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**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Fortieth session

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Item 10 of the Provisional Agenda: Periodic Reports

10B: Follow-up to the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for all regions

SUMMARY

This document presents the follow-up activities of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting for Asia and the Pacific (Section I), Africa (Section II), the Arab States (Section III), Latin America and the Caribbean (Section IV) and Europe and North America (Section V).

Draft Decisions:

- **40 COM 10B.1** see Section I;
- **40 COM 10B.2** see Section II;
- **40 COM 10B.3** see Section III;
- **40 COM 10B.4** see Section IV;
- **40 COM 10B.5** see Section V.

I. FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES ON THE SECOND CYCLE OF PERIODIC REPORTING FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

A. Follow-up activities

1. As part of the follow-up activities to the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in Asia and the Pacific, and in accordance with Decision **39 COM 10B.1**, pending Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage properties in the region have been reviewed and agreed upon by the relevant States Parties and the Advisory Bodies, and are being presented for adoption at the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee (see document WHC/16/40.COM/8E).
2. The Capacity Building Strategy and Associated Programmes for Asia and the Pacific (CBSAP-AP), which was developed by the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for Asia and the Pacific Region in China (WHITR-AP) and adopted by the Committee at its 38th session (Doha, 2014), builds on the results of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the region, in particular the Suwon World Heritage Action Plan for Asia and the Pacific (see <http://www.whitr-ap.org/index.php?classid=1489&newsid=2271&t=show>). In line with this strategy, WHITR-AP took the lead in implementing several thematic training activities. In December 2015, a four-day training programme on the UNESCO *Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape* (HUL) was organized at Tongji University, Shanghai.. Additionally, in August 2015, the Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training (WNHMT) for the Asia and the Pacific region—established at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in Dehradun (India)—organized an international workshop on disaster risk reduction for natural World Heritage properties in Asia and the Pacific. The WNHMT also organized an international training workshop on ‘Enhancing Capacity for Effective Management of Coastal and Marine World Heritage Sites of the Asia-Pacific Region’ in February 2016.
3. As a follow-up to the Pacific World Heritage Action Plan (2010-2015) developed as part of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting, a workshop on the Pacific World Heritage Action Plan for 2016-2020 was held in Suva (Fiji) in December 2015, with the support of the World Heritage Fund and the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust (FiT). 44 participants from 11 Pacific States Parties, regional institutions, the Advisory Bodies and UNESCO gathered to review the Pacific World Heritage Action Plan 2010-2015 and to develop a new Action Plan for 2016-2020. This new Action Plan has been finalised and sent to the States Parties in the Pacific and the workshop partners. It is available on the WHC website (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1269/>).
4. To further enhance regional co-operation, the International Centre on Space Technologies for Natural and Cultural Heritage (HIST) in China – a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO – further developed its cooperation with World Heritage properties such as Angkor (Cambodia) and East Rennell (Solomon Islands). With financial support from the Netherlands FiT, WHITR-AP and HIST have been collaborating since 2015 on a project concerning East Rennell, on the List of World Heritage in Danger since 2013, to address the various threats faced by the property and help ensure its long-term safeguarding. In this framework, technical support was provided to East Rennell to prepare the Desired State of Conservation to remove the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, and a Stakeholders Consultation Meeting was organized by HIST in Sanya (China) in February 2016.
5. The serial transnational World Heritage nomination process for the Silk Roads, initiated by China and five Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) as part of the follow-up to the Periodic Reporting exercise, was further implemented. The Silk Roads nomination process now involves

14 countries that are members of the Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee of the Silk Roads World Heritage Nomination (in addition to the ones mentioned above: Afghanistan, India, Iran, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea and Turkey), as well as Bhutan as an observer. The States Parties have been working with the World Heritage Centre on this serial transnational nomination especially through various UNESCO regional and sub-regional workshops and meetings of the Coordinating Committee of the Serial World Heritage Nomination of the Silk Roads, the last one of which took place in Almaty (Kazakhstan) in November 2015. In line with the 2011 ICOMOS Silk Roads Thematic Study, the UNESCO/Japan FiT and the Chinese authorities have supported the development of two Silk Roads nomination dossiers in China and Central Asian countries, with the assistance of ICOMOS, the International Institute for Central Asian Studies (IICAS) and the ICOMOS International Conservation Centre in Xi'an (IICC-Xi'an, China). Although not formally part of the Upstream Process, the projects combine capacity building efforts and sub-regional cooperation and provide a good example for potential future transnational serial nominations. This process culminated in two serial transnational nominations, both submitted in January 2013. While the nomination dossier for 'Silk Roads: Penjikent-Samarkand-Poykent Corridor' was referred back to Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and is expected to be re-submitted in the coming years, the nomination for 'Silk Roads: The Routes Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor', submitted by China, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, resulted in their inscription on the World Heritage List at the 38th session of the World Heritage Committee (Doha, 2014).

