



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/7.1
Paris, 18 June 2010
Original: English

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 7.1 of the Provisional Agenda: Historic Urban Landscape

Inclusion of the *Historic Urban Landscape* in the relevant sections of the text of the *Operational Guidelines*

SUMMARY

This document provides the report of the Expert meeting on the inclusion of the *Historic Urban Landscape* in the relevant sections of the text of the *Operational Guidelines*, which was held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) from 7 to 11 December 2009, following Decision **33 COM 7.1** adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009) as well as some elements concerning the impact of contemporary architecture on the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties

This document must be read in conjunction with Document WHC-10/34.COM/13 on the Revision of the Operational Guidelines.

Draft Decision: 34 COM 7.1, see Point V

I. Background

1. At its 33rd session (Seville, 2009), the World Heritage Committee requested the convening of an Expert meeting on the inclusion of the *Historic Urban Landscape* in the relevant sections of the text of the *Operational Guidelines* (Decision **33 COM 7.1**), with the aim to better provide the Committee with the relevant tools so as to fully address some of the challenges that affect historic cities inscribed on the World Heritage List, and to match the work done in the framework of the preparation of the UNESCO Recommendation in the field of urban heritage (see Document WHC-10/34.COM/INF.7.1).
2. The Expert meeting on the inclusion of the Historic Urban Landscape in the relevant sections of the text of the *Operational Guidelines* was held from 7 to 11 December 2009 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, hosted by the Government of Brazil and IPHAN and organized in cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.
3. Thanks to the generous hospitality of the Government of Brazil and of IPHAN, an Expert Meeting with members representing UNESCO's institutional partners, the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee, as well as several individual members having knowledge of and experience with *Operational Guidelines* texts, was held in Rio de Janeiro, in the Palacio Capanema, in the Headquarters of the Regional Heritage Management Training Centre, category 2 centre working under the auspices of UNESCO (the Agenda and the list of Participants of the meeting are included in Annex I).
4. The main outcomes of the Expert Meeting result in a proposed text for possible inclusion of the Historic Urban Landscape approach in the relevant sections of the text of the *Operational Guidelines* (included in Document WHC-10/34.COM/13), and in a set of general recommendations relating to future revision processes of the text of the *Operational Guidelines* not exclusively pertaining to Historic Urban Landscape (see Point III below).

II. Framework

5. The framework for discussion and for the drafting of a proposed text, was the proposed revision of the relevant paragraphs of the main text of the *Operational Guidelines*, in particular those dealing with Protection and Management (Chapter II.F), and of its Annex III, in particular those chapters pertaining to the guidelines on the inscription of *Historic Towns* and *Town centres* on the World Heritage List.
6. The experts recognized that both these sections need to be updated, in light of the discussions on Historic Urban Landscape held at the World Heritage Committee sessions to debate the impact of contemporary development inside or adjacent to World Heritage cities.
7. With reference to the protection and management of urban properties, it was agreed that there is a need to consider the environmental, economic, social, and cultural aspects of sustainability in managing evolution and change, in order to ensure the continuity of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and its safeguarding for future generations.

8. Moreover, the experts stressed the importance, particularly for properties which are located in urban areas or have components which include urban settlements, of having an integrated approach to planning and management.
9. It was thus agreed that the Historic Urban Landscape approach to urban management will be useful to ensure that the evolution of the landscape maintains all aspects of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property including its authenticity and integrity.
10. Finally, it was acknowledged that the Historic Urban Landscape approach also entails the need for policies and strategies for sustainable development, sensitive to the need for heritage conservation, with a close participation of the communities and groups of people concerned.
11. As regards the current chapters of Annex III and reflecting the need for strengthening the links with cultural landscapes, thus following the recommendations of several other workshops and roundtables of experts¹, the Experts acknowledged the need to enrich the definition of Cultural Landscape, to also include the notion of urban areas as intensive forms of the interaction between humankind and its natural environment.
12. In particular, the experts recommended the replacement of the current and rather limiting terms *Historic Towns and Town Centres*, with the more inclusive *Urban areas and settlements*, which read more consistent with the terminology used by other United Nations agencies dealing with urban issues, such as UN-Habitat.
13. Moreover, in an effort to link the inscription of Urban areas and settlements to the World Heritage List with their effective management, the Experts recognized the importance for States Parties, while nominating properties, to take into account not only the physical aspects of the buildings and spaces, but also the multiple layers related to values, relationships, rituals, building practices, local knowledge systems, and other forms of intangible heritage.

