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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Forty-first session

Krakow, Poland
2-12 July 2017

Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda: Reports of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies

5A: Report of the World Heritage Centre on its activities and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's Decisions

SUMMARY

This document contains a non-exhaustive overview of the results of activities undertaken by the World Heritage Centre and the results achieved in implementing the Decisions and Strategic Objectives of the World Heritage Committee since its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), and in particular on results of activities not otherwise covered in other working and information documents prepared for the 41st session, in conjunction with the Expected Result as defined in the Approved 38 C/5 Programme and Budget 2016-2017. More information about all World Heritage Centre activities is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities>.

Draft Decision: 40 COM 5A, see Point VII.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This document presents a report on the main activities conducted by the World Heritage Centre and their results since the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016). It follows the document format requested by the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee (Phnom Penh, 2013) to better reflect the Expected Result as defined in the Approved 38 C/5 Programme and Budget 2016-2017.
2. The report consists of a narrative part, complemented by five annexes. The narrative part presents the current structure of the World Heritage Centre and the progress made in achieving the results defined by the 38 C/5. The table contained in Annex 1 presents a list of activities in pursuit of the 5 Cs (Credibility, Conservation, Capacity-building, Communication and Communities) with results obtained, as requested by the 34th World Heritage Committee (Brasilia, 2010). Annex 2 contains the state of implementation of the decisions adopted by the 40th session, Annex 3 contains a list of meetings related to World Heritage. A report on the use of the World Heritage Emblem can be found under Annex 4. Annex 5 contains an inventory of World Heritage partnerships.

II. DUTIES, STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

3. The World Heritage Centre (hereinafter referred to as the “Centre” or the “Secretariat”) is headed by a Director (D-2 level), who is also the Director of the Division for Heritage. It is to be noted that while the post of Deputy Director (recruited in the fall of 2016) is formally included in the number of posts of the Centre, the denomination of the post is Deputy Director of the Division for Heritage and his responsibilities include also all other heritage conventions which are part of the Division for Heritage, as well as the Emergency and Preparedness Unit. The Centre comprises a Policy and Statutory Meeting Unit as well as five Regional Units, in charge of World Heritage properties in Africa, the Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America and Latin America and the Caribbean. The Conventions Common Services Unit provides logistical support to all the Culture Conventions, including the *World Heritage Convention*.
4. Currently, the Centre comprises 28 established posts financed under the Regular Programme: One Director post and one Deputy Director mentioned above, 17 Professional posts and 9 General Service staff posts. In addition, 30 positions are being financed through extrabudgetary/in-kind resources, out of which 3 posts are located in the Conventions Common Services Unit. Several of these positions are financed thanks to the generous support provided by the States Parties of China, Finland, Germany, Japan, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Turkey through secondment, Junior Professional Officers/Associate Experts, non-reimbursable loan or otherwise. Some reinforcement is foreseen in the next biennium by creating a new P4 post in charge of natural heritage pending the approval of the 39 C/5 by the next General Conference.
5. Detailed information on the accounts of the World Heritage Fund for 2016 can be found in document WHC/17/41.COM/14.

III. THE EXPECTED RESULT

6. The activities of the Centre support the current Medium-Term Strategy (2014-2021), the Approved Programme and Budget for 2016-2017 (38 C/5) Expected Result 1: **"Tangible heritage identified, protected, monitored and sustainably managed by Member States, in particular through the effective implementation of the 1972 Convention"**.
7. The Expected Result has five Performance Indicators (PI):
 - PI 1 Governing bodies of the 1972 Convention exercise sound governance thanks to effective organization of their statutory meetings;
 - PI 2 Number of World Heritage properties where capacity of staff is enhanced including in collaboration with category 2 institutes and centers;
 - PI 3 Number of States Parties which develop new or revised Tentative Lists and percentage of nomination dossiers conforming to prescribed requirements;
 - PI 4 Number of World Heritage properties whose conservation contributes to sustainable development;
 - PI 5 Number of stakeholders contributing to conservation, thematic priorities and awareness-raising.
8. Special attention is paid to UNESCO's two global priorities, Africa and Gender Equality, in all activities of the Secretariat.

Performance Indicator 1: Governing bodies

9. Since the 40th session, the *World Heritage Convention* has been ratified by two more countries, South Sudan and Timor Leste, thus bringing the overall number of ratifications to 193 States Parties.
10. The Centre ensured the organization of the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016). Due to unforeseen circumstances, the 40th session in Istanbul was suspended and was continued at UNESCO Headquarters, in October 2016. 47 documents were prepared by the Secretariat (32 working documents and 15 information documents) and dispatched on 27 May, 10 June, 27 June and 5 July 2016.
11. During the 40th session of the Committee, the Working Group on the revision of the *Operational Guidelines* discussed the proposal for a revision of Paragraph 61 of the *Guidelines* in conjunction with the outcomes of the Ad hoc working group that was established by the 38th session of the World Heritage Committee and the mandate of which was extended by the 39th session. The proposed revision was subsequently adopted by the Committee. The Budget Working Group discussed the challenges related to the diminishing resources and several budget adjustments. The Committee by Decision **40 COM 15** decided to take up the matter of the sustainability of the Fund and modalities of work into the mandate of the Ad hoc working group.
12. 21 new properties were inscribed on the World Heritage List and 156 reports on the state of conservation were examined.
13. The first part of the Decisions (Istanbul meeting) report was made available online in September 2016 and the second part of the report was available in November 2016. They are accessible at the following address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/40COM/>. The video recording of the session are also available on the Centre's website.

14. By Decisions **40 COM 13A**, the World Heritage Committee decided to extend the mandate of the Ad hoc-working group, to be coordinated by Poland, to further discuss Paragraph 68 of the *Operational Guidelines*, related to the Tentative Lists as well as the sustainability of the World Heritage Fund.
15. The Committee decided that the 41st session of the Committee will take place in Krakow (Poland) and elected Professor Jacek Purchla as the Chairperson of the Committee.
16. Through the organization of Orientation Sessions for Committee Members and information sessions for all States Parties, the Centre continues to support the preparation of Committee Members and States Parties for the forthcoming sessions (Decision **35 COM 12B**) and to provide them with a better understanding of major statutory processes, such as the nominations process, Reactive Monitoring, and procedural matters. The first Orientation Session in view of the 41st session of the Committee, to be chaired by the Chairperson of the Committee, is scheduled to take place on 23 May 2017, in conjunction with the Information session. A budget briefing will also be presented, as requested by the Committee. The second Orientation Session is scheduled for 1 July 2017, immediately prior to the 41st session. The Centre provides also support to the Ad hoc working group, as required.
17. A special issue of the World Heritage Review on World Heritage in Turkey was published ahead of the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee in collaboration with the Turkish authorities and widely disseminated. A special issue of the World Heritage Review on World Heritage in Poland, in view of the 41st session, is in preparation.

Performance Indicator 2: Capacity-building

18. The capacities of States Parties and other stakeholders in the field of World Heritage have been enhanced through implementation of capacity-building activities throughout all regions, in cooperation with the respective Category 2 Centres and UNESCO Field Offices, Advisory Bodies and other partners. More detailed information can be found in the Table under Annex I of this document, as well as in Documents WHC/17/41.COM6 and WHC/17/41.COM10B.
19. In Africa, the partnership between the World Heritage Centre and the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF, a UNESCO Category 2 Centre) has been further developed and enhanced, with a number of regional capacity-building activities having taken place throughout the continent. Among others, the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) course held in November 2016 in Tanzania, with over 30 participants from many African countries addressed the challenges of finding the right balance between conservation and development and assisted the States Parties by enhancing their capacity in applying this essential tool. Risk Preparedness and building of resilience at African World Heritage Properties, were addressed at two regional workshops as a result of which a series of risk management plans are being developed. Activities involving capacity-building of youth have also been implemented and some innovative initiatives, such as heritage curricula development in African educational institutions, are under development.
20. In the Asia and the Pacific region, the World Heritage Centre worked closely with the category 2 centres- the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region in China (WHITR-AP) and the Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region (Dehradun, India)- in the implementation of capacity-building initiatives.
21. The capacities of heritage professionals involved in the management of the World Heritage properties in the Asia and the Pacific regions were enhanced through various activities involving the Secretariat, at a large number of properties.

Furthermore, a number of regional activities focused on priorities identified by the Committee with regard to the state of conservation of properties. One example is the HIA course which took place at the World Heritage property “Historic Town of Vigan” (Philippines) in October 2016, organized by WHITR-AP and ICCROM, in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre, with the objective to assist the States Parties in the implementation of HIA-related Committee decisions. The UNESCO Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) Recommendation was presented in national workshops (Uzbekistan), and recovery and reconstruction was the focus of a national workshop in Nepal in early 2017, in view of enhancing the capacities of the relevant stakeholders to address the challenges further to the 2015 earthquake.

22. In the Arab States region, capacity-building activities were developed and implemented by Centre at the national and regional levels, in most of the cases in cooperation with the UNESCO field offices, the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), the Advisory Bodies and other relevant partners. These activities focused on two major subjects: the safeguarding of cultural heritage in conflict situation (first-aid and emergency measures, damage assessment, mapping, etc.) and nomination of properties with a focus on conservation and management.
23. In the Europe and North America region, the Central, Eastern and South-Eastern regional capacity-building strategies are being tested within the framework of a project agreement between the Centre and the Georgian authorities (for the second year). The objective is to enhance the institutional and technical capacity of the national and local authorities, including the development of capacities for ministries and municipalities in identifying exceptional sites, and to protect properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List in Georgia, and thus ensure long-term planning and the reinforcement of management mechanisms required to address sustainable heritage protection and development needs in the future. Capacity development workshops were organized for the site managers and other stakeholders of 30 World Heritage sites involved in the recently launched initiative “UNESCO World Heritage Journeys in Europe”, a project funded by the EU, to provide training in defining strategies and developing marketing and sustainable tourism management plans.
24. In the Latin America and the Caribbean region, a programme was approved within the framework of the implementation of the capacity-building strategy for South America as part of the Sub-regional action plan for World Heritage in South America for 2015-2020, in close collaboration with the Advisory Bodies and the Lucio Costa Centre for Training in Heritage Management.
25. Capacity-building activities within the framework of different Thematic programmes have been pursued as well, on global or regional levels. The third triennial World Heritage marine managers conference took place in the Galapagos Islands (Equador) in August 2016, organized by the Marine programme of the Centre, aimed to build capacity on climate adaptation strategies and market-based approaches to encourage sustainable fisheries, and further strengthen the sharing of management solutions and best practices among 49 marine World Heritage sites. During the conference, seven World Heritage marine sites in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Region signed an agreement, the Carta de Punta Suarez, to scale up regional cooperation. The Astronomy Initiative contributed to capacity-building in view of identification of sites with potential Outstanding Universal Value, at an international conference in Berlin (Germany) in April 2017.

Performance Indicator 3: Nominations

26. The World Heritage List currently counts 1052 properties of which 814 are cultural, 203 natural and 35 mixed.

27. The Committee, at its 40th Session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), inscribed 21 new properties on the World Heritage List: 12 cultural, 6 natural and 3 mixed. Among the newly inscribed properties, there are 3 cultural landscapes: with these new additions, the number of properties recognized as cultural landscapes on the World Heritage List reaches 98, which amounts to 9% of the properties inscribed on the List.
28. Out of the 21 nominations, 3 are situated on the territory of current Committee members. 3 nominations were referred and one deferred. 9 nominations were withdrawn. In several cases, the recommendations given by the Advisory Bodies were not followed:
 - 7 Deferrals became Inscriptions
 - 2 Referrals became Inscriptions
 - 1 Deferral became Referral
 - 1 non-inscription became Referral
 - 1 non-inscription became Deferral
29. The regional distribution of inscribed properties at the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee are as follows:
 - Africa: 1
 - Arab States: 2
 - Asia and the Pacific: 8
 - Europe and North America: 7
 - Latin America and the Caribbean: 3
30. The States Parties of Antigua and Barbuda and Micronesia had their first properties inscribed on the World Heritage List.
31. In 2016, after intensive discussions and consultation meetings between the Centre, the Advisory Bodies, the AWHF, African States Parties and other stakeholders, such as the Centre for Heritage Development in Africa (CHDA) and Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA), and further to an updated gap analysis for the region by ICOMOS, it was decided to enhance the process of identification of sites with potential Outstanding Universal Value in Africa and respective preparation of nomination files. A questionnaire was sent to all African States Parties in view of identifying all potential future nomination dossiers. The questionnaire was followed by a three-day technical meeting to discuss the priorities and opportunities both at regional and national level. Over 20 potential nomination projects have been identified for the next five years. Extra-budgetary funding is needed to provide adequate support and technical assistance to the concerned States Parties.
32. In Asia and the Pacific, several training and capacity-building activities related to assisting States Parties in the nomination process were organized, including an expert meeting for the Fergana-Syr Darya Silk Roads Corridor (Kyzylorda, Kazakhstan, November 2016), which involved 45 participants from the State Parties of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. On this occasion, the participants adopted the Kyzylorda Action Plan, which sets the way forward for the preparation of the nomination file of the Silk Roads: Fergana-Syr Darya Corridor.
33. The extra-budgetary project “Support for the preparation for the World Heritage Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in South Asia” funded by the Republic of Korea aimed to support the South Asian States Parties in the submission of Silk Roads-related nomination dossiers for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The

target countries included Bhutan, India and Nepal, and the work involved close cooperation with China. The project has significantly enhanced the capacities of the respective States Parties and created a platform for sustained dialogue between them, within the framework of the World Heritage Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in South Asia. The outcomes of the project were summarized in two publications by the Centre which are now available online: the “Final Report on the UNESCO/Korean Funds-in-Trust Project: Support for the Preparation for the World Heritage Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in South Asia” (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002460/246096e.pdf>) and the “Final Technical Report on the results of the UNESCO/Korean Funds-in-Trust Project: Support for the Preparation for the World Heritage Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in South Asia, 2013-2016” (<http://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/1524854/>).

34. Work on the development and implementation of activities providing the States Parties with the necessary technical assistance for the elaboration of nomination files has also continued in the Arab States region. Workshops have been organized in Kuwait (Kuwait City), Morocco (Tangier) or Tunisia (Djerba). Work on underrepresented categories of heritage in the region continues, especially with regard to those that are in worrying state of conservation or are highly threatened. This is more specifically the case of modern heritage, for which an initiative has been developed since 2012, as well as of urban heritage through the strengthening of the application of the Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation. An action in favour of cultural landscapes is also currently being implemented.
35. A sub-regional Workshop on the World Heritage Convention was organized by the Trinidad and Tobago National Commission for UNESCO in Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago) in November 2016, with the support and participation of the Centre as well as the UNESCO Offices of Habana and Kingston. The 80 participants exchanged on the World Heritage Convention in the Caribbean, and ways to encourage sub-regional cooperation and set the stage for further consultations, namely in view of the update and harmonisation of Tentative Lists.
36. A capacity-building initiative took place in Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, thanks to the financial support of the Netherlands, to support the elaboration of cultural and natural heritage inventories that will contribute, among other purposes, to the update of the Tentative Lists of the two State Parties
37. International Assistance was granted to the national authorities of El Salvador and Paraguay to organize workshops in view of updating of their Tentative Lists.
38. The Centre launched its report “World Heritage in the High Seas: An Idea Whose Time has Come” which explores the different ways in which the World Heritage concept may one day apply to the wonders of the open ocean, which covers 70% of the planet. The report was produced with the support of Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation, Agence des aires marines protégées, Nekton and Jaeger-LeCoultre.
39. The Centre also provided support to the IUCN-led project “Identifying potential marine sites of OUV in the Arctic region” implemented with the support of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and WWF Canada. The publication is scheduled to be released in mid-2017.

Performance Indicator 4: Sustainable development

40. The General Assembly of the States Parties adopted at its 20th session the Policy for the integration of a sustainable development perspective into the processes of the *World Heritage Convention* (Resolution **20 GA 13**, hereafter WH-SDP), which has developed over the last years.

