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

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION  
OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

**Extended forty-fifth session  
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
10 - 25 September 2023**

**Item 13 of the Provisional Agenda: 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention**

**Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention**

**Summary**

This document presents the activities held within the framework of the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the adoption of the World Heritage Convention. It further develops the information presented in WHC/21/44.COM/5A, WHC/21/23.GA/9 and WHC/21/23.GA/13.

**Draft Decision: 45 COM 13, see Point V**

## **I. BACKGROUND**

1. On 16 November 2022, the World Heritage Convention celebrated its 50th Anniversary. With near-universal ratification by 195 States Parties (Tuvalu ratified the Convention on 16 May 2023), the Convention is now one of the most ratified international conventions in history. The 1,157 cultural and natural World Heritage properties located in 167 countries across the globe testify to the immense cultural and biological diversity of the world, as well as to the power of heritage to bring people together around common values and aspirations.
2. The celebration of this important anniversary was an opportunity to take stock of the achievements of the Convention, but also to examine conservation challenges and reflect on the challenges of sustainable development and innovative strategies for the future.
3. In view of the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention in 2022, preliminary discussions took place by the Secretariat, including several meetings of an internal working group since December 2020, and with the UNESCO Division of Communications and Public Engagement (CPE). In 2021, invitations and suggestions for events were also received from States Parties and partners.
4. The World Heritage Committee launched major works within the *Future of the World Heritage Convention and Strategic Action Plan* adopted by the General Assembly in 2011. Its preparation and subsequent Outcomes and Progress in the Implementation of the Strategic Action Plan 2012-2022 was reported and reviewed by each General Assembly from 2011 to 2021. A last report was presented to the 23rd session of the General Assembly of States Parties in November 2021.

## **II. PREPARATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**

5. The celebration of this important anniversary presented an opportunity for all concerned stakeholders to not only take stock of the achievements of the Convention to date, but to also reflect on the conservation challenges and to envisage sustainable and innovative strategies for the future.
6. Recognizing the transformations in the world since the creation of the Convention, and with a view to soliciting reflection on the adaptation of the Convention in the face of prevailing challenges and gathering proposals for themes and plans to mark the 50th Anniversary, a Survey Questionnaire on the 50th Anniversary was launched on 25 June 2021 to all States Parties and site managers as well as academics and experts. The deadline was 25 July 2021 and later extended to 6 August 2021.
7. The questionnaire included a total of 12 questions mostly constructed to offer respondents the opportunity to rank key issues of importance with the possibility to provide additional comments. 243 completed surveys were received. Nearly 55% of the responses came from site managers of World Heritage properties and about 35% of the responses were from States Parties representatives including National Focal Points for World Heritage. 10% of the responses were from experts and academics. Respondents were from all five regions of the World including 36% from Europe and North America, over 24% from Latin America and the Caribbean and 18% from Africa. Asia Pacific and the Arab States each had 11%. The most significant conclusions of the Survey are synthesized below.
8. The respondents believed that the most important accomplishment of the World Heritage Convention has been to identify and safeguard cultural and natural heritage through

inscription on the World Heritage List. It has also contributed to enhancing conservation and management capacities at the local and national levels and promoting laws, policies, and regulations and develop guidance for the conservation and management of different types of heritage. The Convention has served to raise awareness of heritage including that of Indigenous Peoples and empowered and improved the lives of communities living in and around World Heritage properties. It has also helped to mobilize international cooperation and contributed to peace-building. The inscription of a site to the World Heritage List first and foremost, leads to increased protection of valuable heritage and promotes identity and pride for the communities and nationally. It provides opportunities for establishing partnerships for conservation and avenues to raise funds for conservation and training. It also brings about revenues to local communities from tourism related employment opportunities.

