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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD
CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

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Item 11 of the Provisional Agenda: Periodic Reports

11F. Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Periodic Report for Africa

SUMMARY

This report summarizes the major activities implemented under the Africa Regional Programme and is organized as follows: A **first part** contextualizes the current state of African World Heritage within the framework of the implementation of the “*Periodic Reporting Action Plan 2002-2007*”; a **second part** highlights the focus areas and framework of Modules II and III of the programme; a **third part** details the activities undertaken during 2005-2006 under the regional programme and a **fourth part** enumerates the activities implemented within the Africa 2009 programme (Module I).

Draft Decision: *30 COM 11F*, see point V

This document should be read in conjunction with Document *WHC-06/30.COM/INF.11*

I. Context

1. The Africa Regional Programme approach forms the principle response to deficiencies that States Parties have in their implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* and their conservation of World Heritage properties as highlighted in the periodic reporting exercise. The Programme simultaneously responds to Goals 1 and 7 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) goals which calls for: "African ownership and leadership, broad and deep participation by all sectors of society leading to(...) Anchoring the development of Africa on its resources and resourcefulness of its people" (NEPAD Framework document, October 2001). The Regional Programme's activities address all stakeholders implicated in World Heritage in Africa, at the local, national, and regional levels. Resolutions of wider African ownership, use of 'Indigenous Knowledge Systems' (IKS) and 'Autonomous management structures' have been key ideas resulting from activities undertaken under the programme. These areas highlight an important opportunity to be taken up by the newly established African World Heritage Fund (*WHC-06/30.COM/INF.11*) to strengthen the programme emphasis on the sustainability of World Heritage property management through education, participation and for the exploration of the potential economic development of World Heritage properties. The Programme consists of three modules: Module 1 – 'Africa 2009' A Programme for the improvement of capacities relating to cultural World Heritage in Africa for which UNESCO is an executing partner in cooperation with ICCROM and CRATerre-ENSAG. Modules II and III comprise the Africa Nature Programme, covering both natural heritage site managers training and Protected Area decision maker training respectively.

II. The regional programme for World Heritage properties : Africa Nature

A. SCOPE OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME:

2. The strategic approach of the Regional Programme has a broad scope covering: Human and institutional capacity building; Conservation and management planning of properties; Research, monitoring and reporting on properties; Training and participation; Networking; and, national, regional and international cooperation (see Document: *WHC-03/27.COM/INF.20C*).

B. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF DEFICIT AREAS FOR THE FOCUS OF THE ACTION PLAN AND THE STRATEGIC APPROACH RESPONSE WITHIN THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME:

3. A major driving force for the establishment of the Action Plan has been the recognition of the differentials between the capacities of the Africa region compared to other UNESCO regions in a number of areas including : the management of World Heritage properties, the carrying out of inventories and nominations of properties ; national policy frameworks and strategies;

coherence and synergies between existing institutions and laws ; information availability and practice relating to new techniques for conservation; preparedness in risk management and public, civil society and private sector involvement in the implementation of *the World Heritage Convention*.

C. FOCUS ACTIVITIES AND SYNERGIES

4. The overall objective of the Regional Programme is to address these deficit areas through: the sharing of *knowledge and information* to ensure that information on *World Heritage Convention* implementation and World Heritage site conservation and protection are widely available; the promotion of coherent *governance and institutional frameworks*, by encouraging the development of appropriate local, national and regional mechanisms to this end. The Programme is helping in the reinforcement and the implementation of specific national heritage laws and institutions. For example: States Parties such as Guinea are reviewing their site protection Act which dates back to 1944; Benin is progressing towards establishing a legal instrument that will facilitate culture and heritage protection together; Nigeria inaugurated on 9 March 2006 the “National Committee on the Design and Production of a five-year heritage conservation Master Plan for Nigeria” and Kenya has just adopted its heritage Act submitted to Parliament in 2005.
5. The Programme also addresses *sustainable capacity-building and technical cooperation* with the objective to : (i) increase capacity for the effective implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* and management of properties in Africa; (ii) to promote sustainable capacity-building strategies; (iii) to encourage States Parties to integrate capacity-building for World Heritage issues as a priority in social and economic development strategies, including national sustainable development and poverty reduction strategies, country assistance strategies; (iv) to promote the awareness of donors, multilateral organizations and other relevant actors of the relevance of World Heritage properties for poverty alleviation and sustainable development. A key example is the on-going collaboration between UNESCO, the African Development Bank and the State Party of Mozambique (see paragraph 11 below). The capacity building provided through training takes place during a limited time period, and applies rigorous methodological and pedagogical rules to achieve a high level of ability. ‘On the job’ practical training enables the rapid appropriation of new techniques of site management critical to ensuring the effectiveness of training and the rapid application of the information gathered during training. A website has been set up by the NGO *Conservation et Développement* (www.cons-dev.org) as a forum and resource site for African site managers.

