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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Bureau of the World Heritage Committee

Thirteenth Session

Paris, 27-30 June 1989

Salle VI

ITEM 12 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA: Report of the World Heritage Committee to the 25th session General Conference

The Bureau is invited to examine and approve the attached draft report.

25 C/90
19 June 1989
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Item 4.5 of the provisional agenda

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

SUMMARY

The Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was established by the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage adopted by the General Conference, at its seventeenth session, on 16 November 1972.

This report is submitted to the General Conference by the above-mentioned Committee in accordance with Article 29(3) of the aforesaid Convention which stipulates that 'The Committee shall submit a report on its activities at each of the ordinary sessions of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization'.

I. COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

1. The number of States having deposited an instrument of ratification, acceptance or accession in respect of the World Heritage Convention was 97 at the beginning of the sixth General Assembly which met during the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference (Paris, 1987). This number has increased to 109 as at 31 May 1989. The list of these States is given in Annex I.

2. At its fifth session, the General Assembly elected seven members of the Committee in replacement of those members whose term of office was due to expire. The World Heritage Committee is at present composed as follows:

Algeria*, Australia*, Brazil***, Bulgaria**, Canada**, Cuba***, France***, Greece**, India**, Italy***, Lebanon*, Malawi*, Mexico**, Norway*, Pakistan***, Sri Lanka*. Tunisia***, Turkey*, United Republic of Tanzania**, United States of America***, Yemen (Arab Republic)**

3. Since the previous report submitted to the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference (document 24 C/93), the Committee met once in Paris, from 7-11 December 1987 and once in Brasilia from 5-9 December 1988.

* States whose terms of office will expire at the end of the 25th session of the General Conference.

** States whose terms of office will expire at the end of the 26th session of the General Conference.

*** States whose terms of office will expire at the end of the 27th session of the General Conference.

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4. The Bureau of the Committee met twice in Paris, from 14-17 June 1988 and 27-30 June 1989, for its twelfth and thirteenth ordinary sessions, respectively. It was composed as follows:

From 7 December 1987 to 5 December 1988:

Chairman: Mr. J.D. Collinson (Canada)
Vice-Chairmen: France, Mexico, Sri Lanka, Tunisia and the United Republic of Tanzania
Rapporteur: Ms. M. Stancheva (Bulgaria)

From 5 December 1988 to the beginning of the thirteenth ordinary session (December 1989):

Chairman: Mr. A. da Silva Telles (Brazil)
Vice-Chairmen: Australia, Canada, France, India and Yemen (Arab Republic)
Rapporteur: Ms. A. Miltiadou (Greece)

5. The functions of the World Heritage Committee as stipulated in the Convention may be briefly summarized as follows:

- (i) to identify, on the basis of nominations submitted by States Parties, cultural and natural properties of outstanding universal value which are to be protected under the Convention, and to list these properties on the 'World Heritage List';
- (ii) to decide which properties included in the World Heritage List are to be inscribed on the 'List of World Heritage in Danger';
- (iii) to determine in what way and under what conditions the resources in the World Heritage Fund can most advantageously be used to assist States Parties, as far as possible, in the protection of their properties of outstanding universal value inscribed on the World Heritage List.

II. THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

6. During the period under review, the World Heritage Committee, on the basis of nominations put forward by States Parties in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention, has added to the World Heritage List 68 cultural, natural and mixed properties. It should be noted that some of these properties consist of several monuments or sites. This brings to 315 the total number of entries on the World Heritage List as at 31 December 1988; this list is to be found in Annex II.

7. In establishing the World Heritage List, the Committee has been guided by the need to ensure that the List is as representative as possible of all cultural and natural properties which meet the requirement of outstanding universal value stipulated by the Convention as well as the criteria adopted by the Committee for the evaluation of cultural and natural properties; these criteria are set out in the 'Operational guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention' (document WHC/2 Revised, December 1988). The Committee has evaluated each nomination in terms of these criteria and, in so doing, has taken note of the comments of the appropriate non-governmental organization, the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) or the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), which, together with the

International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), attend the meetings of the Committee in an advisory capacity.

