

Document 4	First Cycle of Periodic Reporting - Overall Action Plan for Europe					
		Responsibility				Comments
		WH COM	WHC	ABs	SPs	Site
MAIN NEEDS:						
Better Understanding of World Heritage Concepts						
	1- Strengthen the understanding of World Heritage conservation in the European Region by clarifying concepts, in particular those of: - 'outstanding universal value', - World Heritage criteria, - authenticity and integrity through training and capacity building in particular for States Parties and site managers;	X	X	X		
	2- Continue improving the implementation of the World Heritage Convention within the framework of the Global Strategy using Periodic Reporting as an efficient tool on all levels;	X	X	X		
	3- Spread awareness of World Heritage values among all levels of society and institutions involved in the conservation of sites of the benefit of World Heritage.	X	X	X	X	
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: STRENGTHEN THE CREDIBILITY OF THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST						
1- Inventories, documentation, information management						
	1. Assist States Parties in the modernisation of their national inventories and conducting information management activities (digitisation, information systems and databases);		X	X		
	2. Encourage wider dissemination of ICOMOS and IUCN studies and results of 'gap' analysis;		X	X		
	3. Promote broad participation in meetings on international and national level on the identification of natural and cultural heritage.		X	X		
2- Tentative Lists						

	1. Provide international expertise and best practice to assist States Parties in the definition of policies for each sub-region concerning the procedures of revision, up-to-date and harmonisation of Tentative Lists taking into account the diversity of heritage;		X	X			
	2. Encourage States Parties to regularly review Tentative Lists and to implement the recommendations of Tentative List harmonisation meetings and of the ICOMOS and IUCN 'gap' analysis, as well as best practice examples in Tentative Lists;	X	X	X			
	3. Encourage further regional cooperation on Tentative List harmonisation and cooperation on joint themes by considering the possibility of selecting serial, transboundary and transnational sites (Operational Guidelines, paragraph 65);	X	X	X			
	4. Request the World Heritage Committee to provide strategic advice on the implementation of the Global Strategy and its subsequent decisions on priorities and on how States Parties could best use the gap analysis and thematic studies to prepare Tentative Lists;	X					
	5. Harmonize Tentative Lists at the national level, in particular for Federal States;				X		
	6. Ensure protection and management of sites on national Tentative List as a preliminary step for the preparation for future nominations;				X		
3- Nominations							
	1. Encourage States Parties to work on the definition of general policies in the field of decision-making for nominations and on the development of more comprehensive interdepartmental cooperation at the national, regional and local levels;		X		X		
	2. Encourage States Parties to respect decisions of the World Heritage Committee relating to the balance of the World Heritage List and thereby prioritising nominations of categories which contribute to a balanced representation of the diversity of cultural and natural heritage in the region;		X		X		
	3. Assist, in particular, those States Parties in Europe whose cultural and natural heritage of potential outstanding universal value is underrepresented on the World Heritage List, to develop nominations;		X	X			
	4. Encourage development of transnational sites as a tool of international cooperation;		X	X			

	5. Encourage all States Parties to consider linking heritage properties representing a certain category inscribed on the World Heritage List on a national and international level, by preparing transboundary/transnational agreements and linking of existing sites into transnational sites and request clarification on the process of joining existing sites when the Cairns Suzhou decision is reviewed in 2007;		X	X			
	6. Encourage the strengthening of management systems prior to inscription;		X	X	X		
	7. Disseminate best practice nominations as models and assist in documentation and information collection for better prepared nominations.		X	X	X		

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

4- General Policy Development for Heritage Conservation

	1. Further disseminate the Berlin Appeal and follow-up on the cooperation with European institutions.		X				
	2. Share experiences in heritage legislation development and implementation among States Parties;		X	X	X		
	3. Strengthen collaboration among national and regional authorities as well as natural and cultural heritage agencies and encourage an integrated policy, including World Heritage research;		X		X		
	4. Analyse management frameworks in the sub-regional context and assistance to be provided to develop model management systems;		X	X			
	5. Encourage States Parties to harmonize their legislation at all levels (national, regional, local) and to implement it in order to ensure adequate protection of World Heritage, as many States Parties experience problems in implementing the Convention – particularly in Federal States the authorities responsible for the Convention are not necessarily responsible for individual natural or cultural properties;		X	X	X		

	6. Promote the updating or reform of heritage legislation to reflect current approaches to buffer zones and landscape conservation, the integration of cultural and natural heritage and the concepts of integrity and authenticity. Develop and expand guidance on or follow up to the Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture (May 2005), the Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes (October 2005), and other documents with specific regional workshops emphasising management of World Heritage properties in their broader landscape context;	X	X	X	X		
	7. Strengthen cooperation between natural and cultural heritage agencies, encourage integrated policies and ensure coordination between the local and national levels;		X		X		
	8. Integrate World Heritage management into the wider regional, social and policy context at all levels;				X		
	9. Ensure a systematic approach to public and local involvement in heritage management and preservation.				X		

