

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

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

**Forty-sixth session
New Delhi, India
21-31 July 2024**

**Item 5B of the Provisional Agenda:
Report of the Advisory Bodies**

Summary

This document contains the brief summary reports of the Advisory Bodies on their activities since the extended 45th session of the World Heritage Committee, as follows: Part I. ICCROM; Part II. ICOMOS and Part III. IUCN.

It should be noted that a revised synthetic structure of this Document is proposed in order to reflect more clearly both the activities undertaken under the advisory services contracts established under the World Heritage Fund, under other contracts established by the World Heritage Centre and undertaken under other funding sources. This structure has been discussed between the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and also takes into account all the work undertaken by the Advisory Bodies in the framework of their contracts, including tasks performed under unfunded mandates.

Draft Decision: 46 COM 5B, see part IV

I. REPORT BY ICCROM

A. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

1. This report outlines the key areas of ICCROM's work on the World Heritage Convention for the period from September 2023 to March 2024.
2. As the Advisory Body on capacity building ICCROM works in close collaboration with UNESCO, IUCN, ICOMOS and all partner organisations to deliver quality content and support for conservation and management of World Heritage. ICCROM provides support to the World Heritage Committee through its Advisory Services and through its various programmes, in particular through World Heritage Leadership (WHL) delivered jointly with IUCN, Sustainability and Built Heritage (SBH), Architectural Archaeological Tangible Heritage in the Arab Region (ATHAR), Youth Heritage Africa (YHA), and First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis (FAR).
3. ICCROM thanks all the States Parties and partners for their commitment and dedication in supporting the organization and implementation of capacity building activities at site, national, regional and international levels promoting healthy opportunities for exchange and growth. The work financed by the World Heritage Fund is presented first, followed by the extrabudgetary work carried out by ICCROM for World Heritage.

B. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES THAT RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND

4. Activities undertaken in support of World Heritage include participation in statutory meetings of the Convention, as well as *ad hoc* meetings and workings groups.
5. During this period, ICCROM support to the Committee has been provided principally by Joseph King (Senior Director, until December 2023), Valerie Magar (Unit Manager, Programmes Unit), Hirofumi Ikawa (Project Manager, Programmes Unit, until October 2023), Eugene Jo (Programme Manager, World Heritage Leadership), Rohit Jigyasu (Project Manager, Programmes Unit), Espéra Donouvossi (Project Manager, Programmes Unit), Nicole Franceschini (Programme Officer, WHL), Yusuke Ejima (Project Manager, Programmes Unit, since November 2023), Elena Incerti Medici (Senior Assistant, Programmes Unit), and Elisa Ortiz (Assistant, Programmes Unit) with collaboration from other ICCROM staff, all under the direction of ICCROM Director-General, Webber Nodoro (until December 2023) and ICCROM Director-General Aruna Francesca Maria Gujral (2024). Members of the ICCROM network have also contributed to support these activities.

World Heritage Committee meeting and General Assembly

6. ICCROM participated in the extended 45th session of the World Heritage Committee held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, represented by Webber Nodoro, Joseph King, Valerie Magar, Eugene Jo, Hirofumi Ikawa, Nicole Franceschini, Elena Incerti Medici and Anna Zeichner. ICCROM assisted in the preparation of several working documents for the session.
7. As the joint organizer of the World Heritage Site Managers' Forum, ICCROM collaborated closely with UNESCO and the Host country in preparing and implementing the 5th edition of the World Heritage Site Managers' Forum in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia held in conjunction to the extended 45th session.
8. ICCROM continues to coordinate the operation and management of the Advisory Bodies space as an active side event venue to promote exchange and networking functions during the Committee sessions. During the extended 45th session, ICCROM organized

and implemented four side events primarily on capacity building (Enhancing our Heritage Toolkit 2.0 (EOH 2.0), Guidance and Toolkit on Impact Assessment, Capacity Building activities with Category 2 Centres, and the Heritage Place Lab activity) and contributed to numerous partner organizations' side events held during the Committee session.

9. ICCROM participated in the 24th session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention at UNESCO and the 19th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee held in November 2023. ICCROM-IUCN organized a side event during the General Assembly to launch the publication of the World Heritage Resource Manual on EOH 2.0 with support from the government of Switzerland.

Monitoring the state of conservation

10. ICCROM continues to contribute to the monitoring of the state of conservation of World Heritage properties, contributing to the discussions, drafting and reviewing of state of conservation reports of cultural and mixed properties, in collaboration with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and IUCN.
11. ICCROM has also worked with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and the State Party in meetings organized on an *ad hoc* basis regarding the state of conservation of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (United Republic of Tanzania). ICCROM is also a member of the International Advisory Committee for the World Heritage Properties of Uzbekistan. Since the extended 45th session in September 2023, ICCROM participated in the joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring missions to Vat Phou and the associated ancient settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape (Laos).
12. ICCROM took part in drafting one conservation report for the World Heritage property Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications (Sri Lanka) and reviewing other drafts state of conservation reports for review by the Committee at its 46th session.

International Assistance

13. ICCROM reviewed and provided advise on International Assistance requests for cultural and mixed sites that were submitted for consideration in 2023 and 2024, including the International Emergency Assistance requests and participated in the online panels organized by the World Heritage Centre, with ICOMOS and IUCN.
14. ICCROM collaborated with UNESCO and ICOMOS in the coordination and delivery of capacity building projects supported by the International Assistance, in particular for Apravasi Ghat (Mauritius) utilizing the WHL capacity building course curriculum on management and impact assessment.

Periodic Reporting

15. ICCROM continues to contribute to the Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting process participating in the meetings and assisting in the preparation of the Action Plans and mid-term progress reviews, in cooperation with the regional units of the World Heritage Centre and the other Advisory Bodies.
16. The actions included in the Periodic Reporting Action Plans allow for deeper understanding on the capacity building needs of the different regions, that contribute in developing ICCROM programme activities for capacity building.

