

**UNESCO CATEGORY 2 CENTRE ON WORLD NATURAL HERITAGE SITE
MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING FOR THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, WILDLIFE
INSTITUTE OF INDIA, DEHRADUN**

INDIA

**Report for the 39th Session of the World Heritage Committee
Bonn (Germany), 28 June - 8 July 2014**

Date of the Report: 1st June, 2015

Name of the Centre: UNESCO Category 2 Centre on World Natural Heritage Site Management and Training for the Asia-Pacific Region

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Name of the Director/Head: Dr. V.B.Mathur

1. Updates on the management of the Centre (Governing Board, Staffing, Operational funding and premises)–particularly on meetings of the Governing Board and key decisions adopted.

The UNESCO General Conference 37 C/Resolution 47 dated 19 November 2013 granted approval to the proposal of establishing the Category 2 Centre on World Natural Heritage Site Management and Training for the Asia-Pacific region. The Centre has been envisaged as an integral part of Wildlife Institute of India and is governed by the Institute's Governing Body with Secretary (Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change), Govt of India as its Chairperson and Director, WII as its Member Secretary.

Mission and Objectives

The Centre's mission is to strengthen implementation of World Heritage Convention in Asia and the Pacific Region by building the capacity of all those professionals and bodies involved with World Natural Heritage site inscription, protection, conservation and management in Asia and the Pacific region, through training, research, dissemination of information and network building.

The overall objective is to focus on natural heritage conservation issues with the aim to:

- contribute to the strengthening of capacities in the management of Natural World Heritage in the region;

- contribute to achieving a more balanced representation of properties from Asia and the Pacific on the World Heritage List;
- raise awareness among the general public and the youth in particular of the importance of Natural World Heritage and the need to protect it; and
- foster international cooperation on Natural World Heritage initiatives.

Since the laying of the foundation stone on 30 August 2014 by Shri Prakash Javadekar, Minister, Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, the Centre has started functioning and has drawn up a work programme for the year 2015-2016 .

The operationalizing of UNESCO C2C at WII has enabled India to establish her leadership in the entire Asia-Pacific Region comprising 50 countries in matters relating to identification, management and monitoring of natural world heritage and to build capacity of a range of professionals and stakeholders.

2. Programs and activities implemented since June 2014 and planned for the current year

Detailed Annual Progress Report (2013-14) and Annual Work Programme (2015-16) as submitted to Govt of India enclosed as Annexure 1

3. Programs and activities implemented since August 2014 and planned for the current year

N.	Title of the activity	Reference to WHCBS¹
1	Assistance in nomination dossier preparation for Bhitarkanika Conservation Area, Odisha and Keibul Lamjao Conservation area, Manipur India	2.2
2	Attendance in National Workshop on Capacity building of states and UTs with Sites on Tentative List for Future nomination as World Heritage organized by Ministry of Culture Govt of India	2.3
3	Continued assistance and mentoring to national institutions viz. Govt of Sikkim and Govt of Odisha for improvising nomination dossiers	2.5
4	Coordinated advice and support provided to Manas World Heritage Site for drafting the SOC as per feedback received from secretariat and Advisory bodies.	2.6
5	Proposal submitted to develop a Himalayan Universities consortium for enhancing the role of Himalayan World Natural Heritage in India, Bhutan and Nepal.	3.6 b
6	Conducted National Workshop on Conservation and Management of Western Ghats Natural Heritage Sites.	4.3
7	Conducted National Workshop on Sustainable Tourism Management in Mountain Landscapes of the Himalayas.	4.3
8	Thematic training workshop proposed on Disaster Risk Reduction and World Heritage Sites, Implementation of Open Standards for World Heritage SITE MANAGEMENT in the Annual work programme of 2015-16	4.5
9	Established a full-fledged C2C with a 15 member team of skilled professionals within a short span of 8 months	5.1
10	Training workshops planned for World Heritage Site managers on Terrestrial, marine and coastal ecosystems.	7.2

