The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC/18/42.COM/12A,

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Ad Hoc Working Group for its work and recommendations;

3. Takes note of the recommendations related to upstream, International Assistance and sustainability of the World Heritage Fund which have been included accordingly in the related Decisions (42 COM 9A, 42 COM 13 and 42 COM 14);

4. Recalling its Decisions 41 COM 9A and 41 COM 14 on Upstream Process and sustainability of the World Heritage Fund respectively,

5. Also recalling the “Roadmap for Sustainability of the World Heritage Fund” which was approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),

6. Endorses the “Resource mobilization and communication strategy” Framework document and requests Secretariat, with the support of the Advisory Bodies as appropriate and of those States Parties wishing to assist in this regard, to develop a two-year Resource Mobilization and Communication (RMC) Plan and to provide a report thereof to the 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee in 2019;

7. Encourages States Parties to assist the World Heritage Centre in fund-raising activities;

8. In relation to Recommendation n°1 of IOS study, decides to keep the current practice of the overhead costs in the contracts of the Advisory Bodies;

9. In relation to Recommendation n°2 of IOS study, takes note of the summary of the legal opinion contained in Annex C of document WHC/18/42.COM/12A, decides to continue to use the services of the current three Advisory Bodies and to further discuss the modalities.
for the use of services of other entities with suitable experience and knowledge, in line with the procurement rules of UNESCO;

9.4. In relation to Recommendation n°3 of IOS study, notes with concern the number of deviations of the decisions of World Heritage Committee from the recommendations of the Advisory Bodies and considers that, in order to address them, it is necessary to review the nomination process, tentative lists, upstream process, bearing in mind the Global Strategy, and to consider other possible measure, such as a Code of conduct of the World Heritage Committee;

10. In relation to Recommendation n°4 of IOS study, encourages the States Parties Secretariat and the Advisory Bodies to continue exploring the recommended options, taking into consideration potential cost savings, increase in efficiency and maintaining the current benchmark of quality;

11. In relation to Recommendation n°4 of IOS study with regard to reactive monitoring, encourages the use of regional experts on reactive monitoring missions if it would substantially reduce the travel costs and not decrease the quality of the expertise;

12. In relation to Recommendation n°4 of IOS study with regard to International Assistance, decides to implement on an experimental basis for one cycle (2019 cycle starting on 31 October 2018) a “live-test” phase where the comments by the Advisory Bodies will be mandatory only for requests over US$ 30,000 (US$ 75,000 in the case of Emergency assistance). For requests under the amounts above, the Secretariat may request comments by the Advisory Bodies depending on the content of the requests. The Secretariat will continue to comment all requests irrespective of their amount. The Secretariat should present a report analyzing the outcomes of the live test phase, to the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session (2019) and propose a draft revision of the International Assistance process, for examination in the framework of the revision of the Operational Guidelines;

Definition of the upstream process

13. Approves a revised definition of the Upstream Process to be included in the footnote of Paragraph 122 of the Operational Guidelines and requests the World Heritage Centre to integrate it in the Operational Guidelines, in the framework of Operational Guidelines revision at the 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee in 2019;

Extension of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group

14.5. Decides to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group, to be composed of members of the Committee and up to two non-members per Electoral Group, to:

- Examine different possibilities of reforming the nomination process and propose recommendations in view of increasing the balance and credibility of the World Heritage List;
- Discuss the modalities for the possible use of advisory services of other entities with suitable experience and knowledge, in line with UNESCO’s rules and regulations, and in addition to the current three Advisory Bodies.

15.6. Further Also decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall work in consultation with the World Heritage Centre, and Advisory Bodies and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, and submit its report and recommendations to the 43rd session of the Committee in 2019.