

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,  
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF  
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

World Heritage Committee  
Fifteenth Ordinary Session

Carthage, Tunisia, 9-13 December 1991

Item 11 of the Provisional Agenda: Requests for International Assistance

1. At its fifteenth session, the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee received requests for international assistance submitted by Cuba and Costa Rica. It approved the first for an amount of 30,000 dollars of the United States of America. The second request was deferred for the consideration of the Committee in December 1991.
2. Additional requests for international assistance have been received since the fifteenth session of the Bureau from Brazil, Bulgaria, Egypt, France/Niger, India/South and Central Asia, the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), Malta, Tunisia, and Zaire.

A. - Cultural Properties

(a) Technical co-operation

3. **The Madara Rider (Bulgaria)**

**Background:** The Madara Rider was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979. In August 1991, an expert travelled to Bulgaria to assess the threat to the monument and the measures which should be taken (US\$4,000). In the past, US\$79,975 were allocated to Bulgaria under technical assistance and US\$27,629 under training.

**Description of the Request:** The monument is presently threatened by the deterioration of the rock in which it is carved. Studies should be undertaken on the geological structure of the rock, its physical, chemical and structural

properties and on the changes operating at the surface of the relief. These studies will determine cleaning methods and safety measures. In order to carry out these studies equipment necessary for drilling, measurement and urgent cleaning is requested by the Bulgarian authorities (US\$35,000).

**National Contribution:** A contribution of US\$125,683 is foreseen by the Government for this project.

**Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund:** An amount of US\$35,000 is requested for the purchase of the above-mentioned equipment.

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is invited to take a decision on this request.

#### **4. Saint-Stephen Church in Nessebar (Bulgaria)**

**Background:** The Ancient City of Nessebar was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1983. The expert who travelled to Bulgaria last August also considered the restoration of the frescoes of Saint-Stephen's Church.

**Description of the Request:** Following the restoration of the frescoes carried out between 1964 and 1974 and under the influence of a particular maritime climate and highly variable temperatures and humidity, the paint layer as well as the preparatory coating have markedly deteriorated. The conservation project consists of two main phases: the first is designed for measures to be taken to stop humidity penetrating to the inside and to the frescoes. The second part of the project includes conservation and restoration of the frescoes themselves. The aim of the project is to remove all noxious effect on the frescoes and to create an optimal microclimate inside the church. Restoration and preservation of the frescoes themselves will then be carried out. Bulgarian authorities wish to install an air conditioning system inside the church and to purchase the necessary equipment for the conservation and restoration of the frescoes (US\$15,000).

**National Contribution:** The Bulgarian Government will contribute approximately US\$81,967.

**Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund:** A sum of US\$15,000 is requested for the restoration of the frescoes of Saint-Stephen's Church.

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is invited to take a decision on this request.

#### **5. Pyramid Plateau at Giza (Egypt)**

**Background:** The Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979. At its fourteenth session, the Bureau expressed its concern about a development plan intended for the Pyramid Plateau. For its part, the Committee wished to be informed of development of a master plan. Within the context of financial assistance allocated under the World Heritage

its concern about a development plan intended for the Pyramid Plateau. For its Fund US\$50,208 were granted to Egypt in 1979 and 1981 for the Historic Centre of Cairo. US\$18,000 were allotted in 1991 for the Pyramid Plateau to allow the participation of three experts in the first phase of the project: examining existing studies, identifying studies still to be carried out and preparing the framework of the master plan. A further US\$18,255 were allocated for training.

**Description of the Request:** The establishment of a new village next to the site and the problems related to nearby traffic create dangers which require measures for rehabilitation and protection. It is therefore essential that a master plan be set up for the site and its buffer zone. The Egyptian authorities wish to receive again the assistance of three experts (an economist, an archaeologist and a landscape designer) to participate in the second phase of the project: developing the master plan in the light of the assessments made (US\$30,000).

**National Contribution:** The Government will contribute the cost of national experts participating in the project.

**Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund:** An amount of US\$30,000 is requested for the financing of international expertise.

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is invited to take a decision on this request.