6. This successful inscription demonstrated that the process for such serial transnational nominations can both provide a valuable opportunity for capacity building at national level and reinforce the diversity and representativeness of the World Heritage List. The simultaneous use of sustained sub-regional cooperation and international cooperation is currently being replicated in Central Asia through a new nomination project around the Fergana-Syr Darya Corridor (nomination dossier under preparation by Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan). A preparation and documentation workshop for the Silk Roads Syr Darya Heritage Corridor World Heritage Nomination was held in October 2015 in Uzgen (Kyrgyzstan).
7. The Silk Roads nomination process has also been initiated in South Asia and is set to follow the same approach. The World Heritage Centre, in close collaboration with the UNESCO Offices in Kathmandu and New Delhi, is implementing the extra-budgetary project 'Support for the Preparation for the World Heritage Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in South Asia' (June 2013 to August 2016), financed through the UNESCO/Republic of Korea FiT. This project aims to provide and coordinate a cooperation platform for China, Nepal, India and Bhutan, focusing on a network of routes in this sub-region and assisting the States Parties with the preparation of a serial transnational nomination for the Silk Roads. Through this project, the capacity of national authorities in each of the South Asian countries, particularly Bhutan and Nepal, has been reinforced, especially with regard to the documentation and survey of archaeological and architectural sites and the digitalization of archives. At sub-regional level, the project also helped to increase information sharing and set up transnational documentation strategies and methodologies. By involving all States Parties in this challenging serial transnational nomination, the transnational cooperation, technological investments and local capacity building help to ensure that eventually, Silk Roads sites in South Asia can become sustainable, effectively-managed World Heritage properties.
8. As part of the overall project 'Developing a Common Tourism Strategy for the Silk Roads Heritage Corridors in Central Asia and China', the initiative 'Enhancing Silk Road Interpretation and Quality Guides Training' aims to train heritage guides and provide them with specialized knowledge and know-how for site interpretation and

presentation, especially with regard to the Silk Roads heritage corridors, World Heritage and sustainable tourism. Focusing on the five countries cooperating with the UNESCO/ United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Silk Roads Heritage Corridors Tourism Strategy (China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan), the initiative also aims to provide all actors involved in encouraging Silk Road tourism with guidance on heritage conservation issues. In partnership with the UNWTO and the World Federation of Tourist Guide Associations, a training course was organized in Khiva (Uzbekistan) in August 2015. The UNESCO Tashkent Office provided support in the implementation of this activity, which was funded by UNESCO and the Netherlands FiT.

9. The World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme has been providing technical support to a capacity building project in South-East Asia, funded under the Malaysian FiT and implemented by the Jakarta UNESCO Office. The project focuses on three sites in the region: 'Melaka and George Town, Historic Cities of the Straits of Malacca' (Malaysia), 'Cultural Landscape of Bali Province: the Subak System as a Manifestation of the Tri Hita Karana Philosophy' (Indonesia) and the 'Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras' (Philippines).
10. Reflecting the thematic focus of the 40th anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention*, the Action Plans developed for Asia and the Pacific after the end of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting highlighted the need for stronger community involvement. As a response to the Action Plans, a new project entitled 'World Heritage, Sustainable Development and Community Involvement' was established in May 2014 under the UNESCO/Republic of Korea FiT, to address the growing concern with the integration of sustainable development aspects in the management of World Heritage. New initiatives were launched in Bangladesh and Pakistan to revitalize income-generating crafts among local communities through activities related to World Heritage conservation.
11. In 2010, the UNESCO/Japan FiT project 'Strengthening the Conservation and Management of Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha, World Heritage Property' was set up to support the conservation and management of the property. A first phase, carried out between 2010 and 2013, tackled the most urgent conservation work and reinforced the capacities of the national authorities for the protection and sustainable development of Lumbini. In response to a growing number of development projects that threaten the property and its surroundings, a second phase of the project was launched for 2014-2017, with the objective of enabling the national authorities to take a proactive and sustainable approach to protecting and managing the World Heritage property, while safeguarding the cultural assets of the greater Lumbini area, in particular of Ramagrama and Tilaurakot. In January 2015, the very first cross-cutting Lumbini International Steering Committee (ISC) Meeting, jointly organized by the Nepali authorities and UNESCO, was held in Lumbini to find solutions for a holistic approach to property management, adequately linking preservation imperatives and development requirements, and launched a regular consultation process. The 2016 Lumbini ISC Meeting took place from 19 to 21 April 2016 and was opened by the Director-General of UNESCO as part of her first official visit to Nepal.