8. The increase in the number of nominations from States Parties has made it more than ever desirable to draw up tentative lists of properties which may be nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List, as foreseen in Article 11 of the Convention. For ICOMOS, which at the request of the World Heritage Committee must examine all cultural nominations in the light of comparative studies, it is necessary to have the tentative lists drawn up by the States Parties concerned in order to evaluate such new nominations. For IUCN, which in 1982 published an inventory of the world's greatest natural areas, such tentative lists are useful to improve and update the world inventory. As of 31 May 1989, the Secretariat had received tentative lists from 44 States Parties which are listed in Annex III.

tentative lists

9. The World Heritage Committee, in response to the sharp increase in the number of nominations submitted by States Parties since 1986 and the resulting increase in the work of the Bureau, the Committee, ICOMOS, IUCN and the Secretariat, appointed, in December 1987, a working group to (a) review ways and means of ensuring rigorous application of the criteria established by the Committee and (b) to review ways and means of better managing the agenda of the Committee sessions. The working group submitted several recommendations to the twelfth session of the Bureau of the Committee in June 1988 which were then adopted at the twelfth session of the Committee held in Brasilia in December 1988. Salient recommendations include:

working group

- a) changes in the agenda of the meetings of the Bureau and the Committee to allow more time for consideration of the evaluations of nominations of cultural and natural sites submitted by States Parties;
- b) advancement of the deadline for submission of nominations by States Parties from 31 December to 1 October of each year;
- c) a global study of cultural sites with a view to establishing examples of cultural properties according to chronological, geographical, ecological, functional, social and religious parameters of coherence. ICOMOS was requested by the Committee to undertake such a study in collaboration with IUCN and the Secretariat;
- d) thematic surveys^{geographical and} of topics such as traditional villages, rural landscapes, contemporary architecture and fossil sites in order to establish guidelines for identifying sites which could be nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List. The Committee recommended that such surveys be carried out by ICOMOS and IUCN in cooperation with the Secretariat;
- e) temporarily suspending the considerations of nominations related to the themes for which surveys had been recommended.

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10. The World Heritage Committee regularly receives reports on the state of conservation of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List. IUCN reports on the state of conservation of selected natural sites at the annual sessions of the Bureau and Committee. The Committee, at its tenth session held between 24-28 November 1986 in Paris, set up a working group of the Bureau to study the possibilities for setting up a system of monitoring the state of conservation of cultural properties that would be flexible and inexpensive and at the same time recognize that the main responsibility for monitoring lay with the States Parties. The working group set up a monitoring scheme through two sets of questionnaires, one was sent systematically to States concerned for each site to be monitored, and the second, more detailed one, sent only in cases where conservation of property raised questions, in light of the answers to the first questionnaire. The scheme has been in operation since 1988 and useful information has been obtained regarding the state of conservation of some cultural sites. However, in other cases, the information obtained through the questionnaire was

monitoring

useful but insufficient for any detailed analyses. The procedure, however, requires still more time for experimentation before its efficiency may be fully evaluated.

11. The "Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention" have been revised (WHC/2, December 1988) to include changes introduced in accordance with the Committee's decisions on the recommendations made by the working groups in procedures for processing nominations for inscription on the World Heritage List and on the monitoring of cultural properties (see paragraphs 9 and 10 above), and to make the guidelines conform with the current practice in the implementation of the Convention.

III. THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER

12. At its sixth session, the Committee had adopted guidelines which had been prepared jointly by IUCN and ICOMOS for the inscription of cultural and natural properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger. This List enumerates properties for the conservation of which major rescue operations are urgent and for which assistance has been requested under the Convention. At its twelfth session held in Brasilia during 5-9 December 1988, the Committee, at the request of the Omani authorities, decided to inscribe Bahla Fort on the List of World Heritage in Danger. Also, at the request of the Senegalese authorities, the Committee removed Djoudj National Park from this list since, owing to the assistance provided from the Fund, the conservation state of this site had greatly improved. Similar improvements effected largely due to the contributions of more than \$100,000 from the World Heritage Fund, have been reported for the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. The Tanzanian authorities' request for removing this site from the List of World Heritage in Danger will be considered by the World Heritage Committee during its thirteenth session in December 1989. The seven sites listed on the List of World Heritage in Danger as of 31 May 1989 is given in Annex IV.

