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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD
CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Twenty-seventh session

Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, Room XII
30 June - 5 July 2003

Item 8C of the Provisional Agenda: Nominations of properties to the World Heritage List

SUMMARY

This document presents the nominations to be examined by the Committee in 2003. It is divided into three sections and an Annex:

- I** Requests for changes to names of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List
 - II** Examination of nominations of cultural, natural and mixed properties to the World Heritage List
 - III** Application of paragraph 67 of the *Operational Guidelines* (July 2002) concerning nominations to be processed on an emergency basis
- Annex:** Area in hectares of properties proposed for inscription

Separate documents present the Tentative Lists of all States Parties (WHC-03/27.COM/8A) and a summary of nominations proposed for the List of World Heritage in Danger (WHC-03/27.COM/8B).

In addition to the technical summary of each nomination prepared by the World Heritage Centre, the document presents for each nomination the recommendation of the appropriate Advisory Body(ies) extracted from WHC-03/27.COM/INF.8A and WHC-03/27.COM/INF.8B (published 17 May 2003) and WHC-03/27.COM/INF.8A Add (published 25 June 2003) together with a proposed Draft Decision based on that recommendation.

Decision required:

The Committee is requested to examine the recommendations and Draft Decisions presented in this document, and, in accordance with paragraph 65 of the *Operational Guidelines* (July 2002), take its Decisions concerning inscription on the World Heritage List in the following three categories:

- (a) properties which it **inscribes** on the World Heritage List;
- (b) properties which it **decides not to inscribe** on the List;
- (c) properties whose consideration is **deferred**.

I. Changes to names of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List

At the request of the Hungarian authorities the Committee is asked to approve changes to the names of the following properties included on the World Heritage List:

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.1 The World Heritage Committee,

Approves the proposed name changes to existing properties on the World Heritage List as proposed by the authorities of Austria, Hungary, and Slovakia:

Existing Name (<i>English / French</i>)	Name change requested (<i>English / French</i>)
Budapest, the Banks of the Danube and the Buda Castle Quarter / Budapest : le panorama des deux bords du Danube et le quartier du château de Buda	Budapest, including the Banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and Andrassy Avenue / Budapest, avec les rives du Danube, le quartier du château de Buda et l'avenue Andrassy
Hollokő / Hollokő	Old Village of Hollókő and its surroundings / Hollókő, le vieux village et son environnement
Millenary Benedictine Monastery of Pannonhalma and its Natural Environment / Monastère bénédictin millénaire de Pannonhalma et son environnement naturel	Millenary Benedictine Abbey of Pannonhalma and its Natural Environment / Abbaye bénédictine millénaire de Pannonhalma et son environnement naturel
Hortobágy National Park / Parc national de l'Hortobágy	Hortobágy National Park - the Puszta / Parc national de Hortobágy - la Puszta
Pécs (Sopiana) Early Christian Cemetery / Cimetière paléochrétien de Pécs (Sopiana)	Early Christian Necropolis of Pécs (Sopiana) / Nécropole paléochrétienne de Pécs (Sopiana)
Tokaji Wine Region Cultural Landscape / Paysage culturel de la région viticole de Tokaji	Tokaj Wine Region Historic Cultural Landscape / Paysage culturel historique de la région viticole de Tokaj

The following changes were requested to the names of transboundary properties by Hungary and Slovakia.

State Parties	Existing Name (<i>English / French</i>)	Name change requested (<i>English / French</i>)
Hungary / Slovakia	Caves of the Aggtelek Karst and Slovak Karst / Grottes du karst aggtelek et du karst slovaque	Caves of Aggtelek Karst and Slovak Karst / Grottes du karst d'Aggtelek et du karst de Slovaquie

The following changes were requested to the name of a transboundary property by Hungary. As of the date of the preparation of this document, no reply had been received from Austrian authorities.

State Parties	Existing Name (<i>English / French</i>)	Name change requested (<i>English / French</i>)
Hungary / Austria	Cultural Landscape of Fertő/Neusiedlersee / Paysage culturel de Fertő/Neusiedlersee	Fertő/Neusiedlersee Cultural Landscape / Paysage culturel de Fertő/Neusiedlersee (<i>no change</i>)

II. Examination of nominations of cultural, natural, and mixed properties to the World Heritage List

Summary

The Committee at its 26th session (Budapest, 2002) decided that it would examine a total of 28 new nominations in 2003 (Decision **26 COM 14**). Of these, 4 are natural properties, 4 are mixed cultural and natural properties, and 20 are cultural properties. In addition, 7 nominations referred or deferred by previous sessions of the Committee and proposals for the extension of 7 properties will be reviewed.

Of the 28 new nominations, ICOMOS and IUCN recommend 13 for inscription and 11 for deferral. Four nominations are not recommended. Four nominations previously deferred by the Committee are also recommended for inscription. Three extensions are recommended for approval by the Committee. This information is summarized in the table on the following page.

The distinction between **deferred** and **referred** is used in this document, and in both the current and proposed revision of the *Operational Guidelines*. Minor "clarifications", that can be easily addressed by the State Party, do not require a re-convocation of the Advisory Body World Heritage panel, and can consequently be acted on by the Committee at the same session are treated as **referrals**. **Deferrals** are required when more substantial clarification and information is sought that would also necessitate re-convocation of the Advisory Body World Heritage Panel and reconsideration by the World Heritage Committee at a subsequent session.

Area in hectares of properties proposed for inscription

This year for the first time it has been possible to compare the size of each of the properties being proposed for inscription (see Annex). Of the total of 7.8 million hectares being proposed for inscription (including extensions to existing properties), 91 percent (7.1 million ha) are proposed for natural properties; while only 5 percent (418,000 ha) are proposed for cultural properties and 4 percent (285,000 ha) for mixed properties. The average size of a natural property nominated is over 792,000 ha, compared to the 14,000 ha average size of a cultural property. Four natural properties are over 500,000 ha in size, whereas the largest cultural property proposed is 205,000 ha. On the basis of area proposed, Europe and

North America propose only 21.4 percent of the total, while Latin America and the Caribbean account for 52 percent. Asia and the Pacific account for 22 percent, and Africa and the Arab States each have under 5 percent (see table annexed to this document).

Of the 45 nominations and extensions being examined by the Committee, 19 have multiple nominated areas or "core zones." These nominations are defined for the purposes of the nomination registration process as **serial nominations** even if the separate elements may share a common buffer zone. The distinction is important because in most cases, the level of protection afforded the core zones is greater than in the surrounding buffer zones. The precise delineation of serial nominations, as for all nominated properties, is consequently of great importance to the long-term protection and monitoring of the property.

Nominations to be processed on an Emergency Basis

For the first time, the application of paragraph 67 of the *Operational Guidelines* (July 2002) concerning the processing of nominations for inscription on the World Heritage List on an emergency basis is being applied to two properties. The Committee will be asked to review "emergency nominations" for the **Ashur (Qala'at at Sherqat) (Iraq)**, threatened by the construction of a new dam on the Tigris River; and of the **First Railway Bridge over the Yenisei River (Russian Federation)**, threatened with demolition. (See section III.)

In addition, following a request by the Committee at its 26th session (Budapest, 2002), a previously deferred nomination from Afghanistan, **The Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley**, has been submitted for the Committee's examination. (See section C.5.)

Nominations withdrawn at the request of the State Party

Concerning natural heritage, by fax received 26 June 2003, the authorities of the United Kingdom requested that the examination of the extension of **Gough Island Wildlife Reserve** (United Kingdom) be postponed until the 28th session of the Committee (June 2004).

Concerning cultural heritage, by fax received 11 June 2003, the Turkish authorities have requested that the **Historic City of Mardin (Turkey)** not be examined by the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee.

**Alphabetical Summary Table of Recommendations by IUCN and ICOMOS
to the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee (30 June - 5 July 2003)¹**

State Party	World Heritage nomination	ID No.	Recommendation		Criteria proposed	pg
	Natural Properties					
Brazil	Jaú National Park (extension to form the Central Amazon Protected Areas)	998 Bis	OK		N (ii) (iv)	10
China	Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Areas	1083	I		N (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)	5
Egypt	Ras Mohammed	1086	D			6
Kazakhstan	Saryarka - Steppe and Lakes of Northern Kazakhstan	1102	D			6
Mongolia/ Russian Federation	Uvs Nuur Basin	769 Rev	I		N (ii) (iv)	9
Russian Federation	Natural System of "Wrangel Island" Sanctuary	1023	I		N (ii) (iv)	7
Switzerland	Monte San Giorgio	1090	I		N (i)	8
United Kingdom	Gough Island Wildlife Reserve (extension to include Inaccessible Island) <i>Postponed until the 28th session at the request of the State Party</i>	740 Bis			N (iii) (iv)	11
Viet Nam	Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park	951 Rev	D			8
	Mixed Properties		IUCN	ICOMOS		
Australia	Purnululu National Park	1094	I	D	N (i) (iii)	14
Brazil	Rio de Janeiro: Sugar Loaf, Tijuca Forest and the Botanical Gardens	1100	N	D		12
Brazil	Serra da Capivara National Park	606 Bis	N	*	C (iii)	14
Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional del Este and its buffer zone	1080	N	D		13
Egypt	Saint Catherine Area	954 Bis	N	*	C (i) (iii) (iv) (vi)	15
Portugal	Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture	1117	N	D		14
	Cultural properties					
Afghanistan	Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley <i>Reactivation of a deferred nomination at the request of the Committee</i>	208 Rev	I		C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (vi)	28
Argentina	Quebrada de Humahuaca	1116	I		C (ii)(iv)(v)	15
Bosnia and Herzegovina	The Old City of Mostar	946	D			23
Canada	Historic District of Québec	300 Bis	D		C (iv) (vi)	26
Chile	Sector of the Historical Area of Valparaíso	959 Rev	I		C (iii)	27
China	Imperial Tombs of the Ming and Qing Dynasties (extension to include the Ming Dynasty Xiaoling Tomb and the 13 tombs north of Beijing)	1004 Bis	OK		C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (vi)	26
Czech Republic	The Jewish Quarter and St Procopius' Basilica in Třebíč	1078	I		C (ii) (iii)	16
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Nominated Complex of Koguryo Tombs	1091	D			16
Gambia	James Island and Related Sites	761 Rev	I		C (iii)(vi)	24
Germany	The Town Hall and Roland on the Marketplace of Bremen	1087	N			17
India	Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka	925	D			17
Iran	Takht-e Soleyman	1077	I		C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (vi)	17
Iraq	Ashur (Qala'at at Sherqat) <i>Proposed Emergency inscription under para. 67</i>	1130	I		C (iii) (iv)	30
Israel	The White City of Tel-Aviv	1096	I		C (ii) (iv)	18

¹ On the recommendation of the Committee's Task Force on the Implementation of the Convention (1999-2000), and of the Bureau at its 24th session (2000), a single summary table records the recommendation of the Advisory Bodies for inscription (I), deferral (D), non-inscription (N), or approval of an Extension (OK). The recommendations of both ICOMOS and IUCN are shown for Mixed properties

* These two properties, already inscribed on the World Heritage List for cultural values, were not further examined by ICOMOS.

State Party	World Heritage nomination	ID No.	Recommendation	Criteria proposed	pg
Italy	Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy	1068	I	C (ii)(iv)	24
Kazakhstan	The Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi	1103	I	C (i)(iii)(iv)	19
Mexico	Franciscan Missions in the Sierra Gorda of Queretaro	1079	I	C (ii)(iii)	19
Mongolia	Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape	1081	D		20
Panama	Historic District of Panamá, with the Salón Bolívar (extension to include the Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo)	790 Bis	OK	C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (v) (vi)	27
Poland	Wooden Churches of Southern Little Poland	1053	I	C (iii) (iv)	25
Poland	The Valley of the Pradnik River in the Ojcowski National Park	1085	N		20
Russian Federation	Citadel, Ancient City and Fortress Buildings of Derbent	1070	I	C (iii) (iv)	21
Russian Federation	The First Railway Bridge over the Yenisei River <i>Proposed Emergency inscription under para. 67</i>	1071	N/A		31
Slovenia	Franja Partisan Hospital	1088	N		21
South Africa	Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape	1099	D		21
Spain	Ubeda-Baeza: Urban duality, cultural unity	522 Rev	D		28
Sudan	Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region	1073	I	C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)	22
Turkey	Historic City of Mardin <i>Nomination withdrawn by the State Party</i>	1098			23
United Kingdom	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	1084	I	C (ii)(iii)(iv)	23
Zimbabwe	Matobo Hills	306 Rev	D		26

KEY

- I Recommended for inscription
- D Recommended for deferral
- R Recommended for referral
- OK Approval Recommended of an extension
- N Not recommended for inscription
- C/N (i) (ii) etc Cultural or Natural criteria recommended. *Italicized C/N indicates that the original property has already been inscribed on the World Heritage List*

In the document below, **IUCN Recommendations** are abstracted from WHC-03/27.COM/INF.8B; **ICOMOS Recommendations** are abstracted from WHC-03/27.COM/INF.8A. Both documents were distributed to Committee members and announced to States Parties on 17 May 2003. An addendum to the ICOMOS Recommendations, WHC-03/27.COM/INF.8A Add, was published 25 June 2003.

Draft Decisions were prepared in consultation with both IUCN and ICOMOS.

A. NATURAL PROPERTIES

A.1 New nominations

Property	Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Areas
Id. N°	1083
State Party	China
Criteria	N (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

The original nomination received on 14 January 2002 was a proposal for multiple protected areas in Yunnan National Park, in the mountainous northwest of Yunnan Province. In consultation between local authorities and IUCN, the original name of the proposed property, "Three Parallel Rivers National Park" was modified to the name given above. After further discussions with IUCN and the Centre, the Chinese authorities provided revised figures for 15 protected areas in the eight clusters, received on 6 January 2003. The total area proposed for inscription is 939,441.4 ha, with buffer zones totalling 758,977.9 ha.

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends that the Committee inscribe the Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Areas on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv).