B. Draft Decision: 40 COM 10B.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/16/40.COM/10B,

2. *Recalling Decisions **37 COM 10C.1**, **38 COM 10B.1** and **39 COM 10B.1** adopted at its 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014) and 39th (Bonn, 2015) sessions respectively,*
3. *Welcomes the progress made in the follow-up of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Asia and the Pacific region;*
4. *Thanks the governments of Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia and the Netherlands for their contributions towards supporting follow-up activities to the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the region of Asia and the Pacific;*
5. *Also thanks the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITR-AP) and the Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training (WNHM) for the Asia and the Pacific region for their contributions to the implementation of activities outlined in the Capacity Building Strategy and Associated Programmes for Asia and the Pacific (CBSAP-AP), as part of the follow-up to the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting; further thanks the International Centre on Space Technologies for Natural and Cultural Heritage (HIST, China) for its initiative in promoting regional cooperation on World Heritage in Asia and the Pacific;*
6. *Takes note of the finalization of the updated Pacific World Heritage Action Plan (2016-2020) with the aim of increasing awareness at community, national, regional and global levels of the heritage of the Pacific Island nations and their contribution to sustainable development, and enhancing the Pacific nations' capacity to prepare sound nominations and effectively manage World Heritage sites;*
7. *Also takes note of the progress made on the Silk Roads nomination process, initiated by the Asian States Parties in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre, and commends the fruitful international cooperation between the national institutions of various States Parties in the region, which makes this project a good practice example for other serial transnational nominations;*
8. *Reiterates its invitation to States Parties in Asia and the Pacific to actively implement the relevant sub-regional Action Plans, and also encourages them to intensify their contributions towards the implementation of follow-up activities, to be devised in close collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;*
9. *Reminds States Parties which have not already done so to submit their Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value by **1 February 2017** at the latest, as well as clarifications of boundaries by **1 December 2016** at the latest;*
10. *Requests the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report on the implementation of the Action Plans for Asia and the Pacific at its 41st session in 2017.*

II. FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES ON THE SECOND CYCLE OF PERIODIC REPORTING FOR AFRICA

A. Follow-up activities

1. Following the Committee's endorsement of the results of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Africa Region and of the regional Action Plan (Saint Petersburg, 2012), activities to implement Decision **36 COM 10A** have continued to be organized in cooperation with States Parties, the World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Field Offices, the

Advisory Bodies and the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) – a UNESCO category 2 centre. An update on the status of implementation of the Action Plan 2012 – 2017 for the Africa Region can be found at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/africa/>.

2. The main objectives of the Action Plan 2012 – 2017 for the Africa Region, are to enhance the representation of African heritage sites on the World Heritage List through the preparation of successful nomination, to improve the state of conservation at World Heritage properties, to develop and implement strategies that will enable States Parties to effectively address the challenge of balancing heritage conservation and development needs, while effectively managing existing properties through documenting and formalising traditional management systems; and establishing mechanisms for conflict management.
3. Within the framework of this Action Plan, two major events were organized: (a) international conference entitled “Safeguarding African World Heritage as a Driver of Sustainable Development” in Arusha (Tanzania) from 31 May to 3 June 2016, and (b) the travelling exhibition entitled “African World Heritage: a pathway for development”. The two events were conceived to address the challenge of managing and conserving World Heritage in Africa in the context of the continent’s fast-paced development. The conference examined issues such as the manner in which World Heritage in Africa contributes to sustainable development by addressing the socio-economic needs of local communities around heritage sites, and tapping into the human capital to bring about much-needed development while ensuring that natural and cultural heritage is conserved for posterity. It also established a road map for the way forward.
4. Regarding the management of existing properties through documenting and formalising traditional management systems, local African communities have been in the forefront of conserving their natural and cultural heritage by developing Traditional Management Systems (TMS), which have evolved as adaptive community responses to various contexts and challenges, and are intrinsic to local values. TMS are widely recognized by individual communities, however it is also necessary that national government recognize, formalize and promote TMS as veritable tools for sustainable heritage management and conservation. Such a fundamental approach could serve the interests of both the development and conservation sectors while ensuring that the emergent practices are grounded in the local communities.
5. To respond to the need to improve the state of conservation at World Heritage properties, by effective risk management, increased community involvement and direct economic benefits to local communities, two field missions for French speaking countries on entrepreneurship activities were carried out in June 2015 in Madagascar and Cameroon respectively. . In close cooperation with the Africa World Heritage Fund, one workshop was organized on risk preparedness, in Brandberg, Namibia (February to March 2016) with 18 participants. An analysis of the State of Conservation reports produced over the last ten years on African World Heritage is underway..
6. In the framework of the Africa Nature Programme tourism management plans were developed at three natural/mixed World Heritage properties in Africa (Lake Malawi National Park, Maloti-Drakensberg Park in Lesotho/South Africa, Mosi-oa-Tunya / Victoria Falls in Zambia/Zimbabwe) and tourism assessment initiated at one mixed property (Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Tanzania) in the framework of the project “Testing the How-to Guides in the Destination Management Field in four African natural sites”. Other activities included the emergency plan for the Rainforests of Atsinanana (Madagascar) funded by NORAD, the implementation of a project to review the ‘Grazing Pressure Reduction Strategy’ (GPRS) at the Simien National Park (Ethiopia) in partnership with the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority and the African Wildlife Foundation, and the COMPACT projects on engaging local communities in World Heritage conservation were initiated at W National Park in Niger and Maloti-

