

Latest World Heritage Highlights

State of Conservation Information System

Meeting for the Focal Points from Central, Eastern and
South-Eastern Europe, Baku, Azerbaijan 29-31 October
2013

29 October 11:15

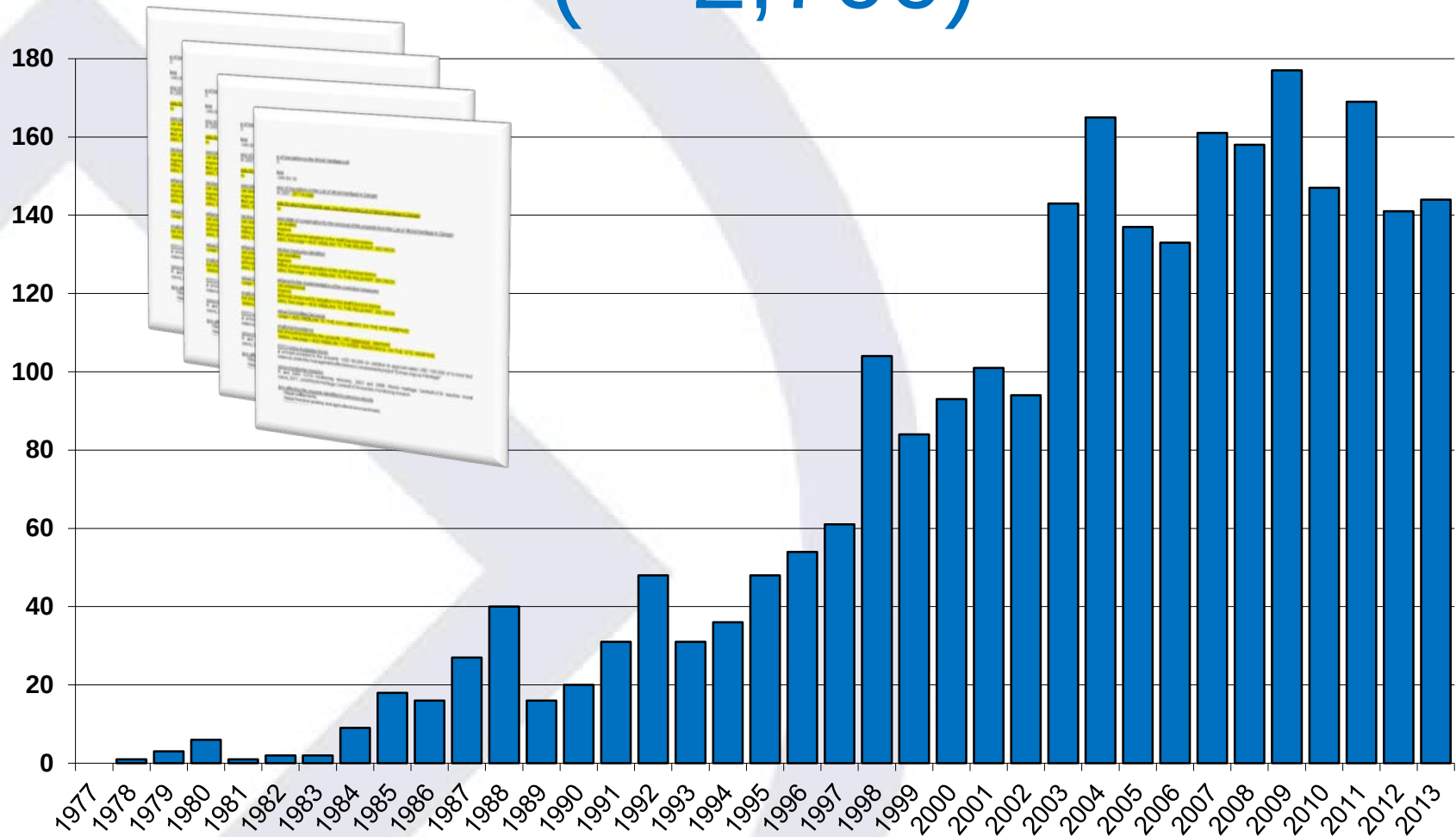
Operational Guidelines - §24

Examine
the **state of conservation**
of World Heritage properties
through processes of
Reactive monitoring
and **Periodic Reporting**