9. Responses indicated that the greatest impediments to more fully implementing the World Heritage Convention is the lack of financial and human resources at the national and local levels that has been made even more acute by the COVID-19 pandemic. Another significant impediment has been the often-insufficient awareness and understanding of the importance of safeguarding certain heritage in the wider public. Ill-conceived economic and infrastructure development projects that negatively impact heritage continue to pose threats to heritage conservation.
10. Respondents identified climate change as the most significant global challenge today for cultural and natural heritage. Other major threats include unsustainable development initiatives, uncontrolled urbanization and poorly planned urban development initiatives. The destruction of heritage in armed conflict continues to remain a threat.
11. Responses highlighted that integrating heritage conservation with sustainable development goals and objectives is vital, including with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the African Union Agenda 2063, the Sendai Framework, and the SIDS SAMOA Pathway, among others. The engagement and inclusion of all stakeholders in decision-making processes including local communities and Indigenous Peoples is key, along with the private sector and financial institutions for heritage management. Strengthening governance, legal and regulatory frameworks and capacity for the protection of heritage is essential as is reinforcing capacities at different levels. Integrating heritage into strategies for Climate Action and for those to 'Build Back Better' from the COVID-19 recovery are critical for heritage conservation. Strengthening the heritage conservation, heritage education and awareness raising beyond the processes of the World Heritage List is valuable. Further awareness raising is needed so the World Heritage in Danger is further seen as a useful tool to mobilize global action and resources in favour of protecting an endangered property. Finally, the representativity of all geographical regions needs to be enhanced. While a balanced World Heritage List is yet to be achieved, the Global Strategy has paved the way for the inclusion of new categories of World Heritage.
12. As the Committee, with Decision **43 COM 8** (point 8), recommended "that consideration is given to using the opportunity of the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention in 2022 to undertake a reflection on the Global Strategy", a study was prepared to contribute to this reflection on the Global Strategy. In view of the anniversary, an analysis of the **Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced, and Credible World Heritage List (1994-2020)** has been carried out and was introduced to the World Heritage Committee at its extended 44th session, which welcomed its conclusions (full report available at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/documents/187906>; Decision **44 COM 8**).

### III. THEME OF THE ANNIVERSARY YEAR

13. The overall theme of the anniversary was “*The Next 50: World Heritage as a source of resilience, humanity and innovation*”. The following key themes have been explored through events, conferences, communications, and research: Climate change and heritage conservation; balanced representation of the inscribed sites; sustainable tourism; digital transformation, and post-COVID-19 recovery.
14. The challenges met by World Heritage sites are crises of global magnitude. Through interdisciplinary reflection, solution-oriented discussions with experts, and awareness-raising events, the anniversary had a positive impact on future conservation efforts.
15. A logo was developed and circulated for use on appropriate materials and events, along with a brochure describing the theme and providing information on key events.
16. A dedicated website was created for the 50th Anniversary (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/next50/>) to gather in one location information related to the celebration of the anniversary. The website includes a timeline with key moments in the history of the Convention, links to videos and to online exhibits, and provides information on events that took place across the globe throughout the year 2022.

### IV. KEY EVENTS OF THE ANNIVERSARY

17. A number of events were hosted or organized by UNESCO, States Parties, Category 2 Centres, partners and World Heritage sites. These can be found in the table below (see Annex) and on the webpage for the 50th Anniversary (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/next50/>).
18. Researchers and academics were invited to submit proposals for articles related to the five thematic areas of the anniversary. The call and development were done in partnership with the media outlet ‘The Conversation’, specializing in data-driven content by experts. The selected articles were published on the website of the media outlet.
19. “50 Minds for the Next 50” was a series of five online roundtables, each dedicated to one of the five thematic areas of the year. Fifty leading figures and experts hailed from all regions and represented diverse fields such as tech, architecture, media arts, human rights and medicine, identified outside of the usual roster of heritage experts. The 50 Minds series aimed to serve as an interdisciplinary discussion platform to explore the next 50 years of World Heritage and heritage at large.
20. An outdoor exhibition of over 100 large-format photos was held at UNESCO Headquarters, for the 39th European Heritage Days, from September to November 2022.
21. On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports and the Permanent Delegation of Greece to UNESCO in cooperation with UNESCO organized an international Conference in Delphi, Greece on 17-18 November 2022, entitled “*The Next 50: The future of World Heritage in challenging times - Enhancing resilience and sustainability*”. The conference was opened by the Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, H. E. Kyriakos Mitsotakis, the Minister of Culture and Sports of Greece, Ms Lina Mendoni and UNESCO Director-General. The conference brought together representatives of UNESCO and the States Parties serving on the World Heritage Committee, along with experts from all over the world, to discuss the challenges facing World Heritage, including climate change and over tourism. The participants reflected on the achievements of the Convention over the past 50 years and identified priorities for its implementation in the future. With regards to the main challenges facing the 1972 Convention looking ahead, the key objectives for the future

would be to enhance resilience and sustainability, increase accessibility, and promoting representativity by including more sites from underrepresented regions.

