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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

REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR

**Seventeenth session
Paris, 21-26 June 1993**

I. INTRODUCTION

I.1 The seventeenth session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 21 to 26 June 1993. The following members of the Bureau attended: Mr. Robert Milne (United States of America), Chairperson, representatives of Brazil, China, Colombia, Germany and Senegal as Vice-Presidents and Mr. Azedine Beschaouch (Tunisia) as Rapporteur.

I.2 Representatives of the following States Parties to the Convention attended the meeting as observers: Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, El Salvador, France, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Oman, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, and Thailand.

I.3 Representatives of the Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) also attended the meeting in an advisory capacity. The full list of participants appears in Annex I.

II. OPENING SESSION

II.1 The Representative of the Director-General, Mr. Henri Lopes, Assistant Director-General for Culture, after welcoming the members of the Bureau and the representatives of the advisory bodies, informed the Bureau that since the last session of the Committee, three more countries have adhered to the World Heritage Convention: Austria, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, bringing the the total number of States Parties to the Convention to 134.

II.2 Mr. Lopes emphasized that safeguarding of the World Heritage sites for present and future generations is needed more than ever and drew attention to a new departure to strengthen the links between tangible and intangible cultural heritage in UNESCO's programme. The precious cultural and natural heritage is threatened by ever increasing degradation caused by pollution, natural and man-made disasters, armed conflicts and the double side of tourism. He underlined the mobilization of support of the international community and the role of the World Heritage Centre to bring the Convention to a wider public.

II.3 Finally, he reminded the participants of the Bureau of the important tasks outlined in the agenda and he wished the seventeenth session of the World Heritage Bureau a successful meeting.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

III.1 The Bureau decided to include an additional agenda item, entitled "Management and staffing of the World Heritage Centre", and suggested that the discussion of this topic item follow that of item 3 of the provisional agenda as set out in document WHC-93/CONF.001/1. With this amendment, the Bureau adopted the agenda.

IV. REPORT ON ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARIAT SINCE THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

IV.1 As Secretary of the World Heritage Convention, Mr. Bernd von Droste, Director of the World Heritage Centre, reported on the activities undertaken by the Secretariat since the last session of the Committee, held in Santa Fe, New Mexico (USA), in December 1992. He drew attention to the fact that detailed information on the activities was provided in working documents made available to the members of the Bureau.

IV.2 He gave details of the follow-up given to the decisions and recommendations of the sixteenth session of the World Heritage Committee and highlighted the launching of the World Heritage Newsletter and the work undertaken to revise the Operational Guidelines.

IV.3 In particular, he mentioned the methodological aspects of monitoring, to be elaborated with the partners in the World Heritage system and more especially, informed the delegates about the first meeting with the World Heritage advisory bodies on monitoring, documentation and information which was held at the World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Headquarters, on 19 April 1993.

IV.4 He continued by mentioning new nominations to the World Heritage List and informed Bureau members that they would be examining the nominations of 43 sites, 30 of which are nominated under cultural criteria of the Convention, 10 under natural heritage criteria (including one extension) and 3 mixed nominations. Only a modest number of Indicative Lists had been sent to the Secretariat during the previous years and in fact none since the sixteenth session of the World Heritage Committee.

IV.5 He drew attention to the document on promotion (WHC-93/CONF.001/INF.6) and to the multifaceted promotional activities, besides the Newsletter, the production of World Heritage films and other audio-visual materials and publications, and the CD-ROM project. Links have also been fostered with the Patrimonio 2001 project.

IV.6 He finally informed the Bureau of forthcoming meetings, including the General Assembly of States Parties to be held on 29 October 1993, at UNESCO Headquarters, and the seventeenth session of the World Heritage Committee scheduled to be held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 6 to 12 December 1993. He furthermore

mentioned the International Symposium and Constitutive Assembly of World Heritage Cities Organization to be held in Fez (Morocco) from 6 to 8 September 1993 as well as the expert meeting on Cultural Landscapes at Schorfheide/Chorin (Germany) from 12 to 17 October 1993.

V. MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

V.1 At the request of the Bureau, Mr. von Droste informed on the budgetary and staffing situation of the World Heritage Centre, which was established on 1 May 1992. He emphasized the four main lines of the Centre's mission: cultural heritage and natural heritage conservation; promotion; fund-raising and administration of the World Heritage Fund.

V.2 A Steering Committee was established by the Director-General to ensure internal coordination within UNESCO. With regard to the staffing situation, he informed the Bureau that five professionals and four general service staff are paid under the UNESCO Regular Programme budget whereas three professionals are seconded by States Parties, namely Canada/US, Germany and Italy. He particularly thanked these States Parties for strengthening the Secretariat's work. In addition, one senior professional is paid by the World Heritage Fund, as well as one clerk and four general service staff.

V.3 Mr. Lopes added several points to outline the internal debate and structure within UNESCO. He assured the delegates that all recommendations made by the World Heritage Committee are transmitted to the Director-General of UNESCO. For several years a "cleaning up operation" to reduce the number of staff at UNESCO Headquarters has been going on, as well as a concentration of activities. He underlined the initial endeavour of the Director-General in establishing the World Heritage Centre and he asked the Bureau and the Committee to review its strategy in the light of these findings.

V.4 As proposed by the Chairperson, the Bureau established an ad hoc working group (composed of members from China, Colombia, Germany and the United States of America) on the staffing and management of the World Heritage Centre and requested this group to report back to him.

V.5 Towards the end of the Bureau meeting, the working group presented a draft resolution (see Annex II). In the ensuing discussion the Rapporteur emphasized that the Bureau could not make a resolution directly to the Director-General of UNESCO. He explained the procedure which requires that the text be first presented in the form of a recommendation to the Committee for its approval before being addressed to the Executive Board and the General Conference.

V.6 The Delegate from the United States of America reiterated his wish to see this resolution reflected in the report and indicated that his concerns about the present staffing situation of the Centre will be communicated to the Director-

General through diplomatic channels. The Bureau, evenly divided on this issue, did not reach a consensus on either the form or on the text of the draft resolution, but reached consensus on : (a) that the Bureau congratulates the Director-General for establishing the World Heritage Centre; (b) that the Bureau expressed to the Director-General their wish to ensure a strong Centre and maximum of staff and adequate financial means, and (c) that the World Heritage Convention has the highest priority.

V.7 At the request of the Chairperson, the draft resolution, which was not adopted by the Bureau, is annexed to the Report for information (Annex II).

V.8 At the end of the debate, the Representative of the Director-General made a statement on behalf of the Director-General, which is reproduced as Annex III to this Report.

VI. EXAMINATION OF THE REVISED OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES REFLECTING DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

VI.1 The Bureau examined in detail document WHC-93/CONF.001/2 which presented proposals for the revision of the Operational Guidelines, taking account of the Strategic Orientations adopted by the Committee at its sixteenth session. Proposals for revision also included those submitted by Italy and the United States of America.

VI.2 The Bureau recommended that these proposals, amended in accordance with its discussions, be included in the Guidelines. The Bureau also requested the Secretariat to proceed with the finalization of the complete text of the Orientations and to present this text for adoption to the Committee at its seventeenth session.

VII. METHODOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF MONITORING WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

VII.1 The Bureau recalled that the World Heritage Committee, at its sixteenth session, requested the World Heritage Centre to organize in 1993 an expert meeting with the objective to establish a framework for a systematic monitoring programme, taking into account the experiences already at hand, in particular the experimental regional monitoring programme undertaken in Latin America through the UNDP/UNESCO Regional Project for Cultural, Urban and Environmental Heritage and monitoring reports prepared by the World Heritage advisory bodies.

VII.2 The Bureau took note of document WHC-93/CONF.001/INF. 2 prepared by the Centre, of an ICOMOS memorandum dated 15 June 1993 proposing a possible agenda for the expert meeting, and document WHC-93/CONF.001.3Add., prepared by the UNDP/UNESCO Regional Project as a progress report on the monitoring programme in Latin America, including the methodology applied.

VII.3 The ICOMOS Representative introduced his proposal to organize the expert meeting around four main items: (a) defining and clarifying the need for monitoring; (b) elements of a global monitoring system; (c) elements of a site - specific monitoring process, and (d) implementing the monitoring system.

VII.4 The Chief Technical Adviser of the UNDP/UNESCO Regional Project recalled the origins of monitoring of World Heritage sites and that the Committee, in its sessions held in Carthage and Santa Fe, commissioned the Regional Project to undertake an experimental monitoring programme in Latin America, the Caribbean and Lusophone Africa. Based on the experience so far, he emphasized the need to include the participation of local people and responsible national agencies in a continuous monitoring process. He suggested that, within the Centre, a monitoring unit be created that would initiate and coordinate monitoring programmes on national and regional levels. He also proposed that a small working group on monitoring be established, in order to prepare in more detail the scope and agenda of the expert meeting.

VII.5 The Bureau recommended that the expert meeting on the methodology for a systematic monitoring programme be held in the fall of 1993 so as to be able to report to the World Heritage Committee at its seventeenth session.

VII.6 The Bureau established an ad-hoc working group comprising the Delegates from Brazil, China, Colombia, Germany, Tunisia and the United States of America and representatives of ICOMOS, IUCN and the UNDP/UNESCO Regional Project to propose the framework, objectives, agenda, tentative list of participants and timeframe for the expert meeting. The Bureau endorsed the following conclusions and recommendations of the ad-hoc working group:

- a) An expert meeting on monitoring methodology will be held in November 1993 with a view to establish the concept, framework, methodology and implementation of systematic monitoring programmes. The expert meeting will have to develop a flexible standardized methodology which would be applicable to different regions and which would meet the need of both the cultural and natural aspects of the Convention. The World Heritage Centre will explore the venue of the meeting.
- b) Monitoring should not be understood as a periodical inspection of World Heritage sites but as a continuous process which should lead to concrete proposals for action on the levels of site-management, national policies and regional activities as well as serve as a framework and reference for decisions to be taken by the Committee.
- c) For the expert meeting, approximately 20 - 25 participants will be invited by the World Heritage Centre from different cultural and geographical regions of the world, different

managerial levels and from institutions and organizations involved in monitoring and documentation programmes.

