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

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

BUREAU OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR

**Seventeenth extraordinary session
Cartagena, 4-5 December 1993**

I. INTRODUCTION

I.1 The seventeenth extraordinary session of the outgoing Bureau of the World Heritage Committee was held in Cartagena, Colombia on 4 and 5 December 1993. The following members of the Bureau attended: Mr. Robert Milne (United States of America), outgoing Chairperson, representatives of Brazil, China, Colombia, Germany and Senegal as Vice-Presidents and Mr. A. Beschouch (Tunisia) as Rapporteur.

I.2 Representatives of the Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) also attended the meeting in an advisory capacity. The full list of participants appears in Annex I.

II. OPENING SESSION

II.1 The Chairperson welcomed the participants and thanked the Colombian Government, particularly the national Institute for Culture, COLCUTURA, for hosting the Bureau and the Committee sessions.

II.2 The Representative of Colombia welcomed the Bureau members and wished a successful meeting and a pleasant stay in this World Heritage site.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

III.1 The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda outlined in document WHC-93/CONF.001B.1 with the addition of another agenda item "Other business".

IV. NOMINATION OF PROPERTIES FOR INCLUSION ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST AND LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER

IV.1 The Bureau took note of the decision of the authorities of Australia to withdraw nomination **368bis** of the extension of the **Central Eastern Australian Rainforests** by letter of 21 October 1993 pending further study.

IV.2 The Bureau also took note of the withdrawal of nomination **647** of the **Inca Temple of Huaytara (Peru)** of which the Permanent Delegation of Peru informed the World Heritage Centre on 30 August 1993, and nomination **656**, **Sintra (Portugal)** of which the Permanent Delegation of Portugal informed the World Heritage Centre on 7 September 1993.

IV.3 The Bureau examined those nominations which were referred back to the States Parties by the Bureau session of June 1993 and formulated the following recommendations for consideration by the Committee.

Natural properties

Name of Property	Identifi- cation No.	State Party having submitted the nomination in accord- ance with the Convention	Criteria
Shirakami- Sanchi	663	Japan	(ii)

IUCN informed the Bureau that the Japanese authorities, in their response to the Bureau's recommendations, have incorporated the originally proposed buffer zone in the World Heritage site and they have provided a new map illustrating the revised boundaries. In addition, a coordinating committee is being established for the management of the site. Finally, progress has been made in the development of a management plan.

On the basis of the positive recommendation made by IUCN, the Bureau recommends to the Committee to inscribe the site under criterion (ii).

St. Paul Subterranean National Park	652	Philippines
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The Bureau, considering that the additional information provided by the Philippine authorities did not respond sufficiently to its request, decided to defer the nomination.

Jiddat al Harasis	654	Oman
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The Bureau confirmed that this nomination was deferred already at its session in June 1993 awaiting the response of the Omani authorities to the Bureau's recommendations.

Mixed property

Reserva del Vizcaino	554bis	Mexico	C(i) (iii) N(iv)
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The Mexican authorities informed the Centre on 8 October 1993 that the nomination would be separated into a cultural and a natural one as follows:

- cultural nomination: Pinturas rupestres de la Sierra de San Francisco, B.C.S.
- natural nomination: Refugio de Ballenas en las Lagunas de El Vizcaino

IUCN informed the Bureau of its agreement with the natural nomination, but emphasized that the management of the site should be reinforced, as recommended in their evaluation report. Special attention should be given to the management of increasing tourism. The Bureau recommended to the Committee to inscribe the natural nomination "**Whale Sanctuary of the Lagunas of El Vizcaino**" under criterion (iv) taking note of the IUCN technical recommendations.

ICOMOS expressed its satisfaction with the cultural nomination, indicating that the legal protection is adequate, but that increased tourism might cause problems in the future.

The Bureau recommended the Committee to inscribe the Rock paintings of the Sierra de San Francisco under cultural criteria (i) and (iii).