Revision of the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy (WHCBS)

17. Together with the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM followed up with the coordination of the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy, following the conclusion of the results-based evaluation conducted in 2022-2023 and reported to the extended 45th session.

18. Although there has not been any extrabudgetary commitment received to date to be able to fully revise the WHCBS, ICCROM has been working together with the World Heritage Centre on extracting the capacity building needs and actions from the Third cycle of Periodic Reporting exercise throughout the different regions and identifying the priority areas and content needed for drafting the revised WHCBS. More detailed information about the WHCBS can be found in Document WHC/24/46.COM/6A.

Technical meetings

19. ICCROM has taken part in various and numerous technical meetings for World Heritage that include the meetings of the Open-ended Working Group of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, Open-ended Working Group on World Heritage and Climate Change, bi-annual working meetings between the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, meetings called by the various programmes coordinated by the World Heritage Centre, as well as the World Heritage Review Editorial Board meetings.
20. ICCROM also participated in meetings of the Expert Drafting Group on the Reform of the World Heritage Nomination Process.

C. SUMMARY OF OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN SUPPORT OF WORLD HERITAGE

ICCROM – IUCN World Heritage Leadership Programme (WHL)

21. The WHL Programme aims to build the skills of practitioners working through the World Heritage Convention and considers the full range of conservation practices, so that 'World Heritage' can provide leadership to achieve innovation and excellence within the conservation sector. It integrates nature and culture from the outset, focusing on areas where World Heritage has the most compelling potential to address pressing challenges, such as climate change and impacts from development.
22. The Programme is a partnership between ICCROM and IUCN, working in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS, and is supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment, the Cultural Heritage Administration of the Republic of Korea (CHA), the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water of the Australian Government. Detailed information on the implementation of the WHL Programme can be found in ICCROM's website at the following address: <https://www.iccrom.org/programmes/world-heritage-leadership-whl> and in Document WHC/24/46.COM/6A.
23. Within the module **Effective Management**, the World Heritage Management: People Nature Culture course (PNC) was delivered in both online and in-person modalities. An in-person PNC23 course was held in Al-Ahsa Oasis, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 14-22 October 2023. The first Training of Trainers course for the management course (PNC ToT) was held in George Town, Malaysia during 2-7 October 2023. The ToT courses select participants or resource people from online courses to advance their knowledge on how to design, coordinate and implement capacity building courses in the future. Participants who have completed the ToT activities are actively engaged in various capacity building activities but also in World Heritage processes such as Reactive Monitoring missions, Advisory missions or as experts for Periodic Reporting meetings.
24. With the publication of the EOH 2.0 in November 2023, workshops on the application of the toolkit have been implemented. An EOH Latin America and the Caribbean activity was developed together with the Latin America and the Caribbean Unit of the World Heritage Centre and the Regional Institute for World Heritage in Zacatecas (IRPMZ) that was implemented from July to December 2023. Site management teams were asked to apply as teams, with two or more members committing to go through the basic management course and the site-specific mentoring sessions, where the Prehistoric

Caves of Yagul and Mitla in the Central Valley of Oaxaca (Mexico), Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System (Peru), Colonial City of Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) were selected and completed the activity. With the support of the National Cultural Heritage Administration of China and the China Academy of Cultural Heritage (CACH), the course on Improving Management Effectiveness of World Heritage Properties (EOH) took place in Beijing, China from 5 to 16 November 2023.

25. Within the module of **Impact Assessment**, an in-person Impact Assessment course for the Arab States Region was implemented together with the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) from 27 to 29 November 2023.
26. In the module of **Resilience**, ICCROM continues to collaborate with Ritsumeikan University in the annual International Training course on Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage (18 August - 24 September 2023).
27. For the **Learning Networks** module WHL participated in numerous site managers meetings and conferences in Germany, Italy, Spain and Ecuador. The programme content was shared and delivered in various occasions through sessions or side events such as the ICOMOS GA in Sydney, Australia 1-9 September 2023, during the extended 45th session in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the ICCROM member states meeting and General Assembly in November 2023.
28. The 5th edition of the World Heritage Site Managers Forum was convened online on 19 June, 4 July, 13 July and in-person in Riyadh from 10-15 September in conjunction with the extended 45th session.

C2C collaborations

29. ICCROM has been actively collaborating with the Category 2 Centres on World Heritage, being engaged in the Governing Board meetings of ARC-WH, the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), Lucio Costa, IRPMZ and WHIPIC. The content of the WHL and other courses are effectively delivered through the regional activities undertaken in collaboration with the Category 2 Centres.

Participatory Approaches and governance

30. On 17-19 January 2024, ICCROM participated in the International expert workshop on recognizing and respecting Indigenous Peoples' heritage values in World Heritage sites convened by the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on World Heritage (IIPFWH) in Geneva, Switzerland, together with UNESCO and the Advisory Bodies. ICCROM stays committed to the importance of inclusive and just participation of rights-holders and stakeholders to heritage conservation and management. These aspects are also reflected in the revisions of the World Heritage Resource Manual series.
31. On 19-21 March 2024, ICCROM, ICOMOS and the Critical Global Studies Institute of Sogang University organized an international conference on Participatory Approaches to World Heritage in Seoul, Korea with support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Korea. The conference discussed more practical and sustainable ways of ensuring broader participation in the working methodologies of the World Heritage Convention.

