

**INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ROCK ART AND
THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION
SPAIN**

**Report for the 38 Session of the World Heritage Committee
Doha (Qatar), 15 to 25 June 2014**

Date of the Report: 18 February 2014

1. Background and mandate of the Centre

The International Centre for Rock Art and the World Heritage Convention is based on two strategic objectives to carry out its mission of fostering the preservation, management, research and knowledge of Rock Art and World Heritage management:

- Generating and disseminating scientific knowledge about rock art and developing specific tools for properties conservation and management, with a special focus on the properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and the Tentative List, in addition to properties protected by national laws.
- Developing strategies and operating tools for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention for the management and preservation of properties.

The achievement of these goals is based on the principles of international cooperation, research and capacity building, institutional cooperation and communication about heritage.

2. Institutional and operational structure of the Centre (Governing Board, Staffing, Operational funding and premises)

The UNESCO General Conference, in its 36th Session (Paris, 25 October-10 November 2011), approved the Establishment in Spain of the International Centre for Rock Art and the World Heritage Convention as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. Therefore, the next step to be reached will be the corresponding agreement between UNESCO and the State Party.

Due to the current economic situation, the full operating capacity of the planned operational structure is being postponed until the mandatory authorisation at a national level for the creation of a new administrative structure would be accepted. The Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport as well as other existing public and private institutions are already developing many activities focused on Rock Art and World Heritage.

Therefore, a transitional governing body for the coordination of these activities has been put into operation on 31 July 2013 through the Order of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport for the creation of the Working Group for the development of the Centre for the World Heritage Convention and Rock Art. This transitional governing body will have the same composition that

the CC2 Board of Directors. This is the first step to the final implementation of the Category 2 Centre.

This Working Group, named “Centre for the World Heritage Convention and Rock Art” is integrated by a President (the general Director for Fine Arts and Cultural Goods, Archives and Libraries), up to thirteen Vocals (the Director of the Cultural Heritage Institute of Spain (IPCE); the Director of the National Museum and Investigation Centre of Altamira; one representative of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID); one representative of the Institutes of the High Council of Scientific research (INCIPIIT and CCHS); one representative from the University field; one representative of the UNESCO general Directorate; one representative of the Group of Spanish World Heritage Towns; up to three members proposed by the general Directorate of Fine Arts, Cultural assets, archives and Libraries; up to three representatives proposed by the Spanish Council of Historical Heritage; and the Secretariat (Deputy Director for the Protection of Historical Heritage).

Its mandate is to give advice to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport for the communication with other administrations, and public and private institutions in the development of their task regarding World Heritage and Rock Art.

Its aim is to foster the documentation, study and investigation from a practical and theoretical point of view of the issues regarding World Heritage and Rock Art. These duties will be accomplished in order to:

- Promote strategies and operational tools for the effective application of the World Heritage Convention.
- Promote the creation and dissemination of scientific knowledge regarding Rock Art and elaborate specific tools for its conservation and management, particularly on World Heritage sites.
- Coordinate stakeholders at a national level, specifically those directly implicated to World Heritage and Rock Art, as well as the international cooperation.

The category 2 centre will be located in the offices of the Cultural Heritage Institute of Spain (IPCE), in Madrid.

3. Programs and activities implemented since June 2013 and planned for the current year

N.	Title of the activity	Reference to WHCBS¹
1	“Investigation programme on Preventive Conservation and access conditions of the Altamira Cave (2012-2014)”. Organised by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports, University of Cantabria and Science and heritage Institute-CSIC (INCIPIIT). July 2014.	3.6
2	“International Symposium on Management Plans for	3.1

¹ WHCBS stands for the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy (see: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2011/whc11-35com-9Be.pdf>)

	archaeological and Rock Art World Heritage sites in Europe” Ramales de la Victoria, 9-11 April 2014	
3	“International meeting of World Heritage Rock Art managers in Latin America”. Programmed: May 2014	2.8
4	“Design and setting off of a digital database of documentation and activities on World Heritage Rock Art” Programmed: 2014-2015	2.8
5	“Creation of an expert network on World Heritage Rock Art” Programmed: 2014-2015	2.8
6	“International meeting on Historic Urban landscape in Latin America”. Programmed: September 2014	2.8
7	“International Expert Meeting: Contents and methodology of management Plans in World Heritage Cities in Southamerica”. Organised by ICOMOS (Spain) Madrid, 20-23 May 2013	4.3
8	“Management tools for World Heritage”. Tarragona, 7-9 May 2013	4.3
9	“Technical meeting. Rock Art conservation. Sustainability and landscape integration”. Salamanca, 15-17 October 2013.	4.3
10	“VII annual Managers Meeting of World Heritage Sites. World Heritage and Education” (Úbeda and Baeza, 5-7 November 2013).	4.3
11	“V World Heritage Youth Forum” Madrid and Lorca, 10-20 June 2013)	9.2
12	Exhibition “A planetary journey. World Heritage Rock Art”. National Museum of Altamira (Spain) From 2 May to 30 September 2013	7.2
13	Sensitization campaign on World Heritage Rock Art: children workshop on Rock Art. Tanger (Morocco) 17-18 February 2014	9.2
14	“International meeting on contemporary architecture in historic cities” Seville, 17-19 September 2013.	5.2
15	“Rock Art and new 4D Technologies Project” (Jumilla Municipality)	3.6
16	“Climate management of caves containing Rock Art through a computer simulator: preventive conservation, decisions taking and sustainability” (Puente Viesgo Municipality)	3.6
17	“Protecting closure of six Rock Art sites in Cerro Felio”	3.6

	(Alacón Municipality)	
18	“Documentation of the Altamira Cave and its surroundings” (Santillana Municipality)	3.6
19	“Preliminary study and intervention on the Rock art sites of Arpán, Mallata and Lecina Superior in the Cultural Park of Río Vero” (Somontano de Barbastro Shire)	3.6
20	“Analysis for the conservation and dissemination of the Rock art sites of La Vacada” (Castellote Municipality)	3.6
21	“Study of Rock art sites in Albarracín” (Albarracín Municipality)	3.6
22	“A good practice in the sustainable development of the World heritage site Rock art of the Mediterranean Basin of the Iberian Peninsula. Part II” (Alpera Municipality)	3.6
23	“Exhibition and school programme: The mystery of rocks: East Rock art “ (Cieza de Murcia Municipality)	7.2
24	“Study, documentation and management plan of the rock art site of la Covatina del Tossalet del Mas de la rambla o abrigo del barranc de les Carabesses” (Villafranca del Cid Municipality)”	3.6
25	“Restoration of the access path of the rock art site La Sarga” (Alcoy Municipality)	3.6
26	“New perspectives of analisis, documentation and dissemination for the rock art sites Barranco de Gubert I and II (Mosqueruela, Teruel)” (Mosqueruela Municipality)	3.6

4. Website of the Centre (if available):

The website of the future CC2 is under construction, taking into account that the international agreement has not been signed yet.

5. Designated Focal Point:

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