The Committee is also advised, based on the above discussion on integrity issues, to make the following recommendations:

- Commend the authorities for the planning initiatives made to date and encourage completion of the remaining six protected area management plans and a revision of the General Management Plan,
- Note concerns over the nature and extent of future tourism (section 4.5 above), resident human population (section 4.4 above) and hydro development (section 4.3 above) that may affect the nominated property.
- Encourage the continued refinement of the boundaries of the property, including the addition of other areas of equally high natural value, expansion of core zones, controls over extent of resident populations and discussion of transboundary issues with neighbouring jurisdictions,
- Request the Chinese authorities to invite a mission in 3-4 years time to: (1) review progress with implementation of management plans and, (2) to assess revisions to the boundaries of the property.
- Confirm the revised name of the property with the Chinese authorities,
- Commend the cooperative efforts of The Nature Conservancy, WWF, the GEF and others for their assistance in strengthening the efforts of the Chinese authorities.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.2 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Areas, China on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv):

Criterion (i): *The property is of outstanding value for displaying the geological history of the last 50 million years associated with the collision of the Indian Plate with the Eurasian Plate, the closure of the ancient Tethys Sea, and the uplifting of the Himalaya Range and the Tibetan Plateau. These were major geological events in the evolution of the land surface of Asia and they are on-going. The diverse rock types within the site record this history and, in addition, the range of karst, granite monolith, and Danxia sandstone landforms in the alpine zone include some of the best of their type in the mountains of the world.*

Criterion (ii): *The dramatic expression of ecological processes in the Three Parallel Rivers site has resulted from a mix of geological, climatic and topographical effects. First, the location of the area within an active orographic belt has resulted in a wide range of rock substrates from igneous (four types) through to various sedimentary types including limestones, sandstones and conglomerates. An exceptional range of topographical features - from gorges to karst to glaciated peaks -- is associated with the site being at a "collision point" of tectonic plates. Add the fact that the area was a Pleistocene refugium and is located at a biogeographical convergence zone (i.e. with temperate and tropical elements) and the physical foundations for evolution of its high biodiversity are all present. Along with the landscape diversity with a steep gradient of almost 6000m vertical, a monsoon climate affects most of the area and provides another favourable ecological stimulus that has allowed the full range of temperate Palearctic biomes to develop.*

Criterion (iii): *The deep, parallel gorges of the Jinsha, Lancang and Nu Jiang are the outstanding natural feature of the site; while large sections of the three rivers lie just outside the site boundaries, the river gorges are nevertheless the dominant scenic element in the area. High mountains are everywhere, with the glaciated peaks of the Meili, Baima and Haba Snow Mountains providing a spectacular scenic skyline. The Mingyongqia Glacier is a notable natural phenomenon, descending to 2700 m altitude from Mt Kawagebo (6740 m), and is claimed to be the glacier descending to the lowest altitude for such a low latitude (28° N) in the northern hemisphere. Other outstanding scenic landforms are the alpine karst (especially the 'stone moon' in the Moon Mountain Scenic Area above the Nu Jiang Gorge) and the 'tortoise shell' weathering of the alpine Danxia.*

Criterion (iv): *Northwest Yunnan is the area of richest biodiversity in China and may be the most biologically diverse temperate region on earth. The property encompasses most of the natural habitats in the Hengduan Mountains, one of the world's most important remaining areas for the conservation of the earth's biodiversity. The outstanding topographic and climatic diversity of the property, coupled with its location at the juncture of the East Asia, Southeast Asia, and Tibetan Plateau biogeographical realms and its function as a N-S corridor for the movement of plants and animals (especially during the ice ages), marks it as a truly unique landscape, which still retains a high degree of natural character despite thousands of years of human habitation. As the last*

remaining stronghold for an extensive suite of rare and endangered plants and animals, the property is of outstanding universal value.

The inscription is for fifteen protected areas in eight clusters:

Name of Protected Area	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)
Gaoligong Mountain	305,306.1	208,716.3
Baimang-Meili Snow Mountain	267,507.8	81,511.0
Laowoshan	17,426.1	31,735.0
Yunling Mountain	31,346.0	58,441.4
Laojunshan	44,265.7	87,161.0
Haba Snow Mountain	28,356.3	73,419.1
Red Mountain	205,603.8	159,083.6
Qianhu Mountain	39,629.6	58,910.4
Total	939,441.4	758,977.9

27 COM 8C.3 With regard to **Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Areas**, China, the World Heritage Committee,

1. Commends the Chinese authorities for the planning initiatives made to date and encourages completion of the remaining six protected area management plans and a revision of the General Management Plan;
2. Notes concerns over the nature and extent of future tourism, resident human population and hydro development that may affect the nominated property;
3. Encourages the continued refinement of the boundaries of the property, including the addition of other areas of equally high natural value, expansion of core zones, controls over extent of resident populations and discussion of transboundary issues with neighbouring jurisdictions;
4. Requests the Chinese authorities to invite a mission in 3-4 years time to: (1) review progress with implementation of management plans and, (2) to assess revisions to the boundaries of the property and;
5. Commends the cooperative efforts of The Nature Conservancy, WWF, the GEF and others for their assistance in strengthening the efforts of the Chinese authorities.

Property	Ras Mohammed
Id. N°	1086
State Party	Egypt
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

Ras Mohammed is a headland at the southernmost tip of the Sinai Peninsula at the juncture of the Gulfs of Suez and Aqaba. The nominated area is a 40,110 ha portion of the larger Ras Mohammed National Park. No buffer zone is proposed.

IUCN Recommendation:

Egypt should be commended for leading the way in the region in the establishment of marine protected areas and for initiating the nomination of a marine site in the Red Sea. IUCN believes there may be a potential case for RMNP under criteria (ii), (iii), and (iv). However, ... the very small size of the site would suggest that the conditions of integrity as defined in the *Operational Guidelines* are not met. Consistent with (1) suggestions made in the 1999 report to the WH Centre on "Potential Natural Heritage Sites in the

Arab Region" and (2) findings of the 2002 WH Marine Biodiversity Workshop, IUCN concludes that:

- As an immediate step, the State Party should be asked to consider extending the boundaries of the nomination to include the eastern portion of RMNP as well as appropriate sectors of the adjoining protected marine areas in the coastal zone of the Gulf of Aqaba;
- In the longer term (i.e. Phase 2), the State Party should be encouraged to consider, with neighbouring countries surrounding the Red Sea, a serial coral reef nomination.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.4 The World Heritage Committee,

Defers the nomination of **Ras Mohammed**, Egypt, to allow the State Party to consider extending the boundaries of the nomination to include the eastern portion of the Ras Mohammed National Park as well as appropriate sectors of the adjoining protected marine areas in the coastal zone of the Gulf of Aqaba.

Property	Saryarka - Steppe and Lakes of Northern Kazakhstan
Id. N°	1102
State Party	Kazakhstan
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

This serial nomination is for three fresh and salt water lakes on the watershed between rivers flowing north to the Arctic and south into the Turgai Depression of the Aral-Irtysh Basin. By letter received 14 April 2003, the Kazakh authorities requested that the Kazakh name for the region, "Saryarka" be added to the name of the property.

Reserve	Oblast	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)
Naurzum State Nature Reserve (NSNR) *	Kostanay	87,700	116,550
Sarykopa Wildlife Reserve	Kostanay	82,500	none
Korgalzhy State Nature Reserve (KSNR)	Akmola and Karaganda	258,947	94,421
		429,147	210,971

* (includes three separate protected areas: Tersek-Karagay, Sypsyn-Aebu, and Narusum-Karagay)

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends that the Committee defer the inscription of Saryarka - Steppe and Lakes of Northern Kazakhstan. This recommendation is based on:

1. The need for the State Party to fulfil its commitments noted in the letter from the Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Kazakhstan to IUCN dated 20 February 2003, addressing a number of integrity issues. It is suggested that the Committee recommend that the State Party prepare and make available a detailed action plan, supported by an implementation programme, to realize these commitments, in particular in relation to: (a) maintaining the existing natural flows in the Nura River and containing deposits of mercury pollution; (b) upgrading the Sarykopa Wildlife Reserve to Nature Reserve protected status; and (c) linking the Tersek and Sypsyn outliers to an extended main Naurzum Nature Reserve by protecting the intervening corridors of unmodified steppe.

2. The need to prepare a comprehensive thematic study for Central Asia so as to provide the context for an objective assessment of the outstanding universal values of this site, particularly in relation to criteria (ii) and (iv). IUCN, through its WCPA Network on Grasslands Ecosystems and supported by UNEP-WCMC, is committed to prepare this assessment to be made available to the 28th session of the World Heritage Committee in June 2004.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.5 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Defers the nomination of **Saryarka - Steppe and Lakes of Northern Kazakhstan** until a detailed action plan and implementation programme demonstrating the commitment of the State Party to: (a) maintaining the existing natural flows in the Nura River and containing deposits of mercury pollution; (b) upgrading the Sarykopa Wildlife Reserve to Nature Reserve protected status; and (c) linking the Tersek and Sypsyn outliers to an extended main Naurzum Nature Reserve by protecting the intervening corridors of unmodified steppe;
2. Requests IUCN to undertake a thematic study on steppe ecosystems of Central Asia in time for the 28th session of the World Heritage Committee.

Property	Natural System of "Wrangel Island" Sanctuary
Id. N°	1023
State Party	Russian Federation
Criteria	N (ii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

The original nomination was received on 23 June 2000. However, for climatic and other logistical reasons, a field visit by IUCN was not possible until July/August 2002. The nomination is for two islands located well above the Arctic Circle, 140 km off the northeast coast of the Chukota mainland.

Name of Island	Area (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)
Wrangel Island	760,870	3,745,300
Herald Island	1,130	
Marine sanctuary	154,300	
Total	916,300	3,745,300

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends that the Committee inscribe the Natural System of Wrangel Island Sanctuary on the World Heritage List under natural criteria (ii) and (iv). The Committee may wish to recommend the State Party to urgently implement the following activities:

- To prepare a management plan and implementation strategy, supported by adequate financial resources, that incorporates *inter alia*: technical and management communications; a tourism and visitor strategy; options for alternative energy supply; transportation; a monitoring and research programme; options to preserve the site's cultural and palaeontological features; and a human resources policy for the staff working at the site;
- To provide to the World Heritage Centre a copy of the Federal Decree approving protection of the marine zone surrounding Wrangel Island beyond the 12 nautical miles limit.
- To prepare and implement a plan to remove unwanted debris from Doubtful Village.

IUCN also recommends that the Committee encourage the State Party to submit, if it wishes to do so, an international technical assistance request to help undertake the actions proposed above. The Committee is advised to request the State Party to invite a mission in 2-3 years time to report on the status of the management plan and to review its implementation.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.6 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Natural System of "Wrangel Island" Sanctuary**, Russian Federation, on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria (ii) and (iv):

Criterion (ii): The property is a self-contained island ecosystem and there is ample evidence that it has undergone a long evolutionary process uninterrupted by the glaciation that swept most other parts of the Arctic during the Quaternary period. The number and type of endemic plant species, the diversity within plant communities, the rapid succession and mosaic of tundra types, the presence of relatively recent mammoth tusks and skulls, the range of terrain types and geological formations in the small geographic space are all visible evidence of Wrangel's rich natural history and its unique evolutionary status within the Arctic. Furthermore, the process is continuing as can be observed in, for example, the unusually high densities and distinct behaviours of the Wrangel lemming populations in comparison with other Arctic populations or in the physical adaptations of the Wrangel Island reindeers, where they may now have evolved into a separate population from their mainland cousins. Species interaction strategies are highly-honed and on display throughout the island, especially near Snowy owl nests which act as protectorates for other species and beacons for migratory species and around fox dens. .

Criterion (iv): The Wrangel Island Sanctuary has the highest level of biodiversity in the high Arctic. Wrangel Island is the breeding habitat of Asia's only Snow goose population which is slowly making a recovery from catastrophically low levels. The marine environment is an increasingly important feeding ground for the Gray whale migrating from Mexico (some from another World Heritage property, the Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaino). The islands have the largest sea-bird colonies on the Chukchi Sea, are the northernmost nesting grounds for over 100 migratory bird species including several that are endangered such as the Peregrine falcon, have significant populations of resident tundra bird species interspersed with migratory Arctic and non-Arctic species and have the world's highest density of ancestral polar bear dens. Wrangel Island boasts the largest population of Pacific walrus with up to 100,000 animals congregating at any given time at one of the island's important coastal rookeries. Since Wrangel Island contains a high diversity of habitats and climates and conditions vary considerably from one location to another, total reproductive failure of a species in any given year is practically unheard of. Given the relatively small size of the area, this is very unusual in the high Arctic.

27 COM 8C.7 With regard to the **Natural System of "Wrangel Island" Sanctuary**, Russian Federation, the World Heritage Committee,

1. Recommends that the State Party prepare a management plan and implementation strategy, supported by adequate financial resources, that

incorporates inter alia: technical and management communications; a tourism and visitor strategy; options for alternative energy supply; transportation; a monitoring and research programme; options to preserve the property's cultural and palaeontological features; and a human resources policy for the staff working at the site;

2. Requests that the State Party provide to the World Heritage Centre a copy of the Federal Decree approving protection of the marine zone surrounding Wrangel Island beyond the 12 nautical miles limit by 1 February 2004;
3. Encourages the State Party to prepare and implement a plan to remove unwanted debris from Doubtful Village;
4. Further encourages the State Party to submit a request for technical assistance to undertake the recommended actions;
5. Requests the State Party to invite a mission in 2-3 years time to report on the status of the management plan and to review its implementation.

Property	Monte San Giorgio
Id. N°	1090
State Party	Switzerland
Criteria	N (i)

Technical Summary:

Monte San Giorgio, one of the world's important deposits of fossil remains from the Mid Triassic period (245-230 million years BP), is a pyramid-shaped wooded mountain separating the two southern branches of Lake Lugano in the Canton of Ticino. The area of the nominated property is 849 ha, surrounded by a further 1,389 ha buffer zone. The property is bounded on the western side by the Swiss-Italian border. On 7 March 2003, the World Heritage Centre received a "Protocol regarding the Extension to Italian territory..." of Monte San Giorgio, signed by representatives of neighbouring local authorities and communes in Italy, declaring their interest in a future transboundary extension of the property.

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends that the Committee inscribe Monte San Giorgio on the World Heritage List under natural criterion (i). In addition IUCN suggests that the State Party should be requested by the Committee to:

- continue its efforts to include the Italian part as an extension, to be added once satisfactory levels of political commitment have been attained and it is clear that the conditions of integrity can be met;
- ensure that the boundaries of the Site are marked clearly on the ground;
- develop on-site interpretation, so that visitors to the site can readily appreciate its significance, linking this interpretation to the development of the Meride museum.

IUCN would also like the Committee to remind and emphasise to States Parties that all sites nominated for inclusion on the World Heritage List on geological grounds should be accompanied by a thorough global comparative analysis.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.8 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes **Monte San Giorgio**, Switzerland, on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criterion (i):

Criterion (i): Monte San Giorgio is the single best known record of marine life in the Triassic period, and records important remains of life on land as well. The property has produced diverse and numerous fossils, many of which show exceptional completeness and detailed preservation. The long history of study of the property and the disciplined management of the resource have created a well documented and catalogued body of specimens of exceptional quality, and are the basis for a rich associated geological literature. As a result Monte San Giorgio provides the principal point of reference, relevant to future discoveries of marine Triassic remains throughout the world.

27 COM 8C.9 With regard to **Monte San Giorgio**, Switzerland, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the authorities of Switzerland and Italy to collaborate in a proposal for a transboundary extension of the property into Italian territory, once satisfactory levels of political commitment have been attained and it is clear that the conditions of integrity can be met.

27 COM 8C.10 The World Heritage Committee,

Reminds States Parties of the importance of including a global comparative analysis when preparing natural heritage nominations under criterion (i) for geological heritage.

Property	Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park
Id. N°	951 Rev
State Party	Viet Nam
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The nomination of Phong Nha Cave was originally submitted in 1998. It was deferred by the 23rd session of the Bureau (1999) with the recommendation that it include the larger Phong Nha – Ke Bang National Park. and consideration of a transboundary nomination with the Lao PDR. A new nomination was submitted in May 2000 as "Phong Nha – Ke Bang National Park" consisting of a 147,945 ha core zone and 195,400 ha buffer zone. Logistical technicalities postponed the IUCN evaluation mission and the 25th sessions of the Bureau and Committee in 2001 did not examine the nomination, awaiting the result of the IUCN mission.

By letter received 21 May 2002, the Vietnam National Commission announced that the Vietnamese Government had approved the upgrading of "this Nature Reserve Area to Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park." The authorities also announced a readjustment of the boundary of the National Park to cover a total area of 85,754 hectares -- 25% of the Park and buffer zone as proposed in 2000.

IUCN Recommendation:

The impact of the link road construction through Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park is a major new factor in the evaluation of the site since it was nominated in 1998 and renominated in 2000. IUCN, therefore, recommends that the World Heritage Committee **defer** the decision on Phong

Nha-Ke Bang National Park. IUCN recommends the Committee to urge the State Party to undertake an independent assessment of the impacts of the road construction so as to:

- determine the precise nature and scope of the impacts of the link road construction on the biodiversity, landscape and karst geomorphological values of the site;
- determine whether and how identified impacts can be mitigated and the site's values restored; and
- assess if exclusion of the area impacted by the link road construction from the Phong Nha - Ke Bang National Park is a feasible option for the viability and integrity of the World Heritage nomination, should restoration / mitigation not be possible.

