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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 20 of the Provisional Agenda: World Heritage Partnerships Initiative:
Performance Indicators and Progress Report**

SUMMARY

This two-part document includes:

Section A

A. I A **progress report** on the work undertaken since the 26th session (Budapest, 2002) of the Committee to develop a World Heritage Partnerships Initiative;

A. II A proposal for **Performance Indicators** for measuring the initiative as requested by the 26th session of the Committee (Budapest, 2002);

A. III A **Draft Decision** for consideration and adoption by the Committee (paragraph A20).

Section B:

B. I A **note** about the decision by the 166th Executive Board to recommend that the 32nd session of the UNESCO General Conference should grant to the Nordic World Heritage Foundation the status of a Regional Centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

B. II A **Draft Decision** for consideration and adoption by the Committee .

This document should be read in conjunction with:

- WHC-02/CONF.202/5 Budapest Declaration on World Heritage
- WHC-02/CONF.202/13A Proposed Strategic Objectives of the World Heritage Committee
- WHC-02/CONF.202/13C Proposal for the Development of a World Heritage Partnerships Initiative (WHPI)
- WHC-02/CONF.202/25 Decisions Adopted by the 26th Session Of The World Heritage Committee (Decision 26 COM 17.3)
- Report of the International Congress, 'World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility' (to be made available at the 27th session of the Committee)

SECTION A

A.I PROGRESS REPORT

Introduction

1. At its 26th session (Budapest, 2002) in the context of follow-up to the reform agenda of the World Heritage Committee, the Committee welcomed a proposal to develop a World Heritage Partnerships Initiative (see WHC-02/CONF.202/13C). This section of the document:

- provides a **progress report** on the work undertaken since the 26th session to develop a World Heritage Partnerships Initiative as requested in WHC-02/CONF.202/25 26COM 17.3;
- proposes for **Performance Indicators** for measuring the impact of the Initiative during the period of the 32C/5 as requested in WHC-02/CONF.202/25 26 COM 17.3; and
- proposes a **Draft Decision** for consideration and adoption by the Committee.

Developing partnerships: a strategic framework

2. Through the *Budapest Declaration on World Heritage*, adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 26th session (Budapest, 2002), the Committee called for countries and other partners around the world to join together and co-operate in the protection of heritage, recognizing that to harm such heritage is to harm, at the same time, the human spirit and the world's inheritance. Comprised of the following four objectives (known as the 4C's): **Credibility, Conservation, Capacity-Building and Communication**, the *Budapest Declaration* provides a strategic framework for the further development of existing and new partnerships to co-operate and promote these strategic objectives.

3. Implementing these strategic objectives to secure their success and impact in terms of World Heritage conservation will require substantial additional resources to those currently available through the World Heritage Fund (expected to reduce substantially over the biennium 2004-2005) and existing extra budgetary resources. The World Heritage Partnerships Initiative, developed in the context of follow up to the reform agenda of the World Heritage Committee and as a contribution to the UNESCO Medium-Term Strategy 2002-2007, is a tool for doing so.

4. It is widely recognised that World Heritage is one of the most successful ideas that UNESCO has built over the past 30 years. The Venice Congress and associated workshops held in Italy in November 2002 on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention* were decisive steps towards greater mobilization in favour of heritage protection and the promotion of heritage of outstanding universal value for the coming generation. The objectives of the Congress were to discuss the evolution of the *Convention* since 1972 and consider its role for the future, with a particular emphasis on reinforcing partnerships between governments and civil society for the long-term conservation of World Heritage. The Congress also introduced the partnerships initiative to a wider public.

5. Building and maintaining a system of international co-operation and support requires further efforts, innovation and commitment. This is the challenge that lies ahead of UNESCO and the international community as the *Convention* enters its fourth decade. The work will comprise two parallel strands: (i) on-going work to mainstream World Heritage and (ii) the development of partnerships with civil society and the private sector.

Mainstreaming World Heritage

6. The proposal for a World Heritage Partnerships Initiative presented to the 26th session of the Committee (Budapest, 2002) in WHC-02/CONF.202/13C drew attention to the fact that more and more agencies are becoming involved in cultural and natural heritage conservation and extending grants and loans for projects in World Heritage protected areas. Although UNESCO is consulted by some of these agencies this is the exception rather than the rule. It is essential for UNESCO and the World Heritage Committee and its Advisory Bodies to re-establish their position as the focal point for conservation of cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value.

