...).”

10. “The World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy foresees each UNESCO region developing a regional capacity building strategy and associated programmes for strengthening capacities at the regional level. This strategy will be different for each region in order to respond to the specific needs and situation in each of the regions.”
5 Policies regarding Communication

5.1 Education and Awareness-raising

WHC-11/18.GA/11 FUTURE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION (the General Assembly adopted the Vision and Action Plan by Resolution 18 GA 11; the paragraph refers to the report).

10. "(...) Conservation and communication are complementary tasks. For World Heritage, increased awareness and knowledge of World Heritage objectives can increase commitment to conserve, engage with and support cultural and natural heritage sites (...)"

BUDAPEST DECLARATION ON WORLD HERITAGE

3. e. [The World Heritage Committee will] "promote World Heritage through communication, education, research, training and public awareness strategies".

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG 217 “States Parties are encouraged to raise awareness of the need to preserve World Heritage. In particular, they should ensure that World Heritage status is adequately marked and promoted on-site”.

OG 219 “The World Heritage Committee encourages and supports the development of educational materials, activities and programmes”.

CASE LAW

"[At site level, the World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties to] organize awareness-raising activities for local population and surrounding communities, to mobilize their active participation in heritage conservation and management" (based on case law further to decisions on the State of Conservation).

5.2 Interpretation

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

OG Annex V Nomination Format

"[World Heritage site] should consider visitor facilities that may include interpretation/explanation (signage, trails, notices or publications, guides); museum/exhibition devoted to the property, visitor or interpretation centre; and/or potential use of digital technologies ( )."

CASE LAW

"[The World Heritage Committee recommends to develop] a comprehensive site presentation and interpretation programme for visitors" (based on case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).

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35 See for example Decisions 36 COM 7B.17, 36 COM 7B.61, 36 COM 7B.64.
36 See for example Decisions 40 COM 7B.30, 35 COM 7B.77, 33 COM 7B.131, 31 COM 7B.84.
5.3 **World Heritage Emblem**

**Operational Guidelines**

OG 264 “The Emblem (…) has fund-raising potential that can be used to enhance the marketing value of products with which it is associated. A balance is needed between the Emblem’s use to further the aims of the Convention and optimize knowledge of the Convention worldwide and the need to prevent its abuse for inaccurate, inappropriate, and unauthorized commercial or other purposes”.

OG 267 “States Parties to the Convention should take all possible measures to prevent the use of the Emblem in their respective countries by any group or for any purpose not explicitly recognized by the Committee. States Parties are encouraged to make full use of national legislation including Trade Mark Laws”.
6 Policies regarding Communities

6.1 Participation of Local Communities and other Stakeholders

**WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION, ARTICLE 5**

"The World Heritage Convention calls upon States Parties to adopt a general policy which aims to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community".

**POLICY FOR THE INTEGRATION OF A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE INTO THE PROCESSES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

17. "(...) Inclusive social development is at the heart of the implementation of the (...) Convention. States Parties should further recognise that full inclusion, respect and equity of all stakeholders, including local and concerned communities and indigenous peoples, together with a commitment to gender equality, are a fundamental premise for inclusive social development (...)".

19. "World Heritage properties have the potential to enhance quality of life and wellbeing of all stakeholders, and in particular local communities (...)"

**BUDAPEST DECLARATION ON WORLD HERITAGE**

3. "In view of the increasing challenges to our shared heritage, we will:
   c) (...) seek to ensure an appropriate and equitable balance between conservation, sustainability and development, so that World Heritage properties can be protected through appropriate activities contributing to the social and economic development and the quality of life of our communities;
   f) (...) seek to ensure the active involvement of our local communities at all levels in the identification, protection and management of our World Heritage properties”.

**WHC-11/18.GA/11 FUTURE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION** (the General Assembly adopted the Vision and Action Plan by Resolution 18 GA 11; the paragraph refers to the report).

8. "The World Heritage Convention is implemented through a wide and ever-expanding network of actors. Each has an important role to play in shaping policies, driving management practices, building capacity and expanding awareness of cultural and natural heritage. (...) It is also important to ensure that local, national and international communities feel a connection to, engage with and benefit from the world’s natural and cultural heritage”.

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 39** “A partnership approach to nomination, management and monitoring provides a significant contribution to the protection of World Heritage properties and the implementation of the Convention”.

**OG 40** “Partners in the protection and conservation of World Heritage can be those individuals and other stakeholders, especially local communities, indigenous peoples, governmental, non-governmental and private organizations and owners who have an interest and involvement in the conservation and management of a World Heritage property".
OG 64 “States Parties are encouraged to prepare their Tentative Lists with the participation of a wide variety of stakeholders, including site managers, local and regional governments, local communities, NGOs and other interested parties and partners”.

OG 117 “States Parties are responsible for implementing effective management activities for a World Heritage property. State Parties should do so in close collaboration with property managers, the agency with management authority and other partners, and stakeholders in property management”.

OG 123 “Participation in the nomination process of local communities, indigenous peoples, governmental, non-governmental and private organizations and other stakeholders is essential to enable them to have a shared responsibility with the State Party in the maintenance of the property. States Parties are encouraged to prepare nominations with the widest possible participation of stakeholders (...).”

DECISION 31 COM 13A

“The World Heritage Committee decides to maintain credibility, conservation, capacity building and communication as strategic objectives in the implementation of the Convention whilst restating the different components and, recognizing the critical importance of involving indigenous, traditional and local communities in the implementation of the Convention, further decides to add ‘communities’ as a fifth strategic objective (“).”

DECISION 35 COM 12E

“The World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties to establish and promote horizontal cooperation and understanding among various institutions that have an impact on cultural and natural heritage, also including governmental institutions responsible for UNESCO programmes implementation on national level, economy, finance, regional development/planning, tourism, social welfare as well as local authorities”.

DECISION 41 COM 7

40. “[The World Heritage Committee] takes note with appreciation of the Chairperson of the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee’s initiative on structured dialogue with civil society and encourages States Parties and civil society organizations to continue exploring possibilities how civil society can further contribute to enhanced conservation of heritage on the site and national level and provide relevant input to the heritage related debate at the global level.”

CASE LAW

“[The World Heritage Committee requests States Parties to] undertake capacity-building activities for all local stakeholders concerned to raise awareness of World Heritage management requirements” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).37

“[The World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties to implement] initiatives for capacity building and transmission of traditional know-how for the sustainable development and use of the property” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).38

37 See for example Decisions 33 COM 7B.29, 36 COM 7B.17, 36 COM 7B.45, 36 COM 7B.61, 38 COM 7A.37.
38 See for example Decisions 40 COM 7A.5, 41 COM 7A.27.
6.2 Human Rights and Rights-based Approach

**Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the World Heritage Convention**

7. “i. Human Rights: The human rights embedded in the UN Charter and the range of broadly ratified human rights instruments reflect fundamental values that underpin the very possibility for dignity, peace and sustainable development. In implementing the *World Heritage Convention*, it is therefore essential to respect, protect and promote these environmental, social, economic, and cultural rights”.

17. “The *World Heritage Convention* in Article 5 calls upon States Parties to “adopt a general policy which aims to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community”. States Parties should recognise that inclusive social development is at the heart of the implementation of this provision of the *Convention*. States Parties should further recognise that full inclusion, respect and equity of all stakeholders, including local and concerned communities and indigenous peoples, together with a commitment to gender equality, are a fundamental premise for inclusive social development. Enhancing quality of life and well-being in and around World Heritage properties is essential, taking into account communities who might not visit or reside in or near properties but are still stakeholders. Inclusive social development must be underpinned by inclusive governance”.

18. “States Parties should ensure that the conservation and management of World Heritage properties is based on recognition of cultural diversity, inclusion and equity (...).”

20. “(...) To ensure policy coherence in conserving and managing World Heritage properties, States Parties should commit to uphold, respect and contribute to the implementation of the full range of international human rights standards as a prerequisite for effectively achieving sustainable development. To this end, States Parties should:

   i. Ensure that the full cycle of World Heritage processes from nomination to management is compatible with and supportive of human rights;
   ii. Adopt a rights-based approach, which promotes World Heritage properties as exemplary places for the application of the highest standards for the respect and realization of human rights;
   iii. Develop, through equitable participation of concerned people, relevant standards and safeguards, guidance tools and operational mechanisms for assessment, nomination, management, evaluation and reporting processes compatible with and effective rights-based approach for both existing and potential new properties;
   iv. Promote technical cooperation and capacity-building to ensure effective rights-based approaches”.