- d) As a preparation for the expert meeting, the World Heritage Centre will prepare a compilation of documents and historical background materials relevant to the monitoring of world heritage.
- e) The following structural elements for the agenda of the expert meeting have been identified:
 - i) Review of existing procedures and past practices
 - ii) Information management and documentation
 - Information management need
 - Existing resources and data bases (WCMC, Getty Institute)
 - Coordinated approach to information management
 - Review of nomination forms
 - iii) Purpose and need for monitoring
 - State responsibilities under the Convention
 - Similarities and differences between cultural and natural heritage monitoring
 - Common monitoring goals for the partners in the World Heritage system (States Parties, Committee/Bureau, Secretariat, advisory bodies and other institutions such as, tourism development, aid agencies and other interested parties)
 - General considerations: definitions and principles
 - iv) Elements and organization of a global monitoring system
 - objectives and expected outputs/result oriented
 - standardized, but flexible framework for action on different levels
 - coordination and implementation roles and responsibilities
 - v) Monitoring process for sites
 - linking criteria and sites qualities to the monitoring process
 - universal standards and principles, flexibility to adapt to cultural and natural sites
 - methodological considerations
 - case studies from different regions (local, regional, national)
 - involvement of experts
 - local management involvement
 - reporting formats and standards.

VIII. EXAMINATION OF THE REPORTS ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE NATURAL AND CULTURAL PROPERTIES

VIII.1 The Bureau examined document WHC-93/CONF.001/3 and discussed the state of conservation of several World Heritage properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, including World Heritage properties in Danger. The Bureau's review of the state of conservation of World Heritage properties took into consideration information provided in other reports distributed by IUCN, ICOMOS, the UNDP/UNESCO Project on Cultural Heritage in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the UNESCO Office in Cambodia.

State of conservation of natural properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger

VIII.2 The Bureau noted that the recommendations and observations made by the Committee at its sixteenth session, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in December 1992, had been transmitted by the Centre to the States Parties concerned. The Bureau reviewed the state of conservation of sites for which the States Parties, IUCN or the World Heritage Centre had been able to obtain additional information. Furthermore, the Bureau examined the state of conservation of some other sites on the basis of reports submitted by representatives of IUCN.

Natural World Heritage Properties in Danger

Srebarna Biosphere Reserve (Bulgaria): The Bureau recalled that the Committee at its last session included this site in the List of World Heritage in Danger. Prevention of seasonal flooding has led to a decrease in the size and productivity of Srebarna and agricultural and residential use of surrounding areas have led to decline or disappearance of migratory and passerine bird populations. The Bureau recalled that IUCN, on the basis of two missions to the site in 1992, had concluded that Srebarna's World Heritage status may no longer be justified because it has deteriorated to a state where it may have irretrievably lost the characteristics which merited its inclusion in the World Heritage List.

The Bureau at its sixteenth session, held in Paris in July 1992, had recommended that the Committee consider deleting this property from the World Heritage List and had invited the Bulgarian authorities to submit their observations and comments to the Committee. At its last session, the Committee was informed by the Representative of Bulgaria that the Bulgarian Government, in order to restore the World Heritage values of Srebarna, was preparing a comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of Srebarna and an ecosystem restoration plan. The Committee had indicated to the Bulgarian authorities that available scientific evidence suggested that the site may no longer possess the natural habitat values for which it was inscribed, and that a

full restoration of a naturally functioning ecosystem might be impossible. However, the Committee invited the Bulgarian authorities to submit, before 1 May 1993, to the World Heritage Centre, the results of the on-going project to prepare a comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of the site, including an analysis of available data to monitor biological populations and environmental quality, and a plan for ecosystem restoration.

The Bureau noted that the Bulgarian authorities have submitted to the World Heritage Centre, a project document entitled 'Environmental Recovery and Restoration of the Biosphere Reserve "Srebarna"' and had indicated that a report on the comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of Srebarna will be sent to the Centre as soon as its translation into French is finalized. A representative of IUCN made a detailed presentation on the state of conservation of Srebarna and the Bulgarian plan for its restoration, and emphasized the fact that most small wetlands like Srebarna (600 ha) are inherently unstable and their ecological integrity is easily threatened by changes occurring outside their boundaries. The Bureau noted that the restoration plans currently being implemented by the Bulgarian authorities could restore the hydraulic regime of Srebarna, and hence have the potential to restore the ecosystem which existed at the time of Srebarna's inscription on the World Heritage List. Furthermore, the Bureau learnt that the Bulgarian authorities were introducing a system to issue permits to local people for hunting wild boar and foxes which threaten the population of Dalmatian Pelicans in Srebarna. The Bureau, however, noted that the Pelican population of Srebarna comprised only about 10% of the global population of the species, and continued to breed in sites outside of Srebarna, including some sites in Romania, where they were hunted.

The Bureau recommended to the Committee to: (a) retain Srebarna on the List of World Heritage in Danger; (b) defer its decision on whether or not to delete Srebarna from the World Heritage List for a period of two years and (c) request IUCN, in co-operation with the Ramsar Convention, to monitor the extent to which the project(s) implemented by the Bulgarian authorities are restoring the ecological integrity of Srebarna. Furthermore, the Bureau requested that the proposal for the restoration of Srebarna, and the comprehensive assessment of its state of conservation be made available to members of the Committee for review, and that the Bulgarian and Romanian authorities co-operate in protecting the populations of Dalmatian Pelicans in the region. The Bureau requested IUCN and the Centre to co-operate with the Ramsar Convention and the Bulgarian authorities and report to its eighteenth session on the extent to which the restoration efforts implemented by the Bulgarian authorities are helping to restore Srebarna.

Plitvice Lakes National Park (Croatia): The Bureau recalled that the integrity of this site, which has been inaccessible since the onset of armed conflict in the region in 1991, still remained intact. However, recognizing that the potential for a resurgence

of hostilities continued to threaten the integrity of this site, the Committee, at its last session included the Plitvice Lakes National Park in the List of World Heritage in Danger and called upon the Government of Croatia, UNPROFOR and the authorities in the Krajina Region to co-operate to implement the Vance Plan and its successor resolutions to stabilize the political situation in the region. The Bureau learnt that as recommended by the Committee, at its sixteenth session, UNPROFOR undertakes regular surveillance patrols in the Park area, and is trying to bring together authorities from the Croatian Government and the Krajina Region to discuss the organization of a second international mission to the site. The Bureau requested the Centre to continue its dialogue with UNPROFOR to explore the possibilities for organizing such an international mission and report on the outcome to the seventeenth session of the Committee.

Natural properties

Mt. Nimba Nature Reserve (Côte d'Ivoire/Guinea): In 1981 the World Heritage Committee inscribed Mt. Nimba on the World Heritage List. In 1992 Mt Nimba was placed on the List of World Heritage in Danger by the Committee which requested the Centre to send an expert mission to: (a) ascertain the boundaries of the site at the time of inscription and recommend an appropriate boundary; (b) assess the impact of the iron-ore mine and other threats to the integrity of the site; (c) work towards an integrated rural development project.

The mission was carried out between 15 to 30 May 1993. It included representatives from the Centre, UNDP, UNEP, the Government of Guinea, NIMCO (the mining company), IUCN, CEDI (an international NGO in France), Guinea Ecology (local NGO) and two consultants as well as local specialists.

A comprehensive review of the part of Mt. Nimba situated in Guinea was carried out with extensive site and village visits and reviews of specific issues such as: the original nomination, the mineral body, the boundaries, and the socio-economic situation relating to local communities.

The major findings were as follows:

- i) the site met World Heritage criteria at the time of the original nomination in 1981. It continues to meet these criteria;
- ii) the site should remain on the List of World Heritage in Danger primarily because of the high risk of agricultural intrusions due to the lack of an established administrative structure and effective protection. At the present time, the Mt. Nimba Pilot Project provides a management presence, but this is not assured;
- iii) when the site was nominated in 1981, the Government of

Guinea was fully aware of the mineral potential. Over \$25 million had been spent on prospecting and a potential ore body of 500 million tonnes had been identified. As the Government has stated, it was not their intention to include the mineral body in the World Heritage nomination. It is recommended that this perspective be accepted;

- iv) the revised nomination submitted in 1991 should be considered as withdrawn, as it was not accepted by the Committee;
- v) a revised nomination has been requested. It will include a revised area of 17,740 ha. which is 610 ha larger than the 1981 nomination of 17,130 ha. It is, however, 1,550 ha less than the true size of the 1981 nomination which was 19,290 ha, including the Côte d'Ivoire section of 5,200 ha. The area required for mineral operations (1,500 ha.) is not included in the World Heritage nomination;
- vi) there are 18 recommendations in the mission report which is available from the World Heritage Centre. The recommendations include a commitment by the Government and the mining company to an "Environmental Convention" in which NGOs will be invited to participate. In addition, the mining company agrees, once the mine becomes operational, to contribute \$500,000 per year towards conservation projects;
- vii) until the war and the political situation in Liberia stabilises, it is unlikely that the mine will become operational;
- viii) continued surveillance through a management presence is essential for the conservation of the site - primarily to prevent agricultural incursions into the World Heritage site.

The integrity of this site will require technical and financial support from the Committee until an adequate on-site management regime is established. It is recommended that \$30,000 in emergency funds be provided for the express purpose of maintaining a management presence on the site.

The Bureau accepted the findings of the Task Force and concurred with the revised boundaries and the retention of the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The Observer of Guinea expressed thanks for having organized this mission and the Bureau emphasized that it accepted the new boundaries and would pursue with vigour the implementation of the eighteen recommendations in the report. The Observer added that he welcomed the recommendation of Germany and the United States of America regarding the participation of the Centre in future environmental studies. The Government of Guinea submitted a request for \$30,000 in emergency assistance to implement the recommendations.

Bureau members underlined their long-term concern for the protection of the site, which would undoubtedly receive some impact if the potential mine adjacent to the site became operational. The Government of Guinea agreed to take all measures to ensure that any impact of the mining operations would be subject to detailed environmental assessment and all measures would be taken to minimize potential damage.