7. The World Heritage Centre is therefore seeking to expand the existing network of bi and multi-lateral partnerships with governments and intergovernmental institutions through, inter-alia, the development of specific agreements, the provision of staff and the mainstreaming of World Heritage into development programmes. In addition to the bi-lateral agreements already existing (Australia, Belgium, France, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Spain), a new one was signed by the Director-General of UNESCO and the Prime Minister of New Zealand on 28 April 2003. Others are under discussion with the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. On the multi-lateral side, workshops are planned with the World Bank and UNDP-GEF in June 2003 to explore the theme of World Heritage conservation in the development process with a view to forging closer working links.

World Heritage PaCt (Partners for Conservation)

8. A parallel strand of work will focus on the as yet unexploited opportunities arising from the growing interest in the corporate sector in becoming associated with World Heritage conservation. The untapped potential synergies between a variety of global NGO initiatives and activities tied to the *Convention* also warrant serious attention. This will be the focus of the work undertaken to develop the ***World Heritage PaCt (Partners for Conservation)*** as the partnerships initiative will henceforth be known. The change of name is in response to feedback from a number of existing and potential partners who thought the initiative needed a more attractive and active name.

9. Two principal categories of partners are foreseen:

- non-governmental organisations, research institutions or foundations; and
- the corporate sector, including the media.

10. At a later stage, these will be expanded to include donations from individuals.

11. WHC-02/CONF.202/13C proposed rules and regulations for the initiative. Where derogations and waivers appear desirable in the development of particular partnerships, they will be sought from UNESCO Administration and Central Services.

12. *The World Heritage PaCt* will seek to mobilize technical resources and create networks of exchanges and technical assistance for site-specific actions and promote the World Heritage mission as a platform through which civil society and private sector organizations might be engaged over the long-term. An important element in this will be to establish a systematic fundraising strategy for World Heritage conservation projects. Resources raised in this way will be channelled through the World Heritage Fund, which is expected to reduce substantially over the biennium 2004-2005 to around US\$ 7 million.

13. In addition to contributing to the funding of specific World Heritage property based projects, foundations and global companies with the ability to build networks will be encouraged to make direct and indirect contributions to the World Heritage mission, in the form of broadcasts, articles, staff, and capital investments to build capacity and increase awareness.

New partnerships under development since the 26th session of the Committee

14. Significant new partnerships indicating the potential of the initiative to mobilize resources for World Heritage conservation were announced at the Venice Congress in November 2002. These included a UNESCO-United Nations Foundation (UNF) - Conservation International (CI) tri-partite agreement worth US \$15 million in which CI will match dollar for dollar with UNF for projects for long-term biodiversity conservation, up to US \$7.5 million over three years. A similar partnership is under negotiation with WWF US. Fauna and Flora International also pledged, at the associated workshop in Trieste, to co-operate with UNESCO, UNF and other interested partners to build a Rapid Response Mechanism to respond to threats to World Heritage natural sites and generate the initial capital needed for a fund that will support the mechanism's operations. In addition, a 10-page article on the *World Heritage Convention* in the October 2002 edition of *National Geographic Magazine* (global readership 50 million) gave a tremendous fillip to raising awareness about the *Convention*.

15. Other projects concluded or under negotiation over the past months include an agreement with the Grand Circle Foundation, currently being finalised, which pledges US\$100,000 per year to selected World Heritage properties agreed with UNESCO WHC over a 5 year period), a co-operation agreement with a UK based television production company which has been commissioned to make two 13 part series for BBC World (potential audience 240 million homes world wide) and a partnership with Hewlett Packard to provide remote print on demand facilities.

A. II PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

16. It is vital to develop performance indicators against which to assess the implementation of the *World Heritage PaCt* on the basis of objective information and which can also be read in conjunction with those developed for assessing the

implementation of the 2002 Strategic Objectives (the 4 C's) proposed in document WHC-03/27.COM 19. The UNESCO 32C/5 Draft Programme and Budget 2004-2005 includes categories of performance indicators for assessing the partnerships initiative for the coming biennium. They are:

- *"Number and diversity of partners involved*
- *Number of partnerships concluded and implemented*
- *Amount of additional funds raised for major conservation projects*
- *Educational and awareness raising programmes conducted*
- *Partnerships concluded with media groups."*

(Source: UNESCO 32C/5 Draft Programme and Budget 2004-2005)

17. While these remain to be discussed and approved by the 32nd UNESCO General Conference (29 September - 18 October 2003), the World Heritage Centre has begun work to develop accompanying quantifiers for the biennium 2004-2005. These can be divided into two categories: (i) **process indicators** for measuring the success of the Committee's decision to open up the process of safeguarding World Heritage to a broader range of actors and (ii) **achievement indicators** for measuring success in mobilizing additional resources for World Heritage conservation.