Climate Change

32. In 2023 the Australian Government generously provided financial support to develop a Climate Action Toolkit for World Heritage (CAT) to be jointly delivered by all the statutory bodies of the Convention, to be coordinated through the WHL Programme. A dedicated joint team spanning across UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOMOS and IUCN was organized and mobilised with experts on Climate/Cultural Heritage, Climate/Indigenous and local knowledge, Climate/Natural Heritage and World Heritage management. The objective of the CAT project is to develop a practical and site-level applicable set of tools that will

assist site managers and management offices to design and implement appropriate climate actions. A scoping study was conducted during the second half of 2023 focused on collecting and analysing existing toolkits and guidance materials available globally, so that the prospective toolkit would be able to take on board already verified and tested methods for both cultural and natural heritage. A series of online Stocktaking and Planning workshops were conducted in February 2024 to gather case studies of existing toolkits and practices at a global level which will be reflected into the development of the Toolkit. The content of the toolkit will be drafted throughout 2024, in alignment with the upcoming revised Disaster Risk Management Manual.

33. In 2023, through the YHA programme, ICCROM initiated a capacity-building for Youth in Climate Action for World Heritage Conservation in close collaboration with AWHF and financial support from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Saudi Arabia Ministry of Youth and Culture. The activity aims to empower the youth and enhance cross-cultural dialogue and collaboration among African youth to find solutions and take collective climate action towards conservation and protection of World Heritage properties in Africa against climate change. Four youth-led projects received technical and financial support from ICCROM to be implemented in Seychelles, Ghana, Nigeria and Rwanda. A publication containing 20 Youth climate ideas will be published towards the end of 2024.

Economic Growth and Entrepreneurship

34. In collaboration with ICCROM heritage hubs in Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa and Egypt and in close collaboration with *Fondazione Scuola dei beni e delle attività culturali*, a series of training activities have been initiated to strengthen the capacity of local communities, youth and site managers in identifying and designing innovative ideas for sustainable businesses to promote heritage related small and medium size enterprises. The aim is to promote entrepreneurship in the cultural heritage sector by equipping participants with the skills and tools necessary to design business plans and manage cultural enterprises sustainably. The different business ideas and plans are directed to strengthen communities and stakeholders to enable sustainable livelihoods in and around World Heritage properties in Africa.

Support for Ukraine in Culture and Education

35. Since February 2023, ICCROM, through its First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis (FAR) Programme, has participated in the joint UNESCO/ICCROM/ICOMOS project for Ukraine, supported by the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust. The project, implemented in close collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine (MoCIP) aims to train heritage professionals on risk reduction, emergency response, first aid and risk management. The projects have also included the development of a unified methodology (available in English and Ukrainian) for damage and risk assessment, which has been applied in Kiev, Odesa and Cherniv. As part of the project ICCROM is working in the development of guidelines/procedures for risk reduction, emergency preparedness and first aid focusing on World Heritage Sites which will be available in English and Ukrainian.

Publications

36. The EOH 2.0 Assessing Management Effectiveness of World Heritage Properties and Other Heritage Places was published on 21 November 2023 as a joint result of UNESCO, ICOMOS, IUCN and ICCROM. Coordinated by the WHL Programme and supported by the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment, EOH 2.0 offers a World Heritage-specific methodology of management effectiveness assessment that can be applied to cultural, natural and mixed sites. A management effectiveness assessment is the evaluation of how well a World Heritage property is being managed: primarily on the

extent to which the heritage values of the property are being maintained and management objectives are being achieved. The Toolkit supports site managers in identifying ways to improve conservation practices, management processes and resource allocation, particularly if used before reviewing or updating management plans.

37. The ongoing revision of the Management Manual is in its final stages. All the different chapters of the management manual have been reviewed and rewritten multiple times to take into account the content of EOH 2.0, so that the two resources fully mirror one another.
38. The Disaster Risk Management Manual is also undergoing revision and will be aligned with the forthcoming Climate Action Toolkit.
39. In late 2024, WHL will commence its work on developing the guidance for Strategic Environmental Assessment for World Heritage.

Advisory Assistance and wider collaborations (Site Managers, Category 2 Centres)

40. Since the extended 45th session in September 2023, ICCROM took part in the Advisory missions to Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (China), Derwent Valley Mills (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria).

D. CONCLUSIONS

41. In addition to its direct activities with the World Heritage Convention, as an Advisory Body, ICCROM continued to strengthen the implementation of the Convention through its various programmes, particularly the World Heritage Leadership Programme (WHL), but also its Youth Heritage Africa programme (YHA), its Programme on First Aid and Resilience in Times of Crisis (FAR), its ATHAR Programme, and its prospective activities on Sustainable Built Heritage (SBH).
42. More detailed information on capacity-building activities can be found in Document WHC/24/46.COM/6A.

II. REPORT BY ICOMOS

A. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

43. ICOMOS reaffirms its commitment to serve the World Heritage Committee and to assist it to address the challenges that the World Heritage Convention is facing.
44. As in the past, ICOMOS has worked in the spirit of collaboration that must prevail between the Advisory Bodies, UNESCO and the States Parties, and acknowledges the value of the work that is carried out conjointly with ICCROM, IUCN and the other partner organisations. ICOMOS support to the Committee has been provided by its two World Heritage Units (Evaluation Unit and Monitoring and Advisory Unit) with the huge support of its network of 12,000 experts that is mostly provided on a voluntary basis.
45. ICOMOS thanks the States Parties for their confidence in its work and for the quality of exchanges throughout the year. We present below first the work that is financed by the Heritage Fund and then the rest of the ICOMOS work for World Heritage.

B. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES THAT RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND

World Heritage Committee meetings, General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention

46. ICOMOS was represented at the extended 45th session of the World Heritage Committee (Riyad, 2023) by a solid delegation. The Advisory Body assisted in the preparation of several working documents for the Committee with the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM and IUCN.
47. ICOMOS presented its work on the evaluation of nominations of cultural and mixed properties, on the Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and on the monitoring of the state of conservation of properties. It also contributed to discussions on other items on the agenda: the revision of the Operational Guidelines, Sustainable development and Periodic Reporting. ICOMOS participated also in the General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention (UNESCO, 22-23 November 2023) and the 19th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee (UNESCO, 23 November 2023).