IUCN also recommends that the Committee reiterates the request made to the State Party in the 1999 evaluation of this site, to review the boundaries of the nomination, so as to provide more complete coverage of natural values and karst geomorphological processes.

IUCN recommends that the Committee request the State Party to prepare and submit:

- a visitors management plan for the site;
- information on the regulations that apply to the management of the buffer zone, and
- information on enforcement measures and other actions that will be taken to control illegal poaching.

IUCN recommends that the Committee reiterate the request made in 1999 to the State Party to continue dialogue on a transboundary agreement with the State Party of Lao PDR that would integrate Phong Nha-Ke Bang and Hin Namno National Conservation Area, either as two parks operating on agreed and equivalent management protocols or with integrated management. This might form the basis of a potential transboundary World Heritage site.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.11 The World Heritage Committee,

Defers the nomination of Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park, Viet Nam, urging the State Party to undertake an independent assessment of the impacts of the road construction project linking the Ho Chi Minh Highway and Route 20 in order to:

- *determine the precise nature and scope of the impacts of the link road construction on the biodiversity, landscape and karst geomorphological values of the property;*
- *determine whether and how identified impacts can be mitigated and the property's values restored; and*
- *assess if exclusion of the area impacted by the link road construction from the Phong Nha - Ke Bang National Park is a feasible option for the viability and integrity of the World Heritage nomination, should restoration / mitigation not be possible.*

27 COM 8C.12 With regard to Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park, Viet Nam, the World Heritage Committee,

1. *Encourages the State Party to undertake a thorough review of the boundaries of the nomination, so as to provide more complete coverage of natural values and karst geomorphological processes;*

2. *Reiterates the request made in 1999 to the State Party to continue dialogue on a transboundary agreement with the State Party of Lao PDR that would integrate Phong Nha-Ke Bang and Hin Namno National Conservation Area; and*
3. *Encourages the State Party to prepare and submit a visitor management plan for the site, information on the regulations that apply to the management of the buffer zone, and information on enforcement measures and other actions that will be taken to control poaching.*

A.2 Deferred nominations for which additional information has been received

Property	Uvs Nuur Basin
Id. N°	769 Rev
State Party	Mongolia/ Russian Federation
Criteria	N (ii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

The original nomination for Ubsunur Hollow was submitted in 1995 for a single area of 7.5 million ha. It was deferred by the Extraordinary Bureau in 1996 to reconsider property management and boundary issues, as well as possible cultural criteria. On resubmission as a mixed property, ICOMOS reported to the Bureau in 1999 that there was insufficient information to consider cultural criteria. IUCN recommended that the authorities reconsider the suggested area of 7.5 million ha. The Bureau "decided to defer the nomination to allow the States Parties to revise the boundaries and to prepare a joint management plan in a framework of transboundary co-operation."

A revised nomination was submitted 1 February 2002 as a serial nomination of eleven protected areas in the Russian Federation and Mongolia, with a total of 1,430,176 ha in core and buffer zones. The 26th session of the Bureau (April 2002) referred the nomination back to the State Party of Mongolia with the request that the nominated 'Uvs Lake' protected area cluster be enlarged to include more of the wetlands on the Mongolian side of the Tes-Khem delta (in the vicinity of the new 'Ubsu-Nur' and 'Oroku-Shinaa' clusters added by the Russian State Party) and that the buffer zones be excluded from the nominated area.

On 31 January 2003, the Centre received the announcement of the establishment of the Tes River Specially Protected Area by Mongolia. This "twelfth" cluster has now been incorporated into a revised nomination text received on 29 April 2003.

Cluster name	State Party	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)
Mongun Taiga	Russian Fed.	15,890	84,510
Ubsu-Nur	Russian Fed.	4,490	
Oroku-Shinaa	Russian Fed.	28,750	
Aryskannyg	Russian Fed.	15,000	11,800
Jamaalyg	Russian Fed.	800	4,000
Tsugeer els	Russian Fed.	4,900	50,000
Ular	Russian Fed.	18,000	20,480
Tsagan shuvuut	Mongolia	23,170	
Turgen	Mongolia	116,831	
Uvs Lake	Mongolia	424,298	
Altan els	Mongolia	148,246	
Tes River	Mongolia	97,688.5	
		898,063.5	170,790

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends that the Committee **inscribe** the Uvs Nuur Basin on the World Heritage List under natural criteria (ii) and (iv). IUCN also recommends that the Committee:

- urge the State Party of Mongolia to place priority on upgrading the Tes River Specially Protected Area, currently protected at a provincial level, to a Specially Protected Area under State legislation; and
- encourage both States Parties to ensure that adequate resources are made available quickly and maintained for the effective implementation of the management plans.

The Committee may wish to commend the Mongolian State Party for steps taken to expand the nominated area, and both States Parties for their efforts to date in developing transboundary cooperation for the conservation of the site. The consolidation of such collaboration should be encouraged and maintained.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.13 *The World Heritage Committee,*

Inscribes Uvs Nuur Basin, Mongolia/ Russian Federation, on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria (ii) and (iv):

Criterion (ii): *The closed salt lake system of Uvs Nuur is of international scientific importance because of its climatic and hydrological regimes. Because of the unchanging nature of the nomadic pastoral use of the grasslands within the basin over thousands of years, current research programmes should be able to unravel the rate at which Uvs Nuur (and other smaller lakes within the basin) have become saline (and eutrophic). These processes are on-going and because of its unique geophysical and biological characteristics, the basin has been chosen as an IGBP site for monitoring global warming.*

Criterion (iv): *The Uvs Nuur property has a large range of ecosystems, representing the major biomes of eastern Eurasia, with a number of endemic plants. Although the basin is inhabited and has been used for nomadic pastoralism for thousands of years, the mountains, forests, steppes and deserts are extremely important habitats for a wide range of wild animals, many of them threatened or endangered. The steppe ecosystem supports a rich diversity of birds and the deserts a number of rare gerbil, jerboas and the marbled polecat. The mountains at the western end of the basin are important refuges for the globally threatened snow leopard, mountain sheep (argali) and the Asiatic ibex. Uvs Nuur itself is an important habitat for waterfowl as well as for birds migrating south from Siberia.*

27 COM 8C.14 *With regard to Uvs Nuur Basin, Mongolia / Russian Federation, the World Heritage Committee,*

1. *Encourages* the State Party of Mongolia to give priority to upgrading the Tes River Specially Protected Area, currently protected at a provincial level, to a Specially Protected Area under State legislation;
2. *Further encourages* both States Parties to ensure that adequate resources are made available quickly and maintained for the effective implementation of the management plans; and
3. *Commends* Mongolia for steps taken to expand the nominated area, and both States Parties for their efforts

to date in developing transboundary cooperation for the conservation of the property. The consolidation of such collaboration should be encouraged and maintained.

A.3 Extension of a property inscribed on the World Heritage List

Property	Jaú National Park (extension to form the Central Amazon Protected Areas)
Id. N°	998 Bis
State Party	Brazil
Criteria	N (ii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

Jaú National Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List by the 24th session of the Committee (2000) under natural criteria (ii) and (iv). The current submission originally anticipated both an extension to the property and its re-nomination under cultural criteria. However, after examination of the nomination dossier in March 2002, ICOMOS determined, with the subsequent agreement of the State Party, that there was insufficient evidence of cultural heritage in the nomination for an evaluation on cultural criteria to proceed. Consequently, the nomination is being presented only as an extension to a natural property.

The original inscribed property of 2,272,000 ha was proposed to be extended with the addition of three additional protected areas totalling 3,824,018 ha.

Name	Inscribed	Area (ha)
Jaú National Park	2000	2,272,000
Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve	proposed	1,124,000
Amanã Sustainable Development Reserve	proposed	2,350,000
Anavilhanas Ecological Station	proposed	350,018
TOTAL		6,096,018

In a letter dated 25 November 2002 the State Party announced that on the recommendation of IUCN, it would scale back the nomination, "nominating only the Focal Area of Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve in the expansion of the Jaú National Park" excluding the subsidiary areas of the MSDR. This reduced the area proposed of the Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve to 260,000 ha.

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends that the World Heritage Committee:

- (a) inscribe Amana Sustainable Development Reserve and the demonstration area of Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve as an extension of Jaú National Park under natural criteria (ii) and (iv).
- (b) does not inscribe Anavilhanas Ecological Station and the subsidiary area of Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve.

The extended site would therefore consist of the following components:

Jaú National Park (2,272,000ha)
 Amana Sustainable Development Reserve (2,350,000ha)
 Demonstration area of Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve (260,000ha)
TOTAL AREA: 4,882,000ha.

IUCN proposes that the name of the park be changed to the **Central Amazon Conservation Complex**, due to the fact that not all of the protected areas are included, and to differentiate the World Heritage property from the boundaries of the Protected Areas.

The Committee may also wish to note that IUCN believes that the area of Anavilhanas Ecological Station and the subsidiary area of Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve of also meet natural criteria (ii) and (iv) but that IUCN considers that their inscription at this time is premature. The State Party may wish to re-nominate these areas once they fully meet the conditions of integrity. The State Party may wish to consider as guidance for meeting the conditions of integrity in future the following management recommendations:

The State Party should consider strengthening management and protection of the subsidiary area of Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve and the Anavilhanas Ecological Station. In the case of Anavilhanas this should include the placement of buoys to direct commercial boat traffic away from the protected islands in the archipelago.

While Mamirauá, Jaú and Anavilhanas all have recently prepared and published management plans, completion of a compatible plan for Amana, and an overall management strategy for the entire Central Amazon Conservation Complex, is recommended as early as possible.

The State Party may wish to consider changing the management category of Anavilhanas to National Park to allow for careful development of the ecotourism potential of the area, or to modify the zoning scheme to allow limited and carefully controlled ecotourism and environmental education activities in a very limited sector of the reserve. This will also serve to promote public support for the conservation of this area.

The State Party should explore options, as part of the Central Amazon Ecological Corridor Initiative, to link the terra firme upland forests of Anavilhanas with those of Jaú National Park, through stricter zoning, protection, the potential re-categorisation of the extractive reserves linking these two core conservation areas, and through cooperative efforts with the indigenous reserve located within this corridor to ensure sustainable land use patterns on tribal lands.

The State Party may also consider the feasibility of creating a coordination mechanism, such as a management council of some type, to coordinate management and protection of the entire Central Amazon Conservation Complex. Such mechanisms may develop an early warning system for threats, discuss potential joint funding opportunities, and share research and monitoring results. The development of such a council, as well as a funding strategy for the Central Amazon Conservation Complex, may merit support through the joint United Nations Foundation-UNESCO project to support natural World Heritage sites in Brazil.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.15 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Approves the extension of Jaú National Park, Brazil, with the addition of the Amana Sustainable Development Reserve and the Demonstration area of the Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve;
2. With the agreement of the State Party, adopts the new

name for the property, "**Central Amazon Conservation Complex**;"

Name	Inscribed	Area (ha)
Jaú National Park	2000	2,272,000
Development area of Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve	2003	260,000
Amanã Sustainable Development Reserve	2003	2,350,000
TOTAL		4,882,000

3. Encourages the State Party to re-nominate the Anavilhanas Ecological Station and the subsidiary area of Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve once they fully meet the conditions of integrity.

Property	Gough Island Wildlife Reserve (extension to include Inaccessible Island)
Id. N°	740 Bis
State Party	United Kingdom
Criteria	N (iii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

At the request of the State Party, examination of this nomination is postponed until the 28th session of the Committee.

B. MIXED PROPERTIES

B.1 New nominations

Property	Purnululu National Park
Id. N°	1094
State Party	Australia
Criteria	N (i) (iii)

Technical Summary:

Purnululu National Park, 239,723 ha, is located some 300 km south of Kununurra in the East Kimberly region of the state of Western Australia. Together with the adjacent 79,602 ha Purnululu Conservation Reserve, the park was created in 1987.

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends that the Committee **inscribe** Purnululu National Park on the World Heritage List under natural criteria (i) and (iii).

Furthermore, IUCN recommends that the Committee request the State Party:

- i. to ensure that any mining activities outside or adjacent to the World Heritage site, including within catchments that flow into the World Heritage site, would be subject to the application of the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act and the highest standards of environmental assessment, planning, management and monitoring;
- ii. to give priority to incorporating the Purnululu Conservation Reserve into the park and expanding the park into the surrounding pastoral country to add important natural and cultural assets, and to provide better buffering and boundary delimitation;
- iii. to significantly increase funding and staffing for the site, in order to improve natural and cultural heritage management; to minimize the impacts of grazing animals and invasive species; to upgrade staff and visitor facilities; and to continue

negotiations that will lead to improved access to the park, while taking great care to avoid undesirable impacts from increased visitation on the natural and cultural values of the site; and

iv. to provide a detailed report on progress with these issues in two years time.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

Overall Purnululu is of outstanding universal value as one of the few remaining areas of the world where hunter gathering lifestyles still persist and for its unique cultural response to the particular geophysical characteristics of the area.

That the nomination be **deferred** in order to allow the State Party to provide:

- An updated Management Plan;
- Clearer arrangements for the governance of the nominated site, particularly in relation to sustaining traditional Aboriginal communities in the Park;
- An approach to ways of sustaining intangible qualities;
- An appraisal of approaches to ethnographic, sociological and oral recording of intangible and tangible cultural traditions.

In assessing this nomination, ICOMOS has formed the view that the cultural and natural qualities of the site are so intrinsically linked as to be inseparable. It hence advises that, in order to recognise and sustain the complex interaction between the natural and cultural values of the site, consideration should be given to inscribing Purnululu only as a mixed site.

Additional Information received

Additional information concerning the management of cultural heritage of the property was received from the State Party on 11 June 2003.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.16 *The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Recognizes the outstanding universal cultural and natural value of Purnululu National Park, Australia, and the importance of the relationship and interaction between the Traditional Owners and the natural environment of the property,
2. Decides to inscribe the property on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria (i) and (iii) as recommended by IUCN:

Criterion (i): *The Bungle Bungles are, by far, the most outstanding example of cone karst in sandstones anywhere in the world and owe their existence and uniqueness to several interacting geological, biological, erosional and climatic phenomena.*

The sandstone karst of Purnululu National Park is of great scientific importance in demonstrating so clearly the process of cone karst formation on sandstone - a phenomenon recognised by geomorphologists only over the past 25 years and still incompletely understood, despite recently renewed interest and research. The Bungle Bungle Ranges of the Park also display to an exceptional degree evidence of geomorphic processes of dissolution, weathering and erosion in the evolution of landforms under a savannah climatic regime within an ancient, stable sedimentary landscape.

Criterion (iii): *Although Purnululu National Park has been widely known in Australia only during the past 20 years and it remains relatively inaccessible, it has become recognised internationally for its exceptional natural beauty. The prime scenic attraction is the extraordinary array of banded, beehive-shaped cone towers comprising the Bungle Bungle Range. These have become emblematic of the park and are internationally renowned among Australia's natural attractions. The dramatically sculptured structures, unrivalled in their scale, extent, grandeur and diversity of forms anywhere in the world, undergo remarkable seasonal variation in appearance, including striking colour transition following rain. The intricate maze of towers is accentuated by sinuous, narrow, sheer-sided gorges lined with majestic Livistona fan palms. These and the soaring cliffs up to 250 m high are cut by seasonal waterfalls and pools, creating the major tourist attractions in the park, with evocative names such as Echidna Chasm, and Frog Hole, Piccaninny and Cathedral Gorges. The diversity of landforms and ecosystems elsewhere in the park are representative of the larger region, and lack a unique aesthetic quality, but provide a sympathetic visual buffer for the massif.*

3. Defers inscription of the property under cultural criteria.

27 COM 8C.17 *With regard to Purnululu National Park, Australia, the World Heritage Committee,*

1. Encourages the State Party to consider the comments of IUCN and ICOMOS made in their evaluations of the property;
2. Requests the State Party to report back to the Committee at its 29th session in 2005 or earlier on their efforts to address the comments made by IUCN and ICOMOS in their evaluations of the property.

