UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE ET DE SES RESSOURCES INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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In your reply, please refer to : En répondant, veuillez rappeler :

IUCN REVIEW

World Heritage Nomination

- 1. NAME: Parc National de Plitvicka Jezera (Lake Plitvice National Park)
- 2. LOCATION: Croatia, north-western Yugoslavia

3. NOMINATED BY: Branko Lumovac Secretary General, Yugoslavian Commission to UNESCO

4. DOCUMENTATION:

- i) Nomination form with 8 black and white photographs, plus location map. All documentation not submitted to IUCN.
- ii) The documentation was inadequate and was supplemented by documentation in IUCN files as follows:*
 - a) Plitvice National Park management plan 1971, 87 pp.
 - b) Plitvice National Park, 25 anniversary book, 260 pp.
 44 pp. photos. 1974.
 - c) Plitvice National Park Book, 439 pp., 1958.
 - d) Miscellaneous pamphlets.
 - e) Parks in Yugoslavia, Annual Report, 1978.
 - * Note: Most of the documentation is in Yugoslavian with English and French summaries.
- 5. BACKGROUND and SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:

The national park of 20,000 ha. was established in 1949. The area has been settled in one form or another since pre-historic times. Settlers have included, Thracians, Illyrians, Celtic tribes (400 B.C.), Japods, Romans, (for 600 years), Goths, (400 A.D.), Byzantines (600 A.D.), Avars, Croats, (600 A.D.), Turks (1500 A.D.), currently about 1500 people live within the park. (p.7 nomination form and booklet by Bohm and Movcan).

The main features of the park are outstanding natural beauty, and the undisturbed production of travertine (tuff) through chemical and biological action. It is this process which influences the character of the lakes, the many cataracts and the cane systems. 6. EVALUATION

The area has been evaluated against the operational guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention as amended by the World Heritage Committee at its 2nd meeting.

The Plitvice National Park warrants World Heritage status primarily on the basis of the "undisturbed production of travertine (tuff)" which molds the character of the landscape and hydrologic systems. This process is in accord with criteria 10 (ii), "ongoing processes in the development of communities of plants and animals, land forms and marine and fresh water bodies".

"The tuff and tuff-producing plants are the decisive factors influencing the morphology of the Plitvice lakes....there are waters, lakes, waterfalls, and woods in other parts of the world too - but the Plitvice lakes are still unique".

> Prof. Dr. Ivo Pevalek quoted in "Plitvice National Park"

Secondary reasons for the inclusion of Plitvice National Park on the World Heritage List relate to criteria 10 (ii)(c) interactions between man and his natural landscape; and 10 (iii) exceptional combinations of natural and cultural elements. e.g. long period of settlements, continuing role in historical evolution of governmental system.

INTEGRITY:

The establishment of the national park and the preparation of a long-term management plan combined with a continuing research programme indicates the Government's long-term commitment to the management of the park.

With an area of 20,000 ha. topographically contained between two mountain massifs the park contains most of the key interrelated and interdependent elements in their natural relationships.

RECOMMENDATION:

Plitvice National Park should be placed on the World Heritage List.



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