IUCN again underlined its concern that potential repercussions of the mine in 30 to 40 years could become a future problem for the Committee. The Bureau was in agreement with the findings of the mission and was pleased that the mission was able to respond to the questions placed before them and to clarify the current status of the site.

Sangay National Park (Ecuador): Noting that the Ecuadorean authorities have not yet provided the information requested by the Committee, the Bureau requested the Centre to contact them once again and obtain information on the status of the road construction project and on-going efforts to assess its impact on the integrity of the site. In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, the Bureau also invited the Ecuadorean authorities to consider (a) submitting a proposal to extend this World Heritage site to include new areas that have been added to the Park, and (b) inviting a mission comprising regional experts to assess the severity of the threats faced by this site and plan remedial action. The Bureau requested the Centre to report on the implementation of the Committee's recommendation to the seventeenth session of the Committee, scheduled to be convened during December 1993.

Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (India): The Bureau recalled that the Committee, at its last session, was informed that the damage caused by the invasion of this site by militants belonging to the Bodo tribe in Assam was estimated to be about US\$1.6 million and that although the Park infrastructure had suffered considerable damage, habitats in the inaccessible parts of the Sanctuary appeared to be intact. Concerned by the information reported by the Representative of IUCN that the area is still not completely free from encroachments by militants belonging to the Bodo tribe, and that illegal cultivation was spreading into parts of the Sanctuary, the Committee at its last session, in accordance with Article 11, paragraph (4), of the Convention, included the Manas Wildlife Sanctuary in the List of World Heritage in Danger. The Bureau was informed that the Centre had drawn the attention of the Indian authorities to the fact that they have not yet provided a formal written report on the state of conservation of Manas, despite repeated requests from the Committee since 1989, and had reiterated the Committee's request for a comprehensive report providing a full assessment of the damage to the site and remedial measures that are being taken. Noting that the Indian authorities have not yet provided the report requested by the Committee, the Bureau asked the Centre to continue its efforts to obtain such a report for submission to the seventeenth session of the Committee.

Aïr and Ténéré Nature Reserve (Niger): The Bureau recalled that the Committee, at its last session, included this site in the List of World Heritage in Danger because it was concerned that the region in which it is situated has been affected by civil disturbance and that six members of the Reserve staff were being held hostage since February 1992. The Bureau deeply regretted that two of the six Reserve staff who had been held hostage died during their captivity and the health of the other four who were released in April 1993 was found to be poor. The Bureau instructed the Centre to transmit the Committee's condolences to the families of Messrs Mamadou Cheffou and Alassoum Oumarou who died whilst being held captive. Furthermore, the Bureau also expressed the wish that the four members of the Reserve staff who were released in April 1993 would soon regain their health. The Bureau noted that the Government of Niger has initiated informal negotiations with armed opposition and encouraged the authorities to continue the dialogue with a view to finding an early solution to the conflict in the region.

Other Natural World Heritage Properties

Iguazu National Park (Argentina): The Bureau recalled that the Committee, at its fifteenth session held in Carthage, Tunisia, in December 1991, noted that eight helicopters regularly overflowed the waterfall area and that local conservation groups opposed the use of the area by helicopters since it contravened legal regulations for air traffic control over protected areas. The Bureau was satisfied to note that the efforts of the Argentine National Park Administration and the Air Force, to establish an agreement to regulate the use of air space over the Iguazu National Park by helicopters is proceeding. The Bureau urged the Argentine authorities to expedite its finalization and until such time to enforce existing air space regulations in that area.

Iguaçu National Park (Brazil): The Bureau was satisfied to note that the Brazilian authorities were in contact with their counterparts in Argentina to study the possibilities for establishing common regulations for helicopter traffic over the waterfalls area.

Wrangell-St. Elias-Kluane-Glacier Bay National Parks (Canada/United States of America): The Bureau recalled that the Committee, while approving the extension of this transfrontier site to include the Glacier Bay National Park (USA), at its last session, urged the American and the Canadian authorities to incorporate additional areas to the World Heritage property.

In this regard, the Bureau was pleased to be informed by the Observer for Canada that the Provincial Government of British Columbia has decided to propose to the World Heritage Centre to establish a new provincial park in the Alsek Tatshenshini region and nominate this park as part of the transfrontier World Heritage property. The Bureau commended the Canadian authorities for having taken this initiative and urged them to proceed according to the Operational Guidelines.

Manovo-Gounda Saint Floris (Central African Republic): In response to the December 1992 request of the World Heritage Committee, two meetings were held with representatives of the Central African Republic (CAR) to discuss: (a) the protection of the site; (b) participation of local people, and (c) the social-economic ramifications of a "privatized management regime". The first meeting in April determined that the issues were of an administrative and legal nature rather than ecological and thus it was decided not to carry out a field mission.

On 10 May 1993 legal representatives of the Central African Republic, UNESCO and IUCN met at the World Heritage Centre to review the above-mentioned items (a), (b) and (c).

The following major findings were noted:

(i) the site and the surrounding region are currently socially, politically and economically unstable. Poaching from neighbouring countries is serious and presents high risks to anyone trying to prevent it;

(ii) the Government of the Central African Republic does not have the financial or staff resources to effectively manage the World Heritage site. It is interested in some form of privatization, leasing or franchising. This could involve an advisory body with representation from international organizations as well as local people. The body should have a fund-raising and management capability;

(iii) there is not a consensus on whether privatization would be appropriate. Technically and legally it is feasible, but further clarification of the proposal is required and has been requested.

The Central African Republic was recommended to continue to explore alternative management approaches and the Centre should co-operate in seeking an effective management solution. The Bureau agreed to the above recommendation and the Centre will report to the Committee when new information becomes available. The Bureau requested the Centre to ensure that the State Party respected all obligations incurred by joining the Convention and ensure the long-term conservation of the site.

Talamanca-La Amistad National Park (Costa Rica-Panama): The Bureau took note of the fact that the proposal to construct a road through the of Talamanca-La Amistad Reserves of Costa Rica is unlikely to be implemented in the immediate future. The Bureau was informed that the Costa Rican authorities were not in agreement with all the boundary modifications recommended by the Committee, at its fifteenth session. The Bureau noted that the Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mines, which is responsible for the management of the Talamanca-La Amistad Reserves, and the general public, as well as the indigenous people resident within the site, were not in favour of all proposed modifications of the boundary suggested by the Committee. The Bureau noted the interest of the Costa Rican

authorities to receive technical advice on measures to improve living conditions of people resident in Indian Reserves within the Talamanca-La Amistad Reserves. A representative of IUCN informed the Bureau that specialists from IUCN's Regional Office in Costa Rica are discussing the boundary modifications proposed by the Committee with the Costa Rican authorities. These discussions have taken into consideration the need to accommodate the socio-economic aspirations of indigenous people in the Biosphere Reserve whilst protecting the World Heritage values of the site. The Bureau requested the World Heritage Centre to continue dialogue with the Costa Rican authorities in this important matter and report on the outcome during the forthcoming session of the Committee in December 1993.

Tikal National Park (Guatemala): The Bureau noted with satisfaction that the size of this mixed World Heritage property might be enlarged by about 50% and that the new areas earmarked for inclusion in the Park may contain natural and cultural heritage values of universal significance. The Bureau was informed that an IUCN project in the buffer zone of the Park is working with 26 villages to find alternative livelihood strategies which will minimize the dependence of the indigenous people on resources within the World Heritage site.

The Bureau commended the efforts of the Government of Denmark which is supporting this project with a contribution of US\$ 520,000 over a two-year period. The Bureau requested the Centre to contact the competent authorities in Guatemala and encourage them to extend the boundaries of this mixed World Heritage property. Full use should be made of the above-mentioned project.

Te Wāhipounamu - Southwest New Zealand (New Zealand): The Bureau recalled that at its last session the Committee was informed that the Government of New Zealand had approved an application from a private company for a licence to export water from this World Heritage site. The exportation of freshwater would require the construction of a dam, a buried pipeline and four large reservoirs at Jackson's Bay. The Committee noted that the visual and ecological impacts of the proposed development project were not clearly known and that the legal and economic considerations which guided the decision to approve the project were being actively debated in New Zealand.

The Bureau noted with satisfaction that the Minister of Conservation has subsequently indicated to the private company (Okuru Enterprises Ltd.) that he would not approve locating the pipeline inside the Mt. Aspiring National Park located within this World Heritage site. Authorities of the Okuru Enterprises Ltd. are now modifying their application to obtain water from a creek situated outside the boundaries of the National Park. The changes which the Okuru Enterprises Ltd. will introduce to the original proposal will be advertized for public comment and have to be agreed upon on a consensual basis. Following this procedure, a new report on the modified proposal will be submitted to the Minister of Conservation so that all relevant

information could be re-assessed. The Bureau concurred with the New Zealand authorities that it will be some time before a final decision at Ministerial level is taken on the acceptability of the modified proposal. The Bureau noted that the New Zealand authorities have assured the Centre that the environmental impact of the modified proposal will be carefully considered and that decisions will not be made in haste, and that the maintenance of the values of the World Heritage area will be an important consideration in reviewing any project for water export. The Bureau requested the Centre and IUCN to remain regularly updated on the the review of the water-export proposal to be carried out by New Zealand's Department of Conservation.

Danube Delta (Romania): The Bureau recalled that the Committee, at its last session, drew the attention of the Romanian authorities to the fact that they were yet to complete the final steps to establish a legislative framework for this site, despite the assurances of the Representative of Romania to the fifteenth session of the Committee in December 1991, when the Delta Danube was inscribed on the World Heritage List. The Bureau was informed that the Ministry of Waters, Forests and Environmental Protection of Romania has prepared the draft of the law concerning the establishment of the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve and included it as part of the working agenda of the Parliament and that this draft will be considered soon.

The Bureau noted that the Danube Delta World Heritage site will benefit from the Danube River Basin Environment Programme which will be financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and implemented with technical advice from IUCN.

The Representative of Romania informed the Bureau that a new research institution for the Danube Delta has been established and will undertake studies relevant to the conservation of the Danube Delta. The Bureau requested the Romanian authorities to inform the Centre when the Parliament has approved the draft law and encouraged them to co-operate with the Centre to prepare a technical assistance project for the conservation of the Danube Delta. IUCN and other non-governmental organizations should be involved to the extent possible.

