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

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

BUREAU OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

**Twenty-third session
Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, (Room X)
5 - 10 July 1999**

**Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda : Information on Tentative Lists and examination of
nominations of cultural and natural sites to the List of World Heritage in Danger and
the World Heritage List**

SUMMARY

The Bureau examines the nominations and makes its recommendations thereon to the Committee under the following four categories:

- a) properties which it recommends for inscription without reservation;
- b) properties which it does not recommend for inscription;
- c) properties that need to be referred back to the nominating State for further information or documentation;
- d) properties whose examination should be deferred on the ground that a more in-depth assessment or study is needed.

It is usual practice that the working document on nominations submits proposals for inscription of properties in the same alphabetical order (English) and employing the same name as ICOMOS or IUCN. In some cases the original names of certain properties have been modified, following the evaluation missions and discussions with the States Parties concerned. States Parties may, at any time, express their views on the change in name of properties.

The Committee "asked that when the Bureau examines new nominations at its future sessions, it take into account the debate of the twenty-second session of the Committee on the establishment of a representative World Heritage List." This debate is reflected in Section IX, paragraphs 1 to 21 of the Report of the twenty-second session of Committee (Annex I).

Identification Number	Name of Property	State Party having submitted the nomination in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention
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A. Nominations of natural properties to the World Heritage List

A.1 New nominations

937	Península Valdés	Argentina
892	Brazilian Discovery Coast	Brazil
893	"Paranapiacaba" - Upper Ribeira Group of Protected Natural Areas and Notable Landscapes	Brazil
894	Estuarine Lagoon Complex of Iguape - Cananéia - Paranaguá	Brazil
828	Area de Conservacion Guanacaste	Costa Rica
889	System of Marine Terraces of Cabo Cruz and Maisi	Cuba
839 Rev	Alejandro de Humboldt National Park	Cuba
955	Lorentz National Park	Indonesia
909	Parco Nazionale Del Gran Paradiso	Italy
652 Rev	St. Paul Subterranean River National Park	Philippines
934	The Laurisilva of Madeira	Portugal
900	Western Caucasus	Russian Federation
914	Greater St. Lucia Wetland Park	South Africa
898	The High Coast	Sweden
951	Phong Nha Cave	Viet Nam

A.2 Deferred nominations for which additional information has been received

686 Rev	Miguasha National Park	Canada
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A.3 Extension of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List

33-627 Bis	Belovezhskaya Pushcha/Bialowieza Forest - Extension	Belarus / Poland
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B Nomination of mixed properties to the World Heritage List

B.1 New nominations

917	The Greater Blue Mountains Area	Australia
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911	Mount Wuyi	China
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908	Isole Eolie (Aeolian Islands)	Italy
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417 Rev	Ibiza, Biodiversity and Culture	Spain
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B.2 Deferred nominations for which additional information has been received

769 Rev	Uvs Nuur Basin	Mongolia / Russian Federation
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C. Nominations of cultural properties to the World Heritage List

C.1 New nominations

936	Area Arqueológica y Natural Alto Río Pinturas - Santa Cruz	Argentina
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931	City of Graz – Historic Centre	Austria
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943	Flemish belfries	Belgium
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946	The Old Mostar: a Bridge of the Worlds	Bosnia and Herzegovina
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851 Rev	Sarajevo - Unique symbol of universal multicultural - continual open city	Bosnia and Herzegovina
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890	Historic centre of the town of Diamantina	Brazil
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912	Dazu Rock Carvings - the cliffside carvings at Beishan, Baodingshan, Nanshan,	China
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Shizhuanshan, and Shimensan

