



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

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

World Heritage

34 COM

Distribution Limited

WHC-10/34.COM/10B
Paris, 11 June 2010
Original: English/French

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Thirty-fourth session

Brasilia, Brazil
25 July – 3 August 2010

Item 10 of the Provisional Agenda: Periodic Reports

10B: Progress report on Periodic Reporting in all regions and final report on the implementation of the Africa 2009 Programme

SUMMARY

This document contains a summary of follow-up activities to the Periodic Reports in three regions: Africa (see Section I), Latin America and the Caribbean (see Section II), and Europe and North America (see Section III).

The final report on the implementation of the Africa 2009 Programme can be found in Information Document *WHC-10/34.COM/INF 10B*.

Decisions concerning boundary clarifications as a follow-up to the Periodic Reporting exercise and the Retrospective Inventory are contained in document *WHC-10/34.COM/8D*.

Draft Decisions:

34 COM 10B.1, see pages 3-4

34 COM 10B.2, see page 9

34 COM 10B.3, see page 11

I. FOLLOW-UP TO THE PERIODIC REPORT EXERCISE FOR AFRICA

1. In 2009, at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009), the World Heritage Committee launched the second cycle of the Periodic Report for Africa. Subsequently, a number of steps have been taken to implement the Decision **33 COM 11 C**.
2. Since the second cycle involves all States Parties of Africa Region, the World Heritage Centre, has invited the 44 African States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention* to designate one national focal point per country whose primary responsibility is to coordinate the Periodic Reporting exercise in their respective countries, by filling Section I of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire and ensuring completion of Section II of the questionnaire for properties located in their territories. By the end of May 2010, all the 44 States Parties had designated their respective national focal points, and 76 out of 78 properties were ensured with a site coordinator for the Periodic Reporting exercise. The primary principle of the second cycle of Periodic Report in Africa is the ownership of the exercise by African professionals. In this regard, a regional coordinator for the Periodic Reporting and four sub regional-mentors were identified to contribute to the overall success of the cycle.
3. The following activities have already been organised:

a) Training workshop for sub-regional mentors

In September 2009, a two-day workshop was organized in Paris, in the presence of the three Advisory Bodies, with the view to train the four sub-regional mentors and the Regional Coordinator who would facilitate the second cycle of the regional Periodic Reporting exercise for Africa. The four mentors were designated by the World Heritage Centre, taking into account the balance of having two natural heritage experts and two cultural heritage experts, two English-speaking and two French-speaking, from East, West, Central and Southern African sub-regions. Mentors and the Regional Coordinator were trained on the basis of the online tool of the Periodic Report. They accorded with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies that their roles would be on an ad hoc basis to facilitate the work of national focal points and site managers/coordinators who would be the actors of the Periodic Report. It should be noted that the four mentors were eventually chosen by their countries as either national focal points or even site managers/coordinators.

b) Launch Meeting of the second cycle of the Periodic Report for Africa

The meeting was held from 20 to 22 January 2010 in Dakar, Senegal. It was organized in partnership with the Ministry of Culture of Senegal. This meeting was financially supported by the Governments of Switzerland and France, and by the African World Heritage Fund. Technical assistance was provided by the Nordic World Heritage Foundation. 41 out of 44 national focal points attended the launch meeting during which they were trained on the principles of the World Heritage Periodic Report and on the online tool Questionnaires I and II, as well as on the required retrospective drafting of the Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, which would be the essential step to be accomplished while reporting on each property (in Questionnaire II of the online tool). The Dakar meeting also saw the participation of the four mentors, the Regional Coordinator, the three Advisory Bodies, the African World Heritage Fund, and the two African training institutions, the Centre for Heritage Development of Africa (CHDA) and the Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA). EPA and CHDA will be responsible for developing a regional training strategy on the basis of the results of the Periodic Reporting exercise. A calendar of actions defining roles and responsibilities of all actors was also prepared during the meeting, and adopted as a road-map for ensuring the success of all planned activities. National focal points of the 30 States Parties, which possess properties on the World Heritage List, were asked to designate the site

coordinators, who would be responsible for filling Section II of the Questionnaire. One of the major outcomes of the Dakar meeting was the decision by Switzerland to support financially the translation of the two Sections of the Questionnaire into Portuguese, to allow five Portuguese speaking African States Parties (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tome y Principe) to fully participate in the exercise.