5 – Credible baseline data of each property

	1. States Parties to ensure the timely replies to the retrospective inventory paralleling the European Periodic Reporting and to consider submitting the follow-up actions to Circular Letter of 23 January 2006 (names changes, boundary and bufferzone revisions, criteria changes etc.) in a timely manner, at the latest by 2008;		X		X		
	2. Encourage the development of baseline data within States Parties and ensure effective feedback between the World Heritage Centre and the responsible authorities;		X		X		
	3. Use the results of Periodic Reporting at the national level as baseline data for future application.				X		

6 – Conservation, management and protection of World Heritage properties

	1. Encourage broad recognition of the importance of sustainable use of World Heritage, including tourism, for the economic and social benefit of local and national communities, and encourage responsible approaches to tourism in and around World Heritage sites, using effective tools and tourism planning models as well as codes of conducts;	X	X	X	X		
	2. Develop preventive and proactive approaches (including the updating of techniques and cross-sectoral approaches to risk management) to conservation by all stakeholders involved and integrate them into management planning;		X	X	X		

	3. Ensure the effective management of World Heritage properties and regularly monitor their conditions;		X	X	X		
	4. Encourage the creation of national committees or all partners (government departments and other agencies) and of national networks of site managers, steering groups, local communities and other stakeholders and ensure effective on-site coordination and mechanisms as well as communication mechanisms;				X		
	5. Document best practices of both the management and sustainable use of World Heritage properties;		X	X			
	6. Enhance exchanges between site managers on best practices including the development of (thematic) site networks and site twinning;		X	X	X		
	7. Encourage World Heritage focused research strategies particularly for effectiveness of integrated management, the identification of monitoring indicators, best standards of environmental impact assessment (EIA), and infrastructure projects;		X	X	X		
	8. Ensure that properties are adequately staffed according to site-specific needs;					X	
	9. Ensure a better coordination between cultural and natural heritage issues, demonstrating the conservation of both cultural and natural values in an integrated way;		X	X	X		
	10. Integrate World Heritage Management into national, regional and local planning mechanisms;		X	X	X	X	
	11. Make full use of existing networks and coordinate with other organizations in training and other activities;					X	
	12. Develop focused tool kits and mentoring programmes for site managers (specifically for cultural landscapes, archaeological sites, cities.....) not duplicating training manuals.		X	X			
	13. Assist in the development of management systems adapted to transboundary and transnational/serial properties;		X	X			
	14. Promote best practices through World Heritage site partnerships and twinning arrangements, particularly between Eastern and Western European countries and by thematic groups;		X	X	X		
	15. UNESCO to ensure coordinated approaches to funding sources;		X				

7 - Scientific and Technical Studies and Research

	1. Develop sub-regional programmes focused on capacity-building for institutions involved in heritage management, preservation and conservation activities;		X	X			
	2. Enhance capacity-building mechanisms and disseminate information;		X	X			

	3. Encourage States Parties to collaborate with national institutions and universities and to foster experts' participation in international conferences and workshops;		X	X	X		
	4. Promote focused conservation and heritage programmes in institutions, academies and universities;		X		X		
	5. Improve cooperation at the sub-regional, European and global levels and activate the circulation of scientific ideas, technological experience and contacts between specialists of different countries involved in World Heritage related activities;		X	X	X		
	6. Increase funding for focused programmes in institutions, academies and universities.				X		

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE CAPACITY-BUILDING IN STATES PARTIES

8 - Training and Capacity-Building

	1. Coordinate approaches to funding sources;		X				
	2. Assist countries to develop further acquaintance with funding institutions and access to resources;		X				
	3. Provide training for project proposal preparation and funding applications in several sub-regions for training and capacity-building;		X	X			
	4. Bring together and share information on funding for World Heritage with a view to optimise the limited resources of the World Heritage Fund;		X	X			
	5. Request ICCROM and IUCN to support and advise on the implementation of training activities within the sub-regions in the framework of the Global Training Strategy;		X	X			
	6. Establish sub-regional programmes, specifically for Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, focusing on capacity-building for institutions involved in heritage management, preservation and conservation activities. Implement training and capacity-building in the sub-regions of Europe in priority for integrated management planning and monitoring in coordination with the UNESCO field offices in Venice and Moscow. Make best use of specific management courses at ICCROM, and best practice guidelines and tools by IUCN and implement the Global Training Strategy at national, regional and local levels. National training institutions should be closely involved and scientific and technical studies carried out in the relevant countries. Training for project proposals and development should be given priority for Eastern and South-Eastern European countries;		X	X			