Niokolo-Koba National Park (Senegal): The Bureau recalled that at its last session in July 1992 it had requested IUCN to provide a report on the progress in the implementation of measures to mitigate environmental impacts of a road construction project in this Park. The Representative of IUCN informed the Bureau that the University of Dakar, Senegal, had undertaken an independent assessment of the implementation of mitigation measures and that the findings of this study had been validated by the Regional Representative of IUCN for West Africa. The Bureau was pleased to note that the study had found the implementation of mitigation measures to be satisfactory and the impacts on the Park to be minimal. However, the Bureau noted that the implementation of the road construction project had caused a number of concerns, particularly the wider impacts due to the presence of a new

transportation corridor traversing the region, which were not originally foreseen. The Bureau commended the Senegalese National Park authorities who had co-operated with IUCN to prepare a "white paper" addressing these unforeseen consequences and the long-term future of the Park, and elaborated three strategies which would become part of a major project for ensuring the long-term future of the Park. The Committee noted that these strategies will be discussed during a donors' meeting, co-sponsored by the Senegalese National Park authorities and IUCN's Regional Office for West Africa and scheduled for 28 June 1993, and requested that the outcome of the donors' meeting be made available to the Centre for submission to the next session of the Committee. The Bureau requested the Centre to make copies of the "white paper" available for any interested States Party.

Ngorongoro Conservation Area (Tanzania): The Bureau recalled that this site was removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1988, and was deeply concerned to learn that the Prime Minister of Tanzania had announced that the residents of the area will be allowed to grow crops inside this World Heritage site, in contradiction to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Law. The Representative of IUCN noted that although allowing small areas of maize cultivation may help to ease conflicts between local people and site-staff, the announcement appears to have encouraged people to clear vegetation over extensive areas, including many slopes unsuitable for agriculture, resulting in a nearly uninterrupted belt of cultivation on the slopes of the Ngorongoro Crater, from Endulen to north of Empakai. The Bureau requested IUCN to report on the findings of a survey that is currently underway to assess the impact of the newly cultivated areas to the Committee at its next session. The Bureau recommended that the Committee, at its seventeenth session in December 1993, include once again, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area in the List of World Heritage in Danger and requested the Centre to communicate its concerns to the Minister of Tourism, Natural Resources and Environment of Tanzania.

Everglades National Park (United States of America): The Bureau recalled that the Committee, at its last session, was informed of the damage caused by Hurricane Andrew which affected extensive areas of this World Heritage site on 24 August 1992. The Bureau noted that the damage caused by Hurricane Andrew has had a wide range of impacts on the ecology of Everglades and that the site has been entered on the "Montreux Record", the equivalent of a 'danger list' under the Ramsar Convention. The Representative of IUCN informed the Bureau that conservation problems of the Everglades have been covered extensively in the literature and that a monitoring report on Everglades submitted at the Ramsar Conference in Japan, from 9 to 16 June 1993, could be treated as the starting point for preparing a state of conservation report on Everglades for the forthcoming session of the Committee. The Bureau recognized that due to the number of agencies at various levels of government which are concerned with the conservation of Everglades, a state of conservation report on this World Heritage site may consider its inclusion in the List of World Heritage in Danger as one of its recommendations. The Bureau

requested IUCN to prepare a state of conservation report on Everglades for submission to the seventeenth session of the Committee and noted that a supplementary allocation to lower costs was requested by IUCN. The Delegate of the United States of America supported the preparation of such a report, since it would bring an international and global dimension to the conservation of Everglades and assured his Government's assistance for the preparation of the report.

Virunga National Park (Zaire): The Bureau was deeply concerned to learn that due to recent political uncertainties in the country all donors, except WWF, have withdrawn their support to this Park. This has resulted in destruction of vegetation, poaching, agricultural encroachment and over-exploitation of fish populations in Lake Idi Amin. Since November 1992, the Park staff has not received salaries, and funds for operations and maintenance are not available. Several new settlements have appeared in the Park, particularly around Lake Idi Amin, and some gold mining and livestock grazing have also been reported.

The Bureau was informed that an IUCN/WWF field visit to this World Heritage site is being considered for October 1993 to assess current damage and suggest long-term options for the conservation of the site. The Bureau recommended that the Committee include the Virunga National Park in the List of World Heritage in Danger, unless the proposed IUCN/WWF site visit to in October 1993 provides sufficient evidence to the contrary. The Bureau agreed, in principle, to provide emergency assistance of US\$ 20,000 for Virunga National Park which does not constitute a precedent, and subject to the receipt of a formal and acceptable request from the competent national authorities responsible for the management of this property.

Durmitor National Park (Montenegro): The Bureau recalled that the Committee, at its last session, noted that the authorities responsible for the management of this site are of the view that the proposed construction of a hydroelectric dam on the Tara River and the pollution of the River by an asphalt dam situated upstream had minimal impacts on the conservation of Durmitor National Park. The Bureau acknowledged the fact that the Montenegro authorities had invited a UNESCO/IUCN mission to the site and that this mission should be undertaken as early as possible in order to ensure the conservation of this World Heritage site. However, the Bureau noted that given the current situation of conflicts within the former territory of Yugoslavia, and UNESCO's obligation to conform to Resolution 757 of the UN Security Council, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre was unable to proceed with the organization of the UNESCO/IUCN mission to Durmitor National Park. The Bureau therefore expressed the hope that the situation will change soon and the World Heritage Centre can proceed to organize this mission.

Cultural properties on the World Heritage List and List of World Heritage in Danger

VIII.3 The Bureau noted that the recommendations and observations made by the Committee at its sixteenth session had been transmitted by the Centre to the States Parties concerned. The Bureau reviewed the state of conservation of sites for which the States Parties, ICOMOS, the UNDP/UNESCO Cultural Heritage project in Latin America, the UNESCO Office in Cambodia and the World Heritage Centre reported on. The Bureau also examined the state of conservation of some other sites on the basis of reports submitted by representatives of ICOMOS.

Cultural properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger

Angkor (Cambodia)

The Committee, at its sixteenth session, inscribed the Angkor site, together with its monuments and archaeological zones, as described in the "Perimeter de Protection" accompanying the ICOMOS report, on the World Heritage List. The Committee, however, noted that Cambodia had been placed under the temporary administration of the United Nations, in accordance with the Paris Accords, since July 1991. In order to deal quickly and effectively with the urgent problems of conservation facing this site, the Committee decided to include Angkor in the List of World Heritage in Danger and requested that the competent UN and Cambodian authorities take the necessary steps to meet the following conditions:

- i) enact adequate protective legislation;
- ii) establish an adequately staffed national protection agency;
- iii) establish permanent boundaries based on the UNDP project;
- iv) define meaningful buffer zones, and
- v) establish monitoring and co-ordination of the international conservation effort.

At its present session, the Bureau was briefed by the UNESCO Representative to Cambodia, on the state of implementation of the Committee recommendation since its last session. A comprehensive legislation, "Decision on the Protection of the National Cultural Heritage", was adopted by the Supreme National Council at its meeting of 10 February 1993 and took immediate effect.

The future challenge will be to ensure that the provisions of this law be enabled by the constitution, which is currently being drafted by the newly-elected constituent assembly.

A **supra-ministerial agency**, "The National Heritage Protection Authority of Cambodia" (NHPAC), headed by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, was formally established on 10 February 1993 by a decision of the Supreme Council of Cambodia.

The governing body of the agency has been nominated and the line-functions will be filled in the near future. It is estimated that they will be functional by September 1993.

UNESCO has executed, with funds from UNDP and Sweden and with technical assistance from the United States National Park Service, the Angkor Foundation of Hungary, The Thailand Department of Fine Arts, The Ecole Française d'Extreme Orient, and the World Conservation Union (IUCN), a "Zoning and Environment Management Plan" (ZEMP) for the Angkor Area. As a result of the analyzed data, it was possible to define an "Angkor Cultural Area" corresponding to the catchment area of the ancient Khmer capital. Within this area two large "protected" or "restricted" areas have been identified. One, tentatively called the "Angkor Archaeological Park", is concentrated on the core monumental area. The other, the "Phnom Kulen Park", comprises the environmentally important Kulen Mountain together with more than 100 important monuments from the earliest period of the Empire. In addition, within the Angkor Cultural Area, smaller satellite parks have been defined around the monumental complex of Banteay Srei and Phnom Krom. Also defined are more than 500 "Special Areas of Archaeological Concern" (SAAC), many of which have been newly discovered by the ZEMP project, ESZs ("Ecologically Sensitive Zones"), UCZs ("Urban Conservation Zones"), and urban development zones.

In addition to defining protected/restricted areas and surrounding buffer zones, the ZEMP project has developed zoning regulations and management guidelines, not only for the World Heritage site, but also for the larger surrounding area wherein development activities may have adverse effects on conservation of the Angkor site itself.

The recommendations and policy options of the ZEMP study have already been endorsed at the technical level by the Cambodian authorities and are currently under discussion at the political level. Formal adoption of the ZEMP recommendations may not be possible before the formation of a new national government, foreseen for September or October 1993.

A monitoring/co-ordinating unit for the international conservation effort was established by UNESCO's Director-General within the Physical Heritage Division. A consultative meeting of international experts on Angkor was convened last April in Siem Reap. The Bureau expressed full satisfaction of the work undertaken in such limited time and in the present critical political situation.

Old City of Dubrovnik (Croatia): At its fifteenth session held in Carthage in December 1991, the Committee inscribed the Old City of Dubrovnik on the List of World Heritage in Danger. At the sixteenth session of the Bureau in July 1992, it was recommended that the Croatian authorities create a buffer zone in order to ensure the protection of the ancient fortress and the surrounding areas.

Since the last session of the Committee, two brochures on Dubrovnik have been published in order to publicize the plan to safeguard the Fortress and the Old City, damaged by bombardment, and also with the aim of raising funds. Specific projects have

been implemented with funds from private and public associations and some countries, such as Austria, France, Germany and Italy, have shown interest in providing additional financial assistance for safeguarding the Old City.

