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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. At its sixteenth session the Bureau examined the following three requests for international assistance and requested additional information on each of them:

1.1. Hal Saflieni Hypogeum (Malta)

Background : The Hal Saflieni Hypogeum was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1980. To date, Malta has received US\$53,375 from the World Heritage Fund distributed as follows: US\$31,100 for training, US\$8,169 for preparatory assistance and US\$14,306 for technical assistance, of which US\$11,713 was spent on Hal Saflieni Hypogeum. Malta has paid its contribution to the World Heritage Fund for 1991.

Description of Project: In order to resolve problems linked to internal humidity, the Maltese authorities have envisaged the installation of an air-conditioning system in the Hypogeum at an estimated cost of US\$180,000.

National Contribution: Within the framework of a programme to restore the monument, the Maltese authorities hope to contribute up to US\$450,000 to rebuild the entrance and renovate the lighting system.

Amount requested from the Fund: A sum of US\$180,000 is requested for installing an air-conditioning system.

Observations and recommendations of the Bureau: The Bureau noted that the amount requested is too high to consider

financing under the World Heritage Fund, but was of the view that a contribution from the Fund could be made if the Maltese authorities were able to assure the Committee of complementary financing. Furthermore, the Bureau requested ICOMOS to examine the justifications provided by the Maltese authorities for the need to install an air-conditioning system at this World Heritage site and assess the relative merits of different options available for solving problems caused by internal humidity.

Action by the Committee: The Committee is requested to decide on whether or not a financial contribution should be made to this project, on the basis of a) ICOMOS' assessment of the justifications for the need to install an air-conditioning system, and b) information concerning the availability of funds from other sources to supplement a contribution that may be provided from the World Heritage Fund.

1.2. City of Potosi (Bolivia)

Background: The City of Potosi was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1987. Until now the Fund has provided Bolivia with US\$28,294, of which US\$15,794 was for training, US\$7,500 for preparatory assistance and US\$5,000 for technical co-operation. Bolivia has paid its contribution to the World Heritage Fund for 1991.

Description of the Project: A project was presented in February 1991 by the Bolivian authorities, to restore and develop the lagoon systems in the Kari-Kari zone. In fact, this project aimed to develop all lakes situated east and south-east of the City of Potosi in order to augment their capacities to provide drinking water. It did not appear to be a project aiming at a simple restoration of specific elements in the World Heritage site. The total cost of the project is estimated to be about US\$20 million, of which US\$3-4 million may be spent on the rehabilitation of a part of the lagoons. Hence, this project is an investment project linked to the development of the City. It had been noted by ICOMOS, during its evaluation of the nomination dossier of this site, that the City's boundary included "5 of the nearest lakes". A mission undertaken in January 1992 identified these five lakes to be the following: to the south, the lagoons of San Ildefonso and San Pablo (which have been united by works undertaken in 1973 and now constitute a single lake after the removal of the barrage of San Pablo), and the two lagoons of San Sebastian, and to the north, the lagoon of San Antonio.

Observations and Recommendations of the Bureau: The Bureau requested the World Heritage Centre to obtain information on the links between the World Heritage site of the City of

Potosi and the proposed rehabilitation project for the lagoons. The Bureau recommended that the Committee, at its next session, assess the importance of the work to rehabilitate the lagoons for the conservation of the World Heritage city, and decide whether or not the project qualifies for international assistance from the World Heritage Fund.

Supplementary information: The Chief Technical Adviser (CTA) of the UNESCO/UNDP Regional Project on Cultural Heritage of Latin America and the Caribbean, has made the following observations on the basis of a mission undertaken in February 1992:

- the project submitted to the World Heritage Committee for international assistance is an investment project, and
- the World Heritage site includes only a part of the area which would benefit from the investment project.

Another mission to Potosi to assess the importance of the investment project to rehabilitate the lagoons to the World Heritage City of Potosi is foreseen and its findings will be submitted to the Committee at its sixteenth session.

