Introduction to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise:

Principles, objectives and timetable

Petya Totcharova Chief, Europe and North America Unit UNESCO World Heritage Centre

Workshop of National Focal Points of Central, South-East and Eastern European Countries on the Preparation of the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise Prague, 25-26 May 2011



# What is Periodic Reporting?



Periodic Report and Action Plan Europe 2005-2006

- Report from the State Parties on the <u>application</u> of the <u>World</u> <u>Heritage Convention</u>
- Including the <u>state of</u> <u>conservation</u> of the World Heritage properties located on their territories
- Every six years for each region



Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention



### What is Periodic Reporting?

The three pillars of Periodic Reporting





### What is Periodic Reporting?

The three pillars of Periodic Reporting



## **Why Periodic Reporting?**

#### Paragraph 201 of the Operational Guidelines

Four main purposes:

 to provide an <u>assessment</u> of the <u>application of the</u> <u>World Heritage Convention</u> by the State Party;

 to provide an <u>assessment</u> as to whether the <u>values of</u> <u>the World Heritage properties</u> for which they are inscribed on the List are being <u>maintained</u> over time;



### **Why Periodic Reporting?**

- to provide <u>up-dated information</u> about the World Heritage properties and <u>to record the changing</u> <u>circumstances</u> and state of conservation of the properties;
- to provide a mechanism for <u>regional co-operation</u> and <u>exchange of information</u> and experiences between States Parties concerning the implementation of the Convention and World Heritage conservation.



### **Why Periodic Reporting?**

### **Overall Objectives:**

- Reinforcement of the capacities of the States Parties towards a more sustainable conservation mechanism for their World Heritage sites;
- Present modifications to the World Heritage site boundaries, buffer zones, name changes, revision of criteria;
- <u>Drafting of Retrospective Statements of Outstanding</u> <u>Universal Value (OUV)</u> (whenever needed);
- <u>Report</u> on the above actions to the World Heritage Committee



### **1st cycle of Periodic Reporting**

#### **Reporting by Region**

#### **Total amount of 496 properties in 146 States Parties:**

- Arab States (44 properties in 12 SP 2000)
- Africa (40 properties in 18 SP 2001/02)
- Asia Pacific (88 properties in 39 SP 2003)
- Latin America / Caribbean (62 properties in 62 SP 2004)
- North America
- (31 properties in 2 SP 2005)
- Europe (244 properties in 48 SP 2006)



### **Years of reflection**

Two years of reflection (July 2006 - July 2008) about the 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle of Periodic Reporting Exercise

- to review <u>outcomes of first cycle</u> of Periodic Reporting exercise;
- to develop strategic direction for PR form and format;
- to ensure <u>effective links</u> between PR, SoC reports, nominations & retrospective inventory;
- to identify <u>training & capacity</u> development priorities;
- to identify international <u>cooperation priorities;</u>
- to prepare of the next Cycle.



# Positive aspects of the 1st Cycle

- Raised <u>awareness</u> at all levels about the WH Convention
- Helped in <u>collection of data</u> concerning World Heritage properties



Source: http://www.freedigitalphotos.net/images/view\_photog.php?ph otogid=2140

Assessed State of conservation of many properties for the first time



# Positive aspects of the 1st Cycle

- Enhanced <u>regional</u> <u>cooperation</u> and <u>exchange</u> amongst profesionnals
- Promoted the creation of buffer zones for many properties





#### But...

- Lack of preparation
- Site managers not involved in the exercise
- Too many elements of information/data requested from SP
- Difficult access to the data
- Reliability of data





#### But...

- Lack of coordination
- No link with other processes of World Heritage
- Difficulty to compare them (different questionnaires)
- Time consuming and costly exercise for States Parties





### **Conclusions of the reflection meetings**

#### There is a need to...

- ...<u>integrate all databases</u> to offer a complete documentation on each property accessible on line
- ...<u>consolidate data</u> (Retrospective Inventory + Statement of OUV)
- ...<u>simplify the questionnaire</u> and the process for completing it





### **Conclusions of the reflection meetings**

#### There is a need to...

- ...<u>reaffirm Outstanding</u> <u>Universal</u> Value as the back bone of all World Heritage processes
- ...<u>link</u> the different World Heritage <u>processes</u>
- ...be able to <u>compare</u> the questionnaire between different cycles and different regions