6.3 Gender Equality

**Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the World Heritage Convention**

“(..) States Parties should:

i. Ensure respect for gender equality throughout the full cycle of World Heritage processes, particularly in the preparation and content of nomination dossiers;
ii. Ensure social and economic opportunities for both women and men in and around World Heritage properties;
iii. Ensure equal and respectful consultation, full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership and representation of both women and men within activities for the conservation and management of World Heritage properties; When or where relevant, ensure that gender-rooted traditional practices within World Heritage properties, for example in relation to access or participation in management mechanisms, have received the full consent of all groups within the local communities through transparent consultation processes that fully respects gender equality”.

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 155** “In the framework of the Gender Equality Priority of UNESCO, the use of gender-neutral language in the preparation of Statements of Outstanding Universal Value is encouraged”.

### 6.4 Indigenous peoples

**POLICY FOR THE INTEGRATION OF A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE INTO THE PROCESSES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

21. “(...) The World Heritage Committee specifically encourages the effective and equitable involvement and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in decision-making, monitoring and evaluation of World Heritage properties and the respect of indigenous peoples’ rights in nominating, managing and reporting on World Heritage properties in their own territories. Recognising rights and fully involving indigenous peoples and local communities, in line with international standards is at the heart of sustainable development”.

22. “(...) States parties should:

i. Develop relevant standards, guidance and operational mechanisms for indigenous peoples and local community involvement in World Heritage processes;

ii. Ensure adequate consultations, the free, prior and informed consent and equitable and effective participation of indigenous peoples where World Heritage nomination, management and policy measures affect their territories, lands, resources and ways of life;

iii. Actively promote indigenous and local initiatives to develop equitable governance arrangements, collaborative management systems and, when appropriate, redress mechanisms;

iv. Support appropriate activities contributing to the building of a sense of shared responsibility for heritage among indigenous people and local communities, by recognizing both universal and local values within management systems for World Heritage properties”.

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 123** “Participation in the nomination process of (...) indigenous peoples (...) is essential to enable them to have a shared responsibility with the State Party in the maintenance of the property. States Parties are encouraged to prepare nominations with the widest possible participation of stakeholders and to demonstrate, as appropriate, that the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples has been obtained, through, inter alia making the nominations publicly available in appropriate languages and public consultations and hearings”.

**DECISION 35 COM 12E**
15. e. “The World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties to involve indigenous peoples and local communities in decision making, monitoring and evaluation of the state of conservation of the properties and their Outstanding Universal Value and link the direct community benefits to protection outcomes;

15. f. “The World Heritage Committee encourages States Parties to respect the rights of indigenous peoples when nominating, managing and reporting on World Heritage sites in indigenous peoples' territories”.

CASE LAW

“[The World Heritage Committee requests States Parties to] strengthen the cooperation with local communities, civil society and in particular the indigenous communities, including consideration of traditional knowledge for the management of the property” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\(^{39}\)

“[The World Heritage Committee requests States Parties to] assess the impacts of grazing, hunting and other human traditional activities on the biodiversity in the traditional use zone and develop a policy for the sustainable use of the natural resources in the traditional use zones in the property in close cooperation with the indigenous communities using these areas” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\(^{40}\)

“[The World Heritage Committee requests to] take into account [the property] uses by the indigenous populations, and encourages consultation and involvement in decision-making with resource-dependent communities in and around the property, to find mutually acceptable ways to resolve any potential use conflicts, while respecting any rights of use, and on the basis of an accurate assessment of impacts from resource use on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\(^{41}\)

“[The World Heritage Committee requests] [that any development project] to count with all elements of due process to achieve Free, Prior and Informed Consent by indigenous communities having territorial rights in the affected lands” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\(^{42}\)

“[The World Heritage Committee requests to] protect the indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation and in initial contact from external pressures” (based on Case law on decisions on the State of Conservation).\(^{43}\)

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\(^{39}\) See for example Decision 36 COM 7B.25. Even if it is not so present in Decisions concerning the state of conservation, this promotion of cooperation with indigenous peoples is present in different meetings and working documents.

\(^{40}\) Also included in Chapter 2. See for example Decisions 32 COM 7B.41, 36 COM 7B.25, 40 COM 7B.79.

\(^{41}\) See for example Decisions 34 COM 7B.1, 39 COM 7A.19, 40 COM 7B.88 among others.

\(^{42}\) See for example Decision 39 COM 7B.28 and 37 COM 7B.30. Even if this type of Decision is not so usual, it is related to the very specific issue of indigenous communities. It has been included because it can be considered as a Policy at the United Nations system, and could be also considered as such for the purpose of this report.

\(^{43}\) See Decision 35 COM 7B.34. Even if this type of Decision is not so usual, it is related to the very specific issue of indigenous communities in voluntary isolation. Other State of Conservation reports from the World Heritage Centre (for example for Great Rift Valley) also mention this issue about communities in voluntary isolation, but it was not included in the Decision. It has been included in this document because it could be taken as a Policy for the purpose of this report.
6.5 Youth

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

**OG 241** “[International Assistance could be dedicated to] stimulate joint education, information and promotional programmes and activities, especially when they involve the participation of young people for the benefit of World Heritage conservation.

[International Assistance could be dedicated] at the national level for meetings specifically organized to make the Convention better known, especially amongst young people (...) [and for the] preparation and discussion of education and information material (...) for the general promotion of the Convention and the World Heritage List (...), and especially for young people”.

6.6 Fostering of peace and security

**POLICY FOR THE INTEGRATION OF A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE INTO THE PROCESSES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

28. “Sustainable development and the conservation of the world’s cultural and natural heritage are undermined by war, civil conflict and all forms of violence. The World Heritage Convention is an integral part of UNESCO’s established mandate to build bridges towards peace and security. It is therefore incumbent upon States Parties, in conformity also with provisions of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The 1954 Hague Convention) and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols, for the States that have ratified them, as well as in accordance with the UNESCO Declaration concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage (2003) and international customary law protecting cultural property in the event of armed conflict, to ensure that the implementation of the World Heritage Convention is used to promote the achievement and maintenance of peace and security between and within States Parties”.

29. “Recalling also the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001), States Parties should therefore acknowledge the reality of cultural diversity within and around many World Heritage properties, and promote a culturally pluralistic approach in strategies for their conservation and management. States Parties should also recognise that peace and security, including freedom from conflict, discrimination and all forms of violence, require respect for human rights, effective systems of justice, inclusive political processes and appropriate systems of conflict prevention, resolution and post-conflict recovery”.

30. “States Parties have a critically important role to play in ensuring that the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, including the establishment of the World Heritage List and management of inscribed properties, are used to prevent conflicts between and within States Parties and to promote respect for cultural diversity and around World Heritage properties (...)”.

31. “During armed conflict, States Parties must refrain from any use of World Heritage properties and their immediate surroundings for purposes which are likely to expose them to destruction or damage. They must also refrain from any act of hostility directed against such properties (...).”

32. “The inherent potential of World Heritage properties and of their conservation to contribute favourably to conflict resolution and re-establishment of peace and security should be acknowledged and harnessed (...).”

33. “During a conflict and in the post-conflict transition phase, World Heritage properties and their wider settings can make a significant contribution to recovery and socio-economic reconstruction (...).”
DECISION 37 COM 7

2. “[The World Heritage Committee] expresses its utmost concern about the many conflicts which are affecting World Heritage properties and in particular the (...) cases where World Heritage properties are intentionally destroyed by parties involved in the conflict, and the people in charge of their protection targeted; (...) [and] seeks their support (...) for establishing property inventories and also requests the implementation of conservation measures for cultural properties threatened by armed conflict in other countries (”).

DECISION 39 COM 7

4. “[The World Heritage Committee] urges all parties associated with conflicts to refrain from any action that would cause further damage to cultural heritage and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage, in particular the safeguarding of World Heritage properties and the sites included in the Tentative List;

5. Also urges the States Parties to adopt measures for the evacuation of World Heritage properties being used for military purposes”.

DECISION 41 COM 7

“[The World Heritage Committee] launches an appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage objects (UNESCO 1970 Convention) and illegal wildlife trade, including through the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and to pursue the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions regarding cultural heritage protection in conflict areas, especially Resolution 2199 and 2347”.

CASE LAW

“[The World Heritage Committee] launches an appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in fighting against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage” (based on case law further to decisions on the State of Conservation). 44

“[The World Heritage Committee urges States Parties in conflict situations] to safeguard damaged properties through minimal first aid interventions to prevent theft, further collapse and natural degradation, and to refrain from undertaking conservation and restoration work until the situation allows, for the development of comprehensive conservation strategies and actions that respond to international standards in full consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies” (based on case law further to Decisions concerning the State of Conservation). 45

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44 Illicit trafficking appears in different documents of the Convention. Concerning decisions see for example 39 COM 7A.36, 40 COM 7A.22, 40 COM 7A.26, 40 COM 7B.64, 41 COM 7A.50.

