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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Thirty-seventh session

Phnom Penh, Cambodia
16-27 June 2013

Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda: Reports of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies

5A: Report of the World Heritage Centre on its activities and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's Decisions

SUMMARY

This document contains a non-exhaustive overview of the results of activities undertaken by the World Heritage Centre and the results achieved in implementing the Decisions and Strategic Objectives of the World Heritage Committee since its 36th session (Saint-Petersburg, 2012), and in particular on results of activities not otherwise covered in other working and information documents prepared for this session. For efficiency, the number of pages of this document has been kept to a strict minimum and weblinks are included for further details. More information about all World Heritage Centre activities is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities>.

Draft Decision: 37 COM 5A, see Point III.

I. RESULTS-BASED REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

1. The 36th session of the World Heritage Committee was organized in Saint Petersburg from 24 June to 6 July 2012 and the Report of the Decisions was made available online on 19 July 2012 at the following address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/36COM>.
2. The Summary Records of the 36th session are accessible on the website at the following address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/36COM>.
3. The Committee also decided at its 35th session in 2011 to “Develop further capacity building activities for the Chairperson, Rapporteur and Committee members, including through the systematic explanation of documents to States Parties” (Decision 35 COM 12B). Therefore, an informal Orientation Session for Members of the World Heritage Committee was held on 31 January 2013 at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris.
4. The second meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group, established by Resolution 18 GA 8 of the 18th session of the General Assembly of States Parties, to discuss the follow-up to the independent evaluation by UNESCO’s external auditor on the implementation of the Global Strategy and the Partnerships for Conservation Initiative (PACT) took place on 31 January 2013 (see document *WHC-13/37.COM/5D*).
5. An Information Meeting on the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee for States Parties to the *Convention* is being organized on 6 May 2013 at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris.

A. Results of the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*

6. Following the ratification of the *Convention* by Singapore on 19 June 2012, the total number of States Parties is 190.
7. Twenty-six new properties (20 cultural, 5 natural - and one mixed: *Rock Islands Southern Lagoon*, Palau) were inscribed on the World Heritage List at the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee (Saint-Petersburg, 2012). UNESCO’s World Heritage List now numbers a total of 962 properties (745 cultural, 188 natural and 29 mixed properties) located in 157 States Parties. One extension was added onto a property already inscribed on the World Heritage List (*Tasmanian Wilderness*, Australia). Five properties were added to the List of World Heritage in Danger: *Timbuktu* (Mali), *Tomb of Askia* (Mali); *Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem* (Palestine); *Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo* (Panama); *Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City* (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).
8. Three States Parties with no properties on the World Heritage List had their first property inscribed at the 36th session: Chad, Palau and Palestine.
9. A total of 141 state of conservation reports, including 35 properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger, were examined by the 36th session of the Committee.
10. The number of properties currently inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger is 38 (21 cultural and 17 natural), as *Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore* (Pakistan) and *Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras* (Philippines) were removed from this List in 2012.

11. At its 37th session, the Committee will examine 36 nominations for inscription on the World Heritage List: 23 cultural properties, 9 natural and 4 mixed properties including 1 transnational nomination and 3 extensions to properties already listed.
12. Since the 36th session of the Committee, 33 States Parties have submitted new Tentative Lists or modified existing Lists. The number of new properties added to the Tentative Lists is 80.
13. National capacities for the management and conservation of properties have been strengthened through various conservation and training activities in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean, with increasing participation of women.
14. The collaboration between UNESCO, Council of Europe, EU, UNWTO, World Bank, African Union and OECD was enhanced through a number of activities, including the Colmar Forum with the outcome of the Colmar Declaration that serves as a roadmap for the future work on cultural routes and focused international cooperation, including on heritage tourism. Further information can be found under <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/986>.
15. A comparative chart highlighting the differences between site based conservation and sustainable development instruments (World Heritage, Biosphere Reserves, Ramsar and the Global Geoparks Network) was produced and distributed. The Secretariat was invited to present a chart on the differences between the instruments and discussed potential areas of collaboration, including local communities, sustainable development, education and interpretation.
16. The World Heritage Centre enhanced the cooperation with other biodiversity related Conventions. The Centre attended the 11th Conference of the Parties (COP11) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which took place in Hyderabad, India from 8 to 19 October 2012 as well as the annual meeting of Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG), which took place on 13 February 2013 in Geneva. At COP11 of CBD, Parties stressed the need to further strengthen synergy processes among biodiversity related conventions building on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as the central pillar (Decision XI/6). While the World Heritage Centre did not participate in the first conference of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), which took place in Bonn, Germany, from 21 to 26 January 2013, it ensured a presence through a representative of the Science Sector and provided inputs to a joint statement made on behalf of the Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG). At the BLG meeting, it was agreed to coordinate the formulation of requests to IPBES between the different biodiversity related conventions and to align these requests with the Aichi targets. The potential of using the network of natural World Heritage sites, which comprises more than 10% of the global protected area estate, including some of the most important sites in terms of biodiversity conservation and ecosystems, as priority sites for assessing the state of the planet's biodiversity, its ecosystems and the essential services they provide to society, was also stressed. The Centre also held several discussions with the CITES Secretariat to strengthen its cooperation on communication activities and on particular issues related to trade in wildlife and plant species which affect the conservation of World Heritage sites, such as the ivory trade, which is linked to the elephant poaching in many of the African natural World Heritage sites. Data from the CITES project on Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE), which were presented at the CITES COP16 document the increasing problem of poaching in several of the World Heritage sites and an EU funded CITES project on strengthening law enforcement capacity presents an opportunity for joint activities. The World Heritage Centre also continued the information exchange with the Ramsar Convention and the MAB programme on sites with double designation and initiated a similar cooperation with the Council of Europe on European Diploma sites, which are included on the World Heritage List. In the framework of its Memorandum of

Understanding with the Ramsar Convention, the World Heritage Centre further ensured continued collaboration with the Ramsar Culture Working Group and participated in the side event on “Culture: Contributing to Wetlands Wise Use” that took place during the 11th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP11), held in Bucharest, Romania, from 6 to 13 July 2012.

17. Concerning the Cultural Conventions Liaison Group (CCLG) created in 2012 and reported to the World Heritage Committee through document WHC-12/36 COM/INF.5A.1 on “UNESCO Conventions in the field of Culture”, the group met a number of times since the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee. A common logistics unit serves the meetings of the governing bodies of the various Culture Conventions. The CCLG also established working groups on the following topics: Periodic Reporting, International Assistance, Capacity Building, Information Management, and Visibility and Partnership Development. These working groups meet to share experiences and processes and explore modalities of enhanced cooperation. A considerable number of actions were taken by the secretariats of the different Conventions to ensure a more effective implementation of the Conventions and to streamline processes and procedures. At the CCLG meeting held on 27 March 2013, and following the discussions at the ad hoc preparatory group of the Executive Board, a number of suggestions were made, which may be considered by each statutory body under the Culture Conventions. These suggestions include reduction of the periodicity of heavy Committee meetings; reduction of items on the agenda to be covered only in a 2 year cycle; reduce cost for translations and staff time by further reducing the number of pages of each document; explore further synergies among Conventions including on streamlining administrative processes as well as reduce the heavy workload by the Secretariats and the different bodies, especially for the 1972 and 2003 Conventions, of incoming nominations by limiting further the number of nomination files to be processed. The CCLG concluded that the current system of funding the statutory meetings, including the staffing of the respective Secretariats of the Culture Conventions is not sustainable. The Culture Sector has gone as far as it can in terms of streamlining its internal processes. However, any long term re-engineering of the system requires the full involvement of sovereign Member States, in working with the Secretariat to identify new ways of doing business so that the core functions and objectives of the Conventions can be assured and properly addressed. This is imperative, as the financial burden of the statutory machinery risks jeopardizing other fundamental aspects of UNESCO’s normative action: the resources absorbed by the statutory mechanisms impact on the most crucial aspect of these obligations, such as providing technical assistance and capacity-building support to Member States to ensure that Conventions are translated into national legislations, policies and programmes.
18. Energy is increasingly at the core of global sustainability and climate change mitigation discussions. As part of UNESCO overarching Climate Change Initiative that aims at enhancing and applying the climate change knowledge base for building green societies, the Renewable Energy Futures for UNESCO Sites Initiative (RENFORUS) has been launched and aims at promoting the use of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites as field observatories on the sustainable use of renewable energy sources. UNESCO Sites constitute a unique asset for exploring the role of renewable energy in reaching and promoting the preservation of environmental and cultural assets of the sites, and to combine nature conservation objectives with sustainable development goals. The large number of UNESCO sites around the world makes it possible to build and share a comprehensive knowledge base on good practises and policies on the use of environmentally sound energy technologies and their adaptation to specific contexts and needs. This initiative will mainly seek to offer a platform to consolidate work with partners as well as with leading public and private stakeholders for renewable energy applications; to disseminate opportunities,