At its present session, a UNESCO consultant informed the Bureau that the Croatian local authorities had prepared and submitted to the Government a plan for the buffer zone. The two fortifications outside the border of the ramparts should be included in a future extension of the boundaries of the site. However, this plan has not yet received clearance from the Government.

ICOMOS called attention to the need to protect the two fortifications outside the ancient town and requested that construction of new buildings be avoided in the proximity. It was also proposed that legislation be enforced in order to prevent the construction of high buildings along and close to the coastline, which would spoil the best view of the skyline of the old town of Dubrovnik, when approached from the sea.

The Rapporteur expressed satisfaction with the work undertaken to date, in spite of the present difficulties and dangerous conditions in the country. Furthermore, he supported the ICOMOS propositions and requested that measures be taken to limit the use of billboards and neon signs in and around the old town.

The Bureau endorsed these recommendations and requested the World Heritage Centre to contact the Croatian authorities in order to obtain the approved extension of the boundaries of the site, for which recommendations from the Bureau should be taken into consideration.

State of conservation of World Heritage properties

Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur (Egypt): The Bureau took note of the report on the poor state of conservation of the Kefren Pyramid and endorsed the Centre's recommendation that the Egyptian Antiquities Organization be approached with a view to convening a meeting of specialists in stone conservation in co-operation with ICRROM to examine the state of conservation of this and other pyramids at this World Heritage site.

Islamic Cairo (Egypt): The Bureau expressed its concern about the deteriorating situation of the monuments of Islamic Cairo and took note of UNDP's disposition to launch a technical assistance project to be executed by UNESCO, and supported the World Heritage Centre's participation in this project.

Old Rauma (Finland)

ICOMOS informed the Bureau of the conservation efforts at this site that are linked to training activities for property owners. One problem that still awaits solution is that of traffic through the historic centre, which is a potential source of damage to ancient buildings due to vibration and exhaust pollution. The

Bureau requested the Secretariat to draw the attention of the competent authorities in Finland to the desirability of reducing the pressure of through traffic within the designated area.

Hanseatic City of Lübeck (Germany)

The Delegate of Germany reported on the situation in the old city of Lübeck, and more particularly on the demolition of certain monuments situated in the protected zone and the discovery of mural paintings which are presently being restored. At the invitation of the Mayor of Lübeck, ICOMOS will visit the city and make an evaluation of the situation and present a detailed report to the next session of the World Heritage Committee at Carthage.

Delphi (Greece): The Bureau learned of the possible threat to this site through the construction of an olive-packing unit. A formal request for additional information has been forwarded to the Greek authorities who replied that permission would not be granted until all prerequisite conditions had been satisfied. The Greek Observer confirmed that the Greek authorities had already been alerted and assured the Bureau that the Committee will be informed on all further decisions taken by them. ICOMOS expressed concern about the construction of the plant that could have a negative impact.

Samos (Greece): The Bureau was informed that a road construction project, in the immediate vicinity of the Acropolis of Samos, in front of the Tunnel of Eupalinos, was submitted to the Ministry of Culture. The Greek authorities reported that the project is directly under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture, which is of the view that the project will not endanger the site or the Tunnel. The Greek Observer pointed out that the road construction is still in the project stage and that the final decision has not yet been taken.

The Rapporteur stressed that, for an archaeological site of such importance, additional detailed information on the project should be provided, and not merely simple assurances that the project will not endanger the site. The Bureau endorsed this suggestion, and requested the World Heritage Centre to act accordingly. Finally, the Greek Observer stressed the point raised at the last Committee session in Santa Fe regarding the verification of information received by the Secretariat before presenting it to the Committee.

Florence (Italy): The Director of the World Heritage Centre informed the Bureau on a joint mission with ICCROM to the site damaged in the historic centre of Florence by a terrorist bomb which exploded on 27 May 1993.

The explosion caused extensive damage to the "Galleria degli Uffizi" and the "Accademia dei Georgofili". Due to the blast, the building "Torre delle Pulci" collapsed, four people were killed and a fifth victim died in the fire that subsequently broke out.

The Accademia dei Georgofili, housed in the 16th century Torre delle Pulci, is the oldest Agricultural Society in the world and has the largest collection of books, numbering 40,000 volumes, of which only fifty are missing. The damage to the Torre delle Pulci structure is extensive: the entire facade, the roof and 50 per cent of the floors have collapsed. A project for its reconstruction has already been prepared by the Italian authorities.

The Director also reported that five art works have been completely destroyed, namely "l'Adorazione dei pastori" by Gerritt van Honthorst (Gherardo delle Notti), two "scene di guerra" by Manfredi, "Giocatori di carte" and "Tributo a Cesare" by Bartolomeo Bindi, a follower of Caravaggio. Thirty-three other paintings were also damaged, but it will be possible to restore them. The most famous are "Morte di Adone" by Sebastiano del Piombo, "all'Ingresso trionfale di Enrico IV a Parigi" and "Enrico IV alla battaglia di Ivry" by Rubens, which was cut in two by glass chips. Minor damage was also reported for the following paintings: "Carlo V a cavallo" by van Dyck; "David vincitore" by Guido Reni; "Giuditta e Olofene" by Artemisia Gentileschi and "Natura Morta" by Giovanni da Empoli.

Furthermore, the Director of the Centre informed of the prompt actions taken by the Italian authorities. The Bureau took note of the mission findings and expressed its solidarity to the Italian authorities for this intolerable strike at the very heart of World Heritage.

Considering the extremely successful emergency actions undertaken by the Italian authorities, the Bureau requested the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM to: (a) jointly convene a meeting in order to recapitulate and evaluate the measures adopted by the Italian authorities so that this experience can be used in future disaster preparedness and (b) provide expertise, as requested by the Italian authorities, for the restoration of the large painting by Rubens (8 x 4 metres) "Enrico IV alla battaglia di Ivry".

The Bureau strongly condemned the criminal action carried out against the Galerie des Offices, an unique historical and art monument of Florence, a historic centre inscribed on the World Heritage List. The Bureau congratulated the Italian authorities, both national and local, for the highly competent and rapid accomplishment of the rehabilitation and restoration work of the damaged part of the Galerie.

Kathmandu Valley (Nepal): The World Heritage Committee, at its sixteenth session, was informed of the alarming state of conservation of historic buildings and monuments in the Kathmandu Valley. UNESCO and ICOMOS were requested to undertake a global review of the Kathmandu Valley and of the activities undertaken over the past 20 years from the standpoint of safeguarding the cultural heritage of Kathmandu. The objectives of the review were: to draw up broad guidelines for the preservation of the

whole valley and to re-examine the boundaries of the protected zone under the Convention.

The UNESCO Division of Physical Heritage is presently executing a Japanese Trust Fund project for Patan Durbar Square, one of the seven sites in the Valley which is included in the ensemble inscribed on the World Heritage List, aimed at establishing scientific documentation of the historical building. For a three-year period, the funds allocated for this project amount to approximately US\$ 375,000. Additional assistance is being sought from UNDP to strengthen the institutional capacity of the national and municipal agencies responsible for safeguarding monuments and historical urban quarters in the Valley.

As a result of a UNESCO mission, fielded at the beginning of June, it was reported that the Government of Nepal expressed its concern about the rapid deterioration of the World Heritage site in the Valley. As a remedial measure, the Government intends to reinforce the existing Monuments Protection Act No. 2013, in order to strengthen the protection of cultural heritage. As of 9 June, the Mayors of Kathmandu, Patan and Bhakutapur decided that the construction work, as a result of the demolition of historical buildings, be banned for six months. Furthermore, the World Heritage Centre was informed that the local news agency recently reported that fast-growing construction is being carried out, not only by locals but also by foreigners.

At present, the unauthorized demolition of ancient wooden buildings and the reconstruction of new concrete fabrics is becoming the norm. The World Heritage Centre recently received a report stating that on 12 April 1993, two 14th century wooden buildings in Patan (Tyagah Chapa and its adjoining Pati) were torn down by their owner, the "Guthi", and replaced with a concrete structure housing shops, assuring them of a steady income. The World Heritage Centre promptly requested the Nepalese authorities to urgently look into this matter and to provide further information. In addition, it was also stressed that urgent action to prevent such practices be sought immediately.

At the present session, ICOMOS envisaged the need to contact the Nepalese authorities to express concern and deplore the ongoing destruction of significant cultural heritage within the inscribed Kathmandu Valley sites, and to undertake, along with the Centre and the Physical Heritage Division, the planned 20-year review. Furthermore, it was proposed that efforts be made to change and improve existing legislation.

The Delegate of the United States of America, expressed deep concern for the ongoing degradation and demolition of monuments and historic buildings in the Kathmandu Valley due to weak legislation and lack of adequate protective measures, as required in the Convention, and suggested the inclusion of this site in the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The Delegate of Germany supported the suggestion of the United States Delegate and also stressed the need for substantive

improvement in legislation for the protection of all historic monuments.

The Rapporteur also stressed the need for the Nepalese authorities to act in accordance with the Convention and its guidelines. Furthermore, he requested that the UNESCO Division of Physical Heritage play an active role in the protection and safeguard of the Kathmandu Valley.

Following the request of the Chairperson, the Delegations of Germany, the United States of America and representatives of ICOMOS met during the Bureau meeting and agreed on the following recommendations concerning the Valley of Kathmandu:

1. It is recommended that the Secretariat, on behalf of the Bureau, write a letter to the Government of Nepal, expressing its deep concern on the destruction of monuments in Patan, as well as in the other sectors of the Kathmandu Valley, which are inscribed on the World Heritage List.
2. Furthermore, an expert mission, organized by WHC/ICOMOS, should be announced to the Government of Nepal. This mission is expected to take place during the second half of 1993. The expert mission will investigate the technical problems of restoration, according to the order of the Committee given in Santa Fe. Beyond this, the mission will tackle new problems which turned out to be urgent in monitoring reports presented during the current Bureau meeting. These are:
 - a) The revision of the Ancient Monument Preservation Act of 1956. At present, this Act cannot prevent the destruction of monuments and it is therefore inadequate to avert the extensive threats that the monuments are increasingly exposed to.
 - b) The expert mission of WHC/ICOMOS intends to inspect and evaluate the boundaries of the seven sectors of the valley belonging to the World Heritage site and will, when necessary, propose an extension of the boundaries to enclose further important monuments within the site.
 - c) The expert mission intends to make an on-the-spot check the inventory of monuments which were listed together with the inscription of the site in 1979, and which seem to contain a large number of monuments which have been destroyed in the meantime.
 - d) The expert group would review the staffing of the Nepal Department of Archaeology and of the administration of the three important towns which are responsible for the protection of monuments, to assess the number of additional expert staff necessary to prevent further destruction of monuments.