45 See for example Decisions 39 COM 7A.36, 40 COM 7A.22, 41 COM 7A.50, 41 COM 7A.46.
Annex I Other Relevant Standard-setting Texts and Related Documents

The following is a non-exhaustive list of standard-setting texts and other documents which may contain policy relevant in the context of World Heritage but are not referred to within the draft Policy Compendium as they exceed the scope of the document.

UN


UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights. Annual Reports http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/CulturalRights/Pages/AnnualReports.aspx

UNESCO

UNESCO CONVENTIONS AND PROGRAMMES


Protocol I (1954)

Protocol II (1999)


http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001325/132540e.pdf

Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions 2005
http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001429/142919e.pdf

Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme http://www.unesco.org/mab/

UNESCO POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND DECLARATIONS

http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002627/262748e.pdf


World Heritage specific


ANNEX II. List of documents and texts
Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, Paris, 16 November 1972
http://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/


World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy, 2011


Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List (1994)
http://whc.unesco.org/en/globalstrategy/

http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001598/159881m.pdf


Human use of World Heritage natural sites (IUCN)

Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, including a glossary of definitions (2011)


The UNESCO World Heritage Centre’s Natural Heritage Strategy

Recommendation concerning the Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)  
http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001140/114044e.pdf#page=145

General Assembly and General Conference

WHC-05/15.GA/INF.7 Adoption of a Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes  

WHC-05/15.GA/7 Adoption of a Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes  
whc.unesco.org/document/5965&type=doc


WHC-11/18.GA/INF.8 Evaluation of the Global Strategy and the PACT initiative

WHC-11/18.GA/8 Evaluation of the Global Strategy and the PACT initiative  


WHC-11/18.GA/12 Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly  
WHC-11/18.GA/INF.8 Evaluation of the Global Strategy and the PACT initiative

WHC-11/18.GA/8 Evaluation of the Global Strategy and the PACT initiative  


WHC-11/18.GA/12 Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly  

WHC-13/19.GA/9 Global Strategy for a representative, balanced and credible World Heritage list (2013)  


Decision CONF 202 11 Implementation of the World Heritage Convention  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/808/


Committee Decisions (including Context of the Decision documents)

Decision 27 COM 14 Evaluation of the Cairns Decision  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/759/

Decision 27 COM 15 Ways and means to reinforce the implementation of the World Heritage Convention  

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Decision 30 COM 7B.100 General Decision http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1187/

Decision 30 COM 7.1 Issues related to the state of conservation of World Heritage properties: the impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage properties http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1046


Decision 31 COM 13A Evaluation of the results of the implementation of the Committee’s strategic objectives http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5196/

Decision 31 COM 13B The “fifth C” for “Communities” http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5197/


Decision 34 COM 5E The World Heritage Convention and the other UNESCO Conventions in the field of culture http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2010/whc10-34com-5Ee.pdf


Decision 34.COM/7.1 Historic Urban Landscape http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2010/whc10-34com-71e.pdf

Decision 34 COM 7C Reflection on the trends of the state of conservation http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2010/whc10-34com-7Ce.pdf


Decision 36 COM 9B Follow-up to the Capacity-building strategy http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4843/


Decision 37 COM 7 Emerging trends and general issues http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5018/


Decision 37 COM 9 Progress report on the upstream processes http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5179/


Decision 38 COM 7 State of conservation of World Heritage properties http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5948


WHC-10/34.COM/7.1 Inclusion of the Historic Urban Landscape in the relevant sections of the text of the Operational Guidelines http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2010/whc10-34com-INF7.1e.pdf


ANNEX III. List of decisions on State of Conservation


31 COM 7B.7 Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary (Senegal) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1387/

31 COM 7B.8 Cape Floral Region Protected Areas (South Africa) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1388/


31 COM 7B.28 Ilulissat Icefjord (Denmark) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1408/

31 COM 7B.31 Lake Baikal (Russian Federation) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1412/

31 COM 7B.33 Dorset and East Devon Coast (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1414/

31 COM 7B.45 Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1426/

31 COM 7B.66 Archaeological site of Volubilis (Morocco) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1446/

31 COM 7B.84 Borobudur Temple Compounds (Indonesia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4877/

31 COM 7B.108 Belfries of Belgium and France (Belgium/France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4902/

31 COM 7B.114 Curonian Spit (Lithuania / Russian Federation) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4909/

31 COM 7B.126 Maya Site of Copán (Honduras) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4921/


32 COM 7B.2 Vredefort Dome (South Africa) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1607/


32 COM 7B.6 Banc d’Arguin National Park (Mauritania) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1611/

32 COM 7B.15 Lorentz National Park (Indonesia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1620/

32 COM 7B.21 Danube Delta (Romania) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1627/

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32 COM 7B.29 Yellowstone National Park (United States of America) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1635/
32 COM 7B.34 Los Katios National Park (Colombia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1640/
32 COM 7B.41 Tasmanian Wilderness (Australia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1647/
32 COM 7B.44 Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1650/
32 COM 7B.62 Baha Fort (Oman) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1669/
32 COM 7B.64 The Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur (Bangladesh) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1671/
32 COM 7B.70 Group of Monuments at Hampi (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1677/
32 COM 7B.72 Meidan Emam, Esfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1679/
32 COM 7B.84 Belfries of Belgium and France (Belgium and France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1691/
32 COM 7B.90 Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Georgia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1697/
32 COM 7B.98 Curonian Spit (Lithuania/Russian Federation) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1705/
32 COM 7B.118 Heart of Neolithic Orkney (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1725/
32 COM 7B.122 Maya Site of Copan (Honduras) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1729/
33 COM 7A.15 Abu Mena (Egypt) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1775/
33 COM 7B.4 Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary (Senegal) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1796/
33 COM 7B.5 Vredefort Dome (South Africa) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1797/
33 COM 7B.7 Rwenzori Mountains National Park (Uganda) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1799/
33 COM 7B.11 Banc d’Arguin National Park (Mauritania) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1803/
33 COM 7B.19 East Rennell (Solomon Islands) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1811/
33 COM 7B.23 Ilulissat Icefjord (Denmark) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1815/?cid=305&l=en&id_decision=1815&&msg=session_timeout
33 COM 7B.25 Laurisilva of Madeira (Portugal) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1817/
33 COM 7B.26 Danube Delta (Romania) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1818/
33 COM 7B.28 Lake Baikal (Russian Federation) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1820/
33 COM 7B.29 Western Caucasus (Russian Federation) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1821/]
33 COM 7B.54 Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis (Egypt) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1846/]
33 COM 7B.67 Historic Centre of Macao (China) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1859/]
33 COM 7B.77 Town of Luang Prabang (Lao People’s Democratic Republic) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1869/]
33 COM 7B.113 City of Valletta (Malta) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1905/]
33 COM 7B.116 Cultural Landscape of Sintra (Portugal) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1908/]
33 COM 7B.131 City of Bath (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1923/]
33 COM 7B.135 Colonial City of Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1927/]
33 COM 7B.137 Maya Site of Copan (Honduras) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1929/]
34 COM 7A.15 Galápagos Islands (Ecuador) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4091/]
34 COM 7A.16 Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara (United Republic of Tanzania) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4092/]
34 COM 7A.17 Abu Mena (Egypt) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4093/]
34 COM 7A.27 Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Georgia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4103/]
34 COM 7B.1 Dja Wildlife Reserve (Cameroon) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4109/]
34 COM 7B.6 Mosi-oa-Tunya / Victoria Falls (Zambia / Zimbabwe) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4114/]
34 COM 7B.11 Sichuan Giant Panda Sanctuaries – Wolong, Mt Siguniang and Jiajin Mountains (China) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4119/]
34 COM 7B.13 Lorentz National Park (Indonesia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4121/]
34 COM 7B.14 Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Indonesia) (N 1167) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4122/]
34 COM 7B.17 East Rennell (Solomon Islands) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4125/]
34 COM 7B.20 Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park (Canada/United States of America) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4128/]
34 COM 7B.22 Lake Baikal (Russian Federation) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4130/]
34 COM 7B.26 Doñana National Park (Spain) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4134/]
34 COM 7B.28 Yellowstone National Park (United States of America) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4136/]
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34 COM 7B.42 Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4150/
34 COM 7B.54 Stone Town of Zanzibar (United Republic of Tanzania) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4162/
34 COM 7B.68 Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4176/
34 COM 7B.74 Historic Centre of Bukhara (Uzbekistan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4182/
34 COM 7B.78 Architectural, Residential and Cultural Complex of the Radziwill Family at Nesvizh (Belarus) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4186/
34 COM 7B.83 Saint-Michel and its Bay (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4191/
34 COM 7B.86 Bordeaux, Port of the Moon (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4194/
34 COM 7B.91 Curonian Spit (Lithuania / Russian Federation) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4199/
34 COM 7B.108 Colonial City of Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4216/
35 COM 7A.19 Abu Mena (Egypt) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4353/
35 COM 7B.2 Mount Kenya National Park/Natural Forest (Kenya) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4410/
35 COM 7B.4 Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary (Senegal) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4412/
35 COM 7B.9 Purnululu National Park (Australia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4417/
35 COM 7B.15 Lorentz National Park (Indonesia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4423/
35 COM 7B.17 Tubbataha Reef Natural Park (Philippines) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4425/
35 COM 7B.22 Lagoons of New Caledonia: Reef Diversity and Associated Ecosystems (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4430/
35 COM 7B.34 Manu National Park (Peru) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4442/
35 COM 7B.41 Aapravasi Ghat (Mauritius) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4449/
35 COM 7B.67 Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4475/
35 COM 7B.77 Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro (Pakistan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4485/
35 COM 7B.85 Architectural, Residential and Cultural Complex of the Radziwill Family at Nesvizh (Belarus) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4493/
35 COM 7B.87 Ancient City of Nessebar (Bulgaria) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4495/
35 COM 7B.92 Prehistoric Sites and Decorated Caves of the Vézère Valley (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4500/
35 COM 7B.93 Upper Middle Rhine Valley (Germany) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4501/
35 COM 7B.96 Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata (Italy) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4504/
35 COM 7B.126 Maya Site of Copan (Honduras) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4534/
35 COM 7B.131 Lines and Geoglyphs of Nasca and Pampas de Jumana (Peru) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4539/
35 COM 7B.133 City of Cuzco (Peru) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4541/
36 COM 7A.18 Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4630/
36 COM 7A.20 Abu Mena (Egypt) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4632/
36 COM 7A.24 Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4637/
36 COM 7A.28 Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore (Pakistan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4641
36 COM 7A.34 Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4647/
36 COM 7B.1 Dja Wildlife Reserve (Cameroon) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4650/
36 COM 7B.4 Rwenzori Mountains National Park (Uganda) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4653/
36 COM 7B.8 Great Barrier Reef (Australia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4657/
36 COM 7B.13 Phoenix Islands Protected Area (Kiribati) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4661/
36 COM 7B.15 East Rennell (Solomon Island) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4663/
36 COM 7B.17 Dong Phayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex (Thailand) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4665/
36 COM 7B.27 Yellowstone National Park (United States of America) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4676/
36 COM 7B.43 Lamu Old Town (Kenya) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4692/
36 COM 7B.45 Aapravasi Ghat (Mauritius) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4694/
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<td>36 COM 7B.64</td>
<td>COM 7B.64 Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape (Lao People’s Democratic Republic)</td>
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<td>COM 7B.100 Maya Site of Copan (Honduras)</td>
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37 COM 7B.20 Pitons, cirques and remparts of Reunion Island (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5039/