advantages, and practical applications of renewable energy technologies; to identify opportunities, barriers and challenges related to renewable energy uses and policies and to promote networking and exchange of knowledge, information and best practices related to renewable energy and energy efficiency.

19. On the occasion of the Rio + 20 Conference, the World Heritage Centre created a web-page to promote the role of heritage (as a fundamental component of culture) for sustainable development (<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/culture-and-development/the-future-we-want-the-role-of-culture/>). An e-discussion was moderated from 5 to 8 March 2013, on the web-platform of One-UN (<https://one.unteamworks.org/AMR2013>), to solicit views from a wide range of players on the contribution of culture, including cultural and natural heritage, to sustainable development. The results will inform the annual thematic session of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), to take place in July 2013, which is dedicated to the role of science, technology and culture in promoting sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals. An international congress was organized by UNESCO in Hangzhou (China) from 14 to 17 May 2013, in close cooperation with the Chinese authorities, which included a specific session on 'Introducing Cultural Heritage in the Sustainable Development Debate', gathering international experts, representatives from local governments, the civil society and from the private sector. The World Heritage Centre contributed to background documents and in defining the agenda and possible outcomes of the session.
20. The World Heritage Centre strengthened its work in Disaster Risk Preparedness. A sectoral guidance chapter was prepared on 'post-disaster-needs-assessment' (PDNA) for culture, including for cultural and natural heritage. This will be part of an overall manual, to be published in 2013 by UNDP, which will inform all PDNA exercises in the future by the UN, the World Bank and the European Union, in cooperation with the Governments of the concerned countries (http://www.recoveryplatform.org/pdna/about_the_pdna). A special session on 'Heritage and resilience' has been organized on the occasion of the 2013 UN-ISDR 'Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction' (21-23 May, Geneva), in collaboration with ICOMOS and ICCROM, to raise awareness of disaster risk sector players of the importance of protecting heritage from disasters and of the significant potential of heritage for enhancing the resilience of communities and build their capacity to adapt and cope with change. A publication was prepared on the occasion of the event.
21. The World Heritage Centre assisted in three global expert meetings:
 - The International Expert Workshop on the *World Heritage Convention* and Indigenous Peoples (20-21 September 2012, Copenhagen, Denmark), following Decision **35 COM 12D** point 10, to deal with the issue of consistency with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/906>);
 - The International Colloquium on the Conservation of World Heritage Earthen Architecture (17-18 December 2012, UNESCO, Paris) of the World Heritage Earthen Architecture Programme (WHEAP). WHEAP was requested by the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee (**31 COM 21C**). The International Colloquium examined archaeological sites, cultural landscapes, earthen architecture in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, earthen architecture and natural disasters and contemporary earthen architecture and the legacy of Hassan Fathy (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/972/>);
 - The International World Heritage Expert Meeting on Visual Integrity (6-9 March 2013, Agra, India) was organized by the State Party of India with the

collaboration of the World Heritage Centre to examine issues concerning “visual integrity” and “visual impacts” (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/992/>). The meeting also contributed to a better understanding of the notion of integrity for cultural heritage as it has been previously discussed by the Committee (Decision **36 COM 13**), (Expert Meeting Al Ain, 2012, United Arab Emirates).

B. Additional requests by the World Heritage Committee

22. In its Decision **35 COM 5A**, paragraph 7, the World Heritage Committee requested the World Heritage Centre to present, at its 37th session, a revised PACT Initiative strategy that takes into account the Plan of Action proposed by the open-ended working group on the recommendations of the External Auditor concerning PACT, the decision adopted during the 190th Executive Board session regarding the Organization’s Framework for Strategic Partnerships, and the debates of the 36th session of the Committee. Information on the revised PACT Initiative strategy is available under item 5D (WHC-13/37.COM/5D).
23. In its Decision **36 COM 5A.1**, paragraph 6, the World Heritage Committee took note of the consultations between the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies towards the elaboration of a thematic paper proposing to the States Parties general guidance regarding the management of their cultural and natural heritage of religious interest, and requested the World Heritage Centre to present to the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, a progress report on this activity. In its Decision **36 COM 13.1**, paragraph 5, the World Heritage Committee noted the need for thematic studies on certain types of sites with associative values, such as sacred sites. An implementation strategy proposal towards the elaboration of general guidance on heritage of religious interest is under development by a Steering Group composed of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies. This Steering Group is focusing first on capacity-building activities and a case-study approach to identify the main challenges in the management of World Heritage cultural and natural properties of religious interest, as well as to collect inputs and relevant information necessary for the thematic paper and the thematic study. A first concept of training workshop for religious representatives involved in the management of the World Heritage properties was developed by ICCROM in coordination with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS. The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies recommend the World Heritage Committee to encourage the States Parties to support this initiative and the associated thematic study by providing voluntary contributions as well as by organizing meetings, conferences and seminars within its framework (see Annex I of this document, under 5C). All relevant information is available at the following address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/religious-sacred-heritage/>.
24. In its Decision **36 COM 5D**, the World Heritage Committee requested that an updated report on Thematic Programmes be presented to the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014. Further information regarding the thematic programmes is available on the specific websites: World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/tourism/>), World Heritage Cities Programme (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/cities/>), World Heritage Forest Programme (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/forests/>), World Heritage Programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/42/>), World Heritage Marine Programme (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/marine-programme/>), World Heritage Earthen Architecture Programme (WHEAP) (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/earthen-architecture/>), Human Evolution: Adaptations, Dispersals and Social Developments

(HEADS) (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/heads/>) and Astronomy and World Heritage Initiative (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/astronomy/>).

25. Furthermore, in its Decision **35 COM 12B**, the World Heritage Committee requested to restrict the *Operational Guidelines* to operational guidance, and to develop a new document, "Policy Guidelines", as a means to capture the range of policies of the Committee and the General Assembly. The World Heritage Centre has consulted with the Advisory Bodies and prepared a draft compilation of Policy Guidelines to be further elaborated (see document *WHC-13/37.COM/13*). However, there were no additional resources available for this exercise, and any further compilation of Policy Guidelines will be subject to the financial resources available.

II. RESULTS-BASED REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE IN PURSUIT OF THE 5 Cs (COVERING THE PERIOD FROM JUNE 2012 TO MAY 2013)

Please see also the following documents: Draft of the revised PACT Initiative Strategy (*WHC-13/37.COM/5D*); Report on the 40th anniversary celebrations (*WHC-13/37.COM/5E*); Summary and Follow-up of the meeting “The *World Heritage Convention: Thinking Ahead*” between the Director-General of UNESCO, States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention* and the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee (*WHC-13/37.COM/5C*). For all activities concerning Periodic Reporting, please see *WHC-13/37.COM/10A*, *WHC-13/37.COM/10B* and *WHC-13/37.COM/10C* and for all activities concerning the upstream process *WHC-13/37.COM/9*. **These activities have not been included in this document to avoid duplication.**

Abbreviations: Africa (**AFR**), Asia and the Pacific (**APA**), Latin America and the Caribbean (**LAC**), Europe and North America (**EUR**), Arab States (**ARB**).

