

**Experts meeting on decision-making procedures
in statutory organs of the *World Heritage Convention***

15-17 December 2010

Manama, Bahrain

AGENDA

The Agenda for the Expert meeting, as adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) (Decision **34 COM 12**), is as follows:

- a. Welcome
- b. Context of expert meeting and relationship with the process to reflect on the “future of the *World Heritage Convention*”
- c. Keynote speeches and presentation of background documentation
- d. Improving current processes or reengineering decision-making procedures of the statutory organs of the *World Heritage Convention*:
 - i. Responsibilities of statutory organs (roles of different statutory organs and relationships among them)
 - ii. Statutory meetings (frequency, agenda, workload, additional meetings, alternative technologies to face-to-face meetings, time management)
 - iii. Conduct of meetings (order of speakers, role of chairperson, vice-chairpersons and rapporteur, right to speak and vote, voting)
 - iv. Quality of decision (consistency of decisions between and within sessions, working document needs, awareness of implications of decisions)
 - v. Meetings of advisory character (expert meetings, working groups and consultative bodies, status, integration of recommendations into statutory organ procedures, engagement of external partners to assist decision-making)
 - vi. Confidentiality of statutory meetings and document (publication of documents, media participation in statutory meetings)
- e. Drafting of Recommendations for discussion during the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee in June/July 2011.
- f. Closure

In addition to this Agenda, the World Heritage Committee also requested the Expert meeting to include the examination of the Rules of Procedure on the conduct of and participation in World Heritage Committee meetings, and in particular, on adoption of decisions particularly in respect of:

- a. The application of the procedure for secret ballots during the course of the adoption of decisions;
- b. An analysis of the frequency and context of the application of the secret ballot while in the course of the adoption of decisions;
- c. Possible implications for the interpretation of Rules 25, 26, 40, 41 and 42 and their amendments;
- d. The participation of persons qualified in the field of cultural and natural heritage (as set out in Rule 5.2) and the transmission of their qualification (as set out in Rule 5.3);
- e. The application of Rule 45.