



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

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

# AMENDEMENT

Point de l'Ordre du jour	7A
Projet de décision amendé	44 COM 7A.44
Amendement soumis par la Délégation de...	MALI
Date de soumission	17 July 2021

## TEXTE

*The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Having examined Document WHC/21/44.COM/7A,

2. Recalling Decision **43 COM 7A.10** adopted at its 43<sup>rd</sup> session (Baku, 2019),

3. Takes note of the conclusion of the 2020 joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN mission, in particular the efforts made by the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures and the significant progress made towards the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) since the establishment of a functional co-management system for the property;

4. Takes also note of the clarification provided by the State Party that although the oil concessions granted by Presidential Order and which overlap the property have not yet been cancelled, the rights to the oil blocks have now lapsed, as well as the assurance given that these blocks will be excluded from any tender, and reiterates its request to permanently cancel these oil concessions, while not allowing new concessions within the

property and its periphery that could have negative and irreversible impacts on its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);

~~Commends the State Party on the final clarification of its position on Notes that although there is currently no oil exploration or exploitation in progress in the property and reiterates its, the legal existence of oil concessions awarded by presidential ordinance and straddling the property continues to be a threat to the property, as defined in paragraph 180 of the Operational Guidelines~~

5. Decides to no longer apply the reinforced monitoring mechanism for the property due to the progress made in the implementation of the corrective measures and the improvement of the security situation;

~~5. Regrets that the State Party has not cancelled the concessions straddling the property, in accordance with its Decision 43 COM 7A.10, and reiterates its request to cancel the current oil concessions, while not authorizing new concessions within the property and its periphery which could have negative and irreversible impacts on its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);~~

6. Noting the clarification provided by the State Party regarding oil exploration or exploitation within the property, the significant progress towards the formalisation of the Co-management Agreement between the Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the significant progress towards meeting all the indicators of the DSOCR, also decides to remove Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) from the List of World Heritage in Danger;

~~Noting the final position of the State Party on oil exploration or exploitation within the property, the significant progress towards the formalisation of the Co-management Agreement between WWF and ICCN and the significant progress towards the achievement of all DSOCR indicators, also decides to remove Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) from the List of World Heritage in Danger;~~

7. ~~6.~~ Takes note with deep concern of the reports of alleged human rights violations against local communities during law enforcement operations and calls upon the State Party to take urgent action to strengthen its efforts to resolve this issue in accordance with relevant international standards and the World Heritage Sustainable Development Policy, taking into account the results of the Independent Review and Decision **44 COM 7A.46**;

~~7. Also recalling the DSOCR indicators as proposed in the report of the 2012 reactive monitoring mission, also requests the State Party to implement the following elements to allow the property to be removed from the World Heritage List in Danger:~~

- ~~a) Ensure that all the indicators of the existing DSOCR are met;~~
- ~~b) Finalize a co-management agreement for the management of the property or any other equivalent conventional instrument operational for a significant period (at least two years after signature, and with the confirmation of a continued commitment to its implementation supported by sustainable funding);~~
- ~~c) Confirm officially to the World Heritage Centre, in writing, (1) that no sharing contract or other legal commitment has been signed authorizing petroleum activities within the property or that (2) in the event that such contracts or commitments exist, the State Party undertakes to cancel and (3) ensure that such activities on the outskirts of the property have no negative effect on its OUV;~~

8. Further requests the State Party to implement the recommendations as updated by the 2020 mission, in particular:

~~Further requests the State Party to implement the corrective measures and recommendations as updated by the 2020 mission, as follows:~~

- a) Pursue current efforts and strengthen the human, technical and financial capacities dedicated to the fight against poaching, both in terms of staff and their training, *with a view to achieving a surveillance rate of 80% of the property,*
- b) Increase the efforts undertaken with a view to a stronger involvement of communities in decision-making processes and raise their awareness of the fight against environmental crime,
- c) Finalize a framework for the peaceful management of conflicts with village communities, based on a successful mechanism for managing complaints and appeals to the co-managers of the property and including the establishment of precise protocols for community intervention,
- d) Prioritize finalizing the creation of an operational forestry continuum with a view to ensuring ecological functionalities between the two blocks of the property,
- e) Strengthen the fight against poaching linked to local corruption and public services,
- f) Improve the collection, management and processing of information and data obtained during surveillance operations, and stabilize the indicators used in this instance,
- g) Extend the sampling base for the annual monitoring of species in the corridor separating the two blocks which constitutes a favourable habitat for most of them, in particular the flagship species, the Congolese elephant, bonobo and peacock *in order to document the monitoring of the wildlife recovery,*
- h) Pursue current efforts to minimize the impacts of human activities on the outskirts of the property (e.g. fishing, itinerant slash-and-burn agriculture), on its OUV and on its integrity,
- i) Establish, as a priority, a sustainable development model adapted to the expectations of the communities residing in the periphery of the property, compatible with its environmental sensitivity,
- j) Pursue and accelerate the current process aimed at best preparing the relocation of families / communities established in the property, in accordance with the principle of prior, freely given and informed consent (PCPLC),

k) *Submit the findings of the ongoing study on the relocation of families / communities to the Committee, as soon as they are available, for opinion and comments,*

l) *Finalise the Co-management Agreement between ICCN and WWF for a sustainable management of the property;*

9. Commends the State Party for improving the collaboration between the management team, the local communities and the political, administrative and military authorities, with a view to effective management of conflicts related to the use of natural resources and encourages it to:

a) *Pursue its efforts to empower communities,*

b) *Undertake participatory finalization of the demarcation of the non-natural boundaries of the Park, of which 120 kilometres have already been demarcated, and the process of creating an ecological continuum between the two sectors of the Park by proposing a classification status and a simple management plan for this area,*

c) *Ensure that the displacement of communities living within the Park is in accordance with the policies of the Convention and relevant international standards;*

10. Thanks all the donors who continue to support the conservation of the property, in particular Germany, the European Union and the Government of Norway through its funding to the World Heritage Fund, providing financial support for improving the state of conservation of the property;

11. Also takes note of the ~~absence of a financing mechanism~~ limited funding aimed at ensuring in a sustainable manner the implementation of all the management functions of the property and requests furthermore the State Party, with the support of its partners, to continue its efforts to develop a sustainable financing system with a view to the improvement of the efficiency in the management of the property;

12. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2022**, an updated report on the implementation of progress made towards the permanent cancellation of the oil concessions overlapping the property and the formalisation of the Co-management Agreement between ICCN and WWF, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session in 2022.

~~Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 DecemberFebruary 2022**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its **465th** session in 2022.~~

~~**13. Decides to no longer continue to apply the reinforced monitoring mechanism for the property due to the progress made in the implementation of corrective measures and the improvement of the security situation;**~~

~~**14. Also decides to retain Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**~~