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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

Nineteenth session

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, Room X, (Fontenoy)

3-8 July 1995

**Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda: Report of the World Heritage
Committee to the General Conference (28th session)**

In accordance with Article 29.3 of the Convention, the Committee shall submit a report on its activities at each of the ordinary sessions of the UNESCO General Conference. Bureau members will find in annex, for their approval, the draft of Document 28 C/98 "Report of the World Heritage Committee to the General Conference (28th session)" covering the period 1994-1995.

It is furthermore recalled that, in accordance with Strategic Orientation 15 adopted at Santa Fe, this report will also be submitted by the Chairperson of the Committee to the tenth session of the General Assembly of States Parties, which will be held during the General Conference.

D R A F T

Original: French/English

Item 4.5 of the Provisional Agenda

**REPORT OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION
OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE ON ITS ACTIVITIES
(1994-1995)**

SUMMARY

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

This report is submitted to the General Conference by the above-mentioned Committee in accordance with Article 29.3 of the Convention, which stipulates that 'The Committee shall submit a report on its activities at each of the ordinary sessions of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization'.

I. COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

1. The number of States having deposited an instrument of ratification, acceptance or accession in respect of the World Heritage Convention was 136 at the beginning of the ninth General Assembly, which met during the twenty-seventh session of the General Conference of UNESCO (Paris, 1993). The number of States Parties has increased to 142 as at 10 April 1995. The List of these States is given in **Annex I**.

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

Brazil***¹, China**, Colombia*, Cyprus**, Egypt**, France***, Germany**, Indonesia*, Italy***, Japan***, Lebanon***, Mexico**, Niger***, Oman*, Peru*, Philippines**, Senegal*, Spain**, Syrian Arab Republic*, Thailand*, United States of America***.

3. Since the previous report, submitted to the twenty-seventh session of the General Conference (Doc. 27 C/101), the Committee has held two meetings, the first at the invitation of the Colombian authorities, from 6 to 11 December 1993, in Cartagena, Colombia, and the second, at the invitation of the Thai authorities, in Phuket, Thailand, from 12 to 17 December 1994.

4. The Bureau of the Committee met twice in 1994. In 1995, the first meeting was held in July and the second will be in December. It is composed as follows:

From December 1993 to December 1994:

Chairman: Ms. Olga PIZANO (Colombia)
 Vice-Chairs: China, Oman, Senegal, Thailand, United States of America
 Rapporteur: Mr J. Guiró CABRERA (Spain)

Since December 1994

Chairman: Mr Adul WICHIENTHAROEN (Thailand)
 Vice-Chairs: Colombia, Germany, Italy, Oman and Senegal
 Rapporteur: Mr Zhang CHONGLI (China)

¹* States whose terms of office will expire at the end of the twenty-eighth session of the General Conference.
 ** States whose terms of office will expire at the end of the twenty-ninth session of the General Conference.
 *** States whose terms of office will expire at the end of the thirtieth session of the General Conference.

5. The World Heritage Committee, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee" has four essential functions:

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

The Secretariat of the World Heritage Committee is provided by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

II. THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

6. On the basis of nominations put forward by States Parties in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention, the World Heritage Committee has, since its last report to the General Conference, decided to add 62 new inscriptions. It should be noted that some of these properties consist of several monuments or sites. As of 17 December 1994, the total number of inscriptions to the World Heritage List numbered 440, distributed as follows: 326 cultural properties or sites; 97 natural sites and 17 mixed sites, which are listed in **Annex II**.

7. In drawing up the World Heritage List, the Committee has been guided by the need to ensure, as far as possible, the representative nature of the List for all cultural and natural properties which meet the requirements of outstanding universal value stipulated by the Convention and also satisfy the criteria adopted by the Committee for the evaluation of cultural and natural properties; these criteria are set out in the document "Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention" (Document WHC/2, revised February 1995). The Committee has evaluated each nomination in terms of these criteria and, in so doing has taken note of the comments of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) or the World Conservation Union (IUCN), which, together with the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), attend the meetings of the Committee in an advisory capacity.

8. The increase in the number of nominations from States Parties has made it more than ever desirable to draw up **tentative lists** of properties which may be nominated for inclusion on the World Heritage List, as provided for in Article 11 of the Convention. ICOMOS, which at the request of the Committee, must examine all cultural nominations in the light of comparative studies, needs to have the tentative lists drawn up by the States Parties concerned in order to evaluate new cultural nominations. For IUCN, which in 1982 published an inventory of the world's greatest natural areas, such tentative lists are useful for improving and updating the world inventory. Henceforth, the tentative lists, both cultural and natural, will be brought to the attention of Bureau and Committee members on a regular basis. As of 31 March 1995, 39 States Parties had submitted tentative lists of cultural properties.