c) Follow-up activities after Dakar meeting

In order to facilitate access to the online tool, the World Heritage Centre ensured the transmission of passwords to the national focal points and designated site managers/coordinators. By the end of April 2010, 28 national focal points had already started filling Section I while 55 site coordinators had started filling Section II. World Heritage Centre, its regional coordinator and its team of mentors, continued to assist States Parties in their efforts to prepare the retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value. By the end of May 2010, 45 draft retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value had been submitted to the World Heritage Centre out of 70 properties which need adoption of the retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value.

d) Southern Africa consultation meeting on Periodic Reporting

Upon the initiative of the sub-regional mentor for Southern Africa and financial support of the National Heritage Council of South Africa, a consultation meeting was organized from 30 to 31 March 2010 in Johannesburg (South Africa). The meeting was attended by national focal points from the following countries: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the requirements and expectations of outcomes for the second cycle of the periodic reporting exercise for Southern Africa and to assess the progress in the preparation of Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for each of the 21 World Heritage properties located in the sub-region.

e) Sub-regional meeting for East, West and small islands Anglophone African countries

From 4 to 6 May 2010, a sub-regional meeting for East, West and small islands countries was held in Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting was co-organized with the National Museums of Kenya and hosted by the Ministry of State for National Heritage and Culture. Financial support was provided by the Government of Norway through the Embassy of Norway to Kenya. 11 national focal points and 30 site managers/coordinators participated. The following were also present : one mentor, the regional coordinator, three Advisory Bodies, the African World Heritage Fund, CHDA, EPA and the Nordic World Heritage Foundation. During the meeting, focal points presented the progress in filling Sections I and II shared the challenges faced. The meeting was an opportunity for the Advisory Bodies to recall the concept of the Outstanding Universal Value including authenticity and integrity of World Heritage properties, in relation to the drafting of the retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value. The drafts Statements brought by participants were reviewed during a half-day session. Finally, a first attempt was made to identify issues and priority areas to be considered by the Periodic report. Training needs were also identified by CHDA and EPA in view of the preparation of a training strategy for Africa.

f) Sub-regional meeting for West, Central and small islands Francophone and Lusophone African countries

From 21 to 23 June 2010, a sub-regional meeting was held in Yaounde, Cameroon. The meeting was co-organized with the Ministry of Culture of Cameroon, in the same line as the Nairobi meeting. It was supported financially by the Government of Switzerland, the African World Heritage Fund and the Government of The Netherlands. 23 national focal points and 30 site managers/coordinators participated and presented progress in filling the two Sections of the Questionnaire, as well as in drafting retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value. Two mentors, the Regional Coordinator, three Advisory

Bodies (ICOMOS, IUCN, ICCROM), the African World Heritage Fund, the Nordic World Heritage Foundation, EPA and CHDA, were also present. With the guidance provided by the Advisory Bodies, concerned countries which had not yet submitted retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, were able to progress in their drafting.

