

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL
AND NATURAL HERITAGE

BUREAU OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Eleventh Session

Paris, 23-26 June 1987

Item 7 a) of the Provisional Agenda : Monitoring the status of conservation of
properties inscribed on the World Heritage List - Report of the Working Group
on Cultural Properties

I. Background

1. At its 10th session, the World Heritage Committee considered a proposed system for the monitoring of cultural properties drawn up at the Bureau's request, by the Secretariat in collaboration with ICOMOS. The proposal was to establish a formal system of data collection, which would have entailed an important increase in financial resources and manpower. Whereas all Committee members agreed that a monitoring/reporting system was required as an integral part of the process of maintaining the World Heritage List, the consensus of opinion was that the primary responsibility for the monitoring of sites inscribed on the List lay with the States Parties concerned and that the system should not be too rigid nor too costly.

2. The Committee therefore requested the Chairman to set up a Working Group of the Bureau which would examine the different questions involved and recommend a system of monitoring/reporting to the Bureau at its next session.

3. The Working Group, which was composed of representatives of Algeria, Australia, Bulgaria, India, Mexico and Zaïre met under the chairmanship of Ambassador Ms. A. Ghose on 8 January, 6 February, 12 and 24 March 1987.

4. The conclusions reached and the recommendations formulated by the Working Group are set out below.

II. Principles

5. The Working Group recognises that ratification of the Convention by States Parties carries with it the obligation of providing information on the status of conservation of the sites inscribed on the World Heritage List, in accordance with Art. 29, para.1 and 2 and Art. 11, para. 2.

6. The Working Group considers that :

- a) States Parties should be the primary source and collector of information on the state of conservation of World Heritage Sites and should have the sole responsibility for reporting to the Committee thereon;
- b) The system should be based on the completion by States Parties of questionnaires, the purpose of which would be to update the information provided in the nomination dossier/previous report and to help States Parties to identify dangers threatening World Heritage cultural properties;
- c) States parties should be required to prepare reports on each of their properties every five years. Taking as a working hypothesis the addition to the World Heritage List of an average of 21 cultural properties per year (this figure is based on the number of properties inscribed so far but is subject to change), this would mean that :
 - during the first five-year period (1989-1993) reports would be received on 46 sites per year; in this way reports would have been presented on all the cultural sites included in the List at the end of 1988;
 - during the next five-year period reports would be presented on 67 sites each year;
 - during each of the following five-year periods the number of reports to be examined each year would be increased by 21.
- d) The system adopted should be as simple and practical as possible.

III. Procedure

7. The Working Group suggests that the Committee proceed in principle to examine reports on listed sites according to the chronological order of their inscription. This order may be however modified by the Committee in order to give priority to properties it considers in greater danger.

8. From 1989 onwards, the two-year reporting procedure would normally start at the end of the third year after inscription/examination of the previous report. In this way, reports would normally be received for examination at five-yearly intervals.

9. At each of its sessions the Committee would establish a list of those properties on which reports should be processed during the following two-year period. As soon as possible after the Committee meeting, the Secretariat would ask the States Parties concerned, through their Permanent Delegations to Unesco, or any other appropriate channel established by each State for the purpose, to complete the information updates and present them by 31 March of the following year.

10. The Secretariat should acknowledge receipt of reports from States Parties and, after proceeding to a preliminary examination of them, transmit copies of those requiring further consideration to the Members of the Bureau and to ICOMOS. The originals of all the reports will be made available for examination by the Members of the Bureau at their meeting.

11. In case of non-receipt of the five-year period report by the deadline the Secretariat should remind the State Party concerned, through its Permanent Delegation to Unesco or other appropriate channels. Moreover, the urgent need for receipt of the report could be reinforced, as required, by requesting visitors to the country concerned such as experts, regional advisers or Unesco Staff.

12. At its spring session, the Bureau would examine the reports and, in view of any negative developments that may be noted, decide :

- which of them should be brought to the attention of the Committee;
- on which of them the Secretariat should ask for additional information from the State Party concerned, by sending a detailed questionnaire and indicating, in the covering letter, on which items of the questionnaire information should be given;
- on which of them ICOMOS should be requested to provide a technical commentary to the Committee.