III. General Recommendations

14. In addition to the drafting of a set of paragraphs for proposed inclusion in the current text of the *Operational Guidelines*, the participants formulated some general recommendations to be taken into account in the framework of future revision processes, in particular:
 - i) with reference to the main text, to include adaptation to climate change strategies together with disaster risk management strategies within management plans or other management systems for World Heritage properties (on this issue, also see *Document WHC-10/34.COM/7.3*);
 - ii) with reference to Annex III, to envisage a future revision of the remaining chapters of the Annex itself, so as to provide the States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention* and the World Heritage Committee with more updated

¹ Such as the International Expert Workshop on Integrity and Authenticity of World Heritage Cultural Landscapes, that was held in Aranjuez (Spain) in December 2007, and the two Montreal Roundtables held in 2006 and 2008

guidelines on the inscription of specific types of properties on the World Heritage List.

15. The participants also suggested that the World Heritage Centre develop, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, a manual on the application of the Historic Urban Landscape approach.

IV. Guidelines on the assessment of the impact of contemporary architectural insertions

16. With reference to the identification of methods and processes towards the establishment of guidelines on the assessment of the impact of contemporary architectural insertions on the Outstanding Universal Value, as per Decision **33 COM 7.1**, paragraph 9 (Seville, 2009), the issue of the impact of contemporary architectural insertions and, more in general, of contemporary development on historic cities is the key concern dealt within the new UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape, referred to above. It is worth recalling that this whole reflection takes its origin from the international conference *World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture – Managing the Historic Urban Landscape*, organized by the World Heritage Centre and the City of Vienna, which was held in Vienna on 12-14 May 2005.
17. In parallel, the World Heritage Centre, in the framework of the Convention France-UNESCO, joined the preparation of a manual of case studies of good practice in urban conservation management with respect to inherited values in World Heritage cities, in close cooperation with the Getty Conservation Institute (GCI), which was launched by the Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC) and the City of Lyon (France) member of OWHC. This manual deals with urban conservation management issues without specifically focusing on the Historic Urban Landscape approach.
18. Member cities of the OWHC have been asked to contribute one or more concrete examples of their ongoing work in preservation and heritage focused urban development, with the aim to build on the exchange of experiences and lessons learnt, and to facilitate direct city-to-city cooperation and partnerships in the field of urban management. The visual integrity and the impact of contemporary architectural insertions are among the main themes examined by this on going study. A progress report on this ongoing project was presented to the 10th Congress of the OWHC, which was held from 8 to 11 September 2009 in Quito, Ecuador, with the theme “Revitalization of historic centres: how to involve all social actors”.

V. Draft Decision

Draft Decision: 34 COM 7.1

The World Heritage Committee

1. Having examined Document WHC-10/34.COM/7.1,

2. Recalling its Decision **33 COM 7.1**, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),
3. Thanks the Government of Brazil and IPHAN for having generously hosted the Expert meeting which took place from 7 to 11 December 2009 and the experts having contributed to the meeting;
4. Takes note with satisfaction of the outcomes of the Expert meeting and the recommendations for the inclusion of an Historic Urban Landscape approach in the Operational Guidelines ;
5. Requests the World Heritage Centre to develop, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, a manual on the applications and case studies reflecting best practices of the Historic Urban Landscape approach;
6. Further requests the World Heritage Centre to inform the World Heritage Committee of progress in the development of this manual at its 35th session in 2011.