III. GLOBAL STRATEGY

9. At its eighteenth session in December 1994, the World Heritage Committee, adopted the "Global Strategy" proposed by a group of experts convened by the Centre and ICOMOS in June 1994, to define a certain number of measures to be undertaken to improve the representative nature of the World Heritage List. In this context, several thematic and regional meetings were organized in 1994 and 1995 by the Centre, in cooperation with the advisory bodies and the States Parties. Thus, a regional thematic study meeting on "Asia Rice Culture and its Terraced Landscapes" was held in the Philippines from 28 March to 4 April 1995, and an expert group met in Australia from 26 to 28 April 1995 to identify and assess World Heritage cultural landscapes (associated landscapes). Furthermore, two thematic studies were carried out in 1994: one being the "Heritage Canals Workshop" held and convened by Canada and the other an expert meeting on "Routes as part of our Cultural Heritage", convened by Spain. In addition, an international expert meeting on "Authenticity in relation to the World Heritage Convention" was held in Nara, Japan, in November 1994, anteceded by a preparatory workshop held in Bergen, Norway, in early 1994. A first meeting on African Cultural Heritage is foreseen in autumn 1995. Furthermore, studies on 20th century architecture and industrial heritage continue.

IV. STATE OF CONSERVATION OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

10. The World Heritage Committee, in reviewing the implementation of the World Heritage Convention on the occasion of its twentieth anniversary in 1992, recognised **monitoring and reporting** on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage Lists as an essential function. The Committee adopted in December 1994 a text on **monitoring and reporting** for the "Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention". A distinction was made between reactive monitoring, i.e. reporting to the Bureau and the Committee on the state of conservation of World Heritage sites

that are under threat and systematic monitoring and reporting, i.e. a continuous process of observing the conditions of World Heritage sites with periodic reporting on its state of conservation to the Committee. The Committee noted the positive results of several pilot monitoring initiatives undertaken by States Parties themselves (e.g. Norway, Mexico, United Kingdom), as well as the successful conclusion of the "regional pilot programme for monitoring the cultural World Heritage sites in Latin America and the Caribbean" undertaken within the framework of the UNDP/UNESCO Regional Project for Cultural Heritage.

11. As far as the natural heritage is concerned, IUCN and the World Heritage Centre convened a meeting for World Heritage site managers at Krüger National Park (South Africa) in 1994 to review the state of natural heritage conservation in sub-Saharan Africa.

12. The budget approved by the World Heritage Committee for monitoring and reporting activities on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties amounted, in 1994, to US\$ 400,000; and, in 1995, to US\$ 308,000.

13. The importance the Committee accords to the monitoring of the state of conservation of World Heritage sites has made it aware of the dangers threatening the state of World Heritage sites and enabled it to alert the international community to the necessity of undertaking emergency measures. In 1994-1995, reports of the state of conservation of all the sites inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger were submitted to the Committee and its Bureau. No site inscribed on the Danger List was removed. On the contrary, the Committee inscribed two additional properties: *Everglades National Park (USA)*; and *Virunga National Park (Zaire)*.

14. Seventeen properties are at present inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger (see **Annex III**) and special attention, as well as financial considerations, are accorded to them by the Committee.

V. THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND

(i) Contributions

15. As at 31 March 1995, contributions received from States Parties for the period 1994-1995 amounted to US\$ 2,325,988. Out of this amount, US\$ 1,391,540 were mandatory contributions, and US\$ 934,448 voluntary contributions. Mandatory contributions still receivable for 1994-1995 amount to US\$ 2,070,195 and to US\$ 3,456,574 if account is taken of the total of unpaid contributions for the years 1994-1995 and the previous years. There is a bank deposit of US\$ 3,270,248 as at 31 March 1995. It is recalled that Article 16, paragraph 4 of the World Heritage Convention stipulates that voluntary contributions shall be paid on a regular basis at least **every two** years, and should not be less than the contributions which they should have paid if they had been bound by the provisions of paragraph 1 of the Article 15.

16. At its seventeenth session in December 1993, the Committee approved a budget of US\$ 2,910,000 for 1994, and at its eighteenth session in 1994, a budget of US\$ 2,935,000 for 1995.

