ORIENTATION SESSION FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

22 January 2015
Room II - UNESCO Headquarters, Paris
10 am – 1 pm
1.1 Welcome by the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee
1.2 Welcome by the Director of the World Heritage Centre
1.3 Overview of efforts made to enhance communication, dialogue, and transparency
1.4 Questions / Discussion with Committee Members
2.1 Procedural and Logistical issues for the Committee Session
2.1 Basic information on the 39th session

39th session of the World Heritage Committee
28 June – 8 July 2015
Bonn, Germany
2.1 Basic information on the 39th session

**Basic documents**

World Heritage Convention (1972)

Operational Guidelines (2013 version)

Rules of Procedures (2013 version)

All available at: [whc.unesco.org](http://whc.unesco.org)

Orientation session for Committee Members
2.1 Basic information on the 39th session

Organization of the 39th session of the WH Committee

All details concerning hotels, logistics etc. will be provided in the *General Information Document* to be provided by the Host Country.

Further information will be given during the *Information session* foreseen in May 2015 at UNESCO Headquarters.
2.1 Basic information on the 39th session: **Documents**

http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/39COM
Briefing by the Host Country (Germany)
First Logistical Insights
Venue of the 39th Session

World Conference Center Bonn
Accommodation & Conference Hotel

Booking deadline 28 May 2015

www.bonn-region.de/events/unesco-2015.html

Maritim Hotel Bonn
Side Events & Exhibitions

Please inform us by 1 April 2015
Closest Airports: Cologne, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt
Quickest trip from Paris to Bonn by train (Thalys)!

- Bonn City Tours
- Day trips to World Heritage sites
- Post-Committee Tours
Young Experts Forum

Towards a Sustainable Management of World Heritage Sites

18 to 29 June 2015

Upper Middle Rhine Valley & Bonn

Call for Participation by mid-February

Deadline for Application by mid-March 2015
German Commission for UNESCO
Task Force „World Heritage Committee 2015“
info@39whcbonn2015.de

Coming very soon!
www.39whcbonn2015.de
2.2 Questions / Discussion on Procedural and Logistical issues
3. Outstanding Universal Value
3.1 OUV and its importance in the WH Process
OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

Timbuktu, Mali
Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

- identification
- protection
- conservation
- presentation
- transmission to future generations
“Outstanding universal value means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international community as a whole. The Committee defines the criteria for the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List”.
The fact that a property belonging to the cultural or natural heritage has not been included in either of the two lists mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article 11 shall in no way be construed to mean that it does not have an outstanding universal value for purposes other than those resulting from inclusion in these lists. (Article 12)
The 3 pillars of Outstanding Universal Value

(Note: Authenticity is not applicable to natural properties)

OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

MEETS CRITERIA

INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

Illustration of the three pillars of Outstanding Universal Value. All three must be in place for a property to meet the requirements of the World Heritage List.

OG Para 77
OG Para 78
OG Para 78

Orientation Session for Committee Members
22 January 2015 – Paris, France
The 3 pillars of Outstanding Universal Value
Why is this place important?

Criterion (viii)
Wadi Al-Hitan is the most important site in the world to demonstrate one of the iconic changes that make up the record of life on Earth: the evolution of the whales. It portrays vividly their form and mode of life during their transition from land animals to a marine existence. It exceeds the values of other comparable sites in terms of the number, concentration and quality of its fossils, and their accessibility and setting in an attractive and protected landscape.
Wadi Al Hitan is of sufficient size to include the main exposures of rocks where the whale fossils are found, as well as associated geological features of interest. In addition, a wider part of the Wadi El-Rayyan Protected Area is included in the property, including the immediate landscape surrounding the fossil sites, areas of scenic interest, and areas which provide visitor access and facilities. A buffer zone has been identified to protect the property from wider threats, including from visitation and traffic, and could be extended further in order to provide additional safeguards and to facilitate management.
• Strong and unequivocal legal protection

• Effective management system is in place, including in the buffer zone.

• Effective and well designed visitor facilities

• Maintenance of an effective and well-resourced management plan, supported by adequate staff and resources

• Long term issues: curation and encouragement of well-managed research, protection of the property from damage by vehicular traffic, provision of facilities for sustainable tourism.

What is needed to assure its future?
A Statement of OUV is of great benefit to all involved in the conservation of the property as:

- it allows a clear understanding of why the property is considered to be of OUV;
- can give direction to management through indicating what attributes of the property need to be maintained;
- can guide the assessment of the state of conservation of the property; and
- is an essential reference point for monitoring, for the World Heritage Committee and the Advisory Bodies.
STATEMENT OF OUV

• Brief summary
  – Summary of factual information
  – Summary of qualities
• Criteria (values and attributes which manifest them)
• Integrity (all sites)
• Authenticity (criteria i-vi)
• Management and protection requirements necessary to maintain OUV
  – Overall framework
  – Specific long-term expectations
The 3 pillars of Outstanding Universal Value

(Note: Authenticity is not applicable to natural properties)

OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

MEETS CRITERIA

INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

Illustration of the three pillars of Outstanding Universal Value. All three must be in place for a property to meet the requirements of the World Heritage List

OG Para 77
OG Para 78
OG Para 78

Orientation Session for Committee Members
22 January 2015 – Paris, France
3.2 Questions / Discussion on Outstanding Universal Value
5. Post-Inscription Issues
5.1 The State of Conservation Process
Conservation

- at the heart of the *World Heritage Convention*

Orientation session for Committee Members
How is a state of conservation monitored?