1C Activities to make the World Heritage List more representative, balanced and credible (Credibility)

REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and CHALLENGES encountered
AFR	Identification of the urban and built heritage of Comoros Island (Itsandra citadelle and Ujumbé at Mutsamud, Anjouan).		Survey of urban and built heritage and awareness rising of local communities by the “collectif du patrimoine des Comores” association and students of the Architecture School of Lille (France) within the framework of the France-UNESCO cooperation agreement.
AFR	Preparatory assistance for the nomination of the Mbe cultural landscape, Congo.		Identification of the Outstanding Universal Value. Development of management framework. Support to national and local authorities within the framework of the France-UNESCO cooperation agreement.
AFR	Angola project for the preparation of the nomination file of Mbanza Kongo (self-benefitting contribution by Angola).	Global Strategy	Preparation of the nomination file on-going and is expected to be completed in 2013.
AFR	Incoming Nomination Files for 2014 for Africa.	Global Strategy	Support provided for nomination files for Okavango Delta (Botswana), Tongo-Tengzuk Tallensi Cultural Landscape (Ghana), Mount Mulanje Cultural Landscape (Malawi), Barotse Cultural Landscape (Zambia).

AFR	Preparation of Tentative List in the African region.	Global Strategy	Support provided for the establishment of the Tentative List of Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe.
APA	Support to the Indian Heritage cities network. Capacity building on urban management.		Support provided for the organisation of a two day seminar on Economics and Heritage Conservation in Pune (Maharashtra) and Bangalore (Karnataka), 10 - 14 December 2012, organized by New Delhi UNESCO office in the framework of the France-UNESCO cooperation agreement.
APA	The 3rd Coordinating Committee meeting of Serial and Transnational World Heritage nomination(s) of the Silk Roads (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 17-20 September 2012). The meeting brought together representatives and experts from Central Asian countries - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and China as well as other partner countries: Japan, Republic of Korea and Nepal to review and finalize drafts nomination dossier(s) of the first phase of the transnational Silk Roads nominations.	Global Strategy	Two nominations harmonized and finalized by Central Asia and China: the "Silk Roads: Penjikent-Samarkand-Poykent Corridor", submitted by Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and "Initial Section of the Silk Roads, the Routes Network of Tian-shan Corridor", submitted by China, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. These two nominations of the Silk Roads will be examined at the 38th session Committee in 2014.
APA	Preparatory assistance projects were granted to Mongolia, Myanmar and Pakistan for the preparation of World Heritage nominations and updating of national Tentative Lists.	Global Strategy	Nomination of Pyu Ancient Cities, submitted by Myanmar and Pakistan, is organizing a national Workshop to review and update its national Tentative List for World Heritage listing. The project for Mongolia is on-going.
EUR	International Meeting on the cultural landscapes of agropastoralism and study tour (1-5 October 2012, Causses et Cévennes, France).	35 COM 8B.39	Training of 40 participants from 17 countries of the Mediterranean region to provide a better understanding on the protection of the traditional cultural landscapes that are related to agropastoralism.
ARB	Encourage States Parties to revise their Tentative Lists.	34COM.10A 35 COM.10C	Three States Parties submitted new or revised Tentative Lists. Kuwait submitted a Tentative List for the first time, bringing the total of sites included in tentative lists for the region to 156.

ARB	Preparatory assistance for the nomination of the Sanganeb Atoll in Sudan.	35 COM.10A 35 COM.10C	Nomination submitted, although considered incomplete.
ARB	Participation of 6 Arab States in the International Meeting on the cultural landscapes of agropastoralism and study tour (1st-5th October 2012 France Causses & Cévennes).	35 COM 8B.39 36 COM.10A 35 COM.10C	Exchange of knowledge and experience with other participants from the Mediterranean providing a better understanding on the protection of the traditional cultural landscapes that are related to agropastoralism.
ARB	Support by the UNESCO Office for Iraq to Iraqi national authorities for preparing nominations through training workshops and mentoring. Preparation of two nomination dossiers: the Iraqi Marshlands as a mixed property, in collaboration with UNEP, and the Wadi As Salam Cemetery in Najaf. Two training workshops for the preparation of the Marshlands dossier (February and December 2012), and one training workshop for the Wadi As Salam Cemetery dossier as a cultural property (March 2013, Amman).	Global Strategy 36 COM 8B.39 36 COM.10A 35 COM.10C	National staff, officials from several ministries, Iraqi professionals in addition to local community members and academic trained in the drafting mechanisms for and key component of nomination files: the Marshlands (mixed site) and the Wadi As Salam Cemetery in Najaf (cultural site). Challenges mainly pertain to the inclusion of members of the local community for the Marshlands dossier, and local authorities for both dossiers.
LAC	Support to national authorities in Ecuador for Preparatory International Assistance for the elaboration of a Tentative List of natural and cultural properties.	Global Strategy 36 COM 8A	Identification of new sites for a balanced and representative World Heritage List and regional harmonization of the Tentative Lists of the Andean Region in LAC.
LAC	Assistance for the submission of updated Tentative Lists by Peru and Colombia. Collaboration in progress for submission: Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras and Paraguay.	Global Strategy 36 COM 8A	Identification of new sites for a balanced and representative World Heritage List and to contribute to harmonize regionally the Tentative Lists of LAC Region. http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/state=co http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/state=pe

LAC	Support provided to States Parties (Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) for the presentation of the nomination dossier of the Main Andean Road/ <i>Qhapaq Ñan</i> and setting up of the Nomination committee.	Global Strategy 31 COM.12B	Programme for the finalization of the comprehensive nomination file implemented. The nomination draft submitted in September 2012 and the final dossier submitted in January 2013. http://whc.unesco.org/en/qhapaqnan
LAC	Meeting on World Heritage and Extreme Poverty” (Quito, Ecuador, 24-26 October 2012) by the Ministry of Cultural and Natural Heritage and the World Heritage Centre.	36 COM 10C	A final document and Action Plan with a South American perspective and an invitation to the World Heritage community in the region to join the effort and implement this plan. http://whc.unesco.org/en/363/
LAC	Final Meeting of the <i>Qhapaq Ñan</i> Technical Secretariat to harmonize the nomination dossier (Bogota, Colombia, 29-30 November 2012).	Global Strategy	Officially set up the nomination Committee, composed of the Ministers of Culture, Directors of Cultural Heritage and members of the Technical Secretariat of the QN in the six countries. http://whc.unesco.org/en/qhapaqnan
LAC	International meeting on tourism, sustainable development, and World Heritage by the Mexican Secretary of Tourism, the National Council for Arts and Culture and the National Institute of Anthropology and History, in collaboration with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (México, Queretaro, 17 to 20 July 2012).	36 COM 5E	Final Declaration of the meeting was adopted. http://whc.unesco.org/en/363/
2C Activities to ensure the effective Conservation of World Heritage properties (Conservation)			
REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and CHALLENGES encountered
AFR	Support to the conservation of Okapi Wildlife Reserve through the Emergency Plan Rapid Response Facility (RRF).		Fundraised for emergency programme support from France. 52 000 USD received.