37 COM 7B.22 Lake Baikal (Russian Federation) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5028/


37 COM 7B.30 Talamanca Range-La Amistad Reserves / La Amistad National Park (Costa Rica / Panama) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5043/

37 COM 7B.31 Coiba National Park and its Special Zone of Marine Protection (Panama) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4956/

37 COM 7B.37 Historic Town of Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5049/

37 COM 7B.38 Aksum (Ethiopia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5050/

37 COM 7B.40 Lamu Old Town (Kenya) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5052/

37 COM 7B.53 Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Libya) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5065/

37 COM 7B.58 Old City of Sana’a (Yemen) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5070/

37 COM 7B.65 Kathmandu Valley (Nepal) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5077/

37 COM 7B.71 Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn (Austria) and Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5083/

37 COM 7B.74 Prehistoric Sites and Decorated Caves of the Vézère Valley (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5086/

37 COM 7B.76 Budapest, including the Banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and Andrássy Avenue (Hungary) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5090/

37 COM 7B.77 Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata (Italy) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5091/

37 COM 7B.89 Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5108/

37 COM 7B.94 Churches of Chiloé (Chile) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5116/

37 COM 7B.96 Colonial City of Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5119/

37 COM 7B.100 Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo and Historic District of Panamá (Panama) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5019/

38 COM 7A.1 Abu Mena (Egypt) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5950/

38 COM 7A.2 Ashur (Qal’at Sherqat) (Iraq) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5949/

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38 COM 7A.37 Virunga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo)  
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38 COM 7A.45 Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger)  
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38 COM 7B.2 Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Libya)  
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38 COM 7B.14 Cultural Landscape of Bali Province: the Subak System as a Manifestation of the Tri Hita Karana Philosophy (Indonesia)  
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38 COM 7B.18 Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha (Nepal)  
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38 COM 7B.26 Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay (France)  
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38 COM 7B.27 Venice and its lagoon (Italy)  
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38 COM 7B.32 Cultural and Historic Ensemble of the Solovetsky Islands (Russian Federation)  
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38 COM 7B.34 Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)  
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38 COM 7B.40 Churches of Chiloé (Chile)  
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38 COM 7B.42 Colonial City of Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) (C 526)  
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38 COM 7B.48 Lower Omo Valley (Ethiopia)  
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38 COM 7B.52 Historic Centre of Agadez (Niger)  
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38 COM 7B.53 Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove (Nigeria)  
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38 COM 7B.62 Banc d’Arguin National Park (Mauritania)  
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38 COM 7B.68 Sagarmatha National Park (Nepal)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6054/

38 COM 7B.69 Chitwan National Park (Nepal)  
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38 COM 7B.75 Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany (Ukraine, Germany, Slovakia)  
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38 COM 7B.80 Giant’s Causeway and Causeway Coast (United-Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)  
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38 COM 7B.84 Coiba National Park and its Special Zone of Marine Protection (Panama)  
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38 COM 7B.91 Kenya Lake System in the Great Rift Valley (Kenya)  
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38 COM 7B.92 Lake Malawi National Park (Malawi)  
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38 COM 7B.94 Serengeti National Park (United Republic of Tanzania)  
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38 COM 7B.96 Mosi-oa-Tunya/ Victoria Falls (Zambia, Zimbabwe)  
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39 COM 7A.11 Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar)  
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39 COM 7A.24 Abu Mena (Egypt)  
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39 COM 7A.36 General Decision on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic  
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39 COM 7A.36 General Decision on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic  
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39 COM 7B.3 Lakes of Ounianga (Chad)  
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39 COM 7B.6 Socotra Archipelago (Yemen)  
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39 COM 7B.10 Wulingyuan Scenic and Historic Interest Area (China)  
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39 COM 7B.12 Lorentz National Park (Indonesia)  
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39 COM 7B.15 Chitwan National Park (Nepal)  
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39 COM 7B.18 Wood Buffalo National Park (Canada)  
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39 COM 7B.28 Talamanca Range-La Amistad Reserves / La Amistad National Park (Costa Rica / Panama)  
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39 COM 7B.39 Aksum (Ethiopia)  
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39 COM 7B.43 Osun-Osogbo Sacred Groove (Nigeria)  
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39 COM 7B.52 Petra (Jordan)  
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39 COM 7B.56 Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Libya)  
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39 COM 7B.61 Cultural Landscape of Honghe Hani Rice Terraces (China)  
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39 COM 7B.66 Cultural Landscape of Bali Province: the Subak System as a Manifestation of the Tri Hita Karana Philosophy (Indonesia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6321/

39 COM 7B.72 Historic Centre of Bukhara (Uzbekistan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6327/

39 COM 7B.80 Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Hercuraneum and Torre Annunziata (Italy) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6335/

39 COM 7B.86 Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6341/

39 COM 7B.89 Churches of Chiloé (Chile) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6344/

39 COM 7B.91 Maya Site of Copan (Honduras) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6346/

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40 COM 7B.11 Lower Valley of the Omo (C 17) (Ethiopia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6676/

40 COM 7A.14 Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Palestine) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6629/

40 COM 7A.16 Ancient City of Aleppo (Syrian Arab Republic) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6631/


40 COM 7A.35 Comoé National Park (Côte d’Ivoire) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6650/

40 COM 7A.37 Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6652/

40 COM 7B.10 Aksum (Ethiopia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6675/

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40 COM 7A.44 Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6659/