840 Rev	Viñales Valley	Cuba
901	Litomyšl Castle	Czech Republic
863	Historic Centre of Santa Ana of the Cuenca Rivers	Ecuador
579 Rev	The Bronze Age Burial Site of Sammallahdenmäki	Finland
932	The ancient jurisdiction of Saint-Emilion	France
933	The Loire Valley between Maine and Sully-sur-Loire	France
536 Rev	Cathedral of St. Maurice and St. Catherine in Magdeburg	Germany
896	Museumsinsel (Museum Island)	Germany
897	The Wartburg	Germany
941	The Archaeological Sites of Mycenae and Tiryns	Greece
942	The Historic Centre (Chorá) with the Monastery of Saint John "the Theologian" and the Cave of the Apocalypse on the Island of Patmos	Greece
474 Rev	Hortobágy National Park	Hungary
944	The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway	India
945	Victoria Terminus (Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus)	India
907	Villa Adriana	Italy
913	Shrines and Temples of Nikko	Japan
891	The Harbour Fortifications of Malta	Malta
895	Zone of Historic Monuments of the town of Campeche and its System of Fortifications	Mexico
939	The Archaeological Monuments Zone of	Mexico

	Xochicalco	
899	Droogmakerij de Beemster (Beemster Polder)	Netherlands
938	Sukur Cultural Landscape	Nigeria
952	The Pachacamac Archeological Sanctuary	Peru
502 Rev	The Historic Town of Vigan	Philippines
905	Kalwaria Zebrzydowska: the Mannerist architectural and park landscape complex and pilgrimage park	Poland
902	Historic Centre of Sighisoara	Romania
903	The Monastery of Neamt – the Church of the Ascension of Jesus	Romania
904	The Wooden Churches of Maramures	Romania
906	The Dacian fortresses of the Orastie Mountains	Romania
910	Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park	Saint Christopher & Nevis
915	The Fossil Hominid Sites of Sterkfontein, Swartrans, Kromdraai, and Environs, South Africa	South Africa
916	Robben Island	South Africa
929	San Critóbal de La Laguna	Spain
930	El Palmeral de Elche y sus tradiciones (Misteri)	Spain
940	The Historic Inner City of Paramaribo	Suriname
884	Three castles, defensive wall and ramparts of the market-town of Bellinzona	Switzerland
886	State Historical and Cultural Park "Ancient Merv"	Turkmenistan
885	Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz	Uzbekistan
948	Hoi An Ancient Town	Viet Nam

949	My Son Sanctuary	Viet Nam
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C.2 Deferred nominations for which additional information has been received

625	The Mir Castle (The Radzivils Castle)	Belarus
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756	The Kysuce-Orava Switchback Railroad	Slovakia
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514 Rev	The Heart of Neolithic Orkney	United Kingdom
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C.3 Extension of cultural properties inscribed on the World Heritage List

532 Ter	Palaces and Parks of Potsdam and Berlin - Extension	Germany
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733 Bis	The Residences of the Dukes of Este in the Po Delta (extension of Ferrara: city of the Renaissance)	Italy
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596 Bis	The Villages with fortified churches in Transylvania (extension of Biertan and its fortified church)	Romania
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**C.4 Extension of a property inscribed on the World Heritage List, for
approval by the Bureau**

868	The Routes of Santiago de Compostela in France	France
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IX. FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORK OF THE CONSULTATIVE BODY OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

IX.1 At its twentieth session in December 1996, the Committee requested a Financial Audit of the World Heritage Fund for the year ending 31 December 1996 and a Management Review of the World Heritage Convention. Furthermore, the Committee established a Consultative Body “to take action on the proposal adopted by the Committee, to undertake a review of the way in which the World Heritage Centre has assisted the Committee in implementing the World Heritage Convention”.

IX.2 At its twenty-first session in December 1997, the Committee had requested that the Consultative Body examine the following four issues and present a report to the twenty-second session of the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau:

1. Technical issues
2. Communications and Promotion
3. Management Review and Financial Audit
4. Use of the World Heritage Emblem and Fund-Raising Guidelines.

IX.3 A meeting of the Consultative Body was held at UNESCO Headquarters on 29 and 30 April 1998. In accordance with the decision by the Consultative Body in December 1997, preliminary discussion papers on each of the four issues were prepared by designated members of the Consultative Body. These discussion papers then formed the basis of the Consultative Body’s deliberations during their meeting in April 1998.