Cultural properties

**Red Fort, 231 India
Delhi**

The Indian authorities provided additional information on the legal protection of historical sites, indicating that all sites have a protection area of 100 meters and a buffer zone of 300 meters. ICOMOS emphasized that there is a long conservation tradition in India and that the protection meets World Heritage requirements. In the case of Red Fort, however, major parts of the site are under the authority of the army. ICOMOS therefore recommended to defer this nomination until these parts of the Fort have been handed over to the Archeological Survey of India.

The Bureau endorsed this recommendation.

**Humayun's 232 India (ii) (iv)
Tomb, Delhi**

Taking into account the ICOMOS evaluation on the legal protection and buffer zone, the Bureau recommends to the Committee to inscribe this site under criteria (ii) and (iv).

Qutb Minar 233 India (iv)
and associated
monuments, Delhi

Taking into account the ICOMOS evaluation on the legal protection and buffer zone, the Bureau recommends to the Committee to inscribe this site under criterion (iv).

Jesuit 648 Paragua (iv)
Missions

On the basis of substantive additional information provided by the authorities of Paraguay, particularly concerning the buffer zones and legal protection, ICOMOS recommended to inscribe the Missions of La Santisima Trinidad de Parana and Jesus de Tavarangué under criterion (iv). ICOMOS felt that the Mission of Santos Cosme y Damian does not meet the requirements for inscription on the World Heritage List.

The Bureau endorsed this recommendation and recommends to the Committee to inscribe the Missions of La Santisima Trinidad de Parana and Jesus de Tavarangué under criterion (iv) and to invite Paraguay, Brazil and Argentina to consider the joint inscription of the missions on their territories.

Baroque 677 Philippines (ii) (iv)
Churches

The authorities of the Philippines provided additional information on the buffer zones which were evaluated positively by ICOMOS.

The Bureau decided to recommend to the Committee to inscribe this site under criteria (ii) and (iv).

Biertan 596 Romania (iv)

Responding to the Bureau request, the Romanian authorities provided information on the legal protection of cultural heritage in Romania confirming the adoption of legislative protection in April 1992. ICOMOS considers the legal texts provided as appropriate and therefore recommended the inscription of the site.

The Bureau decided to recommend to the Committee to inscribe this site under criterion (iv). However, it made a strong recommendation that the surrounding landscape not included in the buffer zone, should be adequately protected.

Monastery of Horezu **597** **Romania** **(i) (ii)**

In view of the above information concerning legal protection, the Bureau recommended that the Committee inscribe this site under criteria (i) and (ii).

Churches of Moldavia **598** **Romania** **(i)**

In view of the above information concerning legal protection, the Bureau recommended that the Committee inscribe this site under criterion (i).

Vlkolíneč **522rev** **Slovak Republic** **(iv) (v)**

ICOMOS presented to the Bureau the results of the comparative study on "Traditional Villages in the Carpathian Basin and its immediate surroundings" which has been carried out in consultation with specialists from all the countries concerned.

In the light of the results of this study, ICOMOS concluded that Vlkolíneč has universal value and recommended its inscription under criteria (iv) and (v).

The Bureau, commending ICOMOS on its comparative study, recommended that the Committee inscribe this site under criteria (iv) and (v).

Spissky Hrad **620rev** **Slovak Republic** **(iv)**

Additional information on the management plan was provided by the authorities which was evaluated positively by ICOMOS.

The Bureau, therefore, decided to recommend to the Committee to inscribe this site under criterion (iv).

Coro and its Port **658** **Venezuela** **(iv) (v)**

The Bureau was informed that the authorities of Venezuela submitted a tentative list on 23 September 1993. Following the recommendations of the original ICOMOS evaluation, a revised nomination was presented as well, limiting the nominated site to the Historical Centre of Coro, but including the Port of La Vela.

Based on the positive evaluation presented by ICOMOS, the Bureau decided to recommend to the Committee the inscription of the site under criteria (iv) and (v).

Hué

678

Vietnam

(iii) (iv)

The Bureau was informed that the authorities of Vietnam submitted a revised nomination concerning the boundaries of the site and the buffer zones.

The Director of the Division for Physical Heritage informed the Bureau that UNESCO launched an international campaign for the safeguarding of Hué and that major restoration programmes are underway in the framework of the Japanese trust fund for cultural heritage preservation.