III. Scope of the activities undertaken and in progress

A. INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION

6. The World Heritage Centre has collaborated with the following institutions that have played key roles in enhancing the development of the Regional

Programme: University of Abobo Adjame (Côte d' Ivoire), Institute of Tropical Ecology (Côte d'Ivoire), Moi University and University of Nairobi (Kenya), University of Lyon (France), IUCN Regional Offices (Burkina Faso and Kenya), Mweka College of Wildlife Management (Tanzania), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP- Nairobi), Centre for Heritage Development in Africa (CHDA), Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF), and the National Commissions for UNESCO (for example, Kenya).

B. NATIONAL COOPERATION

- To sustain an integrated approach to managing World Heritage properties, Governments such as the Republics of : Botswana, Cote d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Mauritius, Senegal, South Africa, and Tanzania, have established arrangements for forming **inter-ministerial or inter-institutional committees** so that all concerned national departmental and stakeholder interests are represented and all relevant substantive areas are addressed. To facilitate communication, nationally and internationally, several Governments in Africa have now designated national focal points (often a representative of the country's inter-ministerial or inter-institutional arrangements) to act as an effective conduit for communication and information dissemination on *Convention*- related matters.

C. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:

Fig. 1: Examples of international cooperation and financial support for undertaken or on-going activities:

Source/Donor	Amount (USD)	Activity	Beneficiary(ies)
OPERATIONAL PROJECTS			
UCCLA (Portugal)	614,842	The rehabilitation of San Sebastian fortress, Mozambique Island (on-going)	Mozambique
Japan	1,108,078	The rehabilitation of San Sebastian Fortress, Mozambique Island (on-going)	Mozambique
TRAINING			
United Kingdom	40,000	Workshop on Biodiversity Conservation in World Natural Heritage properties (to be held during 2 nd half of 2006)	Eastern Africa & West Indian Ocean Island Countries

Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	20,000	Preparatory for nomination Activities for Western cape Vineyard cultural Landscapes (on-going)	South Africa
Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	20,000	Preparation for nomination file for Tenzug site (on-going)	Ghana
Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	12,000	Mountain guides training (on-going)	Uganda
Italian Funds-in-Trust	160,000	Africa Nature training, Kenya –Modules II and III-Anglophone session 12 November 17 December 2005	Site Managers and Directors of Protected Areas in Anglophone Africa
Italian Funds-in-Trust	1,491,600	Aksum Obelisk re-erection-Phase 1 (ongoing)	Ethiopia
	Estimated amount : 3,770,000	Phase 2 – As of June 2006	Ethiopia and international exhibition
Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF)	40,000	UNEP/NWHF/UNESCO Regional Seminar on Managing WH properties and on nominations 9 -10 March 2006	National Protected Area Directors
OTHER MEETINGS			
Botswana	11,278	Capacity building Seminar for Decision makers. 24-28 October 2005	National Directors of protected areas in eastern and southern Africa
World Heritage Fund collaboration	38,660		
Israel	5,000	Malawi Sub-Regional Cultural Landscapes workshop 7-11 November 2005	National World Heritage Represent. from Anglophone Africa.
Portugal	35,000	Capacity Building seminar with authorities of Ilha de Mocambique.	Mozambique

8. The cooperation between properties in a bi or multi-lateral framework through transboundary nominations or the development of the twinning system between World Heritage properties is progressing in Africa. The principle twinning example is the on-going city of Bergen/Island of Mozambique exchange programme. Serial and/or trans-boundary nominations are currently under preparation between: Uganda, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; South Africa and Mozambique; Senegal and Guinea; and South Africa and Namibia. Other future possibilities under consideration include Central African Republic, Congo and Gabon, Cameroon and Congo, Kenya and Uganda.