AFR	Technical and financial assistance for the reconstruction of Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga, architectural masterpiece of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi, Uganda, World Heritage property in Danger- (UNESCO Japanese FIT).	35COM7A.17; 36COM7A.18	The project began in March 2013. Objectives are: set up efficient risk prevention scheme, provide scientific support for the reconstruction, and research on traditional thatching of royal tombs.
AFR	Conservation Action Plan for the Rock Hewn Churches of Lalibela, Ethiopia (UNESCO/Norwegian FIT).	34COM7B.44	Contractor recruited to conduct studies and the conservation and consolidation project at the Biet Gabriel Rufael Church. Strong partnership established with the World Monuments Fund and the Ethiopian Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage.
ARB	Restoration of the Church of St John Prodromos in Jerusalem.	36 COM 7A.20 36 COM 7B.52	Detailed survey and documentation for bidding prepared. The funds being insufficient for a full restoration, the works will be limited to the highest priorities.
ARB	Support to the Egyptian authorities for Historic Cairo Urban Regeneration.		First outputs: general surveys and sector studies completed; coordination amongst the different institutions concerned with the management of the site on-going; urgent protection measures drafted. Training on-the-job activity for governmental staff and tourism-oriented awareness campaign under preparation. http://whc.unesco.org/en/historic-cairo-project/
ARB	Support to the Egyptian authorities to establish an effective management system for Memphis and Thebes.	36 COM 7A.20 36 COM 7B.52	Completion of the Heritage Information Assessment for Memphis and its Necropolis (December 2012); Heritage Assessment for Ancient Thebes and it Necropolis is on-going, will be completed by end of April 2013. Challenge: very unstable institutional context.
ARB	Extrabudgetary project funded by Italy for the development of sustainable monitoring techniques for assessing instability of slopes in the Siq of Petra (Jordan).		Multidisciplinary strategy to enhance the protection of the property. On-going (2012-2014).

ARB	International assistance request approved for the site of Quseir Amra (Jordan) for the conservation of mosaic floors.		On-going conservation project, also targeting wall paintings to assist in building capacities of national authorities regarding the conservation of mosaic floors.
ARB	An extrabudgetary project aiming at the effective conservation and management of the Erbil Citadel, included in Iraq's tentative list of World Heritage Sites, carried out through self-benefiting funds (Erbil Citadel Revitalization Project). The project is being carried out in close cooperation with the High Commission for Erbil Citadel Revitalization, during which capacities are being developed and enhanced throughout the process.		On-going preventive works on four houses. Studies for slope consolidation with its adjacent façades were finalized in October 2012. Studies for the conservation and restoration of 8 building groups at the Erbil Citadel were carried out in October 2012.
ARB	Extrabudgetary projects aiming at the effective conservation and management of the sites on the World Heritage and Tentative Lists in Palestine carried out by the UNESCO Ramallah Office.	36 COM 7A.20 36 COM 7B.52	Conservation and management of sites enhanced and their heritage values promoted.
ARB	International assistance request approved for the site of Quseir Amra (Jordan) for the conservation of mosaic floors.		On-going conservation project, also targeting wall paintings. This project will also assist in building capacities of national authorities regarding the conservation of mosaic floors.

APA	The 11th Bamiyan Expert Group meeting (Aachen, Germany, 10 – 12 December 2012): The Meeting brought together around 45 Afghan representatives and international experts involved in the safeguarding of Bamiyan World Heritage site, together with representatives of donor institutions and implementing agencies.	36 COM 7A.26	Long-term sustainability and state of conservation of the property. The meeting coordinated international efforts and discussed a range of issues that included infrastructure and development plans for Bamiyan in the short and long term, and the broader spectrum of heritage management challenges facing Bamiyan and its population. The conservation of this property contributes to promoting peace and fostering sustainable development, for the people of Bamiyan in particular, and in Afghanistan as a whole, by demonstrating the possibility of building sustainable communities by fostering cultural diversity and an appropriate use of the natural and cultural environment.
APA	The third Expert Working Group Meeting for the Old City of Herat and the Minaret and Archaeological Remains of the Jam World Heritage property, at the Museo d'Arte Orientale in Turin Italy, from 4 to 6 September 2012, in close collaboration with the Permanent Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to UNESCO and the UNESCO Office in Kabul.	36COM 7A.27	Brought together more than 30 well-known experts and high-ranking officials from the Government of Afghanistan, as well as representatives of donor countries such as Italy and the U.S.; Set forward prioritized activities for the immediate future, and adopted a set of comprehensive recommendations for a long-term strategy both for Herat and Jam.
APA	International assistance projects were provided to the Rice Terraces of Philippines Cordilleras, Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park and Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (THRS) World Heritage properties.	36COM 7A.29 35COM 7B.17 36COM 7A.13	Emergency stabilization and reconstruction of collapsed terrace walls and irrigation systems in the Rice Terraces of the Philippines following the impact of three consecutive typhoons in October 2011; Strengthening conservation management capacities at Tubbataha; Develop and improve the draft Emergency Action Plan for THRS.
APA	A field mission to Pyongyang in the DPRK is foreseen to take place in May 2013, aimed at installing the new glass barriers inside the Susan-ri Tomb, within the UNESCO/Republic of Korea FIT Koguryo Tombs project.		Strengthen the capacity of World Heritage site management and improve the state of conservation of the property.

EUR	First Expert/Stakeholder Meeting (Pompeii, Italy, 17 November 2012) to assist the persons responsible for the World Heritage property in updating and reviewing the existing management plan to address public use and disaster risk management issues and include provisions to regulate and control development in the vicinity of the property.		20 local stakeholders, 10 experts and 30 Ministry of Culture Staff members involved in the development of the updated Management Plan for the WH site of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata (Italy). Contributions on the following themes: heritage and conservation; disaster risk management; public use; and governance, institutional and organizational settings; Draft Management Plan prepared.
LAC	The World Heritage Centre and the Ministry of Cultures of Bolivia and UNESCO Quito, organized an international meeting of experts for the elaboration of recommendations as the basis for the development of a conservation plan for Tiwanaku (27 to 29 August 2012, Tiwanaku). This meeting was financed by the Japanese Funds in Trust for the World Heritage.	35 COM 7B.119	Adoption of a set of recommendations for the elaboration of the Conservation Plan by the Ministry of Cultures of the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Elaboration of the preliminary conservation plan taking into consideration a multidisciplinary approach. Adoption of a work-plan, list of responsible entities, and priority action to be taken in the implementation of the conservation of the site. http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/943 , http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/976/
LAC	The Project on "Heritage Conservation and Cultural Development in la Havana, Palacio del Segundo Cabo", initiative of multilateral cooperation between UNESCO and the European Union, entered into its third year implemented by UNESCO La Habana Office.		Conservation and rehabilitation activities undertaken in the historical building ; reinforcing the structure of the main building ; works on the deck and waterproofing of the new structure and consolidation and restauration of walls. http://www.unesco.lacult.org/noticias/showitem.php?lg=1&id=3512
LAC	Meeting "Towards a plan for the international conservation of Maya Sites inscribed on the World Heritage List" (29-30 October 2012, México).	36 COM 10C	Preparation of the final document with Action Plan. Guatemala will host the second meeting for the Maya World Heritage Managers in Mexico-Central America in 2013. http://whc.unesco.org/uploads/activities/documents/activity-652-30.pdf

LAC	Mission to Haiti by World Heritage Centre, in coordination with ISPAN and the World Bank, in order to assess the damages and to make a final diagnosis of the structural damages. The World Bank will provide 2 million US\$ to intervene on the three fortified components of the site to ensure the structural stability of the fortified site.		Preparation of a comprehensive conservation plan to be submitted to the World Heritage Committee in 2014.
GLOBAL	A workshop on climate change adaptation at World Heritage landscapes (August 2012, Costa Rica).		Results of the workshop fed into a project proposal submitted to potential donors.
GLOBAL	A draft "Climate Change Adaptation Field Guide for Natural World Heritage Site Managers" was finalized in 2012.		Currently being tested at four World Heritage sites in Kenya and India.
3C Activities to promote the development of effective Capacity-Building measures (Capacity-Building)			
REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and CHALLENGES encountered
AFR	WHC organized a training workshop for 50 participants from Rep. of Congo, Cameroon and Central Africa Republic (Brazzaville, December 2012) using the Sangha Trinational as a case study.		Capacities reinforced in the field of the management of natural heritages properties.
AFR	Interregional seminar of African sub-Saharan francophone Heritage directors organized with French ministry of culture within the framework of the France-UNESCO cooperation agreement. (22-26 October 2012).		One week training of 8 heritage directors and identification of cooperation projects.