4. From 8 to 10 September 2010, the last sub-regional meeting for Southern Africa will be organized in Namibia, in close partnership with the Government of Namibia. This meeting will be attended by 10 national focal points, 21 site managers/coordinators, one mentor, the Regional Coordinator, the three Advisory Bodies, the African World Heritage Fund, the Nordic World Heritage Foundation, and two African training institutions (EPA and CHDA).
5. National focal points and site managers/coordinators were given the deadline of 30 September 2010 to submit online their completed reports. A regional Analysis Workshop will be organized at the premises of CHDA in Mombasa (Kenya) from 26 to 28 October 2010, in order to synthesize and analyse the submitted reports. A group of African experts including the four mentors and the regional coordinator will be invited to contribute to this analysis.
6. A Final Regional Meeting of the second cycle of the Periodic Report exercise for Africa will be organized in South Africa in early February 2011. During this meeting, national focal points of the 44 States Parties will discuss final results of the exercise, and will look in particular at and agree upon the follow-up programme and the Regional Training Strategy for Africa.
7. Since the Dakar Launch meeting, active exchanges have been observed among the States Parties in particular between the national focal points, through mediation and encouragement of the mentors and the Regional Coordinator. It is foreseen that the sub-regional meetings, with the participation of site-coordinators, will enrich further network of professionals who are managers of World Heritage properties on a daily basis.
8. The World Heritage Centre is also implementing activities in the framework of Africa 2009 (see *WHC-10/34.COM/INF.10B*) and Africa Nature. Regarding Africa Nature, several meetings were conducted with IUCN and the African World Heritage Fund for the development of an integrated programme of activities for natural heritage sites. Prior to finalization of the programme, a review of all the past achievements is currently being undertaken. The results of this review will help identify possible areas in which the programme should concentrate in the coming years. A survey of needs as well as a workshop on the programme design are being planned.

Draft Decision

Draft Decision: 34 COM 10B.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-10/34.COM/10B and Information Document WHC-10/34.COM/INF.10B,*
2. *Recalling Decision **33 COM 11C** adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),*

3. Takes note of the information provided on the progress accomplished in the preparations of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting in Africa and the final report on the implementation of the Africa 2009 programme;
4. Commends the States Parties of the Africa region which have engaged themselves in the Periodic Reporting exercise, in particular Senegal, Kenya, Cameroon, Namibia and South Africa, for their active involvement;
5. Thanks the Governments of Switzerland, Norway, the Netherlands, France, and the African World Heritage Fund for their support;
6. Encourages the States Parties of the Africa Region to continue preparing all the missing retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties situated in their territories, and to submit them at the latest by **31 August 2010** for examination at the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2011;
7. Requests the States Parties of the Africa Region to complete and submit the Periodic Report Questionnaires at the latest by **30 September 2010**;
8. Further requests the World Heritage Centre to submit a Final Report on the results of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting for Africa for examination at its 35th session in 2011.

II. FOLLOW-UP TO THE PERIODIC REPORT EXERCISE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

1. According to Decisions **28 COM 16** adopted at its 28th session (Suzhou, 2004), **7 EXT.COM 5E** adopted at its 7th extraordinary session (UNESCO, 2004) and **29 COM 5** adopted at its 29th session (Durban, 2005), the World Heritage Centre continued the follow-up of the First Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise. During 2009, the preparation for the second cycle, to be launched in 2011, was started.
2. Subsequent to the Mexico (November 2006) and Chile (March 2007) meetings for the follow-up on the Periodic Reporting exercise and the implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean, the World Heritage Centre started to organize the calendar of activities for the launching of the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise. The activities undertaken have been planned according to the regional programmes adopted by the World Heritage Committee and taking into account the comments and recommendations of the Latin America and the Caribbean States Parties.
3. At its 32nd session in 2008, the World Heritage Committee launched the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting exercise, starting with the Arab States Region. The Latin America and the Caribbean Region will deal with this exercise in the biennium 2011-2013. The questionnaire (Sections I and II) revised in 2008 will be used.
4. In 2007, the World Heritage Committee (Decision **31 COM 11D.1**, paragraph 7) requested that missing Statements of Outstanding Universal Value be drafted and approved for all World Heritage properties, region by region, before launching the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting exercise. In the Latin America and the Caribbean Region this implies that a total of 116 draft Statements of Outstanding Universal Value should be submitted by States Parties by July 2010 at the latest, in order to be approved by the World Heritage Committee in July 2011. The World Heritage Centre has taken the appropriate measures in order to coordinate with the States Parties the drafting of the retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value.
5. In order to start the process, a three-day regional meeting entitled "Information workshop on the preparation of the retrospective inventory, retrospective statement of Outstanding Universal Value of the properties included on the World Heritage List and an introduction to the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting for the Latin America and Caribbean Region" was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 26 to 28 November 2009. Focal points from 24 Latin American and Caribbean countries attended. The participants were briefed on future activities regarding the launching of the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for the Latin America and the Caribbean Region and the calendar of activities for 2010-2013 was presented.
6. A coordination meeting between the World Heritage Centre Unit for Latin America and the Caribbean and Directors of UNESCO Field Offices in this region was held in October 2009. The objective of the meeting was to strengthen coordination channels and support the implementation of the exercise in the Region. Financial support for the Periodic Reporting exercise was agreed to be provided by UNESCO Offices in Lima, Brasilia and Havana for 2010 – 2011.
7. The creation of two Category 2 Centres in the region, in Zacatecas (Mexico) and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) was approved on 5 October 2009 by UNESCO 35th General Conference (**35 C/20 Parts VI and XX**). Both Centres have been established with the aim of assisting and supporting the Member States of Latin America and the Caribbean in the implementation of World Heritage policies. Both Centres will play an important supporting role in the workshops for the Periodic Reporting exercise and the