41. The Centre endeavours to mainstream sustainable development in all its activities, as appropriate, including in the statutory processes, in operational projects and capacity-building activities. More specifically, the revised Periodic Reporting Format (see document WHC/17/41.COM/10A) has taken fully on board the principles of the WH-SDP and the 2030 Agenda and embedded them in a suitable manner throughout the questionnaire, as well as in the proposed monitoring indicators list and analytical framework.
42. Further details concerning the action of the Secretariat concerning the implementation of the WH-SDP are contained in document WHC/17/41.COM/5C, with only a sample of activities highlighted below.
43. Further to the operational Action plan resulting from the International Conference “Safeguarding African World Heritage as a Driver for Sustainable Development” held in Arusha in 2016 and the Ngorongoro Declaration, several community-based heritage conservation projects have been launched in Africa including sites such as: the city of Saint-Louis in Senegal, the site of the Cliff of Bandiagara in the Land of the Dogons in Mali and the Royal Palaces of Abomey in Benin.
44. The December 2016 issue of the World Heritage Review was dedicated to African heritage and sustainable development, focusing on African World Heritage as a driver for development and community benefits.
45. In the Asia and the Pacific region, the project focusing on ‘Sustainable Development and Community Involvement Initiatives for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention’, financed by the Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust, contributes to revitalising income-generating crafts in local communities through activities related to World Heritage conservation. Three World Heritage properties – one in Bangladesh and two in Pakistan - were selected for these pilot activities. The activities showcase the interdependence between heritage conservation and local communities, whose diverse traditional handicrafts and building techniques must be conserved.
46. The WH-SDP is mainstreamed in the Secretariat’s activities in the Arab States region linked to the management of the urban heritage inscribed on the World Heritage List, to capacity-building in management practices and preparation of nomination files, as well as in initiatives linked to post-conflict recovery plans by advocating for integrated approaches, that are people-centred, for participatory and inclusive planning, and by fostering jobs creation.
47. A project launched in 2016 and involving the States Parties (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) aims to reinforce the participative management structure of the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System, and thus enhance the sustainable management of the transnational property.
48. Also, on a more global level, through its Thematic programmes, such as the Marine and Sustainable Tourism programmes, the Secretariat is mainstreaming the sustainable development approach in the guidance provided to World Heritage properties.
49. Recent activities involved capacity-building on developing sustainable tourism management plans.
50. The Centre signed a new partnership with Flanders to document the impact from unsustainable fisheries on World Heritage marine sites. The Marine Programme’s active involvement helped achieve a first approval for a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) in Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park (The Philippines) in April 2016 which will substantially improve the sustainability of the site by avoiding ship accidents and collisions.

Performance Indicator 5: Conservation, thematic priorities and awareness raising

a) Conservation

51. A total of 156 state of conservation reports, including 48 related to properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger, were prepared by the World Heritage Centre together with the Advisory Bodies, and examined by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016). The continuous dialogue and exchange established by the Centre, the Advisory Bodies and the States Parties have helped to reduce the number of cases, which could have represented a threat to the Outstanding Universal Value of some properties.
52. As a result of the decisions relating to the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the List and the decisions on inscription of properties to the World Heritage List, the Committee decided to inscribe eight properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger at its last session.
53. At the same time, one property, the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta, Georgia, was removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger. In light of these decisions, there are currently 55 properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger.
54. It is to be noted that out of the 156 state of conservation reports examined in 2016, 15 were requested by the Committee (mostly due to a lack of adequate management plan or system), at previous sessions at the time of inscription of the properties concerned on the World Heritage List. This trend poses a serious challenge for the credibility of the List and the workload of the Centre and the Advisory Bodies, as well as of the Committee. At the 41st session, 12 such reports will be examined by the Committee.
55. In addition to these 156 individual reports on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties, a document highlighting specific factors affecting the Outstanding Universal Value of these properties as well as addressing pressing global conservation issues (such as emergency situations in conflict areas, reconstruction, climate change, development projects, governance and extractive industries) and providing guidance on a number of statutory procedures, was also examined by the Committee (Document WHC/16/40.COM/7). During the discussion on this item, the Committee highlighted that the Reactive Monitoring process was a key element of the work done with regard to conservation and that there was now a need for an evaluation of the effectiveness of this process. It also highlighted that the List of World Heritage in Danger was often perceived as a “degrading list” and decided that it was high time to reverse this negative perception and to highlight the benefits of such listing. Decision **40 COM 7** was subsequently circulated to all States Parties with the aim of having it translated in national languages and shared with all stakeholders. The Centre also developed a Concept Note to raise the necessary funds to undertake the above-mentioned evaluation with regard to the effectiveness of the Reactive Monitoring process and the perception of Danger-listing (web page in preparation)).
56. All 156 reports were also fully integrated into the online World Heritage State of conservation Information System (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc>). This information system now offers over 3.300 state of conservation reports and is receiving growing attention with over 800.000 page views at the time of drafting this document.
57. In response to the continued high number of sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger from the African continent, the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) launched an international call for proposals to undertake a comprehensive analysis on the reasons for this situation and the respective threats/issues raised by the state of conservation reports over the last 10 years (2006-2015). The exercise aims to

take stock of these threats and to reflect on how to improve the state of conservation of the properties. The publication of the outcomes of the analysis is expected in late 2017 by the AWHF, after a consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

58. Operational conservation projects are ongoing in different States Parties in Africa, among them a project related to the emergency consolidation and protection of the Island of Gorée in Senegal, thanks to financial support from the Japanese Government. Similarly, the Hungarian Government has contributed financially to the implementation of an emergency rescue plan to restore the tangible and intangible cultural values of Sukur Cultural Landscape World Heritage site (Nigeria). Significant progress has been made in the European Union financed project on Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI), through the allocation of grants to Lope-Okanda (Gabon); Sangha Trinational (Congo, Cameroon and Central African Republic) and Dja Faunal Reserve (Cameroon) with a view to enhancing the management of these natural properties.
59. With regard to Small Islands Developing States SIDS, a number of conservation projects are on-going. International assistance was granted for Danger-listed East Rennell (Solomon Islands) to finalize and implement the Desired State of Conservation for Removal of the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and to develop alternative income-generating mechanisms that derive benefits from the conservation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value, for the local communities. In 2016, the project supported the participation of a focal point from the World Heritage property 'Nan Madol: Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia' to the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee, at the occasion of the inscription of the property on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger.
60. Emergency Assistance was granted to Kathmandu Valley (Nepal) and several UNESCO extra-budgetary projects were developed and are currently under implementation for post-earthquake emergency safeguarding, conservation and rehabilitation of the site. .
61. The conservation of cultural and natural properties in a number of countries of the Arab region due to conflict situations is a major challenge, mainly due to the unprecedented level of damage to a number of heritage sites, including World Heritage properties. In this context, the Centre plays a key role in the planning and implementation of expert meetings and technical workshops on this subject, in cooperation with the UNESCO Field offices and other international partners. Apart from the organizational and financial issues related to these activities, the complexity generated by the political, security and humanitarian situation in the concerned countries increases the difficulty for the Centre and UNESCO in general to accomplish this mission. A number of activities have nevertheless met their objectives. Among these activities are: the International Expert Meeting for the Safeguarding of Libyan Cultural Heritage (May 2016), the First Aid Technical Meeting: Follow-up to the World Heritage Committee Decision on the Ancient City of Damascus (November 2016), the International Coordination Conference on the safeguarding of cultural heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq (February 2017) or the Technical Coordination meeting for the recovery of the Ancient City of Aleppo (March 2017). In parallel, the World Heritage Centre continues to mobilize the necessary expertise and extrabudgetary resources to finance projects for Syria, Iraq, Libya and Yemen.
62. Conservation projects are also on-going in all other regions, among them projects in Guatemala, Bolivia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, as well as in Georgia with the support of the World Bank (for further details see table in Annex I of this Document).

63. A core focus of the World Heritage Marine Programme is to document scientifically the coral bleaching and mortality impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of 13 marine World Heritage sites, following the worst El Niño event in history.
64. A constant investment is being made in assisting Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System with the implementation of its Desired State of Conservation for Removal of the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) with a focus on securing legal protection from oil exploration, the establishment of mangrove regulation and a permanent cessation of land sales and leases within the property.
- b) Thematic priorities
65. The Secretariat's Initiative on Heritage of Religious Interest is an example of a thematic approach in heritage conservation that is proposing new forms of action to promote social cohesion and peaceful interaction among cultures. The Regional Workshop on Heritage of Religious Interest (Nakorn Phnom Province, Thailand, May 2017), as a part of the Cycle of Regional Thematic Consultations launched by UNESCO in February 2016, substantially contributed to the ongoing development of a thematic paper proposing to States Parties general guidance regarding the management of their cultural and natural heritage of religious interest, as requested by the World Heritage Committee.
66. Further to the Expert Meeting on Criterion (vi) and Associated Values (Warsaw, Poland, 2012), the Committee in Decision **36 COM 13.I** noted the recommendations of the meeting and its contribution to the assessment of integrity of associative values and further noted "the need for thematic studies on certain types of sites with associative values". A number of expert meetings and reflections were organized in this regard in 2016 and 2017. An international conference on World Heritage Interpretation and memory sites was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 2 November 2016 (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1587>) organized by the Korean authorities and attended by more than 100 participants including Permanent Delegations to UNESCO, the Centre, experts from ICOMOS and from States Parties. Challenges of facing difficult histories at World Heritage sites and sites of memory both internally and at the international level were addressed through case studies. Discussions on the use of criterion (vi) were a focus of an international experts meeting on the World Heritage Convention and Memory Sites from 7 to 9 November 2016 organized by the authorities of Rwanda with support from the African World Heritage Fund. The three-day workshop included also site visits to memorial sites (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1585>). An Expert Meeting at Berlin Wannsee on "Outstanding universal value of Auschwitz – Historical Identity of Europe and pars pro toto borders" was organized by the Polish National Commission, the National Heritage Board of Poland and the Auschwitz Birkenau State Museum with the participation of 30 experts. Two thematic studies are currently being elaborated, one on the use of criterion (vi) financed by Germany and another one on memory sites and interpretation financed by the Korean Funds in Trust.
67. The World Heritage Marine programme has been very active in sharing best practices and working with the site managers of the 49 marine World Heritage properties, as well as in promoting the programme and implementing capacity-building activities (see Galapagos conference under Performance Indicator 2: Capacity-building).
68. The activities of the World Heritage Sustainable tourism programme in 2017 are related closely to the European Union Year of Heritage (see activities under Performance Indicator 4: Sustainable development).
69. The World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) 2016 campaign under the theme of "Together for Heritage" organized 58 action camps running from March to November 2016, at

53 World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative Lists, located in 35 countries and involving 48 local organizations and institutions. For its 10th year, 52 youth action projects have been selected under the World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) 2017 campaign “Heritage in our Hands” to be implemented on 46 World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative Lists, by 47 organisations in 32 countries. This programme continues to prove its success in mobilizing youth to preserve and promote World Heritage by reaching out to their peers and communities. The Prevention of Violent Extremism through Youth Empowerment in Jordan, Libya and Morocco is part of the WHV 2017 Campaign.

70. In conjunction with the 40th Session of the World Heritage Committee, the World Heritage Youth Forum 2016 “At the Crossroads of Multi-Layered Heritage” was held from 29 June to 12 July 2016 in Istanbul, Turkey. It gathered 28 young people from 26 countries and gave the participants the opportunity to present the results of their work in a Declaration at the Opening Ceremony of the 40th Session of the World Heritage Committee.
71. The first African World Heritage Youth Forum in French-speaking Africa took place from 26 April to 5 May 2017 in Burkina Faso at the Ruins of Loropéni World Heritage site and Gaoua. This initiative is a follow-up to the first African Regional Youth Forum on World Heritage in English-speaking Africa organized in 2016 on the Robben Island in South Africa. Aiming to increase the involvement of youth in the promotion and protection of Africa’s World Heritage, the Forum created a platform for enhancing the participation of young people in heritage protection in Africa.
72. Furthermore, the webpage of the World Heritage Education programme continues to showcase the achievements of the programme. The update of the World Heritage in Young Hands Kit and the production of a new Patrimoine episode 14 on the theme of Sustainable Tourism are two of the immediate projects of the programme in search of funding.
 - c) Awareness-raising
73. The continued efforts of the Secretariat to enhance the wide dissemination of World Heritage-related information have also contributed to the increased visibility of strategic issues pertaining to World Heritage and facilitated the sharing of broad-spectrum information and technical knowledge with the general public and relevant stakeholders. The World Heritage website received more than 1 111 000 visits per month. This figure, which amounts to 40 percent of the total visits of the UNESCO website, demonstrates the growing global interest in World Heritage issues. The database of the Centre website, in terms of nominations and state of conservation, makes the site a global heritage reference. 109,000 members are registered as regular users of the Centre website.
74. Social media is being integrated ever more in the communication and outreach activities of the Secretariat, with Twitter, Facebook and Instagram being used as vehicles for disseminating information about World Heritage news, activities, competitions, calls for proposals but also as platforms for capacity building. For example, the World Heritage Marine Programme maintains an active presence on social media in light of its activities that are entirely funded by extra budgetary resources. An Instagram competition was launched in connection with the promotion of the “World Heritage in Europe Today” (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/world-heritage-in-europe-today/>) publication produced for the general public further to the completion to the Second Cycle of Periodic reporting in the Europe region. Such practices will be further developed and enhanced.
75. The e-newsletter on World Heritage and the Centre’s activities was also widely disseminated. 70,000 copies of the 2016-2017 World Heritage Map were produced in collaboration with National Geographic Maps in English, French and Spanish, with

the support of Poland. An annual e-newsletter is also produced by the World Heritage Marine Programme and disseminated among the international marine conservation community.

76. As part of the awareness-raising activities related to conservation, the September 2016 issue of the World Heritage Review was dedicated to Urban Heritage, prepared in conjunction with and disseminated at the Habitat III conference in Quito, Ecuador.
77. On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the World Heritage Marine Programme, the publication “The Future of the World Heritage Convention for Marine Conservation” was launched, to summarize its achievements and future challenges.

IV. GLOBAL PRIORITY GENDER EQUALITY

78. The gender equality dimension is consistently integrated in the implementation of all activities carried out within the World Heritage Centre, by encouraging the involvement of women in training workshops and expert meetings, selection of participants (when appropriate) etc.
79. Effective mainstreaming of gender-equality is particularly demonstrated by the World Heritage Education Programme. For example, in the selection of participants for the World Heritage Volunteers Initiative and the participants for the World Heritage Youth Fora, the participation of girls has exceeded 50%.
80. Two publications of the Centre on Periodic Reporting for Europe and North America respectively highlighted the importance of gender mainstreaming in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, providing sex-disaggregated data with regards to stakeholders involved in World Heritage and referring to the relevant chapter “Achieving gender equality” of the WH-SD Policy.
81. In the Latin America and the Caribbean region, a project at City of Cuenca, Ecuador, mobilized women and youth for the transmission of artisanal techniques to preserve earthen architecture. This project successfully demonstrated the important role played by women in the transmission of conservation techniques and responded to the need to ensure the protection and conservation of World Heritage properties through the enhanced participation of the communities, more particularly women, in the preservation of properties in Latin America and the Caribbean.

V. SYNERGIES WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS

82. The synergies with other Conventions and programmes have been further enhanced by the Centre in a proactive manner.
83. Within the framework of the revision of the Periodic Reporting Format, launched by Decision **39 COM 10B.5**, adopted at the 39th session of the Committee (Bonn, 2015), and in compliance with the Terms of reference approved by Decision **40 COM 10A**, the World Heritage Centre ensured that the expert working group entrusted with this task took into account the synergies between other culture and biodiversity-related conventions and programmes and that relevant questions were integrated in this regard. The first draft of the revised questionnaire was shared with the Secretariats of all relevant Conventions and programmes for comments (see Document WHC/17/41.COM/10A for more details).
84. In addition, the Centre has developed and launched a new website (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/synergies/>) in order to better reflect the synergies with the other culture and biodiversity-related conventions and programmes.