Drakensberg Park in Lesotho/South-Africa in partnership with UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme and financial support from the Governments of Spain and Netherlands. One workshop, targeting natural experts from four Central African countries, was held in June 2016 to launch the second phase of the Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI). This project is aimed to improve representation of natural World Heritage sites in the subregion.

B. Draft Decision: 40 COM 10B.2

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/16/40.COM/10B,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **36 COM 10A**, **37 COM 10C.2**, **38 COM 10B.2** and **39 COM 10B.2** adopted at its 36th (Saint Petersburg, 2012), 37th (Phnom-Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014) and 39th (Bonn, 2015) sessions respectively,*
3. *Welcomes the progress made in the follow-up of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Africa Region, while expressing its concerns regarding the relatively weak implementation rate of the Regional Action Plan by African States Parties;*
4. *Notes with appreciation the financial contribution of the Governments of Norway, Flanders (Belgium), Spain, South Africa, the Netherlands, the People's Republic of China, Burkina Faso, the European Union, as well as IUCN, the UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme, , the African World Heritage Fund and the host countries of all capacity-building workshops towards activities carried out in the framework of the implementation of the Action Plan for the Africa region and its regional capacity-building programme;*
5. *Calls upon States Parties to financially and technically support the implementation of the Action Plan for the Africa region through follow-up activities with the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and the African World Heritage Fund; and to take advantage of the annual mobilization of the African World Heritage Day on 5th May in fostering support for the Action Plan for the Africa region;*
6. *Commends the States Parties of the Africa Region who have been actively implementing the Action Plan; and requests States Parties, who have not already done so, to establish their National World Heritage Committees and to develop their National Action Plans and Budgets, as well as to inform the World Heritage Centre when they are operational;*
7. *Further reminds States Parties which have not already done so to submit their Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value by **1 February 2017** at the latest, as well as clarifications of boundaries by **1 December 2016** at the latest;*
8. *Notes with appreciation the Arusha's Declaration, and also commends the World Heritage Centre for organizing the travelling exhibition "African World Heritage: a pathway for development" to enhance awareness raising;*
9. *Requests the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, and with the support of States Parties, to continue its efforts to coordinate and implement the Regional Capacity-Building Programme according to the Action Plan 2012-2017;*

10. *Also requests the States Parties, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to pay special attention to the management of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
11. *Further requests the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Africa Region at its 41st session in 2017.*

III. FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES ON THE SECOND CYCLE OF PERIODIC REPORTING FOR ARAB STATES

A. Follow-up activities

1. The second cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab States was presented to the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010). The Regional Programme prepared by the Arab States was approved the following year by the Committee, at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011). Since then, the activities developed in the framework of the Programme have been carried out with the support of the World Heritage Centre, the national bodies dealing with World Heritage, the Advisory Bodies and the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH).
2. The priorities of the Regional Programme are to safeguard cultural heritage in conflict situations, to reinforce the conservation of natural heritage, to develop capacity-building activities and technical support relating to the conservation and management of World Heritage properties, as well as on the mechanisms of the *Convention*, and to provide technical advice on the conservation of urban heritage.
3. The safeguarding of cultural heritage in countries affected by armed conflicts has become a major field of action of the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in the Arab region. This action consists in a substantial contribution to the action of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit (EPR) of the Heritage Division, to ensure a regular monitoring, carry out rapid damage assessment and provide emergency support to affected sites. Furthermore, an important reflection work has been carried out over the last year through several initiatives: an expert meeting on Post-conflict-reconstruction in the Middle-East context, with a focus on Aleppo in particular; the support to the #Unite4heritage Campaign through information sharing and mobilization; interventions in information, advocacy reflection and coordination meetings on the destruction of cultural heritage; and numerous interventions in the international media on the situation of cultural heritage damaged by armed conflicts. A continuous backstopping has been provided to the UNESCO Beirut Office for the implementation of the Emergency Safeguarding of Syria's Cultural Heritage Project (training in documentation and consolidation) while training workshops for Libyan and Yemeni heritage professionals on the damage assessment, conservation and first aid measures of World Heritage properties were held in Tunis, Rome, Bahrain and Amman, and virtually. A close cooperation is also established with UNESCO Baghdad Office for the implementation of the 'Protection of Iraq's Cultural Heritage' project (monitoring of sites, awareness raising and reinforcement of capacities to fight illicit trafficking), and regular technical assistance is provided to Yemen for monitoring and damage assessment and for the restoration of destroyed houses in the Old City of Sana'a (al-Qasimi neighborhood).
4. As regards natural heritage, an international meeting entitled "The Management of Natural Heritage in support of Sustainable Development: An Institutional Challenge in the Arab States" was held at UNESCO Headquarters in December 2015. Its main outcomes highlighted the need to sensitize and mobilize decision-makers and local