The Bureau commended the joint effort between Vietnam and Japan to safeguard this important site and recommended to the Committee the inscription of the site under criteria (iii) and (iv).

Historic Town of Zabid 611

Yemen

(ii)(iv)(vi)

The Bureau was informed that the proposed ALECSO meeting was cancelled. However, ICOMOS gathered substantial information on the site from national and international sources and concluded that a comparative study is not required. ICOMOS underlined the importance of the site not only in respect to its physical appearance, but also in regard to its important role as a centre of Islamic teaching.

The Bureau discussed the legal situation and management structure and decided to recommend to the Committee the inscription of the site under criteria (ii) (iv) and (vi), encouraging the Yemeni authorities to improve their conservation and management efforts.

Extension of World Heritage Site

Old City of Dubrovnik 95bis

Croatia

The Bureau recalled that the Committee at its fifteenth session held in Carthage in December 1991, inscribed the Old City of Dubrovnik on the List of World Heritage in Danger. At its sixteenth session in July 1992, the Bureau recommended that the Croatian authorities create a buffer zone in order to ensure the protection of the ancient fortress and the surrounding areas.

In response to this recommendation the authorities of Croatia submitted a proposal for the extension of the site to include the fortresses to the east and west of the Old City, as well as the Island of Lokrum.

ICOMOS considered the proposal as too limited as it does not include the requested buffer zone for the protection of the area above the town.

The Bureau decided to defer the extension until assurance of adequate control of development in this area has been given.

Properties for which nominations were referred back to the State Party or deferred in earlier years and for which additional information has been received

**Tongariro 421rev New Zealand
National Park**

The Bureau recalled that the site was originally nominated as a mixed site, but that it was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1990 on the basis of natural heritage criteria only. Furthermore, that the nomination of the site for inscription under cultural criteria was deferred by the Committee at its sixteenth session with the instruction to the Centre to contact the New Zealand authorities and request further supportive material on cultural aspects of this site in order to study the possibility of inscribing this site under cultural heritage criteria as well.

The Bureau was informed that, on 27 July 1993, the authorities of New Zealand presented a revised nomination for this site in the light of the revised cultural criteria for inscription (cultural landscapes).

ICOMOS evaluated the revised nomination positively and informed the Bureau that an in-depth study and site evaluation was undertaken in November 1993 and that the report will be made available next week. ICOMOS strongly recommended the inscription of the site under cultural criterion (vi).

The Bureau discussed the issue at length both from the procedural and substantial points of view. Some delegates expressed their concerns about the precedent that could be created by acceptance of this nomination exclusively under criterion (vi) and the need for regional comparative studies on associative landscapes. The Bureau recognized the unique significance of the site for the Maori people and expressed its appreciation for the recognition by the New Zealand Government of Maori cultural heritage. The Bureau decided however, to defer the nomination awaiting further reflection on the matter of associative landscapes.

Bamberg 624 Germany (ii) (iv)

The Bureau recalled that the nomination of Bamberg was deferred by the Bureau at its sixteenth session in order to permit the competent German authorities to reconsider the

boundaries of the site and the buffer zone so as not to include recent constructions in the World Heritage Site.

The German authorities presented additional information on the site as well as new proposals for the buffer zone and site boundaries. ICOMOS stressed that the proposed boundaries are in accordance with the Bureau observations. The Bureau therefore decided to recommend to the Committee to inscribe the site under criteria (ii) and (iv).

IV.4 With regard to the nomination of Lumbini, Nepal, the Bureau recalled that it deferred this nomination at its session in June 1993. The Bureau decided to revise the text of its report of the seventeenth session (page 38, English version) as follows: "The Bureau recognized the very sacred character of this remarkable group of sites associated with the life of the Lord Buddha and considered that for this reason Lumbini represented an important source, not only for Buddhism but also in more general terms for the cultural and spiritual history of mankind.

However, in view of the imperative need for this group of sites to be preserved and for its management to be assured in accordance with international standards, the Committee recommended that the inscription of this property on the World Heritage List should be deferred to allow the relevant agencies of the Kingdom of Nepal to take appropriate measures."