85. Besides this new webpage, concrete synergies between the various site-based conventions and programmes (World Heritage, Hague Convention, Ramsar, Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks) are reflected wherever relevant on the Centre's website (e.g. in the State of conservation Information System).

b) Culture Conventions

86. The Culture Conventions Liaison Group (CCLG), chaired by the Director of the Heritage Division and the World Heritage Centre continued to undertake efforts to reinforce synergies among the six Culture Conventions. The CCLG met to review working methods, planning for statutory meetings and coordinate funding and resource mobilization.

87. Following a first meeting held during the 39th session in 2015, a second meeting of all Chairpersons of the six UNESCO Culture Conventions took place in September 2016 (1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two (1954 and 1999) Protocols; 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property; 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage; 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage; 2003 Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage; and 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions). The meeting focused on two major subjects: safeguarding cultural heritage and cultural diversity in times of conflict; and the role of the Conventions in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This meeting organized at a time when destruction of cultural heritage has reached unprecedented levels was the occasion to recall culture's unique contribution to peace and sustainable development. It contributed to clearly demonstrate how each of UNESCO's Culture Conventions directly support Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

88. Furthermore, the World Heritage Committee, at its 39th session in 2015, welcomed the "reflections on the interaction between the World Heritage Convention and the 1954 Hague Convention and its Second Protocol (1999)". It examined the proposal for revision of the World Heritage Nomination Format and decided that options for further developing concrete synergies and coordinating reporting mechanisms between the World Heritage Convention and the Second Protocol (1999) of the Hague Convention (1954) should be addressed while revising the Periodic Reporting Format, to be examined by the Committee at its 41st session in 2017. The Centre has fully complied with this Decision and has integrated relevant questions about the 1954 Convention and the Second Protocol in both Section I and Section II of the revised Periodic Reporting Format. The revised format as well as details about the process, including on synergies with the Second Protocol of the 1954 Convention and other relevant instruments are included in document WHC/17/41.COM/10A.

89. In this regard, it is to be noted that meanwhile, at its 11th meeting in December 2016, the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict has examined a revised project presented by Belgium proposing a change of the World Heritage Nomination format and requested the Secretariat to inform the World Heritage Committee accordingly. While keeping in mind the decision it has taken at the 39th session on the question of enhancing synergies with the 1954 Convention and Second Protocol through the Periodic Reporting format, the Committee may, if it so wishes, discuss this proposal during the next revision of the *Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention* at its 43rd session in 2019. It is recalled in this regard that it is recommended that the

Operational Guidelines be revised at 4-year intervals and that the last major revision took place in 2015, at the 39th session of the Committee. The agenda of the 41st session includes exceptionally an item on the revision of the *Operational Guidelines* limited to two issues explicitly requested by the Committee at its 40th session (namely Paragraph 68 on Tentative lists, postponed by the Committee itself, as well as Chapter V on Periodic Reporting and relevant Annex, in conjunction with the adoption of the revised Periodic Reporting format).

90. Like all Culture Conventions Secretariats, the Centre continues to be assisted by the Common Conventions Services Unit (CCS) which functions, since July 2014, within the Culture Sector, under the supervision of the Director of the Heritage Division as Chair of the CCLG.
91. CCS provides a shared pool of resources for common needs in a number of areas, such as a) handling of logistical aspects of statutory meetings, in cooperation with Host Country teams, as well as processing of a range of statutory letters on behalf of the Conventions' Secretariats, organizing travel, coordination of translation, handling of logistics of side events with the Host Country; b) coordination with Category 2 Centres; c) communication work, with particular efforts invested into the #Unite4Heritage campaign, including some web and social media initiatives; preparation of the quarterly World Heritage Review; d) responses to requests for the use of the World Heritage emblem (cross-reference with Annex 4 of this document), and e) partnerships with the private sector (cross-reference with Annex 5 of this document).
92. An evaluation by the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) was conducted between April – June 2017 in order to assess the achievement of objectives, the work-load and the functioning of CCS and to determine how far its creation has fulfilled the initial goal. It is expected that the evaluation will provide necessary feedback in this regard as well as guidance for the future.
c) Biodiversity-related Conventions
93. Since the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), the Centre has pursued its collaboration with all other international biodiversity-related conventions and programmes, including in the context of the Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG) (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/blg>).
94. On 23 August 2016, the Centre was represented by the Man and Biosphere Programme Secretariat at the 11th meeting of the Biodiversity Liaison Group - BLG (CMS Secretariat, Bonn, Germany). This meeting reviewed recent and forthcoming meetings under the conventions (e.g. CITES-COP17 in September/October 2016, CBD-COP13 in December 2016) and highlighted issues of strategic importance to the BLG members (<https://www.cbd.int/blg/>). On 25 January 2017, the BLG members met again through a videoconference to discuss a number of decisions adopted by the 13th session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP13), which are relevant to all biodiversity-related conventions, including the reinforcement of synergies (XIII/24), the financial mechanism (XIII/21), the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (XIII/1 and XIII/3), national reporting and interoperability of information management and reporting systems (XIII/27) as well as a communication strategy (XIII/22). Of particular importance to the World Heritage Convention is Decision XIII/24B of the CBD COP13, which is inviting Parties to identify opportunities to enhance synergies at the local and regional levels, including with respect to multiple internationally designated areas (MIDAs). In addition, the International Whaling Commission (IWC) was accepted as a new member of the BLG.
95. The communication officers of the Secretariats to the BLG ensure coordination through regular teleconferences to discuss joint communication activities. In this

context, the World Heritage Centre supported the Ramsar Convention of Wetlands by joining the 2017 World Wetlands Day dedicated to Wetlands for Disaster Risk Reduction on 2 February 2017 (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1622>). To contribute to the fight against the escalation of the poaching crisis and the illicit trafficking of wildlife species and their products, one of the Committee's concerns (see Decision **40 COM 7**, Paragraphs 9 and 10), the World Heritage Centre has worked in close collaboration with the CITES Secretariat to celebrate World Wildlife Day (<http://wildlifeday.org/>) on 3 March last through a number of press releases, posts in the social media, and a message from the UNESCO Director-General (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1633>). Further information on this issue is also available in Document 7.

96. The Centre is also working on a joint project with the Ramsar Convention Secretariat funded through UNEP's InforMEA programme and Ramsar's MAVA-funded Culture & Wetlands partnership to collect success stories on how cultural values and community participation contribute to positive conservation outcomes for sites designated both as World Heritage properties and Ramsar sites. The outcome document of the project is expected to be completed in 2017.
97. Initiated during the 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress held on Jeju Island (Republic of Korea), a guidance document entitled "Managing MIDAs - Harmonising the management of Multi-Internationally Designated Areas: Ramsar Sites, World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks" was released during the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i (United States of America) (see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1550>). UNESCO was well represented at this Congress, including by the Director-General of UNESCO (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1549>) and the Director of the World Heritage Centre. Within the World Heritage Journey and the Nature-Culture Journey, over 50 events were organized, concluding with a call for commitments "Malama Honua - to care for our island Earth", which recognizes the importance of the World Heritage Convention in setting global standards in integrated approaches to protect and manage natural and cultural heritage (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1563>). During the Congress, the Director of the World Heritage Centre met with the Secretaries of the CBD, CITES and Ramsar Convention on wetlands, as well as with the Executive Director of UNEP, the UN Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples and numerous World Heritage site-managers. Issue No. 79 of *World Heritage - Planet at the Crossroads*, focusing on enhanced links between natural and cultural heritage, was prepared in conjunction with the IUCN Conservation Congress and disseminated at the event. The issue included a joint message from all secretaries of the biodiversity-related conventions (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/79>).
98. Established by the UNESCO Director-General in 2008, a Steering Committee (Technical Liaison Group), composed of the 2 ADGs of Culture and Natural Sciences, as well as the Director of the Centre and the Director of Ecological and Earth Sciences, aims at reinforcing the coordination with the Natural Sciences Sector and to improve the synergies and cooperation between the UNESCO Designated areas (World Heritage properties, Biosphere Reserves and GeoParks).
99. The Technical Liaison Group met twice since the last session of the World Heritage Committee in 2016. It met on 22 July 2016 to prepare for the IUCN Congress and to coordinate their inputs in the next meetings of the BLG. On 20 December 2016, the Technical Liaison Group met to discuss a number of issues, including its Terms of Reference, the results of the Management of Multi-Internationally Designated Areas (MIDA) publication and the issue of branding of these designations examined during the 200th session of the Executive Board (doc 200 EX/5 Part I(G)) and its related adopted decisions. It was recalled that even though each of the three designations already benefits from a strategy or document concerning the use of its logo/brand,

and that each of them follows strict guidelines established by their respective governing bodies, there was a need to have a common approach for sites with multiple UNESCO designations. This would ensure that the UNESCO values are clearly displayed at the site, together with the value(s) of each of the relevant other designation(s), as the public often does not know what makes a site a Biosphere Reserve, a World Heritage property or a UNESCO Global Geopark, and what the differences are between these designations (areas, values, management concepts). The Group lastly reiterated the need to reinforce the links between the three designations and that the current World Heritage Periodic Reporting revision exercise was very successful in this sense.

VI. FOLLOW-UP TO GLOBAL DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE AT 40 COM

100. The Secretariat has taken steps to implement several specific decisions of the Committee adopted at its 40th session which aim at contributing to a more informed decision-making process, enhancing the sustainability of the Fund and an inclusive involvement of the States Parties of the Convention in the reflection on specific topics. The activities of the Secretariat in this regard are reported in other specific working documents of the Committee, therefore this document only makes a brief reference to those. The very tight deadlines for the implementation of these decisions, both for the Secretariat and the States Parties, are worth highlighting, given the fact that all of these decisions were all adopted at the October meeting of the 40th session. These involve more specifically the preparation and launch of an online consultation on the Upstream process, an on-line consultation on the payment of an Annual voluntary fee by World Heritage properties, as well as a mapping study concerning Advisory services by other Conventions and programmes. All these have been launched by the Secretariat and some of them were already completed by the time this document was prepared, while others are still in progress. The deadline of one of the surveys (namely on voluntary annual fees) has been extended in view of providing more time for consultations to States Parties with their respective local administrations in charge of management of World Heritage properties. More information on the outcomes of these consultations is to be found in working documents WHC/17/41.COM/9A (Upstream process) and WHC/17/41.COM/14 (annual fee and mapping study), as well as in relevant information documents WHC/17/41.COM/14 INF.1 and INF.2.

VII. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision: 41 COM 5A

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/5A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **40 COM 5A** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),*
3. *Takes note with appreciation of the activities undertaken by the World Heritage Centre over the past year in pursuit of the Expected Result to ensure that “tangible heritage is identified, protected, monitored and sustainably managed by Member States, in particular through the effective implementation of the 1972 Convention”, and the five strategic objectives as presented in Document WHC/17/41.COM/5A;*
4. *Notes the results of expert meetings undertaken on criterion (vi) and on memory sites and their interpretation, thanks the authorities of Korea, Poland and Rwanda for organizing expert meetings and welcomes the financial support by the authorities of Germany and Korea for thematic studies on these topics;*
5. *Welcomes the proactive role of the World Heritage Centre for enhancing the synergies among the Culture and Biodiversity related Conventions and programmes and particularly, the integration of relevant synergies aspects in the revised Periodic Reporting Format and the launch of a synergy-related web page on the Centre’s website;*
6. *Invites the States Parties to support the activities carried out by the World Heritage Centre for the implementation of the Convention;*
7. *Requests the World Heritage Centre to present, at its 42nd session, a report on its activities.*

ANNEX 1: RESULTS-BASED REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE IN PURSUIT OF THE 5 CS (COVERING THE PERIOD FROM JULY 2016 TO JUNE 2017)

Please see also the following documents: "World Heritage Convention and sustainable development" (WHC/17/41.COM/5C), "Follow-up to the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy and Progress report on the World Heritage-related category 2 centres" (WHC/17/41.COM/6). Please also see Documents "Progress report on the Periodic Reporting Reflection (2015-2017) and launch of the third cycle (WHC/17/41.COM/10A) and "Follow-up to the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for all regions" (WHC/17/41.COM/10B).

Abbreviations: Advisory Bodies (**ABs**), Africa (**AFR**), Asia and the Pacific (**APA**), Arab States (**ARB**), Europe and North America (**EUR**), Global (**GLO**), Latin America and the Caribbean (**LAC**), World Heritage Centre (**WHC**).

1C Activities to make the World Heritage List more representative, balanced and credible (Credibility)