Property	Rio de Janeiro: Sugar Loaf, Tijuca Forest and the Botanical Gardens
Id. N°	1100
State Party	Brazil
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The nomination is for three separate areas in six discrete parcels, totalling 3,600 ha. A single buffer zone surrounds Tijuca National Park and the Botanical Gardens, while the grouping of the Sugar Loaf, Urca, and Cara de Cão hills is surrounded by a second buffer zone. The total area included in the buffer zones is 1,903 ha.

Park	Area (ha)	Buffer Zone
Tijuca National Park - Sector A (Tijuca Forest)	1454	ng
Tijuca National Park - Sector B (Carioca sierra)	1641	
Tijuca National Park - Sector C (Gávea)	263	
Rio de Janeiro Botanical Gardens	137	
Sugar Loaf, Urca	105	ng
Cara de Cão		
TOTAL	3.600	1.903

IUCN Recommendation:

While IUCN agrees that the site has played a central role in the history and culture of Rio de Janeiro, and is the factor which makes the setting of the city so beautiful, IUCN does

not consider that the nominated Site meets natural criterion (iii). IUCN, therefore, recommends to the World Heritage Committee **not to inscribe** Rio de Janeiro: Sugar Loaf, Tijuca Forest, and the Botanical Gardens on the World Heritage List **under natural criteria**. Should the site be inscribed as a Cultural Landscape, IUCN would offer a number of recommendations to the State Party:

- consider the feasibility of expanding the Tijuca National Park so that it includes the rest of the proposed WH site (or at least Sugar Loaf and Urca) so as to bring the entire area under one management regime and authority,
- consider the establishment of an oversight committee representative of all stakeholders to help co-ordinate planning and management of the entire site, possibly based upon the existing co-management group,
- develop a financing plan and to consider the establishment of a management endowment fund to help finance management initiatives,
- review the boundaries of the Area of Environmental Protection and Urban Renewal Area (APARU) and Environmental Protection Areas (APAs) so as to include the entire buffer zone proposed for the nominated area,
- maintain and expand the education and reforestation programmes within the favelas,
- take forward the programs for the development of ecological corridors between the three parts of the national park,
- continue programmes for relocation of residents currently living within the park in a socially-sensitive way,
- take all available measures to reduce or remove the visual intrusion caused by transmission lines, radio towers etc.,
- develop an interpretive plan, to help improve the interpretation of the site, giving priority to the Sugar Loaf and Urca, and promoting messages on the significance of the TNP and the importance of conserving the Atlantic Forest.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That this nomination be **deferred** to allow the State Party to address:

- An appraisal of the cultural values of Rios' setting in order to inform a re-definition of the boundaries of the proposed World Heritage site, so as to protect the overall back-drop of the city more effectively;
- A reassessment of the management arrangements for the nominated area in order to ensure overall coordination;
- A reassessment of the protective designations of the nominated areas and of the buffer zone, in order to provide effective tools to stop urban encroachment;
- The production of a management plan.

Additional Information received

Additional information concerning the management of the cultural landscape was received from the State Party on 20 May 2003.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.18 *The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Decides not to inscribe **Rio de Janeiro: Sugar Loaf, Tijuca Forest and the Botanical Gardens, Brazil**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria;
2. Defers the consideration of the cultural criteria of **Rio de Janeiro: Sugar Loaf, Tijuca Forest and the Botanical Gardens, Brazil**, encouraging the State Party to undertake an integrated management plan and

management mechanism, including revisions to the legislative protection and boundaries of the proposed property, as recommended by IUCN and ICOMOS.

Property	Parque Nacional del Este and its buffer zone
Id. N°	1080
State Party	Dominican Republic
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

Parque Nacional del Este is a mixed nomination for a peninsula on the southeast coast of the Dominican Republic with the adjacent Isla Saona. The island (10,650 ha) is about one third the size of the mainland section of the Park. The nominated area of 41,894 ha includes a marine area extending out to 6 nautical miles. A 12,000 ha buffer zone is at the north of the Park.

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends to the World Heritage Committee **not to inscribe** the Parque Nacional del Este and its buffer zone on the World Heritage List **under natural criteria**.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

As, in cultural terms, this nomination depends almost entirely on assessment of archaeological evidence, much of which is lacking, it is recommended that the nomination be **deferred** to the State Party to allow them to provide a commitment to a survey programme for archaeological remains across the whole site. This programme should include:

- The nature, extent and distribution of the Taino sites, specifically of the period 1490-1520s, in order to support the claims of the outstanding quality of the property in relation to the first European encounter with the Americas in modern times;
- A scholarly appraisal of the rock art in its regional and world context;
- Evidence for Spanish contact.

The State Party should also provide assurances that:

- Archaeologically trained staff will be appointed within the National Park;
- The National Park boundary will not be reduced to allow property or other forms of commercial development and that such development will not be permitted within the present National Park;
- The existing Management Plan will be updated to encompass cultural issues;
- There will be an appraisal of the need for an archaeological museum for conservation and display;
- The security of the rock art in all caves will be reviewed and steps taken immediately to protect Berna cave in particular and new rock art sites as they are discovered.

It is also suggested that the State Party be invited to consider increasing the Park budget in order to fund its basic work in a fuller, more professional way, not least in the light of these recommendations; to which end it might consider refunding more of the income generated by the Park, and to increase the generously-low entry fee (2 US \$).

Any revised nomination should not include the Buffer Zone in its title.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.19 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Decides not to inscribe **Parque Nacional del Este and its buffer zone**, Dominican Republic, on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria;
2. Defers the consideration of the cultural criteria of **Parque Nacional del Este and its buffer zone**, Dominican Republic, encouraging the State Party to undertake the survey programme recommended by ICOMOS and to provide assurances that the resources, management, facilities, and security issues noted by ICOMOS will be examined and responded to.

Property	Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture
Id. N°	1117
State Party	Portugal
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

Pico Island is the second largest of the nine islands in the archipelago of the Azores, 1,500 km west of mainland Portugal. The nominated area comprises two separate areas of "lajidos", or coastal lava plains, one on the north coast near Santa Luzia and the other on the west coast, Criação Velha. Each is surrounded by long coastal buffer zones 15-20 km in length, whose total area is 2,445.2 ha (revised figures for the areas provided to the Centre and Advisory Bodies 3/12/02). The State Party provided a revised management plan on 17 February 2003.

Name	Area (ha)	Buffer
Lajido Criação Velha	100.9	ng
Lajido Sta Luzia	89.3	ng
TOTAL	190.2	2,445.2

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends the World Heritage Committee **not to inscribe** the Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture on the World Heritage List **under natural criteria**.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the nomination be **deferred** for possible resubmission by the State Party on cultural criteria alone, covering a more extensive area, and as a cultural landscape. Any new nomination should await the outcome of the ICOMOS thematic study on vineyard cultural landscapes in order to confirm the outstanding universal value of Pico's vineyard landscape.

Additional information received

Additional information was provided on 21 May 2003 and transmitted to the Advisory Bodies.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.20 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Decides not to inscribe **Pico Island Vineyard Culture**, Portugal, on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria;
2. Defers the consideration of the cultural criteria of **Pico Island Vineyard Culture**, Portugal, to await the outcome of the ICOMOS thematic study on vineyard cultural landscapes.

3. Encourages the State Party to consider a more extensive area to propose as a cultural landscape in any re-submission.

B.3 Extensions of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List to include Natural Criteria

Property	Serra da Capivara National Park
Id. N°	606 Bis
State Party	Brazil
Criteria	C (iii)

Technical Summary:

Although Serra da Capivara National Park was originally nominated under both natural and cultural criteria, the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List by the 15th session of the Committee in 1991 only under cultural criterion (iii). The park, one of the largest protected areas in all of northeastern Brazil, occupies 129,000 ha.

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends that the World Heritage Committee does **not inscribe** Serra da Capivara National Park on the World Heritage List under natural criteria. IUCN would like to note that this is consistent with [its] recommendation to the Committee ... as recent studies on the natural and biodiversity values of the Caatinga ecoregion have shown that there are other sites of greater significance than the nominated site. IUCN would also like to recommend that the Committee recommend to the State Party to:

- Prepare, if it wishes to do so, a serial nomination including Serra das Confusoes National Park, Serra da Capivara National Park and other relevant protected areas that can better ensure biodiversity conservation of the Caatinga biome.
- Request international assistance if required for the preparation of this serial nomination.
- Promote the use of the best practice experience that has contributed to the effective management of Serra da Capivara National Park to enhance the planning and management of the recently created Serra das Confusoes National Park, so as to ensure that it fully meets the conditions of integrity if a serial nomination is prepared by the State Party as recommended above.

IUCN also recommends that the Committee acknowledge the efforts of the State Party, through the commitment and work of IBAMA and FUMDHAM, which have contributed to transforming Serra da Capivara National Park over a decade from a "paper park" into one of the best managed protected areas in Latin America.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.21 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Decides not to inscribe **Serra da Capivara National Park**, Brazil, on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria;
2. Commends the State Party, through the commitment and work of IBAMA and FUMDHAM, for transforming Serra da Capivara National Park over a decade from a "paper park" into one of the best managed protected areas in Latin America;
3. Encourages the State Party to consider including Serra das Confusoes National Park, Serra da Capivara

National Park and other relevant protected areas in a serial nomination that can better ensure biodiversity conservation of the Caatinga biome;

4. *Urges* the State Party to promote the use of the best practice experience that has contributed to the effective management of Serra da Capivara National Park to enhance the planning and management of the recently created Serra das Confusões National Park, so as to ensure that it fully meets the conditions of integrity if a serial nomination is prepared;
5. *Notes* that the original inscription of Serra da Capivara National Park on the World Heritage List under cultural criterion (iii) is not affected by this decision.

Property	Saint Catherine Area
Id. N°	954 Bis
State Party	Egypt
Criteria	C (i) (iii) (iv) (vi)

Technical Summary:

The Saint Catherine Area, originally proposed under both natural and cultural criteria, was inscribed only under cultural criteria at the 26th session of the Committee in Budapest (2002). The area of property, provided by the revised nomination submitted by the State Party in January 2002, is 60,100 ha, within the larger 435,000 ha nature reserve, the Saint Catherine Protectorate.

IUCN Recommendation:

IUCN recommends to the Committee **not to inscribe** the St. Catherine Area on the World Heritage List under natural criteria. Additional consideration could be given to its potential values as a cultural landscape as well as a UNESCO biosphere reserve.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.22 The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Decides* not to approve the inscription of the **Saint Catherine Area**, Egypt, on the World Heritage List on the basis of natural criteria;
2. *Notes* that the original inscription of the Saint Catherine Area, on the World Heritage List under cultural criteria (i), (iii), (iv) and (vi) is not affected by this decision.

C. CULTURAL PROPERTIES

C.1 New nominations

Property	Quebrada de Humahuaca
Id. N°	1116
State Party	Argentina
Criteria	C (ii)(iv)(v)

Technical Summary:

The Quebrada de Humahuaca is a long, narrow mountain valley some 155 km in length in the province of Jujuy in the northwest region of Argentina. The nominated area covers 172,116.44 ha; the buffer zone is 369,648.79 ha.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

The property should be inscribed on the World Heritage List as a cultural route on the basis of criteria (ii), (iv) and (v):

Once completed the Management Plan for the Site should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre.

As soon as possible the State Party should carry out an environmental assessment of the proposed flood defence project in order to gauge its impact on the outstanding universal values of the valley.

The possible nomination of a trans-national Incan cultural route has been mooted. The current nomination of the Quebrada de Humahuaca valley routes would link well into such a nomination.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.23 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes **Quebrada de Humahuaca**, Argentina, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (ii), (iv) and (v):

Criterion (ii): The Quebrada de Humahuaca valley has been used over the past 10,000 years as a crucial passage for the transport of people and ideas from the high Andean lands to the plains.

Criteria (iv) and (v): The Quebrada de Humahuaca valley reflects the way its strategic position has engendered settlement, agriculture and trade. Its distinctive pre-Hispanic and pre-Incan settlements, as a group with their associated field systems, form a dramatic addition to the landscape and one that can certainly be called outstanding.

27 COM 8C.24 With regard to **Quebrada de Humahuaca**, Argentina, the World Heritage Committee,

1. *Requests* the Argentinean authorities to submit to the World Heritage Centre the final management plan once it has been completed;
2. *Encourages* the State Party carry out an environmental assessment of the proposed flood defence project in order to gauge its impact on the outstanding universal value of the valley; and
3. *Recommends* that the State Party work with the Inca Route Secretariat to consider including Quebrada de Humahuaca on the Qhapac Nan - Camino Inca.

Property	The Jewish Quarter and St Procopius' Basilica in Třebíč
Id. N°	1078
State Party	Czech Republic
Criteria	C (ii) (iii)

Technical Summary:

The proposed property is in the town of Třebíč and contains three components: the Jewish Quarter, the Jewish Cemetery, and St Procopius Basilica.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the property be **inscribed** on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria ii and iii:

In the future, particular attention is recommended to continuously monitor the appropriate use of materials and the quality of the execution. It is also recommended that training and information sessions be organised in this regard, addressing the property owners and the contractors who work in this area.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.25 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes The Jewish Quarter and St Procopius' Basilica in Třebíč, Czech Republic, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (ii) and (iii):

Criterion (ii): The Jewish Quarter and St. Procopius Basilica of Třebíč bear witness to the coexistence of and interchange of values between two different cultures, Jewish and Christian, over many centuries.

Criterion (iii): the Jewish Quarter of Třebíč is an exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions related to the Jewish diaspora in central Europe.

Property element	Area (ha)	Buffer Zone (ha)
Jewish Quarter	4.37	143
Jewish Cemetery	1.23	
Basilica of St. Procopius	0.23	
TOTAL	5.73	143

27 COM 8C.26 With regard to **The Jewish Quarter and St Procopius' Basilica in Třebíč, Czech Republic**, the World Heritage Committee,

1. *Encourages* the Czech authorities to continuously monitor the appropriate use of materials and the quality of the conservation.
2. *Further encourages* the State Party to organize, in collaboration with ICOMOS and ICCROM, training and information sessions for the benefit of property owners and contractors who work in this area.

Property	Nominated Complex of Koguryo Tombs
Id. N°	1091
State Party	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

This is a serial nomination of 63 tombs in 12 separate areas.

Tomb name or group	No. of Tombs	Location	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)
Tomb of King Tongmyong and Jinpha-ri group of tombs	15	Pyongyang	220	527
Homam-ri Sasin (Four Deities) Tomb	34	Pyongyang	0.8	331
Tokhwa-ri Tombs No. 1,2,3	3	South Phyongan Province (Taedong area)	0.32	92.3
Kangso Three Tombs	3	Nampho (Kangso & Ryonggang areas)	1.9	473
Tokhung-ri Tomb	1	Nampho	2.5	67
Yaksu-ri Tomb	1	Nampho	1.1	
Susan-ri Tomb	1	Nampho	1.2	
Ryonggang Great Tomb	1	Nampho	0.34	85
Twin-Column Tomb	1	Nampho	0.29	
Anak Tomb No. 1	1	South Hwanghae Province (Anak area)	0.19	
Anak Tomb No. 2	1	South Hwanghae Province	0.21	91.5
Anak Tomb No. 3	1	South Hwanghae Province	4.1	
TOTAL	63		232.95	1701.2

ICOMOS Recommendation:

ICOMOS recommends additional comparative study, to cover better tombs of the same culture, which are not in Korea. If possible, a joint nomination with China would be recommended.