AGENDA

**Expert Meeting on the Integration of the Concept of Historic Urban Landscape
in the *Operational Guidelines***

Monday – 07 December

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| 9h30 | Opening Addresses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Luiz Fernando de Almeida</i> – President of Iphan • <i>Andrea Zarattini</i>, Environmental Analyst - ICMBio |
| 9h45 | General outline of the expert meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ron van Oers</i> – UNESCO WHC Cities team coordinator • <i>Lodovico Folin Calabi</i> – UNESCO WHC Special Projects Unit |
| 10h00 | Presentation of the outcomes of the Expert meeting in Zanzibar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Andrew Hall</i> - Cultural Landscapes, Northern Cape |
| 12h45 | Closing Session I |
| 13h00 | Lunch |
| 14h30 | Plenary discussion on Annex 3 of the <i>Operational Guidelines</i> |
| 17h45 | Closing Session II |
| 18h00 | Cocktail |
| 19h00 | Return to Hotel |

Tuesday – 08 December

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| 9h30 | Opening Session III |
| 9h45 | Proposal for the text to be included in Annex 3 |
| 12h45 | Closing Session III |
| 13h00 | Lunch |
| 14h30 | Plenary discussion on adaptation of the main body of the <i>Operational Guidelines</i> |
| 17h45 | Closing Session IV |
| 18h00 | Return to the Hotel |
| 20h00 | Special dinner and boat tour in Guanabara Bay |

Wednesday – 09 December

8h30	Visit to Sítio Burle Marx
12h00	Lunch
14h00	Visit to Botanic Garden
15h30	Visit to Corcovado
18h00	Return to Hotel / Dinner

Thursday – 10 December

9h30	Proposal for the text of the main body - Finalization of complete adapted text
12h45	Closing Session V
13h00	Lunch
14h30	Urban Historic Landscape in the World Heritage Sites: the case of Seville, Spain <i>Román Fernández-Baca Casares</i> – Director of Andaluz Heritage Institute <i>Pedro Salmerón Escobar</i> – Consultant for Andaluz Heritage Institute
17h45	Closing Session VI
18h00	Return to Hotel / Dinner
22h00	Evening at Rio Scenarium

Friday – 11 December

9h30	Plenary discussions on “HUL and cultural landscapes, integrated approaches or the emergence of urban cultural landscapes as a new category?” <i>Luiz Fernando de Almeida</i> – President of Iphan <i>Antônio Ricarte</i> - Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO <i>Cristina Lodi</i> – Iphan Consultant
10h30	Debate
13h00	Lunch
14h30	HUL and cultural landscapes, integrated approaches or the emergence of urban cultural landscapes as a new category?
15h00	Debate
17h00	Visit to Pão-de-Açúcar
19h00	Return to Hotel / Dinner

List of Participants

IPHAN and Invitees of the Brazilian Government

Luis Fernando (IPHAN President / World Heritage Committee Member)
Marcelo Brito (International Affairs Advisor, IPHAN)
Carlos Fernando Moura Delphim (Natural Heritage Specialist, IPHAN)
Cristina Lodi (Consultant, IPHAN)

Andrea Zaratinni (Environmental Analyst ICMBio)
Roman Fernandez-Baca Casares (Director - Andaluz Heritage Institute)
Pedro Salmeron Escobar (Architect and Consultant for Andaluz Heritage Institute)

Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO

Antonio Ricarte

UNESCO Institutional Partners

- IFHP: Irene Wiese-von Ofen (former President)
- IFLA: Hal Moggridge (Executive Council)
- OWHC: Denis Ricard (Secretary-General)
- IAIA: Arlene Fleming (also World Bank Consultant)

Experts

- Expert 1: Christopher Young (Archaeologist, former WHCOM Member, UK)
- Expert 2: Jad Tabet (Architect, former WHCOM Member, Lebanon)
- Expert 3: Mike Turner (Professor, WHCOM Member, Israel)
- Expert 4: Jyoti Hosagrahar (Professor Sustainable Urbanism, India)
- Expert 5: Andrew Hall (Cultural Landscapes, Northern Cape, South Africa)
- Expert 6: Jukka Jokilehto (Special Advisor to ICCROM's DG, Finland)

Advisory Bodies

- ICOMOS: Andrew Hall (ICOMOS International)
- ICCROM: Joseph King (Director Sites Unit)
- IUCN: Ted Trzyna (Leader Cities and Protected Areas Specialist Group)
- ICOMOS Brazil: Rosina Coeli Alice Parchen (President)

UNESCO World Heritage Centre

- Ron van Oers;
- Lodovico Folin Calabi;
- Maria Gropa