¹WHCBS stands for the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy (see: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2011/whc11-35com-9Be.pdf>)

**UNESCO Category 2 Centre on World Natural
Heritage Management and Training for the Asia-
Pacific Region at Wildlife Institute of India**

**Management of Invasive Alien
Species in India Protected Areas**

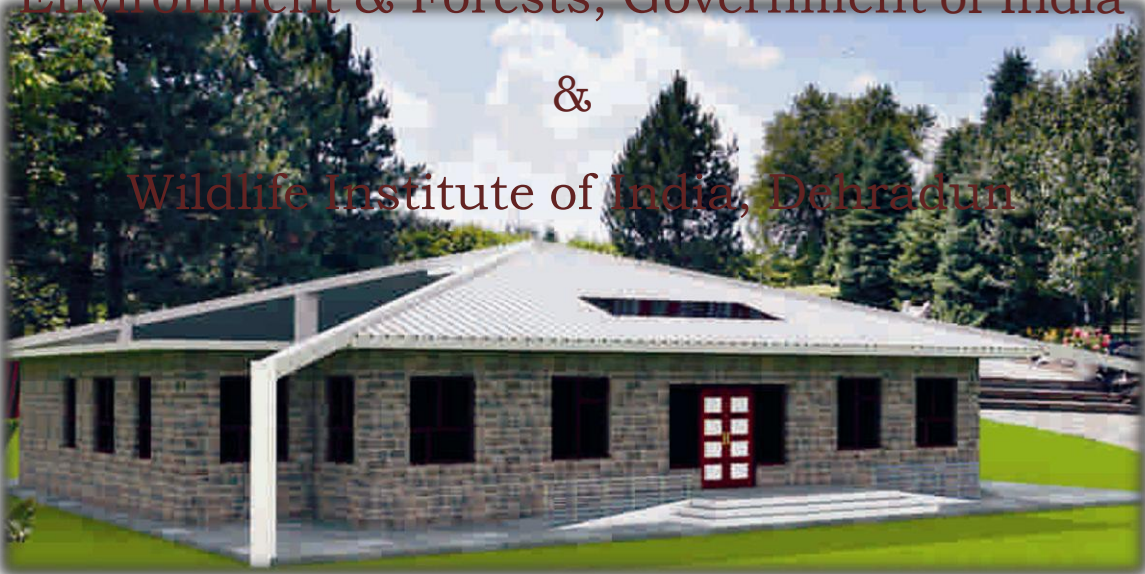
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**Annual Work Programme
(April 2015 to March 2016)**

Concept Proposal submitted to the Ministry of
Environment & Forests, Government of India

&

Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun



**भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान
Wildlife Institute of India**

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Part A

1. Background

The UNESCO Category 2 Centre (C2C) on World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region was established at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun with the laying of the foundation stone on 30 August 2014 by Shri Prakash Javadekar, Minister, Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India. The Centre is the world's first dealing with natural heritage and aims to build capacity for the 50 nations of the Asia-Pacific Region in the area of Natural Heritage conservation and management.

While UNESCO has established C2Cs in South Africa, Spain, Italy, China, Bahrain, Brazil, Mexico and Norway, these are only for the conservation of cultural heritage. The setting up of UNESCO's first centre in the world for the conservation of Natural World Heritage at WII, Dehradun is an unprecedented step towards protection and conservation of 59 existing Natural World Heritage sites and identification of potential sites with outstanding universal value across the 50 countries in Asia and the Pacific region to safeguard their future. Natural heritage conservation in Asia and the Pacific region has been facing many challenges in recent years as a result of pressures exerted on natural ecosystems. These pressures are a consequence of high human population density, economic growth and persistent poverty as well as risk of catastrophic disasters. As shown by the outcome of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting (2012) conducted by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties in Asia and the Pacific, capacity building for World Heritage conservation and management remains a key concern in the region. In particular, very few countries are equipped with proper natural heritage training facilities. To address the above situation, the Government of India in September 2012, submitted to the Director-General, UNESCO a "Request for Action" towards the establishment of a Centre of Excellence on Natural World Heritage for Asia and the Pacific region at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), an internationally acclaimed institution in the field of natural resource conservation located in Dehradun, as a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO. The UNESCO has designated 98 International and Regional Institutes and Centres as Category 2 under the auspices of UNESCO.