State of conservation reports

($\pm 2,700$)



SOC reports

- ▶ **Exceptional** documentation on various **conservation** issues
- ▶ One of the **most comprehensive** monitoring system of all **international** conventions
- ▶ Global network of nearly **500 properties**



but.....



SOC reports

- Scattered data; difficult to retrieve and use



Scans



Excel



Word



PDF



Various Web pages



2012

Flemish Government support
SOC Information System

Project objective

- ▶ **To establish a comprehensive online information system**
- ▶ Available for all (different access levels)
- ▶ Advanced search facility (statutory data)
- ▶ Available in 2 official languages (English / français)





Project objective

► It helps in:

- Monitoring properties
- Improving transparency
- Improving institutional memory
- Well-informed and consistent decision-making

Link to PR process

Narrative threats (SOC reports)

“Theft of stone from ruins for use as building material”



Factors (PR – Section II)

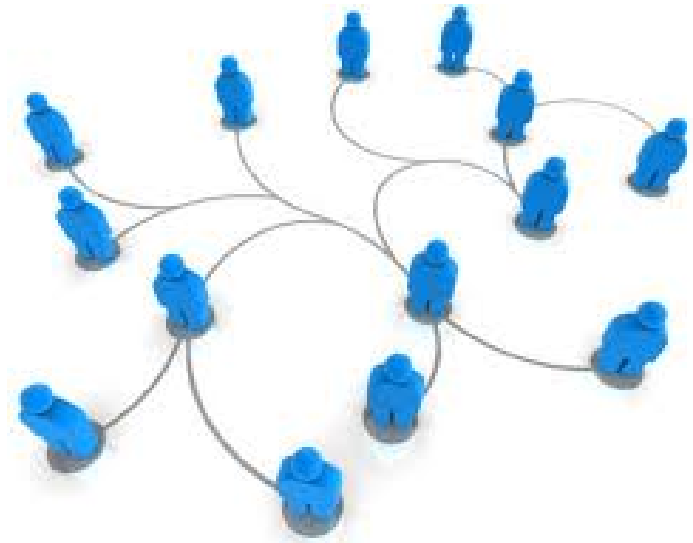
“Illegal activities”

→ 83 standardized factors

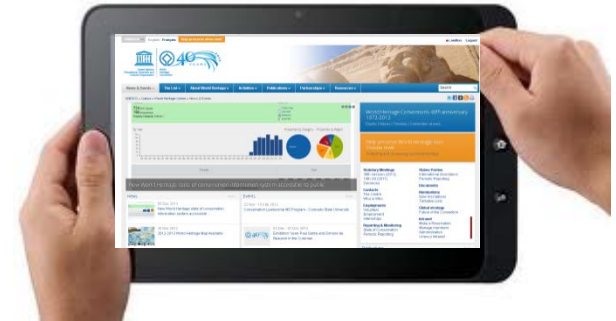


Link to other WH databases

- Nominations
- List of World Heritage in Danger
- International Assistance
- Statutory documents
- Decisions
- Maps and galleries
- etc.