Nomination proposals to the World Heritage List and Preliminary Assessments

48. For the 2024 cycle, ICOMOS evaluated 24 nominations to the World Heritage List, 12 minor modifications/creation of buffer zones and 11 provisional Statements of OUV.
49. Since 2023, an important change has been introduced in the ICOMOS evaluation procedure to ensure a more geographically-balanced representation of its World Heritage Panel members. The Panel of the 2023/2024 cycle was composed by approximately 20% of members from each of the five regions. Moreover, in the framework of partnerships between ICOMOS and respectively the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) and the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), five ICOMOS African and Arab experts received funding to participate in person to November 2023 Panel meeting. ICOMOS hopes these fruitful collaborations will continue in order to maintain a balanced regional representation in accordance with the standards of the ICOMOS evaluation procedure.
50. As follow up of the collaboration of the AWHF and ICOMOS, three experts coming from the Capacity Building Workshop held in South Africa in May 2022, participated as observers to some Technical evaluation missions in the Africa/Arab States regions. Some

of the participants were also invited to draft desk reviews on the nominations from their region.

51. This past year provided the opportunity to implement the Preliminary Assessment for the first time. ICOMOS was responsible for examining 10 requests submitted on the basis of cultural criteria and, in close collaboration with IUCN, two requests submitted on the basis of both natural and cultural criteria. It is yet too early to draw final conclusions, all the more so as the cycle will end only in September 2024. However, it can already be said that the process has been fruitful, allowing rich and constructive exchanges on the potential OUV of the sites under consideration as well as the proposed nomination strategy, which will then facilitate the preparation of robust nomination dossiers.

Upstream process for Nominations and Tentative Lists

52. ICOMOS has been active in extending its collaboration with States Parties on upstream work and advice work in general. These activities are reported in Document WHC/24/46.COM/9A.
53. On Tentative Lists, and as follow up to the publication of the *Guidance on Developing and Revising World Heritage Tentative Lists*, ICOMOS has developed in cooperation with IUCN and the World Heritage Centre the operationalisation of the modules presented in this guidance, in particular Module 2, which has been implemented with success by ICOMOS and IUCN, with the support of the World Heritage Centre, in a number of States Parties (Saint Kitts and Nevis, Guinea) to assist them in the revision of their Tentative List. ICOMOS, in collaboration with IUCN, is currently working with the State Party of Lao for the implementation of Module 2 and with the States Parties of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada for the implementation of an Upstream Process for an individual site.

Monitoring the state of conservation of World Heritage properties

54. ICOMOS has contributed to the drafting of 51 and the review of 39 reports on the monitoring of the state of conservation of cultural and mixed properties to be presented at the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee. In the second half of 2023, ICOMOS carried out nine Reactive Monitoring missions, at the time of drafting this report, four Reactive monitoring missions were undertaken and eight were planned.
55. ICOMOS continues to provide support in consultation with the World Heritage Centre to the States Parties of the Syrian Arab Republic, Libya and Iraq in the preparation of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and their related corrective measures.
56. ICOMOS took part in numerous online consultation meetings organised by the World Heritage Centre with States Parties on aspects of the state of conservation of their properties, such as those concerning the Town of Luang Prabang (Lao PDR), Upper Middle Rhine Valley (Germany), Ancient City of Nessebar (Bulgaria), Venice and its Lagoon (Italy) and The Historic Centre of Odesa (Ukraine).
57. In addition, the World Heritage Centre consults ICOMOS on a regular basis throughout the year on problems or threats regarding properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. Additional research work has been carried out, notably via ICOMOS networks, documents have been examined, and written technical reviews have been sent to the World Heritage Centre. Since the preparation of last year's Document WHC/23/45.COM/5B in April 2023 (a bit longer than the reporting period), 117 technical reviews have been prepared to date and submitted to the World Heritage Centre for distribution to States Parties. As with other activities, the funding currently available to support this work does not correspond at all to the level of requests submitted and contributions provided, a problem which is particularly pronounced here.

58. As the number of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List continues to rise, so does the number of threats and issues that needs to be addressed. ICOMOS notes that, as only a very small proportion of inscribed properties can be covered by state of conservation reports (a proportion that falls each year), more and more issues have to be addressed outside the framework of Committee sessions through dialogue between the Advisory Body and States Parties.

Periodic Reporting

59. ICOMOS participated actively in the activities coordinated by the World Heritage Centre for the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting and preparation of Action plans in the Africa, Arab States, Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe and North America regions.

International Assistance

60. ICOMOS has considered all the requests for International Assistance for cultural and mixed properties that were submitted to it and participated in the Panels that examined these requests in 2023 and 2024. Over the same period, it also examined International Emergency Assistance requests.

Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value

61. ICOMOS has studied and reviewed the Retrospective Statements of OUV that were submitted to it, in accordance with the timetable for this set by the World Heritage Committee.

Participation in technical meetings

62. Over the course of the reporting period, ICOMOS has participated in over 100 technical meetings and sessions called by the World Heritage Centre, States Parties, and/or other partners. These include the meetings of the Open-ended working group of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in relation to Decision **45 COM 11**, the last meeting of the Working Group on World Heritage and Climate Change and the bi-annual meetings between the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, as well as other technical meetings. They also include numerous bilateral meetings with representatives or experts of States Parties in the framework of evaluation, upstream or monitoring activities. These meetings are mentioned here although as ICOMOS participation and contribution to them remains mostly unfunded. It is a major concern for ICOMOS, whose financial resources are limited, that this substantial work is not funded by UNESCO.