communities through the reinforcement of education curricula and the development of empirical data, management and protection tools, as well as of the links between environmental protection, economic benefits and jobs creation. It also called for a better cooperation between existing mechanisms and programmes for the protection of ecosystems within UNESCO and globally and recommended to seize the opportunity of COP 22 (Morocco, 2016) to build the ground for a regional ministerial meeting on natural heritage. One of the follow-up actions to this event was the organization in February 2016 of an expert meeting, in the framework of the upstream process for the sites of Sanganeb Atoll and Dugonab Bay (Sudan), for the reinforcement of scientific partnerships, sustainable management capacities, and local community's benefits.

5. In terms of capacity-building, several training workshops were organized (in addition to the ones related to conflict situations and urban heritage conservation). A training dealing with the reinforcement of the role of local communities in the conservation and management of World Heritage properties was held at Banc d'Arguin National Park and Nouakchott (Mauritania) in March 2016; it resulted in a series of practical guidelines and recommendations to enhance the involvement of local communities as a major partner in the management and conservation of World Heritage properties. A training workshop on the elaboration of the nomination file of Abraj Al Kuwait and a training on the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in Palestine (Ramallah) were also held. Concerning technical support, assistance was provided to Qatar for Al Zubarah Archaeological Site (assessment of the impact of a development project in the property's buffer zone), to Palestine on the conservation of the Nativity Church at the "Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem" and on the management of the World Heritage property of "Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir".
6. In the framework of the World Heritage Cities Programme, and the implementation of the 2011 *Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape* (HUL), focus was given on urban conservation, particularly to safeguard the modern urban and architectural heritage of the Arab world. An "International conference on urban conservation: role of the *Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape* in safeguarding Modern Heritage in the Arab States" was held in Kuwait in December 2015, highlighting the need to improve the identification and documentation of urban heritage, to develop awareness raising and capacity-building programmes to safeguard it, and to implement operational projects aiming at conserving it. Technical assistance was provided to the workshop entitled "Which management system for the city of Casablanca?" as well as to the project of conservation of the urban heritage of the city of Tangiers in view of its potential future nomination. Two advisory missions were carried out, one concerning the conservation of the urban heritage of the World Heritage property of Tétouan as well as of the cities of Chefchaouen, Ouazzane and Ksar Kébir (North of Morocco) and the other, jointly with ICOMOS, concerning the state of conservation of the Kasbah of Algiers (Algeria). Finally, communication and advocacy work has also been carried out through an exhibition on the heritage of urban and architectural modernities in the Arab World (MUAMA) and lectures on UNESCO's action for the conservation of urban heritage within the context of the *World Heritage Convention* and the *Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape*.
7. The Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), established in Bahrain as a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO, continues to provide sustained support to the above-mentioned activities.

B. Draft Decision: 40 COM 10B.3

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/16/40.COM/10B,
2. Recalling Decisions **35 COM 10C.3, 37 COM 10C.3, 38 COM 10B.3 and 39 COM 10B.3** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011), 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014) and 39th (Bonn, 2015) sessions respectively,
3. Acknowledges the progress accomplished in the follow-up of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Arab States and encourages them to continue their efforts in the implementation of recommendations;
4. Notes with concern that the safeguarding of cultural heritage in countries of the region which are affected by conflicts has become one of the priorities of the Regional Programme;
5. Recalls the recommendation of the Chairperson of the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee (UNESCO, 2011), contained in her letter addressed to all the Arab countries, on the establishment of national entities for World Heritage;
6. Encourages States Parties to continue the implementation of the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape in order to enhance the conservation of urban heritage sites inscribed on the World Heritage List;
7. Thanks the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), based in Bahrain, for its support to the implementation of the Regional Programme and invites Arab States to strengthen their cooperation with the ARC-WH;
8. Reminds States Parties which have not already done so to submit their Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value by **1 February 2017** at the latest, as well as clarifications of boundaries by **1 December 2016** at the latest;
9. Requests the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report on the implementation of the Action Plan for Arab States at its 41st session in 2017.