13. The Working group suggests that the Committee consider whether the Bureau, at this stage, could also be authorized to take the following initiatives:

- recommend that the State Party adopt certain protective measures;
- recommend that the State Party present a request for technical co-operation and/or for inscription of the property on the List of the World Heritage in Danger;
- propose making available to the State Party consultant services for preparing a technical co-operation request.

14. The detailed questionnaire would be sent after the Bureau meeting and replies would be expected by March 31 of the following year, to enable the Bureau to examine them.

15. The representatives of ICOMOS attending the Bureau sessions, could always bring to the attention of the Bureau other information on World Heritage cultural sites which they have received through reliable sources.

16. At its annual session, the Committee should examine the reports on sites that the Bureau has brought to its attention, together, where appropriate, with the commentaries requested from ICOMOS.

17. The Committee could take various initiatives, including the following:

- suggest the adoption of protective measures;
- help States Parties concerned to identify experts and/or technical institutions which could provide assistance in protecting/restoring the property;
- suggest the granting of technical co-operation to safeguard a site;
- suggest to the State Party that the property be included in the List of World Heritage in Danger.

18. Should any danger arise at any time during the five-year period, the above-mentioned procedure would not prevent States Parties, which have the sole responsibility for reporting, from bringing the question to the attention of the Committee and from requesting assistance as foreseen in the Convention.

19. Should the Committee receive during the five-year period any alarming information on a listed property from a reliable source (ICOMOS National Committees, Regional cultural advisers, experts, etc.) it should, as far as possible, verify the source and the contents of the information in consultation with the State Party concerned, and request its comments. The Committee should decide, on the basis of these comments, on the action to be taken.

20. The Working Group recommends that each State Party which has cultural properties inscribed on the List, establish a focal point which would monitor these properties and which would constitute the authority responsible for liaison with the World Heritage Committee on matters concerning monitoring.

21. The Working Group drew up a draft proforma for the information update referred to in paragraph 9 above, and for the detailed questionnaire together with its covering letter, referred to in paragraph 12 above. These drafts are annexed to this report for the Bureau's approval (Annexes I and II).

D R A F T**INFORMATION UPDATE ON THE CULTURAL SITES INSCRIBED
ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

- a) *Name of the property*
- b) *Has the ownership, control or management of the property changed since nomination/last report ?*
 - *if so, please provide details*
- c) *Have there been changes to the legislation or regulations which afford protection to the property ?*
 - *if so, please provide details and copy of relevant law or regulation.*
 - *have these changes occurred at the national, state/provincial or local level ?*
 - *what effects, if any, have these changes had on the conservation of the property ?*
- d) *Have there been changes to the administrative measures which concern the property ?*
 - *if so, please provide details*
 - *what effects, if any, have these changes had on the conservation of the property ?*
- e) *Has the condition of the property changed since the nomination/last report ?*
 - *if so, please specify nature and possible reasons for change*
- f) *Has the condition of the buffer zone surrounding the property changed since the nomination/last report ?*
 - *if so, please specify nature and possible reasons for change*
- g) *Has restoration work been carried out since the nomination/last report ?*
 - *if so, please specify the type and extent of work*
- h) *Is further restoration necessary ?*
 - *if so, please provide details*
 - *what are the priority tasks involved ?*
 - *is there a timetable for this work ?*
- i) *In case of affirmative reply to paragraphs e), f), g), h), please enclose supporting photographs and/or slides and list them.*

D R A F T

COVERING LETTER ACCOMPANYING THE DETAILED QUESTIONNAIRE

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that, further to the examination of the information update concerning the site of..... inscribed on the World Heritage List, at its meeting held in on, the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee felt the importance of obtaining, from your country, supplementary information on the state of conservation of the site.

We should be grateful if the authorities of your country could complete section item of the questionnaire you will find here enclosed, providing, as far as possible, supporting documentation on the relevant points.

It would be most helpful if these elements could be received by 31 March This would enable the Secretariat to include the appropriate information in the working documents that it has to distribute to the Members of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee one month before the meeting which is due to take place on..... Should your country desire any preparatory assistance in completing the questionnaire, please forward us a request.