C. SUMMARY OF OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN SUPPORT OF WORLD HERITAGE

Climate change

63. In the reporting period, ICOMOS continued to prioritize climate change in World Heritage work, emphasising the importance of addressing climate impacts, preparing for inevitable losses and damage, and championing the role that World Heritage can play in driving greenhouse gas mitigation and achieving the ambitions of the Paris Agreement.
64. In particular, ICOMOS is involved with the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM and IUCN in a project aimed at developing the first joint toolkit on climate action for World Heritage. Coordinated through the World Heritage Leadership programme, and with the initial support from the Australian Government, the toolkit will support States Parties and site managers to integrate climate change action in the management strategies of World Heritage sites.
65. ICOMOS continues its work as coordinating partner of the Preserving Legacies Project, the main objective of which is to empower World Heritage and other heritage sites'

professionals and communities with the scientific and technical training to adapt and build resilience to climate change.

66. ICOMOS participated in the Expert meeting on developing guidance for the installation of solar energy projects in a World Heritage context (Belgium).

Capacity Building

67. ICOMOS has continued its collaboration with the Category 2 Centres and will organise with the ARC-WH, the AWHF and the World Heritage Centre, a workshop in May 2024 on Preliminary Assessment requests for Africa and Arab States regions cultural heritage professionals. This workshop aims at familiarising African and Arab States cultural Heritage professionals with the new procedure, so as to give them the best chance of preparing and submitting Preliminary Assessment requests leading to solid nominations. In addition, a capacity building programme for World Heritage Professionals in the Arab States region will be organised with ARC-WH in December 2024 in Tunisia.
68. ICOMOS continues to participate in and organise expert workshops. With regard to the Arab States region, ICOMOS organised, a technical workshop on Management (Egypt). It organised a workshop on Identifying and mapping the attributes of OUV for the Upper-Middle Rhine Valley (Germany) and a capacity building workshop on Heritage Impact Assessments for participants of the Africa region with ICCROM (Mauritius). ICOMOS also participated in the *We are Site Managers* International Symposium in Malaysia.
69. In collaboration with ICCROM, ICOMOS is involved in the “Support for Ukraine in Culture and Education through UNESCO” project, which is coordinated by UNESCO and financed by the Japan-Fund-in Trust. The project’s main objective is to build capacity for Ukrainian heritage professionals by implementing several activities such as technical assistance and training for site managers and heritage professionals, development of emergency preparedness plans for World Heritage and Tentative List sites or guidance on implementation of protective measures for World Heritage and Tentative List sites.

Indigenous Peoples / Participatory approaches

70. ICOMOS attended the International Expert Workshop on “Recognizing and Respecting Indigenous Peoples’ Heritage Values in World Heritage Sites” that was hosted by the International Indigenous Peoples’ Forum on World Heritage (IIPFWH) and held from 17-19 January 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland. The aim of the Expert workshop was to discuss measures that would facilitate the recognition of interconnections between culture and nature on the World Heritage List and enable a more consistent and adequate recognition of Indigenous Peoples’ values and relationship to the land in the statements of OUV and management of sites.
71. ICOMOS, ICCROM and Sogang University CGSI organised an International Conference on Participatory Approaches to World Heritage in March 2024, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea. The public conference discussed various practices and principles on participatory approaches from the heritage sector (and sectors beyond heritage), while the closed workshop discussed specific measures which can be applied to the working process of the World Heritage Convention.

Transhumance

72. ICOMOS is coordinating “The World Heritage Transhumance Initiative”, which aims at defining a thematic approach towards sustaining transhumance cultural landscapes in a changing environment. The project’s objective is to embrace the complex environmental, cultural and social dimensions of the transhumance phenomenon, to build capacity and develop international cooperation as well as increase public awareness of its contribution to the heritage of humanity. Underpinned by the need for a better-integrated cross-sectoral, multidisciplinary research, data collection and management of these cultural,

natural and mixed landscapes, the project is funded by the Ministry of Culture of Azerbaijan.

Advisory Assistance / Upstream Advice

73. Upon recommendation of the World Heritage Committee, ICOMOS has initiated a consultation process with the State Party of Bulgaria in relation to the state of conservation of the Ancient City of Nessebar.
74. At the request of States Parties, ICOMOS has carried out thirteen Advisory missions to properties to assist with the implementation of the Committee's decisions, and conservation and development projects: The Porticoes of Bologna (Italy), Champagne Hillside, Houses and Cellars (France), Vatican City (Holy See), Central Sector of the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long – Hanoi (Viet Nam), Medina of Marrakech (Morocco), Fertő/Neusiedlersee Cultural Landscape (Austria-Hungary), Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (China), Historic Inner City of Paramaribo (Suriname), Derwent Valley Mills (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Ngorongoro Conservation Area (United Republic of Tanzania), Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria), Historic Town of Saint George and Related Fortifications, Bermuda (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), and Kizhi Pogost (Russian Federation).
75. ICOMOS, as a member of the International Advisory Committee for the World Heritage Properties of Uzbekistan and an observer to the Palmyra International Scientific Task Force, attended related technical meetings.
76. At the request of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS has provided advice within the Upstream Process for individual sites to the following States Parties (Malta, United States of America, Vietnam). ICOMOS is currently finalising the Upstream Process requested by the State Party of Belgium.

Publications

77. ICOMOS published, in collaboration with ICCROM, a "[Guidance on Post-Disaster and Post-Conflict Recovery and Reconstruction for Heritage Places of Cultural Significance and World Heritage Cultural Properties](https://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/3183/)". This new publication which builds upon the body of thought and practice developed by ICOMOS and ICCROM over decades is not a manual nor a toolkit. It is hoped that it will help relevant actors affected by destruction at heritage places of cultural significance to set up sound decision-making processes for recovery and reconstruction. It sets out a framework which enables thorough, informed and participative decision-making in recovery. See at <https://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/3183/>.
78. [Connecting Practice - Phase IV](https://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/3073/): Final Report was made available. This phase focused on applying resilience thinking to the planning and management of World Heritage properties. (<https://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/3073/>).
79. ICOMOS will publish shortly a Scoping Study on "The Heritage of the Maritime Networks of the Ancient Seas", thanks to the support of the State Party of China, to explore the various options for the way these maritime trade routes might be recognised on the World Heritage List as a global network.