40 COM 7A.45 Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6660/

40 COM 7A.49 East Rennell (Solomon Islands) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6664/


40 COM 7B.30 Ancients Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (China) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6695/
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40 COM 7B.49 Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria)  
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40 COM 7B.52 Venice and its lagoon (Italy)  
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40 COM 7B.53 Curonian Spit (Lithuania/Russian Federation)  
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40 COM 7B.55 Auschwitz Birkenau German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945) (Poland)  
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40 COM 7B.64 Cliff of Bandiagara (Land of the Dogons) (Mali)  
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40 COM 7B.69 Iguazu National Park (Argentina)  
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40 COM 7B.70 Iguacu National Park (Brazil)  
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40 COM 7B.71 Cerrado Protected areas: Chapada dos Veadeiros and Emas National Parks (Brazil) (N 1035)  
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40 COM 7B.85 Banc d’Arguin National Park (Mauritania)  
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40 COM 7B.104 Grand Canyon National Park (United States of America)  
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41 COM 7A.1 Everglades National Park (United States of America) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6947/

41 COM 7A.2 Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (Belize) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6948/

41 COM 7A.5 Comoé National Park (Côte d’Ivoire) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6951/

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41 COM 7A.20 Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery (Georgia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6966/

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41 COM 7A.33 Ashur (Qal‘at Sherqat) (Iraq) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6979/

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41 COM 7A.37 Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Libya) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6983/

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41 COM 7A.42 Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Palestine) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6988/

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41 COM 7B.40 Historic Centres of Berat and Gjirokastra (Albania) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/7041/]
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31 COM 8B.11 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - South China Karst (China) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1309/]

31 COM 8B.12 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Jeju Volcanic Island and Lava Tubes (Republic of Korea) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1310/]

31 COM 8B.13 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Ba Be National Park (Viet Nam) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1311/]

31 COM 8B.15 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - The Dolomites (Italy) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1313/]

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31 COM 8B.17 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Teide National Park (Spain) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1315/]

31 COM 8B.18 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Jungfrau-Aletsch-Bietschhorn (Switzerland) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1316/]

31 COM 8B.19 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Banco Chinchorro Biosphere Reserve (Mexico) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1317/]

31 COM 8B.20 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape, South Africa (South Africa) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1318/]

31 COM 8B.21 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Sacred Mijikenda Kaya Forests (Kenya) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1319/]

31 COM 8B.22 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Twyfelfontein or /Ui-//aes (Namibia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1320/]

31 COM 8B.23 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Samarra Archaeological City (Iraq) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1321/]

31 COM 8B.24 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - the Temple of Preah Vihear (Cambodia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1322/]

31 COM 8B.25 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Kaiping Diaolou and Villages (China) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1323/]

31 COM 8B.26 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine and its Cultural Landscape (Japan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1324/]

31 COM 8B.27 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Sulaiman-Too Cultural Landscape (Sacred Mountain) (Kyrgyzstan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1325/]
31 COM 8B.28 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Batanes Cultural Landscapes (Philippines) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1326/]

31 COM 8B.29 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list – Sarazm (Tajikistan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1327/]

31 COM 8B.30 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Parthian Fortresses of Nisa (Turkmenistan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1328/]

31 COM 8B.31 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Sydney Opera House (Australia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1329/]

31 COM 8B.32 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Red Fort Complex (India) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1330/]

31 COM 8B.33 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Bregenzerwald Cultural Landscape (Austria) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1331/]

31 COM 8B.34 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Mehmed Paša Sokolović Bridge in Višegrad (Bosnia and Herzegovina) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1332/]

31 COM 8B.35 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Rideau Canal (Canada) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1333/]

31 COM 8B.38 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Bordeaux, Port of the Moon (France) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1337/]

31 COM 8B.40 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Old Town of Corfu (Greece) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1339/]

31 COM 8B.41 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Bahá’í Holy Places in Haifa and the Western Galilee (Israel) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1340/]

31 COM 8B.45 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Gamzigrad–Romuliana, the Palace of Galerius (Serbia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1347/]

31 COM 8B.46 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Lavaux, vineyard terraces (Switzerland) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1348/]

31 COM 8B.48 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - The Historic Centre of Berat (City of 25 Centuries Cultural Continuity and Religious Coexistence) (Albania) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1350/]

31 COM 8B.49 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Gobustan Rock Art Cultural Landscape (Azerbaijan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1351/]

31 COM 8B.50 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Heidelberg Castle and Old Town (Germany) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1352/]

31 COM 8B.52 Nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Central University City Campus of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma Autónoma de México (UNAM) (Mexico) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1354/]
32 COM 8B.5 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Socotra Archipelago (Yemen) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1463/

32 COM 8B.6 Examination of nomination of Natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Mount Sanqingshan National Park (China) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1464/

32 COM 8B.7 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Hovsgol Lake and its Watershed (Mongolia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1465/

32 COM 8B.8 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Saryarka, Steppe and Lakes of Northern Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1466/

32 COM 8B.9 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Joggins Fossil Cliffs (Canada) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1467/

32 COM 8B.10 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Lagoons of New Caledonia (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1470/

32 COM 8B.11 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Surtsey (Iceland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1469/


32 COM 8B.14 Examination of nomination of Natural, mixed and cultural properties to the world heritage list - Tectonic Arena Sardona (Switzerland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1473/


32 COM 8B.18 Examination of nomination of Natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Le Morne Cultural Landscape (Mauritius) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1479/

32 COM 8B.19 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Al-Hijr Archaeological Site (Madâin Sâlih), (Saudi Arabia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1480/

32 COM 8B.20 Examination of nomination of Natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Fujian Tulou (China) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1481/

32 COM 8B.21 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Historic Monuments and Sites in Kaesong (Korea) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1482/

32 COM 8B.22 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Cultural Landscape of Bali Province (Indonesia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1483/

32 COM 8B.23 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Armenian Monastic Ensembles of Iran (Islamic Republic of Iran) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1484/

32 COM 8B.24 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Hiraizumi - Cultural Landscape Associated with Pure Land Buddhist Cosmology (Japan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1485/
32 COM 8B.25 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Melaka and George Town, Historic Cities of the Straits of Malacca (Malaysia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1486/

32 COM 8B.26 Examination of nomination of Natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Kuk Early Agricultural Site (Papua New Guinea) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1487/

32 COM 8B.27 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Chief Roi Mata's Domain (Vanuatu) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1488/

32 COM 8B.28 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Kalka Shimla Railway, Extension of Mountain Railways of India (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1489/

32 COM 8B.29 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Stari Grad Plain (Croatia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1490/

32 COM 8B.30 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Spa of Luhačovice (Czech Republic) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1491/

32 COM 8B.31 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Fortifications of Vauban (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1492/

32 COM 8B.32 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Berlin Modernism Housing Est (Germany) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1493/

32 COM 8B.35 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Mantua and Sabbioneta (Italy) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1496/

32 COM 8B.36 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Historic Centre and Mount Titano (San Marino) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1497/

32 COM 8B.37 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Wooden Churches of the Slovak part of the Carpathian Mountain Area (Slovakia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1498/

32 COM 8B.38 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Rhaetian Railway in the Albula/Bernina Landscapes (Switzerland / Italy) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1499/

32 COM 8B.39 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Cave of Altamira and Palaeolithic Cave Art (SPAIN) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1500/

32 COM 8B.40 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Frontiers of the Roman Empire (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland / Germany) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1501/

32 COM 8B.41 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Cultural Landscape of Buenos Aires (Argentina) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1502/

32 COM 8B.42 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - São Francisco Square in São Cristóvão (Brazil) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1503/
32 COM 8B.43 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Historic Centre of Camagüey (Cuba) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1504/

32 COM 8B.44 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - Protective Town of San Miguel and the Sanctuary of Jesús Nazareno de Atotonilco (Mexico) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1505/

32 COM 8B.45 Examination of nomination of natural, mixed and cultural properties to the World Heritage List - León Cathedral (Nicaragua) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1506/


33 COM 8B.4 Natural properties - New Nominations - The Wadden Sea (Germany, Netherlands) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1946/

33 COM 8B.6 Natural properties - Properties deferred or referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee - The Dolomites (Italy) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1948/


33 COM 8B.10 Cultural properties - New Nominations - Cidade Velha, Historic Centre of Ribeira Grande (Cape Verde) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1952/


33 COM 8B.12 Cultural properties - Properties deferred or referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee - Ruins of Loropéni (Burkina Faso) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1954/


