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### ICC-Angkor Meeting in Siem Reap 3-4 December 2013 3<sup>rd</sup> Intergovernmental Conference in Siem Reap 5 December 2013

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Technical Session and the 20<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session meetings of the International Coordinating Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of the Historic Site of Angkor (ICC-Angkor) will be held on 3 and 4 December 2013 in Siem Reap, at the Sokha Angkor Resort. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Intergovernmental Conference will celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ICC-Angkor and will set a vision for the new decade.

After Angkor was inscribed in the World Heritage list on December 14, 1992, an International Co-ordinating Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of the Historic Site of Angkor (ICC-Angkor) was established. On 13 October 1993, the creation of the ICC-Angkor was one of the conditions given by the World Heritage Committee to accept the Angkor Site on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Since that time, the ICC-Angkor has convened regularly twice a year, thus consistently following up with all operations being carried out on the site. It is the international mechanism which coordinates assistance to the Angkor extended by different countries and organizations. The ICC-Angkor ensures the consistency of the different projects, defines, when necessary, the standards, and calls the attention of the concerned parties when required.

The ICC-Angkor is co-chaired by France and Japan, represented by their Ambassadors in Cambodia. UNESCO provides the services of a Standing Secretariat. The ICC-Angkor demonstrates a mechanism which represents a truly international and multilateral dimension of the work being done at Angkor. A look over the years gives reason for satisfaction at the extent of work accomplished and the quality of relationships born of this framework.

The Kingdom of Cambodia hosted the 37<sup>th</sup> Session of the World Heritage Committee in Phnom Penh, in June of this year. As a result, the Technical Session that usually takes place in June was postponed to take place on **3 and 4 December** morning during which a number of presentations by specialists will cover issues of conservation, archaeological research, tourism and more specifically community development. This **Technical Session** will be presided over by the co-chairs, Mr. Yoshihiro Higuchi, Minister/Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of Japan, and Mr. Romain Louvet, Counselor for Cooperation and Cultural Affairs with the Embassy of France.

The afternoon of **4 December** will be devoted to the **Plenary Session** with presentations of new projects on conservation and development of Angkor with an emphasis on the future outlook in safeguarding and development of the World Heritage Site. The Plenary Session will be opened by the co-chairs, H.E. Mr. Serge Mostura, Ambassador of France to Cambodia, and H.E. Mr. Yuji Kamamaru, Ambassador of Japan to Cambodia. The Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Center, Mr. Kishore Rao, will also make a statement.

During both sessions, the Royal Government of Cambodia will be represented by His Excellency Dr. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the APSARA National Authority, who will make a special remark.

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the ICC-Angkor, and the Royal Government of Cambodia will also host the 3<sup>rd</sup> Intergovernmental Conference on Angkor, on **5 December**, after the first Conference held in Tokyo in 1993 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference held in Paris in 2003. The Conference will be the occasion to reflect on 20 years of conservation and sustainable development of the World Heritage Site and to propose new prospects for the next decade, under the theme: "Comprehensive and sustainable management of Angkor, World Heritage." The 3<sup>rd</sup> Intergovernmental Conference will be opened by the Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen.

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