IX.4 The Report of the Rapporteur of the meeting of the Consultative Body was adopted on 24 June 1998 and was subsequently discussed by the twenty-second session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee. At its twenty-second session, the Bureau examined the Report of the Rapporteur of the Consultative Body and made specific recommendations to the World Heritage Committee. Some of the Bureau’s recommendations have required substantial follow-up on the part of the World Heritage Centre and the advisory bodies as well as by members of the Consultative Body.

IX.5 The Chairperson thanked Professor Francioni (Italy) for having chaired the Consultative Body in 1998. He also thanked the members of the Consultative Body - Australia, Benin, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Malta, Mexico, the United States of America

and Zimbabwe. He also thanked Greece for their contributions to the work of the Consultative Body. He commented that the intensive work on the complex issues faced by the Consultative Body was to be highly commended.

1. TECHNICAL ISSUES

IX.6 The Delegate of Australia, who had prepared a discussion paper for the Consultative Body meeting in April, informed the Committee that the following technical issues were examined by the Consultative Body at the request of the twenty-first session of the Committee:

- (a) the application of cultural criteria (i) and (vi);
- (b) the test of authenticity;
- (c) the imbalance of the World Heritage List; and
- (d) the implementation of the Global Strategy.

IX.7 The Delegate of Australia, informed the Committee about the deliberations of the Consultative Body and also referred to some of the main findings of the World Heritage Global Strategy Natural and Cultural Heritage Expert Meeting, held in Amsterdam in March 1998 (Information Document WHC-98/CONF.203/INF.7). She acknowledged that the discussion on the use of cultural criteria (i) and (vi) and the test of authenticity had benefited from written contributions from Greece, Malta and Zimbabwe. The contribution from Malta had proposed more detailed guidelines for the more stringent application of cultural criterion (i). The Delegate of Zimbabwe’s contribution had focussed on the different understanding of authenticity in an African compared to a universal context. His paper also referred to the inseparability of natural and cultural heritage in Africa. Whilst noting that no change had been suggested to cultural criteria (i) and (vi) it was deemed necessary to suggest sparing use and a better definition of exactly how they should be used. She suggested that the advisory bodies may wish to review the qualifying conditions used to apply cultural criteria (i) and (vi) as part of their work to propose revisions to Section I of the Operational Guidelines.

IX.8 The Delegate of Australia then made reference to discussions on the test of authenticity and the application of the conditions of integrity. For authenticity, the discussions had focused on the nature of authenticity as outlined in the Nara Declaration on Authenticity. The Delegate of Australia highlighted two issues that had emerged from discussions. Firstly she stressed the need for more rigour to deter over-restoration. She also indicated the need to understand the link between

authenticity and cultural value. In this respect she expressed the overwhelming view of the Amsterdam meeting that authenticity provisions should be defined for each of the criteria used to justify properties for inclusion on the World Heritage List. Furthermore, she noted that when devising new authenticity and integrity provisions, reference also needed to be made to geo-cultural contexts.

IX.9 The Delegate of Australia made reference to the recommendation of the twenty-second session of the Bureau that had asked, that in line with the discussions at the Global Strategy Expert Meeting in Amsterdam, further work be undertaken on breaking down the cultural themes outlined at the 1994 Global Strategy Experts Meeting into sub-themes that would assist identification of those types places that are over- or under-represented on the World Heritage List. The Bureau had requested that this work should recognise the inseparability of natural and cultural heritage. The Delegate of Australia commented that for natural heritage a number of thematic studies have been carried out by IUCN in a global context. However, she noted the ICOMOS studies seemed to be based on types of properties rather than cultural themes.

IX.10 The Delegate of Canada gave a brief report on the Global Strategy meeting held in Amsterdam in March 1998. She reminded the members of the Committee that following the expert meeting on natural heritage held in the Parc de la Vanoise in 1996, the twentieth session of the Committee had requested a truly joint natural and cultural heritage expert meeting to discuss the implementation of the *Global Strategy for a credible and representative World Heritage List*. She informed the Committee that the Amsterdam meeting had addressed four main points – (i) the application of the conditions of integrity versus the test of authenticity; (ii) the question of a unified or a harmonized set of criteria; (iii) the notion of outstanding universal value and its application in different regional and cultural contexts; and, (iv) the credibility of the Convention and its implementation.