22. In October 2022, the ministers in charge of World Heritage from eight countries in Central Africa (Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon and Sao Tomé and Príncipe), UNESCO and its partners, including the African World Heritage Fund, and experts gathered in Yaoundé (Cameroon) at the invitation of the Government of Cameroon to discuss concrete measures to strengthen the institutional capacity and professional expertise in the field of World Heritage. The conference adopted [the Yaoundé Call to Action](#) and stressed the importance of the protection, conservation, management and promotion of World Heritage sites in Africa, and their contribution to socio-economic development and the well-being of local communities, by exploiting the digital transformation and the opportunities it offers through new technologies to promote African World Heritage, especially through the involvement of youth (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1710/>).
23. A televised roundtable was held in June 2023 in Hangzhou, China, in partnership with Phoenix TV. The broadcast focused on the 50th Anniversary of the Convention, marking "the beginning of the next 50 years". The programme consisted several discussions with diverse heritage experts. The programme has been disseminated through online social media channels.

## V. KEY REFLECTIONS AND OUTCOMES FROM THE ANNIVERSARY

24. Many important achievements of the World Heritage Convention were highlighted during the celebration. These achievements are palpable in the declaration of MONDIACULT 2022 adopted by consensus by 153 Member States and which reiterated the individual and collective responsibility to ensure the conservation, safeguarding and promotion of the entire cultural sector, both tangible and intangible, as ethical imperative, with a view to ensuring greater equity, better geographical balance and better representativeness of heritage in all regions.
25. Three great successes of the World Heritage Convention are remarkable among its many accomplishments:
  - a) The Convention has been successful in **mobilizing the international community around the importance of protecting cultural and natural heritage** establishing a global and powerful normative base around the ethics of heritage. This has resulted in a lasting impact in opening the way to instruments and concepts complementary to those of the World Heritage Convention;
  - b) Fundamental to World Heritage is the concept of Outstanding Universal Value where the heritage property is of significance far beyond its local and national boundaries. Today, with 195 States Parties, with nearly 90% of the signatory States Parties having at least one property inscribed on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Convention has **fostered a common, shared responsibility** for heritage extending beyond national borders to all of humanity;
  - c) The World Heritage Convention has been able to inspire the development of a **plethora of policies and legal frameworks globally** for the protection of cultural and natural heritage, at the national and international levels. These have helped to raise awareness of the vulnerability of cultural and natural heritage.
26. At the same time, some major challenges to the Convention have emerged that demand all stakeholders to come together to address:
  - a) The **sustainability** of the world's cultural and natural heritage, more particularly, the properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, and the sustainability of the

communities that live in and around them is increasingly under threat from a variety of causes from uncontrolled urbanization to conflicts and related losses. Climate change is today the most consequential threat to the conservation of World Heritage properties including with a rapid increase in climate change-related extreme weather events and disasters. These demand mitigation and adaptation strategies as well as solutions to make the properties more sustainable and resilient enhancing support for the integrated evolution of communities and their environment;

- b) **Access** and inclusion for all at World Heritage properties and placing local communities and indigenous people and their knowledges at the heart of heritage management recognizing them as stakeholders and rightsholders. Ensure accessibility demands continuing scientific and educational work on heritage, in order to broaden and diversify the critical mass of those who understand and preserve it, with particular emphasis on young people. But also to make the best use of the potential of new technologies to allow broad “non-invasive” access to World Heritage properties and more efficient and sustainable management. Ensuring social and economic inclusion is also about finding strategies for heritage conservation that also promote the livelihoods of local communities, including through the use of new technologies. This is especially important in order to engage young people as the new stewards of these properties;
- c) **Geographical representativeness** of the World Heritage List remains a major challenge where 27 States Parties to the Convention still do not have a property inscribed on the World Heritage List. Twelve of these States Parties are in Africa and 15 are SIDS. At the same time, the Europe and North America region alone represents 47% of the properties inscribed. Enhancing geographical representation could only be possible by reinforcing the credibility of World Heritage Convention, based, among other things, on a system, and respect for the highest scientific standards to safeguard heritage properties.

