



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

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

World Heritage

44 COM

# AMENDMENT

<b>Item of the Agenda</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Amended Draft Decision</b>	<b>44 COM 8</b>
<b>Amendment submitted by the Delegation of....</b>	<b>Norway, Australia, Hungary, Spain</b>
<b>Date of submission</b>	<b>24.07.2021</b>

## VII. DRAFT DECISION

### *Draft Decision:44COM 8*

*The World Heritage Committee,*

*1. Having examined Document WHC/21/44.COM/8,*

*2. ¶ Recalling Decisions **35 COM9A**, **40 COM 11**, **42 COM 5A**, **42 COM 8**, **42 COM 8B.24**, **42COM 12A**, **43COM 8** and **43 COM12** adopted at its 35th (UNESCO Headquarters, 2011), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO Headquarters, 2016), 42nd (Manama, 2018) and 43rd (Baku, 2019) sessions respectively, as well as Resolutions **18GA 8** and **22 GA 9** adopted by the General Assembly at its 18th (UNESCO, 2011) and 22nd (UNESCO, 2019) sessions respectively,*

### **REFLECTION ON THE REFORM OF THE NOMINATION PROCESS**

*3. Recalling Decision **42 COM12A**, which noted the need for reform of the nomination and evaluation process;*

*4. Further recalling Decision **43 COM 12** which recognized the importance of the overarching objective of the reform of the nomination process as a key measure for restoring the balance and credibility of the World Heritage List and which decided to endorse the principle of a two-phase nomination process, with the aim to help improve the quality of nominations and strengthen dialogue between States Parties and the Advisory Bodies, and that reaffirmed the overriding necessity to continue to work towards bringing greater convergence between the decisions taken by the Committee and the recommendations of the Advisory Bodies;*

*5. Expresses its appreciation for the work in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 of the ad-hoc Working Group, the experts that participated in the Tunis Meeting and in the small expert drafting group, the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre, and for their collective contributions towards the Nomination Reform;*

6. Thanks the State Party of Australia for having generously provided funding for the reflection on the nomination process and also thanks the State Party of Tunisia for having hosted the expert meeting on the reform of the nomination process in 2019;

## **REFLECTION ON SITES ASSOCIATED WITH MEMORIES OF RECENT CONFLICTS AND OTHER NEGATIVE AND DIVISIVE MEMORIES**

3. Expresses its appreciation for the work of experts from all regions that participated in the Meeting in Paris, to the experts that have prepared the independent study, the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre for their work on the reflection on sites associated with recent conflicts and other negative and divisive memories;

4. Taking note that some properties associated with memories of recent conflicts have been previously inscribed on the World Heritage List on an exceptional basis

5. Recalling the reservations expressed concerning the inscription of sites related to negative memories in Decisions CONF 003 XII.46, CONF 201 VIII.C, 42 COM 5A 42 COM 8 42 COM 8B.24, 42 COM 12,

5. Also taking note of the various findings of the detailed reflection process requested by the Committee in 42 COM 8B.24, notably the findings of the Expert Meeting (2019), two ICOMOS Discussion Papers (2018; 2020), and an independent expert analysis [Beazley/Cameron 2020] which include:

- Sites associated with the memories of recent conflicts may not relate to the purpose and scope of the World Heritage Convention and its Operational Guidelines; or the broader purpose of UNESCO to build the foundations of peace;
- Outstanding Universal Value is fixed at the time of inscription and memories of recent conflicts may continue to evolve long after the conflicts have ceased;
- Sites associated with the memories of recent conflict may not satisfy any of the World Heritage criteria for inscription on the World Heritage List; and
- Other-international instruments and programmes may be more suitable to recognise places associated with the memories of recent conflict and States Parties should be encouraged to explore potential solutions in this regard.

6. Noting the informal consultations between the States Parties to the Convention on this issue, the debates held at the 44<sup>th</sup> extended session of the World Heritage Committee and at the Information Meeting organized by the World Heritage Centre on the current ongoing work on the reflection on sites associated with memories of recent conflicts and other negative and divisive memories”, and acknowledging the diverging views expressed by the States Parties

7. Recognizing the need for further dialogue and for regional perspectives for a better understanding of the issues by wider groups of actors;

8. Decides that since the question of whether sites associated with recent conflicts and other negative and divisive memories relate to the purpose and scope of the World Heritage Convention and the broader purpose of UNESCO to build the foundations of peace touches upon the core of the Convention, that any guidelines should only be developed and decided within the framework of the General Assembly of States Parties, and to this end requests the World Heritage Centre to include an item to initiate discussion on the reflection on sites

*associated with recent conflicts and other negative and divisive memories in the agenda of the forthcoming 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the General Assembly of States Parties;*

*9. Requests that the General Assembly of States Parties give due consideration to establishing an open-ended working group of States Parties to the Convention, with the mandate to develop, for consideration by the 24<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly of States Parties, guidance on how sites associated with memories of recent conflicts and other negative and divisive memories might relate to the purpose and scope of the World Heritage Convention and its Operational Guidelines and further suggests that the General Assembly of States Parties creates uniform modalities for facilitating regional consultations to take place, which would feed into the work of the open-ended working group of States Parties to the Convention,*

*10. Recognizes that in order to allow to exhaust the discussions and for the General Assembly of States Parties to take an informed decision, the evaluation previously undertaken by ICOMOS for sites falling under this category may be considered effective until the 47<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee in 2024;*