IX.11 The Delegate of Canada referred the Committee to the recommendations made in the report of the Amsterdam meeting for, (i) the existing natural and cultural heritage criteria to be unified into one single set of criteria to better reflect the continuum between nature and culture (Table 2 of Information Document WHC-98/CONF.203/INF.7); and (ii) the conditions of integrity (to include reference to the notion of authenticity) to be applied to both natural and cultural heritage (Table 3 of Information Document WHC-98/CONF.203/INF.7). She noted that the experts at Amsterdam asked that the World Heritage List reflect the broad spectrum of natural and cultural diversity and

the outstanding relationships between people and the environment.

IX.12 With reference to the notion of outstanding universal value, the Delegate of Australia informed the Committee that a more regional and thematic approach to its interpretation deriving from broad themes and sub-themes had been recommended by the Amsterdam expert meeting. The expert group had noted that the implementation of the Global Strategy, using a regional and thematic approach, would be applied to fill in the gaps in the World Heritage List. The expert group had acknowledged that good progress had been made in this regard but had recommended that steps be taken to accelerate its implementation.

IX.13 With regard to the credibility of the Convention and its implementation, the Delegate of Canada noted that the experts attending the Amsterdam meeting had stressed that inscription of a site on the World Heritage List is not a single event but part of a continuing process to ensure the protection of the values for which the site has been inscribed. The Delegate of Zimbabwe informed the Committee of the discussions on credibility of the Convention and its implementation that took place at the expert meeting in Amsterdam. He referred to the details of that discussion presented in Table 7 of Information Document WHC-98/CONF.203/INF.7. He noted that the working group on credibility at the Amsterdam meeting had emphasized that the cornerstone of the credibility of the World Heritage List is the rigorous monitoring of properties and the political commitment of the States Parties to their protection.

IX.14 With reference to the application of cultural criteria (i) and (vi), the Committee did not suggest revisions. A number of Committee members did however suggest that a better understanding of the application of both criteria is required and explanatory text to accompany the criteria could be formulated to assist in this regard. It was noted that in applying cultural criterion (i), for example for rock art sites, it was important to go beyond reference to the ‘masterpiece of human creative genius’ to the landscape context which is inseparable to the meaning and prehistoric articulation of the landscape. The use of other cultural criteria and the three categories of cultural landscapes was noted as being important in this regard. A number of delegates and ICCROM stressed the need to finalise the work on bringing the natural and cultural criteria together and to expressing how they are to be used with greater clarity.

IX.15 Several delegates referred to the differential regional applications of the notion of authenticity. The Delegate of Greece made a statement that is included in Annex VIII.

IX.16 On the question of the balance of the List, the Committee emphasized that it was less useful to simply refer to the numbers of properties on the List than to assess the expressions of cultural and natural diversity and of cultural and natural themes from different regions represented on the List. Whilst some delegates noted that there are obstacles to achieving representation on the List in some regions and countries (for example, because of lack of awareness of the Convention or of technical and financial capacity etc.), others referred to the high numbers of nominations being presented to the World Heritage Committee each year. A number of delegates noted that the decision by the Committee concerning nominations are sometimes disconnected from the implementation of the Global Strategy as had been seen by the high number of European sites the Committee had inscribed on the World Heritage List at its twenty-second session. It was also noted that the interests of national authorities might differ from the objectives of the Global Strategy in relation to the inclusion of properties on the List. Currently the work of the Convention is highly respected in many countries, but the pressures on the entire system are substantive.

IX.17 In this context, the need was stressed to move from recommendations to action and to assess the issue from a political perspective, basically founded on two aspects: the urgency of meeting the legitimate expectations of a substantial number of countries to be assisted in presenting applications for their sites; and the need for some countries to self-contain their ambitions. The Delegate of France expressed concern about the useful discussions concerning the balance of the List and the decisions taken by the Committee, emphasizing that the credibility of the latter was at stake. He insisted upon the importance of avoiding the perpetration of this imbalance. The Delegate of Finland proposed a moratorium on inscriptions, in order for the Committee and the World Heritage Centre to focus more on preparing applications for countries that are underrepresented on the List.