IV. FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES ON THE SECOND CYCLE OF PERIODIC REPORTING FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

A. Follow-up activities

1. As follow-up to the Second cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise in Latin America and the Caribbean Region (Decision **39 COM 10B.4**),
 - a) Five Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for cultural and natural properties in the South American and Central American sub-regions, for which the review process was finalized, will be presented for adoption to the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee (see Document WHC/16/40.COM/8E).
 - b) Five clarifications of boundaries for cultural and natural properties in the South American and Caribbean sub-regions, in the framework of the Retrospective

Inventory process, whose revision process is finalized, will be submitted to the World Heritage Committee for adoption at its 40th session (see document WHC/16/40.COM/8D).

2. The Regional World Heritage Institute in Zacatecas (Mexico), a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, continues making progress in the process of reinforcing its institutional framework by enlarging the number of States Parties participating to the activities of the Centre.
3. As follow-up to the Strategy for Capacity Building included in the Action Plan for World Heritage in South America 2015-2020 (PAAS 2015-2020) adopted in May 2015, the Category 2 Centre Lucio Costa for Capacity-Building on Heritage Management (C2C-LCC), in close cooperation with the World Heritage Centre is planning the organization of an International workshop on the fundamental notions of the *1972 Convention* (Rio de Janeiro, second half 2016) aiming at defining a Capacity Building Programme for the region. This activity will gather participants from the 10 South American countries, as well as representatives of the World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Brasilia and other professionals concerned by Capacity Building activities in the region.
4. In the framework of the Action Plan for World Heritage in South America 2015-2020 and the Action Plan for World Heritage in the Caribbean 2015-2019, technical assistance has been provided to the State Parties on the elaboration of several projects, in line with the sub-regional priorities and objectives, for their implementation from 2016. A project entitled «Préservation du patrimoine et appui au secteur touristique (PAST) » has been launched with the financial support of the World Bank in order to assist over a period of six years coordinated action in the fields of sustainable tourism, capacity building, risk management and community participation in the process of identification, conservation, protection and management of heritage properties in Haiti

B. Draft Decision: 40 COM 10B.4

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/16/40.COM/10B,
2. Recalling Decisions **37 COM 10A**, **38 COM 10B.4** as well as **39 COM 10B.4**, adopted at its 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014) and 39th (Bonn, 2015) sessions respectively,
3. Takes note of the progress accomplished in the follow-up activities of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting for Latin America and the Caribbean regarding the Retrospective Inventory process and encourages the States Parties of the region to continue their efforts in the implementation of its recommendations;
4. Reminds States Parties which have not already done so to submit their Retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value by **1 February 2017** at the latest, as well as clarifications of boundaries by **1 December 2016** at the latest;
5. Notes with appreciation the contribution of the Centre Lucio Costa for Capacity-Building on Heritage Management (C2C-LCC), category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, to the development and implementation of a Capacity-Building Strategy as a follow-up to the Action Plan for World Heritage in South America 2015-2020 (PAAS 2015-2020) and encourages the Centre to continue its cooperation with the World

Heritage Centre on the implementation of the Capacity Building Programme and activities related to World Heritage;

6. *Reiterates its request to Central American States Parties to work in close coordination with the World Heritage Centre to organize a meeting for the establishment of a sub-regional Action Plan with the participation of all stakeholders;*
7. *Takes note of the progress made with a view to consolidate the establishment of the UNESCO category 2 centres for World Heritage in Zacatecas (Mexico) and in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and encourages Mexico and Brazil to continue their efforts in this regard;*
8. *Requests the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report on the implementation of the Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean at its 41st session in 2017.*

V. FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES ON THE SECOND CYCLE OF PERIODIC REPORTING FOR EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