Periodic Reporting ("PR")
6-year cycle
driven by State Party

Reactive monitoring ("SOC")
ad-hoc basis
 driven by the Committee
SOC process:

- Information received / Event / Mission
- State Party report & comments on mission report
- SOC report (by WHC and ABs)
- Decision by the Committee
State Party SOC report:
Corner-stone of the process
REMINDER: Decision 35 COM 12B.16

16. **Requests** States Parties to consider refraining from providing additional information regarding nominations and/or state of conservation issues **after the deadlines** indicated in the *Operational Guidelines*, as this information is not able to be evaluated by the Advisory Bodies.
Upstream dialogue:

- Paragraph 172 → development projects
- Paragraph 174 → third-party information
Upstream dialogue:

Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs)

Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs)

→ OUV
SOC Report format: (Items 7A & 7B)

- Background information + online links
- Current conservation issues
- Analysis and Conclusions of WHC and ABs
- Draft Decision
Committee Decisions:

- No action required
- Implementation of specific measures
- Need for a State Party report
- Need for a mission (reactive monitoring or advisory)
Committee Decisions:

- Inscription on the List in Danger
- Removal from the List in Danger
- Deletion from the WH List
Inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger is a call for action.
What’s next?

• Set of corrective measures

• Timeframe
“DSOCR”:

Desired state of conservation for removal from the List in Danger

- Prepared by the State Party, WHC and the ABs
- Adopted by the Committee
“DSOCR”:
Defined state of conservation that a property must reach in order to demonstrate that it is no longer threatened by serious and specific danger

- Indicators to monitor OUV
- Rationale for the indicators selected
- Method of verification for each indicator
- Timeframe
http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc
5.3 Questions / Discussion on Post-Inscription Issues
4. Nominations
4.1 Nominations for 2015
4.1 Nominations for 2015

Nominations to be examined by the Committee at its 39th session

27 February 2015 - Deadline for reception of supplementary information

Early March 2015 - Advisory Bodies - Second panel

End of April 2015 - Advisory Bodies’ recommendations
4.1 Nominations for 2015

Nominations to be examined by the Committee at its 39th session

Friday 15 May 2015 - 1st DISPATCH of documents

Mid May 2015 - Advisory Bodies’ recommendations Addendum

Friday 29 May 2015 - 2nd DISPATCH of documents
4.1 Nominations for 2015

Nominations to be examined by the Committee at its 39th session.

Friday 12 June 2015 (6 pm Paris) - Deadline for receipt of factual errors letters (format – Annex 12 of the Operational Guidelines)

28 June – 8 July 2015 39th session of the Committee
4.1 Nominations for 2015

Nominations to be examined by the Committee at its 39th session

Total of 38 nominations: 32 cultural, 5 natural, 1 mixed

Regional breakdown
AFRICA 3
ARAB STATES 3
ASIA-PACIFIC 10
EUROPE / NORTH AMERICA 19
LATIN AMERICA / CARIBBEAN 3
4.1 Nominations for 2015

http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/39COM
4.2 Evaluation Process for IUCN
Evaluation of New Nominations of natural and mixed World Heritage properties

January 2015
The 3 pillars of the concept of Outstanding Universal Value (natural sites)

OG: Paras 77 & 78
FOUR PRINCIPLES GUIDE IUCN’S EVALUATIONS

• Highest standards of assessment based on independent expert analysis and field assessment, and consistent with the Operational Guidelines;

• Partnership with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM, and UNEP-WCMC;

• Promotion of World Heritage properties as “flagships” of conservation;

• Use of IUCN and other specialist networks - including with IUCN World Commission for Protected Areas, Species Survival Commission as well as new agreements with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG)
IUCN Technical Evaluation Report to World Heritage Committee

IUCN World Heritage Panel

Field Mission
(1-2 experts)

Consultation with National and Local Authorities, Local Communities, NGOs, Other Stakeholders

External Reviews
(10-20 experts)

IUCN World Heritage Programme

Nomination Dossiers from World Heritage Centre
IUCN Technical Evaluation Report to World Heritage Committee

IUCN World Heritage Panel

Exchange of letters with State Party before and after Panel as required. Supplementary information. Meetings if possible. Calls, email frequent.

Field Mission (1-2 experts)

Consultation with National and Local Authorities, Local Communities, NGOs, Other Stakeholders

External Reviews (10-20 experts)

IUCN World Heritage Programme

Nomination Dossiers from World Heritage Centre

Mission arranged in partnership with State Party.
Parks, people, planet

Inspiring solutions

November 12 - 19, 2014
4.3 Evaluation Process for ICOMOS
ICOMOS Evaluation procedure for properties nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List

Orientation session for Committee members
Paris, January 2015
Evaluation process of ICOMOS

- Exchange of letters with State Party before and after Panel.
- Supplementary information
- Mission arranged in partnership with State Party
- Exchange of letters with State Party before mission, including questions
Evaluation process of ICOMOS
Evaluation process of ICOMOS
Evaluation process of ICOMOS

The Silk Roads: an ICOMOS Thematic Study
by Tim Williams on behalf of ICOMOS 2014

Rock Art in Central Asia
A Thematic Study
November 2011

Early Human Expansion and Innovation in the Pacific
Thematic Study
Ian Loynd (co-ordinated)
December 2010
Serial and transboundary properties
Evaluation process of ICOMOS
4.4 Questions / Discussion on Nominations
6. Closing of the session