



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

World Heritage

15 EXT.COM

WHC/21/15EXT.COM/5

Paris, 29 March 2021

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**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

**Fifteenth Extraordinary Session
Online meeting**

29 March 2021, 12.00.-3.00 p.m.

**Decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee
during its 15th Extraordinary session (UNESCO, 2021)**

1. Opening of the session by the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee

No decision required.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Decision: 15 EXT.COM 2

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/21/15EXT.COM/2,
2. Adopts the Agenda included in the above-mentioned Document, and decides to add an item 4 concerning the dates and place of its 45th session.

3. Dates and modalities for the holding of the extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee

Decision: 15 EXT.COM 3

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/21/15.EXT.COM/3,
2. Recalling the extreme exceptional circumstances that prevailed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic worldwide and that still prevail in 2021,
3. Also recalling Decision **14 EXT.COM 4** by which it decided to hold an extended 44th session in June/July 2021 in Fuzhou (China),
4. Decides that the extended 44th session will be held from **16 to 31 July 2021**¹;
5. Also decides that the extended 44th session will be held according to **Format B**, as described in Document WHC/21/15.EXT.COM/3, section III.B (“online session”), and adopts the corresponding timetable contained in Annex 3 of the above-mentioned document;
6. Also adopts the Methods of work for the extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee, as described in Annex 4 of the above-mentioned document;
7. Strongly encourages the convening of informal meetings and negotiations as appropriate on draft decisions and amendments before the session of the Committee and further reiterates the importance of respecting the 24 hours’ time limit of Rule 23.3 of the Rules of Procedure;
8. Requests the Secretariat to propose practical arrangements for casting of the vote, should it become necessary to hold a secret ballot during an online session, to be sent to the Committee members for consultation and approbation by correspondence before

¹ Keeping in mind that 20 July 2021 shall not be a working day.

the extended 44th session, and also requests the Secretariat to prepare a document clarifying the protocols of an online meeting.

4. Dates and place of the 45th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2022

Decision: 15 EXT.COM 4

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Decides to suspend Rule 4.1 of its Rules of Procedure;
2. Also decides that its 45th session will take place in **Kazan, Russian Federation**, in June/July 2022;
3. Underlines that the decision of the place for the 45th session is made during the 15th extraordinary session of the Committee due to the exceptional situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and should not create a precedent to Rule 4.1 of the Rules of the Procedure.