WHC/ICOMOS will report on the results of their actions during the seventeenth session of the Committee in Carthagena to enable the Committee to make substantive proposals to the Government of Nepal.

Shalimar Gardens (Pakistan): ICOMOS reported on the state of conservation of the site which, despite one million visitors every year, is maintaining an excellent general appearance. However, urgent attention to the oldest trees is envisaged and a systematic management and development plan should be set up to protect the vegetation.

The buildings within the boundary walls of the "Gardens" were reported to be in a good state of repair and well maintained. However, the perimeter brick walls are in poor condition due, in many cases, to improper use of the binder in the repair work, and in others to the substitution of the original lime-mortar binders with cement-mortar, which is posing problems of stability as well as not blending with the original walls.

ICOMOS suggested that the competent authorities be informed of the need for urgent restoration work to the perimeter walls, and for the formulation and application of an overall management plan for the site as a whole, using accepted techniques.

The Bureau accepted the recommendations and requested the Centre to inform the Pakistani authorities accordingly.

Kizhi Pogost (Russia): ICOMOS reported on its continuous involvement in the conservation efforts for this site. As a follow-up to the decision of the World Heritage Committee at its sixteenth session, to support the coordination effort undertaken by ICOMOS, a technical study programme has been set up for 1993, including a 5-6 week mission of 5 or 6 experts. These experts will be supported by their respective governments so that no professional fees will be paid from the Fund. The results of the mission will be presented by ICOMOS to the World Heritage Committee at its seventeenth session in December 1993.

The Bureau commended ICOMOS' approach in assistance to Kizhi Pogost, using its professional network and obtaining substantial contributions from the Governments of Canada, Norway and Finland.

Historic Centre of Saint Petersburg (Russia): ICOMOS reported on various factors of a financial and socio-economic nature that threaten the site and hinder its proper conservation. ICOMOS reported however, that there is little need to send individual experts or groups of experts on urban heritage, given the comprehensive and carefully reasoned analysis and diagnosis on the conservation problems prepared by the local authorities and group of professionals.

ICOMOS suggested, given the analysis and diagnosis that is already available in Saint Petersburg and other cities in the world, to organize a symposium on heritage conservation in major urban/metropolitan areas. The Rapporteur and the Delegate from

Senegal supported the suggestion, indicating that the problems in Saint Petersburg are in fact similar to those in the Medinas of Fez and Tunis, which would call for a regional/inter-regional approach. The Bureau recommended that the Centre and ICOMOS look into the possibilities of organizing (a) small seminar(s) on urban heritage conservation in urban/metropolitan areas.

Santiago de Compostela (Spain): ICOMOS reported on the extremely negative visual impact of a new sports hall built on the western slope of the hill that is crowned by the Cathedral and that affects in particular the view of the Cathedral from the Alameda.

The Representative of ICOMOS informed the Bureau that only a few days ago, agreement had been reached between the local and the regional authorities to lower the already constructed building by 1.5 meters and to apply materials more suitable to the surroundings. Several delegates emphasized that Operational Guideline 47 invites the States Parties to inform the Committee of their intention to undertake or to authorize in an area protected under the Convention, major restoration or new constructions which may affect the world heritage value of the property. The Bureau expressed its disappointment that this was not done in the case of Santiago and that the already inscribed World Heritage site of Santiago is being affected by an extremely disharmonious construction at the same time as the Route of Santiago is being nominated for inscription.

One delegate pointed out that action could be taken only after reports had been received on the construction already in progress and that this case clearly shows the need of a continuous monitoring process involving local communities and organizations. The Bureau concluded that its concerns about the construction will be communicated to the Spanish national and regional authorities emphasizing the need for consultations with the Committee in the case of important interventions at World Heritage sites.

Damascus (Syria): The Bureau recalled the Committee's request at its sixteenth session that the Centre undertake a mission to review the state of conservation of the Umayyad Mosque in Damascus following the information received on reconstruction works being undertaken at the main entrance of the Mosque. It expressed its regret that certain factors had precluded this mission from taking place and requested that ICOMOS undertake a general monitoring mission to Syria to review not only progress made in the works at the Mosque, but also the state of conservation of the Old City of Damascus.

Historic Areas of Istanbul (Turkey)

The Office of the Director-General for Historic Monuments of Turkey will collect all the technical documentation on Saint Sophie on the basis of a synthesis elaborated by the Director-General of this service. A group of Turkish and international experts will meet in Istanbul in September 1993 to prepare a global action plan for the safeguard of Saint Sophie.

A preliminary report will be presented to the Committee in December 1993. Financial support from UNESCO's Regular Programme will be allocated for this action which will be implemented in the framework of the International Safeguard Campaign for Istanbul.

Pueblo de Taos (United States of America)

ICOMOS informed of a letter recently received from the Pueblo Governing Council. ICOMOS reviewed the concerns of the Tribal authorities over proposals to extend the runway of the Taos, New Mexico, Airport and confirmed that such action could pose serious problems for the protection of the site and its environment, as well as traditional lifestyles of the Taos people. The Bureau agreed with this assessment and requested the Secretariat to convey its concerns to the U.S. authorities together with a request for additional information.

Monitoring of cultural and mixed sites in Latin American the Caribbean and Lusophone Africa

VIII.4 The Chief Technical Advisor of the UNDP/UNESCO Regional Project for Culture Urban and Environmental Heritage for Latin America and the Caribbean presented a progress report on the experimental monitoring programme in execution since 1991 and to be concluded in 1994. The Regional Project will present to the Committee meeting in December 1993, a state of conservation report that will include photographs, plans and maps of the 17 sites monitored in 1993, follow-up given to the 12 sites monitored in 1991-92 and possibly, in collaboration with the Mexican authorities, state of conservation reports on 8 World Heritage sites in Mexico.

VIII.5 The CTA of the Regional Project emphasized the ongoing, decentralized and regional character of the monitoring programme, making use of the existing structure, staffing and network of a UNDP-financed regional project. For the monitoring programme, use is being made of national and regional experts which facilitates a cyclical approach that includes follow-up to monitoring of earlier years and the periodical revision of the applied methodology. In this context, the Bureau was informed that an expert meeting on monitoring methodology was held in Lima, Peru on 17-18 April, 1993 leading to a revised methodology and a conceptual framework for monitoring as indicated in the progress report on pages 8 and 9.

VIII.6 The CTA of the Regional Project informed the Bureau that the monitoring report of December 1992 was sent to all States Parties and local site managers and that in several cases the recommendations presented in the report had led to concrete actions and requests for technical assistance to the World Heritage Fund.

VIII.7 The Brazilian Delegate informed the Bureau that as a result of the monitoring of the site of Ouro Preto undertaken in

1991, agreement has been reached between the Ministry of Culture, the local authorities and the UNESCO Office in Brazil, as to the preparation of a management plan for the historical centre of the city.

VIII.8 The Rapporteur and the Representative of ICOMOS commended the progress report and the fact that through the monitoring programme in the Latin American region an action-oriented and pragmatic and flexible methodology is available. The Rapporteur commended also the incorporation of a training element and the use of ex-students of regional training courses in the monitoring process. The Rapporteur suggested that the data-base now available in the Regional Project be made available at the local level as well as to the World Heritage Centre and other partners involved in World Heritage conservation.

VIII.9 The Delegate from Senegal requested that a similar monitoring programme be undertaken in the sub-region of West Africa. The Bureau requested the Representative of Senegal to submit a formal request to this effect.

IX. NOMINATION OF PROPERTIES FOR INCLUSION ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST AND LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER

IX.1 The Bureau examined the nominations of nine natural properties and thirty cultural properties, recommended that two natural properties and fifteen cultural properties be inscribed on the World Heritage List. The Bureau did not recommend the inscription of four natural properties on the World Heritage List. Furthermore, the Bureau referred three natural and twelve cultural nominations back to the States Parties concerned for further information to be submitted to the Committee at its seventeenth session. In addition, the Bureau deferred two natural and three cultural nominations and approved the extension of one natural property.

IX.2 The Bureau did not examine three cultural nominations, the Inca Temple of Huaytara (Peru), Coro and its Dunes (Venezuela) and the Town of Sintra and its Serra (Portugal), as the properties in question did not appear on the tentative lists of the States Parties concerned. The Bureau invited these States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, before 1 October 1993, revised tentative lists so the Bureau may examine the nominations during its meeting in December 1993 and formulate recommendations to the World Heritage Committee at its seventeenth session. In this respect, the Bureau strongly recommended to the Committee to decide that the World Heritage Centre should no longer accept nominations for properties which do not appear on the tentative list submitted by the State Party concerned.

Natural properties**A. Properties which the Bureau recommended for inscription on the World Heritage List**

Name of Property	Identifi- cation No.	State Party having submitted the nomination in accord- ance with the Convention	Criteria
Yakushima	662	Japan	(ii) (iii)

The Bureau recommended that the Committee inscribe the site containing warm temperate evergreen forests of Yakushima. Furthermore, it encouraged the Japanese Government to prepare a management plan taking into consideration the high level of visitation and to establish a coordinating system for the management of the area. As some of the values still remain adjacent to the site, the Bureau also noted that some extensions to the site would also be encouraged.

Tubbataha Reef Marine Park	653	Philippines	(ii) (ii) (iv)
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The Bureau recommended the inscription of Tubbataha Reef Marine Park as one of the outstanding coral reefs in the region. The Bureau showed concern that conservation management support under a "Debt-swap" arrangement was coming to an end and strongly recommended that the Government provides funds for the management of the site. Eventual extension of the site to include the Bastera and Jessie Beazly Reefs should also be considered by the Philippines Government.

B. Properties which the Bureau did not recommend for inscription on the World Heritage List

Fossil Findings of Ipolytarnoc	667	Hungary
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The Bureau reviewed the nomination and concluded that this site is of national importance, however it did not meet criteria for inscription on the World Heritage List.