Access to SOC Information System

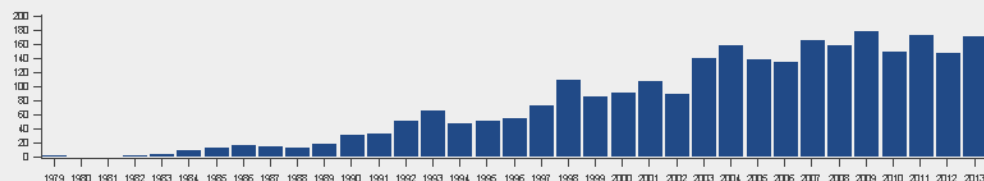


Information System homepage

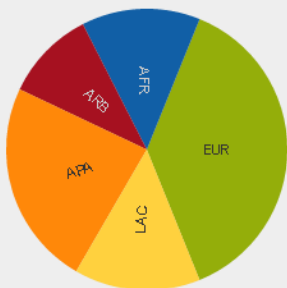
State of Conservation (SOC)

The very significant number of reports prepared by the UNESCO Secretariat and the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee represents an exceptional and extensive documentation on various conservation issues. It is one of the most comprehensive monitoring systems of any international conventions, through a global network of sites.

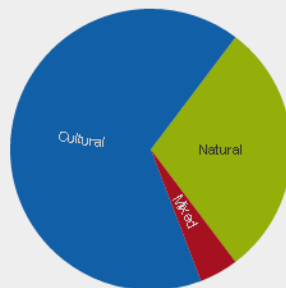
Properties by Year



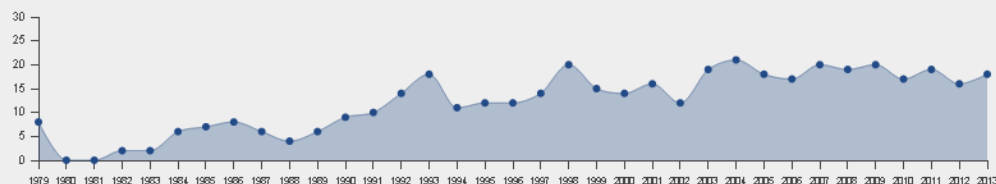
Properties by Region



Properties by Category



% of properties subject to a SOC report



Numbers

2642

Reports

469

Properties

131

States parties

Search by Year

2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990
1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982
1981	1980	1979					

Search by Region

Africa	Arab States	Asia and the Pacific
Europe and North America	Latin America and the Caribbean	

Search by State Party

Afghanistan	Albania	Algeria	Andorra	Angola
Antigua and Barbuda	Argentina	Armenia	Australia	
Austria	Azerbaijan	Bahrain	Bangladesh	Barbados
Belarus	Belgium	Belize	Benin	Bhutan
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Bosnia and Herzegovina			
Botswana	Brazil	Brunei Darussalam	Bulgaria	
Burkina Faso	Burundi	Cambodia	Cameroon	Canada
Cape Verde	Central African Republic	Chad	Chile	
China	Colombia	Comoros	Congo	Cook Islands
Costa Rica	Côte d'Ivoire	Croatia	Cuba	Cyprus
Czech Republic	Democratic Republic of the Congo			
Denmark	Djibouti	Dominica	Dominican Republic	
Ecuador	Egypt	El Salvador	Equatorial Guinea	Eritrea
Estonia	Ethiopia	Fiji	Finland	France
Gambia	Georgia	Germany	Ghana	Greece
Grenada				

Advanced search

UNESCO » Culture » World Heritage Centre » About World Heritage » Reporting & Monitoring » State of Conservation



Search SOC

Search [Advanced search](#)

By States Parties

By Regions

By property

Category

- ☐ Cultural
☐ Natural
☐ Mixed

Dates

from...

To...

With DSOCR

- ☒ all
☐ Yes
☐ No

Themes

- ☐ Cities
☐ Cultural Landscape
☐ Forest
☐ Marine & coastal
☐ Earthen Architecture

Criteria

- ☒ with
☐ only with
Cultural Criteria:
☐ i ☐ ii ☐ iii ☐ iv ☐ v ☐ vi
Natural Criteria:
☐ vii ☐ viii ☐ ix ☐ x

More ...

