

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

2. Recalling Decisions **35 COM 9A**, **40 COM 11**, **42 COM 5A**, **42 COM 8**, **42 COM 8B.24**, **42 COM 12A**, **43 COM 8** and **43 COM 12** 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 **18 GA 8** and **22 GA 9** adopted by the General Assembly at its 18th (UNESCO, 2011) and 22nd (UNESCO, 2019) sessions respectively;

3. Expresses its appreciation for the work requested by the Committee at the 42nd session, including an Expert Meeting with representatives from all regions (Paris, 4-6 December 2019), ICOMOS Discussion Paper (2020), and an independent expert analysis (Beazley/Cameron 2020); as well as the experts' and Inter—Ministerial Meeting hosted by South Africa in April 2021;

4. Recognising some ~~informal~~ consultations have occurred between States Parties to the Convention on this ~~issue~~, taking issue, taking note of the information session held in January 2021 for all States Parties and the debates held at the 44th extended session of the World Heritage Committee, and acknowledging diverging views expressed by States Parties in these forums;

~~5. Recognising Encouraging State Parties to engage in the need for further dialogue and for regional perspectives for a better understanding of the issues by wider groups of actors;~~

~~6. Acknowledging that the question of whether and how “sites associated with recent conflicts and other negative and divisive memories” relate to the purpose and scope of the World Heritage Convention, have not yet been resolved; and that the report presented to the current session does not accommodate all views;~~

6. Encouraging State Parties to engage in further dialogue and for regional perspectives for a better understanding of the issues by wider groups of actors;

~~7. Further recognizing that because the broader purpose of UNESCO to build the foundations of peace touches upon the core of the Convention, decides 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 23rd Session of the General Assembly of States Parties;~~

~~8. Requests Decides to create a working group with the mandate to discuss and present to the 46th session of the world heritage committee suggested amendments to the operational guidelines of the convention in relation to sites associated with memories of recent conflicts that the 23rd Session of the General Assembly of States Parties give due consideration to accomplishing the following activities before the 24th Session of the General Assembly of States Parties : The working group will present a progress report on the 45th session of the committee.~~

~~a. Establishing an open-ended working group of States Parties to the Convention, with the mandate to develop guidance on whether and 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~~

~~b. Creating 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.~~

~~79. Recognizes that in order to facilitate a discussion to capture a broad range of views that will enable the General Assembly of States Parties to take an informed decision on this matter; that the evaluation previously undertaken by ICOMOS for sites falling under this category may be considered effective until the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2024;~~ was subjected to divergent assessments by the members of the committee

8. Decides to create a working group composed of States Parties with the mandate to discuss and present to the 45th session of the committee, a progress report on the reflections on the sites of memory together with a review report, and where necessary, suggested amendments to the operational guidelines of the convention in relation to sites associated with memories of recent conflicts for consideration by the 46th session of the world heritage committee. To that effect, States Parties are encouraged to support the work of the Working Group including through voluntary contributions.