implementation of the process. Two meetings are foreseen for 2010, one in Zacatecas (6-10 September) and the other in Rio de Janeiro (24-28 November).

8. Three sub-regional meetings for focal points and site managers are planned to be organized in 2010 and 2011. For this purpose, the database of natural and cultural focal points and site managers for the region has been updated. Representatives from the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies will provide the participants with the necessary inputs for the implementation of the process:
 - a. Sub-regional workshop for the Caribbean. Eight States Parties, with a total of 17 World Heritage properties, are entitled to participate. The State Party of Barbados has kindly offered to host this meeting in September 2010. Another meeting is foreseen in 2011 for the Caribbean region, to be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Following Decisions **29 COM 5B** (Durban, 2005) and **33 COM 5B** (Sevilla, 2009), the meeting in Barbados will be the platform to discuss also the implementation of the Small Island Developing States Programme (SIDS) in the Caribbean and the feasibility to establish a Caribbean World Heritage Fund.
 - b. The sub-regional workshop for Mexico and Central America, to be held in September 2010 will include the participation of seven States Parties (43 properties on the World Heritage List). The Category II Centre in Zacatecas will provide financial and logistic assistance. The meeting in 2011 would be held in San José, Costa Rica.
 - c. The sub-regional workshop for South America will involve the participation of ten States Parties (61 World Heritage properties). The meeting will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil with the support of the Category II Centre. The meeting for 2011 is foreseen to be held in Lima, Peru in coordination with the UNESCO Field Office in Lima.
9. The World Heritage Centre received funding support from the Spanish Funds-in-Trust for World Heritage (SFIT). Other funding sources have been explored to secure the implementation of the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise.
10. The questionnaire (Forms I and II) has been translated officially into Spanish, as requested by the States Parties of the region. The funding for the translation was provided by the SFIT in order to facilitate the understanding of the questionnaire; the official submission of documents will be done in one of the working languages of the *World Heritage Convention*.

Activities related to the Action Plan

1. The following capacity building activities have been held:
 - a. A capacity building workshop on the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* and the revision of the Tentative List was held in Uruguay in September 2009. More than 100 participants (stakeholders and national authorities) attended.
 - b. Financial support was raised for park rangers from South American and African World Heritage sites to participate in the VI World Congress for Park Rangers in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia (November 2009).
 - c. A workshop for the elaboration of the retrospective inventory of the Jesuit Missions of La Santísima Trinidad de Paraná and Jesús de Tavarangue and the update of

the Tentative List of Paraguay and Retrospective Inventory, was held in Asuncion, Paraguay, 22 to 29 April 2010, and included the participation of 50 national experts.