Wild Ass Sanctuary	650	India
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The Bureau was of the view that this site, although important at a national level, did not meet criteria for inclusion on the World Heritage List.

**Cedars of
Lebanon**

646

Lebanon

The Bureau recognized the sacred importance of the Cedars of Lebanon. However, the nominated site is too small to retain its integrity and therefore the Bureau was of the view that it did not meet natural World Heritage criteria. However, the Bureau recommended that the State Party should examine whether the Cedars could be incorporated in a future nomination of a cultural landscape being considered for the Qadisha Valley.

**Cuc-Phong
National Park**

673

Vietnam

The Bureau recognized the importance of the site as the first National Park in Vietnam, however, the site does not meet the criteria of outstanding universal value under either natural or cultural criteria, and therefore was not recommended for inscription on the World Heritage List.

C. Extension to World Heritage properties

**Central Eastern
Australian Rain-
forests of Australia
(renomination the
of the Australian
East Coast Temperate
and Sub-Tropical
Rainforest Parks)**

368bis

Australia

(i) (ii) (iv)

The Bureau noted the error made in the 1986 nomination which resulted in the site being accepted under criterion (iii), whereas the correct criterion was (iv). The Bureau recommended the acceptance of the extension to the site. However, it recommends that the Australian authorities review the inclusion of Iluka in the light of the inscription of Fraser Island on the World Heritage List, and to make the site less complex. The Bureau requested the Australian authorities to suggest a more explicit name of the site and to provide by 1 October 1993 details of the new management committee and define a final boundary limitation and other areas that could be added.

D. Properties for which nominations were referred back to the national authorities for further information

Shirakami-Sanchi 663 Japan (ii)

This beech forest of some 10,000 ha is buffered by a 7,000 ha virgin forest and the Bureau recommended that the buffer should be incorporated within the nomination. The Bureau further recommended that the Japanese Government should upgrade the legal status and complete the management plan improving the administrative structure of the site. If action on these points is well advanced by 1 October 1993, it would recommend inscription of the site under criterion (ii) at the seventeenth session of the Committee.

Jiddat-al- 654 Oman (i)(ii)(iii)
Harasis and (iv)
its adjoining
areas

The Bureau deferred the examination of the nomination to allow the competent Omani authorities to complete the nomination with the legal establishment of a protected area with an effective management plan and administrative structure. The Bureau appreciated the outstanding work carried out by the Government of Oman in the field of nature conservation. At the same time, the Bureau recognized the outstanding qualities of this site but was concerned about the extent of the military training activity, the oil exploitation and overgrazing in the Acacia woodlands. The Bureau encouraged the authorities to resubmit their nomination once legislation gave the area statutory protection and a management regime has been put in place.

St. Paul 652 Philippines (iii)(iv)
Subterranean
National Park

The Bureau was of the view that an extended St. Paul nomination would meet criteria (iii) and (iv). There was considerable discussion about such a major expansion of the area to incorporate more tropical forests and the headwaters of the underground river. The Bureau recommended that the Philippines Government be encouraged to submit a revised nomination with the new boundaries which, if received by 1 October 1993, could then be considered by the Committee at its seventeenth session.

E. Deferred Nominations

Sierra de la	655	Guatemala
Biosfera de las		
Minas		

The Bureau deferred the examination of the nomination to allow the competent Guatemalan authorities to reconsider the boundaries of the nomination and to incorporate only the core zone for a future nomination. However, even within the core zone, the Bureau expressed its concern about the extent of privately-owned property and the problems this poses for the future management of the site. The Bureau further noted that while the site has been recently established as a Biosphere Reserve, a better understanding of the natural values is needed before its World Heritage values could be properly assessed.

Ha-Long Bay	672	Vietnam
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The Bureau recognized that the site does not have cultural values of World Heritage significance, but does fulfil natural criterion (iii), because of the outstanding scenic values of many of the islands. There is, however, a need to defer a decision on the natural value of the site until the boundaries can be defined, excluding industrial areas, and an effective management structure can be put in place. Particular stress should be placed on the management of tourism in the region.

Mixed property

Property for which nomination was referred back to the national authorities for further information

Reserva del Vizcaino	554bis	Mexico	C(i)(iii) N(ii)(iii)(iv)
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The Bureau, recognizing the exceptional universal value of the Laguna Ojo de Liebre and Laguna de San Ignacio (criterion (iv)), recommended that the site be inscribed on the World Heritage List and the management recommendation in IUCN's technical evaluation be transmitted to the Mexican authorities. This site is a sanctuary for grey whales and other important species. The Bureau further recognized the Sierra de San Francisco area as meeting cultural criteria (i) and (iii) for its outstanding rock art and to be inscribed as a cultural site. It is further recommended that a revised nomination be submitted: (a) for the natural components and (b) for the cultural component. It is further recommended that a new name be identified for each of these nominations.

Cultural properties**A. Properties which the Bureau recommended for inscription of the World Heritage List**

Name of Property	Identification No.	State Party having submitted the nomination in accordance with the Convention	Criteria
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Joya de Ceren	675	El Salvador	(iii) (iv)
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The Bureau recommended the inscription of this site on the World Heirtage List, but drew the attention of the competent Salvodorean authorities to the need to take into account in the management of the site, the proximity of major roadways and the clear definition of the boundaries of the site.

The Bureau requested the competent Russian authorities to urgently put in place a new law for the protection of the site in order that its future conservation may be assured.

Maulbronn Monastery	546rev	Germany	(ii) (iv)
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Boyne Valley	659	Ireland	(i) (iii) (iv)
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The Bureau proposed that the competent Irish authorities modify the name of the property as follows: "Archaeological ensemble of the Bend of the Boyne". Furthermore, the Bureau also recommended that in the event of further restoration work on the Megalithic monuments, consultation with international expertise should be sought to ensure that the best methods are employed for this work.

Matera	670	Italy	(iii) (iv) (v)
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The Bureau reminded the competent Italian authorities that the on-going restoration and rehabilitation work at Matera should be in conformity with international standards of conservation (Venice Charter) and requested them to propose a shorter and more explicit name for this property.

Himeji-jo (Castle)	661	Japan	(i) (iii) (iv)
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Buddhist ensembles of Horyu-ji	660	Japan	(i) (ii) (iv) (vi)
Historic Monuments of Zacatecas	676	Mexico	(ii) (iv)
Sergiev Posad Architectural ensemble of the Laure of the Trinity Saint Serge	657	Russian Federation	(ii) (iv)
Banská Stiavnica	618Rev	Slovak Republic	(iv) (v)
Royal Monastery of Saint Mary of Guadalupe	665	Spain	(iv) (vi)
Archaeolog- ical Ensemble of Merida	664	Spain	(iii) (iv)
The Route of Saint-Jacques	669	Spain	(ii) (iv) (vi)
<p>The Bureau requested the competent Spanish authorities to envisage the possibility of combining under one nomination the two sites already on the World Heritage List (e.g. Burgos Cathedral (316) and the Old Town of Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle (347)) and the site presently being proposed (The Path of Saint-Jacques-de-Compostelle).</p>			
Birka-Hovgarden	555	Sweden	(iii) (iv)
Engelsberg Ironworks	556Rev	Sweden	(iv)
Boukhara	602rev	Uzbekistan	(ii) (iv) (vi)

The Bureau recommended the inscription of this property on the World Heritage List but drew attention to the fact that the site should be regularly monitored in order to ensure its proper conservation.

B. Properties for which nominations were referred back to the national authorities for further information

Red Fort, 231 India (iii)
Delhi

Taking into account the ICOMOS evaluation, the Bureau requested the competent Indian authorities to complete the nomination file with precise information on the buffer zone surrounding the proposed property defined by national legislation, as well as to provide detailed explanations on the management plan for Red Fort. This complementary information should be provided before 1 October, to allow ICOMOS to carry out an evaluation which will then be submitted to the Bureau at its next session in December 1993.

Humayun's Tomb 232 India (ii) (iii) (iv)

Taking into account the ICOMOS evaluation, the Bureau requested the competent Indian authorities to complete the nomination file with precise information on the buffer zones around the proposed property defined by national legislation, as well as detailed explanations on the management plan for the Humayun Tomb and its associated monuments. This complementary information should be provided before 1 October, to allow ICOMOS to carry out an evaluation which will be submitted to the Bureau at its next session in December 1993.

Qutb Minar 233 India (iii) (iv)
and associated
monuments, Delhi

Taking into account the ICOMOS evaluation, the Bureau requested the competent Indian authorities to complete the nomination file with precise information on the buffer zones surrounding the proposed property defined by national legislation, as well as provide a detailed explanation of the management plan for the monumental ensemble and archaeological ruins. This complementary information should be provided before 1 October to allow ICOMOS to carry out an evaluation which will be submitted to the Bureau at its next session in December 1993.

Jesuit 648 Paraguay (iv)
Missions

Taking into account the ICOMOS evaluation, the Bureau requested the competent Paraguayan authorities to complete the nomination file with precise information on the buffer zones around the proposed properties defined by national legislation, especially for the Santísima Trinidad of Paraná property. This complementary information should be provided before 1 October to allow ICOMOS to carry out an evaluation which will be submitted to the Bureau

at its next session in December 1993. The Bureau also requested that Paraguay consider this nomination as an addition to the existing binational site of the same theme designated by Argentina/Brazil.

Baroque Churches **677** **Philippines** **(iv)**

Taking into account the ICOMOS evaluation, the Bureau requested the competent Philippine authorities to complete the nomination file with precise information regarding the buffer zones around the proposed monuments defined by national legislation. This complementary information should be provided before 1 October to allow ICOMOS to carry out an evaluation which will be presented to the Bureau at its next session in December 1993.

Biertan **596** **Romania**
Monastery of Horezu **597** **Romania**
Churches of Moldavia **598** **Romania**

The Observer for Romania informed the Bureau of the interest of the national authorities in heritage conservation and expressed the wish that the nominations for inscription proposed by his country be re-examined. The Bureau recommended that the three nominations deferred during the June 1991 Bureau session be examined at the next session in December 1993 on the condition that the competent authorities provide assurances that there exists in Romania a real legal protection for monuments and cultural properties.