D. CONCLUSIONS

80. Over the course of the reporting period, ICOMOS has continued to serve the World Heritage Committee and to carry out its obligations within the framework of the World Heritage Convention. As described above, the reform of the Evaluation Process with the implementation of the Preliminary Assessment and the support to sites inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in order to assist them on their way to be removed from the Danger List were two particularly important aspects of our work this year.

81. ICOMOS remains at the disposal of States Parties to make every effort to provide assistance through the provision of expert and capacity building workshops, upstream advice and advisory assistance, with particular reference to States Parties that are underrepresented on the World Heritage List.
82. Serving the World Heritage Convention is at the heart of ICOMOS missions. Its entire network of experts is deeply committed to it. However, it is a growing concern for our organization that insufficient financial resources are currently devoted to the implementation of the Convention through the World Heritage Fund. This situation is a source of fragility for a system whose sustainability is threatened.

III. REPORT BY IUCN

A. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

83. In view of the continued budgetary pressures, IUCN has kept this report to the Committee very short and synthetic. Fuller information on IUCN's work on the World Heritage Convention is available at <https://www.iucn.org/our-work/topic/world-heritage> to complement the brief report below, and IUCN is pleased to provide further information upon request on any aspect of its work.
84. With respect to the context of IUCN's World Heritage work, the attention of the Committee is drawn to the Advisory Body's policy base of resolutions (<https://portals.iucn.org/library/resrec/search/>) and the position adopted by the last IUCN World Parks Congress also remains relevant and can be consulted at https://www.worldparkscongress.org/about/promise_of_sydney. IUCN's current programme for the period 2021-2024 was adopted by IUCN Members in February 2021 and sets its ambition in a decadal timeframe (2021–2030) (<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49292>).
85. **Dr Grethel AGUILAR ROJAS** was appointed as the new Director General of IUCN in October 2023. Under her leadership, IUCN's work on World Heritage has been repositioned to be a distinct World Heritage Team, and located in IUCN's Centre for Conservation Action. This will both increase the focus on World Heritage in IUCN, and be a platform to extend connections and relations with UNESCO as a whole. The work of IUCN is guided by the new IUCN World Heritage Strategy (www.iucn.org/resources/grey-literature/iucn-world-heritage-strategy-new-ambition-world-heritage) which defines 6 priorities for action to sustain and revitalise the contribution of World Heritage to global conservation efforts, and notably the *Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*. States Parties and all stakeholders in the Convention are invited to engage directly with IUCN to enable the ambitions of this strategy to be realised.

B. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES THAT RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND

86. IUCN notes that many activities reported in this section also received financial support beyond the World Heritage Fund, including sustained direct financial and volunteered support from IUCN. IUCN appreciates recognition of the direct contribution it makes to ensuring the operation of the World Heritage Convention, over and above the limited resources that are available from the World Heritage Fund.

World Heritage Committee meeting

87. IUCN attended the extended 45th session of the World Heritage Committee (Riyadh, 2023). Thanks to an effective and diverse delegation, IUCN contributed fully to all relevant items of the Committee session, including its Consultative Body on the Budget. IUCN extends its sincere thanks to the host country, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to the World Heritage Centre and all other UNESCO departments involved for the excellent organisation of the Committee. The IUCN Delegation was also joined by a diversity of IUCN Advisers and the **IUCN's Regional Office for West Asia** staff who provided critical support to presentations, meetings and side events. IUCN welcomed the return to an *in praesentia* Committee meeting which allowed interactions with Committee members and other actors, and hold constructive bilateral meetings with States Parties, helping to lead to a range of positive and impactful decisions on listings and conservation issues. IUCN welcomes that there was a reduced level of discordance at the extended 45th session,

however IUCN continues to highlight the continuing trend for Committee Decisions to depart from technical advice, provided in line with the *Operational Guidelines*.

Evaluation of properties and upstream support

88. IUCN completed evaluations of all nominations received during the reporting period under natural criteria and implemented two evaluations that were on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All technical IUCN Evaluation missions for the 2023/2024 cycle took place between May and October 2023. Two mixed nomination site evaluations required joint consideration by IUCN and ICOMOS. Two missions from previous cycles remain to be completed, one delayed due to COVID-related travel and health advice and the other due to security concerns. We hope that the remaining backlog of these two evaluations can be implemented as soon as the situation allows missions to be invited. Travel expenses for evaluation missions were in excess of the anticipated budget, however, the amounts were limited only thanks to the voluntary support of several nominating States Parties, and the flexibility of IUCN experts.
89. The meeting of the IUCN World Heritage Panel for the 2023/2024 cycle was held in person at IUCN's office in Bonn in November 2023 and online in March 2024. The Panel completed all of its required work in terms of the evaluation of all nominations under natural criteria that could be visited in the field as well as consideration of policy issues. Input from UN Environment - World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) was provided to this process according to the established processes and requirements of the evaluation working methods. IUCN plans to organise its Panel in other regions in future to assist in building capacity and diversity in the implementation of the Convention.
90. IUCN responded to all formal site-specific upstream requests and upstream requests for Tentative Lists in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS as appropriate and considering available budgets. The Committee's attention is also referred to document WHC/24/46.COM/9A, which contains further details on upstream support.