(i) Proposed process indicators:

- Present the initiative and new partnerships to major international fora such as the forthcoming World Parks Congress (Durban, South Africa 2003); World Economic Forum, Barcelona 2004, the Cultural Olympics 2004, the VIIth Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, (Malaysia, 2004) and the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Thailand, 2004);
- Seek to broaden awareness of the *World Heritage PaCt* in the private sector by involving new non-governmental participants at World Heritage Committee sessions and related events in 2005.

(ii) Proposed achievement indicators:

- Mobilize new resources (measured in cash and in-kind) equivalent to the World Heritage Fund (US\$7 million) over the biennium 2004-2005.
- Develop at least one major World Heritage educational and awareness raising partnership with a NGO or private sector organisation, including the media;
- Develop at least one new major capacity building partnership with a NGO or private sector partner.

A strategy for implementation

18. Building on discussions within UNESCO and at the International Congress held in Venice in November 2002, *World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility* and the associated workshops held in Trieste (*Partnerships to Conserve Nature and Biodiversity*) and Venice (*Towards Innovative Partnerships for World Heritage*), the World Heritage Centre has identified the following elements for the

first phase of a strategic framework for providing long-term, sustainable support for World Heritage as envisaged by the *World Heritage PaCt*:

- Communication and general engagement of the public;
- Mobilizing Resources for World Heritage.

19. These are set out in more detail in the Report of the Workshop entitled *Towards Innovative Partnerships for World Heritage* in the Report of the Venice Congress, *World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility* (to be made available at the 27th session of the Committee).

A.III DRAFT DECISION 27COM 20C.1

20. *The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Notes that the World Heritage Partnerships Initiative will henceforth be known as the World Heritage PaCt (Partners for Conservation);
2. Considers that the progress report on activities over the past year demonstrates the potential of the World Heritage PaCt as a tool for implementing the 2002 Strategic Objectives;
3. Welcomes the work undertaken by the Secretariat to develop categories of performance indicators for assessing the success of the World Heritage PaCt during the biennium 2004-2005 and invites the Secretariat to present a report on progress in achieving them at its 29th session in June 2005;
4. Requests the Director-General to take appropriate administrative and financial steps to ensure the success of the World Heritage PaCt.

SECTION B

B.I PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE NORDIC WORLD HERITAGE FOUNDATION (NWHF) AS A REGIONAL CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO

Introduction

21. During its 166th session in March 2003, the Executive Board decided to recommend to the General Conference of UNESCO that it should grant, at its 32nd session, the status of a Regional Centre under the auspices of UNESCO to the Nordic World Heritage Foundation. (Document 166EX/17, *Proposal to Grant the Status of a Regional Centre under the Auspices of UNESCO to the Nordic World Heritage Foundation*, with its two annexes *Feasibility Study* and *Memorandum of Association*, and a copy of the *circular letter* sent to the Committee Members and the States Parties to the 1972 *Convention* informing them about this decision being taken by the Executive Board are attached to this document.)

22. In accordance with the relevant rules concerning the use of the World Heritage name and emblem, a decision is sought from the World Heritage Committee that would allow the existing Foundation to use the World Heritage emblem as a Regional Centre under the Auspices of UNESCO, subject to approval by the General Conference of UNESCO.

Background

23. Since 1996, the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF), until March 2002 known as the Nordic World Heritage Office, has participated in the implementation of the 1972 *World Heritage Convention* in the Nordic countries and has supported several projects in developing countries. Two evaluations of the Office were carried out respectively in 1998 and 2001. The latter evaluation recommended transforming the Office into a Foundation that should come under the auspices of UNESCO as a regional centre. The projects and funds generated through the Office's mediation role amounted to approximately USD 2 million in the period of 1998 to 2001.

24. UNESCO will not give any financial contribution to the NWHF but may contribute to its activities. Yearly contributions of 2,5 million NOK (ca. USD 300,000) for an initial period from 2003 to 2008 will come from the Norwegian Government. Project support from bi- and multilateral organisations and private partners will continue to be negotiated.

