

TEXT

Draft decision: 44 COM 7B. 79

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/21/44.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 8B.3**, adopted during its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Expresses its deepest condolences to the families of the guards killed in the line of duty and to all the staff of the national administrations in charge of the management of the property;
4. Takes note of the strengthening of the operational capacity of the eco-guards and their numbers, and the organization of joint surveillance patrols with the defence and security forces and considers that this collaboration should be reinforced over a longer period in view of the security situation in the region;
5. Expresses its grave concern with regard to the increasing insecurity in the region and the property and in particular the presence of armed terrorist groups who operate in the property, causing the evacuation of the management staff of the Arly and W Parks in Burkina Faso, and leading to an increase in illegal activities (poaching, transhumance, gold panning), endangering the lives of the surveillance staff of the Park and integrity of the property;
6. Also considers that due to the growing insecurity and the resulting ~~total~~ relative absence of management presence in the two components of Arly and W of the property in Burkina Faso, the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the ~~property may be affected if the current security measures taken or on the process of being taken are not incisive and effective~~ may be affected if the security measures taken or in the process of being taken are not incisive and effective. is subject to endangerment, in accordance with paragraph 180 of the Operational Guidelines;
7. ~~**Decides to inscribe the W-Arly-Pendjari Complex (Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger) on the List of World Heritage in Danger;**~~
8. ~~Requests the States Parties, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to develop a set of corrective measures, a timetable for their implementation, as well as a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session in 2022;~~
97. Expresses its concern with regard to the impacts of transhumance in the property and also requests the States Parties to implement the Development and Management Plans (PAG) for the ecological blocks of the property strictly respecting the defined zonings;
108. Congratulates the States Parties of Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger for the signature in May 2019 of the Tripartite Agreement concerning the harmonized management of the

protected areas of the transnational W-Arly-Pendjari Complex and encourages them to implement the provisions of this Agreement;

~~419.~~ Warmly welcomes all the activities undertaken in the consensual definition of the buffer zone for the W National Park in Niger, and further requests the Niger State Party to submit the new map to the World Heritage Centre through the procedure of a minor modification to the boundaries of the property to ensure a coherent approach to the buffer zones of the whole W-Arly-Pendjari Complex;

~~4210.~~ Notes the technical and financial difficulties, requests furthermore the States Parties of Benin and Burkina Faso to submit to the World Heritage Centre a new map of the boundaries of the buffer zone on the scale of 1:50 000° by **1 December 2022** for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 46th session in 2023;

~~4311.~~ Regrets that no information on the results of the different inventories carried out have been provided and therefore requests moreover the States Parties to make available this information to the World Heritage Centre as soon as possible for examination by IUCN;

~~4412.~~ Welcomes the efforts deployed firstly to incorporate the climatic considerations into the efficient management of the property, and secondly to mitigate the effects by implementing adaptive activities, and also encourages the States Parties to continue their efforts with the technical and financial partners involved in these initiatives;

~~4513.~~ Requests in addition the States Parties to invite, as soon as ~~the security situation permits possible~~, a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property to evaluate its current state of conservation ~~in respect of the insecurity situation; and to finalize in concertation with the States Parties, a group of corrective measures and a DSOCR, for examination by the Committee at its 45th session in 2022;~~

~~4614.~~ Finally requests the States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2022**, an updated joint report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session ~~in 2022-2023~~.