Monitoring the State of Conservation

91. Regarding the outcomes of the extended 45th Committee session, IUCN provided technical analysis and recommendations in 90 SOC reports covering information from the extended timeframe between sessions. Of these reports, the large majority were adopted without discussion, with 10 reports opened for discussion (one automatically opened following the recommendation for inclusion on the List of World Heritage in Danger and nine at the request of the Committee) and adopted with amendments. IUCN notes that there was again a departure of Committee decisions from technical advice regarding the inclusion of properties that meet the relevant criteria on the List of World Heritage in Danger.
92. For the 46th Committee session, IUCN has led and/or contributed to the drafting of 41 SOC reports for natural and mixed properties, to be considered under items 7A and 7B, in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM. Broader issues related to the state of conservation of these properties are addressed in general document WHC/24/46.COM/7.
93. IUCN has continued to implement Reactive Monitoring missions and Advisory missions in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and the other Advisory Bodies, collectively addressing the high number of missions that remain to be implemented following the COVID-19 related backlog, insecurity and pending State Party invitations, within the available capacity of the Secretariat and Advisory Bodies. Since the last session, IUCN co-organised seven Reactive Monitoring missions : Lake Baikal, Russian Federation (December 2023); Serengeti National Park, United Republic of Tanzania (January 2024); The Ahwar of Southern Iraq: Refuge of Biodiversity and the Relict

Landscape of the Mesopotamian Cities, Iraq (March 2024); Białowieża Forest, Belarus/Poland (March 2024); Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid region, Albania/North Macedonia (March 2024); Niokolo-Koba National Park, Senegal (March 2024); and Laponian Area (May 2024). The planning of various further missions remains underway. Whilst noting that Advisory missions are not funded through the biennial contract but fall within the mandate of its monitoring work, IUCN has also undertaken a joint UNESCO/ICOMOS/IUCN Advisory mission to Ngorongoro Conservation Area (February 2024). Further requests for Advisory missions have been received from the States Parties of Panama, Poland and China. A significantly higher level of capacity continues to be required for missions to properties that have added complexities such as insecurity or rights related matters to consider. IUCN continues to receive a growing number of requests from States Parties for increasingly complex technical reviews under paragraph 172, as well as third party information under paragraph 174, such as potential threats to OUV, Environmental Impact Assessments, Strategic Environmental Assessments, and management related documents, which impact on IUCN's capacity, and are frequently beyond current budgetary provision. This workload is one of the greatest stresses in the World Heritage system as it is currently operating, and is not sustainable. IUCN notes that it will not provide advice on these assessments if the circumstances to assure quality within the available workload and resources are not addressed.

International Assistance

94. IUCN reviewed and advised on all international assistance (IA) requests for natural and mixed properties that fell within its remit (15) and participated in the four biannual IA panel meetings with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM.

Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value (rSOUV)

95. IUCN has not received any retrospective Statements of OUV for review, in accordance with the timetable for this set by the World Heritage Committee. No budgetary provision is made for this work in the World Heritage Fund.

General Assembly

96. IUCN actively participated at the 24th session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention in November 2023.

Other meetings

97. IUCN has contributed to various other meetings and activities in support of the World Heritage Convention, including to provide technical advice and capacity building on matters such as climate change, impact assessment, and wind energy, as well as Periodic Reporting, meetings on 'Priority Africa', the List of World Heritage in Danger, and the dialogues with and workshop of the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum for World Heritage (IIPFWH). One further meeting was the "Bern III" Conference supported by Switzerland, and organised by UNEP, where the roles of the different biodiversity conventions in the new Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework was considered. This meeting is mentioned under item 5A. IUCN's contributions to these activities were all funded through IUCN's own resources. Some of these also relate to the planning of joint activities with the World Heritage Centre in support of priority regions and sites, and it is hoped that the planned work will be able to begin promptly, and we would hope to be able to report progress to the 46th session.
98. IUCN additionally attended the World Heritage Centre/Advisory Bodies' meetings, and the completeness check meeting for new nominations.

Open-ended Working Group

99. IUCN has participated in the meetings of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) established following the extended 45th session of the World Heritage Committee with an extended mandate to address a range of issues including funding of the Preliminary Assessment process and long-term financial sustainability of the Convention, among others. IUCN welcomes these timely reflections on such critical reform issues for the convention and has contributed significant written input, and will be engaging in the planned meetings. However, the fact that this important work is substantially unfunded is clearly of concern, and is an issue we hope the OEWG will progress regarding solutions needed.

Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage

100. IUCN actively contributed to the Open-ended Working Group towards the adoption of the Policy Document at the 24th session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention. IUCN considers this a vitally important policy given the impacts across all world heritage properties and the urgency of action which is called for across the broader international community to tackle the climate emergency. As with the working group noted above, the mechanisms established to advance the draft climate change policy document involved considerable time and senior staff resources at the busiest time of the annual Committee session preparation cycle and had no allocated funding to support them from UNESCO.
101. In order to assist States Parties, site managers and other heritage practitioners in implementing the updated Policy document, IUCN, with the World Heritage Centre and the other Advisory Bodies, is developing a draft toolkit on climate action for World Heritage, with the generous support of the State Party of Australia. This project is also innovative in that funding provided by a State Party via the Advisory Bodies is also supporting the inputs of the World Heritage Centre, which is a model that could be adopted more widely.

Periodic Reporting

102. IUCN has contributed, primarily from its own resources to the continued programme of periodic reporting, including engagement on the third cycle with focus on the Latin America and the Caribbean and the Europe and North America regions. IUCN maintains focal points for World Heritage in all of its regional offices, although significant additional resources would be required to be able to meet the demands for support to the Convention. The follow up to periodic reporting is a particular focus of proposed collaborative activities between the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, which are pending approval at the time of finalisation of this report.

C. SUMMARY OF OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN SUPPORT OF WORLD HERITAGE (INCLUDES ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE NOT FUNDED BY THE WH FUND)

Capacity-Building for World Heritage

103. Funding from the World Heritage Fund for capacity building by IUCN was cut to zero in 2012 due to budgetary restraints in UNESCO, and regrettably remains at a low level in the current biennia. Thus, the commitment from IUCN to the widespread needs identified relies entirely on extra-budgetary fundraising. Fortunately, this is one area where significant success has been achieved through Advisory Body-led engagements over a number of years. Throughout 2023-2024, the joint ICCROM-IUCN World Heritage Leadership programme continued to deliver significant capacity building activities in its phase II through the founding support of Norway, and now including the Republic of Korea and Switzerland as supporting partners, and additional support from Australia on climate change matters. The programme has a site manager level focus and is founded

on the idea of linking the conservation of nature and culture, with a focus on people-centred conservation, in support of sustainable development. The World Heritage Leadership programme will be reported on in greater detail under the relevant capacity development item on the committee's agenda, and further information is also provided in ICCROM's report (see section I of the present document).