	7. Implement and further develop the global training strategy programmes for site managers;		X	X			
	8. Enhance capacity-building at the institutional level as well as through specific courses and the preparation of training manuals by ICCROM/ICOMOS and IUCN.		X	X			

9 - International Cooperation and Fund-raising

	1. Encourage national institutions responsible for heritage protection, and Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the States Parties, to further review their international legal base in order to identify the strengths and weaknesses of international cooperation in the field of heritage conservation and to develop general policies for future actions in this realm;		X		X		
	2. Encourage States Parties to consider earmarked funding for World Heritage and earmarked contributions to the World Heritage Fund in support of training and management priorities;		X		X		
	3. Encourage multilateral, not only bilateral, cooperation;		X				
	4. Develop partnership with Council of Europe and its heritage related Conventions and programmes, as well as the European Union;		X		X		
	5. Explore the possibility of the creation of a European Programme and Fund for World Heritage with the European Union;		X				
	6. Cooperate to review and influence European Union regulations affecting the environment;		X		X		
	7. Improve financial allocations to natural and cultural heritage through government, private sector and European Union funding, including lobbying at the European Union level to ensure funding for World Heritage (States Parties, NGOs etc.) and develop synergies between existing processes for the benefit of World Heritage;		X		X		
	8. UNESCO to ensure coordinated approaches to funding sources, and to assist States Parties in bringing together and sharing information on funding for World Heritage with a view to optimising the limited resources of the World Heritage Fund.		X				

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE: INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS, INVOLVEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR WORLD HERITAGE THROUGH COMMUNICATION

10 - Information, Awareness Building and Education

	1. Develop strategies, including focused sub-regional projects, for information, awareness-building and education, based on identified needs in sub-regions in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies;		X	X			
	2. Develop models and standards for information material and World Heritage interpretational, including World Heritage site networks, publication and websites;		X	X			
	3. Support community participation in heritage preservation and management, and encourage the involvement of NGOs and the private sector;		X	X	X		
	4. Encourage States Parties to actively join the Young Peoples Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion Project;		X		X		
	5. Encourage States Parties to translate World Heritage documents into national languages and to ensure their broad dissemination;		X		X		
	6. Raise awareness of World Heritage at all levels of society including among site managers and local communities (e.g. education, conscious media policy);		X		X		
	7. Identify and disseminate best practice (e.g. Tentative Lists, nominations, management planning, serial/transnational sites);		X	X	X		
	8. Encourage European countries to assist with the translation of key World Heritage documents into other languages to better disseminate World Heritage information;		X		X		
	9. Promote, at the State Party level, the translation of a basic World Heritage Glossary by linking it to the Herein Thesaurus;				X		

11 – Credible baseline data of each property

	1. States Parties to ensure the timely replies to the retrospective inventory paralleling the European Periodic Reporting and to consider submitting the follow-up actions to Circular Letter of 23 January 2006 (names changes, boundary and bufferzone revisions, criteria changes etc.) in a timely manner, at the latest by 2008;		X		X	X	
	2. Encourage the development of baseline data within States Parties and ensure effective feedback between the World Heritage Centre and the responsible authorities;		X		X		
	3. Use the results of Periodic Reporting at the national level as baseline data for future application.				X		

12 – Follow-up to Periodic Reporting

	1. Improve institutional memory and continuity by allowing continuous electronic updates of the Periodic Reports by States Parties and focal points;		X		X	X	
	2. Disseminate the final synthesis reports and decision by the Committee to all States Parties for transmission to national institutions, site managers and other stakeholders;		X		X		
	3. Publish the results in World Heritage Paper series for broad dissemination (both hardcopy and electronic);		X				
	4. Encourage States Parties to consider making the data available to all other States Parties with their agreement;		X		X		
	5. Maintain interest, as Periodic Reporting has stimulated awareness and cooperation within countries;		X	X	X		
	6. Follow-up to the European Periodic Report with an agreed process by (a) providing an interim report on the status of implementation of Circular Letter 23 January 2006 for 31 COM (2007) (b) reporting on progress made on the priority follow-up actions (management workshops, European cooperation.....), 2006-2008 (c) developing a Midterm assessment and evaluation of the results and implementation of the Action Plan in a five year period (by 2011);		X				
	7. Build on the momentum of Periodic Reporting to maintain contacts between States Parties and focal points;		X		X		
	8. Extend and enforce the network of World Heritage focal points in Europe and establish national and international networks of site managers according to thematic issues via the UNESCO web-page;		X		X		
	9. Review the sub-regional set-up;	X	X		X		
	10. Encourage follow-up activities and meetings stimulated by the Periodic Reporting exercise at the sub-regional and regional levels;	X	X		X		
	11. Send all relevant documents to the focal points for the region and sub-regions, in order to keep them informed of the follow-up of the Periodic Reporting exercise.		X		X		