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Organización
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Организация
Объединенных Наций по
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Culture Sector

Permanent Delegations
National Commissions
Focal Points for Periodic Reporting
of European States Parties to the
UNESCO World Heritage
Convention
Council of Europe
European Commission

18 January 2010

Ref. : CL/WHC-10/1

Subject : **Periodic Reporting on the application of the World Heritage Convention in Europe and North America:**
Follow-up to the first cycle and preparation of the second cycle

Madam/Sir,

Further to our Circular Letter of 18 May 2009 and the Informal Meeting of European and North American States Parties on 27 June 2009 (Seville, Spain), I have the pleasure to inform you that the **web-page** on European and North American Periodic Reporting has been updated:

<http://whc.unesco.org/pg.cfm?cid=153>

The information contained in the new page is displayed in chronological order (first cycle 2001-2011 and second cycle 2012-2014) and by region (Europe and North America) and is structured in four sections being:

- Periodic report Europe and North America: second cycle (2012-2014)
- Periodic report North America: first cycle (2001-2005)
- Periodic report Europe follow up: first cycle (2006-2011)
- Periodic report Europe: first cycle (2001-2006)

The new web page has a direct link to the **new questionnaire** (access is restricted to States Parties focal points and site managers). It also contains the results of all **sub-regional meetings** related to Periodic Reporting. Further meetings are in the preparation and planning stages. In case you wish to offer hosting a sub-regional meeting, kindly inform Ms. Rossler, Chief of Europe and North America, UNESCO World Heritage Centre (m.rossler@unesco.org) in advance.

We hereby request the Permanent Delegations to inform us, by official letter, about the **current focal point** of your country for Periodic Reporting, including his/her name, title and organization, postal address, telephone, fax and email. This shall enable the World Heritage Centre to invite national focal points to sub-regional meetings and other events.

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Furthermore, I would like to recall that the World Heritage Committee, at its 32nd session in 2008 (see Decision **32 COM 11C**), encouraged the European States Parties to submit any changes to names, criteria, boundaries and Statements of Outstanding Universal Value in a timely fashion. Please note that **draft retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value** should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre in two hardcopies and an electronic version. Furthermore, the preparation of management plans was identified as a critical issue in the follow-up to the European Periodic Reporting.

As you know, the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Europe and North America Region will be launched at the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2012. Further information will be provided in the working document on Periodic Reporting which shall be prepared for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 36th session.

I would like to thank you for your ongoing cooperation in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Bandarin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Francesco Bandarin
Director
World Heritage Centre

Annex I: Decision **32 COM 11C**

Cc: Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee
ICOMOS, ICCROM, IUCN
UNESCO Field Offices in Moscow and Venice
Nordic World Heritage Foundation, NWHF
Chair of the Working Group on Periodic Reporting
Rapporteur of the Working Group on Periodic Reporting

Extract of the Decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 32nd session (Quebec City, 2008)

FOLLOW UP ON THE PERIODIC REPORT FOR EUROPE

Decision: 32 COM 11C

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document *WHC-08/32.COM/11C*,
2. Recalling Decisions **30 COM 11A.1**, **30 COM 11A.2**, **31 COM 11A.1** and **31 COM 11A.2** adopted at its 30th (Vilnius, 2006) and 31st (Christchurch, 2007) sessions respectively,
3. Takes note of the results of the subregional meetings on the follow-up to Periodic Reporting for "Central and Eastern Europe" (Wroclaw, Poland, September 2007) as well as for "Mediterranean and South Eastern Europe" (Corfu, Greece, April 2008), and further notes that a number of training initiatives were financed through extrabudgetary sources
4. Encourages the European States Parties to continue to submit any changes to names, criteria, boundaries and draft statements of significance/Outstanding Universal Value as soon as possible;
5. Recommends that States Parties, Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre continue their collaboration in addressing any outstanding issues, in particular with focused follow-up meetings and training exercises;
6. Thanks the Greek authorities for having hosted the Mediterranean and South-Eastern European Meeting in Corfu, Greece, 18-19 April 2008, and the Spanish authorities for having organized the Iberian Meeting in Plasencia, Spain, 2-4 April 2008, and welcomes the offer of the Portuguese authorities to host a meeting for Mediterranean Europe in spring 2009;
7. Requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to prepare a progress report on the follow-up to the European Periodic Report and on the preparations for the next cycle for Europe and North America for examination by the Committee at its 34th session in 2010.