ARB	Training course for Jordanian site managers on issues related to the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> and its application.		Better understanding of the <i>Convention's</i> mechanisms and current trends and enhancement of site management capacities.
ARB	World Heritage Capacity Building (Egypt, March - July 2013) in 4 modules: i) 1972 <i>Convention</i> ; ii) Site Management and Reporting; iii) Revision and Analysis of Tentative List; iv) Introduction to the Nomination File preparation.		Enhanced understanding of the <i>Convention's</i> mechanisms.
ARB	Assistance provided by UNESCO Office in Ramallah to strengthen the national capacities in preparing the nomination file of "Palestine: Land of olives and vines. Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir".		Officials and experts from the local community as well as community leaders and members of the Village Council, trained for the preparation of a nomination file.
ARB	Implementation of the project "Local Development through the rehabilitation and revitalization of the historic built environment in Palestine", through UNESCO Office in Ramallah funded by the Government of Sweden.		Capacities of nine architects and engineers enhanced in cultural heritage preservation, and the capacities of 5 architects, 50 students and 100 workers enhanced in mudbrick architecture
ARB	Support to the Egyptian authorities to establish an effective management system for Memphis and Thebes (documentation, legal framework). This project is implemented by the UNESCO Cairo Office.		Management tools developed, such as a matrix for documentations surveys. Among the challenges: very unstable institutional context.
APA	The Japanese FIT continues to be operated on the safeguarding of Lumbini; Nepal and Bamiyan, Afghanistan, important portion of the projects are capacity building.	36COM 7B.65	Fifteen cultural national heritage experts in Nepal and Afghanistan trained.

APA	A UNESCO-China Forum on World Heritage and Sustainable Development: realizing the role and potential of local people (Libo, Guizhou, China 31 May to 2 June 2012).		The outcome document “Libo Statement of Intent of World Heritage and Sustainable Development”, promoted the protection of biodiversity, sustainable planning and development of local communities, and their role and involvement in World Heritage conservation.
APA	The Asia-Pacific Mayors' forum for World Heritage cities was organized by UNESCO and Korean National Commission (Gyeongju city, Republic of Korea, August 2012).		Reinforcement of capacities of local authorities, in particular World Heritage Mayors, who are key players in the conservation and management of historical cities.
APA	International Symposium on Involving Communities in World Heritage Conservation in Asia (Republic of Korea; September 2012).		Capacity building for local communities in Asia through the Symposium.
APA	ASEAN Regional Conference on “The 1972 <i>Convention</i> and Sustainable Development: Towards a synergy of the 1972 <i>Convention</i> and the MAB Programme” (Ninh Binh, Viet Nam, 11 to 12 September 2012), organized by the Vietnam National Commission for UNESCO and the People's Committee of Ninh Binh Province.		Issue of a statement towards (i) ensuring the preservation of the recognized Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage sites as well as the alignment of national legislation with international agreements and enhancing site protection and contribution to sustainable development to be applied more effectively locally, (ii) ensuring the participation of local communities in the management of World Heritage and other UNESCO-recognized sites, among others.
APA	WHC, together with UNESCO field offices in Bangkok and Rangoon, initiated a series of capacity-building activities and projects in support of World Heritage programme in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.		Capacity Building to Safeguard Cultural Heritage in Myanmar by Italian Funds-In-Trust, Phase I and II. Bagan Archaeological Area and Monuments, Japan Funds-In-Trust and Funds-In-Trust of Switzerland. Safeguarding Natural Heritage in Myanmar within the World Heritage Framework, Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF).

APA	A Study Tour Programme for the DPRK experts in Paris and Rome from 4 to 9 March 2013 by the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Permanent Delegation of the DPRK to UNESCO, within the UNESCO/Republic of Korea FIT Koguryo Tombs project.		Capacity reinforced in the field of conservation and management of the Complex of the Koguryo Tombs, thus fostering insight and ensuring conservation in keeping with international standards.
LAC	1st Caribbean Training Course in the Preparation of Nomination Dossiers 2012-2013 (Kingston, Jamaica, 5-15 June 2012). 10-days course open to professionals from the natural and cultural heritage fields as a mentoring and training exercise. Participants are expected to start developing their nomination dossiers and gather for a follow-up training course to assess the development of the dossiers.	36 COM 5D	Professional capacities in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in preparing nomination dossiers strengthened; Number and quality of nominations of cultural and natural heritage sites, with focus on sites of memory in the Caribbean increased. http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/897/ ;
LAC	Training on the Management of Caribbean cultural resources in a natural environment, (Barbados, 11-15 March 2013).	36 COM 5D	Capacities strengthened in the management of cultural resources in a natural environment with particular attention to the Caribbean Sites of Memory and the participation of the local communities; Strengthened capacities in the nomination processes to the World Heritage List by increasing the nexus among site managers and local communities. http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1000/
LAC	The World Heritage Centre, the UNESCO Offices in Kingston and Havana in collaboration with the Antigua & Barbuda National Commission for UNESCO organized the 2 nd Caribbean Training Course in the Preparation of Nomination Dossiers (St. Mary's, Antigua & Barbuda, 24 to 28 March 2013) within the framework of the Japanese Funds-in-Trust project "Capacity Building to Support the Conservation of World Heritage Sites and Enhance Sustainable Development of Local Communities in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)".	36 COM 5D	Capacities strengthened in the nomination processes to the World Heritage List by increasing the nexus among site managers and the local communities. http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1002/

LAC	Support to the Mexican authorities and the Government of Zacatecas to update the agreement of collaboration between UNESCO and the government of Zacatecas and to adopt a programme 2013-2014 through a series of videoconferences and two meetings.	36 COM 9B	The final legal agreement between UNESCO and the government of Zacatecas submitted to the World Heritage Centre.
LAC	The World Heritage Centre in collaboration with ISPAN, the Spanish Agency of Cooperation and Development of Haiti, the Ministry of Culture and Communication of France and UNESCO Office in Port au Prince, organised a 10-days workshop in February 2013 to undertake the built heritage inventory of Jacmel, site inscribed in the Tentative list and highly affected by the Earthquake of 2010.	Action Plan of Haiti	40 students trained and employed; start of the works foreseen in May 2013. Final Report. http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/736
GLOBAL	Rivers and heritage initiative to support the process of raising awareness of the cultural value of rivers (in the framework of the France-UNESCO Convention. Submission of a project to EU to link culture and development around rivers and heritage in the Mediterranean).		Creation of a Rivers And Heritage Thematic Website. http://fleuves-et-patrimoines.fr/
GLOBAL	Tourism Programme: "World Heritage and Tourism Destination Management Seminar" (UNESCO HQ).		One day workshop for site managers organised by the UNESCO Chair in "Culture, Tourism and Development" UNITWIN-UNESCO Network "Culture, Tourism and Development", ICOMOS France and French network of World Heritage sites within the framework on the France UNESCO cooperation agreement.
4C. Activities to increase public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through Communication			
REGION	ACTIVITIES	DECISION	RESULTS obtained and CHALLENGES encountered