33 COM 8B.15 Cultural properties - New Nomination - Royal Tombs of the Joseon Dynasty (Republic of Korea) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1957/

33 COM 8B.16 Cultural properties - Properties deferred or referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee - Sulamain-Too Sacred Mountain (Kyrgyzstan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1959/


33 COM 8B.21 Cultural properties - New Nominations - Stoclet House (Belgium) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1964/


33 COM 8B.29 Cultural properties - New Nominations - La Chaux-de-Fonds / Le Locle, watchmaking town planning (Switzerland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1972/


33 COM 8B.31 Cultural properties - Properties deferred or referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee - City of Graz - Historic Centre, Schloss Eggenberg (Austria) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1974/

33 COM 8B.32 Cultural properties - Properties deferred or referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee - The Causses and the Cévennes (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1976/

33 COM 8B.33 Cultural properties - Properties deferred or referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee - Triple Arch Gate at Dan (Israel) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1977/


33 COM 8B.37 Cultural properties - New Nominations - Gold Route in Paraty and its landscape (Brazil) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1981/


34 COM 8B.1 Natural properties - China Danxia (China) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3981/

34 COM 8B.2 Natural properties - Phoenix Islands Protected Area (Kiribati) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3982/

34 COM 8B.3 Natural Properties - Tajik National Park (Mountains of the Pamirs) (Tajikistan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3984/

34 COM 8B.4 Natural Properties - Pitons, cirques and remparts of Reunion Island (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3983/

34 COM 8B.5 Natural Properties - Pirin National Park (Bulgaria) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3985/
34 COM 8B.6 Natural Properties - Monte San Giorgio (Italy/ Switzerland)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3986/  

34 COM 8B.7 Natural Properties - Dinosaur Ichnites of the Iberian Peninsula (Portugal/ Spain)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3987/  

34 COM 8B.8 Natural Properties - Putorana Plateau (Russian Federation)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3988/  

34 COM 8B.9 Natural Properties - Central Highlands of Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3989/  

34 COM 8B.10 Mixed Properties - Papahānaumokuākea (United States of America)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3990/  

34 COM 8B.11 Cultural Properties - Konso Cultural Landscape (Ethiopia)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3991/  

34 COM 8B.12 Cultural Properties - Fort Jesus, Mombasa (Kenya)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3992/  

34 COM 8B.13 Cultural Properties - Ngorongoro Conservation Area (United Republic of Tanzania)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3993/  

34 COM 8B.15 Cultural Properties - At-Turaif District in ad-Dir‘iyah (Saudi Arabia)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3994/  

34 COM 8B.16 Cultural Properties - Australian Convict Sites (Australia)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3995/  

34 COM 8B.17 Cultural Properties - Jantar Mantar, Jaipur (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3996/  

34 COM 8B.18 Cultural Properties - Sheikh Safi al-din Khānegāh and Shrine Ensemble in Ardabil (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3997/  

34 COM 8B.19 Cultural Properties - Tabriz Historic Bazaar Complex (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3998/  

34 COM 8B.20 Cultural Properties - Bikini Atoll Nuclear Test Site (Marshall Islands)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/3999/  

34 COM 8B.21 Cultural Properties - Historic Villages of Korea: Hahoe and Yangdong (Republic of Korea)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4000/  

34 COM 8B.22 Cultural Properties - Central Sector of the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long - Hanoi (Viet Nam)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4001/  


34 COM 8B.25 Cultural Properties - Proto-urban Site of Sarazm (Tajikistan)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4004/
34 COM 8B.27 Cultural Properties - Major Mining Sites of Wallonia (Belgium)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4010/

34 COM 8B.28 Cultural Properties - Episcopal City of Albi (France)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4011/

34 COM 8B.30 Cultural Properties - Seventeenth-century canal ring area of Amsterdam inside the Singelgracht (Netherlands)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4013/

34 COM 8B.31 Cultural Properties - Darwin’s Landscape Laboratory (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4014/

34 COM 8B.33 Cultural Properties - Mines of Rammelsberg, Historic Town of Goslar and Upper Harz Water Management System (Germany)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4016/

34 COM 8B.34 Cultural Properties - Røros Mining Town and the Circumference (Norway)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4017/

34 COM 8B.35 Cultural Properties - Prehistoric Rock Art Sites in the Côa Valley and Siega Verde (Portugal/Spain)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4018/

34 COM 8B.36 Cultural Properties - Extension of Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kiev Pechersk Lavra to include Saint Cyril’s Church and Saint Andrew’s Church (Ukraine)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4019/

34 COM 8B.37 Cultural Properties - City of Graz – Historic Centre and Schloss Eggenberg (Austria)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4020/

34 COM 8B.38 Cultural Properties - Triple Arch Gate at Dan (Israel)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4021/

34 COM 8B.39 Cultural Properties - Church of the Resurrection of Suceviţa Monastery (Romania)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4022/

34 COM 8B.40 Cultural Properties - Mercury and Silver Binomial. Almadén and Idrija with San Luis Potosí (Spain / Mexico / Slovenia)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4023/

34 COM 8B.41 Cultural Properties - Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (Mexico)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4024/

34 COM 8B.42 Cultural Properties - Prehistoric Caves of Yagul and Mitla in the Central Valley of Oaxaca (Mexico)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4025/

34 COM 8B.43 Cultural Properties - São Francisco Square, in the Town of São Cristóvão (Brazil)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4026/

35 COM 8B.4 Natural Properties - Trinational Sangha (Cameroon / Central African Republic/ Congo)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4275/

35 COM 8B.5 Natural Properties - Pendjari National Park (Benin)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4276/

35 COM 8B.6 Natural Properties - Kenya Lake System in the Great Rift Valley (Kenya)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4277/

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35 COM 8B.7 Natural Properties - Ningaloo Coast (Australia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4278/]
35 COM 8B.9 Natural Properties - Western Ghats (India) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4280/]
35 COM 8B.11 Natural Properties - Ogasawara Islands (Japan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4282/]
35 COM 8B.12 Natural Properties - Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park, under the additional criterion (x) (Viet Nam) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4283/]
35 COM 8B.13 Natural Properties - Ancient Beech Forests of Germany (Germany) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4284/]
35 COM 8B.14 Mixed Properties - Saloum Delta (Senegal) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4285/]
35 COM 8B.15 Mixed Properties - Wadi Rum Protected Area (Jordan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4286/]
35 COM 8B.16 Mixed Properties - Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park (Jamaica) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4287/]
35 COM 8B.18 Cultural Properties - Konso Cultural Landscape (Ethiopia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4289/]
35 COM 8B.19 Cultural Properties - Fort Jesus, Mombasa (Kenya) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4290/]
35 COM 8B.20 Cultural Properties - Pearling, testimony of an island economy (Bahrain) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4291/]
35 COM 8B.22 Cultural Properties - Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe (Sudan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4293/]
35 COM 8B.23 Cultural Properties - Ancient Villages of Northern Syria (Syrian Arab Republic) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4294/]
35 COM 8B.24 Cultural Properties - Cultural Sites of Al Ain (Hafit, Hili, Bidaa Bint Saud and Oases Areas) (United Arab Emirates) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4295/]
35 COM 8B.25 Cultural Properties - West Lake Cultural Landscape of Hangzhou (China) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4296/]
35 COM 8B.26 Cultural Properties - The Persian Garden (Islamic Republic of Iran) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4297/]
35 COM 8B.28 Cultural Properties - Petroglyphic Complexes of the Mongolian Altai (Mongolia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4299/]
35 COM 8B.29 Cultural Properties - Citadel of the Ho Dynasty (Viet Nam) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4300/]
35 COM 8B.30 Cultural Properties - Hiraizumi - Temples, Gardens and Archaeological Sites Representing the Buddhist Pure Land (Japan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4301/]

35 COM 8B.31 Cultural Properties - Fagus Factory in Alfeld (Germany) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4302/]

35 COM 8B.33 Cultural Properties - The Longobards in Italy. Places of the power (568-774 A.D.) (Italy) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4304/]

35 COM 8B.34 Cultural Properties - Cultural Landscape of the Serra de Tramuntana (Spain) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4305/]

35 COM 8B.35 Cultural Properties - Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps (Switzerland / Austria/ France / Germany / Italy / Slovenia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4306/]

35 COM 8B.37 Cultural Properties - Selimiye Mosque and its social Complex (Turkey) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4308/]

35 COM 8B.38 Cultural Properties - Residence of Bukovinian and Dalmatian Metropolitans (Ukraine) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4309/]

35 COM 8B.39 Cultural Properties - The Causses and the Cévennes, Mediterranean agro-pastoral Cultural Landscape (France) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4310/]

