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**WHC-99/CONF.204/9Add.
Paris, 8 July 1999
Original :English/French**

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

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

BUREAU OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

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

Item 7 of the Provisional Agenda : Requests for international assistance

SUMMARY

In accordance with the recommendation made by the Bureau at this session during discussions on the state of conservation of the four (Garamba, Virunga, Kahuzi Biega National Parks and the Okapi Faunal Reserve) World Heritage sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the following requests are submitted for consideration of the Bureau :

- a request for US\$ 105,000 for the World Heritage sites in Danger of the DRC, and
- a proposal for the transfer of two vehicles purchased in 1998 for DRC and currently in storage in Mombassa, Kenya, to meet a request from the United Republic of Tanzania for two vehicles.

Requesting State Party: Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Project title: Support to Resident Staff of the four World Heritage sites in Danger

World Heritage sites concerned: Garamba National Park
Virunga National Park
Kahuzi Biega National Park
Okapi Faunal Reserve

Previous World Heritage Fund contributions: The total amount of past contributions made from the World Heritage Fund to the four sites under consideration are as follows:

Name of site	Details of financial assistance given from the World Heritage Fund
1. Garamba National Park	US\$ 99,845 as emergency assistance; US\$ 50,000 as technical co-operation
2. Virunga National Park	US\$ 20,000 as emergency assistance; US\$ 4,750 for training
3. Kahuzi Biega National Park	US\$ 44, 848 as technical co-operation US\$ 22,500 as emergency assistance
4. Okapi Faunal Reserve	US\$ 3,000 as preparatory assistance

Summary Description: A core group of international conservation NGOs and GTZ, ICCN and representatives of staff from the four sites met at a seminar in Naivasha, Kenya, from 12 to 16 April 1999. The seminar established a Task Force comprising international conservation NGOs, ICCN and GTZ (Germany) and made several recommendations for the conservation of the four sites over the medium term (3-4 years). The Bureau, during its discussion of the state of conservation of these four sites supported the process established by the Task Force for addressing issues in, and generating financial assistance to each of the four sites. The Bureau requested that the Centre and IUCN submit for its consideration, in consultation with the Task Force members who are attending the Bureau session, proposals for financial assistance to the sites under the agenda item on international assistance. ICCN, in co-operation with the staff and relevant Task Force Members working with each of the four sites have prepared specific proposals for consideration for funding by the Bureau. On the basis of these proposals, the Bureau may consider providing assistance for the period from July to December 1999 to cover expenses related to:

- (a) Salary substitutes and work related bonuses to staff who continue to work in the sites and carry out basic patrolling, anti-poaching and monitoring operations. At present the following numbers of staff are resident and operational in the four sites: 71 in Kahuzi Biega; 64 in Okapi; 238 in Garamba and nearly 500 in Virunga. International Conservation NGOs have been paying salaries and bonuses to staff in all four sites; the average amount paid is about US\$ 42 per person per month, with the lowest amount paid being US\$ 23 in Garamba; personnel in Virunga, particularly in the northern sector also receive allowances lower than the average and available funds currently in use for this purpose are likely to run out soon; and

- (b) Basic equipment, training, guard post construction and operational costs for the staff to carry out essential functions for the conservation of the four sites.

Direct target beneficiaries: Staff who have chosen to reside in the four sites, i.e. Garamba, Virunga and Kahuzi Biega National Parks and the Okapi Faunal Reserve, despite risks to their life and property due to on-going war.

Budget: A sum of US\$ 105,000 is requested from the World Heritage Fund to cover:

- A contribution of US\$ 20,000 per site (**US\$ 80,000 for four sites**) to meet the following costs:
 - (a) Garamba – to pay the staff of 238 in Garamba for 6 months at a cost of US\$ 3,333 per month;
 - (b) Virunga – to pay staff of nearly 500 for a period of 6 months; at present the staff at Virunga (stations Rwindi and Mutsora) are not receiving any payments;
 - (c) Okapi – for training activities for guards and the construction of a camp; and
 - (d) Kahuzi Biega – for the purchase of 100 patrolling gear for guards (US\$ 10,000), 8 walkie-talkies (US\$ 6,000), 15 large tents (US\$ 1,200), 15 small tents (US\$ 800) and travel and miscellaneous costs (US\$ 2,000)
- Additional contributions to selected staff in Garamba and Virunga active in anti-poaching activities to raise the level of payment they receive in conformity with their heavy workload and bring it closer to the average payment received by staff in other sites. US\$ 6.4 per month per person for 6 months with 60% of the funds to Virunga and 40% to Garamba: **US\$ 25,000**

Amount requested from the Fund: The sum of US\$ 105,000 is requested from the Fund.

Contributions from National and Other agencies: The National Agency responsible for the Parks, i.e. ICCN, is currently being restructured with the assistance from the GTZ (Germany). ICCN does not have adequate funds to meet the salary, allowances and equipment needs of staff in the four sites, and do not have regular access to the sites. International conservation organisations that are members of the Task Force would meet the following in-kind and cash contributions:

- (a) Garamba: WWF would contribute to medical expenses of the staff at an estimated amount US\$ 9,000/month; International Rhino Foundation (IRF) would continue to contribute its share to pay salaries and allowances to staff and for operations at US\$ 6,500/month
- (b) Virunga: International Gorilla Conservation Programme (IGCP) and the Diane Fossey Gorilla Fund of Europe will continue their support to the operations of Volcans sector and to Mount Tshiaberimu;
- (c) Okapi: Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) will provide support to monitoring activities and Gilman International Conservation (GIC) will support activities benefiting local communities;
- (d) Kahuzi Biega: GTZ (Germany) is due to contribute US\$ 3,000 for clearing of an ecological corridor.