- ☐ Property on the List in Danger

Text Search

Text Search

Search for a property

With Threats

- ☒ all
☐ Yes
☐ No

By Threats

Buildings and Development

Commercial development

Housing

Industrial areas

Interpretative and visitation facilities

Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure

Transportation Infrastructure

Air transport infrastructure

Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure

Ground transport infrastructure

Marine transport infrastructure

Underground transport infrastructure

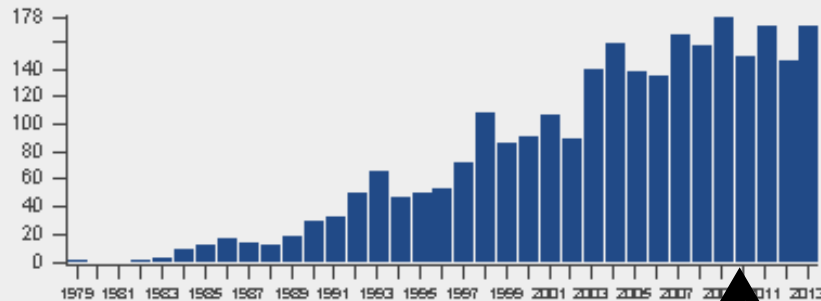
Results

Statistics

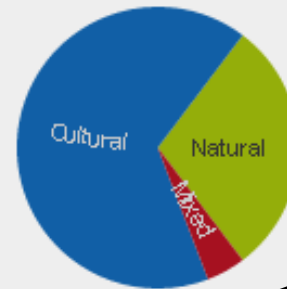
Different views

Result	Views	Exports
2642	469	131
Reports	Properties	States Parties

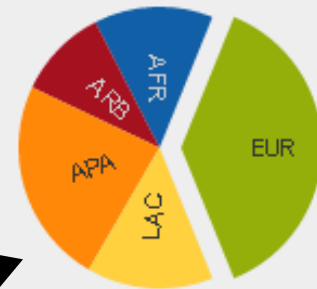
Properties



Categories



Regions



Clickable charts

Views



Site ↓	State Party	Year	Threats	Document Source
Dja Faunal Reserve	 Cameroon	2010	Livestock farming/grazing of domesticated animals, Commercial hunting, Mining, Illegal activities, Management systems/ management plan,	WHC-10/34.COM/7B
Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary	 Senegal	2011	Livestock farming/grazing of domesticated animals, Subsistence hunting, Invasive/alien terrestrial species, Management systems/ management plan, Financial resources, Human resources,	WHC-11/35.COM/7B
Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary	 Senegal	2009	Water infrastructure, Livestock farming/grazing of domesticated animals, Subsistence hunting, Water, Invasive/alien terrestrial species, Management systems/ management plan, Financial resources, Human resources,	WHC-09/33.COM/7B
Doñana National Park	 Spain	2011	Pollution of marine waters, Crop production, Water, Management systems/ management plan,	WHC-11/35.COM/7B.Add
Doñana National Park	 Spain	2010	Pollution of marine waters, Crop production, Management systems/ management plan,	WHC-10/34.COM/7B
Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex	 Thailand	2012	Water infrastructure, Ground transport infrastructure, Land conversion, Livestock farming/grazing of domesticated animals, Forestry /wood production, Impacts of tourism/visitor/recreation, Management systems/ management plan,	WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add
Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex	 Thailand	2011	Ground transport infrastructure, Land conversion, Forestry /wood production,	WHC-11/35.COM/7B
Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex	 Thailand	2010	Ground transport infrastructure, Illegal activities,	WHC-10/34.COM/7B
Dresden Elbe Valley	 Germany	2009	Ground transport infrastructure,	WHC-09/33.COM/7A
East Rennell	 Solomon Islands	2012	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources, Mining, Illegal activities, Invasive/alien terrestrial species	WHC-12/36.COM/7B