Action by the Committee: On the basis of additional information to be submitted at the time of its sixteenth session, the Committee is requested to assess the importance of this project for the conservation of the World Heritage City of Potosi, and decide whether or not this request qualifies for international assistance from the World Heritage Fund.

1.3. Restoration of the mosaics of St. Sophia (Turkey)

Background: The historic zones of Istanbul were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1985. To date, Turkey has received US\$113,653 from the World Heritage Fund; US\$25,297 for training, US\$6,907 for preparatory assistance and US\$81,149 for technical assistance, of which US\$20,000 was approved in 1991 for the restoration of the Dome of St. Sophia. Turkey has paid its contribution to the World Heritage Fund for 1991.

Description of the Project: The project includes activities to carry out analytical studies on materials and structures constituting the Dome of St. Sophia and photogrammetric surveys necessary for its conservation. For this purpose, materials have been requested, but a detailed list of the required materials has not been provided.

National contribution: The Turkish authorities have indicated to the Secretariat that between 1985 and 1990,

they have contributed an amount of US\$265,195 for the restoration of St. Sophia. They foresee setting aside US\$300,000 for the 1992 - 1993 period.

Amount requested from the Fund: A sum of US\$30,000 is requested for the year 1992; the Turkish authorities foresee requesting an additional amount of US\$50,000 in 1993.

Observations and Recommendations of the Bureau: The Bureau, while agreeing in principle to providing support for the continuation of the restoration of mosaics of St. Sophia in Istanbul, noted that the project approved in 1991 under the World Heritage Fund is expected to be completed in 1992. The Bureau requested that the Committee review the report of this project and information from other studies that have been undertaken by the Turkish authorities, and decide on an appropriate amount to assist in the continuation of the restoration of the mosaics of St. Sophia. The World Heritage Centre is in contact with the Turkish authorities to obtain the report and the information from studies undertaken by the Turkish authorities in order to submit them for examination by the Committee.

Action by the Committee: On the basis of the report on the 1991 project financed by the World Heritage Fund, and information from studies undertaken by the Turkish authorities, which is expected to be available at the time when the Committee convenes for its sixteenth session, the Committee is requested to decide on the amount it wishes to contribute towards the restoration of the mosaics of St. Sophia.

2. Since the conclusion of the sixteenth session of the Bureau in July 1992, the following request for international assistance has been received.

Galapagos National Park (Ecuador):

Background: The Galapagos National Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1978. Since then it has received a sum of US\$234,920 from the World Heritage Fund which is distributed as follows: US\$ 10,000, in 1982, for organizing a training course for Park staff; in 1985, US\$10,500 as emergency assistance for the purchase of equipment and two study grants for Park staff at a total cost of US\$6,000; in 1987, US\$15,000 under preparatory assistance and US\$2,000 under technical co-operation for consultancy services for the development of a management plan for the marine reserve surrounding the National Park; in 1988, US\$4,250 for consultancy services for the preparation of a training plan for the Galapagos National Park Service staff and US\$4,750 for training one specialist in park management; in 1989, US\$4,000 for training the Superintendent of the Park in

coastal park management and US\$20,000 as a financial contribution to the development of a long-term plan for the Charles Darwin Research Station located within the Galapagos National Park; US\$54,000 in 1989 and US\$59,500 in 1990 for the purchase of motor-boats and spare-parts, respectively; US\$14,000, in 1990, for a study to investigate impacts of tourism on the Galapagos National Park and make recommendations for the improvement of management; one study grant each in 1990 and 1991, costing US\$2,000, and US\$5,190, respectively; in 1992, two study grants costing US\$3,100 and US\$4,630, and a financial contribution of US\$15,000 to support the participation of three experts in a training course for Park staff and tour guides, scheduled to be held in December 1992.