## VI. DRAFT DECISION

### **Draft Decision: 45 COM 13**

*The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Having examined Document WHC/23/45.COM/13,
2. Recalling Decision **44 COM 5A**, adopted at its extended 44th session (Fuzhou/online, 2021) and Resolution **23 GA 9**, adopted by the General Assembly of States Parties at its 23rd session (UNESCO, 2021),
3. Thanks all the States Parties, and organizations, that have carried out more than 65 activities to mark the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention, as well as other partners for related events and publications on the theme “The Next 50: World Heritage as a source of resilience, humanity and innovation”;
4. Expresses appreciation to the Secretariat for the 50th Anniversary Survey that was opened to all stakeholders of the World Heritage Convention and to all those who provided their valuable reflections to this end, and takes note of the Survey’s conclusions;
5. Thanks also the Government of Cameroon for the regional celebration of the 50th Anniversary in Central Africa and takes note of the Yaounde Call for Action and the priorities it has identified for Central Africa in particular;

6. *Thanks furthermore the Government of Greece for the Delphi Conference and requests the Secretariat to follow up on its conclusions and outcomes ;*
7. *Expresses its gratitude to the Government of France and private sector partner, Felissimo, for their financial contributions in the context of the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention;*
8. *Recognizes all who have contributed to the reflections on the 50th Anniversary of the Convention, commending in particular the scientific contribution of experts, and invites States Parties to take note of the key reflections of the 50th Anniversary and enhance their implementation of the World Heritage Convention and the protection of the world's cultural and natural heritage recognizing its enduring and irreplaceable value for furthering sustainable development and for biological and cultural diversity worldwide.*

## ANNEX

### Events to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention November 2021 – May 2023

Note: The table below presents events that were planned by UNESCO as well as activities organized by national authorities, Category 2 Centres, delegations, etc.

Event	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
Series of articles and podcasts by experts with The Conversation media outlet related to the five priority areas of The Next 50	Online	Call launched Nov 2021, publication throughout 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector
Exhibition of the 46 WH sites in Spain and description of the 50th Anniversary of the WH Convention	Paseo del Prado and Buen Retiro, Spain	21 May – 12 June 2022	
50 Minds for the Next 50 – Climate change. Experts debate World Heritage Convention	Online	24 May 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector
Event to celebrate the 10th anniversary of inscription of “Rabat, Modern Capital and Historic City: a Shared Heritage », and the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention.	Rabat, Morocco (with online transmission in 5 regions in Morocco)	25 March 2022	Ministry of Youth, Culture and Communication; Wilaya of Rabat-Sale-Kenitra; UNESCO Office for the Maghreb
Event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention entitled “World Heritage & Creative Economy: when the memory of the past creates the present”.	City of Culture, Tunis (Tunisia)	25 - 27 March 2022	Ministry of Cultural Affairs; UNESCO Office for the Maghreb
Guided tours through the Old Town of Luxembourg and its Fortifications and to the UNESCO Visitor Centre to raise awareness of the historic urban landscape	Luxembourg	29 May 2022	
Launch of the Campaign #partedenuestracultura: The initiative seeks to raise awareness of the value of World Heritage and create awareness through educational content about these sites	Chile	May to December 2022	Regional Bureau of Education for Latin America and the Caribbean (OREALC/ UNESCO Santiago)
WHU5LM: Meeting held to discuss the management of the listed Properties	Municipality of Shahat, Libiya	2 June 2022	WHU5LM
Informative lecture to bring the Convention closer to society	Spain	4 June 2022	Ministry of Culture and Sport
International Conference “50 years of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. Achievements and Challenges in Europe”	Krakow, Poland	5-10 June 2022	International Cultural Centre, ICOMOS Poland and the City of Krakow
50th Anniversary of the WH Convention:Thung Tai – Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary		6-30 June 2022	
50 Minds for the Next 50 – Digital transformation. Experts debate World Heritage Convention	Online	7 June 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector



<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Contact / Responsible entity</b>
The Next 50 dialogue: thematic sessions on climate change, UNESCO Creative Cities network, digital transformation, sustainable tourism, Indigenous Peoples and youth, journalists reporting on culture, Nepal's World Heritage sites	UNESCO Office meeting hall, Kathmandu	10 June – 13 December 2022	UNESCO Kathmandu
Short animated film: “Heritage of Mercury, Almadén and Idrija” for the 10th anniversary of the inscription of “Heritage of mercury, Almadén and Idrija”	Online	10 June – 31 December 2022	Idrija Mercury Heritage management Centre
WHITRAP Shanghai World Heritage Dialogues: World Heritage and Quality of Life	Online	11 June – 16 November 2022	WHITRAP
Event and panel discussion	WH Site: Decorated Farmhouses of Hälsingland Sweden	12-13 June 2022	UNESCO Swedish National Commission
50 Minds for the Next 50 – COVID-19. Experts debate World Heritage Convention	Online	14 June 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector
50 Minds for the Next 50 – Sustainable tourism. Experts debate World Heritage Convention.	Online	20 June 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector
50 Minds for the Next 50 – Balanced representation. Experts debate World Heritage Convention	Online	30 June 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector
Workshop: Plain of Jars Conservation and Sustainable Development	Megalithic Jar Sites, Xiengkhuang, Laos	1 July 2022 - 30 Dec 2023	Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism
Celebrating Queensland's WH Properties	Great Barrier Reef, k'gari, Riversleigh, Gondwana, Wet tropics of Queensland, Australia	4 July 2022 – 2 January 2023	Department Environment and Science of Queensland, Australia
Museum display	National Museum, Eswatini	5 July 2022 – 31 December 2023	Eswatini National Trust Commission
Conference and celebrations: UNESCO World Heritage as a builder of new paths to peace	Portugal	7 July 2022	Bom Jesus sanctuary
Facebook Event: Wright Virtual Visits	Online	14 July 2022	Solomon R.Guggenheim Museum
Presentation: Do we understand what climate change is?	Curonian Spit, Lithuania	20 July 2022	-
Exhibition: “Le Corbusier – Modern Architecture as World Heritage” to promote Le Corbusier works inscribed on	Brasilia, Brazil	22 July 2022	UNESCO Brasilia Office, Suisse Embassy,

<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Contact / Responsible entity</b>
the World Heritage List, as an outstanding contribution to the Modern Movement			Consulate General in Sao Paulo
WHITRAP Shanghai World Heritage Dialogues: Rural Heritage	Online	27 July 2022	WHITRAP
Festival: Singapore Botanic Gardens Heritage Festival- Cultural activities	Singapore Botanic Gardens	30 July – 7 August 2022	Singapore Botanic Gardens
50th anniversary celebration: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir	Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir, Palestine	6-11 August 2022	Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities
Art Exhibition: Anthology 3	Ohrid, North Macedonia	10 August – 10 November 2022	National institution for protection of monuments of culture and museum
50th anniversary of the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage: A special celebration in the context of the 9th Brazilian Meeting of Historic, Tourist, and World Heritage Cities	Diamantina, Brazil	11 – 13 August 2022	Organization of Brazilian World Heritage Cities (OCBPM), the Municipality of Diamantina, in partnership with UNESCO.
First meeting of Riversleigh World Heritage Advisory Committee	Australia	16 August 2022	Riversleigh World Heritage Advisory Committee
WHITRAP Shanghai World Heritage Dialogues: Digital Tools for Heritage	Online	17 August 2022	WHITRAP
WHIPIC: Lecture and Webinar series – Bridging the Gap: 50 Years of the World Heritage Convention	Online	25 August – 03 November 2022	WHIPIC (UNESCO CC in the ROK)
Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention	Trang An Landscape complex, Viet Nam	6 September 2022	Vietnamese government (with the DG presence)
The Next 50: World heritage, a source of resilience, humanity and innovation in the Galapagos	Galápagos Islands, Ecuador	7-8 September 2022	Parque Nacional Galápagos
20 years of research, preserving and promoting the values of the World Cultural Heritage Imperial Citadel of Thang Long – Ha Noi” at the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention	Thang Long Citadel World Heritage site, Hanoi (Viet Nam)	7-9 September 2022	Vietnamese government
WHITRAP Shanghai World Heritage Dialogues: Climate Change and Resilience	Online	14 September 2022	WHITRAP