Statistics

Year	Sites	SOC	Regions					Categories		
			EUR	APA	LAC	ARB	AFR	Cultural	Natural	Mixed
2009	87	85	15	26	10	15	21	45	41	1
% of sites with SOC	100 %		17%	30%	11%	17%	24%	52%	47%	1%
% of sites inscribed (year-1)	10%		2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	5%	5%	0%
2010	149	148	47	28	27	16	31	92	51	6
% of sites with SOC	100 %		32%	19%	18%	11%	21%	62%	34%	4%
% of sites inscribed (year-1)	17%		5%	3%	3%	2%	3%	10%	6%	1%
2011	172	169	50	41	31	20	30	118	51	3
% of sites with SOC	100 %		29%	24%	18%	12%	17%	69%	30%	2%
% of sites inscribed (year-1)	19%		5%	5%	3%	2%	3%	13%	6%	0%
2012	147	149	45	26	25	16	35	89	52	6
% of sites with SOC	100 %		31%	18%	17%	11%	24%	61%	35%	4%
% of sites inscribed (year-1)	16%		5%	3%	3%	2%	4%	10%	6%	1%

Detail views

State of Conservation (SOC)

Kahuzi-Biega National Park (2012)

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

A draft has been developed during the 2009 reactive monitoring mission (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/documents>), but the indicators still need to be quantified based on the results of a census of large mammals.

UNESCO Extra-Budgetary Funds

Total amount provided to the property: Conservation Programme for the DRC World Heritage properties (DRC Programme) financed by the United Nations Foundation (UNF), Italy and Belgium (2001-2005): approximately USD 300,000; (2005-2009): USD 300,000; (2010-2012): USD 350,000. Financial support (USD 30,000) in 2008 granted by the Rapid Response Facility (RRF) for the rehabilitation of a control post at Itébéro.

International Assistance granted to the property

Requests Approved: 7 (from 1980-2000)

Total Amount Approved: 119,270 USD

2000	Emergency assistance to World Natural Heritage of the ... (Approved)	5,400 USD
1999	Support to Resident Staff of Garamba, Virunga, Kahuzi ... (Approved)	20,000 USD
1995	Purchase of a vehicle for Kahuzi Biega National Park (Approved)	30,000 USD
1994	Financial contribution for the protection of ... (Approved)	25,000 USD
1992	Review of the state of conservation of World Heritage ... (Approved)	3,750 USD
1988	Purchase of a 4x4 Jeep for Kahuzi Biega National Park (Approved)	20,000 USD
1980	Equipment for Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Approved)	15,120 USD



Kahuzi-Biega National Park

State Party:

 Democratic Republic of the Congo

Date of Inscription: 1980

Nomination records (Year): 1979

Category: Natural

Criteria: (x)

Danger List: Yes

[View inscribed site web page](#)

Documents

Original Documents

 [WHC-12/36.COM/7A](#)

Other Documents

[View inscribed site documents, nomination file, reports, decisions, ...](#)

Exports

 [Word File](#)

Missions**

1996 and 2006: several World Heritage Centre missions in the framework of the DRC Programme. December 2009: IUCN/World Heritage Centre reactive monitoring mission.

- 2009 [Mission de monitoring de l'Etat de Conservation du Parc National de Kahuzi-Biega ...](#)
- 2009 [Rapport de mission, mission de monitoring de l'Etat de Conservation du Parc National ...](#)
- 2009 [Rapport de suivi renforcé sur les biens du Patrimoine mondial en République ...](#)
- 2009 [Reinforced monitoring report on World Heritage properties in the Democratic Republic ...](#)
- 2006 [Mission de suivi réactif](#)
- 2002 [UNESCO/UNF/DRC Project \(243ZAI70\), Sept 2002](#)

Factors* affecting the property identified in previous reports

- a) Presence of armed groups, lack of security and political instability rendering a large part of the property inaccessible to the guards;
- b) Attribution of mining permits inside the property;
- c) Poaching by armed military groups;
- d) Villages in the ecological corridor between the highland and lowland sectors of the park;
- e) Illegal mining and deforestation.

