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WHC-92/CONF.002/8Add2  
26 November 1992  
Original:English

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,  
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE  
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

World Heritage Committee  
Sixteenth session

Santa Fe, New Mexico, United States of America  
7-14 December 1992

Item 12 of the Provisional Agenda: Requests for International Assistance

1. Monitoring of World Heritage Properties

**Background:** The Committee has repeatedly emphasized the importance of establishing mechanisms for the monitoring of the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. IUCN and the World Heritage Centre have submitted reports on the state of conservation of 15 to 25 natural properties during recent sessions of the Bureau and the Committee. The Committee, however, has recognized the difficulties in monitoring the state of conservation of cultural World Heritage properties, there being many more of them with a variety and complexity of technical problems. The Committee, at its last session, expressed satisfaction about the monitoring exercise undertaken by the Secretariat, in co-operation with the Regional Co-ordinator of the UNDP/UNESCO Project on Cultural Heritage in Latin America and the Caribbean, and suggested that this exercise be continued and the feasibility for undertaking similar exercises in other regions be investigated.

Furthermore, using a similar approach, the Centre was able to monitor, together with the Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme, the state of conservation of cultural properties in the Mediterranean Region, and provide reports on 7 sites to the sixteenth session of the Bureau, held from 6 to 10 July 1992, at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris.

**Description of Request:** The World Heritage Centre, together with ICOMOS, ICCROM, the Co-ordinator of the UNDP/UNESCO Project for Cultural Heritage in Latin America and the Caribbean, and other independent experts from other regions, proposes to launch a monitoring programme during 1993 for cultural heritage properties

inscribed on the World Heritage List. The methodology to be used will include: (a) collation of available information from ICOMOS, ICCROM and other relevant organizations on the state of conservation of properties; (b) site visits, and consultations with managers, administrators and decision makers; (c) assessment and evaluation of their state of conservation of property and (d) preparation of the state of conservation reports.

On the basis of the findings of this monitoring programme, technical assistance projects will be prepared, and attempts will be made to mobilize the necessary financial resources for their implementation.

In the Latin American and the Caribbean region, some experience has already been gained in conducting the monitoring programme in 1991 (6 sites) and 1992 (7 sites) at a total cost of US\$ 36,500 to the Fund. UNDP contributed an amount of US\$ 50,000 to these activities and the counterpart contribution of States Parties amounted to US\$ 13,000.

**Amount requested from the Fund:** A total sum of US\$ 115,000 is requested to continue the monitoring of the state of conservation of World Heritage sites, with particular emphasis in the Latin American and the Caribbean region: (a) for the Latin American and the Caribbean region an amount of US\$ 50,000 covering travel costs, per diem and other expenses to visit 15 properties (US\$ 45,000) and desk-studies and communication costs (US\$ 5,000); (b) for the Mediterranean region an amount of US\$ 20,000 covering travel costs, per diem and other expenses to visit 7-10 sites and (c) for African and the Asia-Pacific regions an amount of US\$ 20,000 covering travel costs, per diem and other expenses related to 5 visits to sites. An additional US\$ 25,000 would be required for the organization of a workshop on monitoring methodologies.

**National Contribution:** The implementation of the project requires close co-operation with States Parties in the organization of site visits and obtaining pre-visit information concerning the state of conservation of sites. The amount which the States Parties would have to contribute in kind and cash is estimated to be about 15-20% of the total cost of the monitoring programme.

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is requested to consider approving US\$ 115,000 for the monitoring of World Heritage properties during 1993.

## 2. Training

### Regional Training Seminar for Francophone Africa (France/Mali)

**Background:** During the last four years the 'Ecole Nationale du Genie Rural, des Eaux et des Forêts' (ENGREF) of France has, in co-operation with national institutions in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Niger, organized sub-regional training seminars for Francophone Africa on subjects related to protected

area management and rural development. Each year the World Heritage Fund has contributed a sum of US\$ 30,000 to support the organization of these courses.

**Description of Request:** ENGREF is proposing to organize a training course in the Boucle du Baoule Biosphere Reserve in Mali, from 30 January to 28 February 1993. The total area of the Reserve is 350,000 ha. The training course will concentrate on the following themes: (a) methods and techniques for the description of physical and biological characteristics of the site (b) habitat degradation and species loss and (c) problems caused by pastoralists and ways and means of integrating their needs with the conservation of the area. The Rural Polytechnic Institute of Katibougou and the Ministry of Agriculture are co-operating with ENGREF in the organization of this course. The trainees will include 10 from the Rural Polytechnic Institute of Katibougou and 18 students from ENGREF, belonging to 11 nationalities (Belgium (1), Brazil (1), Burkina Faso (1), Cap-Vert (1), Congo (1), Côte d'Ivoire (1), France (4), Japan (1), Madagascar (1), Mali (1), Niger (4) and Portugal (1)). The trainers are from France (3) and from Togo (1). The total cost for the organization of this course is estimated to be US\$ 63,000, including organization (US\$ 4,000), fees, per diem and other personnel costs (trainers and trainees: US\$ 24,500), international and local travel (US\$ 23,300), field data gathering and processing of data obtained by trainees (US\$ 7,550) and publication costs (US\$ 4,150).

**Amount requested:** ENGREF has requested a sum of US\$ 30,000 for the overall organization of this course.

**National and other contributions:** The US\$ 33,000, in addition to the US\$ 30,000 requested from the World Heritage Fund, will be provided by ENGREF and co-operating agencies in France and Mali.

**Action by the Committee:** The Committee is invited to consider this request and take a decision as to whether or not to continue the past practice of supporting this course.