25. The work of the NWHF will be externally evaluated after an initial period of five years, in 2008.

26. Article 17 of the *World Heritage Convention* calls for States Parties to *consider or encourage the establishment of national public and private foundations or associations whose purpose is to invite donations for the protection of cultural and natural heritage.*

27. The NWHF will contribute to the medium term strategies of UNESCO in the field of culture, especially strategic objective 7 concerning the drafting and implementation of standard-setting instruments in the field of culture, and strategic objective 9 that aims at enhancing the linkages between culture and development through capacity-building and sharing of knowledge.

28. Its interface with the World Heritage Committee will be as follows:

- All the initiatives of the NWHF will be coordinated with the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO, as Secretariat of the World Heritage Committee and in line with the priorities set by the Committee.
- The NWHF acts as a regional and international centre, supporting the follow-up of the Global Strategy for a representative and balanced World Heritage List as adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 1994.
- The Director of the World Heritage Centre participates in the NWHF's Board meeting on behalf of UNESCO.
- The NWHF will use both the name and emblems of UNESCO and of World Heritage on a limited basis and in conformity with the rules and regulations governing the use of UNESCO's name and emblem by its partners, indicating '*under the auspices of*', as well as the rules of the World Heritage Committee, subject to the agreement of this Committee.

B.II DRAFT DECISION 27COM 20C.2

29. *The World Heritage Committee,*

1. *Welcomes the Nordic World Heritage Foundation's partnership with UNESCO.*
2. *Requests the World Heritage Centre to ensure the coordination of the activities of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation with those of the Committee.*
3. *Agrees with the use of the World Heritage emblem by the Nordic World Heritage Foundation.*



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
 Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

7, place de Fontenoy
 75352 Paris 07 SP
 Tel. : + 33 (0) 1.45.68.15.71
 Fax : + 33 (0) 1.45.68.55.70

Ref. : CL/WHC.3/03

11 March 2003

**To: Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee
 Members of the World Heritage Committee**

**Cc: Permanent Delegations, Observer Missions of States Parties to
 UNESCO's World Heritage Convention, Advisory Bodies to the World
 Heritage Convention (ICOMOS, IUCN, ICCROM)**

**Subject: 166th Session of UNESCO's Executive Board:
 Proposal to grant the status of a Regional Centre under the Auspices of
 UNESCO to the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF)**

Madam/Sir,

I have the honour to draw your attention to Article 17 of the Convention, which calls for the States Parties to the Convention to consider or encourage the establishment of national public and private foundations or associations whose purpose is to invite donations for the protection of cultural and natural heritage.

Since 1996 the former Nordic World Heritage Office has made important contributions to UNESCO in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention. This Office has been recently transformed into a Foundation under Norwegian Law, and the auspices of UNESCO are now sought to assure its close cooperation with the Organization and to continue its close relations with the World Heritage Committee.

I am pleased to inform you that the forthcoming meeting of UNESCO's Executive Board, (4 to 16 April 2003), will discuss a draft decision aiming at granting the Nordic World Heritage Foundation the auspices of UNESCO. This document (166 EX/17) outlines the background and the nature of the proposal in its relation to UNESCO, together with its relevance to UNESCO's programmes, especially with regard to the benefits to developing countries. The document has already been sent to the members of the Executive Board. It is also electronically available at <http://www.unesco.org/exboard>.

Yours sincerely,

Francesco Bandarin
 Director
 UNESCO World Heritage Centre

cc: Nordic World Heritage Foundation

United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural
Organization

Executive Board

ex

Hundred and sixty-sixth Session

166 EX/17

Paris, 13 December 2002

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Item 3.4.4 of the provisional agenda

PROPOSAL TO GRANT THE STATUS OF A REGIONAL CENTRE
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO TO THE NORDIC WORLD HERITAGE FOUNDATION

SUMMARY

The Kingdom of Norway has proposed the association of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation to UNESCO as a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2). This document outlines the background and the nature of the proposal in its relation to UNESCO, its relevance to UNESCO's programmes, especially with regard to the benefits to developing countries. In accordance with the relevant recommendations of the 21st session of the General Conference (21C/Resolution 40) and the progress report on the application of the criteria for an overall strategy with regard to UNESCO Institutes and Centres as reviewed by the Executive Board at its 165th session, the decision from the Executive Board is sought that allow the existing Foundation to be granted the status of a Regional Centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

Decision required: paragraph 20

PROPOSAL TO GRANT THE STATUS OF A REGIONAL CENTRE
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO TO THE NORDIC WORLD HERITAGE FOUNDATION

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Government of the Kingdom of Norway has proposed the association of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (hereafter called ‘the Foundation’) to UNESCO as a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO. This document outlines the background and the nature of the proposal in its relation to UNESCO, its relevance to UNESCO’s programmes, especially with regard to the benefits to developing countries. In accordance with the relevant recommendations of the 21st session of the General Conference (21C/Resolution 40) and the progress report on the application of the criteria for an overall strategy with regard to UNESCO Institutes and Centres as reviewed by the Executive Board at its 165th session, the decision from the Executive Board is sought that allow the existing Foundation to be granted the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO.