Corrective Measures

Adopted, See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4081>

Current conservation issues

The State Party submitted a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property on 2 February 2012, with information concerning the efforts employed in the implementation of the corrective measures:

- a) Evacuate the armed groups from the property and extend the area of surveillance to the whole property*

The State Party recalls the military operation of the MONUSCO (United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (RDC)), Amani Leo, Kimya I and Kimya II, to neutralize the armed groups active in the Kivu region, and confirms that these operations have had a positive impact on the occupation of the property by the armed groups. These operations have enabled an increase in the area of surveillance of the property and all the sectors except a few pockets in the inaccessible and obstructed zones. The report provides a detailed description of the surveillance operations and the protection of the Park and informs that in 2011, 27.22% of the extent of

SOC Reports

SOC Reports by year

2013

2012

2011

2010

2009

2008

2007

2006

2005

2004

1994

1991

1990

[Detailed List of SOC reports](#)

Threats*

Civil unrest

Illegal activities

Land conversion

Mining

War

Other Threats:

Villages in the ecological corridor between the highland and lowland sectors of the park

Inscription on the Danger List

Year: 1997

Threats to the Site:

Grave concern that portions of the Kahuzi-Biega National Park had been deforested and that hunting had been reported there, as well as war and civil strife ravaging the country, led the World Heritage Committee to inscribe the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The property has been much affected by the influx of refugees. Park facilities had been looted and destroyed, and most of the park staff have fled the area. The park may also be serving as a hideout for large militia groups, as well as for illegal settlers. This has led to

Conclusion

The World Heritage Centre and IUCN note the important progress reported by the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures, notably the evacuation of the armed groups from the property and the extension of the area of surveillance, the closing down of a large number of artisanal mining operations in the property and the resolution of illegal occupation in Bitale.

However, the World Heritage Centre and IUCN recommend that the World Heritage Committee expresses its concern with regard to the lack of progress concerning the cancellation by the Government of the land rights granted illegally in the property by the Mining Service of Land Titles and Cadastre, as well as the mining concessions encroaching on the property attributed by the Mining Cadastre. The World Heritage Centre and IUCN are of the opinion that the World Heritage Committee should request the State Party to initiate a dialogue at the political level with the State services that are indispensable for the successful implementation of these corrective measures.

The World Heritage Centre and IUCN note the importance of ensuring that the identified zoning options guarantee the conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and deem it important to submit these options for consideration to the World Heritage Committee before any decision is taken.

The World Heritage Centre and IUCN conclude that the progress achieved by the managers of the property is very encouraging but share the conclusion of the State Party report that the work still to be achieved remains important. They underline once again the need to carry out without delay an inventory of the lowland sectors. Only with the availability of reliable data on the main populations of wildlife will an assessment of the true state for the Outstanding Universal Value and the establishment of a timetable for the rehabilitation of the property be possible. They consider that the property should be maintained on the List of World Heritage in Danger and the reinforced monitoring mechanism be applied.

Decision

Adopted

Draft Decision



36COM7A.36

[Link to the decision](#)

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.35**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Expresses its concern that signature of the January 2011 Kinshasa Declaration has not yet resulted in a concerted action between the different Ministries, the army and different technical agencies which is necessary to resolve some urgent conservation issues in the sites and create the conditions for their rehabilitation;
4. Notes with concern the consistent reports from different properties about continued involvement of elements of the Congolese Army in illegal exploitation of the natural resources;
5. Considers that the recent permit which has been granted to the international oil and gas company SOCO to start oil exploration activities in Virunga National Park is not in conformity with commitments made by the State Party in the Kinshasa Declaration;
6. Urges the State Party to ensure a full implementation of the commitments made in the Kinshasa Declaration and ensure the

**Draft decision
+ Adopted decision**

**ONE entry-point
to 40 years
of conservation**