We remain at your disposal, should you require additional information on the above questions.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Original : English

D R A F T

REPORTING QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF

WORLD HERITAGE CULTURAL SITES

NAME OF PROPERTY.....

DIAGNOSIS

1 History of the restoration work since nomination/last report

(please, mark the appropriate box) :

A. no restoration work ☐

B. type and extent of restoration work:

	partially %	totally	component concerned	date
a) survey		☐		
b) excavation		☐		
c) restitution		☐		
d) structural component restoration		☐		
e) decorative component restoration		☐		
f) reconstruction		☐		
g) anastylosis		☐		
h) presentation		☐		
i) demolition		☐		
j) historic area clearance		☐		
k) historic area restoration		☐		

2 Consequences of the restoration work on the:

a) authenticity	☐	conserved	☐	degraded	☐
b) stability	☐	upgraded	☐	degraded	☐
c) sanitary conditions	☐	upgraded	☐	degraded	☐

3 Administration responsible for the restoration work:

4 Conditions of the property at the date of the report as compared with the state of the property on nomination/last report :

A) Physical conditions :

- a) showing sign of deterioration ☐
 b) serious state of deterioration ☐
 c) danger of disappearance ☐

Please, attach supporting documentation on the state of conservation of the property in form of photographs and/or slides and list them.

B) Social and economic conditions :

per cent
%

- | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| a) economic activities | ☐ | stable | ☐ | upgraded | ☐ | <input type="text"/> |
| | | | | degraded | ☐ | <input type="text"/> |
| b) tourist activities | ☐ | stable | ☐ | upgraded | ☐ | <input type="text"/> |
| | | | | degraded | ☐ | <input type="text"/> |
| c) living conditions of the local population | ☐ | stable | ☐ | upgraded | ☐ | <input type="text"/> |
| | | | | degraded | ☐ | <input type="text"/> |

5 Sources of degradations

- | | | ascertained | potential |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) geological factors : | ☐ land subsidence | ☐ | ☐ |
| | ☐ water level | ☐ | ☐ |
| | ☐ other (please specify) | | |

b) atmospheric and climatic factors :	☐	rain penetration	☐	☐
	☐	humidity	☐	☐
	☐	raising damp	☐	☐
	☐	wind erosion	☐	☐
	☐	water erosion	☐	☐
	☐	other (please specify)		
c) biological factors :	☐	animal pollution	☐	☐
	☐	termites	☐	☐
	☐	beetles	☐	☐
	☐	rots	☐	☐
	☐	other (please specify)		
d) industrial pollution	☐		☐	☐
e) structural overload	☐		☐	☐
f) natural calamities :	☐	landslide	☐	☐
	☐	earthquake	☐	☐
	☐	volcanic eruption	☐	☐
	☐	tidal waves	☐	☐
	☐	fire	☐	☐
	☐	typhoon	☐	☐
	☐	other (please specify)		
g) vandalism, theft	☐		☐	☐
h) civil unrest, armed conflict	☐		☐	☐
i) other social and cultural problems (e.g. uncontrolled tourism) please, specify	☐			

		ascertained	potential
j) land uses damaging the property	☐ creation of roads	☐	☐
	☐ creation of highways	☐	☐
	☐ creation of railways	☐	☐
	☐ other (please specify)		
k) urban development	☐	☐	☐
l) urban encroachment	☐	☐	☐
m) industrial development	☐	☐	☐
n) unknown origin	☐		
o) other (please specify)	☐		

6.A Degraded elements: Monument

(situated in ☐ urban environment ☐ rural environment ☐ other (please specify))

- a) geological elements
- ☐ sub-soil
 - ☐ foundation soil
 - ☐ other (please specify)

