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

BUREAU OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Eighteenth session

Phuket, Thailand

9-10 December 1994

**Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda: Revision of the Operational
Guidelines**

In addition to the proposals presented in Working Document WHC-94/CONF.001B/5, the Bureau is requested to examine the attached draft proposal for revision of the Operational Guidelines and to make recommendations to the World Heritage Committee on the following item:

- E. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST (ROLE OF THE ADVISORY BODIES IN THE EVALUATION OF NOMINATIONS)**

E. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST (ROLE OF THE ADVISORY BODIES IN THE EVALUATION OF NOMINATIONS)

E.1. BACKGROUND

Paragraph 45 of the Operational Guidelines describes the particular role of IUCN in the evaluation of nominations of **natural** properties for inscription on the World Heritage List, as well as the four steps of the evaluation process. The Secretariat considers it opportune to include a similar paragraph on the evaluation of nominations of **cultural** properties. The new text should be inserted at the end of the Section II.C. 'Criteria for the inclusion of cultural properties in the World Heritage List'.

E.2. PROPOSED REVISION OF THE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

It is proposed to insert the following text after paragraph 42:

xx. The evaluation of whether or not individual sites nominated by States Parties satisfy the cultural heritage criteria and the conditions of authenticity will be carried out by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). In the case of nominations of cultural properties in the category of 'cultural landscapes', the evaluation will be carried out in consultation with the World Conservation Union (IUCN). The evaluation will normally include:

Internal review and data assembly: ICOMOS reviews the nomination dossier, identifies which additional information is required and assembles data on the nominated and comparable properties.

External review: Expert advice is sought on the 'outstanding universal value' of the nominated property, with special reference to the six criteria for inscription on the World Heritage List (para 24 (a)).

Field inspection: Expert missions are sent to evaluate the site and particularly to study the criteria relating to authenticity, protection, conservation and management (para 24 (b)).

Panel review: Draft evaluations are prepared on the basis of the reports of the two groups of experts and reviewed by a panel of experts at ICOMOS Headquarters.