Though not legally part of the Organization, these Institutes and Centres are associated with UNESCO through formal arrangements approved by the General Conference. They have been selected based on the strength of their specialization in one of UNESCO's fields of competence. Through capacity-building, knowledge sharing and research, they provide a valuable and unique contribution to the implementation of UNESCO's strategic programme objectives for the benefit of Member States. In December 2012, a feasibility study was undertaken by a UNESCO expert, including a mission to India, to assess the proposal in the light of the requirements for Category 2 Centres as set out in the integrated comprehensive strategy for capacity building . The feasibility study confirmed the great potential for the establishment of the proposed Centre, which would fill a gap in the region and would benefit from the extraordinary facilities and long experience of the WII, including at the international level. The Director-General UNESCO accepted the proposal for the establishment of a Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific region in Dehradun, India, as a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO and observed that establishing the proposed Centre at the WII could be of great benefit to UNESCO, to Member States in the region, and to the international community. The UNESCO General Conference 37 C/Resolution 47 dated 19 November 2013 granted approval to the proposal **(Appendix I)**. The Centre is part of WII and is governed by the Institute's Governing Body with Secretary (Environment, Forests & Climate Change) as its Chairperson and Director, WII as its Member Secretary. The Cabinet Note seeking Government of India's approval for establishing C2C at WII is in the process of getting approved. The National Campa Advisory Council (NCAC) in its meeting held on 24th November, 2014 under the chairmanship Hon^{ble} Minster of Environment, Forests and Climate Change granted funds amount to Rs. 18.66 crores for operationalising C2C at WII **(Appendix II)**.

2. Mission and Objectives

The Centre's mission is to strengthen implementation of world heritage convention in Asia and the Pacific Region by building the capacity of all those professionals and bodies involved with world natural heritage site inscription, protection, conservation and management in Asia and the Pacific region, through training, research,

dissemination of information and network building. The overall objective is to focus on natural heritage conservation issues with the aim to:

contribute to the strengthening of capacities in the management of Natural World Heritage in the region;

contribute to achieving a more balanced representation of properties from Asia and the Pacific on the World Heritage List;

raise awareness among the general public and the youth in particular of the importance of Natural World Heritage and the need to protect it; and

foster international cooperation on Natural World Heritage initiatives.

3. Activities

a. Laying of the Foundation Stone

The foundation stone of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Category 2 Centre on World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region was laid at Wildlife Institute of India on 30 August 2014 by Mr. Prakash Javadekar, the Hon^{ble} Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (Independent Charge), Government of India. The Hon^{ble} Minister in his address to the large gathering of professionals and staff credited the efforts of WII in the establishment of the UNESCO Category 2 Centre (C2C). He elaborated on his keen interest and appreciation of nature and reiterated his commitment for safeguarding the natural wealth of the country and pledged support for overall welfare of the organization. Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, WII provided an overview of the Centre and highlighted that this Centre marks the global recognition of WII's strength to contribute to national as well as international efforts to preserve Natural Heritage. The foundation stone laying and subsequent commemorate events were attended by various dignitaries including Dr. S.S. Garbyal, Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to Govt. of India, Mr. A.K. Srivastava, Additional Director General of Forests, MoEFCC, Chief Executives and senior officials of sister Organizations in Dehradun and WII students, research fellows, staff and faculty members.

Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of the UNESCO C2C, 30 August 2014.



b. Recruitment of scientists, technical and support staff

The faculty recruitment process and recruitment of technical and administrative staff has been completed. Three scientists (Scientist-E), two Technical Officers, two Assistant Technical Officers, four World Heritage Assistants have been recruited between October 2014 to March 2015 to conduct activities meeting the mandate and objectives of the C2C. Also, one Administrative Officer, one Finance Officer and one Information Technology Officer have been recruited in March 2015.

c. Workshops

A two-day workshop on Conservation and Management of World Natural Heritage Sites in the Western Ghats was held at Periyar Tiger Reserve, Thekkady, Kerala from 23 to 24 February, 2015. The Workshop was jointly organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Kerala Forest Department, Periyar Foundation and the C2C to

facilitate experience sharing amongst site managers of the World Heritage Sites in the Western Ghats and initiate the development of a roadmap for holistic management of natural heritage.

Two day workshop on Conservation Management of World Natural Heritage Sites, Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kerala on 23-24 February, 2015



A workshop on Sustainable Tourism Management in Mountain Landscapes of the Himalayas was jointly organised by the Uttarakhand Forest Department

and C2C from 27 to 28 February, 2015. The workshop involved experts and stakeholders with extensive experience in ecotourism activities in mountain landscapes in India. The outcomes of the workshop will be used to develop strategies for sustainable tourism in Himalayan states.

Two day workshop on Sustainable Tourism Management in Mountain Landscapes of the Himalayas at Wildlife Institute of India on 27-28 February, 2015



d. *Development of web-site*

The development of a website on information pertaining to activities and training material relevant to World Natural Heritage has been initiated. The C2C webpage has been made functional through its hosting on the WII server.

e. *Advisory & Technical Support roles*

C2C has provided technical inputs on World Natural Heritage issues to the Ministry of Forests, Environment & Climate Change such as the preparation of the revised nomination dossier for Khanchendzonga World Heritage site and State of Conservation Reports for Manas World Heritage Site and Keoladeo Ghana World Heritage Site. In addition, technical inputs regarding a variety of issues such as the status of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Site, Western Ghats serial site etc were provided. Scientists from C2C participated in meetings and provided inputs on World Natural Heritage issues in the Advisory Committee on World Heritage Matters (ACWHM).

Part B: Annual Work Programme (2015-16)

1. Conferences and Training Workshops on Thematic Areas

It is proposed to conduct two international conferences and three thematic workshops pertaining to the Natural World Heritage Theme as follows:

- a. 5-day Thematic workshop on implementing „Open Standards“ as a tool for natural world heritage site management in SAARC countries (**Appendix III**).
- b. Thematic workshop on World Heritage Sites and Disaster Risk Reduction (**Appendix IV**).
- c. 5-day International Conference for Marine/Coastal Natural World Heritage Sites in Asia-Pacific Region (**Appendix V**).
- d. 5-day International Conference for Terrestrial Natural World Heritage Sites in Asia-Pacific Region (**Appendix VI**).

2. Establishment of an Information Repository

- a. Launch of a dedicated website on C2C: A dedicated server shall be obtained for operating a full-fledged website for the centre. The contents would primarily include information pertaining to activities and training material relevant to world heritage sites.
- b. Launch of Asia-Pacific Natural World Heritage Network portal (APNWHN): This is proposed as a repository of knowledge and database pertaining to Natural World Heritage Sites in the Asia-Pacific Region. This shall be designed, developed and hosted by the UNESCO C2C on Natural World Heritage Site training and management for Asia-Pacific at WII. The web portal will also act as a common platform for sharing knowledge and information among the multiple stakeholders of the member countries, user agencies, academicians and practitioners in the field of Natural world Heritage Site. The portal will provide ready access to clear, understandable and user-friendly information and also act as a repository of research and news pertaining to the existing and proposed natural sites. Efforts will be made to link information and database into a spatial domain using a suitable GIS platform. The APNWHN can have dynamic features such as World heritage

Dashboard, database and documentation, real-time images and videos pertaining to sites, networks, discussion groups, chats and Blogs, FAQs, Kids corner etc that would enable greater outreach and information accessibility. It will also explore connectivity and interoperability with IUCN World Heritage Outlook, Protected Planet etc.

