



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

World Heritage

19 GA

WHC-13/19.GA/3

Paris, 7 October 2013

Original: English

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

**Paris, UNESCO Headquarters
19- 21 November 2013**

Item 3 of the Provisional Agenda: Elections to the World Heritage Committee

SUMMARY

This document consists of the following 4 Sections:

- I. Number of Seats to be elected to the World Heritage Committee
- II. Eligibility of candidates to the World Heritage Committee
- III. Procedures for the election of the members of the World Heritage Committee
- IV. Draft Resolution

I. NUMBER OF SEATS TO BE ELECTED TO THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

1. Article 8 of the *World Heritage Convention* establishes the World Heritage Committee and determines that it is to be composed of 21 States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention*. The members of the Committee are to be elected by the General Assembly of States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention* which meets during the ordinary session of the UNESCO General Conference.
2. At present the World Heritage Committee is composed of the following 21 States Parties:

ALGERIA	CAMBODIA	COLOMBIA
ESTONIA	ETHIOPIA	FRANCE
GERMANY	INDIA	IRAQ
JAPAN	MALAYSIA	MALI
MEXICO	QATAR	RUSSIAN FEDERATION
SENEGAL	SERBIA	SOUTH AFRICA
SWITZERLAND	THAILAND	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

3. The terms of office of 12 of the members of the Committee will expire at the end of the 37th session of the UNESCO General Conference (UNESCO, 5 – 20 November 2013).
4. Consequently, **12 seats of the World Heritage Committee are to be filled during the 19th session of the General Assembly**. The seats of the following 12 States Parties are to be filled by the newly-elected members of the Committee:

CAMBODIA	ESTONIA	ETHIOPIA
FRANCE	IRAQ	MALI
MEXICO	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	SOUTH AFRICA
SWITZERLAND	THAILAND	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

II. ELIGIBILITY OF CANDIDATES TO THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

5. In order for a State Party to be eligible to become a member of the World Heritage Committee the conditions set out in Article 16, paragraph 5 of the *Convention* have to be met. This Article states that,

Article 16, paragraph 5: *Any State Party to the Convention which is in arrears with the payment of its compulsory or voluntary contribution for the current year and the calendar year immediately preceding it shall not be eligible as a Member of the World Heritage Committee [...].*

6. The statement of compulsory and voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund can be found in Document WHC-13/19.GA/INF.8.
7. Note should also be taken of Rule 13.4 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly which states that:

Rule 13.4: *This list of candidatures shall be finalised 48 hours before the opening of the General Assembly. No other candidatures nor payments of compulsory and voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund (for the purpose of presenting a candidature to the Committee) will be accepted in the 48-hour period prior to the opening of the General Assembly.*

III. PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

8. The procedures for the election of the World Heritage Committee are set out in Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly.
9. The General Assembly, when electing the new members of the World Heritage Committee, might wish to take into consideration Article 8 paragraph 2 of the *Convention* which states that the "election of members of the Committee shall ensure an equitable representation of the different regions and cultures of the world", as well as its Resolution on the Equitable Representation of the World Heritage Committee (adopted by the 13th General Assembly) which invites, *inter alia*, the States Parties elected to the Committee to voluntarily reduce their term of office from six to four years.

IV. DRAFT RESOLUTION

DRAFT RESOLUTION: 19 GA 3

The General Assembly,

1. *Elects* * * * (State Party without properties on the World Heritage List) as member of the World Heritage Committee;
2. *Elects* the following eleven States Parties *** as members of the World Heritage Committee.