2. The following activities were held in support of new nomination processes:

- a. International workshop on productive cultural landscapes, to finalize the comprehensive analysis of the nomination process of the Coffee Cultural Landscape (Tentative List, Colombia). It involved the participation of 25 experts (Colombia, January 2010).
- b. The international expert meeting "Chinchorro Culture from a Comparative Perspective" (Chile, January 2010) included the participation of 20 experts, who made important advances in the identification of action lines, requirements and conditions for the conservation of the Archaeological Sites of the Chinchorro Culture (Tentative List, Chile). The meeting was organized in close collaboration with the National Monuments Council of Chile and the University of Tarapacá.
- c. An international meeting for the Comparative Analysis of the Archaeological site Delta del Diquis in Costa Rica involved the participation of 23 international and national experts (Costa Rica, March 2010). The meeting was organized in close cooperation with the Museum of Archaeology and UNESCO Office in Santo Domingo.

3. Serial nomination on the Qhapaq Ñan, Main Andean Road, transnational, transboundary and serial nomination. During the period 2008-2010, six States Parties (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) participated in international meetings to develop the nomination process of the Main Andean Road/Qhapaq Ñan to the World Heritage List:

- meeting of the Technical Secretary (UNESCO Headquarters, 16-18 September 2009),
- international meeting for the elaboration of the management strategy (Lima, Peru, 17-20 January 2010),
- meeting of experts for the elaboration of Statements of Outstanding Universal Value (UNESCO Headquarters, 15-19 March 2010),
- meeting on the management plan (Riobamba, Ecuador, 12-14 May 2010),
- meeting on the conservation plan (Salta, Argentina, 14-16 April 2010),
- meeting of experts for the finalization on the management strategy (foreseen for September 2010).

The meetings were financed by the Inter-American Development Bank and the SFIT.

4. Other activities:

- a. Follow-up meeting of the technical working group of sustainability indicators in World Heritage urban sites (Mexico, February 2010);
- b. The international expert meeting on the "Relationship between Sustainable Development and the *World Heritage Convention*" was held in Paraty, Brazil, from 28 to 30 March 2010.

5. The Action Plan for 2011-2013 will be elaborated in coordination with the States Parties during the meetings for the Periodic Reporting exercise in 2010. A detailed plan will be submitted by the World Heritage Centre in 2011.

Activities regarding SIDS¹

6. Caribbean Capacity-Building Programme (CCBP): endorsed by the World Heritage Committee (**Decision 28 COM 16**) at its 28th session (Suzhou, 2004) it is part of the "Caribbean Action Plan for World Heritage 2004-2014". The CCBP is promoted by UNESCO Office in Havana and implemented in close collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and UNESCO Field Offices in Kingston (Jamaica) and Port-au-Prince (Haiti). It is entirely funded out of extra-budgetary sources. The CCBP Manual finalized in 2008 is composed of a core and mandatory training module on the Implementation of the 1972 *World Heritage Convention* and four other modules focusing on tourism, risk-preparedness, cultural landscapes and historic cities. The first training module on Risk Reduction for Caribbean Heritage was hosted by Cuba from 23 to 27 June 2008, and 35 participants from 14 World Heritage properties in 7 Caribbean States Parties participated in the training workshop.
7. The "Regional Meeting of Experts on Heritage, Biodiversity & Community", was held in Havana, Cuba, from 26 to 29 October 2009. The objective of the meeting was to improve management of natural heritage sites and protected areas, study and debate on lessons learnt and enhance the application of heritage toolkits.
8. The national focal points for natural and cultural heritage from 7 States Parties participated in the "Information workshop on the preparation of the retrospective inventory, retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value of the properties included on the World Heritage List and an introduction to the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for the Latin America and Caribbean Region".
9. Financial support was provided through the International Assistance scheme for the preparation of the Tentative List of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines of natural and cultural properties suitable for nomination. .
10. The nomination file for the mixed site: Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park (Tentative List, Jamaica), was submitted to the World Heritage Centre and will be examined by the World Heritage Committee in 2011.
11. Financial support for the training of Dominican experts in the application of the *World Heritage Convention* was provided (2009).
12. An International Emergency Assistance (USD 75,000) for the assessment of the History Park – Citadel, Sans Souci, Ramiers (Haiti) is currently under elaboration in coordination with the State Party and the Advisory Bodies. It foresees an expert mission that will provide an assessment of the damages and the structural risk at the Citadel. Information and recommendations from this mission will provide the guidelines for the preparation of an action plan focusing on conservation, management, risk-preparedness and tourism planning. The mission is foreseen to be held from 1 to 5 June 2010.
13. Also under Emergency International Assistance, an assessment mission for the Historic Centre of Jacmel (Tentative List, Haiti) will provide the guidelines to begin an urgent inventory of the built heritage and assess the criteria of the site in relation to its possible inscription on the World Heritage List. The financial resources for the inventory will be provided through the Spanish Funds-in-Trust for World Heritage and the Spanish