D. PROMOTION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT MECHANISMS AND THE ENHANCEMENT OF AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

9. In the implementation of the Periodic Report Action Plan 2002-2007 new sources of financial support for the Regional Programme are highlighted as being necessary for the future running and development of the programme. Financial arrangement for the Programme include among others; promoting actions at the national, national and sub-regional levels to support the financing of the Programme activities; enhancing and encouraging private-sector partnerships in the implementation of Programme (through, for example, strengthening current voluntary initiatives, partnerships with foundations, academic institutions, and NGOs); integration of the Africa Programme objectives into multilateral and bilateral development co-operation; making more effective use of and building upon existing sources of relevant funding (e.g. by inviting entities such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its Multilateral Fund to identify how they could support implementation of appropriate and relevant Africa Regional Programme activities); inviting African Governments and other stakeholders to provide resources and to contribute to the World Heritage Fund and to the African World Heritage Fund to enable fulfillment of the tasks set out in the Action Plan (e.g. the payment of contributions to the World Heritage Fund for many years, or decades, by the Central African Republic, Zambia and Burkina Faso are case examples of 'good practice' that serve as examples to be followed).

E. KEY ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

10. The "Aksum World Heritage site improvement project: Re-erection of the Obelisk" – Phase 2, to be executed by UNESCO with financial support from the Government of Italy and in collaboration with the government of Ethiopia, was developed according to the results of the "Aksum Archaeological Site Improvement Project: Preparatory studies for the re-erection of the Obelisk and capacity building for archaeological conservation" - Phase 1, which was started in October 2005. The Project has the primary aim of the re-erection of the Aksum Obelisk which was returned from Italy in April 2005. Capacity building activities will be carried out as part of the second phase of the project is expected to start in September 2006 (see Document: *WHC-06/COM.30/7B*).
11. The African Development Bank (AfDB) and UNESCO are working to develop a Master Plan for Mozambique Island World Heritage site and its surrounding

coastal region. The objective of the AfDB-UNESCO Programme is to improve sustainable development initiatives on the Island and its associated coastal area, taking the rehabilitation of Historical Monuments as a catalyst to develop business for local communities. The first UNESCO/AfDB mission was undertaken to the island from 6 – 14 March 2006.

12. One of the principle recommendations of the Africa Periodic Report and the sessions of the Regional Programme call for regional and international support for the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) in order to supplement the limited funds available for African properties under the World Heritage Fund. The *African Position Paper* on establishing the AWHF prepared by the 'Africa Group' at UNESCO assisted by the Government of South Africa (*WHC-05/15.GA/INF.8*), was presented and adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 29th session (Durban, 2005). The Position Paper has led to the formulation of a strategic Action Plan which in addition addresses the decisions of the NEPAD priorities, the Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg Declaration on World Heritage in Africa and Sustainable Development (*see Document: WHC-06/30.COM/INF.11*). The African World Heritage Fund was launched in Maropeng, South Africa, on 4 and 5 May 2006. The Fund will be used to improve the preservation of cultural and natural heritage across the continent and to increase the number of African sites on the World Heritage List.
13. *AFRICITIES 4* Summit, the fourth Pan-African edition of Local Government Days, will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 18 to 22 September 2006. The Theme of the Summit is: **“Building joint actions for the effective realization of the Millennium Development Goals in African Local Governments.”** The Africities summit is a Platform of dialogue on political decentralization in Africa which brings together central and local governments, NGOs, the private sector, research and training institutions as well as Municipal Development Partnership (MDP) (Benin) partners in the donor and support agencies. Africa has six World Heritage cities (Lamu, Zanzibar, Island of Mozambique, Saint Louis, Gorée Island, Kilwa Kisiwani and also heritage located in cities (Abomey, Palais Abomihanga, Ashante Kingdom, Elmina Castles etc). Three more historical cities are preparing a nomination in Angola, Eritrea, Cape Verde and Kenya. The Centre has proposed to participate and to organize a special session and an exhibition at this Summit.

IV. Module I: AFRICA 2009 Progress update

14. The programme continued to focus on capacity building through the training of professionals and working on specific projects. In all the training programmes, the number of women participating continues to rise. Both the technical course and the regional courses held stakeholder meetings at which local communities took a prominent role in make decisions about heritage places in their areas. All the programme activities continued to articulate the issue of HIV/AIDS and cultural heritage. The programme also began working on the programme activities of the Final Phase of the programme. The Proposed Programme and Budget for the Final phase 2006-2009 were developed and forwarded to the

financial partners. An external evaluation report of the programme highlighted the many favourable situations created by the programme :