REG ION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and CHALLENGES encountered
GLO	Technical support to State Parties in the framework of Retrospective Inventory: Preparation of Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value and Boundary clarifications presented to the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee.	40 COM 8D 40 COM 8E	Adoption of Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value and clarifications of property boundaries.
GLO	Assistance to States Parties in the nomination process (non-exhaustive list): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of Mbanza Kongo (Angola) nomination dossier through the self-benefitting Funds-in-Trust (FIT); organization of the 3rd International Roundtable (November 2016). • Meetings with WHC, ABs and SP representatives to prepare a revised nomination for the Barotse Cultural Landscape, Zambia, within the framework of the Upstream Process (July and December 2016). • Teleconference meetings with WHC, ICOMOS, FU/NAI and SP representatives to prepare a revised nomination for Thimlich Ohinga Cultural Landscape, Kenya, within the framework of the Upstream Process (2 December 2016 and 23 January 2017). • Support provided to South Sudan to review its draft tentative list through skype meetings with WHC, ABs, FU/NAI and SP representatives (30 September 2016). • Launch of the Nomination Programme in Africa by the Centre for Heritage Development in Africa (CHDA) and Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA) and organization of 2 Tentative List Upstream process workshops in Togo (December 2016) and Kenya (January 2017). • Launch of the preparatory assistance for preparation of a nomination dossier for the "Sites related to the Slave Route in Benin" to nominate the property for inscription on the World Heritage List (20 October 2016-15 December 2017). • Expert meeting held for Fergana-Syrdarya Silk Roads in order to set the way forward for the "Silk Roads: Fergana-Syrdarya Corridor" World Heritage serial and transnational nomination, Kyzylorda, Kazakhstan (13-15 November 2016). 	Global Strategy Decisions of World Heritage Committee under items 8B, 9, 9A, 9C, 10B, 12	Better understanding of the nomination mechanism and timeframe. Identification of new sites for a balanced and representative World Heritage List. Involvement of local communities in the nomination process. Completion of nomination files including serial transnational properties. Enhancement of a common approach and joint actions of the Members States in regard to the management and safeguard of their heritage. Supporting States Parties through upstream preparatory assistance including technical support and advice. Reinforcement of local capacity on future inscriptions on the World Heritage List.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of the preparatory assistance project funded by Korean FIT for Bhutan, India and Nepal, in close collaboration with China, for the preparation of South Asian Silk Roads nominations and the update of national Silk Roads Tentative Lists. (The project for the South Asian Silk Roads was operationally completed in September 2016.) Continuation of the International Assistance project (Phase II), to assist the preparation of the draft nomination dossiers for the serial nomination of the Coral Stone Mosques (Male Hukuru Miskiy) in the Maldives. Workshops on the conservation of the urban heritage of the city of Tangier, in view of its potential future nomination for inscription on the World Heritage List, Tangier, Morocco, (13-14 February 2016, 22-24 November 2016). Workshop on the project of nomination of the heritage of the island of Djerba (Tunisia) for inscription on the World Heritage List, in cooperation with ALECSO, Djerba, (15-17 April 2017). Expert mission and two workshops on the preparation of the nomination file of Failaka Island, Kuwait, (12-18 March 2017). Support provided to the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation (NACHP) in Georgia to review the Tentative List and identify heritage, within the framework of the World Bank financed Third Regional Development Project, UNESCO/Georgia agreement. Support provided to national authorities in El Salvador in the utilization of Preparatory Assistance for the update of its Tentative List. Support provided to the State Party of Paraguay in the utilization of Preparatory Assistance for the update of the Tentative List for future inscriptions on the World Heritage List. International Assistance was granted to organize workshops. http://whc.unesco.org/en/intassistance/2715/ 		<p>Discussion of key challenges for nomination projects such as the sustainable management of an urban property.</p> <p>Adoption of Action Plans which set the way forward for the nomination process.</p> <p>Advice provided on delineating properties' boundaries and buffer zones.</p> <p>Securing the mobilization of most African States Parties for the nomination process.</p>
GLO	<p>Development and launch of IUCN/UNESCO report "World Heritage in the High Seas: An Idea Whose Time has Come" which explores the different ways the World Heritage Convention may one day apply to the wonders of the open ocean, which covers more than half the planet. With the leadership support of Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation, Agence des aires marines protégées, Nekton and Jaeger-LeCoultre.</p> <p>http://whc.unesco.org/en/highseas</p>	<p>Global Strategy</p> <p>29 COM 5B</p> <p>18 GA 8</p>	<p>Understanding of the potential to apply Outstanding Universal Value to marine areas beyond national jurisdiction.</p>
GLO	<p>Implementation of the Thematic Initiative "Astronomy and World Heritage":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2016/2017, the WHC launched the process for entrusting the International Astronomical Union (IAU) with the operational implementation of the Initiative, as requested by the Committee; IAU event "World Heritage and Astronomy: modern and traditional interpretations illustrated through the case of Hawaiian observatories" at the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress, to explore the heritage values of astronomy from both the modern and indigenous perspectives (https://portals.iucn.org/congress/session/10373); Second volume of the IAU/ICOMOS thematic study on heritage and astronomy in under review by ICOMOS; 	<p>Global Strategy</p> <p>40 COM 5D</p>	<p>Enhanced capacities in the identification of the sites of science and technology.</p> <p>Exchange of expertise and best practices among experts and academics.</p> <p>Reinforcement of partnership with scientific institutions.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint WHC/IAU/ICOMOS expert meeting on potential astronomical sites, with the support of the Permanent Delegation of Chile (UNESCO, March 2017); Regarding specific follow-up activities on Space Technological Heritage, the WHC launched the process of identification of a partner organization to develop studies and research on technological heritage connected with space exploration; International Workshop “World Heritage Potential of Testimonies to Aviation and Aerospace” jointly organized by the ICOMOS Germany, International Scientific Committee of 20th Century Heritage – TICCIH Germany, German National Commission for UNESCO and Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt, in cooperation with the Deutsches Technikmuseum (Berlin, Germany, April 2017). 		
GLO	<p>International conference on World Heritage Interpretation and memory sites, organized by the Korean authorities and attended by more than 100 participants including Permanent Delegations to UNESCO, WHC, experts from ICOMOS and from States Parties, Seoul, Republic of Korea (2 November 2016).</p> <p>http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1587</p>		Challenges of facing difficult histories at World Heritage sites and sites of memory addressed through case studies both internally and at the international level.
AFR	National workshop on ‘World Heritage Outstanding Universal Value’ and the memorial sites in Kigali, Rwanda, organized by the National Commission for the Fight Against Genocide with the support of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) and with the participation of DIR/HER, representatives of ABs and national authorities (7-9 November 2016).		<p>Recommendations formulated regarding future nominations to the World Heritage List by Rwanda.</p> <p>Discussions on the use of criterion (vi).</p>
AFR	Regional workshop organized in June 2016 in Yaoundé (Cameroon) to launch the Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI), attended by 40 experts from Central Africa Region (Cong, Cameroon, Gabon and Central Africa Republic).	Global Strategy	<p>Identification of priority activities and provision of financial and technical support to beneficiaries’ countries to enhance conservation of the natural sites in Central Africa.</p> <p>Enhancement of conservation capacities in the region and discussions on potential natural sites for future nominations.</p>
EUR	<p>Pilot upstream project “Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid region” (Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) with a 2.4 million USD funding secured (EU and national co-financing by Albania for a 3 year project), started in 2014 and expected to end in 2017.</p> <p>Technical assistance of WHC and ABs for the extension of the mixed World Heritage property “Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid region” to the Albanian part of the Lake Ohrid:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Transboundary Platform Meetings aimed to provide an overview of the progress made in the project implementation, to ensure greater synergies and harmonization between the management plans for the existing World Heritage property and the proposed extension and to share information and coordinate the activities for transboundary Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) consultation processes in both countries; 	<p>Upstream process</p> <p>35 COM 12</p> <p>38 COM 7B.58</p>	<p>Upstream assistance provided to the national authorities for the extension of the mixed World Heritage property “Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid region”.</p> <p>Sustainable development opportunities identified in the draft Sustainable Development strategy.</p> <p>Local and national capacities for integrated site management strengthened among the various institutions.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various capacity-building activities in the form of courses and thematic trainings covering thematic areas such as collaborative management and ecosystem, sustainable entrepreneurship and people-centred approach of the Lake Ohrid region; • Preparation of a local waste management-plan (LWMP) to address one of the main challenges for nature preservation in the area. Within the LWMP, preparation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) required to evaluate the environmental impact of the activities that are planned to be implemented; • Supporting NGOs activities on awareness-raising campaign on urban waste management and reduction; • Awareness-raising about the benefits and obligations under the World Heritage Convention for the national and local authorities. <p>Activities which will continue until 2017: http://whc.unesco.org/en/lake-ohrid-region</p>		<p>Harmonization of the Integrated Management Plan between the two countries.</p> <p>Awareness raised at local and regional level about waste management and reduction through public information circulated at local and regional level.</p>
EUR	Expert Meeting held at Berlin Wannsee on “Outstanding universal value of Auschwitz – Historical Identity of Europe and pars pro toto borders”, by the Polish National Commission, the National Heritage Board of Poland and the Auschwitz Birkenau State Museum with the participation of 30 experts.		<p>Conclusions on management and research linking to other similar sites;</p> <p>Subsequently proposal for a thematic study on the use of criterion (vi) financed by Germany.</p>
LAC	A sub-regional Workshop on the World Heritage Convention organized in Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago) by the Trinidad and Tobago National Commission for UNESCO, with the support and participation of the WHC and the UNESCO Offices of Habana and Kingston (November 2016).		The 80 participants exchanged on several key themes related to the World Heritage Convention in the Caribbean, to encourage sub-regional cooperation and set the stage for further consultations, in view of the update and harmonization of Tentative Lists.
2C Activities to ensure the effective Conservation of World Heritage properties (Conservation)			
REG ION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and CHALLENGES encountered
GLO	Support for the development of management plans for World Heritage properties across all regions.	38 COM 7B 38 COM 7A	Updating and finalisation of management plans.
GLO	Regular update of the State of Conservation Information System (http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc), by integrating all state of conservation reports examined by the Committee at its 40th session, mission reports, States Parties reports (full reports or summaries) to further improve the knowledge management system. An activity was also developed to ensure the availability of all Reactive Monitoring and Advisory missions reports since 1979 through this online tool.	37 COM 7C	As of April 2017, 825.000 page views, (sources: GoogleAnalytics)

GLO	Reactive Monitoring Missions carried out as per Decisions taken by the Committee: - the Sundarbans	40 COM 7B 40 COM 7A	Detailed analysis of the state of conservation of the property with recommendations. Support to the State Party for the implementation of mission recommendations ongoing.
GLO	Support and facilitation to the application of Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) for Banc d'Arguin National Park (Mauritania) and Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park (Philippines) during International Maritime Organization (IMO) meetings.	31 COM 7B 38 COM 7B.62 40 COM 7B.85	The approval of PSSA Status for Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park 'in principle' by IMO. The presentation of details about the intention of the Government of Mauritania to designate the Banc d'Arguin National Park and its surrounding marine waters as a PSSA during a special event at IMO Headquarters. http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1486/
GLO	New partnership with the Flanders FIT to shed light on the impact from unsustainable fisheries on OUV of World Heritage marine sites. http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1467/	29 COM 5.1	Ongoing
GLO	Regional Workshop on Heritage of Religious Interest, Nakorn Phnom Province, Thailand, as a part of the Cycle of Regional Thematic Consultations launched by UNESCO in February 2016 (May 2017). http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1474/	35 COM 5A 36 COM 5A.1 37 COM 5A 40 COM 5D	Contribution to the development of the thematic paper with guidance on the management of heritage of religious interest further to the World Heritage Committee's decision. Reinforcement of the expert network and UN interagency cooperation.
GLO	Support provided to the Culture Commission of the United Cities and Local Government (UCLG) NGO, at its 5th Congress, Bogota (12-15 October 2016).		Reinforcement of the cooperation between UNESCO/WHC and UCLG on the role of culture in sustainable urban development and in the field of urban heritage conservation, particularly in view of UCLG's 2nd Culture Summit to be hosted by the Special Self-Governing Province of Jeju (Republic of South Korea) from 10 to 13 May 2017.

GLO	Contribution to the elaboration and presentation of the Global Report on Culture for Sustainable Urban Development, as UNESCO's contribution to Habitat III Conference, Quito (17-21 October 2016).		<p>The World Heritage Convention was one of the key tools for the elaboration of the report, notably as regards the conservation and management of the urban heritage inscribed on the World Heritage List.</p> <p>The Global Report sets the way for the protection and management of urban heritage, in all its forms, which will be addressed by UNESCO over the twenty coming years, in the framework of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda adopted at Habitat III.</p>
GLO	Follow-up activities to the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for all regions and general reflection on Periodic Reporting. (Further details can be found in Doc 10B)	40 COM 10B	Follow-up to regional action plans.
GLO	Publication on "Managing MIDAs – Harmonizing the Management of Multi-Internationally Designated Areas: Ramsar Sites, World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks" prepared by IUCN in cooperation with UNESCO and Ramsar Convention Secretariat and launched at the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress.		<p>Expected result is strengthened cooperation among the various actors of Internationally Designated Areas, with guidance provided to areas with multiple designations on their integrated management.</p> <p>http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1550</p>
GLO	<p>Conservation activities have been carried out in all regions (non-exhaustive list):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reactive Monitoring Missions were carried out as per Decisions taken by the Committee. • WHC/ICOMOS Technical Assistance Mission to Bamako to support Mali for the development of corrective measures and the Desired State of Conservation necessary for the withdrawal of Timbuktu and the Tomb of Askia from the World Heritage List in Danger. • WHC/ICOMOS advisory mission to assist the Government of Mauritius in the implementation of the Committee's decision concerning Le Morne Cultural Landscape. (November 2016). Launch of a Local Economic Development Plan for Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage property which includes actions to prevent demolition of historical buildings in the buffer zone and to initiate mechanisms that ensure integrated management of the area. • Launch of the project "Emergency consolidation and protection of the Island of Gorée World Heritage site, Senegal" funded by Japan. • Project to strengthen Coastal Sea wall on the Gereza Fort in Kilwa Kisiwani World Heritage Property, Tanzania. • Implementation of an emergency rescue plan to restore tangible and intangible cultural values of Sukur Cultural Landscape World Heritage site, funded by Hungary. • Support to the finalization of the Desired State of Conservation for Removal of the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) for East Rennell, including assistance from the World Heritage Fund (ongoing). • Continuation of the extrabudgetary Japan FIT project aiming the effective conservation and management of "Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha", Nepal. 	Decisions of World Heritage Committee under 7A and 7B	<p>State of Conservation of World Heritage properties improved.</p> <p>Capacities in the heritage conservation, protection and management, including disaster risk management enhanced and methodologies developed.</p> <p>Support provided to national and local institutions in heritage conservation and management efforts.</p> <p>Improved management systems developed for World Heritage properties.</p> <p>Local communities' participation in the management of the World Heritage site enhanced.</p> <p>Training provided for local artisans on consolidation of structures affected by major coastal erosion.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical mission to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea in order to assess the state of conservation of the Mural paintings of the Jinpa-ri Tombs I and IV as part of the extra-budgetary project “Preservation of the Koguryo Tombs and Mural paintings” funded by the Republic of Korea (March 2017). • Preparatory assistance for the finalization of the management plan for “The Ancient Capitals of the Kingdom of Tonga”, Tonga (Netherlands FIT and SIDS programme). Stakeholders workshop (19-20 July 2016) and consultation meeting (26 January 2017). • Mission to Lebanon to provide support to the General Directorate of Antiquities (DGA) on the protection and conservation of the Lebanese World Heritage Sites (13-17 February 2017). • WHC/ICOMOS mission to the World Heritage Site “Memphis and its Necropolis – the Pyramid fields from Giza to Dahshur”, concerning the Ring Road project at Giza plateau (5-9 March 2017). • Two technical advisory missions to the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation (NACHP) in Georgia within the framework of the World Bank financed Third Regional Development Project, UNESCO/Georgia agreement (December 2016 and April 2017). • 2nd WHC/ICOMOS advisory mission to Stonehenge concerning the proposed dualling and tunnelling of the A303 road (31 January-3 February 2017). • Dialogue with the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh Site manager to support the implementation of the Historic Urban Landscape approach and develop a synergy between the 2015 Edinburgh City vision and the management of the World Heritage site. • International assistance for the development of a National Action Plan for Risk Management at World Heritage Properties in Chile (2017). http://whc.unesco.org/en/intassistance/2706/ • Approval of the operational phase of the project “Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management at the City of Quito, Ecuador” (August 2017). http://whc.unesco.org/en/managing-disaster-risks/ • Approval of the operational phase of the project “Toward a sustainable and participative Management Plan for Pantanal” in Bolivia and Paraguay. • Technical assistance given to Potosi, Bolivia for the elaboration of the State of Conservation Report. A WHC/ICOMOS mission programmed in April 2017. • Post-disaster assistance given to Manabí, Ecuador, by UNESCO Quito, to rescue historic archives affected by the 16-A earthquake, within the framework of the project “Strengthening local capacities for the emergency conservation of historic archives in areas affected by the 16A earthquake in Ecuador”. (10 historical archives were rescued.) http://www.unesco.org/new/es/quito/media-service/single-view/news/unesco_quito_finaliza_en_manabi_ecuador_la_asistencia_pos/ 		
AFR	A workshop held in Mozambique with a view to implement the Historic Urban Landscape approach on the Island of Mozambique and the recommendations of the New Urban Agenda, with the involvement of UNDP and UN Habitat.	40 COM 7B.15	Revision of the Management and Conservation Plan for Mozambique Island and development of an Action Plan initiated.

			Enhanced capacities among the local community for the conservation of the site.
AFR	Progress made in the European Union financed project on Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI) The activities on sites started in July 2016.		Grants allocated to Lope-Okanda (Gabon); Sangha Trinational (Congo, Cameroon and Central African Republic) and Dja Faunal Reserve (Cameroon) to support conservation activities and to implement World Heritage Committee Decisions. Enhancement of the management of natural properties in Central Africa.
AFR	International Assistance for Conservation allocated to Lopé Okanda, mixed property in Gabon.	39 COM 7B.32	Enhancement of cultural conservation capacities. Validation of the management plan. Enhanced capacities among the local community for the conservation of the site.
AFR	Implementation of the World Heritage Centre's Program "Conservation of Biodiversity in Zones of Armed Conflict."	40 COM 7A.42	Review of the implementation of the Kinshasa Declaration (January 2011). Expected result is progress toward removal of at least one property from the List of World Heritage in Danger in medium term.
AFR	Support provided to the Interpretation Centre at the Ruins of Loropéni World Heritage Site in Burkina Faso for enhanced conservation, promotion and research, funded by Hungary.	33 COM 8B.31	Development of a framework of academic co-operation partnerships. Improved information for visitors. Local stakeholders and public officials trained.
APA	Continuation of the Emergency Assistance granted from the World Heritage Fund and continuation of the assistance to Nepal via several extra-budgetary projects for the post-earthquake emergency safeguarding, conservation and rehabilitation process of the Kathmandu Valley.	39 COM 7B.69 40 COM 7B.41	Apart from the Emergency Assistance, several UNESCO extra-budgetary projects have been approved and are currently being implemented. Documentation and assessment of the selected monuments has been carried out, wooden elements have been recovered and stored safely, the pilot rehabilitation of selected monuments has been initiated.
APA	The project focusing on "Sustainable Development and Community Involvement Initiatives for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention", financed by the Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust. Three World Heritage properties – one in Bangladesh and two in Pakistan were selected for pilot activities.		Revitalization of income-generating crafts in local communities through activities related to World Heritage conservation.