ICOMOS recommends more severe selection of tombs to be nominated, mainly to avoid nomination of those with severe problem of authenticity. An analysis of reconstruction works which took place on the interior or exterior of the tombs will be required to assess their authenticity.

ICOMOS will recommend a second evaluation mission since its expert was unable to visit the interior of all nominated tombs. ICOMOS will not be able to recommend inscription of tombs not seen by its expert during the evaluation mission.

These recommendations mean that the nomination be **deferred** for further steps to be taken by the State Party.

Additional information received:

The State Party submitted supplementary information on 2 May and 17 June 2003.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.27 The World Heritage Committee,

Defers the nomination of the **Nominated Complex of Koguryo Tombs**, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to allow the State Party time to re-evaluate its selection of tombs, in the light of issues of authenticity and state of conservation highlighted in the ICOMOS evaluation.

27 COM 8C.28 With regard to the **Nominated Complex of Koguryo Tombs**, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the World Heritage Committee,

1. Notes the additional information concerning the authenticity of the tombs submitted by the State Party;
2. Encourages the State Party, if appropriate, to invite a second evaluation mission to visit tombs not accessible during the first mission;
3. Requests ICOMOS to undertake a comparative study of the Koguryo Tombs in China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in time for the 28th session of the World Heritage Committee; and
4. Encourages the State Parties of China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to consider a joint transboundary serial nomination of Koguryo Tombs.

Property	The Town Hall and Roland on the Marketplace of Bremen
Id. N°	1087
State Party	Germany
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The property proposed for inscription, the Bremen Town Hall and the adjacent stone statute of Roland, covers 0.287 ha. The inner buffer zone, comprising historical monuments, covers 36,295 ha and the outer buffer zone corresponds to Bremen's old town and city centre.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the property should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.29 The World Heritage Committee,

Decides not to inscribe **The Town Hall and Roland on the Marketplace of Bremen**, Germany, on the World Heritage List.

Property	Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka
Id. N°	925
State Party	India
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The nominated area of 1,892 ha is divided into 2 areas separated by a highway and includes 5 hills on which naturally formed clusters of sandstone rock shelters are found. The buffer zone is 10,280 ha. Supplementary information provided by the State Party included proposed criteria (i), (iii), and (vi) (received 19 March 2002), and a management plan (received on 3 April 2002).

ICOMOS Recommendation:

It is recommended that the nomination be **deferred** to allow the State Party to provide additional information in order to clarify the following:

- How community involvement in the nominated area will be organised in order to sustain the traditional interaction between people and landscape in matters relating to the use of forest resources and the continuation of artistic traditions;
- How the apparently very ancient traditions associated with the area can be recorded and documented to inform ways of sustaining them;
- Whether the proposed boundaries of the nominated area provide sufficient resources to allow sustainable cultural and environmental development;
- How a 'layered' approach to landscape management can be provided to allow different degrees of involvement from stakeholders involved in the property, within an overall integration of efforts;
- Whether the nominated area encompasses the majority of the Bhimbetka corpus of rock paintings.

Consideration should also be given to changing the name of the nomination to the Bhimbetka Cultural Landscape to reflect the wider issues involved.

Additional Information received:

Supplementary information was received from the State Party on 15 April 2003 and 13 and 20 June 2003.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.30 The World Heritage Committee,

Defers the nomination of the **Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka**, India, to allow the State Party an opportunity to consider the issues raised by the ICOMOS recommendations concerning the boundary of the proposed property, its management, and the documentation and continuity of community traditions with respect to the property.

Property	Takht-e Soleyman
Id. N°	1077
State Party	Islamic Republic of Iran
Criteria	C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (vi)

Technical Summary:

The archaeological site of Takht-e Soleyman is "proposed as a single nomination centered around its main oval fortified site, protected within its double buffer zones. Aside from the fortified oval, the landscape buffer zone includes six other connected units provided with their own specific buffer zones" (revised text submitted 28 August 2002). This is presented schematically below:

Name	Nominat ed Area	areas of other sites	Buffer zones	Landscape Buffer Zone
Takht-e Soleyman	10 ha		385.5 ha	7,438 ha
Adjacent sites and zones				
Zendan-e Soleyman		11.00 ha	101.9 ha	
Tepe Majid		0.25 ha	39.12 ha	
Belqeys Citadel		6.25 ha	50.12 ha	
Brick baking kiln		0.25 ha	--	
Quarry		--	426.25 ha	
Ahmadabada tumulus		0.25 ha	2.5 ha	
TOTAL	10 ha	18.00 ha	1,005.39 ha	7,438 ha

In a revised text submitted 04/04/2002, the spelling of the name was revised from "Takht-e Suleiman" to "Takht-e Soleyman".

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the site be **inscribed** on the basis of criteria i, ii, iii, iv and vi:

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.31 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes **Takht-e Soleyman**, Islamic Republic of Iran, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi):

Criterion (i): *Takht-e Soleyman is an outstanding ensemble of royal architecture, joining the principal architectural elements created by the Sasanians in a harmonious composition inspired by their natural context.*

Criterion (ii): *The composition and the architectural elements created by the Sasanians at Takht-e Suleiman have had strong influence not only in the development of religious architecture in the Islamic period, but also in other cultures.*

Criterion (iii): *The ensemble of Takht-e Soleyman is an exceptional testimony of the continuation of cult related to fire and water over a period of some two and half millennia. The archaeological heritage of the property is further enriched by the Sasanian town, which is still to be excavated.*

Criterion (iv): *Takht-e Soleyman represents an outstanding example of Zoroastrian sanctuary, integrated with Sasanian palatial architecture within a composition, which can be seen as a prototype.*

Criterion (vi): *As the principal Zoroastrian sanctuary, Takht-e Soleyman is the foremost property associated with one of the early monotheistic religions of the world. The property has many important symbolic relationships, being also a testimony of the association of the ancient beliefs, much earlier than the Zoroastrianism, as well as in its association with significant biblical figures and legends.*

Property	The White City of Tel-Aviv
Id. N°	1096
State Party	Israel
Criteria	C (ii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

The property proposed for nomination consists of three zones in the centre of Tel Aviv. In response to comments during the ICOMOS evaluation, the State Party submitted on 16 October 2002 minor revisions to the areas designated and supplementary information.

Zone	Area (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)
Zone A (the "Central White City")	97.50	197 ha
Zone B	36.40	
Zone C ("Bialik Area")	6.47	
Total	140.37	197 ha

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the property be **inscribed** on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria ii and iv.

At the moment, the national legislation of Israel does not allow listing of recent heritage; therefore, the White City of Tel Aviv is mainly protected through planning legislation. ICOMOS recommends that in the future, the State Party consider the possibility to provide legal protection also at the national level to recent heritage.

Considering that the White City of Tel Aviv is at the centre of a metropolitan area, ICOMOS recommends that efforts be made to continue monitoring the development trends, and to improve where possible the control of changes in the existing fabric.

While recognizing the already constructed tall buildings in the nominated area and the buffer zone, it is recommended to avoid any further buildings of that size.

It is also considered necessary to integrate the management plan with the conservation plan in order to guarantee their efficacy.

Additional Information received:

Following the publication of the ICOMOS evaluation, by fax received on 16 June 2003, the State Party furnished additional information, as well as a request that a subheading be added to the title of the property: The White City of Tel Aviv - the Modern Movement.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.32 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes **The White City of Tel-Aviv**, Israel, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (ii) and (iv):

Criterion (ii): *The White City of Tel Aviv is a synthesis of outstanding significance of the various trends of the Modern Movement in architecture and town planning in the early part of the 20th century. Such influences were adapted to the cultural and climatic conditions of the place, as well as being integrated with local traditions.*

Criterion (iv): *The new town of Tel Aviv is an outstanding example of new town planning and architecture in the early 20th century, adapted to the requirements of a particular cultural and geographic context.*

27 COM 8C.33 With regard to the **White City of Tel Aviv**, Israel, the World Heritage Committee,

1. Encourages the State Party to continue monitoring development trends in Tel Aviv, and to improve where possible the control of changes in the existing fabric;
2. Recommends that height limits be proposed for the property and its buffer zone;
3. Encourages the State Party to integrate the management and conservation plans in order to guarantee their efficacy.

27 COM 8C.34 With regard to protective legislation in Israel, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the State Party to broaden the scope of its system of legal protection at the national level to include modern heritage.

Property	The Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi
Id. N°	1103
State Party	Kazakhstan
Criteria	C (i)(iii)(iv)

Technical Summary:

The nominated area is limited to the Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi (0.55 ha). The buffer zone consists of the archaeological area of the ancient town (88.15 ha). At the time of the submission of the nomination, a draft five-year management plan was being finalized. The final text of this plan has not yet been submitted.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the nominated property be **inscribed** on the basis of criteria i, iii and iv:

While recognizing the efforts made by the authorities, ICOMOS recommends that special attention be given to the control of the built environment outside the buffer zone in order to avoid any high-rise constructions. The State Party is also encouraged to increase the resources for conservation management, and to establish a training strategy for those involved in the conservation of the site

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.35 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes The Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi, Kazakhstan, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (i), (iii) and (iv):

Criterion (i): The Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi is an outstanding achievement in the Timurid architecture, and it has significantly contributed to the development of Islamic religious architecture.

Criterion (iii): The mausoleum and its site represent an exceptional testimony to the culture of the Central Asian region, and to the development of building technology.

Criterion (iv): The Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi was a prototype for the development of a major building type in the Timurid period, becoming a significant reference in the history of Timurid architecture.

27 COM 8C.36 With regard to the **Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi**, Kazakhstan, the World Heritage Committee,

1. Recommends that the State Party give special attention to the control of the built environment outside the buffer zone in order to avoid any high-rise constructions;
2. Encourages the State Party to increase the resources for conservation management, and to establish a training strategy for those involved in the conservation of the property.
3. Requests that the State Party submit to the World Heritage Centre when complete the Five-Year Management Plan prepared by the State Institute for Scientific Research and Planning on Monuments of Material Culture.

Property	Franciscan Missions in the Sierra Gorda of Queretaro
Id. N°	1079
State Party	Mexico
Criteria	C (ii)(iii)

Technical Summary:

The nominated property consists of five Franciscan missions, from the 1750s and 1760s, located in the mountainous Sierra Gorda region of central Mexico.

Mission	Municipality	Area	Coordinates
Santiago de Jalpan	Jalpan de Serra	21.85 ha	N21 12 15.8 W99 27 50.8
Santa María del Agua de Landa	Landa de Matamoros	31.70 ha	N21 10 09.2 W99 18 39.0
San Francisco del Valle de Tilaco	Landa de Matamoros	25.27 ha	N21 09 40.3 W99 11 33.5
Nuestra Señora de la Luz de Tancoyol	Jalpan de Serra	13.54 ha	N21 24 01.5 W99 19 40.9
San Miguel Conca	Arroyo Seco	11.37 ha	N21 26 40.9 W99 38 13.0
TOTAL		103.73 ha	

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria ii and iii.

While recognising the initiatives already taken by the authorities in the management of the territory of the Sierra Gorda Missions, ICOMOS wishes to encourage special attention to the control of future developments in the region, taking into account sustainable land-use in and around the settlements, and the character of the landscape.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.37 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes Franciscan Missions in the Sierra Gorda of Queretaro, Mexico, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (ii) and (iii):

Criterion (ii): The Sierra Gorda Missions exhibit an important interchange of values in the process of evangelisation and colonisation of central and northern Mexico, and the western United States.

Criterion (iii): The five Sierra Gorda missions bear witness to the cultural encounter of the European missions with the nomadic populations of central Mexico, remaining a significant testimony to this second phase of evangelisation in North America.

27 COM 8C.38 With regard to the **Franciscan Missions in the Sierra Gorda of Queretaro**, Mexico, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the State Party to give special attention to the control of future developments in the region, taking into account sustainable land-use in and around the settlements, and the character of the landscape.

Property	Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape
Id. N°	1081
State Party	Mongolia
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape in Central Mongolia consists of five discrete sites along 100 km of the Orkhon River, surrounded by a single buffer zone, extending to the watershed of the valley.

Name	Area (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Coordinates
Turkish memorials of Khosho Tsaidam	2084	143,867	N47 33 24 E102 49 53
Ruins of Kharbalgas city	3989		N47 25 49 E102 39 20
Ruins of Kharkhorum city	1009		N47 12 16 E102 49 57
Erdene Zuu Monastery			N47 12 13 E102 50 27
Tuvkhun Hermitage Monastery	455		N47 00 43 E102 15 16
TOTAL	7,537	143,867	

ICOMOS Recommendation:

The nomination should be deferred in order that the State Party may clarify whether or not the nomination is for the Orkhon valley cultural landscape, or for five discrete, archaeological sites.

The wider Orkhon Valley is clearly of outstanding universal value as a cultural landscape.

At the moment however, the wider valley is not being put forward for inscription. The nomination is for five discrete sites only, even though the management plan covers a wider area.

Clarification is needed on this matter before a decision can be made on inscription. The current proposal for five separate sites does not constitute a cultural landscape.

Support for the nomination should not ignore real vulnerabilities. However the commitment shown to tackle these vulnerabilities through the development of the Management Plan, with widespread involvement of stakeholders, and the way in which those writing the Plan successfully persuaded the government to grant official protection to parts of the site, has demonstrated a real commitment to the world heritage process. The strong enthusiasm shown by local people and the state party for the nomination should be harnessed.

There is one specific area where direction should be given and this is the proposal to build a visitor centre located directly outside the walls of the old city of Kharkhorum. Such a site would present an unacceptable intrusion into the landscape. Visitors need managing and providing with information and knowledge; alternative sites should however be explored.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.39 The World Heritage Committee,

Defers the nomination of the **Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape**, Mongolia, to allow the State Party to clarify the boundaries of the property.

27 COM 8C.40 With regard to the **Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape**, Mongolia, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the State Party to consider an alternative location for the proposed visitor centre at Kharkhorum.

Property	The Valley of the Pradnik River in the Ojcowski National Park
Id. N°	1085
State Party	Poland
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The Valley of the Pradnik River is a limestone gorge of approximately 1500 ha, surrounded by a buffer zone of 7350 ha, part of the Ojcowski National Park.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the property should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The whole Pradnik Valley is a pleasant ensemble of undoubted national significance, clearly a place of pride and worthy of the best of conservation. The cultural components, either singly or collectively, do not, however, proclaim World Heritage quality; and the key matter of the interrelation here between natural and cultural, while interesting and scientifically important, is not unusual in limestone uplands and may well be better represented elsewhere.

It can be recognised that this property maybe significant in its east European context, but it is not of outstanding universal value.

The State Party should be thanked for the nomination of this property and encouraged to continue to look after it so admirably within the Ojkowski National Park.

IUCN Comments

IUCN has advised ICOMOS that this site does not merit inscription based in particular on IUCN's assessment of its natural values. Although Pradnik Valley does not quite match up to World Heritage standards there is no doubt that it is of great national significance with a high standard of management and protection. Hence, IUCN recommends that the State Party consider using other mechanisms to draw attention to the important values of the site, including the following:

- European Diploma (Council of Europe);
- UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme; and
- Potential Site of Community Interest (pSCI) according to the EC Habitats Directive, which would make it eligible for LIFE Nature funds (potential Natura 2000 site).