A. Follow-up activities on the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting for Europe

1. At its 39th session (Bonn, 2015), the World Heritage Committee endorsed the report on the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting for Europe and the Helsinki Action Plan. The Final Report on the Results of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting for Europe and Action Plan (WHC-15/39.COM/10A) was published within the *World Heritage Papers Series* (no. 43), along with the Final Report for North America and Action Plan (WHC-14/38.COM/10A). The publication presents the reports, quantitative results and Action Plans as informative, technical support for heritage professionals, including Focal Points, site managers and researchers.
2. Further, the results of the exercise have been widely disseminated through the broad-audience publication *World Heritage in Europe Today*. Prepared by the World Heritage Centre to present the results in a concise and understandable manner, the publication has met a warm reception both from heritage professionals and the general public. Communication and dissemination activities surrounding the publication's release, notably on social media platforms, have resulted in a wide reach and contributed to greater visibility and awareness among the general public. As of March 2016, it has generated more than 500 000 views and more than 2000 shares across the various social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter). In addition, over 900 electronic copies (pdf and ePub) have been downloaded from the website of the World Heritage Centre (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/eur-na/>).
3. Finally, as follow-up to the Report and the Committee decision (**39 COM 10A**), the Monitoring Survey for the Helsinki Action Plan was developed by the World Heritage Centre as a user-friendly electronic tool. The survey mirrors the innovative format of the Action Plan and is designed to use SMART indicators to provide a biennial review of the specific actions carried out by each State Party. The survey will provide data while avoiding a large-scale monitoring exercise and is a simple and cost-effective way to monitor progress between cycles of Periodic Reporting. The launch of the survey is foreseen for October 2016, with responses awaited in December 2016. Responses and data analysis will be reported to the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee. The survey aims to provide quantitative data up to the end of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting, that is, for four rounds of surveys over six years (in 2016, 2018, 2020 and 2022). This data will be an invaluable source of information for tracking regional

progress and analyzing trends. The survey will also be used as a tool for enhancing regional cooperation.

4. In addition, a number of other follow-up activities and initiatives have been carried out at various levels towards the implementation of the Helsinki Action Plan. Highlights of some activities, linked to their specific priority areas as defined in the Action Plan are outlined below.
5. In support of the priority areas *Effective Management Systems and Reinforcement of interdisciplinary skill sets for Site Managers*, a number of sub-regional meetings were organized in Europe:
 - a) The First Meeting of World Heritage Associations in Europe took place on 15-16 October 2015 in Strasbourg (France) and was organized by the Association of French World Heritage sites, in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the city of Strasbourg. During the course of the meeting, ten national European World Heritage associations and networks presented their mandates and working methods. It was an opportunity for the 100 participants from 20 countries, including site manager networks and Focal Points, to share good practices and to examine existing or potential partnerships between States Parties and national associations, including local authorities, professional associations, academic and research bodies, and representatives of civil society. The second meeting of World Heritage Associations in Europe is currently being organized by the Spanish World Heritage Cities association, with a thematic focus on the Social Benefits of Heritage. It is to take place in Segovia (Spain), in October 2016. (Priority areas: *Effective Management Systems* (actions 13 and 14), *Reinforcement of Interdisciplinary skill sets for Site Managers* (actions 21 and 22));
 - b) The Czech Republic organized a Conference on Risk Factors identified during the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting (Prague, 19-20 October 2015). The objective was to exchange best practices on the mitigation of risk factors, support international cooperation in the management of World Heritage, strengthen partnerships between national and regional authorities, and improve dialogue on management and monitoring with other levels of society. (Priority areas: *Effective Management Systems* (action 16), *Reinforcement of interdisciplinary skill sets for Site Managers* (action 24));
 - c) The national authorities of Poland published a Polish edition of the *World Heritage Resource Manual* 'Managing Cultural World Heritage'. It was launched at a meeting (Katowice, 26-27 November 2015), which included presentations of case studies from Poland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in addition to a presentation on the Action Plan with a focus on its implementation in Poland. The meeting facilitated networking and dialogue between an array of stakeholders involved in heritage protection in Poland, including site managers, national authorities, NGOs, universities and students, in addition to representatives of States Parties in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. (Priority areas: *Effective Management Systems* (actions 14 and 17), *Reinforcement of interdisciplinary skill sets for Site Managers* (action 24));
 - d) UNESCO is providing guidance to the Georgian national authorities for the implementation of the Helsinki Action Plan within the framework of the agreement for the Provision of Technical Advisory Service (October 2015). Assistance is being provided for: the harmonization of the national Tentative List; the preparation of nominations of underrepresented categories of sites; and the development of capacity-building activities for the protection and management of World Heritage properties. (Priority areas: *Credible and effective Tentative Lists and Nominations* (action 2), *Effective Management Systems* (actions 17, 21)).

6. Regarding the priority area *Credible and effective Tentative Lists and Nominations*, an Advisory Mission to Creswell Crags, on the Tentative List of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, has been requested by the State Party. The ICOMOS Advisory Mission will assess the strength of the proposed nomination as part of the upstream process. (Priority area: Credible and effective Tentative Lists and Nominations, actions 6 and 7).
7. Relating specifically to the priority area *Clear definition of OUV and its attributes*, progress was made in the region on the number of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value (rSOUV) adopted by the World Heritage Committee. Within the region, 51 statements have been finalized for adoption. This will bring the total number of rSOUV's adopted by the Committee, as of the end of the 40th session, to 221, reaching approximately 60% of the target outlined in action 11.
8. A progress report will be presented to the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session on the follow-up activities to the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in Europe. The report will include the regional results based on the quantitative indicators from the Helsinki Action Plan Monitoring Survey.