2. Furthermore, UNESCO considers the safeguarding of both tangible and intangible heritage as a main factor for development. The Organization’s heritage policies are currently seen as a main contribution to the promotion of cultural diversity, as Member States are supported in developing sustainable cultural policies and assisted in strengthening their cultural capacities and institutions. The promotion and implementation of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972, hereafter called ‘the Convention’, is one of the main programmes of reinforcement of UNESCO’s normative action in the field of cultural heritage. One of its basic priorities is the cooperation with States Parties to the Convention by giving them technical assistance, including reactive monitoring and periodic reporting.

II. BACKGROUND

3. The Nordic World Heritage Office, in close cooperation with UNESCO, has been working for several years on supporting the implementation and promotion of the Convention in the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) as well as the Baltic States and assisted with several projects in Africa. In March 2002 the Nordic World Heritage Office was officially converted into a Foundation in order to become a centre under the auspices of UNESCO. In co-operation with UNESCO, the main priority of the Foundation is to further contribute to the implementation of the Convention, the safeguarding and revitalization of World Heritage and providing support to developing countries.

4. On the basis of an Agreement signed between UNESCO and the Government of Norway in 1996 the Nordic World Heritage Office in Oslo was created as a pilot project with the objective of supporting the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in the Nordic Countries and other States Parties. The pilot project was evaluated in 1998 and recommended the Agreement with UNESCO to be extended until 2001, followed by a second external evaluation dated 30 March 2001. This Evaluation Report recommended the establishment of the Office on a permanent basis as a Foundation. Following Article 17 of the Convention, which calls for the States Parties to the Convention to *consider or encourage the establishment of national public and private foundations or associations whose purpose is to invite donations for the protection of cultural and natural heritage*, the establishment of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation was fully supported by the Nordic Governments.

5. The objective of the Foundation is to continue to work towards implementing and promoting the Convention in co-operation and understanding with UNESCO. As part of the work in achieving this objective, the Foundation

- a. Act as a focal point bringing Nordic countries together in their collective attempt to fulfil the intentions and requirements of the Convention;
- b. Support the World Heritage Centre by facilitating technical expertise, disseminating information and contributing to projects, all in support of the Convention and the World Heritage Committee's Global Strategy;
- c. Mobilize funds from bi- and multilateral sources and facilitate assistance for natural and cultural World Heritage conservation efforts in developing countries in support of the Convention.

6. In the framework of these objectives, the Foundation acts as a regional and international centre, supporting the follow-up of the Global Strategy as adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 1994.

7. The Foundation works with international partners on projects addressing the imbalance of the World Heritage List and mainstreaming the World Heritage work into international development co-operation.

III. PROPOSAL TO GRANT THE STATUS OF A REGIONAL CENTRE

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO TO THE NORDIC WORLD HERITAGE FOUNDATION

8. As stated in the feasibility study (annex 1), the proposal to grant to the Nordic World Heritage Foundation the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO aims to strengthen the already existing contribution of the Foundation to the medium term strategies of UNESCO in the field of culture, especially strategic objective 7 aiming at promoting the drafting and implementation of standard-setting instruments in the field of culture¹, and strategic objective 9 that aims at enhancing the linkages between culture and development through capacity-building and sharing of knowledge².