35 COM 8B.40 Cultural Properties - Architectural work of Le Corbusier, an outstanding contribution to the Modern Movement (France/ Germany/ Argentina/ Belgium/ Japan/ Switzerland) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4311/]

35 COM 8B.41 Cultural Properties - Triple Arch Gate at Dan (Israel) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4312/]

35 COM 8B.42 Cultural Properties - Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison (Barbados) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4313/]

35 COM 8B.43 Cultural Properties - Coffee Cultural Landscape of Colombia (Colombia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4314/]

35 COM 8B.45 Cultural Properties - León Cathedral (Nicaragua) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4316/]

36 COM 8B.5 Nominations to be Processed on an Emergency Basis - Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the pilgrimage route, Bethlehem (Palestine) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4776/]

36 COM 8B.7 Natural Properties - Lakes of Ounianga (Chad) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4778/]

36 COM 8B.8 Natural Properties - Sangha Trinational (Cameroon/ Central African Republic/ Congo) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4779/]

36 COM 8B.9 Natural Properties - Chengjiang Fossil Site (China) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4780/]

36 COM 8B.10 Natural Properties - Western Ghats (India) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4781/]


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36 COM 8B.12 Mixed Properties - Rock Islands Southern Lagoon (Palau)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4783/

36 COM 8B.13 Mixed Properties - Sites of Human Evolution at Mount Carmel: The Nahal Me’arot / Wadi el-Mughara Caves (Israel)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4784/

36 COM 8B.16 Cultural Properties - Bassari Country: Bassari, Fula and Bedik Cultural Landscapes (Senegal)  
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36 COM 8B.17 Cultural Properties - Historic Town of Grand-Bassam (Côte d’Ivoire)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4788/

36 COM 8B.18 Cultural Properties - Rabat, modern capital and historic city: a shared heritage (Morocco)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4789/

36 COM 8B.19 Cultural Properties - Al Zubarah Archaeological Site (Qatar)  
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36 COM 8B.20 Cultural Properties - Pearling, testimony of an island economy (Bahrain)  
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36 COM 8B.21 Cultural Properties - Site of Xanadu (China)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4792/

36 COM 8B.22 Cultural Properties - Hill Forts of Rajasthan (India)  
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36 COM 8B.23 Cultural Properties - Masjed-e Jâmé of Isfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4794/

36 COM 8B.24 Cultural Properties - Gonbad-e Qâbus (Islamic Republic of Iran)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4795/

36 COM 8B.25 Cultural Properties - Archaeological Heritage of the Lenggong Valley (Malaysia)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4796/

36 COM 8B.26 Cultural Properties - Cultural Landscape of Bali Province: the Subak System as a Manifestation of the Tri Hita Karana Philosophy (Indonesia)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4797/

36 COM 8B.27 Cultural Properties - Landscape of Grand Pré (Canada)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4798/

36 COM 8B.28 Cultural Properties - Sacral Complex on the remains of the Roman Forum in Zadar (Croatia)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4799/

36 COM 8B.29 Cultural Properties - Nord-Pas de Calais Mining Basin (France)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4800/

36 COM 8B.30 Cultural Properties - Margravial Opera House Bayreuth (Germany)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4801/

36 COM 8B.31 Cultural Properties - Schwetzingen: a Prince Elector’s Summer Residence (Germany)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4802/
36 COM 8B.32 Cultural Properties - Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato (Italy)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4803/

36 COM 8B.34 Cultural Properties - Garrison Border Town of Elvas and its Fortifications (Portugal)  
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36 COM 8B.35 Cultural Properties - Russian Kremlins (Russian Federation)  
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36 COM 8B.36 Cultural Properties - Neolithic Site of Çatalhöyük (Turkey)  
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36 COM 8B.38 Cultural Properties - Major Mining Sites of Wallonia (Belgium)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4809/

36 COM 8B.39 Cultural Properties - Heritage of Mercury. Almadén and Idrija (Slovenia, Spain)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4810/

36 COM 8B.40 Cultural Properties - Decorated Farmhouses of Hälsingland (Sweden)  
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36 COM 8B.41 Cultural Properties - Kiev: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kiev-Pechersk Lavra, to include St. Cyril’s and St. Andrew’s Churches (Ukraine)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4812/

36 COM 8B.42 Cultural Properties - Rio de Janeiro, Carioca Landscapes between the Mountain and the Sea (Brazil)  
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37 COM 8B.8 Namib Sand Sea (Namibia)  
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37 COM 8B.9 Extensions of properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List: Mount Kenya National Park/Natural Forest (Kenya)  
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37 COM 8B.10 Xinjiang Tianshan (China)  
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37 COM 8B.11 Great Himalayan National Park (India)  
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37 COM 8B.12 Mount Hamiguitan Range Wildlife Sanctuary (Philippines)  
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37 COM 8B.14 Tajik National Park (Mountains of the Pamirs) (Tajikistan)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5130/

37 COM 8B.15 Mount Etna (Italy)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5131/

37 COM 8B.16 El Pinacate and Gran Desierto de Altar Biosphere Reserve (Mexico)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5150/

37 COM 8B.17 Bijagós Archipelago – Motom Moranghajogo (Guinea-Bissau)  
http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5132/

37 COM 8B.18 Maloti-Drakensberg Park (Lesotho/South Africa)  
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37 COM 8B.19 Pimachiowin Aki (Canada) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5134/]
37 COM 8B.21 Isandra Zoma (Madagascar) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5135/]
37 COM 8B.22 Historic Centre of Agadez (Niger) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5151/]
37 COM 8B.23 Al Zubarah Archaeological Site (Qatar) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5138/]
37 COM 8B.24 Cultural Landscape of Honghe Hani Rice Terraces (China) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5152/]
37 COM 8B.25 Levuka Historical Port Town (Fiji) [https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5153/]
37 COM 8B.26 Golestan Palace (Islamic Republic of Iran) [https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5154/]
37 COM 8B.27 Cultural Landscape of Maymand (Islamic Republic of Iran) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5155/]
37 COM 8B.29 Fujisan, sacred place and source of artistic inspiration (Japan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5157]
37 COM 8B.30 Historic Monuments and Sites in Kaesong (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5158/]
37 COM 8B.31 Hill Forts of Rajasthan (India) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5159/]
37 COM 8B.32 Red Bay Basque Whaling Station (Canada) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5160/]
37 COM 8B.33 Bergpark Wilhelmshöhe (Germany) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5161/]
37 COM 8B.34 Medici Villas and Gardens in Tuscany (Italy) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5162/]
37 COM 8B.35 Town and the Castle of Vianden (Luxembourg) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5163/]
37 COM 8B.37 Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine (Poland/Ukraine) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5165/]
37 COM 8B.38 University of Coimbra – Alta and Sofia (Portugal) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5166/]
37 COM 8B.40 Ancient City of Tauric Chersonese and its Chora (Ukraine) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5168/]
37 COM 8B.41 Wieliczka and Bochnia Royal Salt Mines (Poland) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5171/]
37 COM 8B.43 Bolgar Historical and Archaeological Complex (Russian Federation) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5173/]
38 COM 8B.4 Nominations to be processed on an emergency basis: Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir (Palestine) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6089/]
38 COM 8B.5 Okavango Delta (Botswana) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6090/]
38 COM 8B.7 Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area (India) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6092/]

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38 COM 8B.8 Mount Hamiguitan Range Wildlife Sanctuary (Philippines) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6093/
38 COM 8B.9 South China Karst (China) (extension) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6094/
38 COM 8B.10 Stevns Klint (Denmark) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6095/
38 COM 8B.11 Tectono-volcanic ensemble of the Chaîne des Puys and Limagne Fault (France) (referred nomination) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6096/
38 COM 8B.12 Białowieża Forest (Belarus/Poland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6097/
38 COM 8B.13 Wadden Sea (Denmark/Germany/Netherlands) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6098/
38 COM 8B.14 Trang An Landscape Complex (Viet Nam) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6099/
38 COM 8B.16 Ancient Maya City and Protected Tropical Forests of Calakmul, Campeche (Mexico) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6102/
38 COM 8B.17 Tong-Tangzuk Tallensi Cultural Landscape, (Ghana) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6103/
38 COM 8B.18 Mount Mulanje Cultural Landscape (Malawi) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6104/
38 COM 8B.19 Barotse Cultural Landscape (Zambia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6105/
38 COM 8B.20 Erbil Citadel (Iraq) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6106/
38 COM 8B.21 Historic Jeddah, the Gate to Makkah (Saudi Arabia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6107/
38 COM 8B.22 Khor Dubai (Dubai Creek) (United Arab Emirates) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6108/
38 COM 8B.23 The Grand Canal (China) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6109/
38 COM 8B.25 Rani-ki-Vav (The Queen’s Stepwell) at Patan, Gujarat (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6111/
38 COM 8B.26 Shahr-i Sokhta (Islamic Republic of Iran) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6112/
38 COM 8B.27 Tomioka Silk Mill and Related Sites (Japan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6113/
38 COM 8B.28 Pyu Ancient Cities (Myanmar) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6114/
38 COM 8B.29 Namhansanseong (Republic of Korea) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6115/
38 COM 8B.32 Decorated cave of Pont d’Arc, known as Grotte Chauvet-Pont d’Arc, Ardèche (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6118/
38 COM 8B.33 Carolingian Westwork and Civitas Corvey (Germany) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6119/
38 COM 8B.34 Caves of Maresha and Bet Guvrin in the Judean Lowlands as a Microcosm of the Land of the Caves (Israel) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6120/]