V. EXAMINATION OF REQUESTS FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

V.1 The Bureau examined document WHC-93/CONF.001B/2 and took the following decisions:

A. NATURAL HERITAGE

A.1 Requests on which the Bureau took a decision

A.1.1 Preparatory assistance

A.1.1.1 Réserve naturelle de Faune à Okapi de l'Ituri (Zaire)

The Bureau took note of the preparatory assistance request by Zaire being reduced from US\$15,000 to US\$10,000. Further, following the advice of a WWF project at the site, the Bureau decided to further reduce this sum to US\$ 3,000. It was noted that the current level of legal protection was inadequate and the site should be upgraded to National Parks legislation prior to an eventual nomination.

A.1.2 Technical co-operation

A.1.2.1 Technical assistance request for Lake Malawi National Park (Malawi)

The Bureau approved a technical assistance request for a total of **US\$ 16,000** subject to the Government of Malawi making full payment of its dues to the World Heritage Fund. The project involves the purchase of equipment (boats, tents, diving equipment, life jackets and binoculars) for Lake Malawi National Park.

A.1.2.2 Manu National Park (Peru)

The Bureau approved a sum of **US\$ 20,000** for a technical cooperation request for Manu National Park to be implemented by the park director and financially administrated by the Peruvian Foundation for the Conservation of Nature, which is also supporting the project. The Bureau furthermore recalled that IUCN gave a state of conservation report on the site some years ago and that other projects (WWF and GEF funding) are carried out at the site.

A.1.2.3 Huascarán National Park

The Bureau approved a sum of **US\$ 20,000** for a project at Huascarán National Park involving staff training in ecology, public awareness, a seminar involving local peoples and an environmental education workshop, as well as the publication of interpretive material for the Park.

A.1.2.4 Sangay National Park, Ecuador

The Bureau recalled that Sangay National Park was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger at the sixteenth session of the World Heritage Committee in Santa Fe. The Bureau deferred a decision on this **US\$28,500** project until the monitoring report has been examined at the seventeenth session of the Committee.

A.1.2.5 Mount Nimba, Guinea

The Bureau examined a request for **US\$45,000** for the World Heritage Site in Danger. It recommended a reduction of the project to **US\$30,000** and deferred a decision until the monitoring report is presented at the seventeenth session of the Committee.

A.1.2.6 Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania

The Bureau examined a technical cooperation request for US\$25,000 received by IUCN just prior to the meeting. IUCN informed the Bureau, that the management plan for the site has been completed. This project involves some limited road construction, a parking area and a new hiking trail to better serve visitors to the Park. The Bureau approved the sum requested.

A.1.3 Training

A.1.3.1 Sixteenth International Protected Areas Course (CATIE,) Costa Rica

The Bureau approved a sum of US\$25,000 for this Protected Areas training course at CATIE, Costa Rica, with the recommendation that World Heritage managers receive priority for scholarships.

A.1.4 Emergency Assistance

A.1.4.1 Garamba National Park, Zaire

The Bureau recalled that this site was removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger at the sixteenth session of the Committee. The Bureau discussed the request for US\$20,000 and approved the sum of US\$10,000. The Bureau noted that the emergency circumstances under which this request was originally submitted have changed substantially and therefore requested the World Heritage Centre to write to IZCN and request further clarification on this project. Following the review of the project, a further US\$10,000 could be released. IUCN informed the Bureau that the project will be implemented by the WWF at the request of IZCN.

The Bureau had an extensive discussion on the general state of unrest in Zaire and voiced concern with respect to the future conservation of the four listed sites in Zaire.

A.2 Requests for which the Bureau formulated a recommendation to the Committee

A.2.1. Technical co-operation

A.2.1.1 Dja Faunal Reserve (Cameroon)

The Bureau noted the request for a sum of US\$40,000 submitted by the Government of Cameroon. However, since Cameroon has not paid its dues to the Fund since 1986/87, the Bureau did not examine the request.