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.41 The World Heritage Committee,

Decides not to inscribe **The Valley of the Pradnik River in the Ojcowski National Park**, Poland, on the World Heritage List.

27 COM 8C.42 With regard to the **Valley of the Pradnik River in the Ojcowski National Park**, Poland, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the State Party to continue monitoring the Valley of the Pradnik River within the Ojcowski National Park and to consider using other mechanisms to draw attention to the importance of the property, as noted by IUCN.

Property	Citadel, Ancient City and Fortress Buildings of Derbent
Id. N°	1070
State Party	Russian Federation
Criteria	C (iii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

Derbent is an ancient city on the western shore of the Caspian Sea. The nominated area of 9.72 ha includes the medieval city, citadel and defence walls.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the nominated property be inscribed on the basis of criteria iii and iv:

While recognizing the efforts made by the authorities to conserve the nominated property, special attention is drawn to the need to strengthen the implementation of management by providing the necessary financial and professional resources.

ICOMOS also recommends that the norms for new constructions in the areas surrounding the nominated property should be elaborated specifying the height, volume and architectural character in harmony with the historic area.

Furthermore, regarding the citadel area and the ancient defence structures, ICOMOS recommends that any reconstruction be strictly limited, following internationally accepted guidelines.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.43 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Citadel, Ancient City and Fortress buildings of Derbent**, Russian Federation, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (iii) and (iv):

Criterion (iii): The site of the ancient city of Derbent has been crucial for the control of the north-south passage on the west side of the Caspian Sea since the 1st millennium BCE. The defence structures that were built by the Sasanians in the 5th century CE were in continuous use by the succeeding Persian, Arabic, Mongol, and Timurid governments for some 15 centuries.

Criterion (iv): The ancient city of Derbent and its defence structures are the most significant section of the strategic defence systems designed and built in the Sasanian empire along their northern limes, and maintained during the successive governments until the Russian occupation in the 19th century.

27 COM 8C.44 With regard to the **Citadel, Ancient City and Fortress Buildings of Derbent**, Russian Federation, the World Heritage Committee,

1. Recommends that special attention be drawn to the need to strengthen the implementation of management

by providing the necessary financial and professional resources;

2. Further recommends that the norms for new construction in the areas surrounding the nominated property should be elaborated specifying the height, volume and architectural character in harmony with the historic area; and
3. Further recommends that reconstruction be strictly limited, following internationally accepted guidelines.

Property	Franja Partisan Hospital
Id. N°	1088
State Party	Slovenia
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The Franja Partisan Hospital is situated in the narrow Pasice gorge in the western part of Slovenia. The total area of the protected property covers 70.11 ha, including the gorge and its entrance area, together with nearby farms and pertaining land -- and all the hilltops surrounding the gorge. No buffer zone is foreseen. A revised nomination, revised maps, and a management plan were submitted 30 December 2002.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That this property should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.45 The World Heritage Committee,

Decides not to inscribe **Franja Partisan Hospital**, Slovenia, on the World Heritage List.

Property	Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape
Id. N°	1099
State Party	South Africa
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The 28,168.66 ha Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape is situated to the south of the confluence of the Limpopo and Shashe rivers on the border between South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That this nomination be deferred in order to allow the State Party to:

- Provide an updated Management Plan;
- Provide satisfactory progress of the formal designation of the Vhembe-Dongola National Park, of contractual negotiations with private landowners within the nominated property, and of the production of the Management Plan. (All these were originally promised by January 2003);
- Expand the permanent staffing of the Park management team so as to include at least one full-time professional archaeologist with heritage management training;
- Reconstitute the Archaeological Task Group as an integral part of the management scheme, with the responsibility of preparing research policies and authorizing and overseeing excavation and survey projects;
- Commission from consultants, with experience in this

field, an integrated interpretation plan, involving the content and display of the interpretation centre, and the presentation and interpretation of individual sites (This might be the subject of a request to the World Heritage Fund. It might also take the form of a bilateral agreement with the US National Park Service).

The nominated property contains substantial areas of virtually untouched cultural landscape of very high quality. These are, however, separated by some areas of present-day agriculture (principally citrus plantations and circular irrigated fields) in private ownership. The aim is to transfer ownership of these commercial operations to the SANParks, to enter into management agreements, and thus to allow the land to return to 'natural' landscape. This process is already under way, and some previously worked fields are now fallow, awaiting natural regeneration, but a clear timetable is needed.

Whilst it could be argued that sections of the Park in this latter category should be excluded from the World Heritage site, these sites do contain valuable archaeological material and inscription would provide protection under the provisions of the 1999 World Heritage Conservation Act.

Furthermore, exclusion of certain areas within the proposed National Park from the World Heritage site might cause management and legislative complications.

The inscription of the site is seen as offering potential economic advantages through increased tourism activity. The Mapungubwe Tourism Initiative has been set up by the Department of Trade and Industry to assist regional development and economic growth in the central Limpopo valley with Mapungubwe as the central feature. A baseline scoping study of the tourism potential has been prepared. This is being followed up by a Tourist Destination Development Plan, which is coordinated with the work of the Development Bank of Southern Africa. Project managers from SANParks and DBSA have been to the USA on a fact-finding mission. It is clearly crucial that tourist activities are expanded in a sustainable way.

It is also imperative that there should be a well-designed interpretation centre linked with interpretation panels at the main sites – to explain the significance of the almost invisible remains.

An excellent site for the interpretation centre has been identified alongside the main road that forms the southern boundary of the nominated area. It is planned to erect a suitable building or buildings here that would be screened from the interior of the Park. This would need to be linked to an overall interpretation strategy for the whole proposed world heritage site.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.46 The World Heritage Committee,

*Defers the nomination of the **Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape**, South Africa, to allow the State Party time to provide:*

1. *An updated Management Plan; and*
2. *Satisfactory progress of the formal designation of the Vhembe-Dongola National Park, of contractual negotiations with private landowners within the nominated property.*

27 COM 8C.47 With regard to the **Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape**, South Africa, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the State Party to:

1. *Reconstitute the Archaeological Task Group as an integral part of the management scheme, with the responsibility of preparing research policies and authorizing and overseeing excavation and survey projects;*
2. *Commission from consultants, with experience in this field, an integrated interpretation plan, involving the content and display of the interpretation centre, and the presentation and interpretation of individual sites; and*
3. *Expand the permanent staffing of the Park management team so as to include a full-time professional archaeologist with heritage management training.*

Property	Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region
Id. N°	1073
State Party	Sudan
Criteria	C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

This serial nomination is for the five archaeological sites along 60 km of the Nile River, about 700 km north of Khartoum.

Name	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)	Coordinates
Gebel Barkal	121.00	40.00	N18 32 00 E31 49 00
El-Kurru	4.50	6.50	N18 24 36 E31 46 17
Nuri	17.00		N18 33 50 E31 55 00
Sanam	20.00		N18 28 56 E31 49 08
Zuma	20.00		N18 22 12 E31 44 28
TOTAL	182.50	46.50	

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria i, ii, iii and iv.

Active conservation programme should be prepared with priorities, budget, proper staff and timelines.

The management intentions should become a plan with government commitment.

Close monitoring, mainly of the implementation of the management system, is strongly recommended.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.48 The World Heritage Committee,

Noting that this property is the first to be inscribed on the World Heritage List from Sudan,

*Inscribes **Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region**, Sudan, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv):*

Criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv): *The nominated pyramids and tombs, being also part of the special desert border landscape, on the banks of the Nile, are unique in their typology and technique. The nominated remains are the*

testimony to an ancient important culture which existed and flourished in this region only.

27 COM 8C.49 With regard to **Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region**, Sudan, the World Heritage Committee,

1. Requests the World Heritage Centre to work with the State Party to finalize the management plan, including an active conservation programme with priorities, budget, proper staff and timelines; and to ensure full government commitment to its implementation;
2. Requests that the State Party report back to the Committee at its 28th session on the progress made in the implementation of the management system.

Property	Historic City of Mardin
Id. N°	1098
State Party	Turkey
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

At the request of the State Party, this nomination will not be examined by the Committee.

Property	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
Id. N°	1084
State Party	United Kingdom
Criteria	C (ii)(iii)(iv)

Technical Summary:

The Royal Botanic Gardens occupies an area of 132 ha in the London Borough of Richmond on Thames, with a proposed buffer zone of approximately 350 ha. The State Party submitted management and site conservation plans for the property on 12 December 2002.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That this property should be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria ii, iii and iv.

The right balance needs to be struck between the use of the property for botanical purposes and the preservation of the existing historic gardens. It is important that the specialist personnel at Kew should be able to count on the presence of landscape architects qualified in the history of art and history in general, so that the architectural conservation activities can be coordinated on-site.

The heritage of William Chambers, Lancelot "Capability" Brown and William Nesfield should be shown off to better effect, both as regards the reconstruction of individual ornamental elements and their integration in the cultural landscape of the Thames.

IUCN Comments:

IUCN has advised ICOMOS that it considers this site to have potential merit as a Cultural Landscape, particularly taking into account its natural values and associations.

During the evaluation mission, the ICOMOS expert rightly drew attention to the need to balance conservation of the historic landscapes at Kew with the need to continue and develop further its scientific role and its contribution to plant conservation worldwide. Thus any changes to the garden landscape, and restoration of earlier garden features, need to be weighed carefully with their impact on Kew's other

roles, notably in science, education and, not least, providing a place of quiet enjoyment for the public. Balancing these needs is best left to the discretion of the Director and his senior staff.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.50 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew**, United Kingdom, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (ii), (iii) and (iv):

Criterion (ii): Since the 18th century, the Botanic Gardens of Kew have been closely associated with scientific and economic exchanges established throughout the world in the field of botany, and this is reflected in the richness of its collections. The landscape features and architectural features of the gardens reflect considerable artistic influences both with regard to the European continent and to more distant regions.

Criterion (iii): Kew Gardens have largely contributed to advances in many scientific disciplines, particularly botany and ecology.

Criterion (iv): The landscape gardens and the edifices created by celebrated artists such as Charles Bridgeman, William Kent, Lancelot 'Capability' Brown and William Chambers reflect the beginning of movements which were to have international influence.

27 COM 8C.51 With regard to the **Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew**, United Kingdom, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the State Party to include on the staff of the Royal Botanic Gardens a landscape architect or other specialist qualified in the history of art and history in general, so that architectural conservation activities can be coordinated on-site.

C.2 Deferred Nominations

Property	The Old City of Mostar
Id. N°	946
State Party	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The nomination was initially received in 15 July 1998. The Committee deferred the nomination, requesting further information concerning the management plan at its 23rd session (Marrakesh, 1999) and again at its 24th session (Cairns, 2000). The sizes of the nominated area and buffer zone were not provided in the nomination submitted in 1998. The Management Plan identifies an historic city core, surrounded by the Old Town ("Stari Grad").

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the assessment of the nominated property be **deferred**.

The condition of the historic town of Mostar today is seen as work in progress. The architectural fabric has been severely damaged or destroyed. The reports also indicate that the reconstruction has not always been correct from the historical point of view. Whatever the results, it would thus be advisable to wait until the situation has been stabilised before deciding about eventual inscription.

The State Party has not proposed any criteria. Previously, ICOMOS has suggested that the property could be inscribed on the basis of criterion iv. Taking into account the current situation, however, this criterion should be reconsidered. What remains from the old site is practically an archaeological site within the landscape of the river valley. The physical fabric is being rebuilt, and will be substantially a product of the 21st century. In this regard, the site resembles the case of Warsaw. It is noted however that when Warsaw was inscribed [1980], it was seen as an exception and was not to form a precedent.

Additional information received:

A management plan and other documents were received from the State Party on 12 May 2003 and transmitted to ICOMOS.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.52 *The World Heritage Committee,*

Defers the nomination of The Old City of Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina, to allow the State Party to:

1. *complete the reconstruction of the Old Bridge and the main features of the property, redefine the significance of the Old City, taking into account the impact of the destruction and reconstruction of the site;*
2. *identify the relevant World Heritage criteria, review the nominated core area and buffer zone; and*
3. *review and implement the management system and relevant plans in view of the significance of the nominated property and its context.*

Property	James Island and Related Sites
Id. N°	761 Rev
State Party	Gambia
Criteria	C (iii)(vi)

Technical Summary:

The nomination of James Island was originally submitted in 1995 and deferred by the 20th session of the Bureau (1996) to await the outcome of a comparative study of pre-colonial and early colonial trading settlements in West Africa. The State Party was also encouraged to consider an extension of the property to better illustrated the totality of trading activities not illustrated by other West African World Heritage properties. The revised nomination submitted in 2002 includes Fort Bullen and the Six-Gun Battery in Banjul. The serial nomination is composed of seven sites along 30 km of the Gambia River.

Name	District	Area (ha)	Buffer Zone
James Island	Lower Niumi District	0.35 ha	0 ha
Six-Gun Battery	Banjul Municipality	0.17 ha	0 ha
Fort Bullen	Upper Niumi District	6.3 ha	0 ha
Ruins of San Domingo	Lower Niumi District	0.723 ha	300 ha (Coastal strip)
Remains of Portuguese Chapel	Lower Niumi District	0.006 ha	
CFAO ² Building	Lower Niumi District	0.030 ha	
Maurel Frères Building	Lower Niumi District	0.0191 ha	
TOTAL		7.5981 ha	300 ha

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the nominated property be inscribed on the basis of criteria iii and vi.

James Island and Related Sites form an exceptional testimony to the different facets and phases of the African-European encounter, from the 15th to the 19th centuries. The River Gambia was particularly important forming the first trade route to the inland of Africa. ... The region forms a cultural landscape, where the nominated historic elements are retained in their cultural and natural context.

It is recommended that the management of the site take into consideration the aspects of the cultural landscape of which they are a part.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.53 *The World Heritage Committee,*

Inscribes James Island and Related Sites, Gambia, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (iii) and (vi):

Criterion (iii): *James Island and related sites on the River Gambia provide an exceptional testimony to the different facets of the African-European encounter, from the 15th to 20th centuries. The river formed the first trade route to the inland of Africa, being also related with the slave trade.*

Criterion (vi): *James Island and related sites, the villages and the batteries, were directly and tangibly associated with the beginning and the conclusion of the slave trade, retaining its memory related to the African Diaspora.*

27 COM 8C.54 *With regard to the James Island and Related Sites, Gambia, the World Heritage Committee,*

1. *Requests the World Heritage Centre to work with the State Party to strengthen the management plan for the entire property, integrating protection of the cultural landscape of the Gambia River into this plan;*
2. *Requests that the State Party report back to the Committee at its 28th session on the progress made in the implementation of this plan.*

Property	The Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy
Id. N°	1068
State Party	Italy
Criteria	C (ii)(iv)

Technical Summary:

The nomination, submitted in December 2000, was deferred by the 26th session of the Committee (Budapest, 2002) to allow the State Party to provide a comprehensive management plan for the nine *Sacri Monti* (decision **26 COM 23.22**). The State Party provided the plan requested on 3 January 2003.