1. More detailed information on the SIDS programme can be found in Document **WHC-09/33.COM/5B**

Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). The mission is foreseen to be held from 6 to 10 June 2010.

14. Slave Route and Memory sites: Two contracts for two international experts were elaborated in order to identify a methodology for a preliminary list of sites susceptible to be inscribed on the World Heritage List. UNESCO Secretariat has set up an informal working group to develop an intersectoral strategy on the Slave Route and its relationship with World Heritage.

Draft Decision

Draft Decision: 34 COM 10B.2

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Document WHC-10/34.COM/10B,*
- 2. Recalling Decisions **28 COM 16** adopted at its 28th session (Suzhou, 2004), **7 EXT.COM 5E** adopted at its 7th extraordinary session (UNESCO, 2004), **29 COM 5** adopted at its 29th session (Durban, 2005) and **32 COM 11D** adopted at its 32nd session (Quebec City, 2008),*
- 3. Takes note of the information provided on the progress made in the implementation of the Decisions for the follow-up to the Periodic Reporting in Latin America and the Caribbean and the preparation for the second cycle of the Periodic Report exercise;*
- 4. Acknowledges the financial and technical collaboration provided by the Spanish Funds-in-Trust (SFIT) for the follow-up of the Periodic Reporting exercise, and encourages the SFIT to continue its efforts towards the World Heritage conservation;*
- 5. Welcomes the financial collaboration for the Periodic Reporting exercise, offered by UNESCO Field Offices and Category 2 Centres, and encourages them to continue in providing assistance for the implementation of the process;*
- 6. Thanks the States Parties hosting the meetings for their commitment in the preservation of World Heritage and the implementation of the World Heritage Convention;*
- 7. Calls upon the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and all the other stakeholders involved in the protection and conservation of natural and cultural heritage of the region, to ensure the necessary financial and human resources to implement the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise;*
- 8. Requests the States Parties, to submit the required retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value to the World Heritage Centre by **31 July 2010**, in order to guarantee the appropriate implementation of the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise as requested by Decision **31 COM 11D.1**;*
- 9. Also Requests the States Parties, in coordination with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to submit the Action Plan 2011 -2013 and to prepare a progress report on the implementation of the Second Cycle Latin America and the Caribbean Periodic Reporting for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session in 2011.*

