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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANIZATION

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 11 of the Provisional Agenda: Examination of the World Heritage
Fund and approval of the related budget for 2004-2005**

DRAFT DECISION

27 COM 11.2

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Notes the decrease of the World Heritage Fund budget for 2004-2005;*
2. *Approves the following priorities should additional resources be made available from the UNESCO Regular Programme in the Programme and Budget, 2004-2005 (32C/5) to the World Heritage Fund:*
 - (i) *Establishment on an exceptional basis and for only two years of two new posts on ALD (Appointments of Limited Duration) contract for the Policy and Statutory Implementation Unit;*
 - (ii) *Allocation of not less than 30% of the residual sum to International Assistance - Emergency Assistance;*
 - (iii) *Allocation of not less than 20 % of the residual sum to assistance for properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
 - (iv) *Allocation of remaining funds for International Assistance to States Parties, with priority to Preparatory Assistance.*
3. *Requests the World Heritage Centre to report to the 28th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2004 on the results of the 32nd General Conference with respect to the proposal for complementary funding for World Heritage priorities.*

I. OVERVIEW OF THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND BUDGET 2004-2005

1. As indicated in WHC-03/27.COM/11 a substantial reduction in the income to the World Heritage Fund in 2004-2005 is foreseen.
2. The proposed expenditure has been lowered from **US\$10,863,745** in 2002-2003 to **US\$7,248,070** in 2004-2005 (US\$ 610 M scenario, UNESCO Draft 32C/5).
3. This situation is foreseen to occur for a number of reasons including:
 - (i) the exhaustion of reserves that has resulted from higher expenditure than income for a number of years;
 - (ii) the re-entry of the United States of America to UNESCO. This is foreseen to result in a decrease in the total assessed contributions of States Parties to the World Heritage Fund (assessed at 1% of their contributions to UNESCO). and,
 - (iii) an expected reduction in income to the World Heritage Fund from other sources such as, income from World Heritage publication royalties etc.
4. The decrease of the World Heritage Fund expenditure will certainly have an impact on the effective implementation of the World Heritage Convention, in particular in the level of technical assistance available to respond to International Assistance requests from States Parties.
5. A number of proposals as to how to alleviate this situation and improve the budgetary situation are made in WHC-03/27.COM/5 (Report of the Secretariat):
 - Invite the Director-General to provide a contribution - on an exceptional basis to the World Heritage Fund in order to compensate the shortfalls of its budget.
 - Invite States Parties to contribute to the World Heritage Fund on a voluntary basis the savings obtained in the next biennium due to the reduction of their annual contributions to UNESCO.
 - Propose new voluntary contributions to the next General Assembly of States Parties (14GASP), along the lines already discussed, albeit not agreed, at the 12GASP in 2001.
6. In addition the World Heritage Centre is working to pursue the strategy defined in the past three years in the following areas (see WHC-03/27.COM/5):
 - Further development of bi-lateral agreements with States Parties.
 - Development of partnerships with multilateral organizations.
 - Development of partnerships with the private sector.

II. THE DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET OF UNESCO, 2004-2005 (DRAFT 32C/5)

7. As indicated in WHC-03/27.COM/16, the Draft 32C/5 recommended the following for World Heritage in the next biennium:

\$576 M scenario	US\$1,991,300
\$610 M scenario	US\$2,141,300 (an additional US\$ 150,000 to be reviewed following the 166EX)

8. The Director-General of UNESCO is aware of the situation presented above. However, no definite decision will be taken until the 32nd General Conference (29 September - 18 October 2003).

9. No new posts have been foreseen for the World Heritage Centre in the Draft 32 C/5. In WHC-03/27.COM/11 (paragraph III.1.4.) there is a statement that "In 2004-2005, two additional posts are expected to be created." This statement requires further explanation as indeed the two additional posts (26 in 2002-2003 increased to 28 in 2004-2005) were acquired during the biennium 2002-2003.

10. Although no new posts are foreseen, there is a need to reinforce the World Heritage Centre in some critical areas such as Registration of Nominations and Statutory Documentation. At present the Policy and Statutory Implementation Unit is composed of one profession (P-4), one clerk/meetings organizer (G-5) and one assistant (G-4). An additional P-2 has been temporarily assigned to the Unit from one of the Regional Units in the Centre. It is hoped that an Associate Expert will soon be made available from Italy.

11. In the Policy and Statutory Implementation Unit, all tasks relating to the registration of nominations, tentative lists and all statutory document management are performed by long-term consultants whose fees were paid by the World Heritage Fund in the current and two previous biennia.

III. PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION IN 2004-2005

12. The Committee may wish to approve the following priorities should additional resources be made available in the 32C/5. The priorities are the following:

- (i) Establishment on an exceptional basis and for only two years of two new posts on ALD (Appointments of Limited Duration) contract for the Policy and Statutory Implementation Unit;
- (ii) Allocation of not less than 30% of the residual sum to International Assistance - Emergency Assistance;
- (iii) Allocation of not less than 20 % of the residual sum to assistance for properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
- (iv) Allocation of remaining funds for International Assistance to States Parties, with priority to Preparatory Assistance.