B. Follow-up activities on the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting for North America

1. The World Heritage Committee endorsed the Final Report for the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting at its 38th session (Decision **38 COM 10A.1**) and Action Plan for North America at its 39th session (Decision **39 COM 10A.2**).
2. The World Heritage Committee further requested the States Parties to submit a progress report on follow-up activities, which was prepared by the Focal Points for World Heritage of the two States Parties in the sub-region, Canada and the United States of America and submitted to the World Heritage Centre in February 2016.
3. The first progress report on the 2015 Periodic Reporting Action Plan for North America is presented below. It is recalled that the implementation of the Action Plan for North America is foreseen over a five year time frame.
4. Progress Report on the 2015 Action Plan for North America:

As a result of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting, five areas of issues and opportunities for enhanced sub-regional cooperation were identified:

- I. Future Tentative Lists;
- II. Strategies for public information and outreach about World Heritage;
- III. Development of strategies to increase communication and cooperation between World Heritage site managers through the whole North American sub-region;
- IV. International assistance to World Heritage properties;
- V. Integration into existing areas of sub-regional cooperation.

Results in each of these five areas since the adoption of the Action Plan in 2015 are reported by the States Parties as follows:

Tentative Lists development

- Both States Parties have communicated on a regular basis concerning Tentative List process and timelines;
- Bilateral meetings have been organized for 2016 (i.e. Expert workshop on Revision of the Tentative List of the United States of America).

Public information and outreach

- US National Park Service and Parks Canada will present jointly on the linkages between natural and cultural heritage at the World Conservation Congress, to be held in Hawai'i in September 2016.

Increased communication and cooperation among World Heritage site managers

- A "Lessons Learned" document on the development of the Poverty Point nomination has been shared with Canada for dissemination with Canadian Tentative List site managers;
- A survey of site managers of the parks that comprise the two transboundary World Heritage sites. The survey is in development and will serve as a basis to assess the potential for stronger operational cooperation between the two States Parties.

International Assistance to World Heritage properties

- Background information on the US National Park Service fellowship program has been shared with Canada for consideration as a model for potential shared activities in this area.

Integration of World Heritage into existing areas of cooperation

- Both States Parties have been providing regular updates on participation at and results from relevant expert meetings (i.e. workshop on "Potential marine World Heritage sites in the Arctic Region", 25-26 February 2016).

C. Draft decision: 40 COM 10B.5

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/16/40.COM/10B,
2. Recalling Decisions **36 COM 10B**, **37 COM 10B**, **38 COM 10A.2**, **39 COM 10A.1** and **39 COM 10B.5** adopted at its 36th (Saint Petersburg, 2012), 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014) and 39th (Bonn, 2015) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes progress made by the World Heritage Centre and the States Parties in the follow-up of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in Europe and North America, and notes with satisfaction the activities and initiatives that have been undertaken by States Parties in the implementation of the Action Plans for Europe and for North America;
4. Also notes with satisfaction the two publications produced by the World Heritage Centre, World Heritage in Europe Today and Understanding World Heritage in Europe and North America: Final Report of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting, 2012-2015 (World Heritage Paper Series, no. 43), which contribute to the wide dissemination of the results of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting in Europe;
5. Commends the World Heritage Centre for progress made on the Helsinki Action Plan Monitoring Survey, whose innovative format will allow for data collection in a simple and cost-effective way, and encourages States Parties of the Europe region to respond to the survey foreseen to be launched in October 2016;
6. Reiterates its invitation to the States Parties of the Europe region to actively implement the Helsinki Action Plan and also encourages them to continue the activities towards the implementation of the Action Plan in close collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;

7. Further encourages the States Parties of Canada and the United States of America to continue their cooperation in the implementation of the five-year Action Plan for North America, and recalls that a number of proposed actions require the further strengthening of cooperation with the State Party of Mexico, taking into consideration the shared natural and cultural heritage of the three States Parties;
8. Also commends the States Parties for their efforts in continuing the work undertaken in the framework of the Retrospective Inventory and preparing retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, and encourages furthermore the States Parties to finalize this important work in the best of time;
9. Also reiterates that the follow-up of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting has considerable resource and work load implications, and encourages furthermore States Parties to financially support the implementation of the regional Action Plans through support to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
10. Requests the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report, based on the results of the Helsinki Action Plan Monitoring Survey, on the follow-up activities of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting carried out by the States Parties in the Europe region, to the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017;
11. Also requests the States Parties of Canada and United States of America to submit a progress report on the implementation of the Action Plan to the World Heritage Centre, for presentation to the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.