## **6. Hal Saflieni Hypogeum (Malta)**

**Background:** The Hal Saflieni Hypogeum was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1980. US\$3,570 were allocated in 1981 under the World Heritage Fund for air conditioning equipment in the hypogeum; in 1988, a further US\$2,713 were granted to finance the mission of an expert in hydrology for the hypogeum. Malta has, furthermore, received US\$31,543 for training activities.

**Description of the Request:** In order to solve conservation problems linked with internal humidity, the Maltese authorities have decided to set up an air conditioner in the hypogeum at an estimated cost of US\$180,000.

**National Contribution:** Within the context of restoration of the monument, the estimated cost for the repair of the entrance and the renewal of the lighting system amounts to US\$450,000.

**Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund:** An amount of US\$180,000 is requested to instal the air conditioning.

**Action by the Committee:** The high amount of the request does not allow its full financing under the World Heritage Fund. On the other hand, in so far as the Maltese authorities are in a position to assure the Committee of additional financing on their part, the Committee could decide to contribute to the project up to US\$30,000.

**7. International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)**

**Background:** For a number of years, the World Heritage Fund has provided a financial contribution of US\$20,000 to ICCROM for the supply of technical documentation, small equipment and materials much needed by the official conservation services or institutions of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in their work for the protection and conservation of their cultural heritage. Requests are received by ICCROM from all over the world and most requests are for materials which are not available in the countries themselves. ICCROM for its part has contributed equal sums to this programme to meet the requests of States not Parties to the Convention. The programme has thus served more than 300 institutions in some 90 countries and has responded to requests for more than 2,000 basic texts, 90 small instruments, 500 different items of conservation material, and some 300 conservation periodicals. In 1991 due to the great number of requests approved by the Committee, the Fund was not in a position to finance this programme.

**Description of the Request:** ICCROM is requesting a financial contribution of US\$25,000 to allow this activity to be renewed.

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is invited to take a decision on this request.

(b) Training

**8. Interregional Course on the Preservation and the Restoration of Monuments and Historic Sites organized by the University of Bahia (Brazil)**

**Background:** Because of its location in a city whose historic centre is inscribed on the World Heritage List, the University of Bahia has established in its programme the above-mentioned nine months course. Since 1988, assistance has been allotted to this activity upon authorization of the President of the Committee through the financing of fellowships under the World Heritage Fund. In 1988, US\$50,056 were granted to cover the participation of fellows from Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador (2), Nicaragua (a total of US\$35,556) and to contribute to the organization of the course (US\$14,500). In 1990, US\$91,800 were allotted for fellows from Argentine, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Peru and Portugal (US\$62,100). US\$19,500 were given to finance the contribution of foreign teachers and US\$10,200 to organize the course. The Secretariat considers that this new request for the course which will take place in 1992 should be presented globally to the Committee and no longer to the Chairman in a fragmented way according to national requests as they are presented. Indeed, the question for the Committee is to decide whether it considers appropriate to regularly allot a significant sum to the same activity.

**Description of the Request:** Brazil wishes to receive US\$20,000 to allow the participation of foreign teachers and the financing of ten fellowships. The

Secretariat proposes the allotment of US\$19,500 for foreign teachers, US\$25,000 for fellowships which would be granted to participants from the two African Portuguese-speaking countries which are States Parties to the Convention (Cape Verde and Mozambique), and US\$15,500 to fellows from Latin-American countries who have never participated in the course.

**National Contribution:** Brazil will contribute other expenses involved by the course.

**Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund:** An amount of US\$60,000 is proposed by the Secretariat for the financing of foreign teachers and fellowships.

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is invited to take a decision on this request.

**9. International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)**

The Secretariat is reviewing a request in an amount of US\$60,000 for the financing in 1992 of fellowships for the three ICCROM regular courses in architectural conservation, conservation of mural paintings and scientific principles of conservation. Once a decision has been taken concerning the costs of the proposal and the States Parties who will benefit from it, the three requests each for US\$20,000 will be submitted for approval to the Chairman of the Committee.