A.2.1.2 Vallee de Mai (Seychelles)

The Bureau examined the request from the Seychelles for the construction of a Visitor Information Centre in this World Heritage site. The Bureau was concerned about: the size of the site, the location of the Visitor Centre in the site, and noted the fact that construction had commenced despite previous concerns raised by the Bureau regarding size of the structure and its view that the development may be excessive. Furthermore the Bureau recalled that the Committee recommended an extension of the site when it was inscribed in 1983. The Bureau deferred a decision and requested the Centre to advise the Government about these concerns.

The Bureau requested IUCN to carry out a monitoring mission to examine the potential for site expansion and the impact of the construction.

A.2.1.3 Technical assistance request for La Amistad World Heritage site, Costa Rica/Panama

The Bureau noted the request of the Costa Rican authorities for **US\$50,000** for the site. However, as agreement on the proposed new boundaries for the site have not been received by the Centre and Costa Rica has not paid its dues to the Fund, the request was deferred.

The Bureau requested IUCN to organize with its regional office in Costa Rica, a meeting to review the project in the light of the revised boundaries and information received on other sources of support.

A.2.1.4 Komodo National Park (KNP) (Indonesia)

The Bureau reviewed a request for **US\$49,500** for Komodo National Park and recommended that the Committee approve **US\$37,000**, deleting a proposal for staff training. It was noted that the Park authorities are planning to set up a training programme which would be a duplication of this activity. The project, prepared in cooperation with UNESCO's ROSTSEA Office, has three objectives: to provide equipment, to carry out a study on population in local villages and to improve the capability with respect to protection and monitoring of marine resources.

A.2.2 Training

A.2.2.1 School for the Training of Wildlife Specialists, (Cameroon)

The Bureau discussed a training request of **US\$ 43,667** and recommended the approval of **US\$35,000** pending more detailed information on the programme of the course and justification of the estimated costs.

A.2.2.2 Training Course to be held in Côte d'Ivoire

The Bureau discussed a request for US\$40,000 for the organization of a training course provided by the "Ecole nationale du génie rural, des eaux et des forêts" (ENGREF).

There was considerable discussion about this course. The Bureau raised concerns about cost effectiveness of the programme and the results received in relation to the future management of World Heritage sites. While ENGREF had responded to all of the requests made by the sixteenth session of the Committee, it was felt that the details submitted were not sufficient to make a decision at this time. The Bureau requested the Centre to contact the course director for further information. If this information is received in time, the request will be brought forward to the Committee.

The Bureau noted IUCN's comments that they had prepared a concept paper on training in 1983. It was suggested that this paper be reviewed and could form the basis for the development of a training strategy. It was decided that if further information was received from the course Director, the proposal could be reviewed by the full Committee.

B. Cultural Heritage

B.1. Requests on which the Bureau took a decision

B.1.1 Preparatory assistance

B.1.1.1 Preparation of nomination for the Ancient City of Xi'an (China)

The Delegate from China informed the Bureau that China is preparing a revised tentative list for cultural heritage and that the City of Xi'an is included in this revised tentative list. The Bureau approved the amount of US\$ 15,000 for preparatory assistance for the organization of an international symposium to discuss issues such as management and conservation of Xi'an and to examine and finalize the dossier for the nomination of this site for inscription on the World Heritage List. Assistance will cover the participation of a team of 5-7 international experts in this seminar.

B.1.2 Technical cooperation

B.1.2.1 The Mogao Caves, (China)

The Bureau approved the amount of US\$ 20,000 for the purchase of a polarization microscope for the systematic research of the degradation of the mural paintings in the caves.

B.1.2.2 Cartagena, (Colombia)

In discussing the request for technical assistance for Cartagena, the Bureau commended the systematic approach of the conservation efforts in Cartagena and was very pleased to note that earlier World Heritage assistance has led to very concrete results.

The Bureau approved the amount of **US\$ 19,000** for the services of national and international experts for the preparation of a Master Plan for the Historical Centre of Cartagena.