APA	International Symposium “The Conservation of Brick Monuments at World Heritage sites”, organized with the support of the Netherlands FIT, Ayutthaya, Thailand (October 2016). http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1333	39 COM 7B.71	Improved awareness and recognition regarding international conservation standards for brick sites and associated monuments. Improved practical skills among selected brick craftspeople working with brick and lime building techniques. Improved operating procedures and standards for the conservation of Ayutthaya and other World Heritage sites in Thailand.
ARB	International Expert Meeting for the Safeguarding of Libyan Cultural Heritage, Tunis (9-11 May 2016).	40 COM 7	Agreement on a priority action plan which includes concrete steps and benchmarks covering archaeological sites, built heritage, movable heritage, and intangible heritage, while civil society is fully engaged in heritage protection. Establishment of the basis for cooperation among the Libyan experts from all the regions of the country.
ARB	Support to ALECSO in the establishment of an Observatory of urban and architectural heritage in the Arab region (Launching meeting, Tunis, 3-4 October 2016).	38 COM 5E	Acknowledgement of the relevance of such an initiative as well as of the need of support from UNESCO, through the World Heritage Cities Programme and the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape. The success of the initiative depends on a strong political support, a good governance, an adequate legal framework, an inclusive planning process, the support to cultural creativity, adapted financial procedures and efficient operational mechanisms.
ARB	First Aid Technical Meeting: Follow-up to the World Heritage Committee Decision on the Ancient City of Damascus, Syria (Beirut, 14-15 November 2016).	40 COM 7A.18 40 COM 7A.22	Reinforcement of the coordination among national stakeholders for the restoration of the Old Ottoman Bank in al-Asrooniya neighbourhood damaged by fire, in the Ancient city of Damascus. Elaboration of recommendations, which set this case as a pilot case.
ARB	Technical Assistance Workshop for the sites of Palmyra, Crac des Chevaliers and Ancient City of Damascus, Syria (Beirut, 13-15 December 2016)	40 COM 7A.18 40 COM 7A.20 40 COM 7A.22	Reinforcement of the capacities of national stakeholders in implementing emergency measures such as damage assessment and consolidation works for three World Heritage sites damaged during the conflicts in Syria and elaboration of priority actions to be implemented.

ARB	International Coordination Conference on the safeguarding of cultural heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq (23-24 February 2017)	40 COM 7	Assessment of the damages to cultural heritage in the liberated areas of Iraq, mapping of on-going and planned initiatives by various stakeholders, elaboration of an action plan of priority actions and establishment of a coordination mechanism for the recovery of cultural heritage in the liberated areas of Iraq.
ARB	Technical Coordination Meeting for the Ancient City of Aleppo (Beirut, 1-3 March 2017).	40 COM 7A.16 40 COM 7A.22	Mapping of on-going and planned initiatives by various stakeholders, agreement on technical guidelines and statutory procedures for the recovery plans of the Ancient City of Aleppo, elaboration of an action plan for priority recovery initiatives and establishment of a coordination mechanism. This meeting focussed on harnessing tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the recovery plans and ensuring that the recovery plans for Aleppo fully integrate the World Heritage status of the Ancient City.
EUR	Support to the UNESCO Office in Venice in the implementation of the international workshop, the “Walled Cities, Open Societies – Managing Historic Walls in Urban World Heritage Properties”, held in Siena, Italy (26-28 January 2017)	38 COM 5E	Reflection on the conservation of city walls from an urban point of view and with a sustainable development perspective. Acknowledgement of the necessity to integrate historic walls within site management systems, which have to include the notion of change, of continuity (layering), as brought forward by the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape.
EUR	Follow-up activities to the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Europe: - WHC scoping mission to all Armenian WH properties and to selected sites included on the Tentative List (October 2016).	39 COM 10B	A draft Framework Agreement developed in consultation with Armenian officials, including a proposal for a Cultural Heritage Technical Advisory Assistance by UNESCO to support the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and of the Periodic Reporting Action Plan in Armenia (under review by the authorities).
EUR	Implementation of the Portuguese Funds in Trust		Thanks to Portugal’s support to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention through financing of a temporary staff position at the World Heritage Centre, the latter provided advice and strategic backstopping on statutory procedures, policies and issues related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in a cluster of countries in the region of Europe.

LAC	Support to the implementation of the DSOCR for Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System with a focus on securing legal protection from oil exploration, the establishment of mangrove regulation and a permanent cessation of land sales and leases within the property.	40 COM 7A.32	Voluntary moratorium for oil exploration and exploitation, and lapsing of all concessions overlapping the property. Adoption of the ICZM plan, currently under implementation. Finalization of mangrove legislation is in final stages.
LAC	Progress in the project "Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System", financed by UNESCO/Japan Trust Funds, launched in 2016 and involving six States Parties (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru). The first international workshop was held in La Paz, Bolivia in April 2017. The following workshop is scheduled for August 2017 in Chile. http://www.unesco.org/new/es/lima/work-areas/culture/iniciativa-qhapaq-nan/	40 COM 7B.1	Achievement of all administrative and initial contractual steps, including the finalization of the budgetary breakdown by Country and work plan revised. The production of a data system for the monitoring of the state of conservation of the property carried out in Colombia.
LAC	National World Heritage Workshop held in La Havana, Cuba, with participation of representatives from Haiti and Aruba (27-29 September 2016). http://www.unesco.org/new/es/havana/about-this-office/single-view-havana/news/cuba_updates_strategies_to_protect_its_heritage/	40 COM 10B	Strategies and methodologies for the protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage enhanced.
LAC	The UNESCO Office in Quito and the representatives of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, along with their counterparts, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Bolivia and the Centre for Archaeological, Anthropological and Administration Research of Tiwanaku (CIAAAT) have continued working on the result of the last mission of 2016, within the framework of the Project "Preservation and Conservation of Tiwanaku and the Akapana pyramid", financed by the Japanese FIT. http://www.unesco.org/new/es/quito/media-service/single-view/news/unesco_quito_inicia_mision_de_cierre_del_ano_2016_en_la_ci/	38 COM 7B.39	Protection and sustainability of the Tiwanaku site improved through technical assistance and support in the implementation of key intervention activities.
LAC	Technical meeting held in the Museum of Congonhas by UNESCO Office in Brasilia in order to define customized indicators to monitor the outreach of the Museum of Congonhas, with regard to local communities.		Training tools to customize indicators to monitor outreach developed.
LAC	Seminar held in Argentina by UNESCO Office in Montevideo, for the project "Protection, Conservation and Management of Qhapaq Ñan, in Alto Valle Calchaqui".	38 COM 8B.43	Improvement in the analysis of the OUV of the Salta section of the Calchaquíes Valleys, Argentina.
LAC	Flood Risk Mitigation Plan developed for the World Heritage site "Old Havana" (Netherlands FIT and SIDS programme). Workshop in May 2016: production of the preliminary study and the meeting to present the result in May/June 2017 in Havana, Cuba.	Global Strategy	Assessment of existing measures and preparation of an integral plan for reducing the effects of flooding in Havana, in particular those affecting its cultural heritage.

	Workshop on the Conservation and Management of Military Architecture-related World Heritage properties in the Caribbean (Saint Kitts and Nevis, 8-9 November 2016) (Netherlands FIT) http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1319/ http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1342/		Technical cooperation with Category 1 institute of UNESCO (UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education) strengthened. Sharing experience with World Heritage military sites in the Caribbean (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis).
LAC	Seminar held on structural engineering and the implementation of preliminary conservation works to counter damages after 2013 earthquake, within the framework of the project "Capacity Building assistance for the conservation and management of Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park, World Heritage property of Saint Kitts and Nevis" (Netherlands FIT). http://whc.unesco.org/fr/evenements/1342/		Conservation and management methodologies strengthened through damage assessment.
LAC	The publication project "Methodology for the Implementation of the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscapes" in the city of Puebla was further implemented and was presented in Habitat III, with the participation of the Mayor of the City of Puebla and was launched in the framework of an International Reunion of Historic and Urban Landscape. The experience of the programme is resumed in a single volume that provide a methodology for urban landscape coherence and the management protocol to be implemented in the city. http://www.unesco.org/new/es/mexico/press/news-and-articles/content/news/miguel_angel_mancera_y_la_unesco_en_mexico_presentan_en_qu/	38 COM 5E	Knowledge sharing on the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape for the management and conservation of urban heritage in the City of Puebla, Mexico.
LAC	Caribbean World Heritage and Climate Change Symposium and Workshop (Kingston, 29 – 31 May 2017)	RES 16 GA 10	Enhanced World Heritage Sites management methodologies to face climate change consequences and threats.
3C Activities to promote the development of effective Capacity-Building measures (Capacity-Building)			
REG ION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and CHALLENGES encountered
GLO	The World Heritage Youth Forum 2016 At the Crossroads of Multi-Layered Heritage held in Istanbul, Turkey with participation of 28 young people (18 female, 10 male) from 26 countries (3 from Africa; 2 from Arab states; 6 from Asia and the Pacific; 12 from Europe; 3 from Latin American and the Caribbean) (29 June-12 July 2016). http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/886/		Improved youth knowledge on multi-layered heritage and the challenges of their management. The presentation of the results of the participants' work in the form of a Declaration at the Opening Ceremony of the 40th Session of the World Heritage Committee.

GLO	<p>Operational activities of the World Heritage marine site managers' community network including 49 marine sites in 37 countries. Organization of the 3rd triennial World Heritage marine site managers conference in Galapagos Islands (August 2016).</p> <p>http://whc.unesco.org/en/future-marine-world-heritage-2016</p>	<p>29 COM 5B 37 COM 5E</p>	<p>Managers trained in development of climate adaptation strategies and market-based approaches to strengthen sustainable fisheries.</p> <p>Improved visibility of local conservation work in marine sites, improved access to marine expertise and substantial exchange on management solutions and best practices among marine World Heritage sites.</p> <p>Positioning World Heritage marine network as a leader for change in ocean conservation.</p>
GLO	<p>Training workshops were organised in all regions (non-exhaustive list):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Workshop for Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) at African World Heritage properties organized in collaboration with AWHF, Zanzibar, Tanzania (31 October - 9 November 2016) • Risk preparedness workshop at World Heritage properties Dja Faunal Reserve, Cameroon organized in collaboration with AWHF (April/ May 2017) • The project "Risk Preparedness at World Heritage Properties - Building resilience at African World Heritage Properties" implemented in collaboration with AWHF, Namibia (June 2015 – October 2016) • Workshop for capacity enhancement for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention's Objectives for Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe and Guinea Bissau, organized in Cabo Verde as part of the implementation of Action Plan for the Africa Region 2012-2017. • Training provided for 30 national cultural heritage experts in Nepal on archaeological documentation, conservation and site management as part of the Japan FIT project in Lumbini (Nepal, see 2C). 2017 Lumbini International Steering Committee (ISC) Meeting, Nepal (17–19 February 2017). • On-the-job training provided for nine Nepali national staff members, including volunteers and carpenters, to identify the iconographic features of salvaged artefacts, sort, label and document them as part of the capacity building for the Kathmandu Valley (Nepal, see 2C) • The "Workshop for Cultural Landscape and Sustaining its Significance – Bhutan 2016" aiming to assist the development of management frameworks for two selected cultural landscape sites in Paro, Bhutan (Bhutan, Paro and Thimphu, 13 July – 3 August 2016). • Launch of the UNESCO/Japan FIT project "South Asian Cultural Landscape Initiatives" in Thimphu, Bhutan (3 August 2016). • A 3-day training workshop conducted by the Institute for Hydraulic Engineering and Water Resources Management of the RWTH Aachen University (Germany) in March 2017, in the framework of the International Assistance granted to Afghanistan for the World Heritage property "Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam". • National Workshop on the implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape at World Heritage properties in Uzbekistan, held in Bukhara, Uzbekistan (19–21 October 2016). 	<p>Decisions of World Heritage Committee under 7B, 10A, 10B, 10D</p>	<p>Capacities of site managers, community members, young people and heritage experts enhanced.</p> <p>Exchange of good practices on the management and conservation of World Heritage sites.</p> <p>Dissemination of information on the implementation of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i>.</p> <p>Creation and strengthening of networks of key actors in the implementation of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i>.</p> <p>Development of sustainable management and tourism strategies and plans for World Heritage sites.</p> <p>Definition of case studies and good practice models.</p> <p>Update of information and current technical know-how.</p> <p>Improvement of capacities in the protection and conservation of World Heritage properties.</p> <p>Exchange of experiences and challenges regarding management and sustainable development of World Heritage sites.</p> <p>Strengthening of institutional and administrative frameworks for the protection of World Heritage properties.</p> <p>Improvement in capacities in inventorying of cultural and natural heritage, Heritage Impact Assessment, hydraulic engineering and monitoring.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop for the Implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape at the World Heritage properties in Samarkand and Bukhara held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan (21-23 February 2017). • The HIA course held at the World Heritage property “Historic Town of Vigan” (Philippines), by WHITR-AP/ICCROM/WHC, to assist the States Parties in the implementation of HIA-related Committee decisions (October 2016). • Training Workshop on the preparation of a representative and balanced Tentative List in the State of Kuwait organized for the staff of national institutions (14-18 November 2016). • Seminar organized for national experts of Grenada and St Vincent and the Grenadines to discuss capacity-building activities related to inventory the heritage of the Grenadines, led by international experts in natural and cultural heritage in Carriacou (Grenadines) and financed by the Netherlands FIT. http://www.unesco.org/new/en/kingston/about-this-office/single-view/news/inventorying_the_heritage_of_the_grenadines/ • Workshop on the key topics of World Heritage Convention, attended by participants from several Caribbean states (1-2 November 2016) and followed by a national stakeholder’s workshop (8 November 2016), Trinidad and Tobago • Workshop on the fundamental concepts and methodologies for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, held by the Category 2 Centre Lucio Costa, Rio de Janeiro (3-7 October 2016). http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1332/ 		
AFR	Launch of initiatives to integrate World Heritage Curricula in African Educational Institutions in Senegal, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Burkina Faso, with financial support by Italy and the Netherlands.		Curricula for heritage conservation established. North-South-South inter-university partnerships created. Challenges: establishing professional perspectives in the field of heritage conservation.
AFR	The first Francophone African World Heritage Youth Forum in Burkina Faso at the Ruins of Loropéni World Heritage site (26 April-5 May 2017)		Youth involvement in the promotion and protection of World Heritage in Africa.
APA	5th Annual Coordination Meeting of World Heritage Category 2 Centres organized by the Centre on World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the region of Asia and the Pacific, Dehradun, India (22–25 November 2016).	38 COM 10B.1 39 COM 10B.1 40 COM 6	Discussions on C2C coordination matters, transboundary landscapes, cultural landscapes and mixed sites.
EUR	Implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Georgia / UNESCO Cultural Heritage Advisory Service to the Georgian authorities		The World Heritage Centre is providing technical assistance for capacity building (Activity 3 on Capacity Building). Particularly for the town of Mtskheta in the field of strategic planning focusing on heritage and cultural assets and more specifically on UNESCO’s Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation. A study tour is being organized.

