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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
Sixteenth Session**

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, 6-10 July 1992
Room XVI

**Item 10 of the Provisional Agenda: Examination of
Nominations of Natural Properties to the List of World
Heritage in Danger**

Plitvice National Park (Republic of Croatia)

Plitvice National Park was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1979, at the request of the Government of Yugoslavia. The Bureau, at its last session, was concerned that this Park had been abandoned by the staff due to civil unrest in the region and that the destruction of Park facilities, hunting of bears and dynamite fishing were occurring due to lack of any supervision of the Park. The Bureau also suggested that if the situation in the region improved, then a joint UNESCO/IUCN mission be undertaken to assess the impact which recent conflicts have had on this World Heritage site. The Committee, at its last session in Carthage, Tunisia, reiterated the Bureau's concerns regarding the state of conservation of this site and expressed the hope that the conditions in the region will soon return to normal to allow a joint UNESCO/IUCN fact-finding mission to the site.

Since the last session of the Committee, the Republic of Croatia has become a UNESCO Member State, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, by his letter of 1 July 1992, has informed the Director-General of UNESCO that 'the Republic of Croatia considers itself committed to all international agreements signed and ratified by SFRJ under the auspices of UNESCO' (quoted from the Minister's letter). The Conventions which are listed in this letter by the Minister include the World Heritage Convention. Furthermore,

the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, by its letter of 24 April 1992 had already requested the Chairman of the World Heritage Committee to inscribe the Plitvice National Park on the List of World Heritage in Danger. The Minister of Education and Culture, who visited UNESCO Headquarters during the week of 29 June-3 July 1992, has informed the Secretariat that the Republic of Croatia is now ready to co-operate with UNESCO and IUCN in organizing a joint fact-finding mission to the region.

In the light of the above communications between UNESCO and the relevant authorities of the Republic of Croatia, the Bureau may wish to consider taking the following actions:

- a) recommend that the Committee, at its next session scheduled to be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA, from 6-14 December 1992, inscribe the Plitvice National Park on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
- b) set aside, from the emergency assistance budget of the World Heritage Fund, a sum of US\$25,000 in order to enable the Secretariat to organize the joint UNESCO/IUCN fact-finding mission and to prepare an international assistance project to rehabilitate the Plitvice National Park.