B.1.3 Training

B.1.3.1 National training activity at the Mogao Caves, (China)

The Bureau approved the amount of **US\$ 20,000** for the organization of a training course on the Preservation Techniques in Environmental Monitoring and Mural Colour Analysis and the utilization of a polarization microscope. The Bureau suggested that the Chinese authorities invite to this training course specialists and participants from other countries in the region such as Sri Lanka and India, so that the course could also benefit the countries in the region.

B.1.3.2 RIKSANTIKVAREN, Directorate for Cultural Heritage, Norway: International Training Course on Wood Conservation Technology, 1994

The Bureau approved the amount of **US\$ 25,000** for fellowships for participants from States Parties in development and transition in the International Course on Wood Conservation Technology in Norway. The Bureau requested the course organizers to report on the results of the course and its impact on World Heritage sites.

B.1.4 Emergency assistance

B.1.4.1 Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian, China

The Bureau approved the amount of **US\$ 26,000** for emergency assistance for emergency measures to prevent the collapse of some of the caves which suffered considerable damage due to unusually heavy rains in 1992/1993. The Bureau requested the Chinese authorities to limit expenditure under World Heritage assistance for local labour as much as possible.

B.2 Requests on which the Bureau formulated a recommendation to the Committee

B.2.1 Technical co-operation

B.2.1.1. Serra da Capivara National Park, (Brazil)

The Bureau considered a request for technical assistance for the amount of **US\$ 53,000** for the site of Serra da Capivara in Brazil which consisted of two components:

1. Assistance for taking measures in three of the most visited sites in the Park (Toca do Baixao do Perna I, Toca do Baixao da Vaca and Sitio do Meio) with the double objective of protecting the paintings and at the same time better controlling and facilitating visits to the sites:

The Bureau considered it necessary that preparatory assistance be provided to study in detail and in cooperation with international experts, which measures would be the most appropriate. The Bureau recommends the Committee, therefore, not to approve this request, but to allocate instead an amount of **US\$ 15,000** under preparatory assistance in order to study the protection of the rock paintings.

2. Assistance for the purchase of equipment for the inventory and documentation of the rock paintings:

The Bureau recommends the Committee to approve the amount of **US\$ 28,000** for the purchase of equipment that is necessary for the documentation and inventory of the rock paintings in this site.

B.2.1.2 Old Havana and its fortifications, (Cuba)

The Bureau considered a request for technical assistance for the amount of **US\$ 55,000** for restoration and consolidation works in three buildings around La Plaza Vieja in Havana (Cine Havana, Cafe Taberna and Colegio del Santo Angel).

The Bureau decided to bring this request forward to the Committee with the recommendation to consider this request on the basis of the results of the monitoring mission that was undertaken this year and on which a report will be presented to the coming Committee session.

B.2.1.3 Cliffs of Bandiagara - Land of the Dogons, (Mali)

The Bureau decided to recommend the Committee to approve the amount of **US\$ 42,000** for a pilot inventory project in three of the 300 villages in the site, each one representative of one

of the human settlements of the three zones that characterize the site (the plateau, the eroded cliffs and the plain).

B.2.2 Training

B.2.2.1 Regional training course of Maghreb architects for the conservation and protection of cultural monuments and sites (1994 and 1995, Tunisia)

The Bureau decided to recommend the Committee to approve a request for training for the amount of US\$ 50,000 under the 1994 budget for a two-year (1994-1995) post university course for about twenty graduates from the region of the Maghreb that will be organized by the National Heritage Institute of Tunisia in close pedagogical and technical collaboration with ICCROM and ICOMOS, with the understanding that a request for the same amount for 1995 will be presented to the Committee at its eighteenth session.

B.2.2.2 International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

The Bureau decided to recommend the Committee to approve a request for US\$ 75,000 for fellowships for participants from States Parties (developing countries) for three regular courses at ICCROM (architectural conservation, conservation of mural paintings and scientific principles of conservation).

B.2.3 Emergency assistance

B.2.3.1 Old Walled City of Shibam, (Yemen)

The Bureau took note of the results of an expert mission that was fielded to Shibam in October 1993 and subsequently decided to recommend the Committee to approve the amount of US\$ 40,500 under emergency assistance for emergency measures regarding the drainage system in Shibam (US\$ 30,500) and expert services in this field (US\$ 10,000).