EUR	<p>Implementation of the project “UNESCO World Heritage Journeys in Europe”, funded by European Commission.</p> <p>The project aims to integrate UNESCO recognized outstanding cultural heritage into a consumer friendly platform based on a series of thematic routes for sustainable tourism development across Europe. The project will create heritage-based tourism that spurs investment in culture and the creative industries that are community-centred and offer sustainable and high-quality products that play on Europe's comparative advantages and diversity of its cultural assets.</p>	36 COM 5E	<p>First round capacity building workshops organized for the 30 World Heritage sites featured under the four themes: “Ancient Europe”, “Romantic Europe”, “Royal Europe” and “Underground Europe”, enabling site managers and other stakeholders to set out key priorities and the strategy for the project, including developing marketing and sustainable tourism management plans.</p>
LAC	<p>An agreement, the Carta de Punta Suarez, signed by Seven World Heritage marine sites in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Region to scale up regional cooperation.</p> <p>http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1575/</p>	Global Strategy	<p>Increased regional cooperation among seven marine World Heritage sites for exchange of scientific and technical information to improve the management of each site; to seek joint funding to support regional projects that will support effective conservation; and to organize meetings to define joint actions that will serve common objectives.</p>
LAC	<p>Progress in the implementation of the project “Cultural Heritage Management Training within the scope of South-South cooperation” coordinated by the UNESCO Office in Brasilia. The major activity focused on capacity building for managers in the field of the monitoring and evaluation of heritage policies.</p>		<p>Management capacity of conservation institutions of cultural heritage in South America strengthened.</p>
LAC	<p>Implementation of the project « Préservation du patrimoine et appui au secteur touristique» (PAST), financed by the World Bank, in Haiti, to be realized in cooperation with the WHC and the UNESCO Office of Port of Prince until 2022. Within this project, technical assistance has been provided in several fields, with a particular focus on capacity building.</p>	<p>35 COM 9B 38 COM 7B.44 40 COM 7B.6</p>	<p>Improvement in conservation and management plans and sustainable tourism strategies.</p>
LAC	<p>Several capacity-building activities implemented in the framework of extra-budgetary project for Tikal National Park in Guatemala, financed by the Japanese FIT.</p> <p>http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/831/</p>		<p>Stakeholders' capacities regarding conservation and management enhanced.</p>
LAC	<p>Implementation of the project “Promoting Culture for development in Mexico City” aiming to foster culture as a primary factor for development, through the application of the UNESCO Culture for Development Indicators (CDIS) at local level.</p>		<p>Public policy mechanisms, evaluation systems, legislative framework and management methodologies strengthened in Mexico City.</p>

4C. Activities to increase public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through Communication (Communication)

REG ION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and CHALLENGES encountered
GLO	New website developed and launched in order to better reflect the synergies with the other culture and biodiversity-related conventions and programmes. (http://whc.unesco.org/en/synergies/)	40 COM 5A	The synergies with other conventions and programmes enhanced in a proactive manner.
GLO	Several communication initiatives leading up to UNFCCC COP 22, World Oceans Day (8 June) and the IUCN World Conservation Congress (1-10 September) to scientifically document the impact of coral bleaching in World Heritage marine sites http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1588/ http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1507/	31 COM 7.1 39 COM 7	Awareness-raising about the worst coral bleaching event in history and its impact on the OUV of World Heritage marine sites all over the world. Strengthening the ability of communities and their properties to resist, absorb, and recover from the effects of climate change.
GLO	International exhibition developed by partnership with Swiss watch manufacture Jaeger-LeCoultre, on the occasion of World Oceans Day (8 June), highlighting marine treasures on the World Heritage List and the conservation results achieved during the partnership.		Increased awareness on the need to protect marine sites and strengthened cooperation with the partner for the preservation of marine sites.
GLO	Development of short film with Ocean Elder Sven Lindblad on why protecting UNESCO's Marine World Heritage is essential. http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1613/		Increased awareness of the threats for World Heritage marine sites and the need to invest in its protection.
GLO	Side event at the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee on the Global Report on Culture for Sustainable Urban Development (26 October 2016)	38 COM 5E 40 COM 5C	Presentation of the context of the elaboration and presentation of the Global Report as UNESCO's contribution to the reflection, which led to the adoption of the New Urban Agenda at Habitat III Conference. This Global Report will be a key resource document for the future conservation and management of the urban heritage inscribed on the World Heritage List, as well as for future nomination of urban sites or sites having major urban components.
GLO	Publication "World Heritage and Tourism in a Changing Climate", developed by UNESCO, UNEP and the Union of Concerned Scientists as a contribution to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement of the UN framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC).	36 COM 5E	Increased public awareness on the vulnerability of World Heritage sites to climate change. Increased public awareness on how climate-driven impacts threaten the OUV and integrity of the WH sites,

	http://whc.unesco.org/en/tourism-climate-change/		thus negatively affecting the economies and communities that depend on their tourist appeal. A series of recommendations for action were highlighted to help minimize the impacts of climate change on World Heritage properties and promote a more sustainable development of tourism.
GLO	Translation of the World Heritage Resource Manuals Series to Portuguese, Polish and German. Translations have been supported by the National Institute of Historic and Artistic Heritage (IPHAN), Brazil; the Category II Centre of Brazil (Centro Lúcio Costa); the National Heritage Board of Poland; and the German National Commission for UNESCO.	37 COM 6	The manuals are all available online at the following link: http://whc.unesco.org/en/resourcemanuals/
GLO	70,000 copies of the 2016-2017 World Heritage Map, produced in collaboration with National Geographic Maps in English, French and Spanish with the support of Poland.	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C	Enhanced knowledge of World Heritage sites and the World Heritage Convention.
GLO	Two volumes in the World Heritage Papers Series published: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n°44 (July 2016) World Heritage in the High Seas: An Idea Whose Time Has Come • n°45 (December 2016) The Future of the World Heritage Convention for Marine Conservation. Celebrating 10 years of the World Heritage Marine Programme 	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C	Visibility of strategic issues for World Heritage enhanced and technical knowledge shared with wider public and relevant stakeholders. Challenge: extrabudgetary funding needs to be identified for the production of each Paper.
GLO	The 7th edition of "The World's Heritage" co-published with Harper Collins, released in 2016. This includes a revised app for several platforms.	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C	Visibility of World Heritage and the need for its preservation enhanced.
GLO	2017 World Heritage Calendar published with Panasonic in paper, online, and PC tablet formats.	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C	Visibility of World Heritage enhanced, particularly in Asia, and among young people.
GLO	English, French and Spanish publication of the quarterly World Heritage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue 79 (Planet at the Crossroads); • 80 (World Heritage in Turkey); • 81 (Urban Heritage); • 82 (African Heritage and its sustainable development); and • 83 (Museums and visitor centres). 	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C	Visibility of World Heritage enhanced. Challenge: The financial viability is dependent on the continuous support of the co-publisher and States Parties hosting the Committee session. Also available as a free application and in online electronic formats.
GLO	107 news items and 49 events created on the World Heritage Centre website.	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C	Visibility of UNESCO's actions enhanced.

GLO	E-newsletter with information on World Heritage published in July and October 2016, and February 2017 (English and French).	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C	Visibility enhanced. E-newsletter sent to 21,000 World Heritage Centre website members (approx. 16,000 in English, 5,000 in French).
GLO	Celebration of the World Wetlands Day 2017: Wetlands for Disaster Risk Reduction (2 February 2017) Celebration of the World Wildlife Day (3 March 2017)	40 COM 5A	Collaboration with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands to celebrate the World Wetlands Day 2017 dedicated to Wetlands for Disaster Risk Reduction, and to strengthen synergies to manage these sites. http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1622 Increased visibility and mobilized support to help World Heritage sites fight against the illicit trafficking of the endangered species contributing to the OUV of World Heritage sites (criterion x). http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1633
AFR	Within the framework of the France-UNESCO Convention, an e-heritage project was launched to display African heritage both tangible and intangible. The project is jointly supported by the French Ministry of Culture and the World Heritage Centre with the collaboration of the African State Parties.		Access to documentation facilitated for the heritage community, researchers, students and anyone looking for documents on African heritage.
AFR	Project to set up a resource center in Grand Bassam	39 COM 7B.38	Improved documentation, knowledge and promotion of the site. Technical capacity building of the Heritage House.
APA	Production of two reports on the UNESCO/Republic of Korea Funds-in-Trust project "Support for the preparation for the World Heritage Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in South Asia": a Final Report on the FIT project and a Final Technical Report on the outcomes of the project. http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002460/246096e.pdf http://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/1524854/	Global Strategy	The first publication consists of a comprehensive institutional report on the implementation of the project "Support for the preparation for the World Heritage Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in South Asia". The second publication focuses on the technical aspects of the activities implemented within the framework of the project.
ARB	Side event at the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee, presenting the Damage Assessment of the City of Mosul, as well as an exhibition presenting the Iraqi cultural heritage at risk through new technologies (12-15 July, Istanbul).	40 COM 7	Awareness raising on the importance of protecting cultural heritage at risk in time of conflict.
ARB	Side event at the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee on Modern heritage in the Arab States (13-18 July, Istanbul)	Global Strategy	Awareness raising on the importance of protecting and promoting modern heritage in the Arab region.

EUR	Support for a public awareness campaign for the promotion of the World Heritage Convention in Armenia for the amount of USD 9,980 from the World Heritage Fund (International Assistance).		Translation of all basic texts and manuals related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention to Armenian.
EUR	Special event-exhibition "Celebrating new UNESCO World Heritage sites in Europe", organized by UNESCO, the European Commission and the European Parliament (November 2016). http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1586/		Discussion on the importance of World Heritage inscription as well as the opportunities it creates for sustainable tourism development.
LAC	"Rio de Janeiro: Carioca Landscapes between the Mountain and the Sea", co-published by UNESCO Publishing and Editora Brasileira (December 2016).		Further dissemination of the information of the property concerned.
LAC	Publication of 12 thousand copies of "A walk through the Historic Center of Rímac" by UNESCO Peru and the Municipality of Rímac to be distributed to various schools at the emblematic district (January 2017). http://www.unesco.org/new/es/lima/communities/single-view/news/unesco_peru_y_el_rimac_lanzaran_publicacion_sobre_educac/		Awareness among children and adolescents disseminated on the importance of the conservation and enhancement of their heritage sites.
5C. Activities to increase awareness and reinforce involvement of local Communities (Communities)			
REG ION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and CHALLENGES encountered
GLO	The World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) 2016 campaign: Together for Heritage carried out 58 action camps on 53 World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative Lists, located in 35 countries and involving 48 local organizations and institutions (March-November 2016)		Involvement of Youth and local communities in World Heritage preservation and promotion.
GLO	Under the World Heritage Volunteers (WHV) 2017 campaign: Heritage in our Hands, 52 youth action projects have been selected to be implemented on 46 World Heritage properties and sites on the Tentative Lists, by 47 organizations in 32 countries. (May-November 2017).		Involvement of Youth and local communities in World Heritage preservation and promotion.
GLO	Partnership with the Polynesian Voyaging Society: The agreement concerns an inter-sectoral cooperation between the Natural Sciences and Culture Sector of UNESCO. http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1215/		During its Worldwide Voyage, the canoe Hōkūle'a circumnavigated Island Earth and visited twelve World Heritage marine sites along the way while strengthening the visibility of the local people who live and work in these sites and the challenges these unique ocean places face.

AFR	A joint workshop on Communities engagement for the effective conservation of the World Heritage sites in Africa, organized by ICOMOS/ICCROM/AWHF/EPA, in Abomey, Benin. It was attended by 12 African experts, representatives of ICOMOS, ICCROM, UNDP, AWHF, EPA and selected sites managers from Saint Louis (Senegal), Bandiagara (Mali), Abomey (Benin), Barotse (Zambia) as well as representatives from COMPACT project.	36 COM 10D 40 COM 7B.18 40 COM 7B.64 39COM 7B.37 38 COM 8B.19	Mechanism for communities' involvement improved, and communities' participation to the management of the World Heritage site enhanced.
AFR	Launch of the COMPACT initiative in the W National Park of Niger		Improving the livelihoods of local communities while ensuring tangible benefits for the conservation of the site
AFR	Implementation of income-generating activities for local communities in the Dja Faunal Reserve with the support of the Weber Foundation		Strengthening the involvement of local communities in the management of the site and improving their livelihoods
APA	Implementation of the final phase of the project "The Power of Culture: Supporting Community-Based Management and Sustainable Tourism at World Heritage Sites in Southeast Asia", by the UNESCO Jakarta Office in close collaboration with the WHC, and with the support of Government of Malaysia.	36 COM 5E	A series of UNESCO facilitated site-specific training workshops organized for three pilot sites including: Melaka and George Town, Historic Cities in the Straits of Malacca (Malaysia), The Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras (Philippines), and The Cultural Landscape of Bali Province: Subak System as the Manifestation of the Tri Hita Karana Philosophy (Indonesia). Draft sustainable tourism strategies and action plans developed by the three pilot sites.
APA	2016 Bhutan Cultural Landscape Workshop, in Paro and Thimphu, Bhutan (13 July–3 August 2016)		One of the goals of this workshop was to strengthen awareness and reinforce the involvement of local communities in cultural landscape preservation in Bhutan.
EUR	Implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Georgia / UNESCO Cultural Heritage Advisory Service to the Georgian authorities.		The WHC provided technical assistance, guidance and counselling regarding community involvement, particularly in the Town of Mtskheta.
LAC	Approval of the operational phase of the project "Towards a sustainable community-based tourism strategy in the valley of Viñales in Cuba", financed by the Spanish cooperation.		Awareness raised on communities' role in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Follow-up on the Decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016)

DECISIONS AND ITEMS	IMPLEMENTED	ON-GOING	DELAYED
40 COM 2 Admission of Observers	✓		
40 COM 3A Adoption of the Agenda	✓		
40 COM 3B Adoption of the Timetable	✓		
40 COM 5A Report of the World Heritage Centre on its activities and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's Decisions		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/5A	
40 COM 5B Reports of the Advisory Bodies		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/5B	
40 COM 5C World Heritage Convention and Sustainable Development		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/5C	
40 COM 5D Report on the World Heritage Thematic Programmes		Agenda item foreseen for the 42nd session of the World Heritage Committee in 2018	
40 COM 6 Follow-up to the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy and Progress report on the World Heritage-related Category 2 Centres		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/6	
40 COM 7 State of Conservation of World Heritage Properties		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/7	
40 COM 7A State of conservation of the properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger		See Documents WHC/17/41.COM/7A and WHC/17/41.COM/7A.Add	
40 COM 7B State of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List		See Documents WHC/17/41.COM/7B and WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add	
40 COM 8A Tentative Lists submitted by States Parties as of 15 April 2016, in conformity with the <i>Operational Guidelines</i>		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/8A	
40 COM 8B Nominations to the World Heritage List		See Documents WHC/17/41.COM/8B and WHC/17/41.COM/8B.Add	
40 COM 8C Update of the List of World Heritage in Danger		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/8C	

DECISIONS AND ITEMS	IMPLEMENTED	ON-GOING	DELAYED
40 COM 8D Clarifications of property boundaries and areas by States Parties		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/8D	
40 COM 8E Adoption of Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/8E	
40 COM 9A Progress report on the reflection concerning the Upstream Processes		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/9A	
40 COM 10A Progress report on the Periodic Reporting Reflection (2015-2017)		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/10A	
40 COM 10B Follow-up to the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for all regions		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/10B	
40 COM 11 Revision of the <i>Operational Guidelines</i>		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/11	
40 COM 12 Progress report on the Policy Guidelines Document		Agenda item foreseen for the 42nd session of the World Heritage Committee in 2018	
40 COM 13A Follow-up to Recommendations of Evaluations and Audits on Working Methods: outcomes of the ad-hoc working group		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/12A	
40 COM 13B Follow-up to the Recommendations of the External Auditor's "Report on the governance of UNESCO and dependant funds, programmes and entities" (Document 38C/23)		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/12B	
40 COM 14 International Assistance		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/13	
40 COM 15 Presentation of the final accounts of the World Heritage Fund for 2014-2015 and implementation of the World Heritage Fund under the biennium 2016-2017		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/14	
40 COM 16 Other Business		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/15	
40 COM 17 Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur of the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee (2017)	✓		
40 COM 18 Provisional Agenda of the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee (2017)		See Document WHC/17/41.COM/3A	

World Heritage Expert and other Meetings, January 2017 – December 2017

Note: At its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011), the World Heritage Committee, by Decision **35 COM 12B**, requested the World Heritage Centre to present an annual list of planned meetings. The Committee requested the Centre to document, more particularly all meetings in which the participation of the Secretariat is foreseen. Such a list should contain all relevant information for the Committee to decide on priorities and allocation of human and financial available resources. This annex therefore presents the consolidated list of planned meetings.