- b) building materials
- ☐ brick
 - ☐ stone
 - ☐ concrete
 - ☐ mortar
 - ☐ iron
 - ☐ wood
 - ☐ other (please specify)

		exterior	interior	partial deterio- ration %	total deterio- ration
c) structural elements	☐ drainage				☐
	☐ earthworks				☐
	☐ sub-foundations				☐
	☐ foundations				☐
	☐ ramparts				☐
	☐ vertical structures	☐	☐		☐
	☐ horizontal structures	☐	☐		☐
	☐ stairs	☐	☐		☐
	☐ vaults	☐	☐		☐
	☐ arches	☐	☐		☐
	☐ roof: structure ☐				☐
	covering ☐				☐
	gutters ☐				☐
	☐ other (please specify)				
d) decorative elements	☐ monumental sculptures				☐
	☐ ornamental sculptures	☐	☐		☐
	☐ stucco	☐	☐		☐
	☐ floors	☐	☐		☐
	☐ ceilings	☐	☐		☐
	☐ wall coverings	☐	☐		☐
	☐ stained glass windows				☐
	☐ inscriptions	☐	☐		☐
	☐ mural paintings	☐	☐		☐
	☐ mosaics	☐	☐		☐
	☐ other (please specify)				
e) doors	☐	☐	☐		☐
gates	☐	☐	☐		☐
windows	☐	☐	☐		☐

	exterior	interior	partial deterio- ration%	total deterio- ration
f) technical installation				
☐ heating				☐
☐ electrical installation	☐	☐		☐
☐ plumbing	☐	☐		☐
☐ other (please specify)				
g) environmental elements				
☐ landscape				☐
☐ townscape				☐
☐ gardens	☐	☐		☐
☐ other (please specify)				

6.B Degraded elements : Group of buildings and historic town

I.a) geological elements	☐ sub-soil			☐
	☐ foundation soil			☐
	☐ other (please specify)			

II. Urban features

	partial deterio- ration %	(number of buil- dings)	total deterio- ration	(number of buil- dings)
b) monumental sculptures ☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
c) monumental buildings :				
☐ religious	☐	☐	☐	☐
☐ structural component	☐	☐	☐	☐
☐ decorative component	☐	☐	☐	☐
☐ exterior component	☐	☐	☐	☐
☐ interior component	☐	☐	☐	☐

		partial deterio- ration %	(number of buil- dings)	total deterio- ration	(number of buil- dings)
☐ administra- tive	☐ structural component				
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
 ☐ military	 ☐ structural component	 	 	 	
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
 ☐ residen- tial	 ☐ structural component	 	 	 	
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
 ☐ public equipment	 ☐ structural component	 	 	 	
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
 d) historic buildings:					
☐ religious	☐ structural component				
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
 ☐ administra- tive	 ☐ structural component	 	 	 	
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
 ☐ military	 ☐ structural component	 	 	 	
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				

		partial deterio- ration %	(number of buil- dings)	total deterio- ration	(number of buil- dings)
☐ residen- tial	☐ structural component				
	☐ decorative comonent				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
☐ indu- strial	☐ structural component				
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
☐ public equipment	☐ structural component				
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
e) buildings ☐ with envi- ronmental value	☐ structural component				
	☐ decorative component				
	☐ exterior component				
	☐ interior component				
f) urban fabric	☐ plots				
	☐ private gardens				
	☐ courts				
g) streets and squares	☐ road network				
	☐ pavements				
	☐ trees				
	☐ urban furniture				
	☐ townscape				
	☐ skyline				

partial
deterio-
ration %total
deterio-
ration

- | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| h) public and/or historic gardens and parks | ☐ lay out | ☐ | ☐ |
| | ☐ trees | ☐ | ☐ |
| | ☐ pavements | ☐ | ☐ |
| | ☐ garden furniture | ☐ | ☐ |
| | | | |
| i) infra-structure | ☐ sewers | ☐ | ☐ |
| | ☐ electrical network | ☐ | ☐ |
| | ☐ other (please,specify) | ☐ | ☐ |
| | | | |
| j) waterways, ports | ☐ banks | ☐ | ☐ |
| | ☐ canal network | ☐ | ☐ |

III.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| k) archaeo-logical aereas | ☐ protection (lack of) | ☐ | ☐ |
| | ☐ maintenance (lack of) | ☐ | ☐ |

In case of deterioration of a monumental sculpture or a monumental building, please, complete also section 6.A on monuments.

7 Degree of deterioration of the property

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| a) partial deterioration | ☐ | stable | ☐ |
| | | progressive | ☐ |
| | | | |
| b) total deterioration | ☐ | reversible if proper restoration were carried out | ☐ |
| | | irreversible | ☐ |

8 Technical evaluation

The property needs :

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) partial restoration | ☐ |
| b) total restoration | ☐ |