¹ Especially sub-priorities described in paragraphs 126 to 129

² Especially sub-priorities described in paragraphs 149 to 151

9. The Foundation will be associated with UNESCO but will legally be outside the organization. UNESCO is not legally responsible for the Foundation and bears no liabilities of any kind, be it managerial, financial or otherwise.
10. The Foundation will be an autonomous regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO. The official title of the entity will be: *Nordic World Heritage Foundation, under the auspices of UNESCO*.
11. The working of the Foundation is regulated in the Memorandum of Association (annex 2) under the legal responsibility of Norway.
12. In order to avoid unnecessary duplication of work and to ensure that World Heritage priorities are addressed, all the initiatives of the Foundation will be co-ordinated with the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO, as Secretariat of the Convention and in line with the priorities set by the World Heritage Committee.
13. According to the Memorandum of Association (annex 2), the Board of Directors of the Foundation will appoint the Director. The Director of the foundation will appoint the staff. The board of Directors consists of representatives from the Nordic countries and the Director of the World Heritage Centre on behalf of UNESCO.
14. As in the past (the Nordic World Heritage Office), the Foundation will continue to work closely together with the Norwegian National Commission for UNESCO and will maintain its contacts with the national commissions for UNESCO of the other Nordic countries.
15. The advisory bodies of the World Heritage Committee (ICOMOS, IUCN and ICCROM), other international or national institutions, interest groups or authorities may participate as advisers to the Foundation on individual projects.
16. A formal arrangement will be instituted between UNESCO and the Foundation so that the continuance of its status as a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO will be subject to periodic review on the basis of independent evaluation of its impact on UNESCO's activities. The Foundation as an entity under the auspices of UNESCO will be evaluated before the end of 2008, which is the end of the initial duration of the Agreement.
17. UNESCO will not give any financial contribution to the Foundation but may contribute to its activities. Yearly contributions of 2,5 mill NOK (ca. USD 300,000) for an initial period from 2003 to 2008 will come from the Norwegian Government. Project support from bi- and multilateral organisations and private partners will continue to be negotiated.
18. UNESCO will not have any responsibility for the Foundation's account management.
19. It is proposed that the foundation will use both the name and emblems of UNESCO and of World Heritage on a limited basis and in conformity with to the rules and regulations governing the use of UNESCO's name and emblem by its partners, indicating '*under auspices of*', as well as the rules of the World Heritage Committee, subject to the agreement of this Committee.

IV. DECISION

20. In the light of the foregoing, the Board may wish to adopt a decision on the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling article 17 of the Convention on the Protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage, which calls for the States Parties to the Convention to support the establishment of foundations whose purpose is to work for the protection of cultural and natural heritage,
2. Also recalling Resolution 21C/40 adopted by the General Conference
3. Taking note of 165EX/Dec 5.4 and 165EX/Dec. 9.3,
4. Having examined document 166 EX/17,
5. Welcoming the proposal made by the Government of Norway,
6. Appreciating the results of the evaluations made so far of the Nordic World Heritage Office and the conversion of the Office into a Foundation,
7. Recommends to the 32nd General Conference to
 - a. grant the Nordic World Heritage Foundation the status of a Regional Centre under the auspices of UNESCO;
 - b. authorize the Director-General to appoint to the Board of the Foundation one member and a deputy;
 - c. authorize the Director-General to enter into a cooperation agreement with the Foundation, as appropriate.

ANNEX 1:

FEASIBILITY STUDY OF THE NORDIC WORLD HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Background:

The Nordic World Heritage Office (NWHO) was set up as a pilot project between UNESCO and the Government of Norway in 1995. All the Nordic Governments supported the project.

The pilot project period was from 1996-1998 and an international evaluation was carried out in 1998. This evaluation recommended an extension of three years before a full evaluation could be carried out with a view to set up the office on a permanent basis. The Agreement was signed for the period 1999-2001.

The second international evaluation was carried out jointly by UNESCO and the Government of Norway from January 1 to March 31, 2001. The evaluation committee had three representatives, one from the Sub-Saharan African Region, one from Asia and one from North America, representing expertise in both culture and nature. The evaluation committee recommended that NWHO should be set up on a permanent basis as from 2002. It was also recommended that the Office should be organised as a foundation, not as a Norwegian Governmental Office, to secure the Nordic dimension and thus separate it from the ordinary Norwegian Civil Service.

All the Nordic governments supported these recommendations.

Purpose and Activities

The purpose of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF) will be to support UNESCO's World Heritage Centre (WHC) in the implementation of the Convention on the Protection of the World's Cultural and Natural Heritage. In order to realise this vision the NWHF will concentrate its action in three main areas:

- Act as a focal point bringing Nordic countries together in their collective attempt to fulfil the intentions and requirements of the Convention;
- Support the World Heritage Centre by facilitating technical expertise, disseminating information and contributing to innovative projects, all in support of the Convention and the World Heritage Committee's Global Strategy;
- Mobilize funds from bi- and multilateral sources and facilitate assistance for natural and cultural World Heritage conservation efforts in developing countries in support of the Convention.

The Nordic dimension

The Norwegian Ministry of Environment has undertaken appropriate consultations with the Nordic countries in order to secure their endorsement of the NWHF and to obtain their co-operation and support. The NWHF will encourage and co-ordinate joint Nordic efforts directed towards the implementation of the Convention.