Meeting	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible authority
Technical Tentative Listing workshop for Anglophone African countries	Mombassa - Kenya	30 January – 1 February 2017	AWHF / CHDA
International Coordination Conference on the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq	UNESCO HQ	23-24 February 2017	FO BAG + WHC/ARB
WHC/ABs meeting	UNESCO HQ	6-7 February 2017	WHC/PSM
Regional reflection meeting (Arab States) on the use of the historic urban landscape approach in the conservation of cultural landscapes	Chefchaouen (Morocco)	15-19 May 2017 (tbc)	WHC/ARB
2017 Lumbini International Scientific Committee Meeting	Lumbini and Kathmandu, Nepal	16-18 February 2017	Co-Organizer with Lumbini Development Trust and Department of Archaeology, Nepal

Technical meeting for the post-conflict safeguarding of the Ancient city of Aleppo	Beirut (Lebanon)	1-3 March 2017	FO BEI + WHC/ARB
Workshop on "Effective involvement of local communities in the management of cultural heritage properties"	Abomey-Bohicon, Bénin	2-3 March 2017	WHC/AFR
ICOMOS ISC TheoPhilos and ICIP: Conference on Place of Memory - Protection, Conservation, Interpretation	Florence, Italy	8-10 March 2017	ICOMOS
ICOMOS University Forum Workshop on Authenticity and Reconstructions	ICOMOS HQs, Charenton-le-Pont	13-15 March 2017	ICOMOS
Workshop on documentation and Archives in Iraq	Baghdad (Iraq)	tbc	FO BAG + WHC/ARB
Expert meeting on Urban reconstruction and the case of Aleppo	Beirut (Lebanon)	6-7 March 2017	FO BEI + WHC/ARB
Conference "Benefits beyond inscription: leveraging the UNESCO brand for sustainable tourism development in the Central European regions"	Bardejov, Slovak Republic	5 May 2017	WHC/LAC/Tourism programme + Permanent Delegation of Slovakia to UNESCO

Information/Orientation sessions for the 41 st session of the WH Committee	UNESCO HQ	23 May 2017	WHC/PSM
International workshop for the formulation of a monitoring and safeguarding plan of the intangible heritage associated to Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System	La Paz, Bolivia	24-26 May 2017	WHC/LAC and University of Nariño (Colombia) and Ministry of Cultures Bolivia
Capacity Building Workshop on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in the Portuguese-speaking countries of West and Central Africa	Cidade Velha, Cabo Verde	29–31 May 2017	WHC/AFR
Workshop on First Aid Interventions for cultural heritage and the site of Bosra in particular	Beirut (Lebanon)	June 2017 (tbc)	FO BEI +WHC/ARB
Workshop on first aid intervention for the safeguarding of Iraqi cultural heritage	Baghdad (Iraq)	tbc	FO BAG + WHC/ARB
ICOMOS Europe Group Meeting	Berlin, Germany	3-6 June 2017	ICOMOS
International workshop for the conservation of stone structures for representatives of the local communities and local management units of the	Chimborazo, Ecuador	21-24 June 2017	WHC/LAC and Gobierno Autonomo Descentralizado del Cantón Alausi (Ecuador)

Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System			
41st session of the World Heritage Committee	Krakow, Poland	2-12 July 2017	WHC + Poland
ICOMOS Portugal and ARTIS: "Preserving transcultural heritage: your way or my way?"	Lisbon, Portugal	5-8 July 2017	ICOMOS
International workshop for training in the development of Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) for Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System	Santiago de Chile, Chile	August 2017	WHC/LAC + Dirección de Bibliotecas, Archivos y Museos (DIBAM, Chile)
ICOMOS ISC on Heritage Documentation (CIPA): 26 th Symposium, Digital Workflows for Conservation	Ottawa, Canada	28 August – 1 September 2017	ICOMOS
ICOMOS ISC ICOFORT: International Conference MILITAGE	Norway	4-7 September 2017	ICOMOS
Pacific Regional Workshop to review the World Heritage Action Plan in 2016-2020	Palau	6–8 September 2017 (tbc)	UNESCO Apia + WHC/APA
International Symposium on the future of the Bamiyan Buddha Statues	Tokyo, Japan	27-30 September 2017	UNESCO Kabul + WHC/APA
ICOMOS ISC International Polar Heritage	Christchurch, New Zealand	28-29 September 2017	ICOMOS

21st session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the WH Convention	UNESCO HQ	November 2017 (dates to be confirmed)	WHC
World Heritage Training Workshop on Heritage/Environmental Impact Assessments for the Pacific Region	Fiji	20 November - 01 December 2017 (tbc)	WHITR-AP + WHC/APA
ICOMOS 19th General Assembly	Dehli, India	11-15 December 2017	ICOMOS
Second UNWTO/UNESCO World Conference on Tourism and Culture: Fostering Sustainable Development	Muscat, Sultanate of Oman	11-12 December 2017	WHC/LAC/Tourism programme + UNWTO (World Tourism Organization)

REPORT ON THE AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE EMBLEM

(March 2016 - February 2017)

Depending on the nature of the requests, these are directly managed by the World Heritage Centre or forwarded to the appropriate body (UNESCO Sector for External Relations and Public Information, national commissions, relevant UNESCO Sectors or other).

The requests for using the World Heritage emblem are managed by the Conventions Common Services Unit, in respect of Chapter VIII of the Operational Guidelines, completed by the Table of uses of the World Heritage Emblem, (Annex 14) adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session.

Between 26 March 2016 and 15 February 2017, the Conventions Common Services Unit received and answered 249 requests related to the World Heritage Emblem as follows:

- 99 requests from World Heritage sites or competent national authorities for creation of their specific World Heritage emblem and for use in their documentation and / or during special events;
- 9 requests from national authorities for creation of all their World Heritage site- specific emblems in several languages;
- 82 requests from World Heritage sites managing authorities or local or national authorities for advice or validation of material containing one of the combined UNESCO/World Heritage logos;
- 9 requests from UNESCO Field Offices or other UNESCO Programme Sectors for activities related to the World Heritage;
- 29 requests from national commissions, institutions, programs or others for logo use for an activity or elements of documentation or information (see table below);
- 21 requests refused for non-compliance with the *Operational Guidelines*.

In addition, the Conventions Common Services Unit dealt with 16 cases of misuse of the World Heritage emblem or combined logo which were:

- copied and used without previous formal request nor authorization;
- modified to make its own logo;
- associated to local logos;
- used for events or activities not supported by the World Heritage Centre, etc.

In such cases, the responsible entities were contacted and requested to remove these unauthorized logos and/or replace them with correct logos when appropriate. The national authorities were informed (and UNESCO Legal Affairs was consulted when necessary).

Not reported in this document are:

- Requests for use of UNESCO logo and World Heritage emblem as part of contractual agreements or partnerships (see annex 5 of document);
- Uses made by the category 2 centres of their own specific logos, except for requests for other World Heritage logos;
- Requests for use of the World Heritage emblem granted directly by the national commissions or national focal points for the World Heritage emblem.

All applications accepted and listed below (by alphabetical order of the countries) **have required and obtained the prior consent of the countries concerned.**

Country	Requestor	Date of reception	Description	Logo granted	Comments
Belgium	Wallonie-Bruxelles Tourism	05/12/2016	Touristic map of Wallonie, Hainault and Namur Provinces, and Lièges	World Heritage Emblem alone	
Belgium	Institut du Patrimoine wallon	25/05/2016	Issue of a series called <i>Les Itinéraires du Patrimoine</i> dedicated to cathedrals, collégiales and basiliques	World Heritage Emblem alone	
Canada	National Geographic	09/06/2016	Publication about Historic Sites in Canada	World Heritage Emblem alone	+ "World Heritage in Canada"
Costa Rica	Marviva Coordinacion Regional Seguimiento de Proyectos	01/04/2016	Project "World Heritage Youth Project on Marine Biodiversity & Climate Change" – closing letter, within the section "In kind contributors" dedicated to thanking donors	World Heritage	Co-organized by the WHC, Youth Programme
France	Fondation Le Corbusier / Tourism Office Marseille	22/12/2016	Touristic leaflet on Marseille. Pictogram on a picture of the Unité d'habitation in Marseille	World Heritage Emblem alone	

France	Intermunicipal Tourism Office of Saint-Dié-Des-Vosges	06/10/2016	Promotional tourism leaflet, illustration of a picture of <i>L'usine Claude et Duval</i> , part of The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement *	World Heritage Emblem alone	
France	Lycée d'Hôtellerie et de Tourisme Blois Val de Loire	09/09/2016	Workshop in BTS Tourisme 1st year on: Discovering UNESCO and its label "World Heritage" and the reasons of the inscription of Val de Loire.	World Heritage Emblem alone	No follow up
France	Editions Didier, school books	05/04/2016	Book of French Foreign Language <i>FLE (Français Langue Etrangère)</i> entitled «Edito, A1» including an exercise page on World Heritage	World Heritage Emblem alone	
France	Mission Réseau Vauban	20/12/2016	Directional pillar « Fortifications de Vauban »	World Heritage Emblem alone	
Italy	Editor	13/09/2016	Book on "Palazzi dei Rolli"	World Heritage Emblem alone	Followed by the Italian authorities
Japan	National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan	29/09/2016	World Heritage Year Book 2016	World Heritage Emblem alone	
Japan	University of Tsukuba	19/07/2016	Series of workshops on Nature-Culture Linkages in Heritage Conservation in Asia and the Pacific (CBWNCL)	"In cooperation with the World Heritage Centre"	
Japan	Shirakami-Sanchi	13/01/2017	Road signs around the site	World Heritage Emblem alone	

Poland	Polish Federation of camping and caravanning	07/06/2016	Reprinting of a map indicating campings in Poland + WH sites in the country	World Heritage Emblem alone	
Rwanda	National commission for the fight against genocide	27/10/2016	World Heritage and Memory Sites Workshop, November 2016	"With the support of the World Heritage Centre"	
Spain	Grupo Ciudades Patrimonio De La Humanidad De España	26/09/2016	2nd Encounter of European Associations of World Heritage - banners	World Heritage Emblem alone	
United Kingdom	National Trust for Scotland	06/12/2016	Use of the WH emblem in a video on St Kilda	World Heritage Emblem alone	
United Kingdom	Gorham's Cave Complex, Gibraltar	22/02/2016	Clickable icon on official website linking to the WH website; uniforms + caps for staff of the site; road signs	World Heritage Emblem alone	
USA	San Antonio Missions National Historical Park	27/01/2017	Entrance signs	World Heritage Emblem alone	Emblem requested, Site-specific logo recommended. No reply
USA	Papahānaumokuākea	06/02/2017	Video on Marine Programme	World Heritage Emblem alone	+ Site-specific logo
United Republic of Tanzania	Ngorongoro Conservation Area	28/11/2016	Souvenirs items	World Heritage Emblem alone	
United Republic of Tanzania/ People's Republic of China	The Ngorongoro Declaration	08/06/2016	International conference "Safeguarding African World Heritage as a Driver of Sustainable Development"	World Heritage Convention	Co-organized with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre

Others (non-country-related requests):

	African Wildlife Foundation	14/09/2016	Newsletter where the logo should appear under « Funding partners »	World Heritage Centre	Co-funded by WHC
	Editions Atlas/Geo4maps	06/04/2016	UNESCO Atlas	“With the support of the World Heritage Centre“	Copublication with ERI
	Harper Collins	29/04/2016	2016 Edition of The World’s Heritage	“With the support of the World Heritage Centre”	Copublication with ERI
	IUCN	26/08/2016	Special event on Marine Programme in the Oceans Pavilion, World Conservation Congress (1-10 September, Honolulu)	“In cooperation with the World Heritage Centre”	
	IUCN	14/06/2016	Manual for site managers, national authorities and different international organisations on Ramsar and World Heritage Conventions, Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks	World Heritage Centre	Logo inserted under the category of “partners”
	National Geographic	15/12/2016	Short promotional film on Marine Programme and marine conservation made with Sven Lindblad, member of Ocean Elders	World Heritage Convention	In cooperation with the World Heritage Marine Programme
	World Organization of the Scout Movement	22/08/2016	Web page dedicated to the join initiative + partners’ page.	“In partnership with the World Heritage Centre”	

Inventory of World Heritage Partnerships

Decision **37 COM 5D** requested the Secretariat to continue to report, in an analytical manner, on the implementation of the PACT strategy by submitting at each regular session of the World Heritage Committee a detailed inventory of on-going and envisaged partnerships as an Annex to the Report of the World Heritage Centre, using the current template.

Table 1 provides a list of ongoing WHC partnerships as of March 2017 with the private sector and foundations developed in accordance with the PACT strategy adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013 and with the PACT Regulatory Framework.

For each partnership, the table provides, in alphabetical order by name of partner, a description, the funds received in 2016 (if any), expected results, major outputs/deliverables, emblem use and an indicative evaluation of the benefits for World Heritage. It also links each partnership to the relevant Strategic Objectives (the 5 Cs) and areas of cooperation benefitting from the partnership.

The Table also includes dates of signature and expiration for each partnership and, if applicable, the indication if a partnership is new, or if renewal has been signed since the last session of the Committee; if renewal is envisaged in the period between the current and the next reporting to the Committee, or if the partnership has been terminated since the last report to the Committee. In the period March 2016 - March 2017 two new partnerships were signed and three were renewed, while two partnerships were terminated.

Throughout the same period, new initiatives were being considered to increase the fund raising capacity of WHC. This includes the drafting of a WH sites visitor-giving strategy, benefits packages for non-earmarked low to medium level financial contributions (20.000 to 50.000 USD), the consideration of an endowment fund allowing the transfer of funds to UNESCO whereby donors can benefit from fiscal deductions, the drafting of a legacy framework for philanthropists to choose UNESCO's World Heritage Centre, the organization of exhibitions at international airports, a cooperation with global payment cards and hotels and airlines concierge services card payments and the exploitation of the WH website member file.

Table 2 presents the partnerships envisaged which are currently being discussed or are undergoing internal evaluation and/or external validation.

Table 1 - INVENTORY OF ONGOING WORLD HERITAGE PARTNERSHIPS AS AT MARCH 2017 (in alphabetical order)

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Amounts received in 2016 ¹ (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ²	Agreements signed ³	Evaluation of benefits	Benefiting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
1	<p>A&E Television Networks LLC. - HISTORY (Channel), USA</p> <p>Production of World Heritage documentaries and audiovisual stories elaborated and aired by HISTORY.</p> <p>169,500 USD (for 3 years)</p> <p>To be renewed</p>	56,500	Increased understanding of the World Heritage Convention, globally and in the United States in particular.	HISTORY provides World Heritage content through Idea Book for Educators' newsletters/4xyear to 300,000 teacher subscribers; ensures on-line visibility (Save our history and HISTORY classroom websites); creates public service announcements (PSA) for TV and web broadcasting.	On PSAs and in documents related to the project.	<p>Funds-in-Trust signed on 18 May 2011</p> <p>Start: May 2011</p> <p>Extended in May 2014</p> <p>End: May 2017</p>	<p>Worldwide promotion of World Heritage. The PSAs are visible on YouTube and WHC website.</p> <p>The project triggered the A&T UK office to produce a new series of WH documentaries about sites in Poland and the UK.</p> <p>Production of a video clip on World Heritage partnerships.</p> <p>Participation as partner in #Unite4Heritage initiative.</p> <p>New production to start in March 2017 in Germany (6 million subscribers) about the impact of the destruction of cultural heritage</p>	Communication Education
2	<p>Architecture Week Prague, Czech Republic</p> <p>Raise awareness of the World Heritage Convention, in particular the heritage of architecture, town planning and landscape design.</p> <p>169,500 USD (for 3 years)</p>	29,895	Increased international understanding of the Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation and UNESCO's policies on architectural and urban development and preservation	<p>Organization of joint exhibitions, including at UNESCO Headquarters.</p> <p>Joint organization of the educational project "Playful Architecture".</p>	On communication materials during the "Architecture Week festival" in Prague including the catalogue, partner website	<p>Partnership agreement signed in October 2015</p> <p>End: October 2018</p>	The Architecture Week Festival is an international platform for dialogue on issues of interest for the World Heritage Convention.	Communication Education

¹ Amounts received in 2016 have not been certified by the UNESCO Bureau of Financial Management.

