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World Heritage Convention

24 GA

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

**TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION
OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

Paris, UNESCO Headquarters
22-23 November 2023

Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly
of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention
at its 24th session (UNESCO, 2023)

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1A. Opening of the General Assembly

No Resolution.

1B. Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur of the General Assembly

Resolution: 24 GA 1B

The General Assembly,

1. Elects **H.E. Ms Paula ALVES DE SOUZA (Brazil)**, as Chairperson of the 24th session of the General Assembly;
2. Elects **Ms Uyanga SUKHBAATAR (Mongolia)**, as Rapporteur of the 24th session of the General Assembly;
3. Elects **Iraq, Norway, Poland and Rwanda** as Vice-Chairpersons of the 24th session of the General Assembly.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OF THE TIMETABLE OF THE 24TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2A. Adoption of the Agenda of the 24th session of the General Assembly

Resolution: 24 GA 2A

The General Assembly,

1. Having examined Document WHC/23/24.GA/2A,
2. Adopts the Agenda included in the above.

2B. Adoption of the Timetable of the 24th session of the General Assembly

Resolution: 24 GA 2B

The General Assembly,

1. Having examined Document WHC/23/24.GA/2B,
2. Adopts the timetable of the 24th session included in the above-mentioned Document.

3. REPORT OF THE RAPPOREUR OF THE 23RD SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNESCO, 2021)

Resolution: 24 GA 3

The General Assembly,

1. Takes note of the report of the Rapporteur of the 23rd session of the General Assembly (UNESCO, 2021).

4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Resolution: 24 GA 4

The General Assembly,

1. Takes note of the report of the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee on the activities of the World Heritage Committee.

5. ELECTIONS TO THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Resolution: 24 GA 5

The General Assembly,

1. Elects the following 9 States Parties: **Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Türkiye, Ukraine and Viet Nam**, as members of the World Heritage Committee.

6. EXAMINATION OF THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND, INCLUDING THE STATUS OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF STATES PARTIES

Resolution: 24 GA 6

The General Assembly,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/23/24.GA/6 and WHC/23/24.GA/INF.6,
2. Having also examined the accounts of the World Heritage Fund for the financial period ended 31 December 2021,
3. Approves the accounts of the World Heritage Fund for the financial period ended 31 December 2021;
4. Takes note of the financial report relating to the World Heritage Fund for the period 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2023.

7. DETERMINATION OF THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 16 OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

Resolution: 24 GA 7

The General Assembly,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/23/24.GA/7 and WHC/23/24.GA/INF.7,
2. Recalling Article 16 of the World Heritage Convention,
3. Decides to set the uniform percentage for the calculation of the amount of the contributions to be paid to the World Heritage Fund by States Parties at 1% of each State's contribution to the regular budget of UNESCO for an indeterminate period of time, with the understanding that this percentage can be revised in the future;
4. Emphasizing the urgency of securing adequate financial resources to achieve the objectives of the World Heritage Convention to identify and conserve the world's cultural and natural heritage of Outstanding Universal Value, in particular in light of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and the unprecedented threats such as climate change, natural disasters, and deliberate attacks on cultural heritage in territories affected by armed conflicts and terrorism,
5. Notes the status of assessed compulsory and voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund as presented in Document WHC/23/24.GA/INF.7;
6. Recalls, in this regard, that the payment of assessed contributions to the World Heritage Fund is a legally binding obligation incumbent on all States Parties which have ratified the Convention;
7. Reiterates the plea of the World Heritage Committee to States Parties to the Convention to pay their annual contributions by 31 January wherever possible in order to facilitate the timely implementation of the activities financed by the World Heritage Fund;
8. Invites States Parties to provide supplementary voluntary contributions to the various sub-accounts of the World Heritage Fund, especially to the one dedicated to human resources of the Secretariat and to the one dedicated to the evaluation of nominations.