<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Contact / Responsible entity</b>
The Heritage Night: Live streams, cultural activities and workshops	Spain/Online	17 September 2022	Spanish World Heritage Cities Group
Art exhibition at the occasion of the European Heritage Days	UNESCO Headquarters	17-18 September 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector
World Heritage Convention and its Contribution to the Development of Environmental Impact Assessments	Sweden	20 September 2022	Swedish National Commission for UNESCO
World Heritage Leadership Forum 2022: Future of Capacity Building for our shared World Heritage. 50th anniversary initiative of the World Heritage Convention	Bergen, Norway	21 September 2022	ICCROM AND IUCN
Mountain Community dialogue	Sagarmatha, Nepal	September 2022	UNESCO Office in Kathmandu, Culture Sector, Himalayan Climate Initiative
'World Heritage Days, including exhibition and open week  My Heritage' (Arab Youth for Heritage) Video competition for young people 18 to 28 years old	ARC-WH, Bahrain  Online and at ARC-WH, Bahrain	25-29 September 2022  Winners announced September 2022	(ARC-WH) Category 2 Centre - Bahrain
50th anniversary Meeting for World Heritage site managers in Spain	Archaeological Ensemble of Merida, Spain	28 September 2022	-
Symposium: Community Engagement on World Heritage and Youth Empowerment	Albreda, Kunta Kinteh Island, Gambia	29 September – 6 October 2022	-
UNESCO 50th Anniversary Photo exhibition - 100 World Heritage sites	UNESCO Headquarters	September to November 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector and the Division for Communications and Public Engagement
Concert with opera singer Joyce DiDonato at the Sanctuary of Isis at Philae, World Heritage site	Aswan, Egypt	2 October 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector and Ministry of Tourism and Antiquity, Egypt
World Heritage UK annual conference: celebrating 50 years of the Convention and looking forward	Jodrell Bank Observatory, UK World Heritage site	3-4 October 2022	World Heritage UK
1st International Meeting on Urban Cultural Landscapes and World Heritage. Cityscapes: Places of Memory, Opportunities for the Future	Madrid, Spain	3-7 October 2022	Ayuntamiento de Madrid
Partners Forum of the Slovak Commission for UNESCO dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention	Slovakia	6 October 2022	UNESCO Slovak Commission
18th International Meeting on Management of Heritage Cities celebrates	La Antigua Guatemala	6-29 October 2022	National Council for the Protection of La Antigua Guatemala, Sociocultural