² Strictly regulated according to the terms of the signed agreement (in particular, every resource using the name, logo of UNESCO and World Heritage emblem is subject to approval by WHC and if necessary by ERI)

³ All agreements are available on the World Heritage Centre's website <http://whc.unesco.org/en/agreements> (password protected pages, for States Parties only)

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Amounts received in 2016 ¹ (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ²	Agreements signed ³	Evaluation of benefits	Benefiting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
			Enhanced awareness among young people about the need to preserve architectural heritage.		and related correspondence, joint exhibitions.			
3	<p>Evergreen Digital Contents Japan</p> <p>Contribution to support World Heritage Education Programme and the promotion of new partnerships.</p> <p>40,000 USD (one year)</p> <p>Terminated</p>	40,000	Enhanced awareness among young people about World Heritage and public at large.	Contributed to the production of the Patrimonto cartoon.	Materials associated to the education project (website, advertisements on project, cartoon).	Letter of Contribution signed in May 2016	Generates revenues for the WH education programme, communication and WH awareness raising activities.	Communication Education
4	<p>Fondation Franz Weber, Switzerland</p> <p>The 'Fondation Franz Weber' supports the Rapid Response Facility and natural heritage conservation projects.</p> <p>750,000 USD (for 5 years)</p> <p>To be renewed</p>	150,000	<p>Rapid Response Facility improved thanks to additional funding (the Fund was created in 2005 with Fauna and Flora International in order to mobilize funds to respond to emergency situations at natural heritage sites),</p> <p>Enhanced preservation of The Dja Faunal reserve in Cameroon, threatened by poaching and the negative effect of dam project, mining exploitation and deforestation.</p>	<p>From January 2016 to February 2017, RRF received 58 emergency small grants applications: 34 from Africa, 13 from Latin America and the Caribbean, 1 from the Arab region and 10 from Asia-Pacific regions.</p> <p>Three grants awarded for Africa, Latin America and Asia and the Pacific regions with a total value of 55 500 USD.</p> <p>On the Dja site, documentation of traditional management system to strengthen conservation of the site, pilot actions to improve revenue sources of local communities, education campaign and equipment in 4x4 vehicles to fight against poaching.</p>	On respective websites and documentation about the project.	<p>Funds-in-Trust (FIT)</p> <p>Start: January 2013</p> <p>End: January 2018</p>	<p>The Fondation Weber contribution to the RRF has already supported an emergency response for one World Heritage property (Malpelo Flora and Fauna Sanctuary in Colombia) and for two sites inscribed on the Tentative Lists (Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda and Tonle Sap in Cambodia).</p> <p>The studies carried out have contributed to improve environmental and traditional knowledge of the property, which will promote its protection and sustainable conservation. The financial support of the Foundation Weber has served as a lever to mobilize substantial funding from the government of Cameroon for the Strategic and Social</p>	<p>Conservation</p> <p>Capacity Building</p> <p>Communities</p> <p>Natural World Heritage</p>

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Amounts received in 2016 ¹ (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ²	Agreements signed ³	Evaluation of benefits	Benefiting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
							Environmental Assessment of development projects around the Dja site. Income-generating activities, both in terms of « cacao culture » and through support to women's associations, will contribute to improve the livelihoods of local communities while ensuring tangible conservation benefits.	
5	<p>Google Inc., USA</p> <p>The project allows internet users to virtually visit a selection of WH properties.</p> <p>Non-financial</p> <p>Renewed (Tacit yearly renewal)</p>		Help spread the message about preserving WH and allow it to reach the broad public. Increase awareness worldwide.	Google World Wonders Project website offers virtual visits of World Heritage sites.	On Google's World Wonders project website.	License agreement Start: 29 May 2012	Expecting statistics from Google to allow appropriate evaluation of the project. Efforts are being made to extend scope of partnership for enhanced benefits to World Heritage.	Communication
6	<p>GSP – OurPlace World Heritage Ltd and Our Place Publishing Ltd, New Zealand</p> <p>Creation of image bank for World Heritage.</p> <p>OUR PLACE supplies photographs for the World Heritage Centre website galleries, and has supplied numerous images for UNESCO and related third-party publications.</p> <p>Non-financial</p> <p>Renewed</p>		Enriched photo bank of images and enhanced awareness of WH sites.	<p>Our Place and its international network of professional photographers contribute to a large image databank used to help promote conservation efforts and publicize the World Heritage message.</p> <p>In 2016 OurPlace provided over 50 high resolution photos of World Heritage sites to produce a film shown during COP 21</p>	On website and at exhibitions organized by Our Place with WH images.	<p>World Heritage Fund Special Account.</p> <p>MoU signed in 2006.</p> <p>Agreement signed in 2008 and ended in 2012.</p> <p>New agreement Start: March 2014, End: March 2017</p>	<p>Our Place has currently photographed over 400 World Heritage sites in 96 countries and has an archive of more than 45,000 exclusively owned World Heritage images.</p> <p>Image data bank is accessible for use by UNESCO and by World Heritage sites.</p> <p>Participation as partner in #Unite4Heritage initiative.</p>	Communication

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Amounts received in 2016 ¹ (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ²	Agreements signed ³	Evaluation of benefits	Benefitting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
7	<p>Hainan Province Cihang Foundation, China</p> <p>Recovery and rehabilitation of cultural heritage in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal.</p> <p>999,934 USD (3 years)</p> <p>Coordinated and implemented by Kathmandu office with backstopping at HQ.</p> <p>New (Kathmandu Office)</p>		<p>Creation of employment and training opportunities related to Nepal's cultural heritage, tourism being at the core of the local economy.</p>	<p>Monitoring, assessment and mitigation of further risk to the monuments and sites.</p> <p>Scientific investigations of the foundations, research and conservation measures. Creation of a systematic database for Nepal's cultural heritage.</p>		<p>Funds-in-Trust (FIT)</p> <p>Start: January 2017</p> <p>End: January 2020</p>	<p>The project has just started. It will contribute to the restoration of the local economy. It will be evaluated before its termination in 2020.</p>	<p>Conservation</p> <p>Communities</p>
8	<p>Jaeger-Lecoultre (Manufacture), Switzerland</p> <p>Marine programme development and awareness raising partnership</p> <p>420,000 EUR (3 years)</p> <p>(140,000 EUR per year)</p> <p>Terminated</p>	158,730	<p>Development of World Heritage Marine Programme, including statutory support to WHC activities on marine properties.</p> <p>Enhanced awareness about World Heritage, in particular the 47 marine sites + targeted contributions in cooperation with selected sites</p>	<p>Sustains a global network of site managers who share best management practices and serve as models for other marine protected areas worldwide</p> <p>Supports marine expert for handling WH SOC dossiers and other core WHC tasks for marine properties</p>	Material about the project	<p>Funds in Trust signed in March 2014</p> <p>End: March 2017</p>	<p>The project ensures that the WHC is able to continue providing technical expertise for SOC dossiers for natural sites (marine), in particular Great Barrier Reef, Belize Barrier Reef, Banc d'Arguin National Park, and others</p>	<p>Conservation</p> <p>Credibility</p> <p>Capacity Building</p> <p>Communities</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Natural (marine) Heritage</p>

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Amounts received in 2016 ¹ (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ²	Agreements signed ³	Evaluation of benefits	Benefitting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
9	<p>Kobi Graphis, Japan</p> <p>Production of Panasonic's corporate World Heritage calendar and a World Heritage Youth calendar.</p> <p>Annual contribution of 55,000 USD + royalties.</p>	55,000 +3,639 (royalties)	Enhanced awareness about World Heritage.	<p>Production of Panasonic's corporate World Heritage and WH Youth calendar.</p> <p>Design of a web version in 2011</p> <p>Free iPad App launched in 2012 along with several exhibits organized in Japan during the same year</p> <p>The calendar is sold through UNESCO and Panasonic channels.</p>	Calendar. Website. iPad App.	<p>World Heritage Fund Special Account</p> <p>Partnership agreements signed in 1996, 2001, 2007 and extended with amendments.</p> <p>Start: 1996</p> <p>End: 2019</p>	The calendar has contributed to give more visibility to World Heritage sites.	Communication
10	<p>Korean National Commission to UNESCO, Republic of Korea*</p> <p>Support the development of new partnerships for World Heritage conservation</p> <p>100,000 USD (3 years)</p> <p>*While this contribution is coming from a National Commission, it is listed here because the funds were raised among Korean companies on the initiative of the Korean National Commission.</p>	30,000	Enhanced capacity of the Secretariat to mobilize resources from the Private Sector in particular in support of sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger.	Organization of side events during the World Heritage Committee (sessions 2016-2018) to present ongoing cooperation with the Private Sector and outreach to new prospects.	On press releases and during the partners' side events.	Letter of contribution to the World Heritage Fund signed in November 2015	At the end of the 3-year period, results on resource mobilisation linked to the partners' side event will be communicated.	Communication Conservation
11	<p>Mercedes-Benz, China</p> <p>Conservation and Management of World Heritage Sites in China.</p> <p>\$1,680,000 USD (3 years)</p> <p>Coordinated and implemented by Beijing office with backstopping at HQ.</p> <p>New (Beijing office)</p>		Capacity building, strengthening of management effectiveness, World Heritage sustainable livelihood, awareness raising and public outreach.	<p>Evaluation system of WH management effectiveness through annual reporting, monitoring and meeting mechanism, at WH natural sites in China.</p> <p>Promotion of sustainable livelihood at WH sites through wider stakeholder participation.</p>	On all of the project's communication materials.	<p>Funds-in-Trust (FIT)</p> <p>Phase III</p> <p>Start: Jan 2017</p> <p>End: March 2020</p>	The project will seek to explore how to balance conservation and utilization at WH sites in China so as to achieve economic, social and environmental sustainable development. It will be evaluated at the end of Phase III.	Conservation Communities Capacity Building

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Amounts received in 2016 ¹ (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ²	Agreements signed ³	Evaluation of benefits	Benefitting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
12	<p>NFUAJ (National Federation of UNESCO associations in Japan) and DeNa, Japan</p> <p>Tripartite agreement to raise funds for World Heritage through an online game featuring 100 World Heritage sites.</p> <p>Online donations</p> <p>To be renewed under the condition that a financial contribution towards WHC is ensured</p>		Awareness raised about World Heritage and UNESCO, in particular among young people.	Development of the "World Heritage Runner Game"	On the game	<p>Letter of agreement signed in March 2015</p> <p>End: February 2017</p>	<p>For 2016 the Partner reported the following download numbers:</p> <p>▼ Android (Feb 2015 – Feb 2017): 2,015</p> <p>▼ iOS (Feb 2015 – Feb 2017): 2,639</p> <p>DeNA has not reported about online donations. The company considers the game as part of CSR activities mainly for visibility. Financial benefits have not materialize.</p>	Communication Education
13	<p>Polynesian Voyaging Society</p> <p>Awareness raising about World Heritage in particular Marine Sites, provision of stories, photos, films taken along the route</p> <p>Non-financial</p> <p>To be terminated</p>		Strengthen the visibility of marine World Heritage sites, the local people who live and work in these sites and the challenges these unique ocean places face.	Strengthened awareness and connectivity among local communities in 13 marine World Heritage sites	Material about the project	<p>Letter of Agreement</p> <p>Start: November 2014</p> <p>End: November 2017</p>	The project benefits in particular SIDS with marine World Heritage sites, by bringing awareness about their conservation challenges as well about as the World Heritage value of the site among local communities	Communities Communication Conservation
14	<p>Seabourn, USA</p> <p>Strategic partnership with the overall goal of raising awareness on heritage conservation and sustainable tourism mobilizing sustainable resources for the long term conservation of World Heritage.</p> <p>1,282,850 USD (4 years)</p>	518,850	<p>Increased awareness of and support for the protection and safeguarding of Heritage and World Heritage properties and the sustainable development of tourism from an influential stakeholder group;</p> <p>Demonstrated efficacy of preservation of cultural and natural values at World</p>	<p>Identification and promotion of authentic, sustainable and responsible tourism products and services that provide high quality and low impact visitor experiences at World Heritage sites.</p> <p>Awareness is enhanced with key stakeholders through a series of</p>	<p>Website and video clips.</p> <p>Brochures and other printed material which explain the World Heritage Convention</p>	<p>Revised Framework agreement signed in March 2016</p> <p>End: December 2019</p>	<p>The Seabourn partnership has demonstrated the potential that exists to raise awareness and support from the traveling public working with a private sector partner.</p> <p>The support has enabled the UNESCO World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism programme to implement its action plan and has leveraged</p>	Sustainable Tourism Awareness Raising Capacity Building Conservation

Nr	Partnership description and financial contribution agreed (if any)	Amounts received in 2016 ¹ (in USD or converted)	Expected results	Major outputs/deliverables	Emblem use ²	Agreements signed ³	Evaluation of benefits	Benefitting Strategic objectives and Areas of cooperation
			Heritage sites through capacity building activities for site managers and other stakeholders; Increased engagement of key stakeholder groups through the development of an incentive programme to engage local communities and the tourism private sector operating in and around World Heritage properties.	high profile communication activities. Site managers' capacities reinforced through transnational networks capacity building activities.			additional support of 3 million euros from the European Commission.	
15	<p>TOKYO BROADCASTING SYSTEM (TBS), Japan</p> <p>Production of a series of 30-minute films on World Heritage entitled "The World Heritage" broadcast weekly by TBS.</p> <p>Since 2006: 40,000 USD per year.</p> <p>Renewed (Tacit yearly renewal)</p>	40,000	Enhanced awareness on World Heritage sites.	670 films have been produced.	On documentaries and brochures about the project.	<p>World Heritage Fund Special Account Agreement with NFUAJ in 1996.</p> <p>Agreement with WHC since 2006.</p>	<p>Global outreach.</p> <p>Total number of audience of the programme per month: 40 million (estimated average for 2016).</p>	Communication

Table 2 - INVENTORY OF ENVISAGED WORLD HERITAGE PARTNERSHIPS AS AT MARCH 2017 (in alphabetical order)

Nr	Partner	Expected results	Major expected outputs	Logo use	Strategic Objectives
1	FONDATION CHANEL, France Intersectoral CLT and ED project in support of women living around the WH site Tsingy de Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve in Madagascar. Financial contribution expected.	Young women will be better equipped with competences that are essential to their economic and social development.	Professional integration. Promotion of sustainable tourism.	On communication materials.	Capacity-building Conservation Education Communities
2	FONDATION IRIS Integrating indigenous knowledge to contemporary forest management practices in Myanmar	Strengthen the understanding about indigenous knowledge related to forest management by the ethnic groups.	Organize training workshops for local communities. Carry out community-based field inventory. Disseminate research findings.	On communication materials.	Communities Conservation
3	HACHETTE UK Creation of publications for children about World Heritage Financial contribution expected (royalties and cash contribution)	Children aged 8-10 will have a better knowledge about World Heritage and its preservation needs.	One-off title "Saving our World Heritage" and a series of six books about different geographical areas including historical facts and background. Creation of illustrations with artists.	On books	Communication Education
4	INDOSUEZ WEALTH MANAGEMENT, Switzerland Economic development of local communities living around the WH site of the Faunal Reserve of Dja in Cameroon Financial contribution expected	Development of economic revenue for local populations based on the conservation of the biodiversity.	Support the production and the sale of products such as cocoa, rubber, palm oil ...).	On communication materials.	Communities
5	SHUN TAK HOLDINGS, China Financial contribution expected	Enhanced capacity of UNESCO Culture Sector in its capacity-building and educational activities	1) enhancing youth engagement in the preservation of heritage; 2) supporting capacity-building for sustainable tourism worldwide; 3) support best practices in heritage management and preservation through the "Asia-Pacific Heritage awards"; 4) supporting the publication of the 3rd volume of « Asia Conserved ».	On communication materials.	Capacity-building Communication Education

6	SOCIETE GENERALE BANK, France Financial contribution expected	Project of co-branding payment cards	Creation of a payment card that features WH sites Revenue generated by a percentage from payments	On payment cards and communication materials.	Communication
7	ZDF, Germany Creation and production of a TV series about World Heritage sites and conservation challenges Financial contribution expected	Visibility of the work of the Convention	“Treasures of the Planet” 70 x 45 minutes films	In the films and communication materials	Communication