Resource Manuals

104. IUCN has continued to contribute to the future programme for review of the resource manuals and their translation. The World Heritage Leadership programme, in collaboration with its partners, is continuing work towards a complete update and merging of the currently separate manuals on managing cultural and natural World Heritage, and an update on the manual on disaster risk management. In 2023, the World Heritage Leadership programme coordinated in partnership with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS, the publication of the *Enhancing our Heritage Toolkit 2.0*, offering a World Heritage-specific methodology of management effectiveness assessment that can be applied to cultural, natural and mixed sites. The toolkit was developed through the generosity of the Federal Office for the Environment of Switzerland.
105. IUCN also co-published with UNESCO in 2023, the publication *World Heritage: a unique contribution to biodiversity conservation*. In line with the new IUCN World Heritage Strategy, IUCN aims to continue to publish regional and thematic studies that may support the identification of potential future World Heritage nominations.

Other IUCN supported work on World Heritage

106. IUCN invests significantly in World Heritage work as a founding partner to the Convention and its vision. IUCN's World Heritage work is focused on complementing its advisory role to the World Heritage Committee with proactive programmes of support to States Parties, and the large body of IUCN's members and partners, to optimize engagement in the Convention. This work is given new impetus by the IUCN World Heritage Strategy and the reorganisation in IUCN referred to at the start of this report.
107. Implementation of greater support requires additional capacity and resources, and States Parties and other partners are invited to engage with IUCN in implementation. A short list of priority work includes (a) undertaking the third update of the IUCN World Heritage Outlook with a view to using this knowledge product to drive conservation actions and outcomes of natural World Heritage properties; (b) undertaking field level projects to link IUCN World Heritage Outlook to the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas to synergize the application of these two IUCN tools; (c) proactive initiatives at the scale of regional gap analyses to promote work on possible priorities for World Heritage nominations including to inform national tentative lists (a regional study for the Pacific is nearing finalization); (d) initiatives within IUCN and active contribution to reform processes such as the operationalization and introduction of the Preliminary Assessment process to improve the quality of nominations and evaluation processes; (e) strengthening IUCN's regional capacity and diversity in both its secretariat and its expert network; (f) continued work to promote strengthened rights-based approaches in relation to World Heritage properties and the benefits they provide to local communities and indigenous peoples; (g) further work with partners on the role of World Heritage in protecting wilderness and large land and seascapes; and (h) ensuring the relevance of World Heritage to wider conservation efforts and the Sustainable Development Goals, helping to frame the World Heritage contribution to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Linking across all of these actions, the role of the World Heritage Convention in leading practice to connect the conservation of cultural and natural heritage is a continuing focus for IUCN.
108. IUCN wishes to place on record the continued and strengthening partnerships with UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOMOS and also with a range of partners and a number of States

Parties to enable its work. IUCN acknowledges with thanks the very significant volunteer efforts of its members and expert commissions, including in particular the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN-WCPA), and the IUCN Species Survival Commission (IUCN-SSC), without whose support its work would not be possible.

D. CONCLUSIONS

109. As raised previously, IUCN remains deeply concerned at the growing number of unfunded and underfunded demands placed upon the Advisory Bodies. For example, there are currently no budget lines for regional support; for complex desk reviews of escalating demands in the framework of paragraph 172; SOUV reviews; development of global strategies/thematic studies and/or the implementation of the global capacity building strategy; growing demands to contribute to intersessional work and the growing demands for upstream support. This situation results in reduced efficiency and delays in delivery, and lack of ability to respond to requests for support from states parties, including in particular those in underrepresented regions. Notwithstanding the need for enhanced resourcing, IUCN also considers that there is a need to set limits in terms of the work expected and move more decisively to manage expectations in line with available capacity. It is not sustainable to take on highly technical work that is not able to be adequately resourced, since this threatens the ability to consistently produce quality results.
110. IUCN is therefore of the view that a fundamental rethink is needed regarding the operation of the Convention, including its governance arrangements; the frequency and length of Committee meetings; the timelines and methods for the evaluation process, the implementation of upstream advice; and most importantly (but of least current attention) the systematic support needed for the conservation of World Heritage properties, including, as top priority those on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and the related issue of partnership development and fundraising. Transcending all of these issues is the need to look at the financing, capacity, effectiveness and working methods of the World Heritage Convention as a whole, including all of the current and potential sources of budget available, noting that the majority of the present funding for the Convention is outside the World Heritage Fund. These are matters that will need to be considered by the Committee, including via the current wide-ranging mandate of the intersessional Open-Ended Working Group. IUCN's substantial track record and capacities, and our long-standing partnership with UNESCO, are available to reinforce the wider work and relevance of the World Heritage Convention.

IV. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision: 46 COM 5B

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/24/46.COM/5B,*
2. *Recalling Decision 45 COM 5B, adopted at its extended 45th session (Riyadh, 2023),*
3. *Takes note with appreciation of the reports of the Advisory Bodies on their activities in support of the implementation of the World Heritage Convention;*
4. *Also takes note with appreciation of the continued contributions of the Advisory Bodies, including direct financial and in-kind contribution, to ensure the effective implementation*

of the decisions of the World Heritage Committee as well as the effective implementation of the World Heritage Convention;

5. *Further takes note of the progress made, as well as of the challenges and gaps identified by the Advisory Bodies, in the framework of the implementation of the Convention, and the range of issues reported by the Advisory Bodies that continue to require action and attention.*