Remaining World Heritage Funds: The Bureau may wish to note that it has the authority to approve an amount of US\$ 75,000 under emergency assistance and US\$ 30,000 under technical co-operation,

Of the US\$ 600,000 approved by the last session of the Committee (Kyoto, 1998) a sum of US\$ 50,471 remains unearmarked. For technical co-operation, the Committee, approved a sum of US\$ 1,245,000 of which US\$ 415,000 was set-aside for natural heritage. Of the latter sum, an amount of US\$ 167,863 is available for new projects.

Comments from the Advisory Body : IUCN supports this request and recommends approval of the sum of US\$ 105,000 by the Bureau as proposed herewith.

Action by the Bureau : The Bureau may wish to approve the sum of US\$ 105,000 requested as follows :

- US\$ 75,000 as emergency assistance using the US\$ 50,471 of unearmarked funds available under the 1999 allocation and transferring US\$ 24,529 from the unspent amount of US\$ 167,863 available under technical co-operation for natural heritage ;
- US\$ 30,000 as technical co-operation from the remaining balance of US\$ 143,334 remaining unspent under technical co-operation for natural heritage, after a sum of US\$ 24,529 has been transferred to emergency assistance as indicated above.

In addition the Bureau may wish to :

- commend the dedication of the staff resident in all the four sites ;
- commend the commitment of the Task Force and endorse their efforts to develop proposals to raise support from the international community for the sites over the medium term (3-4 years) ; and
- request the Centre and IUCN to report to the twenty-third session of the Committee, in Marrakesh, Morocco (29 November – 4 December 1999) an assessment of the effectiveness of the delivery of these funds to site staff with the assistance of the Task Force and recommendations concerning possible additional assistance to the four sites that may be considered by the Committee for the year 2000.

Requesting State Party: United Republic of Tanzania

Project title: Strengthening Protection Infrastructure of Tanzanian World Heritage sites

World Heritage sites concerned: Serengeti National Park and Kilimanjaro National Park

Previous World Heritage Fund contributions: The total amount of contribution from the World Heritage Fund to-date benefiting the two sites under consideration are as follows:

- US\$ 30,000 under technical co-operation for Serengeti National Park in 1990; and
- US\$ 25,000 under technical co-operation for Kilimanjaro National Park in 1994

Summary Description: The Tanzania National Parks have submitted two separate requests for the purchase of one four-wheel drive vehicle each for the Kilimanjaro and Serengeti National Parks. In the case of the Kilimanjaro National Park, the vehicle would be used for patrolling and monitoring by the Machame Area Range Post. This Range Post is responsible for managing an increasing number of tourists visiting the Park and has the responsibility for controlling recent increases in poaching activities around the area. At present, staff at this Range Post do not have a reliable mode of transport. In the case of Serengeti National Park, the vehicle to be purchased will be used for increased anti-poaching surveys and contribute towards the day-to-day ecological monitoring work being carried out within the Park.

During its discussions on the state of conservation the four sites included in the World Heritage sites in Danger in the DRC, the Bureau recalled the fact that the Committee, at its twenty-first session (Naples, 1997) approved US\$ 45,000 as emergency assistance for the purchase of two vehicles. These two vehicles could not be delivered to the sites in the DRC due to the ongoing war in eastern DRC and are currently in storage in Mombassa, Kenya. Hence, the Committee requested the Centre and IUCN to explore the feasibility of transferring the two vehicles, with the permission of ICCN, for the benefit of other World Heritage sites in neighbouring States Parties. ICCN of the DRC has accepted that the vehicles be transferred for the benefit of the two site of the United Republic of Tanzania under consideration.

Direct target beneficiaries: Staff of the two World Heritage sites of the United Republic of Tanzania under consideration.

Budget: The purchase, transport and delivery of the vehicles is estimated to cost US\$ 50,000; i.e. US\$ 25,000 per vehicle.

Amount requested from the Fund: A sum of US\$ 50,000 is requested from the Fund as technical co-operation.

Contributions from National and Other agencies: The Tanzanian National Parks will meet the costs of the salary of the driver and vehicle maintenance costs. These costs are estimated to be approximately US\$ 5,500 per year per vehicle.

Remaining World Heritage Funds: The Committee at its last session (Kyoto, Japan) approved a sum of US\$ 1,245,000 for technical co-operation of which US\$ 415,000 was earmarked for natural heritage projects. Assuming that the Bureau would agree to approve a sum of US\$ 105,000 as support to DRC, of which an amount of US\$ 54,529 is to be obtained from the technical co-operation budget for supporting four natural World Heritage sites in Danger in the DRC, a sum of US\$ 113,334 would still be available for technical co-operation for natural heritage sites in other countries.

Comments from the Advisory Body: IUCN supports this arrangement to transfer the two vehicles, originally intended for the DRC, to be transferred to Tanzania.

Action by the Bureau: The Bureau may request the Centre to co-operate with the equipment purchase unit of UNESCO, to proceed to transfer the two vehicles currently stored in Mombassa, Kenya, to the Serengeti and Kilimanjaro National Parks of Tanzania. The Bureau may request the Centre to co-operate with the UN Resident Co-ordinator's Office as well as the UNESCO Office in Nairobi, and the Kenyan Government to request the Kenyan Government to waive vehicle-storage charges payable to the Ports authorities in Kenya and the cost of the transport of the vehicles to Tanzania. In the event such costs cannot be waived, the Bureau may wish to authorise the Chairperson to approve the amount needed to pay storage and transport charges, upon the submission of detailed invoices by the Centre, under the technical co-operation funds available for natural heritage projects in 1999.