III. FOLLOW-UP TO THE PERIODIC REPORT EXERCISE FOR EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

1. At its 29th session (Durban, 2005), the Committee approved the Periodic Report for North America and at its 30th session (Vilnius, 2006), the Committee approved the Periodic Report for the European Region. Subsequently, steps were taken to implement the Committee's Decisions **30 COM 11 A.1** and **30 COM 11 A.2**, and reports were submitted to the Committee at its 31st (Christchurch, 2007) and 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) sessions respectively.
2. A great number of cooperation activities among European States Parties, the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre addressed follow-up activities to the European Report and Action Plan and a number of sub-regional meetings were organized.
3. A meeting for the Mediterranean sub-region was organized from 8 to 9 May 2009 in Tomar, Portugal as a follow-up to the first meetings for Mediterranean Europe (Madrid, Spain, 2007 and Corfu, Greece, 2008) organized in cooperation with and financially supported by the Portuguese authorities. The meeting dealt with statements of Outstanding Universal Value, the revised Periodic Reporting Questionnaires for Section I and Section II, boundaries modifications and buffer zones as well as management planning.
4. A follow-up meeting for the Western European region took place in Dublin, Ireland from 14 to 16 December 2009. The meeting was hosted by the Irish authorities and attended by 8 representatives of States Parties, the Advisory Bodies, the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF) and the World Heritage Centre. It focused on the next cycle of World Heritage Periodic Reporting exercise, retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, boundary changes, training and capacity-building, Tentative Lists and the Action Plan for the enhanced co-operation in the Western Europe sub-region.
5. Another meeting of the Mediterranean sub-region was organized from 15 to 18 March 2010 in Acre, Israel hosted by the Israeli authorities and attended by Representatives of 10 countries, the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre. The meeting focused on Tentative Lists harmonization and management plans. Hands-on exercises were carried out on the preparation of retrospective statements of Outstanding Universal Value and updates on recent developments in the framework of the *World Heritage Convention* were provided.
6. As a follow-up to the meeting for Nordic and Baltic Europe (Helsinki, Finland, 2007), a meeting of Focal Points was organized on 9 December 2009 by the NWHF and hosted by the Swedish authorities in Stockholm. The meeting focused on the preparation of the next cycle of the World Heritage Periodic Reporting exercise, the retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, boundary changes and designation of buffer zones and legal measures of protection of World Heritage properties.
7. Within the framework of the Periodic Reporting exercise a workshop took place on the Isle of Vilm (Germany) from 17 to 20 September 2009 in cooperation with the Government of Germany targeting East and South-East Europe. The objective of the workshop was to strengthen the existing network of natural sites and cultural landscapes, discuss recent developments in World Heritage and develop joint activities.

8. In addition, informal Periodic Reporting meetings of European States Parties took place on the occasion of the World Heritage Committee sessions (e.g. 33rd session, Seville, 2009) to exchange views on progress achieved and challenges to be addressed; this was also a forum of information on the outcome of a number of national World Heritage meetings.
9. Following numerous requests of States Parties the web-site for European Periodic Reporting was updated. It is accessible at <http://whc.unesco.org/pg.cfm?cid=153> and includes all information on the recent meetings held on the follow-up to the Periodic Reporting exercise, including agendas, list of participants and reports.
10. A major concern for European States Parties is the issue of the high number of retrospective statements of Outstanding Universal Value. The different meetings requested a managed and focused process to ensure that those can be adopted in time. The preparation and/ or revision of management plans for World Heritage properties, revisions of Tentative Lists and cooperation among States Parties in identifying potential (transnational) sites has now well advanced.
11. The Czech authorities via letter dated 22 February 2010 from the Head of the Secretariat for UNESCO of the Ministry of Culture have informed the World Heritage Centre of their offer to host a Periodic Reporting meeting for the States Parties in Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe in 2011.

Draft Decision

Draft Decision: 34 COM 10B.3

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-10/34.COM/10B,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **30 COM 11A.1, 30 COM 11A.2, 31 COM 11A.1, 31 COM 11 A.2 and 32 COM 11D** adopted at its 30th (Vilnius, 2006), 31st (Christchurch, 2007) and 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) sessions respectively,*
3. *Takes note of the follow-up activities to the first cycle of Periodic Reporting exercise in Europe and North America and the results of the sub-regional meetings for Nordic, Western and Mediterranean Europe;*
4. *Thanks the Irish authorities for having hosted the follow-up meeting for the Western European region in 2009 in Dublin, the Portuguese authorities for having organized the follow-up meeting for the Mediterranean sub-region in 2009 in Tomar, the Swedish authorities for having hosted the follow-up meeting for Nordic and Baltic Europe in Stockholm in 2009, as well as the Israeli authorities for having organized the follow-up meeting for the Mediterranean sub-region in 2010, and welcomes the offer of the Czech authorities to host a meeting for Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe in 2011;*
5. *Requests the States Parties, to submit the required retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2012**, in order to ensure the preparation of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting;*
6. *Also requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to prepare a progress report on the follow-up to the European Periodic Report exercise and on the*

preparations for the next cycle for Europe and North America for examination at its 35th session in 2011.