- c. Collaboration for developing site-specific audio visual database (short films, documentaries, still images) by taking up Indian World Heritage Sites in the first Phase- a draft MoU is being prepared to tie up with film production companies for carrying out the video shooting at world heritage sites.

3. Technical Collaboration with States Parties

- a. Periodic Reporting -- Supporting States Parties of the Asia-Pacific Region in the Third Cycle: A periodic report on the application of the World Heritage Convention, including the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties is made every six years. States Parties are invited to submit these periodic reports for the properties located on its territories to the World Heritage Committee. The Periodic Reporting on the application of the World Heritage Convention is intended to serve four main purposes which include providing an assessment of the application of the World Heritage Convention by the State Party; providing an assessment as to whether the World Heritage values of the properties inscribed on the World Heritage List are being maintained over time; make available up-dated information about the World Heritage properties to record the changing circumstances and state of conservation of the properties; and to provide a mechanism for regional co-operation and exchange of information and experiences between States Parties concerning the implementation of the Convention and World Heritage conservation. C2C will play an important role in the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting for the Asia-Pacific Region through supporting States Parties in the Asia-Pacific in assessing state of conservation of properties and preparing periodic reports, facilitating exchange of information and experiences, building capacity through training programmes and workshops.
- b. Technical backstopping of Natural World Heritage Sites in existing and tentative sites: The Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the WH convention call upon States Parties to submit statements of integrity that involve assessing the extent to which the property includes all elements

necessary to express its Outstanding Universal Value and evaluate adverse effects of development and/or neglect. States Parties are also expected to monitor and provide specific reports and impact studies on activities that may have an effect on the state of conservation of the property. Accordingly various matters arise from time to time that may need technical inputs and expertise for surveys, assessment and evaluation which the C2C will provide as required.

4. Implementation of UNESCO Fellows Programme on Natural Heritage Conservation

- a. The C2C aims to create a stimulating environment by inviting eminent academicians and experts in the field of World Natural Heritage conservation and associated interdisciplinary aspects as UNESCO Fellows. On completion of the fellowship, a report shall be submitted to the Centre.
- b. To undertake academic collaboration with Tata Institute of Social Sciences-Guwahati for a special module on Natural and Mixed World Heritage Sites. The main objective of this collaborative and long-term activity is to firm up a partnership between the two centres for research, knowledge exchange and dissemination. It also aims at developing an information repository on existing and proposed world heritage sites through a time-bound internship work to be carried out by trained post-graduate University students.
- c. To undertake collaboration for GREEN HUB FELLOWSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP to encourage students to take up fellowship and partnership through an innovative model of using the visual medium to renew and revive love and respect for protecting natural resources, and making them the environment spokespersons for tomorrow. And connect the individuals, organizations and groups working with conservation under one umbrella and form a web of learning, sharing and action.

5. Outreach Activities

Extension and Outreach will be one of the main activities of the centre. The following activities are being proposed under this sub-section:

- a. Launch of Asia –Pacific natural world heritage site bulletin –The aim of this quarterly newsletter is to provide collated published news and information on

all designated and proposed Natural world Heritage Sites in the Asia-Pacific Region. At present there are 59 Natural and 11 mixed World Heritage Sites in the Asia-Pacific region. The newsletter shall aim to collate all peer-reviewed published news (English medium) on a regular basis.

- b. Produce a coffee table book, calendars, posters and souvenirs on Natural World Heritage Sites in India.
- c. Celebrate important events such as World Heritage Day, Inscription day of Western Ghats as a World Heritage Site etc in a befitting manner by involving local community and youth volunteers. Target group will also include school and college students.
- d. Preparation of directory of resource managers of World Natural Heritage Sites in the Asia-Pacific region.

6. Research and Monitoring

Research and monitoring will be taken up on aspects pertaining to World Natural Heritage Sites for Asia and the Pacific region.