38 COM 8B.35 Van Nellefabriek (Netherlands) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6121/]

38 COM 8B.37 Bursa and Cumalikizik: the Birth of the Ottoman Empire (Turkey) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6122/]

38 COM 8B.38 Pergamon and its Multi-Layered Cultural Landscape (Turkey) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6124/]

38 COM 8B.39 Monumental Earthworks of Poverty Point (United States of America) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6125/]

38 COM 8B.41 Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato (Italy) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6127/]

38 COM 8B.42 Bolgar Historical and Archaeological Complex (Russian Federation) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6128/]

38 COM 8B.43 Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System (Argentina/Bolivia/Chile/Colombia/Ecuador/Peru) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6129/]

38 COM 8B.44 Precolumbian chiefdom settlements with stone spheres of the Diquís (Costa Rica) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6130/]

39 COM 8B.2 Cape Floral Region Protected Areas (South Africa) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6352/]

39 COM 8B.3 Sanganeb Marine National Park and Dungonab Bay – Mukkawar Island Marine National Park (Sudan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6353/]

39 COM 8B.4 Landscapes of Dauria (Mongolia and Russian Federation) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6354/]

39 COM 8B.5 Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex (Thailand) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6355/]

39 COM 8B.6 Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park (Viet Nam) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6356/]

39 COM 8B.7 Blue and John Crow Mountains (Jamaica) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6357/]

39 COM 8B.8 Thimlich Ohinga Cultural Landscape (Kenya) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6358/]

39 COM 8B.9 Nyero and other hunter gatherer geometric rock art sites in Eastern Uganda (Uganda) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6359/]

39 COM 8B.10 Baptism Site “Bethany Beyond the Jordan” (Al-Maghtas) (Jordan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6360/]

39 COM 8B.11 Rock Art in the Hail Region of Saudi Arabia, (Saudi Arabia) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6361/]

39 COM 8B.12 Tusi Sites (China) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6362/]

39 COM 8B.13 Susa (Islamic Republic of Iran) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6363/]

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39 COM 8B.16 Baekje Historic Areas (Republic of Korea) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6366/

39 COM 8B.17 Singapore Botanical Gardens (Singapore) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6367/

39 COM 8B.18 Cultural Landscape of Maymand (Islamic Republic of Iran) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6368/

39 COM 8B.20 Christiansfeld, a Moravian Church Settlement (Denmark) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6370/

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39 COM 8B.23 Climats, terroirs of Burgundy (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6373/

39 COM 8B.24 Champagne Hillsides, Houses and Cellars (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6374/

39 COM 8B.25 Speicherstadt and Kontorhaus District with Chilehaus (Germany) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6375/

39 COM 8B.26 The Naumburg Cathedral and the Landscape of the Rivers Saale and Unstrut – Territories of Power in the High Middle Ages (Germany) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6376/

39 COM 8B.27 Necropolis of Bet She’arim: A Landmark of Jewish Renewal (Israel) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6377/

39 COM 8B.28 Arab-Norman Palermo and the Cathedral Churches of Cefalù and Monreale (Italy) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6378/

39 COM 8B.29 Rjukan-Notodden Industrial Heritage Site (Norway) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6379/

39 COM 8B.30 The Monumental Ensemble of Târgu Jiu (Romania) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6380/

39 COM 8B.31 La Rioja and Rioja Alavesa Wine and Vineyard Cultural Landscape (Spain) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6381/

39 COM 8B.32 Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape (Turkey) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6382/

39 COM 8B.33 The Forth Bridge (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6383/


40 COM 8B.7 Examination of nominations of natural properties to the World Heritage List (Hubei Shennongjia, China) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6786/](http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6786/)


40 COM 8B.9 Examination of nominations of natural properties to the World Heritage List (Western Tien-Shan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6788/](http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6788/)

40 COM 8B.10 Examination of nominations of natural properties to the World Heritage List (Mountains Ecosystems of Koytendag, Turkmenistan) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6789/](http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6789/)


40 COM 8B.12 Examination of nominations of natural properties to the World Heritage List (Mistaken Point, Canada) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6790/](http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6790/)


40 COM 8B.15 Examination of nominations of mixed properties to the World Heritage List (Ennedi Massif: Natural and Cultural Landscape, Chad) [http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6793/](http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6793/)


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40 COM 8B.17 Examination of nominations of mixed properties to the World Heritage List (Khangchendzonga National Park, India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6795/

40 COM 8B.18 Examination of nominations of mixed properties to the World Heritage List (Pimachiowin Aki, Canada) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6796/

40 COM 8B.19 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Zuojiang Huashan Rock Art Cultural Landscape, China) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6797/

40 COM 8B.20 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Archaeological Site of Nalanda Mahavihara (Nalanda University) at Nalanda, Bihar, India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6798/

40 COM 8B.21 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (The Persian Qanat, Islamic Republic of Iran) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6799/


40 COM 8B.23 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6801/

40 COM 8B.24 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Stećci Medieval Tombstone Graveyards, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6802/

40 COM 8B.25 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6803/

40 COM 8B.26 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Archaeological Site of Philippi, Greece) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6804/

40 COM 8B.27 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Antequera Dolmens Site, Spain) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6805/

40 COM 8B.28 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Archaeological Site of Ani, Turkey) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6806/

40 COM 8B.29 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Gorham's Cave Complex, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6807/

40 COM 8B.30 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Key Works of Modern Architecture by Frank Lloyd Wright, United States of America) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6808/

40 COM 8B.31 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement, Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan and Switzerland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6809/
40 COM 8B.32 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Antigua Naval Dockyard and Related Archaeological Sites, Antigua and Barbuda) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6810/

40 COM 8B.33 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Pampulha Modern Ensemble, Brazil) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6811/

40 COM 8B.34 Examination of nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List (Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo and Historic District of Panamá, Panama) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6812/

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41 COM 8B.3 W-Arly-Pendjari Complex (Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6867/

41 COM 8B.4 Qinghai Hoh Xil (China) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6876/

41 COM 8B.5 Bhitarikanika Conservation Area (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6877/

41 COM 8B.6 Landscapes of Dauria (Mongolia, Russian Federation) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6878/

41 COM 8B.7 Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe (Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Italy, Germany, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6879/

41 COM 8B.8 Los Alerces National Park (Argentina) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6880/

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41 COM 8B.17 Historic City of Ahmadabad (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6889/

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41 COM 8B.19 Sacred Island of Okinoshima and Associated Sites in the Munakata Region (Japan) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6891/

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41 COM 8B.22 Kujataa Greenland: Norse and Inuit Farming at the Edge of the Ice Cap (Denmark) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6894/

41 COM 8B.23 Taputapuātea (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6895/

41 COM 8B.24 Caves and Ice Age Art in the Swabian Jura (Germany) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6896/


41 COM 8B.26 Assumption Cathedral and Monastery of the town-island of Sviyazhsk (Russian Federation) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6898/

41 COM 8B.27 Talayotic Minorca (Spain) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6899/

41 COM 8B.28 Aphrodisias (Turkey) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6900/

41 COM 8B.29 Naumburg Cathedral and related sites in the Cultural Landscape of the Rivers Saale and Unstrut (Germany) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6901/

41 COM 8B.30 The English Lake District (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6902/

41 COM 8B.31 Gelati Monastery (Georgia) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6903/

41 COM 8B.32 Strasbourg, Grande-Île and Neustadt (France) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6904/

41 COM 8B.33 Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar, Dessau and Bernau (Germany) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6905/

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41 COM 8B.36 Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6908/

41 COM 8B.37 Western Ghats (India) http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6909/