² « Compagnie Française d'Afrique Occidentale »

The nominated property, in the Piedmont and Lombardy regions of northern Italy consists of nine separate areas:

Name	Province (Region)	Area (ha)	Buffer
Sacro Monte o "Nuova Gerusalemme" di Varallo Sesia	Vercelli (Piedmont)	5.40	26.10
Sacro Monte di S.Maria Assunta di Serralunga di Crea	Alessandria (Piedmont)	8.90	24.10
Sacro Monte di San Francesco d'Orta San Giulio	Novara (Piedmont)	14.00	7.50
Sacro Monte del Rosario di Varese	Varese (Lombardy)	14.60	32.60
Sacro Monte della Beata Vergine, Oropa	Biella (Piedmont)	15.40	49.60
Sacro Monte della Beata Vergine del Soccorso, Ossuccio	Como (Lombardy)	3.00	9.00
Sacro Monte della SS.Trinità, Ghiffa	Verbania (Piedmont)	11.00	210.00
Sacro Monte Calvario, Domodossola	Verbania (Piedmont)	3.60	41.40
Sacro Monte di Belmonte, Valperga Canavese	Turin (Piedmont)	14.60	321.60
TOTAL		90.50	721.90

At the 26th session of the Committee, the State Party agreed to the proposal of ICOMOS that the name of the property in English be: "The *Sacri Monti* of Piedmont and Lombardy." In its examination of the nomination in April 2002, the 26th session of the Bureau noted that other sites of this type are located in Switzerland (Ticino).

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That this property be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria ii and iv:

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.55 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes The Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy, Italy, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (ii) and (iv):

Criterion (ii): *The implantation of architecture and sacred art into a natural landscape for didactic and spiritual purposes achieved its most exceptional expression in the Sacri Monti ('Sacred Mountains') of northern Italy and had a profound influence on subsequent developments elsewhere in Europe.*

Criterion (iv): *The Sacri Monti ('Sacred Mountains') of northern Italy represent the successful integration of architecture and fine art into a landscape of great beauty for spiritual reasons at a critical period in the history of the Roman Catholic Church.*

27 COM 8C.56 With regard to the *Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy*, Italy, the World Heritage Committee,

Encourages the authorities of Italy and Switzerland to consider a possible transboundary collaboration in an extension of the property to include other properties of this type in Switzerland.

Property	Wooden Churches of Southern Little Poland
Id. N°	1053
State Party	Poland
Criteria	C (iii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

The nomination, submitted in June 2000, originally proposed nine wooden churches built between the 15th and 18th centuries. Examination of the nomination was deferred by the 25th session of the Bureau (June 2001) to allow the State Party to complete a comparative of wooden churches in the region. The comparative study was provided in October 2001, but based on the study, ICOMOS's recommendation, which the 26th session of the Bureau (March 2002) accepted, was to inscribe only the six churches from the 15th and 16th centuries, and to exclude the later churches until a more definitive study had been undertaken. The 26th session of the Committee (Budapest, 2002) deferred the nomination to allow the State Party to provide a comprehensive management plan for the six churches (decision **26 COM 23.21**). The State Party provided the plan requested on 30 December 2002.

The nominated property consists of six separate churches:

Church	Town	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)
Church of the Archangel Michael	Binarowa	1.80	40.4
Church of All Saints	Blizne	2.20	46.7
Church of the Archangel Michael	Dębno	0.14	64.0
Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Archangel Michael	Haczów	1.30	38.2
Church of St Leonard	Lipnica Murowana	1.10	16.5
Church of St Philip and St James the Apostles	Sękowa	1.72	36.4
TOTAL		8.26	242.2

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the six medieval wooden churches of Binarowa, Blizne, Debno, Haczow, Lipnica Murowana, and Sekowa be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria iii and iv.

ICOMOS considers that this nomination could be completed with properties in Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and/or Ukraine, where the churches can represent later periods as well as other types of traditions (potential for serial nomination).

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.57 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes Wooden Churches of Southern Little Poland, Poland, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (iii) and (iv):

Criterion (iii): *The wooden churches of Little Poland bear important testimony to medieval church building traditions, as these related to the liturgical and cult functions of the Roman Catholic Church in a relatively closed region in central Europe.*

Criterion (iv): *The churches are the most representative examples of surviving Gothic churches built in horizontal log technique, particularly impressive in their artistic and*

technical execution, and sponsored by noble families and rulers as symbols of social and political prestige.

27 COM 8C.58 With regard to the **Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy, Italy** and the **Wooden Churches of Southern Little Poland, Poland**, the World Heritage Committee,

1. Congratulates the States Parties of Italy and Poland on the successful establishment of planning mechanisms for the two serial nominations;
2. Encourages the States Parties to work with the World Heritage Centre in assisting other States Parties to develop planning mechanisms for similar serial properties; and
3. Requests that the two States Parties report back to the Committee at its 28th session on the implementation of the two plans and any potential extensions.

Property	Matobo Hills
Id. N°	306 Rev
State Party	Zimbabwe
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The nomination of Matobo Hills was originally submitted as a natural nomination in 1983. After a positive evaluation of the rock-art of this property, the 1984 Bureau requested the Zimbabwe authorities to re-submit the nomination. The nomination was resubmitted in February 2002 as a cultural landscape. A management plan was received from the authorities on 3 June 2002 and has been reviewed by ICOMOS. The nomination is for an area of 205,000 ha, together with a buffer zone of 105,000 ha.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That this nomination be **deferred** to allow the State Party to provide a revised management plan that addresses:

- The integrated management of the site to achieve sustainable development which respects both cultural and natural parameters of a cultural landscape;
- The integration of intangible heritage issues into management and interpretation;
- Acknowledges the need for conservation plans for key aspects of the site.

The management plan is very much a description of the status quo. It does not address the need for research for the area nor how current basic management arrangements can be transformed into conservation practice. For instance there is no mention of the need for research by oral historians and anthropologists into indigenous knowledge and intangible heritage associated with the site. Nor does the plan address how the cultural and natural qualities of the area – addressed separately in the plan – can be drawn together so that the area can be managed as a cultural landscape.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.59 The World Heritage Committee,

Defers the nomination of **Matobo Hills, Zimbabwe**, to allow the State Party an opportunity to revise the management plan for the property, taking into consideration the comments of ICOMOS.

C3. Proposals for Extensions of Properties inscribed on the World Heritage List

Property	Historic District of Québec
Id. N°	300 Bis
State Party	Canada
Criteria	C (iv) (vi)

Technical Summary:

The Historic District of Québec was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1985. The proposed extension to include the Old Port would add another 10 ha to the existing 135 ha of the inscribed property.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the proposed extension be **deferred** subject to verification of the perimeter of the newly defined core zone, as well as identifying an appropriate buffer zone and management regime for the proposed areas.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.60 The World Heritage Committee,

Defers approval of the extension proposal of the **Historic District of Québec, Canada**, subject to verification of the perimeter of the newly defined core zone, as well as the identification of an appropriate buffer zone and management regime for the proposed areas.

Property	Imperial Tombs of the Ming and Qing Dynasties (extension to include the Ming Dynasty Xiaoling Tomb and the 13 tombs north of Beijing)
Id. N°	1004 Bis
State Party	China
Criteria	C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (vi)

Technical Summary:

The Imperial Tombs of the Ming and Qing Dynasties in Hebei Province were inscribed on the World Heritage List at the 24th session of the Committee in 2000. The proposed extension, adding two groups of tombs in Beijing and Jiangsu Province, would add an additional 943 ha of protected area to the tombs already inscribed.

ID No.	Tomb(s)	Province	Inscribed	Area (ha)	Buffer Zone
001	Xianling Tomb	Hubei	2000	87.6	226.4
002	Eastern Qing Tombs	Hebei	2000	224	7,800
003	Western Qing Tombs	Hebei	2000	1,842	4,758
Subtotal, 2000				2,153.6	12,784.4
004	Ming Tombs	Changping Dist., Beijing	proposed	823	8,100.0
Xiaoling Tombs					
005	Xiaoling Tomb	Jiangsu	proposed	116	180
006	Tomb of Chang Yuchun	Jiangsu	proposed	0.98	
007	Tomb of Qiu Cheng	Jiangsu	proposed	0.55	
008	Tomb of Wu Liang	Jiangsu	proposed	0.40	
009	Tomb of Wu Zhen	Jiangsu	proposed	0.35	
010	Tomb of Xu Da	Jiangsu	proposed	0.85	
011	Tomb of Li Wenzhong	Jiangsu	proposed	0.87	
Subtotal, 2003				943.00	8,280.0
TOTAL				3,096.60	21,064.4

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the property be **inscribed** on the World Heritage List as an extension to the existing World Heritage site of Ming and Qing tombs, using the same criteria i, ii, iii, iv and vi.

ICOMOS emphasises the overall quality of the sites as symbolic cultural landscapes, based on the principles of Chinese Geomancy, taking note of the efforts made to remove some structures not considered compatible with the character of the burial sites.

In the same spirit, and recognizing the existing long-term conservation management programmes, ICOMOS also draws attention to the need to enforce the maintenance and sensitive conservation of the areas where the condition is not considered satisfactory.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.61 The World Heritage Committee,

Approves the extension of the **Imperial Tombs of the Ming and Qing Dynasties** China, on the World Heritage List on the basis of existing cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi).

27 COM 8C.62 With regard to the **Imperial Tombs of the Ming and Qing Dynasties**, China, the World Heritage Committee,

Recognizing the existing conservation management programmes of the property,

Encourages the State Party to enforce maintenance and conservation in the areas of the Ming Tombs in Beijing where tourism and development pressures are increasing.

Property	Historic District of Panamá, with the Salón Bolívar (extension to include the Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo)
Id. N°	790 Bis
State Party	Panama
Criteria	C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (v) (vi)

Technical Summary:

The Historic District of Panamá, with the Salón Bolívar was inscribed on the World Heritage List by the 21st session of the Committee (Naples, 1997). When the original nomination was presented, it had included the archaeological site of Panamá Viejo, 7.5 km east of the historic district. Requesting a more precise definition of Panamá Viejo and its statutory controls, the Committee inscribed only the Historic District in 1997. The property proposed in this extension is a 28ha shoreline area with an 85ha buffer zone.

Name	Date Inscribed	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)
Historic District of Panamá, with the Salón Bolívar	1997	29.4	not given
Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo	proposed	28.0	85.0
TOTAL		57.4	

If the Committee approves the extension, it may be appropriate to consider a revised name for the property.

With the agreement of the State Party, the Committee may wish to consider: "Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo and the Historic District of Panamá."

ICOMOS Recommendation:

ICOMOS recommends that the extension of the nomination of Panamá Viejo be approved to include the archaeological site [and]

That the general context be respected as well as special attention paid to possible visual risks, mainly in possible developments in the buffer zone.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.63 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Approves the extension of the **Historic District of Panamá, with the Salón Bolívar**, Panama, on the World Heritage List to include the Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo under the existing cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi);
2. Approves the proposed name change to "the Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo and the Historic District of Panamá," with the agreement of the State Party.

C.4 Nominations previously presented but withdrawn by the State Party

Property	Sector of the Historical Area of Valparaíso
Id. N°	959 Rev
State Party	Chile
Criteria	C (iii)

Technical Summary:

The "Historic Centre of the Seaport City of Valparaíso" (C 959) was submitted by the State Party on 9 November 1998. The ICOMOS evaluation to the 24th Session of the Bureau (June 2000) did not recommend inscription, and the nomination was withdrawn prior to the session. The current nomination was received on 21 January 2002. The zone proposed for inscription comprises a single area of 23.2 ha, while the buffer zone comprises an area of 44.5 ha.

ICOMOS Recommendation:

Recognising the wish of the municipal authorities to advance knowledge of the urban fabric and the values associated with Valparaíso, as well as the efforts undertaken for its protection and conservation management, ICOMOS recommends that the authorities continue the initiatives taken so far, and especially:

- Systematically identify, make inventories, and protect the infrastructures related to the historic functions of the harbour area, such as quays, depots, and customs facilities, as well as the transport systems, tramlines and elevators;
- Develop the conservation management plans in the entire maritime port area of Valparaíso;
- Clarify with more precision the norms and guidelines in areas that are adjacent to the protected zones, e.g. Plaza de Intendencia, Cementario, Pantheon, Plaza de San Francisco.

Furthermore, ICOMOS recommends to the State Party to consider the possibility of changing the name so as to better

reflect the outstanding universal value of Valparaíso as a major merchant port on a world trade route.

Taking into account the above, ICOMOS recommends that the nominated be **inscribed** on the World Heritage List on the basis of criterion iii:

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.64 The World Heritage Committee,

Inscribes the **Sector of the Historical Area of Valparaíso, Chile, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criterion (iii):**

Criterion (iii): Valparaíso is an exceptional testimony to the early phase of globalisation in the late 19th century, when it became the leading merchant port on the sea routes of the Pacific coast of South America.

27 COM 8C.65 With regard to the **Sector of the Historical Area of Valparaíso, Chile, the World Heritage Committee,**

1. Noting the agreement of the State Party to the proposal,
2. Approves the proposed name change to the "Historic Quarter of Valparaíso".

27 COM 8C.66 With regard to the **Sector of the Historical Area of Valparaíso, Chile, the World Heritage Committee,**

1. Encourages the State Party to continue its efforts to inventory and protect the infrastructure related to the historic functions of the harbour area and transport systems;
2. Further encourages the State Party to develop conservation management plans in the entire maritime port area;
3. Requests the State Party to clarify with more precision the norms and guidelines in areas that are adjacent to the protected zones, e.g. Plaza de Intendencia, Cementario, Pantheon, Plaza de San Francisco.

Property	Ubuda-Baeza: Urban duality, cultural unity
Id. N°	522 Rev
State Party	Spain
Criteria	

Technical Summary:

The nomination, for two historic towns in Andalusia, 10.6 km distant from one another, was originally presented in January 1989 and not inscribed by the 13th session of the Committee (Paris, 1989). It was presented again on 30 June 1999 as the "Renaissance Monumental Ensembles of Úbeda and Baeza" (522 Rev), but after a negative recommendation by ICOMOS, the nomination was withdrawn by the State Party prior to the 24th session of the Bureau (Paris, 2000). The present nomination was received on 25 January 2002.

Name	Area (ha)	Buffer zone	Coordinates
Baeza	4.8	85.4	N37 59 47.0 W3 27 59.5
Úbeda	4.2	90.3	N38 00 40.7 W3 22 16.4
TOTAL	9.0	175.7	

ICOMOS Recommendation:

That the property be **deferred** subject to redefinition and verification of the nominated areas and buffer zones.

The State Party is invited to elaborate the norms and guidelines for the restoration and rehabilitation of historic buildings and areas so as to be coherent with the internationally accepted criteria. Action should also be taken to restore the surroundings of the historic areas.

Additional information received:

Supplementary information was received by the Centre on 3 and 19 June 2003, revising the areas nominated in Ubuda and Baeza. The table above reflects the revised limits of the site.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.67 The World Heritage Committee,

Defers the nomination of **Ubuda-Baeza: Urban duality, cultural unity, Spain, subject to redefinition and verification of the nominated areas and buffer zones.**

27 COM 8C.68 With regard to **Ubuda-Baeza: Urban duality, cultural unity, Spain, the World Heritage Committee,**

Invites the State Party to elaborate the norms and guidelines for the restoration and rehabilitation of historic buildings and areas so as to be coherent with internationally accepted criteria. Action should also be taken to restore the surroundings of the historic areas.

C.5 Reactivation of a deferred nomination at the request of the Committee

Property	Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley
Id. N°	C 208 Rev
State Party	Afghanistan
Criteria	C (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (vi)

Technical Summary:

The original nomination, "The Monuments of Bamiyan Valley", was submitted in 1982. ICOMOS recommended the adoption of a perimeter of protection sufficiently broad to safeguard the natural environment of exceptional beauty. At its 7th session in June 1983, the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee recommended inscription on the condition that the authorities define a large perimeter of protection, which would include the cliffs and the valley, and provide a map indicating the delimitation of this zone. In December 1983, the Committee decided to defer examination of the nomination since the conditions under which the Bureau had recommended the inscription of the property on the World Heritage List had not yet been fulfilled. No further information was received from the Afghan authorities before the Buddhas in Bamiyan were destroyed by Taliban forces on 11 March 2001.