IV. THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND

(i) Contributions

13. For the period 1986-1987, total contributions from States Parties to the World Heritage Fund amounted to \$1,965,768.73 as at 31 January 1989. For the period 1988-1989, total contributions from States Parties amounted to \$1,144,545.00 as at 31 January 1989, of which \$517,943.00 was in the form of mandatory contributions and the balance of \$626,602.00, in the form of voluntary contributions. As concerns voluntary contributions and the moral obligation that they imply, it is recalled that Article 16, paragraph 4 of the Convention stipulates that these contributions "... shall be paid on a regular basis, at least every two years, and should not be less than the contributions which they (States Parties having opted for voluntary contributions) should have paid if they had been bound by the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article." (i.e. mandatory contributions amounting at present to 1 per cent of the annual contribution of States Parties to the regular budget of Unesco).

(ii) Assistance to States Parties

14. During the period 1 June 1987 to 30 April 1989, several types of international assistance, as described below, have been made available to States Parties, under the World Heritage Fund:

- (a) **Preparatory assistance** (assistance for the preparation of tentative lists of cultural and/or natural properties suitable for inclusion in the World Heritage List, of nominations to the List and of requests for technical co-operation).

Preparatory assistance has been made available to the following States Parties: Bolivia, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zaire at an estimated total cost of \$131,300.

This will be updated to 30 June 1989 and beyond.

update to 30 June

(b) Emergency assistance (assistance for preservation work in connection with cultural and natural properties included or suitable for inclusion in the World Heritage List and which are in immediate danger of destruction or serious deterioration). Emergency assistance has been made to:

*update
to 30 June
1989.*

US \$

Ecuador: Financial contributions to urgent works of restoration of the monuments in Quito 100,000

Peru: Financial contribution for fire fighting equipment purchased to control fire at Macchu Picchu in 1988 20,000

X

Total \$120,000

Phillip?

(c) Training

Individual fellowships. Individual fellowships have been granted to nationals of the following States Parties: Algeria, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Gabon, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, India, Malawi, Nicaragua, Poland, Portugal, Philippines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia and Turkey at an estimated cost of

327,325

Group training was supported through international training courses organized by ICCROM and regional/national training courses in African, Latin American, Arab States and the Asia-Pacific countries as follows: Algeria, Bolivia, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Haiti, India, Malawi, Mexico, Oman, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Turkey and Zimbabwe at an estimated cost of

530,800

*update
to 30 June
1989.*

*update
to include
3 training requests
for Ecuador, Mexico,
Oman, Tanzania (Machhu)
& Senegal.*

(d) Technical co-operation (for safeguarding work on properties included in the World Heritage List)

At its eleventh session, held from 7-11 December 1987 in Paris, the Committee granted technical co-operation to the following States Parties:

\$ 90,000

Algeria: Equipment and consultant services for Tassili N'Ajjer National Park	17,000
Cameroon: Financial contribution to the implementation of the management plan of Dja Faunal Reserve	30,000
Jordan: Financial contribution to research on weathering and protection of the cultural site at Petra	50,000
Turkey: Equipment for conservation of Istanbul	30,000
Tanzania: Equipment for anti-poaching measures in Selous Game Reserve	50,000
Yugoslavia: Equipment for research on forest die-back in Durmitor National Park	50,000
Zimbabwe: Protection work on Khami Ruins National Monument	25,000
Total	<hr/> 252,000 <hr/>

At its eleventh session, the Committee also allocated a sum of \$700,000 for technical co-operation projects, which apart from those mentioned above, were also used to finance the several small-scale (up to \$20,000) projects approved by the Chairman during the period between 11 December 1987 to 5 December 1988. These projects included the following:

Assistance provided to natural sites in Côte d'Ivoire (Comoë National Park), Ecuador (Galapagos National Park), Honduras (Rio Platano National Park), Senegal (Djoudj National Park), Seychelles (Aldabra Atoll), Tanzania (Ngorongoro Conservation Area), and Yugoslavia (Durmitor National Park) at an estimated cost of	111,250
and cultural sites in Brazil (Sao Miguel das Missoes), Colombia (Cartagena), Ethiopia (several sites), Iraq (archaeological sites), Libya (Leptis Magna), Malta (Hal Saflieni Hypogeum), Morocco (Fez), Oman (Bahla Fort), Portugal (Angra do Heroismo) and Yugoslavia (Dubrovnik)	143,270