7. Preparation of Nomination Dossiers for Inscription on the World Heritage List

The C2C has been approached by the Government of Odisha for technical support for the preparation of the nomination dossier for the site and this will be taken up during 2015-16. Bhitarkanika Conservation Area is one among the eight tentative natural/mixed World Heritage sites from India, short-listed by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre. It consists of the Bhitarkanika National Park and Sanctuary as well as the Gahirmatha Sanctuary. The landscape encompasses some of the finest mangrove, coastal and marine Protected Areas anywhere in the world and harbour unparalleled levels of biological diversity.

Part C: Budgetary Outlay for the Year 2015-16

S. No	Budget Head	Unit Cost (in Rs. lakhs)	Number	Total Cost (in Rs. lakhs)
A.	Salaries and Allowances of Manpower (Scientific)			
	1. Scientist Level F (Permanent) @ 1.25 / month	15.00	2	30.00
	2. Scientist Level E/F (Contract) @ 1.05 / month	12.60	1	12.60
	3. Technical Officer (Contract) @ 0.50 / month	6.00	2	12.00
	4. Assistant Technical Officer (Contract) @ 0.30 /month	3.60	2	7.20
	5. Visiting Faculty @ 1.25 / month	5.00	2	10.00
	6. World Heritage Assistant @ 0.25 / month	3.00	4	12.00
	Total		13	83.80
B.	Salaries and Allowances of Manpower (Administrative)			
	1. Administrative Officer @ 0.30/month	3.60	1	3.60
	2. Finance Officer @ 0.30/month	3.60	1	3.60
	3. IT Officer @ 0.32/month	3.84	1	3.84
	4. Assistant @ 0.20/month	2.40	1	2.40
	Total		4	13.44
C.	Operational Costs			
	1. Balance cost for construction of building by CCU, MoEFCC			90.00
	2. Outsourcing of services	LS	24.00	24.00
	3. Hiring of vehicles, POL etc.	LS	12.00	12.00
	4. Hiring of building	LS	12.00	12.00
	5. Miscellaneous Cost	LS	12.00	12.00
	Total			150.00
D.	Activity Budget			
	a. Regional Thematic Workshops	20.00	2	40.00
	b. Regional Short-term Training Programmes	35.00	2	70.00
	c. Participation in international meetings, workshops, conferences etc.	LS		20.00
	d. Database development & maintenance	LS		17.50
	e. Expenditure for Governing Board Meetings	LS		10.00
	f. Outreach Activities	LS		30.00
	g. Implementation of WH Fellows Programme	5.00	2	10.00
	8. Technical Collaboration with State Parties & Backstopping	LS		25.00
	9. Research & Monitoring Programmes	LS		25.00
	Total			247.50
	GRAND TOTAL			494.74

ABSTRACT

S.No	Item of expenditure	Cost (in Rs. lakhs)
A.	Salaries & Allowances of Scientific Staff	83.80
B.	Salaries & Allowances of Administrative Staff	13.20
C.	Operational Costs	150.00
D.	Activity Budget	247.50
	GRAND TOTAL	494.50



Rakesh Adlakha
First Secretary

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No. PDI/PAR fC.III./26/13

12 December, 2013

Dear *Shri Khanduri*

The proposal for establishment of a Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific Region at Dehradun, under the auspices of UNESCO (Category 2), was discussed under item 5.4 of the Agenda of the recently-held 37th Session of the General Conference of UNESCO. In this regard, enclosed please find a copy of the Resolution recommended by the Culture Commission on this agenda item approving the establishment of this Centre and authorising the Director General of UNESCO to sign an Agreement concerning the establishment of this Centre under the auspices of UNESCO. This Resolution was subsequently adopted unchanged by the Plenary of the UNESCO General Conference. A copy of the document 37 C/18 Part XIV prepared by the Secretariat of UNESCO on this agenda item is also enclosed for information and record.

Regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Rakesh Adlakha)

Shri S.K.Khanduri,
IG Wildlife,
Ministry of Environment and Forests,
New Delhi.