The management plan for the marine reserve has now been approved by the competent authorities and a nomination to extend the World Heritage site to include the marine reserve, as recommended by the Committee in 1987, is expected to be prepared in 1993. The final draft of the long-term development plan for the Charles Darwin Research Station is also ready and includes an interpretation and education plan for the Galapagos National Park. The findings of the tourism impact study supported by the World Heritage Fund has been incorporated in a tourism and conservation plan for the Galapagos, and the Bureau at its last session recommended that the Galapagos National Park authorities revise the management plan in order to harmonize its implementation with the tourism and conservation plan (see document WHC-92/CONF.002/5). The recommendations of the training plan prepared with assistance from the World Heritage Fund in 1988, is also implemented accordingly. In the future, the organization of in-situ training courses will be given preference to that of providing study grants to Park personnel to attend seminars or workshops abroad.

Ecuador has paid its contribution to the World Heritage Fund for 1991.

Description of the Project: The project aims to revise the management plan in order to harmonize its objectives with the overall tourism development strategy for Galapagos, outlined in the tourism and conservation plan, and incorporating the interpretation and education plan which is presently a part of the long-term development plan of the Charles Darwin Research Foundation and training plan which was developed with assistance from the World Heritage Fund in 1988. The revision of the management plan for the Galapagos National Park Service will be co-ordinated by the Ecuadorean Institute for Forestry, Natural Areas and Wildlife, which has been established with Congress approval in August 1992. The Institute has considerable administrative and fiscal independence from the Ministry of Agriculture which initially oversaw the management of the

Galapagos National Park Service. This change in management, according to the authorities of the Galapagos National Park Service, will provide substantial independence to the administration of this World Heritage site and to raise funds and implement a human resources development programme. The revision of the plan will be carried out by way of a series of meetings and workshops with local and municipal bodies, and international and national non-governmental organizations. The total cost of the project to revise the management plan is estimated to be US\$40,000

National contribution: The Galapagos National Park Service and other local, national and international bodies (e.g. Charles Darwin Foundation) are expected to contribute US\$11,000.

Amount requested from the Fund: The Superintendent of the Galapagos National Park Service has requested a sum of US\$29,000 from the Fund.

Additional information required: The Galapagos National Park authorities have not provided a breakdown of the budget for the project and it is not clear how the amount requested from the Fund and the amounts available from other sources will be spent.

Action by the Committee: If the additional information requested is made available by the Galapagos National Park authorities before the Committee meeting, the Committee is requested to consider approving a sum of US\$29,000 for the revision of the management plan of the Galapagos National Park.

3. The Committee, at its fourteenth session approved a sum of US\$50,000 for the Talamanca-La Amistad Reserves of Costa Rica, subject to the States Party satisfying two conditions: the Costa Rican authorities a) report on the completion of the projects for which the Committee had already provided funds, and b) revise the boundaries of the site in accordance with IUCN's recommendations.

Since the last session of the Committee, the Costa Rican authorities have satisfactorily completed two of three projects for which the Committee had provided funds. The third project is expected to be completed during 1993. As indicated in document WHC-92/CONF.002/5, the Costa Rican authorities however, have not yet revised the boundaries in accordance with the recommendations made by IUCN. The Committee is requested to reiterate the need for the State Party to meet these two conditions before the sum of US\$50,000 approved by the Committee at its fourteenth session could be released.

4. The Committee, at its fifteenth session, held in Carthage, Tunisia, in December 1991, approved a sum of US\$40,000 as a contribution for the preparation of a Master Plan for the Machu Picchu Historic Sanctuary of Peru. At its last session the Committee had informed the State Party that it would consider providing an additional US\$50,000 requested by the State Party on the basis of progress achieved in the implementation of the project during 1992.

The implementation of this project has been far below desired levels due to recent changes in the government agencies co-operating in its implementation. Hence, the Committee is requested to defer its decision to approve the additional sum of US\$50,000 until its seventeenth session.