The NWHF will be governed by a Board of Directors, which, in addition to a UNESCO representative, will be composed of members from all the Nordic countries, representing the best expertise available. During its trial period the NWHO has developed relevant competence, capacity and a network that will be used in its future endeavours.

Relationship between UNESCO and NWHF

NWHF will continue to develop its close co-operation with the World Heritage Centre, and will be authorised to use the UNESCO emblem, in conformity with the Guidelines and Principles for use. UNESCO will also nominate one of the NWHF's Board members.

The co-operation between UNESCO/WHC, the Board and the Foundation will be closely co-ordinated and gradually more formalised, to complement the WHC's efforts in an appropriate way and ensure integration. Activities related to the Global Strategy will be given special attention in this respect to assure that WHC's priorities are addressed.

Regional and international impact

The evaluation of the NWHO in March 2001 analysed the regional and international impact of the work carried out so far. In their conclusions the evaluation team pointed out that NWHO has played an important role in facilitating and disseminating World Heritage information in the Nordic countries and in regions where they have been involved. The Office has been able to identify and provide technical assistance to nomination processes in line with the Global Strategy of UNESCO. These tasks will be continued.

Other contributions to be mentioned will be the support to a broadened understanding of cultural landscapes as World Heritage sites, sustainable tourism, the management of historic cities, and systems for periodic reporting. NWHF will continue to act as a facilitator and catalyst.

Legal status

The legal status of the Foundation is based on national legislation in Norway. A Foundation is, in legal terms, an independent body under the Norwegian Foundation Act. The NWHF is a foundation created and supported by the Norwegian Government.

Financial basis

The financial basis for NWHF will be the commitment of the Government of Norway to provide the Foundation with a minimum of USD 300,000, yearly for the period of existence of the Foundation.

Expected results

The results expected from the contribution to UNESCO will be, in the first place, the strengthening of the contribution to the already existing policies and projects to implement the World Heritage Convention at global level. Priority will be given to twinning and support from multilateral donors, Nordic bilateral development co-operation, and seeking co-operation with the corporate sector.

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION
FOR
THE FOUNDATION NORDIC WORLD HERITAGE

1. Establishment of the Foundation

The Government of the Kingdom of Norway represented by the Ministry of the Environment hereby establishes the Foundation Nordic World Heritage (the Foundation).

2. Background

The establishment of the foundation is a specific follow-up of the recommendations given in The Evaluation Report of the Nordic World Heritage Office, dated 30 March 2001 and is a continuation of the co-operation with the United nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) based on The Revised Agreement concerning The Three Years Pilot Project of the World Heritage Office in Norway, dated 4 May 1999.

The Norwegian Government's establishment of and support to the Foundation is based on article 17 of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, which calls for the state parties to the convention to support establishment of foundations whose purpose is to work for protection of cultural and natural heritage.

3. Object

The object of the Foundation is to work towards implementing and living up to the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (hereafter called the "Convention") in co-operation and understanding with UNESCO.

As part of the work in achieving this objective, the Foundation shall

- 1 Act as a focal point bringing Nordic countries together in their collective attempt to fulfil the intentions and requirements of the Convention.
- 2 Support the World Heritage Centre by facilitating technical expertise, disseminating information and contributing to innovative projects, all in support of the Convention and the World Heritage Centre's Global Strategy.

- 3 Mobilize funds from bi- and multilateral sources and facilitate assistance for natural and cultural World Heritage conservation efforts in developing countries in support of the Convention.

The Foundation may also conduct other activities related to implementing and living up to the Convention.

4. Basic capital

As the Foundation's basic capital, the Government of the Kingdom of Norway represented by the Ministry of the Environment transfers to the Foundation the operations in the present Nordic World Heritage Office, including associated assets and rights. The net value of this transfer is estimated to be NOK 58.825.

As basic capital, the Government of the Kingdom of Norway represented by the Ministry of the Environment also transfers to the Foundation a cash amount of NOK 100.000.

The basic capital of the Foundation on establishment is then NOK 158.825, cf. the enclosed auditor confirmed opening balance.

5. Articles of Association

The Foundation Nordic World Heritage shall have the following articles of association:

§ 1 Name of the Foundation

The name of the Foundation is "Stiftelsen Nordic World Heritage".

§ 2 Registered address

The registered address of the Foundation is in the municipality of Oslo.