Spissky Hrad **620Rev** **Slovak Republic** **(iv)**

The Bureau requested the competent Slovak authorities to provide detailed information on the management plan of the property. This complementary information should be received before 1 October to permit ICOMOS to carry out an evaluation which will be submitted to the next session of the Bureau in December 1993.

Vlkolínec **522Rev** **Slovak Republic** **(iv) (v)**

The Bureau recommended that ICOMOS complete the on-going study on Central European villages which is being carried out in consultation with specialists from all the countries concerned. In the light of the results of this study, which should be presented at its next session in December 1993, the Bureau will take a decision regarding the inscription of this property on the World Heritage List.

Huế **678** **Vietnam** **(iii) (iv)**

Taking into account the ICOMOS evaluation, the Bureau requested the competent Vietnam authorities to complete the nomination file with precise information on the buffer zones of the property defined by national legislation. The Bureau also recommended that the periphery of the nomination be modified so that the area

between the Thanh Binh and Dai Noi fortifications no longer be included in the nomination. This complementary information and documentation should be received before 1 October to allow ICOMOS to make an evaluation which will be presented at the next Bureau session in December 1993.

Historic 611 Yemen (ii) (iv) (vi)
Town of Zabid

The Bureau, recognizing the universal value of this property and concerned by the problems raised for its conservation, requested the Yemeni authorities to provide additional information and wished to know the conclusions of ALECSO on this matter. The Bureau returned the nomination file to ICOMOS so that they may gather more information and make a report at its next session in December 1993.

C. Deferred nominations

Karlstejn 619 Czech Republic
Castle

The Bureau recommended that the inscription of this property be deferred until the completion of a study of the philosophy of restoration practices in the XIXth and XXth centuries is completed.

Lumbini and 666 Nepal
associated
sites

The Bureau recommended that the inscription of this property on the World Heritage List be deferred until the Nepalese authorities provide precise information on conservation measures and site management which are in conformity with international standards. Also, as a prerequisite for the future examination of the nomination, the Bureau requested the competent authorities to supply an Indicative List of properties that Nepal might wish to propose for inscription in the future.

Skogskyrkogarden 558Rev Sweden

The Bureau recommended that the inscription of this property be deferred until the results of a comparative study on cemeteries and that of a study on XXth century architecture to be undertaken by ICOMOS, are known. Furthermore, the Bureau considered that this property should also be evaluated as a cultural landscape.

X. EXAMINATION OF REQUESTS FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

X.1 The Bureau examined documents WHC-93/CONF.001/5 and WHC-93/CONF.001/5Add as well as requests for funding submitted by ICOMOS and IUCN, and reviewed the following requests for international assistance:

A. Technical co-operation

Dja Faunal Reserve (Cameroon): The Bureau recommended that the Committee approve US\$ 40,000 for the purchase of two vehicles for this site subject to the Cameroon authorities paying their dues to the World Heritage Fund, providing detailed information to the Centre on projects implemented in this site with national funds and provide assurance to the Committee that the maintenance of the vehicles will be supervised directly by the manager of the Dja Reserve.

Co-operative Training Programme (France-Montpellier/Mali): The Bureau recommended that the Committee re-examine this request for US\$ 43,367 for organizing a sub-regional seminar for protected area managers of Francophone Africa in January-February 1994 in the light of information on the proposed programme on the seminar, and a better justification of the estimated expenses of items to be financed by a contribution from the World Heritage Fund.

Comoe National Park (Côte d'Ivoire): The Bureau approved a sum of US\$ 30,000 for the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle, as requested by the Director of the Institute of Tropical Ecology (ITE) in Abidjan, subject to the Director of ITE providing information on the benefits which the UNDP/UNESCO study on the Productivity of Savannas has brought to the management of this World Heritage site and on the organizational links between the authorities responsible for the management of Comoe and ITE. The Bureau also requested the Centre to contact the Director of ITE and obtain a written commitment that the vehicle will be used for activities directly linked to the protection of this World Heritage site.

Hal Saflieni (Malta): The Bureau approved a sum of US\$ 30,000 as a contribution to the installation of an air-conditioning system at the entrance of this World Heritage property. The Bureau however, requested the Maltese authorities to take all necessary precautions to minimize as far as possible the negative impacts of the installation on the conservation of this property.

Vallee de Mai (Seychelles): The Bureau deferred taking a decision on this request until the forthcoming session of the Committee and urged the Seychelles authorities to: (a) pay their dues to the World Heritage Fund; (b) provide their views on the possibility for expanding this site to include additional forests in adjacent areas, as requested by the Committee at the time of inscription of this property on the World Heritage List and (c) provide supplementary information on the construction plan for the visitor information centre, particularly the location of the centre vis-à-vis the boundaries of the site and measures for mitigating any impacts of construction on this small (18 ha) World Heritage site. The Bureau noted that IUCN will attend a meeting of the Seychelles Island Foundation and discuss this matter in detail. The Bureau urged IUCN to make a site visit to Vallee de Mai in order to assess the state of conservation of the

property, emphasizing the potential for increasing its size and assessing the need for the visitor information centre.

B. Emergency assistance:

Mt. Nimba Nature Reserve (Côte d'Ivoire/Guinea): The Bureau approved a sum of US\$ 30,000 for consultancies and other services necessary for setting up a management regime in the Guinean part of this World Heritage site in Danger.

C. Training

Mt. Huangshan (People's Republic of China) - Training in management planning for protected area specialists in China: The Bureau approved a sum of US\$ 30,000 for organizing a training workshop in Mt. Huangshan (US\$ 20,000) and for supporting the participation of protected area specialists from Asia-Pacific in the CNPPA/IUCN Regional Conference on Protected Areas of East Asia (US\$ 10,000) to review the draft management plan of Huangshan prepared as a result of the training workshop.

D. Advisory bodies

IUCN

The Bureau approved a sum of US\$ 18,000 to IUCN for the following purposes: (a) reimbursement of costs for implementing the Bureau's request, made at its last session in July 1992, for assessing measures taken to mitigate impacts of road construction in Niokolo-Koba National Park (Senegal) US\$ 12,000

Preparation of a state of conservation report on Sangay National Park by IUCN's Regional Office for Latin America US\$ 2,000

Contribution for the preparation, by the IUCN Office in Nepal, of state of conservation reports on Sagarmatha and Royal Chitwan National Parks of Nepal US\$ 4,000

ICOMOS

The Bureau approved a sum of US\$ 15,000 for the organization, by ICOMOS in co-operation with the Centre, of an expert meeting on global study.

The Bureau commended the Canadian Government for having provided a total of US\$ 60,000 to the World Heritage Centre, to support ICOMOS investigations in Kizhi Pogost, Russian Federation (US\$ 18,750), to organize a meeting to review issues related to authenticity (US\$ 18,750) and for monitoring cultural heritage sites in the Asia Pacific region (US\$ 22,500)

XI. MEASURES TO IMPROVE WORLD HERITAGE ACCOUNTING AND BUDGETING

XI.1 The Director of the Centre presented the financial documents submitted to the Bureau and emphasized the importance

of coordination between the Centre and the advisory bodies (ICCROM, ICOMOS and IUCN) in the preparation of the financial statements submitted to the Committee. He requested the two representatives of UNESCO's Bureau of the Comptroller to provide members of the Bureau with a clear explanation on the functioning of the World Heritage Fund.

XI.2 The Representative of the Bureau of the Comptroller thanked the States Parties which had paid their dues to the World Heritage Fund (document WHC-93/CONF.001/INF.5) and informed the Bureau that UNESCO, which manages a number of funds-in-trust, like the World Heritage Fund, has an investment policy based with reputable banks in the financial market. Investments are made in US dollars. The present amount of the Fund which is invested totals 3.5 million US dollars. The interest rate varies according to the market values from 3, 3.5 to 5%. The total interest is paid into the World Heritage Fund.

XI.3 A Bureau member enquired why the Funds, which show an important surplus according to the figures presented at Santa Fe, did not use more fully these immobilized funds for the conservation of World Heritage properties.

XI.4 The Representative of the Bureau of the Comptroller explained that this global amount also included funds previously engaged but not yet liquidated.

XI.5 Another member of the Bureau also suggested that it would be desirable to revise the policy of the Committee by increasing the amount of financial support available from the Fund for international assistance requests.

XI.6 In view of the backlog by certain States in paying their dues, it would be useful to remind States Parties of the provisions of the Financial Rules of the Fund which recall that States not having paid their dues to the Fund for the current year and the previous year can neither vote nor be elected to the Committee during the renewal of a third of the Committee, which takes place every two years during the General Assembly of States Parties. Furthermore, the States in arrears may not benefit from technical assistance. To date arrears amount to approximately 3 million dollars.

XI.7 It was decided to set up an ad hoc working group composed of some members of the Bureau, representatives of the advisory bodies and the World Heritage Centre to work out budgetary proposals for 1994, examine an improved accounting system and other financial matters. The World Heritage Centre will bring forward the results of this working group to the Committee at its seventeenth session.

XII. APPROVAL OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF UNESCO'S GENERAL CONFERENCE

XII.1 Document WHC-93/CONF.001/6 was examined by the Bureau and approved without change.

XIII. PREPARATION OF THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE, INCLUDING A DRAFT AGENDA

XIII.1 Bureau members endorsed the provisional agenda as presented in document WHC-93/CONF.001.INF.4. Bureau members will meet before the seventeenth session of the Committee at Carthagena on 4 and 5 December to examine nominations which were referred back to States Parties, international assistance requests and results of meetings on World Heritage which will be held in the coming months.

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS

XIV.1 The Representative of IUCN warmly thanked Mr. Ishwaran for his services rendered in handling natural World Heritage matters and wished him every success in his new functions with his transfer to the UNESCO Regional Office for Science and Technology in South-east Asia, located in Jakarta, Indonesia.

XV. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

XV.1 On behalf of the Bureau members, the Chairperson, Mr. Robert Milne, thanked the Rapporteur and the Secretariat of the World Heritage Centre for their efficiency in carrying out the work.

XV.2 The Chairperson then declared the session closed.