

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

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Recommendations drawn up at the tripartite meeting held between the Republic of Ivory Coast, the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea and the Republic of Liberia concerning the protection of Mount Nimba, Conakry, Guinea, 26-29 July 1982.

Experts from the States in which the Mount Nimba massif is situated met in Conakry on 26,27,28 and 29 July 1982. After analysing national documents and on the basis of national sovereignty, these experts recommended a series of legislative, administrative and scientific measures and also measures to heighten public awareness which should be taken in order to protect Mount Nimba.

1. Legislative measures

- Ratification of the World Heritage Convention by Liberia,
- Inscription on the World Heritage List of the parts of the Reserve lying in Ivory Coast and Liberia,
- Coordination and alignment of national legislations on the basis of the Algiers OAU Convention and with the collaboration of specialised legal advisers,

- Ratification by the three States of the various international conventions concerning the conservation of natural resources,
- Agreement between the three States on the right to sue and extradite nationals having committed offences of poaching, trade of arms or lighting forest fires,
- Updating the status of and redefinition of the boundaries of the Nimba Strict Nature Reserve taking account of mining activities.

2. Administrative and protective measures

- Elaboration of site specific regulations for the whole reserve and for national buffer zones that could be created ;
- Delimitation (trails for access) and setting up of sign-posts ;
- Allocation of equipment (vehicles, camping gear, clothes, arms, etc.) and setting up of control units ;
- Establishment of a programme of protection and of patrols for the different access points to the Reserve ;
- Training of specialists from the three countries in the wildlife schools of Garoua (Cameroon) and Mweka (Tanzania) ;
- Organization of a conference between the three countries, the relevant international organisms and possible funding agencies when the global project of protection is established, in order to confirm commitments concerning Mount Nimba.

3. Measures to heighten public awareness and for integrated development

All public information programmes should be prepared in English and French (slide-tape shows, maps of the reserve, leaflets, etc.) with a view to raising people's interest in protecting the Mount Nimba Reserve.

An integrated development programme for the peripheral zone should be imperatively implemented :

- development of subsistence cultivation, fish-farming and intensive stock raising,
- reforestation for timber production,
- programmes on training, popularization and supervision,
- providing villages with minimum facilities (school, dispensary, wells, access roads, markets, etc.).

4. Scientific measures

Creation of a scientific and technical management committee for the three States. This committee would allow the technical specialists from the three countries to meet periodically (once or twice a year for example). Establishment of national executive bodies and an international coordination body.

Establishment of an ecological management plan

This plan will develop all the measures that could be taken :

- measures concerning general protection (on legislation and patrols, creation of buffer zones) ;
- measures concerning conservation : protection of springs and streams, reforestation to protect from soil erosion, installation of facilities for controlling pollution resulting from mining activities, rehabilitation of abandoned quarries and creation of wildlife reserves ;
- measures concerning the development of the peripheral zone.

The tripartite meeting on the protection of Mount Nimba requests the specialized bodies belonging to the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to provide individual and collective support to the efforts made by the States Parties concerning the scientific and technical cooperation agreement for the conservation of the Mount Nimba ecosystems.