### **European Periodic Reporting**

- **5** Sub-regions **49** States Parties
- 1<sup>st</sup> cycle of PR: 244 sites reported on (inscribed before 1998)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of PR: All sites inscribed until 2012 in Europe to be reported on. Currently 410 in Europe (446 in Europe and North America)
- **Online tool**, with <u>partly pre-filled forms</u> (by WH Centre)
- Two levels of reporting:
  - **Section I:** by national Focal Point(s) (All States Parties)
  - Section II: by Site Manager at respective WH properties
- Cooperation: World Heritage Centre, States Parties, ICOMOS, ICCROM, IUCN



## **Next cycle of Periodic Reporting**

Region	Retrospectiv e Inventory	Launching of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cycle of PR	Session to report to the World Heritage Committee	Year of Examination by Committee
Arab States	2005/2007	2008/2010	34 <sup>th</sup> session	June-July 2010
Africa	2007/2008	2009/2011	35 <sup>th</sup> session	June-July 2011
Asia- Pacific	2008/2009	2010/2012	36 <sup>th</sup> session	June-July 2012
Latin America and the Caribbean	2011/2012	2011/2013	37 <sup>th</sup> session	June-July 2013
Europe- North America	2005/2006 (Europe) 2012/2013 (N. America)	2012/2015	39 <sup>th</sup> session	June-July 2015



### **2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Principles Good practice**

### **Good practice**

- Build on <u>lessons learned</u> from previous PR cycle and from experience/good practice in monitoring and assessment;
- Encourage good practice in WH property management, encourage participation of stakeholders in PR process and information-sharing with other partners.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Principles

### Efficiency

- <u>Data pre-filled</u> by WH Centre for verification of accuracy rather than data collection;
- Easier & quicker to complete;
- <u>Easier</u> for WH Centre to <u>access/assess</u> results;
- Guides States Parties through <u>logical steps</u> to undertake assessment of the State of Conservation & management of Property.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Principles

### Utility

- Useful for different audiences: Site Managers, States Parties, WH Committee, WH Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
- <u>Consistent</u> with other World Heritage processes (Nomination, reactive monitoring...);
- <u>Harmonized</u> with reporting for <u>other</u> <u>Conventions</u> reporting.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Principles

### **Sustainability**

- Developed for <u>long-term use</u>
- Capable of providing <u>clear trends</u> & providing <u>continuity for future cycles</u> of PR
- Consistent for <u>use across regions</u>
- Flexible to accommodate future development of the WH processes



### Focal points and site managers

#### Fully involved in the process from the beginning to the end

#### Site manager

- Checks prefilled information
- Fills Section II

#### **Focal point**

- <u>Bridge</u> between the World Heritage Centre/Advisory Bodies and national institutions and site managers
- Checks prefilled information
- Fills Section I of the questionnaire
- Checks Section(s) II of the questionnaire
- Gathers and transmits all the information regarding the three pillars of the Periodic Reporting



© Yvon Fruneau Source: http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/946/gallery/



### Second cycle deadlines

- **1 December 2011:** answer to the Retrospective Inventory (properties inscribed between 1978 and 1998) (cf. Decision 34 COM 8 D)
- 1 February 2012: Deadline for submission of draft retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value (properties inscribed between 1978 and 2006) (cf. Decision 34 COM 10 B.3)
- June–July 2012: Formal launching of the 2nd cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise in Europe and North America (properties inscribed between 1978 and 2012) at the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee
- **31 July 2013:** submission of the filled-in Section I and Section II questionnaires by the States Parties 1 (regions distribution pending)
- **31 July 2014:** submission of the filled-in Section I and Section II questionnaires by the States Parties 2 (regions distribution pending)
- February 2015: Compilation of Regional Report for submission to UNESCO-WHC
- June-July 2015: Examination by the World Heritage Committee!



### **Milestones**



### **Specific expected results**

- **PREPARE** Statements of Outstanding Universal Value
- CLARIFY boundaries of the properties
- IMPROVE / PREPARE management plans / management systems
- HARMONIZE tentative Lists
- ENHANCE regional cooperation programmes
- ENSURE new partnerships and funding (incl. EC)





© OUR PLACE Source: http://whc.unesco.org/fr/list/616/gallery/

# **Thanks!**