A -td Resolution

37 C/74-page 9

3. *Authorizes* the Director-General to sign an Agreement concerning the establishment in Algiers, Algeria, of the Regional Centre for safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa, as a centre under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

Part XIV Proposal for the establishment in Dehradun, India, of a centre for world natural heritage management and training

26. The Commission recommended to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in paragraph 2 of document 37 C/18 Part XIV. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling 35 C/Resolution 103 and 192 EX/Decision 15, Part V,

Having examined document 37 C/18 Part XIV,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal of the Government of India to establish in Dehradun, India, a Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), which is to be done in conformity with document 35 C/22 and Corr. relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;
2. *Approves* the establishment of the Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 192nd session (192 EX/15 Part V);
3. *Authorizes* the Director-General to sign an Agreement concerning the establishment in Dehradun, India, of the Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

Item 5.16 Proposal for the establishment, in the premises of the Villa Ocampo in Buenos Aires, Argentina, of a regional centre for arts and culture as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO

27. The Commission recommended to the General Conference that it adopt, for the records of the General Conference, the resolution proposed in document 37 C/COM.CLT/DR.3 submitted by Argentina. The text of the resolution reads as follows:

The General Conference,

Recalling 35 C/Resolution 103,

Having examined document 37 C/COM.CLT/DR.3,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal of the Government of Argentina to establish, in the premises of the Villa Ocampo, a regional centre for arts and culture, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO;
2. *Invites* the Executive Board to examine, at its 194th session, the related draft agreement and to approve, if it deems it appropriate to do so, the establishment, in the premises of the Villa Ocampo of a regional centre for arts and culture, as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO;



General Conference
37th Session, Paris, 2013

37 C

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
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37 C/18
Part XIV
25 October 2013
Original: English

Item 5.4 of the provisional agenda

**ESTABLISHMENT OF CATEGORY 2 CENTRES
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

PART XIV

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN DEHRADUN, INDIA, OF A CENTRE
FOR WORLD NATURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING**

OUTLINE

Source: 35 C/Resolution 103 and 192 EX/Decision 15, Part V.

Background: Following the submission by the Government of India, on 26 September 2012, of a "Request for Action" containing a proposal for the establishment in Dehradun, India, of a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO on World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region, the Executive Board examined the feasibility study prepared by the Secretariat and the corresponding draft agreement, which were contained in document 192 EX/15 Part V.

Purpose: Following 192 EX/Decision 15, Part V, the present document contains a draft resolution approving the establishment of this category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. For reference, document 192 EX/15 Part V describes the proposal and reviews the prerequisites for the establishment of the centre in conformity with document 35 C/22 and Corr. relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103.

Decision required: paragraph 2.

1. The Executive Board, at its 192nd session, considered document 192 EX/15 Part V on the proposed establishment in Dehradun, India, of a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO on World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region. Having

examined document 192 EX/15 Part V, which describes the proposal and analyses the feasibility of the centre in accordance with the guidelines contained in document 35 C/22 and Corr. relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103, the Executive Board welcomed the proposal to place this centre under UNESCO's auspices. The Executive Board subsequently recommended (192 EX/15 Part V) that the General Conference, at its 37th session, approve the proposal to grant to the said centre the status of category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO and that it authorize the Director-General to sign an agreement with the Government of India concerning the establishment and operation of the centre.

2. In view of the above, the General Conference may consider the following draft resolution:

The General Conference,

1. Recalling 35 C/Resolution 103 and 192 EX/Decision 15, Part V,
2. Having examined document 37 C/18 Part XIV,
3. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of India to establish in Dehradun, India, a Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2), which is to be done in conformity with document 35 C/22 and Corr. relating to the principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) as approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103;
4. Approves the establishment of the Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, as recommended by the Executive Board at its 192nd session (192 EX/15 Part V);
5. Authorizes the Director-General to sign an Agreement concerning the establishment in Dehradun, India, of the Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for the Asia and Pacific region under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2).