- a) *A World Heritage Nomination process workshop*- was held in Porto-Novo, Benin from 30 May to 3 June 2005. 15 participants from 15 French speaking countries took part into the seminar.
- b) *3rd Technical Training Course* -The 3rd Technical training Course on Strategies and Techniques of Preventive Conservation was held in Antananarivo, Madagascar from 27 June to 22 July 2005. 18 participants from 16 French speaking countries attended the course. As part of the course exercises the participants worked on the Royal sacred site of Ambohimanga and the Royal Palace in Antananarivo.
- c) *7th Regional Three Months Course*- The 7th Regional Course was held from 15 August to 4 November 2005 in Mombasa, Kenya. 22 participants from the English speaking countries took part in the course (11 Female and 11 Male). More than 90% of the 20 resource persons were from Sub-Saharan Africa. The course was divided into two sections. The first section dealt with introductory topics to heritage management, and the second, focused on the management planning process.
- d) *6th Thematic Regional Seminar* -The 6th Thematic Seminar on Conservation and Promotion of Traditional Architecture in Sub Saharan Africa was held in Dakar, Senegal from 17 to 21 October 2005. 16 participants from 14 French speaking countries took part in the course. During the seminar a diagnostic visit of the architectural heritage of the Goree Island, was organized.
- e) *Seminar on journalist and the heritage*- A workshop on “Media and Heritage; partnership for the sustainable conservation” was held from 18 to 22 July 2005 in Porto-Novo, Benin. The objective of the workshop, attended by 19 participants, was for the media and heritage practitioners to discuss how to promote the sustainable use of cultural heritage places.
- f) *7th Regional Directors Seminar*- The 7th Regional Seminar was held at the end of the Regional Course. This was to allow the Directors to reflect and deliberate on the Final phase of the programme. 27 Directors of institutions responsible for immovable cultural heritage in Africa joined the 22 course participants in the seminar. The participants of the Regional Course demonstrated to the Directors and heads of institutions the work they had done during the three months course
- g) *Publications* - two books were published this year *Traditional Conservation Practices in Africa* (French and English) and *the Legal Framework for the Protection of Immovable Cultural Heritage in Africa*.
- h) *AFRICA 2009 at the World Heritage Meeting in Durban South Africa* – At the 29th Session of the World Heritage Committee (Durban, 2005), AFRICA 2009 programme maintained a very high profile throughout the week.
- i) *Projets Situés* listed are the projects implemented this year: 1: The Na-Yiri of Kokologho, Burkina Faso. 2: Woold Home, Togo. 3: Mangochi Fort, Malawi. 4: Tiebele, Burkina Faso. 5: Monts Mandara, Cameroon. 6:

Inventory, Cameroon. 7: Jardin des Plantes et de la Nature, Bénin, 8: Leven House, Kenya 9: St. Mary Cathedral, Gabon 10: Tombeau des Askias, Mali. 11: Koutammakou, Togo, 12: The Senegambia Stone Circles, The Gambia and Senegal. 13: Domboshaba Monument, Botswana. 14: Kasubi Tombs, Uganda. 15: Agadez, Niger. 16: Bandiagara, Mali.

15. The World Heritage Committee is, therefore, invited to consider adopting the following:

V. Draft Decision

Draft Decision: 30 COM 11F

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-06/30.COM/11F,*
2. *Recalling Decision 29 COM 11C.1 adopted at its 29th session (Durban, 2005),*
3. *Takes note of the Report of Progress Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Periodic Report for Africa;*
4. *Acknowledges the efforts of the World Heritage Centre in assisting African States Parties in improving the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and in conserving properties and the progress thus far achieved in implementing the Action Plan from the Periodic Report for Africa adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 26th session (Budapest, 2002);*
5. *Further acknowledges with satisfaction concerning the support provided by financial partners to Africa Regional Programme such as, the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF), Italy and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for hosting and supporting the organization of the Regional Seminar on Managing World Heritage properties in Africa, further appeals to the international community both public and private as well as funds and foundations to continue to provide assistance towards the attainment of the objectives contained in the Action Plan of the Africa Periodic report;*
6. *Invites Africa Regional Programme partners such as NWHF, AWHF to cooperate with the World Heritage Centre, IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM with view to designing a long-term capacity building and institutional development programme for World Natural Heritage in Africa built on the efforts so far achieved through the Regional Programme and based on the model of the Africa 2009 programme that would ensure sustained reinforcement of World Heritage activities through capacity and institutional building, thematic meetings and networking;*
7. *Welcomes the launching of the African World Heritage Fund held in May 2006 and encourages States Parties to support and contribute to the Fund;*

8. *Requests the World Heritage Centre to collaborate with the relevant States Parties and with other UNESCO Departments with view to organizing the side-event dedicated to the African World Heritage cities at the 4th Africities Summit;*
9. *Further requests the Centre, ICOMOS, ICCROM and IUCN in collaboration with other States Parties through the AWHF to advocate the enhancement of the Africa Programme.*
10. *Requests the Director of the World Heritage Centre to report at its 32nd session (2008) on the implementation of the recommendations of the Periodic Report for Africa.*