<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Contact / Responsible entity</b>
the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention			Commission of the colonial city
Scientific Conference on the Key Issues of the World Heritage Management	Historic Centre of Sheki with the Khan's Palace, Azerbaijan	7-8 October 2022	State Tourism Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan
Symposium: 50 years of the World Heritage Convention - what future for World Heritage in France?	Louvre-Lens: Nord-Pas-de-Calais mining basin, France	10-11 October 2022	French Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion
Exhibition: Bethlehem Reborn. The Wonders of the Nativity	UNESCO Headquarters	10-28 October 2022	UNESCO Permanent Delegation of Palestine
WHITRAP Shanghai World Heritage Dialogues: Large-scale World Heritage Properties	Online	12 October 2022	WHITRAP
Heritage documentation training workshop	Hebron/Al-Khalil Old Town, Palestine	16 – 20 October 2022	Palestine
Sub-regional celebration of the 50th anniversary of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention in Central Africa	Yaoundé, Cameroon	17-19 October 2022	UNESCO Yaoundé, Ministry of Arts and Culture, African World Heritage Fund
Celebratory event for the 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention and the 30th anniversary of its ratification by Austria	Baden bei Wien, Austria	20 October 2022	Austrian Commission for UNESCO
International Symposium: 20th Century World Heritage: Management and Impact Assessment of Zrchitectural Heritage	City Museum of Ljublana, Slovenia	20 October 2022	City Museum of Ljublana in Slovenia
Conference by the Director of World Heritage at the University of Yaoundé II - Soa on the theme: "World Heritage: future perspectives in Africa".	Yaoundé, Cameroon	20 October 2022	UNESCO World Heritage Centre and UNESCO Yaoundé
Conference in Delphi – climate change and sustainable tourism	Delphi, Greece	24-25 October 2022	Ministry of Culture and Sports, Greece
Educational Activities to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Ban Chiang WH and the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention	Ban Chiang Archaeological site, Thailand		Ban Chiang National Museum, Fine Arts Department
Babylon International Festival	Babylon, Iraq	28 October - 01 November 2022	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities
Photographic exhibition: Close/far- a journey of discovery exploring the Cultural and Natural Heritage of Immigration in Italy	Palazzo delle Esposizioni, four public libraries Rome, Italy	28 October – 27 November 2022	UNESCO Italian National Commission, Institute for Mediterranean Studies of the National Council of Research

<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Contact / Responsible entity</b>
Conference entitled "World Heritage Convention (1972-2022): 50 years of World Heritage through 50 World Heritage Sites". We did that in Tunis (October 2022), Tetouan (January 2023) and Oran (February 2023).	Tunis, Tunisia Tetouan, Morocco Oran, Algeria	October 2022 January 2023 February 2023	UNESCO Office for the Maghreb
Annual Symposium dedicated to the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention	Røros, Norway	1-2 November 2022	Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage
WHITRAP Shanghai World Heritage Dialogues: Culture Nature	Online	2 November 2022	WHITRAP
Conference: 50 Years World Heritage Convention: Times of Peace, Conflict and War	Federal Foreign Office, Berlin Online	4 November 2022	Internationale Akademie Berlin Institute Heritage Studies and Federal Foreign Office of Germany
Sub-regional celebration: the next 50 years - World Heritage as a source of resilience, humanity and innovation	Saint-Louis, Senegal	9-10 November 2022	UNESCO Dakar, Ministry of Culture and Historical Heritage, African World Heritage Fund
International Symposium – on Cultural Heritage x Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific Region - Milestones and Opportunities	Beijing, China Online	15 November 2022	UNESCO, Asian Academy for Heritage Management Secretariat at Southeast University, Beijing Cultural Relics Protection Association
International Conference "World Heritage and Urban-Rural Sustainable Development: Resilience and Innovation"	Online	15-16 November 2022	College of Architecture and Urban Planning of Tongji University, WHITRAP, Academic Committee for Conservation Planning of Famous Historical and Cultural City – Urban Planning Society of China, ICOMOS China
Publication about WH sites in Montenegro	Montenegro	16 November 2022	Ministry of Culture and Media of Montenegro
International Heritage Day	Madrid, Spain	16 November 2022	Association for the Diffusion and Promotion of Spanish World Heritage (ADIPROPE)
Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage: International Cultural Forum on the Maritime Silk Road	Macao, China Online	16-17 November 2022	National Cultural Heritage Administration, Secretariat for Social Affairs and Culture of the Macao SAR government
18th International Meeting on Management of Heritage Cities celebrates 50th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention	Cuba	16-18 November 2022	UNESCO Regional Office for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean

<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Contact / Responsible entity</b>
Conference in Delphi	Delphi, Greece	17-18 November 2022	Ministry of Culture and Sports, Greece
Exhibition at the gates on the World Heritage List of Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic	Havana, Cuba	18 November - present	UNESCO Regional Office for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean
Open Day at the UNESCO office from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.	UNESCO office headquarters in Havana, Cuba	19 November 2022	UNESCO Regional Office for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean
Festival to celebrate Central America Word Heritage	San José, Costa Rica	19-20 November 2022	National Museum of Costa Rica
Photo exhibition entitled 50 Years of World Heritage Convention – Protecting the Past for Now and Future	Jordan Museum, Amman, Jordan	21 November 2022	UNESCO Jordan and the Department of Antiquities, and in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and collaboration with Darat At Taswer.
International Online Workshop on Disaster Risk Management at World Heritage Sites	Chile, Online	22 November 2022	Lucio Costa Center
Conference: 'Alliance for Common Amazigh Heritage'	Gran Canaria, Spain	22-25 November 2022	Spanish Ministry of Culture and Sport and Cabildo de Gran Canaria
The Next 50 dialogue: session on the World Heritage site of Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha	Lumbini, the Birthplace of Lord Buddha, a Cultural World Heritage Site in Nepal	23-24 November 2022	UNESCO Kathmandu
Webinar: The Warsaw Recommendation – Introduction to Heritage Recovery	Online	24 November 2022	UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, ICCROM
Event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the convention, the works "Reposición de la cubierta de la Planta de Lixiviación de Santa Laura" and "Restauración de fachadas y cubiertas de la Escuela Coeducacional N. 35 de Humberstone" were inaugurated. In addition to a concert hosted by the "Fundacion de Orquestras Juveniles e Infantiles" of Chile FOJI	Chile, Humberstone and Santa Lau	25 November 2022	
World Heritage Creative Innovator Forum: Exhibition, conferences, trainings...	Online/Offline: China	27 November 2022	-
High-level Conference dedicated to 'Balanced Representation of the Inscribed Sites' concluding the Next 50 programme	Cape Town, South Africa	December 2022	UNESCO Culture Sector, Ministry of Environment,

Event	Venue	Dates	Contact / Responsible entity
			Forestry and Fishery, South Africa
International Forum for the 50th anniversary of the Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage	Saint Petersburg and Kazan, Russian Federation	1-9 December 2022	Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO
Séminaire « 50 ans de Convention sur le patrimoine mondial culturel et naturel : quel avenir et quels enjeux pour les sites québécois et canadiens ? »	Université Laval, Canada	6 December 2023	Université Laval, Québec, Canada
Celebration of K'gari (Fraser Island) 30th anniversary of being World Heritage Listed	Kingfisher Bay Resort on K'gari (Fraser Island), Australia	7 December 2022	-
Conference on mentoring and World Heritage: Empowering African Heritage professionals and improving gender equality	United Republic of Tanzania	12-14 December 2022	Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism of Tanzania, African World Heritage Fund
WHITRAP Global awards for World Heritage Education Innovative Cases	-	13 December 2022	WHITRAP
Palestine and World Heritage: Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of UNESCO's World Heritage Convention.'	Bethlehem, Palestine	15 December 2022 – 31 January 2023	UNESCO Office in Ramallah (sponsorship of the Bank of Palestine)
Photographic exhibition of Marcel Gautherot	UNESCO headquarters, Paris, France	16 December 2022	UNESCO Permanent Delegation of Brazil
Six sessions Seminar to promote Heritage Impact Assessment in Southeast Asia: Three Decades of Ayutthaya World Heritage: Values, Challenges and Impact	Online	21-22 December 2022	Ayutthaya Historical Park
Live broadcast from a World Heritage site in China with Phoenix TV	Quanzhou World Heritage Site, China	June 2023	Phoenix Satellite Television and UNESCO Beijing Office
Forum on the 50th Anniversary of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	China	January 2023	National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO, the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, the National Cultural Heritage Administration, Tsinghua University
'Bringing Stonehenge to Paris' to celebrate 50 years of the World Heritage Convention, including panel discussions and case studies	UK Embassy, Paris, France	6-8 February 2023	Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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Sub-Regional Conference on World Heritage. The Next 50: Ways Forward for South Asia World Heritage	Bhopal, Madya Pradesh, India	17-18 April 2023	UNESCO New Delhi Multisectoral Regional Office, State Government of Madhya Pradesh of India