IX.18 The Committee was of the general opinion that regionally specific approaches to the implementation of the *Global Strategy for a representative and credible World Heritage List* (as adopted by the Committee as part of the Action Plan on the Global Strategy – see Section X) should be accelerated to ensure results. The Committee noted the need to use a more strategic approach to funding activities relating to underrepresented regions and themes.

IX.19 The Representative of IUCN reinforced the importance of there being one World Heritage that recognizes the nature-culture continuum. IUCN informed the Committee that they had discussed the concept of this continuum with IUCN members on several occasions, including the World Conservation

Congress (Montreal 1996). The concept of one single set of criteria and the issue of a credible and representative World Heritage List reflecting cultural and natural diversity had received support among the IUCN membership. The IUCN Representative referred to their continuing work on thematic studies with new partners, including the WWF Global 200 Programme. He informed the Committee that IUCN sees further scope for cooperation with ICOMOS in relation to cultural landscapes, especially those with biodiversity values. He stated that the assessment of outstanding universal value in an international context and the maintenance of integrity and authenticity are key to ensuring the credibility of the World Heritage List.

IX.20 The Representatives of ICOMOS wished that attention be given to the actual inscription of a property on the World Heritage List rather than to the criteria, which may be considered as tools for analysis and which, furthermore, need not be mentioned in the published List. They insisted upon the importance of regular communication with the site managers so that they may be well informed of the debates taking place and take into account the reality of the field. Finally, they were of the opinion that the objectives of the Convention should be re-affirmed, that they do not have as aim the establishment of a list of the most prestigious properties, but first and foremost to implement international co-operation for the safeguarding of humankind's cultural heritage.

IX.21 The Chairperson thanked the Government of the Netherlands for hosting the Amsterdam Global Strategy meeting (March 1998) and the Committee, advisory bodies and observers for the rich and intensive debate. The Committee adopted the following decisions:

- 1) The Committee thanked the Delegate of Italy (who had chaired the Consultative Body in 1998) and all the members of the Consultative Body for their productive work on the technical issues and paid tribute to the work of the Global Strategy Expert Meeting held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, in March 1998.
- 2) The Committee stressed the urgent need to establish a representative World Heritage List and considered it imperative to ensure more participation of those States Parties whose heritage is currently underrepresented on the World Heritage List. The Committee requested the Centre and the advisory bodies to actively consult with these States Parties to encourage and support their active participation in the implementation of the *Global Strategy for a credible and representative World Heritage List* through the concrete regional actions described in the *Global Strategy Action Plan* adopted by the Committee at its twenty-second session.

- 3) Given the purposes of the World Heritage Convention, the policy of the Committee regarding nominations should have two parts: (i) the Committee should value all nominations from all States Parties and (ii) the Committee should strategically expend its resources to increase nomination of sites from parts of the world which are presently not represented or underrepresented.
- 4) The Committee asked that when the Bureau examines new nominations at its future sessions, it take into account the debate of the twenty-second session of the Committee on the establishment of a representative World Heritage List.
- 5) The Committee requested the Centre to work with the advisory bodies, to further develop the revision of Section I of the Operational Guidelines and submit them to the twenty-third session of the Bureau. The Bureau should submit for adoption its recommendations to the twenty-third session of the World Heritage Committee.
- 6) The Committee urged the advisory bodies to pursue further work on breaking down the themes into sub-themes, taking into consideration the recommendations of relevant expert meetings. Particular attention should be given to secure the highest level of scientific and technical consensus. The advisory bodies are asked to report on progress made and suggest any concrete decisions to be taken by future sessions of the Committee.
- 7) The Committee requested that the Centre, in collaboration with the advisory bodies present a progress report on the implementation of the regional actions described in the Global Strategy Action Plan adopted by the Committee at its twenty-second session to the twenty-third session of the Committee.
- 8) The Committee requested that an agenda item on “Ways and means to ensure a representative World Heritage List” be presented to the twelfth General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in 1999. The twenty-third session of the Bureau is asked to prepare the agenda item for the General Assembly.