AFR	UNESCO side-event, organized in margin of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership in March 2013 (Douala), where UNESCO presented the results of "l'Initiative pour le Patrimoine Mondial Forestier d'Afrique Centrale" (CAWHFI) (2004-2013).		Results of CAWHFI programme widely disseminated among potential partners.
AFR	International experts and decision makers gathered to adopt Action Plan for Mali's cultural heritage and manuscripts on 18.2.2013 at UNESCO HQ.	36 COM 7B.106	An Action Plan for the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage and the Safeguarding of Ancient Manuscripts in Mali adopted at an international experts' meeting organized by UNESCO and France; The Action Plan was disseminated to all States Parties.
ARB	Launch of World Heritage documents in Arabic by the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage in Bahrain.		World Heritage Manuals translation: "Preparing World Heritage Nominations" (in progress), "Managing Disaster Risks for World Heritage" (planned) and "Managing Cultural World Heritage Properties" (planned).
ARB	Technical meeting for World Heritage properties by UNESCO Rabat Office with the Minister of Culture of Morocco for awareness-raising.		Awareness-raising of decision-makers in the field of World Heritage.
ARB	UNESCO Ramallah Office, in cooperation with Palestinian and Israeli civil society organizations, assisted the Battir Village Council and the local communities of Battir and neighbouring five Palestinian villages in the organization of various advocacy activities in order to safeguard the cultural landscape of the area.		Public awareness about heritage conservation raised.
APA	Photographic exhibition on the Preservation of the World Heritage Site of the Koguryo Tombs and Mural Paintings of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), 2001-2012" (12 to 26 October 2012, UNESCO, Paris).		Increased visibility of the decade-long safeguarding efforts of UNESCO made in co-operation with the authorities of the DPRK, within the UNESCO/Republic of Korea FIT Koguryo project, as well as promotion of the Complex of Koguryo Tombs World Heritage property.

APA	World Heritage publications with Asia and the Pacific focus produced. The World Heritage paper 34, "World Heritage in a Sea of Islands – Pacific 2009 Programme". The result of the Periodic Reporting exercised was published as a book "Understanding World Heritage in Asia and the Pacific: The Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting 2010-2012" (World Heritage Paper Series no.35), accompanied by an interactive DVD, thanks to the contribution made by the Government of Japan.	36 COM 10A	Capacities reinforced through dissemination of experiences and lessons learnt from the Pacific 2009 Programme and the Periodic Reporting process in the region. World Heritage paper 35 launched at the closing event of the 40th anniversary of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> in Kyoto, Japan, in November 2012, and copies were widely disseminated to the Permanent Delegations, National Commissions, focal points, and site managers in the Asia and the Pacific region.
GLOBAL	"World Heritage Resource Manuals Series in collaboration with Advisory Bodies: Managing Disaster Risks (June 2010), with ICCROM, http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/630/ . Spanish and Arabic translations in progress. Preparing World Heritage Nominations (November 2011), with ICOMOS/ICCROM/IUCN, http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/643/ Arabic, Spanish and Portuguese translations in progress. Managing Natural World Heritage (June 2012), with IUCN, http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/703/ . Printed version published in English and French in January 2013 (EU Funds) Managing Cultural World Heritage, in collaboration with ICCROM, is in process, planned for publishing mid-2013.	30 COM 6 30 COM 15.2 31 COM 21B 32 COM 18 33 COM 10B 34 COM 7.3	The publication process as a result is sustainable and widely disseminated thanks to the PDF format. Necessity to translate the manuals in all official languages and also make printed versions. Fundraising is important as budget cuts have left this work with no available budget. http://whc.unesco.org/en/resourcemanuals/
GLOBAL	By March 2013, the following issues of the quarterly World Heritage were published in English, French and Spanish: Issues 63 (World Heritage Natural Sites), 64 (World Heritage in the Russian Federation), 65 (World Heritage and Sustainable Development) and 66 (World Heritage and Small Island Developing States).	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C paragraph 290	Visibility and subscriptions to the magazine improved through e-mailing of online flip pages version to 80,000 members of the World Heritage Centre website, and links through Field Offices and all partners' websites.
GLOBAL	Published: World Heritage Papers Series No. 31: "Community Development through World Heritage"	<i>Operational Guidelines</i>	Due to budget restrictions, online publishing is preferred to printed copies. For the time being, World Heritage Papers have secured enough funding to

	(English only); N° 32, "Assessing Marine World Heritage from an Ecosystem Perspective: the Western Indian Ocean" (English only), No. 33, "Human Origin sites and the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> in Africa" (English only), No. 34 "World Heritage in a Sea of Islands Pacific 2009 Programme" (English only), No. 35 "Understanding World Heritage in Asia and the Pacific: The Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting 2010-2012" (English only).	Chapter IX.C paragraph 290	be published both print and online.
GLOBAL	The 2013 UNESCO World Heritage Desk Diary was published.	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C paragraph 290	2,800 copies were printed, for sale and limited free distribution.
GLOBAL	The e-mail newsletter "World Heritage Information" was sent in April, July and November 2012 in French or English to some 80,000 World Heritage Centre website members.	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C paragraph 291	The April e-newsletter promoted the 40th anniversary of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> and issue 63 of the Review; in July it announced the new sites inscribed on the World Heritage List and in November announced new publications (Review 65, Benefits Beyond Boundaries, the 2013 World Heritage Desk Diary).
GLOBAL	With the support of Cambodia 71,000 copies of the 2012-2013 World Heritage Map were produced in collaboration with National Geographic Maps in English, French and Spanish versions. Republic of Korea produced a national language version in Korean.	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C paragraph 292	Sustainable funding of this annual publication -one of the main outreach products of the World Heritage Centre - has been ensured through participation of countries hosting the World Heritage Committee. However further efforts are being made to raise potential partners' interest and others for funding the Map.

GLOBAL	In the context of the 40th anniversary, a volume of case studies called "World Heritage: Benefits Beyond Boundaries" was co-published with Cambridge University Press.	35 COM 12D 36 COM 12D	The publication is the first thematic collection of case studies illustrating benefits of WH inscription to local communities and ecosystems and sharing the lessons learned in the context of sustainable development. The publication was prepared thanks to the contribution from the Japanese FIT. It is one of UNESCO's best sold books.
GLOBAL	In a partnership with DeAgostini Libri (Italy) a World Heritage Atlas was published.	<i>Operational Guidelines</i> Chapter IX.C paragraph 290	A first comprehensive Atlas with detailed maps, photographs, descriptions and statistical data on the 962 sites inscribed on the WH List. It is among UNESCO's best sold books.
GLOBAL	The World Heritage in Young Hands interactive DVD in French.		Following the release of the WHYH-DVD in English, the French version has been finalized and will be produced in 2013. This tool provides for a cost-effective means of responding to the need for resource materials for States Parties' national institutions organizing WHE activities. Funds are sought for the Spanish version.
GLOBAL	Production of new cartoon episodes of the Patrimonto World Heritage Adventures series (episodes 9, 10, 11 and 12).		Four new episodes were produced on the theme of "WH and sustainable development: the role of communities": Cuzco, Peru; Quadisha, Lebanon; Seokguram Grotto and Bulguksa Temple, Republic of Korea and the Great Wall, China. Production of 1000 copies of DVD for each episode is foreseen. Episode 9 was presented at the closing ceremony of the 40th anniversary of the <i>Convention</i> in Kyoto, Japan, November 2012. Episode 10 was released December 2012. DVD production for episodes 11 and 12 are in progress. Challenge: funding is lacking for the production of subsequent episodes on the themes of Sustainable Tourism and Biodiversity.
GLOBAL	Web page: In 2012, whc.unesco.org received 9,796,892 visits and 35,911,695 page view. In December (2012): 798,957 visits (+31%) and 2,679,011 (+21%) page views (Google Analytics). In March (2013) 92,611(+5%) members registered.		Visibility increased. Challenges encountered: UNESCO Web statistics tool (Estat) was changed in November 2011 by ERI to Google Analytics that does not allow good comparative analysis with previous years. Visibility increased, better user management (site managers, focal points, stakeholders).