At its twelfth session, held from 5-9 December 1988 in Brasilia, Brazil, the Committee granted technical co-operation for the following States Parties:

Algeria: Equipment and financial contribution for construction of visitor centre and improvement of visitor services of Tassili N'Ajjer National Park.	53,000
Brazil: Financial contribution for inventorying the documentation on Sao Miguel das Missoes.	10,000
Costa Rica: Equipment and financial contribution for strengthening conservation of the Pacific sector of the Talamanca-La Amistad.	30,000
Ecuador: Purchase of 2 boats, spare parts and associated freight charges for Galapagos National Park	54,000
Greece: Purchase of a portable micro-earthquake monitoring system for Temple of Apollo Epicurius at Bassae and other sites	30,000
Oman: Financial contribution to protection and conservation work at Bahla Fort	50,000
Sri Lanka: Equipment for conservation and restoration of monuments.	25,500
Tanzania: Equipment for Ngorongoro Conservation Area	50,000
Yugoslavia: Equipment for Durmitor National Park	38,000
Zaire: Equipment and vehicles for Garamba National Park	50,000
Zaire: Equipment and vehicles for Virunga National Park	40,000
Total	430,500

At its twelfth session, the Committee also allocated a sum of \$700,000 for technical cooperation projects, which apart from those mentioned above, were also used to finance the small-scale (up to \$20,000) projects approved by the Chairman. These projects included, as of 31 May 1989, the following:

*small scale
up to \$20,000
June 1989*

Assistance provided to Benin (Royal Palaces of Abomey), Guinea (Mt. Nimba Nature Reserve), Tunisia (Ichkeul National Park) and technical documentation and small equipment provided to States Parties through ICCROM and at an estimated total cost of	80,000
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Apart from the above projects approved by the Committee and the Chairman, the Bureau, in accordance with paragraph 86 of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (WHC/2 Revised December 1988) approved requests from

States Parties which were less than \$30,000. The Bureau approved the following requests from States Parties during the twelfth session held between 14-17 June 1988 in Paris:

Greece: Purchase of two portable micro-earthquake and micro-climatological systems for the Temple of Apollo at Bassae	30,000
Nepal: Consultancy services for the preparation of a plan and equipment purchase for Royal Chitwan National Park	30,000
Tanzania: Financial contribution for purchase of all-terrain vehicles for field training activities at the Mweka College of Wildlife Management	30,000
Total	<hr/> 90,000 <hr/>

330 30,000
tech equip
requests app
to finance acc
OK
up d.d. to 10
1/30/88
330,000

15. As more countries adhere to the Convention and the work of the Convention becomes better known, opportunities for development of collaborative programmes with other reputed international organizations in the fields of conservation of natural and cultural heritage has increased. For example, collaboration with the Biological Diversity Program of the Smithsonian Institution has led to the organization of numerous training workshops on protected area management in Latin America. A formal agreement between Unesco and WWF-International (World Wide Fund for Nature) has also been drawn up for cooperative action in the conservation of natural World Heritage properties.

V. REVIEW OF PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

16. The sixth General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention held during the 24th General Conference on 30 October 1987 asked the Chairman of the Committee "to see to it that the procedures for the election of Committee members be reviewed in order to ensure the universal and cultural representation within the Committee foreseen by the Convention". This question was subsequently taken up by the Committee itself at its 11th session in December 1987 at which it "fully recognized the need to ensure an equitable representation of the different regions and cultures of the world in the composition of the Committee, as stipulated in Article 8(2) of the Convention".

17. At the 12th session of the Committee, the discussion focussed on two points, viz, the turnover of membership and the means for obtaining an equitable representation.

18. As regards rotation of States Parties within the Committee, the latter, at its twelfth session, wished to ensure an equitable rotation of States members of the Committee, rotation which should be carried out with flexibility, "taking into account the varied technical qualifications that representatives of States Parties from all regions could bring to the Committee, which was an essentially technical body".