V.2 A summary table of all approved and recommended amounts for Technical Cooperation is provided as Annex II to this document.

V.3 After having considered the requests for technical cooperation the Bureau recalled that during the sixteenth session of the World Heritage Committee held in Santa Fe, it was noted that reports on the implementation of approved international assistance requests would be of great value. In line with this, the Bureau recommended to the Committee to adopt the following:

The Committee funded a large number of requests for international assistance over previous years, amounting to a

considerable part of the World Heritage Fund. In view of the facts that :

1. the Committee wishes to receive substantial information on efficient implementation and success of the projects carried out,
2. this information is crucial for the evaluation of successive requests for the same site or project,
3. World Heritage funding is increasingly only part of more complex emergency measures in which other donors are also involved,

the Committee requests the Centre to prepare a general overview of the execution and a comprehensive evaluation of all requests for international assistance approved to date. This report which should be biennial is to be brought forward to the Committee. However, the first report to be presented to the eighteenth session of the Committee should cover the previous five years (1990-1994).

VI. IMPROVEMENT OF WORLD HERITAGE ACCOUNTING AND BUDGETING

World Heritage Fund: Funds available for approbation and draft budget for 1994-1995

VI.1 Further to the presentation of the budget and financial documents by the Secretariat and the Deputy Director of the Bureau of the Comptroller of UNESCO, the members of the Bureau considered firstly the proposal that budgets should be approved on a biennial, instead of an annual, basis to coincide with the financial period of the Regular Budget of UNESCO. Certain members expressed concern that such a change might create a situation where there could be insufficient cash to implement an approved budget; in such a case, expenditure would have to be reduced, but this was unlikely to be a problem in the immediate future since the Fund has a large surplus brought forward. The Bureau recommends that the Committee adopt a biennial budget.

VI.2 Several members considered that the amount of some \$4.5 million of bank deposits to be too high and considered that the amount should be reduced. The Director of the Centre explained the proposed budget for 1994-1995 of some \$5.9 million exceeded the estimated income by approximately \$1.0 million and that that, together with the proposal to create an Emergency Reserve of \$1.0 million, would reduce the surplus of the Fund accordingly. Certain members suggested that a further part of the surplus should be used for urgent tasks, bearing in mind a fair distribution of resources between actions for cultural and natural sites. It was also pointed out that the Fund required a certain surplus, say \$2.0 million, for sound financial management purposes. The Bureau recommends to establish an Emergency Reserve as proposed by the Secretariat.

VI.3 In reviewing the budget in more detail, the Bureau noted that if the Emergency Reserve is established, the current Emergency Assistance budget line could be transferred to the Technical Assistance one. The Bureau noted with appreciation the Director-General's commitment to increase UNESCO's non-staff contribution towards the World Heritage Centre from \$600,000 to more than \$800,000, and considered that all other budget matters including the possibility of the Centre having an autonomy should be discussed in greater detail by a budgetary sub-committee to be composed of members from both the outgoing and incoming Bureaux. This sub-committee would report back with its recommendations to the World Heritage Committee for decisions.

VI.4 During this discussion, the members of the Bureau emphasized on several occasions the importance of States Parties paying their contributions on a timely basis.

VI.5 Concluding this item, the Bureau expressed its appreciation of the documents and the budgetary transparency that they gave.

Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention

VI.6 A document proposing changes in the delegation of authority by the Committee to the Bureau, its Chairman and the Director of the Centre, was presented by the World Heritage Centre. Due to its importance, the Bureau recommended that it required further study and that it should be reviewed by the budgetary sub-committee.

VII. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

VII.1 On behalf of the Bureau members, the Chairperson, Mr. Robert Milne, thanked the Rapporteur and the Secretariat of the World Heritage Centre for their efficiency in carrying out the work. The Rapporteur, Mr A. Beschaouch, in turn thanked the outgoing Chairperson, Mr R. Milne, for the excellent way in which he had chaired the Bureau and the Committee in the past year.

VII.2 The Chairperson then declared the session closed.