(ii) Assistance to States Parties

17. For the period 1 January 1994 to 1 May 1995, several types of international assistance were made available to States Parties under the World Heritage Fund.

(a) **Preparatory assistance:** The World Heritage Committee at its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, granted respectively the following amounts for preparatory assistance: US\$ 150,000 for 1994; and for 1995 US\$150,000. Assistance for the preparation of tentative lists of cultural and/or natural properties suitable for inclusion on the World Heritage List, nominations for the World Heritage List and for requests for technical cooperation were approved for the following States Parties:

1994-1995

Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cap Vert, Egypt, Gambia, Laos, Lithuania, Mauritania, Mexico, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Peru, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Tunisia, Uruguay and Zaire.

US\$ 257,874

(b) **Emergency assistance :** An emergency assistance fund of US\$1 million was created from the reserves of the World Heritage Fund, thanks to which several rapid interventions were possible and contributed to meeting emergency situations, for both cultural and natural heritage.

18. Assistance for activities related to cultural and natural properties inscribed or suitable for inscription on the World Heritage List or which are on the tentative lists established by States Parties, and which have undergone or are threatened with serious damage due to sudden and unexpected phenomena, was provided from 1 January 1994 to 1 May 1995. Emergency assistance was approved for the following properties:

Pre-Rupt Monument at Angkor (Cambodia)	50,000
Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian (China)	26,000
Archaeological Park of Tierradentro (Colombia)	69,500
Galapagos Islands (Ecuador)	50,000
Islamic Cairo (Egypt)	50,000
Citadel, Sans-Souci, Ramiers (Haiti)	73,000
Taj Mahal (India)	20,000
Quseir Amra (Jordan)	20,000
Island of Mozambique	35,000
Kathmandu Valley (Nepal)	44,910
Old City of Shibam and Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen)	70,500

Kahuzi-Biega and Virunga National Parks (Zaire)	50,000
Garamba National Park (Zaire)	20,000
Great Zimbabwe National Monument (Zimbabwe)	34,000
Total:	<u>612,910</u>

(c) **Training:** At its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, the World Heritage Committee allocated respectively for 1994 an amount of US\$ 440,000 and for 1995 US\$ 452,000 for training activities.

Group training: The Committee continued to give priority to group training rather than individual fellowships.

19. With regard to **cultural properties** financial support was given to :

	US\$
- Training course in Conservation and Management of Heritage sites, Potsdam (Germany)	20,000
- Support to international seminars for the safeguarding of world heritage (Argentina)	20,000
- ICCROM/CRAterre (International Centre for Earthen Constructions) : Training for a professional team and craftsmen-technician team for the restoration and maintenance of the Palace of Abomey (Benin)	33,000
- Regional course on Scientific Principles of Conservation for Latin America, June-July 1995, Belo Horizonte (Brazil)	30,000
- Training seminar for Managers of Historical Properties at Ouro Preto (Brazil)	19,250
- Evaluation of Interregional Courses for the Conservation of Historical Monuments and Properties, organized at Salvador de Bahia (Brazil)	18,000
- Training course for technical personnel (Cap Vert)	25,000
- Training course on Wood Conservation Techniques (China)	20,000
- Training Workshop for Architecture (Haiti)	4,100
- Training course in the field of Technical Documentation for 15 participants from Western Europe and 5 participants from Africa	20,000
- Wood Conservation Course at Trondheim (Norway)	25,000

-	Workshop on Authenticity, Bergen, Norway (Jan-Feb 1994)	18,500
-	World Heritage Adobe Conservation Training Course for the Latin American region, October 1995, Chan Chan (Peru)	20,000
-	Sub-regional Conservation Workshop on Western European Medieval Wall Paintings, 1 July-10 September 1995, Sighisoara (Romania)	28,000
-	Annual training courses on Stone Conservation Technology, Architectural Conservation, Restoration of Mural Paintings and Scientific Conservation Principles organized by ICCROM, Rome	75,000
-	Regional Training Course of Maghreb Architects for the Conservation and Protection of Cultural Monuments and Sites (Tunisia) ICCROM	50,000

20. For **natural** heritage, regional or sub-regional training courses for natural heritage protection and/or protected area management were organized in different regions:

	US\$
- Training workshop, Srebarna Nature Reserve (Bulgaria)	14,000
- Training Seminar for Wildlife Specialists, Garoua (Cameroon)	30,000
- Mobile Workshop at the University of Peace, (Costa Rica)	13,750
- 16th International Course for Protected Area Managers in Latin America, CATIE, (Costa Rica)	25,000
- 17th International Training Course for Protected Area Managers in Latin America, CATIE (Costa Rica)	30,000
- Regional Training course, ENGREF, Tai National Park, (Côte d'Ivoire)	30,000
- Support to participants of Francophone Africa for a Protected Areas Training Course organized by ENGREF (Côte d'Ivoire)	19,000
- Regional Training Course for Protected Area Managers for the Arab States, (Egypt)	30,000
- Contribution to a Protected Area Course, Fort Collins (USA)	15,000

21. Furthermore, the Bureau approved the preparation of a training strategy for managers of natural World Heritage sites (US\$30,000): a workshop shall be organized together with the United States National Park Service, in September 1995. The Bureau has requested the Centre to undertake a global evaluation of past training activities supported by the World Heritage Fund, and to use the results of the evaluation to elaborate a strategy for the future.

Group training activities in cultural and natural heritage were supported at a total cost of: **US\$ 662,600**

22. In addition, individual fellowships (natural and cultural) for other training programmes, were approved for the period 1994-1995 to persons from the following States Parties: *China, Egypt, Tunisia* **US\$ 26,450**

Total training costs: US\$ 689,050

(d) Technical cooperation : The World Heritage Committee approved, at its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions respectively a budget of **US\$ 790,000** for 1994 and **US\$ 750,000** for 1995 for technical cooperation. The following requests submitted by States Parties for the period 1994-1995 were approved by the Committee in the framework of this budget.

23. At its seventeenth session held in Cartagena, Colombia, in December 1993, the Committee and its Bureau approved the following cultural and natural heritage projects:

- Purchase of equipment and advisory services for Ivanovo Monastery and Rila Monastery (Brazil)	US\$ 28,000
- Equipment for the protection of mural paintings in Mogao Caves (China)	20,000
- Preparation of Master Plan for Cartagena (Colombia)	19,000
- Development Plan of a Wider Archaeological Area for the site of Joya de Ceren (Cuba)	25,000
- Equipment for Sangay National Park (Ecuador)	28,500
- Consultant services and equipment for Mount Nimba (Guinea)	45,000
- Contribution for technical documentation, equipment and materials (ICCROM)	25,000
- Technical assistance for Komodo National Park (Indonesia)	49,500

- Purchase of equipment for Lake Malawi National Park (Malawi) 16,000
- Equipment, research, intern, experts, training for Bandiagara (Mali) 42,000
- Elaboration of a rehabilitation plan for the Historic Centre of Puebla (Mexico) 18,000
- Technical assistance and equipment for the Protection of Manu National Park (Peru) 20,000
- Technical assistance for personnel of the Huascarán National Park (Peru) 20,000
- Protection of Kilimanjaro National Park (Tanzania) 25,000

24. At its eighteenth session held in Paris from 4 to 9 July 1994, the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee approved the following contribution: **US\$**

- Tourist study of the Historic Centre of the Town of Olinda (Brazil) 19,000
- Equipment and advisory services at the Rock-Hewn Churches of Ivanovo Monastery and Monastery of Rila (Bulgaria) 21,000
- Restoration of Mural Paintings in the 18th century Baroque Festival Palace of the Old City of Dubrovnik (Croatia) 8,000
- Workshop to define the Development Plan for the site of Joya de Ceren (El Salvador) 25,000
- Purchase of equipment, Antigua Guatemala (Guatemala) 20,000
- Purchase of equipment for the National History Park Citadel, Sans Souci, Ramiers (Haiti) 17,510
- Restoration works of the Medersa Ben Youssef, Median of Marrakesh (Morocco) 30,000
- Purchase of equipment and restoration work of Hagia-Sophia, Istanbul (Turkey) 30,000

25. Furthermore, projects not exceeding **US\$ 20,000** were approved by the Chairperson for the following countries: Bolivia, (Restoration of Mural Paintings at Potosi); Bulgaria (Equipment for Srebarna); India (Maintenance work Elephanta Caves, Bombay);

Indonesia (Office construction at Ujung Kulon); Madagascar (Conservation Policy, Tsingy de Bemaraha); Mexico (Rehabilitation Centre of Puebla); Morocco (Organization of a Meeting at Fez); Peru (Conservation Policy for the Historic Centre of Lima); Syria (Restoration of the Citadel of Damascus); Turkey (Restoration Work at Hagia-Sophia; Management Plan for Göreme); and Vietnam (Organization of a Seminar in Hanoi), at a cost of:

US\$ 192,000

Total for 1994 is:

US\$ 743,510

26. At its eighteenth session held in Phuket, Thailand, from 12 to 17 December 1994, the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau approved the following projects for 1995:

	US\$
- Buffer zone development at Ujung Kulon National Park (Indonesia)	40,000
- Equipment purchase at Komodo National Park (Indonesia)	40,000
- Historic Town of Ouro Preto (Brazil)	20,000
- Old City of Dubrovnik (Croatia)	50,000
- Salt Mines of Wieliczka (Poland)	100,000
- Kathmandu Valley (Nepal)	52,000
- The Complex of Huế Monuments (Viet Nam)	108,000
- Historic Areas of Istanbul (Turkey)	80,000

27. The Committee approved assistance to ICCROM, as follows:

	US\$
a) Technical assistance to supply basic documentation, and didactic equipment to institutions of States Parties	25,000
b) Printing of <i>Management Guidelines for World Cultural Heritage Sites</i> , by B.M. Feilden and J. Jokilehto, by ICCROM	6,900
Total:	US\$ 521,900

28. Furthermore, projects not exceeding US \$ 20,000 were approved by the Chairperson between 1 January 1995 and 1 May 1995: China (Film Production); Egypt (missions Plateau Pyramids);

Lithuania (Vilnius); Mauritania (Preparatory assistance four historic cities); Niger (Preparatory assistance natural heritage); Tunisia (Expert missions); Jordania (Qusair Amra), at a cost of :

US\$ 99,211

Total as at 1 May 1995:

US\$ 621,111

VI. PROMOTION AND EDUCATION

29. The World Heritage Committee approved under the budget line "Promotion and Education" a sum of US\$ 270,000 for 1994 and US\$ 268,000 for 1995. These funds were used to finance activities in the following areas, as approved by the Committee (the amounts are in some cases approximative as at the time of preparing this document, in mid-May 1995, certain activities were still being carried out):

General World Heritage information

- development of a comprehensive, all-purpose data-bank with on-line information and INTERNET linkage; up-grading of the Centre's equipment and organization of a meeting of experts in 1995 on World Heritage Information Management (US\$ 76,000);
- production of a three-language CD-ROM (US\$15,000);
- annual production in three languages and distribution of the World Heritage folding poster and the World Heritage Diary/Agenda, and 2,000 copies of a World Heritage poster for schools (US\$ 75,000);
- six issues of the World Heritage Newsletter distributed in 10,000 copies each issue (US\$ 43.000);
- an itinerant three-language photo exhibit of 103 cities with World Heritage sites (US\$ 33,000);
- a new multipurpose basic information/press kit in three languages (US\$ 25,000);
- co-publication with Chicago Press and INCAFO of children's World Heritage series (US\$ 20,000);
- a retrospective exhibit "From Abou Simbel to Angkor" by CLT/CH (US\$ 45,000);
- publication and reprint of Mr L. Pressouyre's "World Heritage Twenty Years Later"; Brief descriptions; two Committee reports and other, including translations (US\$ 11,500);
- preparation of a study on fund-raising (US\$ 27,000).

30. Furthermore, the production of a series of 105 15-minute films on the 440 sites was begun by German television in 1995, with no Fund costs involved.

On-site promotional activities

(Assistance to States Parties for specific on-site publications, photo-exhibits and special events)

- World Heritage certificates and inscription plates (US\$ 9,500);
- publications of seminars, workshops, etc. (US\$ 34,500)
- study (coordinated by CLT) on cultural tourism (US\$ 15,000);
- assistance for film productions (US\$ 27,000);
- assistance for site exhibits (US\$ 14,500).

Awareness-building through schools

31. This part consists mainly of the interregional pilot project, launched jointly in 1994 with the Education Sector, involving in its initial stage, the Associated Schools in twenty-five countries in all regions of the world. This also includes UNESCO's first **World Heritage Youth Forum**, organized jointly in June 1995 with the Norwegian National Commission for UNESCO, the City of Bergen and the Organization of World Heritage Cities, the purpose of which is to assess the results of the experimental phase of the project and to help elaborate a world-wide strategy, including the production of pedagogic material, for World Heritage awareness-building through schools.

32. The Fund contributed US\$ 50,000 to this project over the two-year period, whereas US\$ 104,000 were obtained from private funding.