19. As concerns ensuring an equitable representation, the Committee at its 12th session foresaw two measures as follows:

- a) allocation of funds under the World Heritage Fund to finance, according to very strict criteria, the participation in the sessions of the Bureau and the Committee of experts in cultural and/or natural heritage from the least developed States Parties;

b) . increase to 36 the number of States Members of the Committee.

20. The Committee requested the Secretariat ^{to study} this matter and to make proposals thereon to the Bureau at its 13th session on 27-30 June 1989.

(to be completed following the Bureau session)

VI. PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

21. The Secretariat has developed the activities for making the Convention better known in accordance with the promotion plan presented to the World Heritage Committee at its tenth session in November 1986: this plan emphasized the need to decentralize promotional activities by creating national associations as foreseen in Article 17 of the Convention. The role of the Secretariat is more that of initiating and designing information to be distributed through national focal points.

22. A questionnaire was sent out to all States Parties to the Convention in order to help the Secretariat to identify these national focal points, namely those persons responsible for promotion within the States, as well as to learn about ongoing or planned activities and to better understand the needs of States Parties as regards promotional matters.

23. The replies to the questionnaire have shown that the overriding need is for information material on the Convention and especially exhibits.

24. The Secretariat has therefore been preparing the following material which has been widely distributed, including to States not party to the Convention in order to encourage them to join:

- the folding poster on the Convention which notably gives a map showing the locality of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List (updated every year);
- a brochure on the possibilities for assistance provided under the World Heritage Fund;
- the World Heritage Diary (published each year);
- stickers used in particular to identify material provided to States Parties with the help of the World Heritage Fund;
- a certificate attesting the inscription of a site on the World Heritage List (provided at the request of States Parties);

25. As concerns exhibits, the Secretariat has prepared several mobile photographic exhibits and also a general exhibit called "L'Homme et le Patrimoine" (Man and Heritage) describing the Convention and the international safeguarding campaigns.

26. Several publishing houses have produced books on the Convention, usually with the help of the Secretariat. For example, the publisher Plaza y Janes has produced with INCAFO of Madrid volumes 7,8,9 and 10 of its series of illustrated books on "El Patrimonio del Mundo". These books are also produced in Portuguese in the form of booklets which have been sold in large numbers in newspaper stands in Brazil.

27. The same publisher, INCAFO, has launched a collection on World Heritage for adolescents as a co-publication with Unesco: the first volumes in this series have just been issued.

28. The National Geographic Society (Washington, D.C.) has published a very high quality book entitled "Our World's Heritage".
29. In addition, films have been made in co-production with Unesco: a series of 14 films by a company in the Federal Republic of Germany which will be broadcast on television in more than 100 countries, especially developing countries; another series has been launched by Unesco and a French film company called "The Wonders of the World".
30. Numerous efforts have been undertaken in States Parties including the establishment of national focal points as recommended by the promotion plan when these did not exist already.
31. It should be noted that inauguration ceremonies for plaques commemorating the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List have taken place in Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, India, Spain, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia.
32. Exhibitions have been organized with the help of the Secretariat in Algeria, Australia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Greece, Lebanon, Mexico, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania.
33. Special events on the theme of World Heritage have also taken place in Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Switzerland and the United States of America.
34. Finally, many countries have published information material on the Convention and the properties in their countries inscribed on the World Heritage List (Australia, Canada, France, India, Spain, United Kingdom).
35. The Secretariat has on its part organized or helped in the organization of a certain number of events which have promoted the Convention such as the Gala given by Unesco for the fortieth anniversary of the foundation of IUCN, the international biennial on films and archaeology at Tipasa (Algeria), the Africabat Fair at Dakar (Senegal) or the final round of a competition for children aimed at obtaining funds in France for saving the rhinoceros in Zimbabwe and which was held in Unesco.
36. Finally, there has been a systematic effort with the general and specialized press and a certain number of newspapers and magazines have published articles on the World Heritage Convention and Unesco's work to safeguard the natural and the cultural heritage.

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| Annex I | List of States Parties |
| Annex II | List of World Heritage Sites |
| Annex III | List of States Parties having submitted a tentative list of cultural and/or natural properties |
| Annex IV | List of World Heritage in Danger |