8. UPDATING OF THE POLICY DOCUMENT ON CLIMATE ACTION FOR WORLD HERITAGE

Resolution: 24 GA 8

The General Assembly,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/23/24.GA/8 and WHC/23/24.GA/INF.8,
2. Recalling Resolution **23 GA 11**, adopted at its 23rd session (UNESCO, 2021),
3. Also recalling Decisions **40 COM 7**, **41 COM 7**, **42 COM 7**, **43 COM 7.2**, **44 COM 7C** and **45 COM 7.1**, adopted respectively at the 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), 41st (Krakow, 2017), 42nd (Manama, 2018), 43rd (Baku, 2019), extended 44th (Fuzhou/online, 2021) and extended 45th (Riyadh, 2023) sessions of the World Heritage Committee,
4. Thanking H.E. Ms Yvette Sylla (Madagascar) as elected Chairperson of the Open-ended Working Group established by the General Assembly at its 23rd session (UNESCO, 2021), Ms Carolina Diaz Acosta (Colombia) for her remarkable leadership in

chairing meetings of the Open-ended Working Group, Australia, Colombia, Lebanon and Poland as Vice-Chairpersons, Ms Barbara Engels (Germany) as Rapporteur, and all members of the Working Group for the work accomplished,

5. Also thanking the States Parties of Australia, Azerbaijan and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for their generous financial support to the updating process of the 2007 "Policy Document on the impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage properties", and expressing its gratitude to all stakeholders of the World Heritage Convention who contributed to this process,
6. Noting the rich debates that took place during the eight meetings of the Open-ended Working Group established by the General Assembly at its 23rd session (UNESCO, 2021) with the mandate to review and develop its final version taking into account Decision **44 COM 7C**, as well as proposals for its effective implementation,
7. Emphasizing that, consistent with Article 18 of the 2017 UNESCO Declaration of Ethical Principles in relation to Climate Change, nothing in this non-binding Policy Document should be understood as an interpretation of any of the principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and of the Paris Agreement adopted under it,
8. Adopts the 2023 "Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage", as recommended by consensus by the Open-ended Working Group and contained in Document WHC/23/24.GA/INF.8;
9. Encourages the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and World Heritage-related Category 2 Centres to disseminate widely the "Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage" through appropriate means to the World Heritage community and the broader public, including in local languages, and to promote its implementation;
10. Recalls the World Heritage Committee's requests, regarding the implementation of the Policy Document, addressed to the World Heritage Centre jointly with the Advisory Bodies, and within the available resources, to:
 - a) Elaborate proposals for specific changes to the Operational Guidelines necessary to translate the principles of this Policy Document into actual operational procedures, and to develop education and capacity-building initiatives to enable a wide implementation of this Policy Document,
 - b) Consider preparing a Guidance Document to facilitate effective implementation of, and support for, the actions, goals and targets of this Policy Document, which could include indicators and benchmarking tools for measuring and reporting progress towards achieving the World Heritage Climate Action Goals,provided the above be undertaken in consultation with States Parties;
11. Calls on States Parties to support the above-mentioned activities through extrabudgetary funding;
12. Recommends that States Parties and all stakeholders of the Convention integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation actions in risk preparedness policies and action plans, in order to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of all World Heritage properties, in line with the "Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage";
13. Also recommends that World Heritage-related Category 2 Centres and UNESCO Chairs prioritize issues related to the implementation of the "Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage" within their capacity-building and research initiatives;
14. Requests the World Heritage Centre to present to the General Assembly, at its 26th session, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the Policy Document and the above provisions.

9. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

Resolution: 24 GA 9

The General Assembly,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/23/24.GA/9 and WHC/23/24.GA/INF.9 and WHC/23/24.GA/INF.9.Add,
2. Recalling **41C/Resolution 74**, adopted by the UNESCO General Conference at its 41st session in 2021,
3. Commends the efforts of the UNESCO Culture Sector and the Office of International Standards and Legal Affairs to establish the Model Rules of Procedure, and thanks the Secretariat of the 1972 Convention for having explored possible ways to harmonize the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly on that basis;
4. Adopts the amendments to the Rules of Procedure as foreseen in Document WHC/23/24.GA/INF.9.Add, as amended.

10. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

No Resolution.