**B. Natural Properties**

(a) Technical co-operation

**10. Ichkeul National Park (Tunisia)**

**Background:** This Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979. The site is also a Biosphere Reserve and is recognized under the Ramsar Convention. A sum of US\$30,000 was provided in 1981 for studies on the protection of this site. The freshwater supply of this wetland area was threatened by fluctuations in water-levels caused by development activities outside of the Park. The Tunisian authorities organized an international meeting to discuss these and other management problems of the site, and agreed to construct the Tindja sluice and two drainage canals in order to maintain the integrity of the site. At its thirteenth session held at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, in December 1988, the Committee congratulated the Tunisian authorities for improvements undertaken and planned for the management of this site, particularly the establishment of an information and visitor centre and recruitment of additional staff for the Park. Tunisia has paid its dues to the

World Heritage Fund up to 1990, and the Secretariat has been informed that the 1991 payment is expected to be made soon.

**Description of Request:** The Park attracts widespread interest among the youth and non-governmental organizations in Tunisia and is a centre for an increasing number of visitors. The project aims to improve the presentation of the Park to visitors. The Tunisian authorities have requested a sum of US\$40,000 to cover expenses related to: a) the hiring of one consultant (1.5 man-months) in landscape planning who has experience in presenting the heritage to the public; b) additional equipment for the interpretation centre, and c) design of a visitor's plan taking account of ecological and aesthetic aspects.

**National and other contributions:** The Tunisian authorities will meet the costs of drawing up a plan for an environmental education circuit within the Park, construct an information and education centre at the Park entrance and reinforce logistic arrangements for surveillance and visitation.

**Action by the Committee:** A detailed budget for the US\$40,000 requested from the Fund and quantitative estimates of the contributions of the Tunisian authorities are still awaited. The Committee is requested to make a decision on this request on the basis of additional information which will be presented during its fifteenth session in December.

#### 11. Garamba National Park (Zaire)

**Background:** This Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1980 and on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1984. In 1981, a sum of US\$19,120 was approved for the purchase of equipment for this site. Since then a consortium of international agencies comprising WWF-International, Frankfurt Zoological Society and UNESCO's World Heritage Convention have jointly launched projects to strengthen the Park's capacity to combat poaching of its rhino population. The contribution from the World Heritage Fund to this joint venture was US\$20,000 in 1985 and US\$50,000 in 1988, respectively. These contributions were used to purchase field vehicles and other equipment for anti-poaching operations. A sum of US\$25,000 was also approved under emergency assistance in 1985 for the purchase of similar equipment. As a result of sustained assistance from international bodies, the poaching on the Park's rhinoceros population has been considerably reduced and the population has nearly doubled over the last five years. The Zairois authorities have acknowledged the improvements in the state of conservation of this Park and have requested that the World Heritage Committee consider removing this site from the List of World Heritage in Danger. The Bureau, at its last session, recommended that the Committee remove the Garamba National Park from the List of World Heritage in Danger. The Bureau also recommended that the Committee recognize that the small rhino population is still vulnerable and therefore contribute through co-operation with other donors in supporting requests for the rehabilitation of the population. Zaire has informed the Secretariat that it will pay its contributions to the World Heritage Fund up to 1991.

**Description of Request:** The Park wishes to purchase three all-terrain motor-cycles which would enable rapid contacts between different guard posts in this 500,000 ha site. The vehicles will also be used to contact patrolling teams in the field who request help from guard posts and/or headquarters during their anti-poaching operations. A sum of US\$15,000 is requested for the purchase of the three all-terrain motor-cycles. The estimated cost of one all-terrain motor-cycle, according to the Equipment Procurement Section of UNESCO, is at least US\$4,000. Taking into account freight charges and other miscellaneous expenses, the amount requested for the purchase of the three motor-cycles and their shipment to Zaire was assessed to be reasonable.

**National and other contributions:** The national authorities will contribute towards the salaries of staff and operational and maintenance costs of the three motor-cycles estimated to be about US\$7,500 per year.

**Action of the Committee:** The Committee is invited to consider this request for US\$15,000, based on additional information to be provided to the Committee regarding payment of contributions to the World Heritage Fund.

## **12. Virunga National Park (Zaire)**

**Background:** The Virunga National Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979. A sum of US\$43,760 was provided to this site in 1980 for the purchase of equipment for research and data collection and for strengthening the protection of the Park. An additional sum of US\$40,000 was allocated in 1988 for the purchase of three motor boats and several items of camping equipment. Zaire has informed the Secretariat that it will pay its contributions to the World Heritage Fund up to 1991.