§ 3 Basic capital

On establishment the basic capital of the Foundation is NOK 158.825.

§ 4 Object

The object of the Foundation is to work towards implementing and living up to the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (hereafter called the "Convention") in co-operation and understanding with UNESCO.

As part of the work in achieving this objective, the Foundation shall

- 1 Act as a focal point bringing Nordic countries together in their collective attempt to fulfil the intentions and requirements of the Convention.
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- 3 Mobilize funds from bi- and multilateral sources and facilitate assistance for natural and cultural World Heritage conservation efforts in developing countries in support of the Convention.

The Foundation may also conduct other activities related to implementing and living up to the Convention.

§ 5 The Board of Directors of the Foundation

The Board of Directors consists of six members with six personal deputies.

The Board of Directors' members are appointed as follows:

- 1 UNESCO appoints one member with a personal deputy; and
- 2 The Government of the Kingdom of Norway represented by the Ministry of the Environment appoints the other board members and deputy members in appreciation with the other Nordic countries. The Ministry of the Environment appoints the chairman and deputy chairman of the Board of Directors.

Appointment applies for a period of four years.

At the time of the establishment of the foundation the Government of the Kingdom of Norway represented by the Ministry of the Environment appoints a board with three members, which will be in function until a board in accordance with this article 5 first to third paragraph is appointed.

§ 6 The rules of procedure for the Board of Directors

The chairman of the Board of Directors convenes the Board of Directors. Each board member and the general manager may require that the Board of Directors be summoned to deal with a specific matter. The Board of Directors shall meet at least four times a year and otherwise when this is necessary to deal with relevant matters.

The Board of Directors forms a quorum when more than half of the members are present. Unless otherwise specified, the majority decision will apply as the resolution of the Board of Directors. In the event of a voting tie, the chairman or deputy chairman of the Board of Directors will have the casting vote.

§ 7 The duties of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is the supreme body of the Foundation. Administration of the Foundation belongs under the Board of Directors, which shall ensure that the object is taken care of.

The Board of Directors shall adopt the Foundation's annual Work Plan and budget and send this to the World Heritage Centre and the Ministry of the Environment for their information.

By 1 May each year the Board of Directors shall adopt an annual report of the Foundation's activities in the previous year. The annual report shall be sent to the World Heritage Centre and the Ministry of the Environment for their information.

The Board of Directors shall work, among other things, towards ensuring involvement and participation of authorities and organizations in the Foundation's activities.

§ 8 Advisers to the Foundation in individual projects

The Foundation may associate with the World Heritage's advisory bodies (ICCROM, ICOMOS and IUCN), other international or national institutions and interest groups, or international or national authorities, to participate as advisers to the Foundation in individual projects.

§ 9 General Manager

The Board of Directors shall appoint a general manager for the Foundation and stipulate the general manager's salary.

§ 10 Expert council

The Foundation shall have an Expert Council ("the Council"), which shall act as advisory body to the Foundation.

The council shall have ten members - two from each of the Nordic countries – and it shall have equivalent competence in protection of cultural and natural heritage. The Board of Directors shall appoint the Council. The Council shall have a chairman and a deputy chairman elected by the members of the Council. The Council shall meet at least twice a year.

The duties of the Council are to make a statement in matters submitted to the Council by the Board of Directors of the Foundation, including making a statement about the Foundation's Work Plan and budget. The Council may also, on its own initiative, make statements or raise matters of a professional nature with the Board of Directors.

§ 11 External representation

The Chairman of the Board of Directors or two board members together bind the Foundation externally. The general manager represents the Foundation in matters concerning the daily management of the Foundation.

§ 12 Audit

The Office of the Auditor General shall audit the accounts of the Foundation.

§ 13 Conversion (amendments to articles of association, dissolution, etc.)

The Board of Directors has the authority to amend the Foundation's articles of association. The Board of Directors also has the authority to dissolve the Foundation, merge the Foundation with other foundations or to divide the Foundation into two or more foundations.

Resolutions as mentioned in the previous clause require the unanimous support of all members of the Board of Directors. Amendment of the Foundation's object, dissolution, merger with other foundations or division of the Foundation must be approved by the Government of the Kingdom of Norway represented by the Ministry of the Environment.

6. The Board of Directors of the Foundation

In accordance with article 5 of the articles of association, the following have been appointed as members of the Board of Directors:

Nils Marstein
Berit Lein
Einar Holtane

7. Audit

The Office of the Auditor General shall audit the accounts of the Foundation.

Oslo, March 14, 2002