At its 26th session (Budapest, 2002), the Committee decided to provide assistance to Afghanistan, inviting the State Party "to further proceed in the reformulation of the deferred nominations of the Historic City of Herat and the Monuments and Archaeological Sites of the Bamiyan Valley for possible examination by the Committee in 2004 or 2005." The Committee further requested the Centre to assist the Afghan authorities in compiling the necessary documentation (Decision **26 COM 24.2.4 and Annex 2**).

The revised nomination was received from the Afghan authorities on 19 May 2003 for inscription on the World Heritage List and the request that the property be included the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The **Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley** is a serial nomination of 8 parcels in the Bamiyan Valley, 246 km west of Kabul. The eight sites occupy an area of just under 160 ha, surrounded by buffer zones totalling 342 ha.

Name	Area (ha)	Buffer Zone (ha)
Bamiyan Cliff including niches of the 38 meter Buddha, seated Buddhas, 55 meter Buddha and surrounding caves	105.00	225.25
Kakrak Valley caves including the niche of the standing Buddha	15.00	33.00
Qoul-I Akram Caves in the Fuladi Valley	6.00	40.50
Kalai Ghamai Caves in the Fuladi Valley	5.50	
Shahr-i-Zuhak	18.00	13.00
Qallay Kaphari A	0.0625	17.00
Qallay Kaphari B	0.0640	
Shahr-i-Ghulghulah	9.30	13.20
TOTAL	158.9265	341.95

ICOMOS Recommendation

That the property be inscribed on the basis of criteria i, ii, iii, iv and vi:

It is recommended that the State Party make every effort to guarantee the adequate legal framework for the protection and conservation of Bamiyan Valley. It is further recommended that the International community continue its collaboration with the scope to provide a sustainable basis for the future conservation, rehabilitation and maintenance of the Bamiyan cultural landscape, its monumental remains and traditional settlements.

It is further recommended that the property be inscribed on the World Heritage in Danger List considering that it is threatened by the imminent danger of further deterioration, and considering that major operations are necessary for its conservation.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.69 The World Heritage Committee,

*Inscribes the **Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley**, Afghanistan, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi):*

Criterion (i): *The Buddha statues and the cave art in Bamiyan Valley are an outstanding representation of the*

Gandharan school in Buddhist art in the Central Asian region.

Criterion (ii): *The artistic and architectural remains of Bamiyan Valley, and an important Buddhist centre on the Silk Road, are an exceptional testimony to the interchange of Indian, Hellenistic, Roman, Sasanian influences as the basis for the development of a particular artistic expression in the Gandharan school. To this can be added the Islamic influence in a later period.*

Criterion (iii): *The Bamiyan Valley bears an exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition in the Central Asian region, which has disappeared.*

Criterion (iv): *The Bamiyan Valley is an outstanding example of a cultural landscape which illustrates a significant period in Buddhism.*

Criterion (vi): *The Bamiyan Valley is the most monumental expression of the western Buddhism. It was an important centre of pilgrimage over many centuries. Due to their symbolic values, the monuments have suffered at different times of their existence, including the deliberate destruction in 2001, which shook the whole world.*

27 COM 8C.70 The World Heritage Committee,

*Decides to inscribe to the **Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley**, Afghanistan, on the List of World Heritage in Danger.*

27 COM 8C.71 *With regard to the **Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley**, Afghanistan, the World Heritage Committee,*

- 1. Recommends that the State Party make every effort to guarantee the adequate legal framework for the protection and conservation of the Bamiyan Valley;*
- 2. Further urges the international community and various organizations active in the field of heritage protection in the Bamiyan Valley to continue its co-operation and assistance to the Afghan authorities to enhance the conservation and protection of the property;*
- 3. Recognizing the significant and persisting danger posed by anti-personnel mines in various areas of the Bamiyan Valley and noting the request from the Afghan authorities that all cultural projects include funds for demining,*
- 4. Strongly encourages Member States, IGOs, NGOs, and other institutions to take this request into consideration when planning cultural heritage activities in the Bamiyan Valley, and to this end, appeals for financial and technical assistance for demining activities in the valley;*
- 5. Requests the Director-General of UNESCO to continue his efforts to effectively co-ordinate the various initiatives and activities benefitting the conservation process in the Bamiyan Valley, and in particular, ensure that the work of the World Heritage Committee and the Advisory Bodies are fully taken into account at the International Co-ordination Committee sessions and associated Working Groups;*
- 6. Requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory*

Bodies to assist the Afghan authorities, in close co-operation with the UNESCO Kabul Office and the Division for Cultural Heritage, to elaborate a comprehensive and effective management plan for the Bamiyan Valley,

7. *Requests a report on the state of conservation of the Bamiyan Valley to be submitted by the State Party with assistance from the World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Kabul and the Division of Cultural Heritage, for examination at the 28th session of the World Heritage Committee.*

III. Application of para. 67 of the Operational Guidelines (July 2002) concerning nominations to be processed on an Emergency Basis

Paragraph 67 of the Operational Guidelines:

67. *The normal deadlines for the submission and processing of nominations will not apply in the case of properties which, in the opinion of the Bureau, after consultation with the competent international non-governmental organization, would unquestionably meet the criteria for inclusion in the World Heritage List and which have suffered damage from disaster caused by natural events or by human activities. Such nominations will be processed on an emergency basis.*

The following two nominations were received in 2003 under the conditions of paragraph 67, cited above. Both have been examined by ICOMOS.

Property	Ashur (Qala'at at Sherqat)
Id. N°	C 1130
State Party	Iraq
Criteria	C (iii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

The nomination of Ashur (Qala'at at Sherqat) was received on 18 October 2002. A revised text was received in January 2003. Ashur was the first capital of the Assyrian empire, begun c.2800 B.C., although it continued to prosper into Hellenistic and Parthian periods in the 1st and 2nd centuries A.D. The site is located on the west bank of the river Tigris, 390 km north of Baghdad and occupies an area of 70 ha. A buffer zone of 100 ha is proposed for the property. The property is threatened by the construction of the Makhool Dam, 30-40 km downstream of the property of Ashur. The waters of Makhool Lake will flood areas to the north and east of the archaeological site by 2006. An expert mission, consisting of a hydrologist and an archaeologist, visited the site 18-22 November 2002 to assess the dam's impact on the archaeological site. However, no information was made available to the mission as to the future operation of the reservoir, designed for the generation of 300 MW of hydroelectric power. As a result it was not possible to adequately study the protection works necessary both from the reservoir waters and from infiltration and leakage to the existing and future excavation sites. The team proposed two solutions: an earthen embankment with impermeable core; or construction of a "Terramesh" wall with an impermeable membrane lining to reinforce the soil escarpments down to the Tigris River.

ICOMOS Recommendation

ICOMOS recognizes the outstanding universal value of Ashur, and despite the current lack of management systems, considering the exceptional circumstances, recommends that the site be inscribed on the basis of criteria iii and iv:

Consideration should also be given to inscribing the site on the World Heritage in Danger List.

ICOMOS strongly recommends that protection in the area of Ashur should be extended from the excavated site to the surrounding territory, which will certainly contain extremely valuable and relevant information to the understanding of the whole region.

Secondly, ICOMOS recommends that a management regime be properly organised and implemented for the site of Ashur and its context as soon as possible.

With reference to the findings of the UNESCO mission to Ashur in November 2002, ICOMOS further recommends that:

- o Iraqi authorities launch an invitation to archaeological expeditions on an international level to participate in the salvage excavations and studies of the Makhool Dam reservoir area;
- o a coordination centre for the archaeological research in the area of Ashur be established with the support of UNESCO and the World Heritage Fund;
- o an integrated approach be applied, combining on-site and off-site research, based on archaeological survey strategies, archaeological excavations, and the use of scientific methods of analysis;
- o the necessary technical information on the Makhool Dam construction and its environmental impact be provided by the Iraqi authorities to UNESCO and its specialists as soon as possible, as a necessary condition for appropriate measures to developed for the safeguard of Ashur and the territory affected by the dam construction.

Additional information received:

A letter from the Ministry of Culture of the Coalition Provisional Authority was received 25 June 2003, confirming the decision taken by the Cultural Cabinet that the World Heritage Committee "should proceed with inscribing Ashur on the World Heritage List. The Cabinet also agreed that simultaneously Ashur should be entered on the 'in danger' list."

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.72 *The World Heritage Committee,*

Inscribes Ashur (Qala'at at Sherqat), Iraq, on the World Heritage List on the basis of cultural criteria (iii) and (iv):

Criterion (iii): *Founded in the 3rd millennium BCE, the most important role of Ashur was from the 14th to 9th century BCE when it was the first capital of the Assyrian empire. Ashur was also the religious capital of Assyrians, and the place for crowning and burial of its kings.*

Criterion (iv): *The excavated remains of the public and residential buildings of Ashur provide an outstanding record of the evolution of building practice from the Sumerian and Akkadian period through the Assyrian empire, as well as including the short revival during the Parthian period.*

27 COM 8C.73 *The World Heritage Committee,*

Decides to inscribe Ashur (Qala'at at Sherqat), Iraq, on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

27 COM 8C.74 *With regard to Ashur (Qala'at at Sherqat), Iraq, the World Heritage Committee,*

1. *Requests the Iraqi authorities to release the Environmental Impact Assessment and original feasibility study;*
2. *Considering the costs of remedial measures already proposed by the Engineering Report;*

3. *Considering the pause in construction activity occasioned by the war; and*

4. *Taking into consideration that the original proposal for the dam, while necessary, may not have been planned with consideration of all aspects of the problem;*

5. *Requests the Centre and ICOMOS to continue assisting the responsible Iraqi authorities in the definition of possible alternative locations for the dam and the most appropriate protection measures for the site, including a comprehensive management plan;*

6. *Invites UNESCO, should the dam project be resumed, to launch an appeal to the international community and archaeological missions to help the Iraqi Department of Antiquities in conducting rescue excavations and documentation in the area affected by the future reservoir.*

Property	The First Railway Bridge over the Yenisei River
Id. N°	C 1071
State Party	Russian Federation
Criteria	C (i) (ii) (iv)

Technical Summary:

The Yenisei River Bridge at Krasnoyarsk, built in 1896-99, is the largest railroad bridge on the main line of Trans-Siberian Railway. It was the first bridge in Russia and the second on the Euro-Asian continent of such length (1000 m) and size of span between abutments (144m). The bridge reportedly exercised great influence on subsequent bridge design. The State Party claims it as an outstanding example of "typical" construction at the end of the 19th century. The bridge occupies 0.96 ha and has a buffer zone of 2 ha. The bridge is scheduled to be demolished by the Ministry of Railways.

The nomination was originally submitted on 28 June 2001 for inscription on an emergency basis under paragraph 67 of the *Operational Guidelines*. The nomination was transmitted to ICOMOS for evaluation, but requested information concerning the precise nature of the threat was not provided, and the nomination was not examined by the 25th session of the Committee (Helsinki, 2001). The nomination was again submitted for inscription on an emergency basis on 30 January 2003 by the State Party. The Centre has requested the State Party to provide further information on the threat to the site, especially concerning the recent history of the bridge and legal and administrative efforts by local authorities to preserve the bridge. As of the preparation of this report, no further information has been received.

ICOMOS Recommendation

Following the ICOMOS evaluation, the proposed property of the First Railway Bridge over the Yenissei River appears to meet the requirements of outstanding universal value on the basis of criteria ii and iv.

Nevertheless, ICOMOS has not been in the position to send a site mission in order to verify the condition of the bridge within its context and the management structure.

The property was presented as an emergency inscription. Nevertheless, no physical concerns are indicated in the nomination documents. It is understood however that the

Ministry of Railways had been considering that possibility of demolishing the bridge as it did not meet the present traffic requirements any longer. Since 1999, the bridge has come under a new administration and it has been listed for protection at the local level. Notwithstanding the requests, the State Party has not provided specific reasons to continue with the emergency inscription.

Considering the above, ICOMOS does not see justification for emergency inscription, and recommends that the inscription should follow the normal procedure, allowing also a site mission to take place.

Draft Decision:

27 COM 8C.75 *The World Heritage Committee*

1. Considers that the conditions required by paragraph 67 of the Operational Guidelines concerning "damage from disaster caused by natural events or human activities" have not been fully justified;
2. Decides not to inscribe **The First Railway Bridge over the Yenisei River**, Russian Federation, on the World Heritage List on an emergency basis; and
3. Encourages the State Party to resubmit the nomination with full documentation by 1 February 2004 for consideration by the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2005.

Area in hectares of properties proposed for inscription

Natural Properties

State Party	Proposed World Heritage property	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)
Brazil	Extension to Jaú National Park	3,824,018	
China	Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Areas	939,441	758,978
Egypt	Ras Mohammed	40,110	0
Kazakhstan	Saryarka - Steppe and Lakes of Northern Kazakhstan	429,147	210,971
Russian Federation	Natural System of "Wrangel Island" Sanctuary	916,300	3,745,300
Russian Federation / Mongolia	Uvs Nuur Basin	898,063	170,790
Switzerland	Monte San Giorgio	849	1,389
United Kingdom	Extension to Gough Island Wildlife Reserve	1,400	n/a
Viet Nam	Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park	85,754	195,400
Sub-total		7,135,083	5,082,828

Mixed Properties

State Party	Proposed World Heritage property	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)
Australia	Purnululu National Park	239,723	79,602
Brazil	Rio de Janeiro: Sugar Loaf, Tijuca Forest and the Botanical Gardens	3,600	1,903
Brazil	Serra da Capivara National Park	*	*
Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional del Este and its buffer zone	41,894	12,000
Egypt	Saint Catherine Area	*	*
Portugal	Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture	190	2,445
Sub-total		285,407	95,950

* No additional areas are being proposed to these properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List

Cultural Properties

State Party	Proposed World Heritage property	Area (ha)	Buffer (ha)
Afghanistan	Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley	159	342
Argentina	Quebrada de Humahuaca	172,116	369,649
Bosnia and Herzegovina	The Old City of Mostar	n/a	n/a
Canada	Extension to the Historic District of Québec	10	

Chile	Sector of the Historical Area of Valparaíso	23	44
China	Extension to the Imperial Tombs of the Ming and Qing Dynasties	943	8,280
Czech Republic	The Jewish Quarter and St Procopius' Basilica in Trebic	6	143
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Nominated Complex of Koguryo Tombs	233	1,701
Gambia	James Island and Related Sites	8	300
Germany	The Town Hall and Roland on the Marketplace of Bremen	0.3	36,295
India	Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka	1,892	10,280
Iran	Takht-e Soleyman	10	7,438
Iraq	Ashur (Qala'at at Sherqat)	70	100
Israel	The White City of Tel-Aviv	140	197
Italy	Sacri Monti of Piedmont and Lombardy	90	722
Kazakhstan	The Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi	0.5	88
Mexico	Franciscan Missions in the Sierra Gorda of Queretaro	104	
Mongolia	Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape	7,537	143,867
Panama	Extension to the Historic District of Panamá, with the Salón Bolívar	28	
Poland	The Valley of the Pradnik River in the Ojcowski National Park	1,500	7,350
Poland	Wooden Churches of Southern Little Poland	8	242
Russian Federation	Citadel, Ancient City and Fortress Buildings of Derbent	10	2
Russian Federation	The First Railway Bridge over the Yenisei River	1	2
Slovenia	Franja Partisan Hospital	70	
South Africa	Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape	28,169	0
Spain	Ubeda-Baeza: Urban duality, cultural unity	9	176
Sudan	Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region	182	46
Turkey	Historic City of Mardin	120	35
United Kingdom	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	132	350
Zimbabwe	Matobo Hills	205,000	105,000
Sub-total		418,571	692,650

TOTAL		7,839,061	5,871,428
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