GLOBAL	Updates and amendments were made on various World Heritage Centre website chapters such as news, events, agreements, partners, World Heritage sites, Committee documents and decisions, activities, SOC, Letter management, The List, search, 40th Anniversary web page, map, donation.		Increased content available; enhanced content visibility, navigation and readability. Ensured integrity and centralization for World Heritage Centre content.
GOBAL	Updates, amendments and additions were made to the Periodic Reporting online questionnaire, such as statistics, exports and analysis.		Enabling better PR questionnaires management by WHC Regional Units and ensuring questionnaire availability to States Parties and site managers. Analysis produced by regional units (LAC).
GLOBAL	142 online donations were made in 2012 for a total of 13,004 USD.		Efforts are being made, together with UNESCO Central services, to improve access and user-friendliness for online donations.
5C. Activities to increase awareness and reinforce involvement of local Communities			
LAC	International meeting on 'Apiculture and Development in the Old Maya City of Calakmul (Calakmul, Campeche, August 2012)Extra-budgetary Project 'Ancient Maya City and Protected Tropical Forests of Calakmul'.	Para 6 of the <i>Operational Guidelines</i>	Set up of an association of Mayan communities living in the Buffer Area of the site, that will continue promoting the organic production of honey. http://whc.unesco.org/uploads/activities/documents/activity-652-30.pdf

GLOBAL	Progress report on the elaboration of a thematic paper proposing to States Parties general guidance regarding the management of cultural and natural heritage of religious interest. Need for thematic studies on certain types of sites with associative values, such as sacred sites.	36 COM 5A.1, paragraph 6; 36 COM 13.I, paragraph 5	An implementation strategy proposal towards the elaboration of general guidance on heritage of religious interest is under development by a Steering Group composed of representatives of the Centre and the Advisory Bodies. A series of training workshops for the representatives of religious, indigenous and traditional communities involved in the management and use of the World Heritage properties of religious interests is being developed. All relevant information is available at the following address: http://whc.unesco.org/en/religious-sacred-heritage/ .
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III. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision: 37 COM 5A

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-13/37.COM/5A,
2. Recalling Decision **36 COM 5A.1** adopted at its 36th session (Saint-Petersburg, 2012),
3. Takes note with appreciation of the results of the activities undertaken by the World Heritage Centre over the past year in pursuit of its five strategic objectives as presented in Document WHC-13/37.COM/5A;
4. Notes the consultations between the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies towards the elaboration of a thematic paper proposing to States Parties general guidance regarding the management of their cultural and natural heritage of religious interest, and the progress report on this activity;
5. Also takes note of the establishment of a steering group in charge of coordinating the elaboration of this thematic paper and invites States Parties to support this initiative;
6. Further takes note of the report of the International Expert Meeting on “World Heritage and Indigenous Peoples” (Copenhagen, 20-21 September 2012), following Decision **35 COM 12D**, and the report of the Expert Meeting on Visual Integrity (Agra, 6-9 March 2013) and requests the Consultative Body on Operational Guidelines to consider any implications for future revisions of the Operational Guidelines;
7. Welcomes the establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and encourages the use the network of natural World Heritage sites as priority sites for assessing the state of the planet's biodiversity, its ecosystems and the essential services they provide to society;
8. Also Encourages the World Heritage Centre to continue its cooperation with the Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG) to create further synergies between the Conventions, as well as the joint activities initiated with the Secretariats of the CITES, Ramsar Convention and the Council of Europe, and further requests State Parties to ensure their National Biodiversity Strategy and their Action Plans fully consider the importance of natural World Heritage sites to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
9. Finally takes note of progress achieved through the Culture Conventions Liaison Group (CCLG) created by the Assistant Director-General for Culture in 2012 and encourages it to pursue this work towards enhanced synergies among the Culture Conventions, including on working methods, procedures and in addressing resource issues for statutory meetings.

Annex 1

Follow-up on the decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 36th session (Saint Petersburg, 2012)

DECISIONS AND ITEMS	IMPLEMENTED	ON-GOING	DELAYED
36 COM 2. Admission of Observers	✓		
36 COM 3A. Adoption of the Agenda of the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee (Saint Petersburg, 2012)	✓		
36 COM 3B. Adoption of the Timetable of the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee (Saint Petersburg, 2012)	✓		
36 COM 5A. Report of the World Heritage Centre on its activities and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's Decisions	✓		
36 COM 5B. Reports of the Advisory Bodies		See Document WHC-13/37.COM/5B	
36 COM 5C <i>World Heritage Convention</i> and Sustainable Development		✓	
36 COM 5D. Report on the World Heritage Thematic Programmes		✓	
36 COM 5E. World Heritage Tourism Programme		✓	
36 COM 6 Progress Report on the World Heritage related Category 2 centres		See Document WHC-13/37.COM/6	
36 COM 7.A. State of conservation of the properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/7A and WHC-13/37.COM/7A-Add	
36 COM 7.B. State of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/7B and WHC-13/37.COM/7B-Add	
36 COM 7C. Reflection on the trends of the state of conservation	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/7C	

DECISIONS AND ITEMS	IMPLEMENTED	ON-GOING	DELAYED
36 COM 8A. Tentative Lists submitted by States Parties as of 15 April 2012, in conformity with the <i>Operational Guidelines</i>	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/8A	
36 COM 8B Nominations to the World Heritage List	✓		
36 COM 8C Update of the List of World Heritage in Danger	✓		
36 COM 8D Clarifications of property boundaries and areas by States Parties in response to the Retrospective Inventory	✓		
36 COM 8E. Adoption of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/8E	
36 COM 9A. Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Evaluation of the Global Strategy and the PACT initiative		Final report to 19 GA	
36 COM 9B. Follow-up to the Capacity-building strategy	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/6	
36 COM 10A. Final report on the results of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Asia and the Pacific	✓	See Document WHC-13/36.COM/10C	
36 COM 10B. Progress report on the follow-up of the first cycle and preparation of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Europe and North America	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/10B	
36 COM 10C Progress Report on the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting in Latin America and the Caribbean	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/10A	
36 COM 10D Follow-up of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Africa Region	✓	See Document WHC-13/36.COM/10C	
36 COM 11 Protection of the Palestinian cultural and natural heritage	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/10C	
36 COM 12A. Future of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> – Progress report on implementation		Final report to 19 GA	

DECISIONS AND ITEMS	IMPLEMENTED	ON-GOING	DELAYED
36 COM 12B. Decision-making procedures of the statutory organs of the <i>Convention</i>	✓		
36 COM 12C. Progress report on the reflection concerning the upstream processes	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/9	
36 COM 12D. Progress report on the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the <i>Convention</i>	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/5E	
36 COM 13. Revision of the <i>Operational Guidelines</i>	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/12	
36 COM 14. Examination of International Assistance requests	✓		
35 COM 15 Presentation of the final accounts of the World Heritage Fund for 2010-2011, the interim financial statement and the state of implementation of the 2012-2013 budget	✓		
36 COM 16 Other business	N/A	N/A	N/A
36 COM 17 Election of the Bureau of the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee (June/July 2013)	✓		
35 COM 18 Provisional Agenda of the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee (2013)	✓	See Document WHC-13/37.COM/3A	

Annex 2

World Heritage Expert and other Meetings (Decision 35 COM 12B, points 6, 7)

January 2013 – December 2013

Note: This table was requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011) by Decision **35 COM 12B**. The Committee requested the World Heritage Centre to develop and present annually a consolidated list of all meetings in order for the Committee to decide which to sanction on the basis of priorities and available resources (human and financial), and encouraged the option to hold virtual meetings where appropriate. The World Heritage Committee furthermore asked the World Heritage Centre to clarify the different types and categories of expert meetings and that all meetings attended by the Secretariat should be documented in the Report on the Secretariat's activities to the Committee. The Centre provides this table (in addition to the activities indicated in the Secretariat's report for the full year to also demonstrate the different types of meetings, and notes that no meeting has been scheduled for 2014 at the time of the preparation of the present document. Furthermore it should be noted that many invitations by national/local authorities of States Parties or other Organizations are provided with short notice, not in line with the three monthly mission planning of UNESCO.