**Description of the Request:** A sum of US\$50,000 is requested to purchase another motor boat, several spare parts for other motor boats already purchased in 1989, and freight charges for the transport of the equipment to Zaire. The total cost of the essential items of purchase and freight charges according to the estimate of the Equipment Procurement Section of UNESCO is about US\$40,000.

**National and other contributions:** The national authorities will pay the salaries of trained personnel who use the equipment and meet operational and maintenance costs estimated at US\$15,000/year. (The World Heritage Fund, in 1990, provided a sum of US\$9,500 for training two persons each from Salonga and Virunga National Parks, respectively, on boat repair and maintenance work.)

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is invited to consider this request for US\$40,000 based upon additional information to be provided to the Committee regarding payment of contributions to the World Heritage Fund.

(b) Training

**13. Regional Training Seminar For Francophone Africa**

**Background:** During the last three years, the 'Ecole Nationale du Génie Rural, des Eaux et des Forêts' (ENGREF) of France has, in co-operation with national institutes of Benin, Burkina Faso, and Cameroon, has organized training seminars for Francophone African countries on subjects related to protected area management and rural (buffer zone) development. Every year these courses have been supported by the World Heritage Fund.

**Description of the Request:** ENGREF is proposing to organize, in co-operation with the Faculté des Sciences Agronomiques (FSA) in Niamey, Niger, a regional training seminar on the 'Management of the National Park of 'W' in Niger' from 17 January to 18 February 1992. This national park is a transborder site extending across Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger and covers about 830,000 ha. The area of the Park within Niger where this course will take place is about 220,000 ha. The seminar will deal with the following three themes: vegetation, fauna and systems of production and land use in peripheral areas. Of the 27 trainees who will participate in the course, 22 will be from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Madagascar, Niger, Senegal and Togo. Five other participants will be from Brazil, France and Mexico.

The total cost of the seminar is US\$74,231, covering: organization (US\$2,500), personnel (US\$23,535), international and local transport (US\$37,875), publications (US\$3,178) and purchase of SPOT images (US\$7,143). ENGREF has requested a contribution of US\$30,000 from the World Heritage Fund.

**National and other contributions:** The contribution from ENGREF is about US\$18,000. Other contributions are from FAO and the French Ministry for Co-operation (US\$10,000) and the EEC (US\$18,000).

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is invited to consider approving a sum of US\$30,000 for this seminar.

**14. Regional Training Course for Protected Area Managers from South-Central Asia**

**Background:** The Committee and its Chairpersons have supported mobile training seminars for protected area managers in Francophone and Anglophone Africa (1990), Latin America (annually) and Europe (1990 and 1991). A mobile training seminar for park managers has never been held in the Asia-Pacific Region.

**Description of the Request:** The Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehra Dun, India, has proposed to organize a 'Mobile Training Seminar for Specialists in South-Central Asia' (from States Parties to the Convention, namely



Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Maldives, Mongolie, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and other countries of the region such as Bhutan, Myanmar and the USSR. The one-month seminar is expected to travel through several protected areas of India, including World Heritage Sites such as Nanda Devi National Park and Keoladeo National Park. The course was initially scheduled for March 1992 but the WII authorities have indicated that it would have to be postponed until November 1992 in order to obtain commitments of several funding agencies, and have sufficient time for the organization of the event. The course is budgeted at US\$50,000 to cover costs of organization and preparation of course materials (US\$6,000), honoraria to resource persons (US\$2,000), international travel of participants and travel within India during the seminar (US\$16,000) and board and lodging, park entrance fees and other field expenses and unforeseen medical and miscellaneous expenses for 20 trainees and at least five resource persons (US\$26,000).

**National and other contributions:** The administrative and pre-organizational costs for the conduct of the training seminar will be borne by WII and are estimated at US\$2,000. UNESCO's Regional Office for Science and Technology in New Delhi has foreseen a contribution of US\$5,000 for this activity in their proposed budget for 1992. UNDP and the Office of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada in New Delhi have expressed interest in supporting this training seminar, but have indicated that they will be able to specify amounts only by the end of the year. Possibilities to obtain contributions from WWF-International and/or WWF-India are also being explored.

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is invited to consider approving a sum of US\$30,000 for this activity, to be used upon confirmation of support from other donors who have been approached by WII.