MEETINGS	VENUE	DATE
Advisory Bodies/World Heritage Centre meeting	Paris UNESCO HQ	29-30 January 2013
Orientation Session for Committee Members	UNESCO HQ, Room XI	31 January 2013
Open-ended Working Group on PACT	UNESCO HQ, Room XI	1 February 2013
Event World Heritage Centre's Marine Programme – Flanders/Jaeger-LeCoultre	Paris	7 February 2013
“Towards a governance system for coordinating the updating and the implementation of the Management Plan of the Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata Project” Second Expert and Stakeholder Meeting	Pompeii, Italy	February 2013
Climate change adaptation Field Guide training workshop	UNESCO office, Nairobi	21-22 February
International Experts meeting Thematic WH Programme HEADS, Tübingen University, Germany : Human Evolution and World Heritage in Eurasia	Tübingen University	25-29 February
International meeting, Ceremony for the submission of Qhapaq Ñan nomination file	Cuzco, Perú	1-3 March
World Heritage Volunteers Training and Planning Meeting	Spitz an der Donau/Wachau, Austria	4-8 March 2013
International Expert Meeting on World Heritage and visual integrity	Agra, India	6-9 March 2013

MEETINGS	VENUE	DATE
Climate change adaptation Field Guide training workshop	Wildlife Institute of India, India	2-3 April 2013
Stakeholders meeting to envisage the nomination of the Island of Suakin, Sudan	Suakin, Sudan	6-7 April 2013
2nd Southeast Europe (SEE) World Heritage Youth Forum for Peace and Sustainable Development	Gamzigrad-Romuliana, Palace of Galerius World Heritage site, Serbia	6-12 April 2013
Conference to scale up marine World Heritage in the Pacific (together with IUCN)	Noumea, New Caledonia, France	8-11 April 2013
First workshop on the application of the Recommendation concerning the Historic Urban Landscapes in the Arab States	Muharrag, Bahrain	23 to 25 April 2013
Third and final working meeting: Development of Best Practice Guide for World Heritage Marine Sites	Vilm, Germany	29 April-3 May 2013
Working meeting Tubbataha (PSSA & sharing of best practice from Great Barrier Reef)	Tubbataha, Philippines	13-16 May 2013
Expert meeting on city conservation best practices. "Mutations des villes et gestion du patrimoine: nouveaux acteurs? Nouvelles pratiques ? »	Lyon, France	22-24 May 2013
Second expert meeting on the safeguarding of the modern urban and architectural heritage in the Arab Region	Rabat, Morocco	27-28 May 2013
Regional meeting on the implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Historic Urban Landscape in the Arab States	Rabat, Morocco	29-31 May 2013
Information Session on 37 COM	UNESCO HQ	6 May 2013
World Heritage Youth Forum : The Role of Water in the protection of Temples of the World Heritage site of Angkor and Siem Reap City in conjunction with the 37th Session of the WHC	Siem Reap and Angkor World Heritage site, Cambodia	11-16 June 2013
Orientation session	Cambodia	16 June 2013
37th Session of the World Heritage Committee	Cambodia	16-27 June 2013
International World Heritage Youth Forum in conjunction with the 37th Session of the WHC	Spain	June 2013
Workshop on HUL (Decision 36 COM 13.II)	Brazil	September 2013
Periodic Reporting Workshop of National Focal Points of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe on the Implementation of the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise	Azerbaijan	2013

MEETINGS	VENUE	DATE
Periodic Reporting Workshop of National Focal Points of Mediterranean Europe on the Implementation of the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise	Florence, Italy	September 2013
2nd Marine World Heritage site managers meeting	La Scandola, France	October 2013
19 th General Assembly	UNESCO HQ	During General Conference
Regional meeting of World Heritage Focal Points in the Arab States	Manama, Bahrain	December 2013

REPORT ON THE AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE EMBLEM BY THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE (June 2012 - March 2013)

Depending on the nature of the requests, these are directly managed by the World Heritage Centre, or forwarded to the appropriate body (UNESCO Sector for External Relations and Public Information, national commissions, relevant UNESCO Sectors or other).

Between June 2012 and March 2013, the World Heritage Centre received and answered some 340 requests related to the World Heritage Emblem as follows:

- 204 requests from World Heritage sites for creation of their specific World Heritage emblem and for use in their documentation and / or during special events;
- 88 requests from World Heritage sites or local or national authorities for validation of material containing a specific World Heritage site emblem;
- 12 requests from national commissions, institutions, programs or others for an activity or elements of documentation or information (see table below);
- 3 requests from UNESCO field offices or other UNESCO Programme Sectors for activities related to World Heritage;
- 23 requests were refused for non-compliance with the *Operational Guidelines*.

In addition, the World Heritage Centre dealt with 19 cases of misuse such as: World Heritage emblem copied and used without previous formal request nor authorization; World Heritage emblem modified and/or associated to local logos; World Heritage emblem used for events or activities not supported by the World Heritage Centre; World Heritage site modifying the World Heritage emblem to make its own logo, etc.

In such cases, the responsible entities were contacted and requested to remove these unauthorized logos and/or replace them with correct logos when appropriate, and the national authorities were informed.

Not reported in this document are:

- Requests for the specific emblem of the 40th anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention* used in 2012 only (cf. document WHC-13/37.COM5E);
- Requests for use of UNESCO and / or World Heritage emblems as part of contractual agreements or partnerships (see annex of document WHC-13/37.COM 5D);
- Requests for use of the emblem granted directly by the national commissions or national focal points for the World Heritage Emblem.

All applications accepted and listed below (by alphabetical order of the countries) have required and obtained the prior consent of the countries concerned.

Country	Requesting Party	Date of reception	Description	Logo used	Comments
1. Barbados	Barbados Museum & Historical Society	14/02/2012	Workshop material in relation to CCBP workshop hosted in Barbados at the University of the West Indies	UNESCO logo / WH Convention Emblem	
2. Italy	Istituto per I Beni Artistici, Culturali e Naturali	05/09/2012	International seminar on preventive architecture	« With the support of » UNESCO Logo / WH Emblem	
3. Italy	Region Emilia Romagna	11/09/2012	Illustrative material of the final Conference of ACE project (www.ace-archaeology.eu)	« With the support of » UNESCO Logo / WH Emblem	
4. Japan	Japanese educational service company	06/12/2012	Publication of a free educational guide book on <i>World Heritage Convention</i>	UNESCO and WH Emblem	Separate logos illustrated 2 different paragraphs
5. Japan	Research Center for Disaster Mitigation of Urban Cultural Heritage, Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto	19/02/2013	Training guide prepared by the UNESCO Chair on risk management for urban cultural heritage (Kyoto)	“In co-operation with” UNESCO Logo / WHCentre Emblem	
6. The Netherlands	Stichting Wereldergoed.nl	23/06/2012	Communication campaign in an annual dairy distributed nationwide and containing discount vouchers for visiting Dutch WH sites	UNESCO Logo / WH Emblem + « in the Netherlands »	

Country	Requesting Party	Date of reception	Description	Logo used	Comments
7. Portugal	National Geographic	08/08/2012	Project for Geotourism map of Douro Valley highlighting the 4 WH properties within the region	WH Emblem	
8. Seychelles	Seychelles Island Foundation	01/08/2012	on site display (Vallée de Mai)	WH Emblem	On a flag
9. Slovenia	National Commission	01/10/2012	Projection on the screen during one specific presentation of the <i>Convention</i> .	WH Emblem	
10. United Kingdom	MacMillan Education	04/10/2012	Illustration of a paragraph in a book: "Motivate WB1"	WH Emblem	
11. N/A	Produits Artistiques Métaux Précieux (PAMP) Switzerland	25/09/2012	Presentation Boxes for coins collections	UNESCO logo /WH Convention Emblem	In the framework of an agreement with UNESCO (ERI)