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A) 5-day Thematic workshop on implementing ‘Open Standards’ as a tool for natural world heritage site management in SAARC countries

- **Title: Open Standards for conservation practice in World Natural Heritage sites**
- Target group: WHS managers from SAARC countries
- Number of participants (including resource persons and organisers): **32**
- Partner Organisation: Wild Team, Bangladesh/U.K.
- Venue: UNESCO C2C on World Natural Heritage Site Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, INDIA
- Dates: 11-15 May 2015

- **Background**

Some of the world’s most important natural areas have been recognised by the UNESCO World Heritage Convention as being of Outstanding Universal Value. The Convention provides a unique framework for conservation and management of these World Natural Heritage Sites in order to secure their future. It also provides a platform for sharing experience, knowledge, best practice and guidance for States Parties across the world. Globally, pressures and threats to these areas driven by human activities are escalating. As site managers are confronted with yet new challenges and problems, conservation strategies and actions need to evolve to meet changing needs and address threats effectively. Conservation and management of World Natural Heritage sites would benefit from robust systems for results-based project planning, management, and monitoring. Moreover, adaptive management practices and sharing of these approaches is essential to help practitioners learn from one another and evaluate successes and failures.

In this context, a five-day workshop is being organised on ‘Open Standards for Conservation Practice in World Natural Heritage sites’ from 11 to 15 May, 2015 at the UNESCO C2C on Natural World Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific region, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, India. The Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation bring together concepts, approaches, and terminology in conservation project design, management, and monitoring in order to help practitioners assess and improve the effectiveness of conservation actions.

- **Objectives**

- Build capacity of site managers and practitioners on management of World Natural Heritage
- Share experiences, best practice examples and learning resources for World Natural Heritage management
- To guide conservation project planning, monitoring and assessment for adaptive management of natural heritage

Target group

Number of participants (including resource persons and organisers): 32

The workshop is targeted at site managers and practitioners from the following eight countries that make up the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC):

1. Afghanistan
2. Bangladesh
3. Bhutan
4. Maldives
5. Nepal
6. Pakistan
7. Sri Lanka
8. India

- Learning Outcomes

The participants of the workshop will be helped to appreciate better the principles of the World Heritage Convention, Outstanding Universal Values and natural heritage criteria. Site-specific deliberations and assessment of conservation and management practices of World Natural Heritage in the SAARC region will be brought out as a result of the workshop. The workshop will build capacity of site managers and practitioners for effective management and conservation of World Natural Heritage.

- Detailed budget (20 lakhs)

S.No.	Item of expenditure	Cost (in Rs. Lakhs)
1	Travel (International) LS	11
2	Travel (Domestic) LS	3.6
3	Boarding and Lodging at Dehradun (@2500/person) for 5 nights	2.88
4	Workshop food charges	0.36
5	Resource Material (tool kit) (@5000/person)	1.25
6	Miscellaneous (Honorarium, banners, etc.)	0.93
	GRAND TOTAL	20 lakhs

- C2C Team members:** Malvika, Bhumesh, Anukul, Persis, Jyoti

B) Thematic workshop on World Heritage Sites and Disaster Risk Reduction (24-28 AUGUST 2015)

- **Title : The role of Natural World Heritage sites in Disaster Risk Reduction**
- Target Group : World Heritage Site Managers
- No. of participants/ country : one person/country (total 30 participants)
- Partner(s) : SAARC Disaster Management Centre, IUCN-DRR thematic group
- Venue : UNESCO C2C at Wildlife Institute of India
- Date & Duration : 24-28 August 2015

- **Background**

World Heritage properties, are exposed to Natural (flood, drought, earthquake, Tsunami etc.) and Man-made (forest fires, armed conflicts, industrial accidents, mass refugee movements etc.) disasters which threaten their integrity and may compromise their natural values.

Apart from having potential ecological effects, the loss or deterioration of outstanding values for which the sites were inscribed on the World Heritage List would have negative socio-cultural and economic impacts. World Heritage properties do not have any established policy, plan or process for managing, i.e. reducing, risks associated with potential disasters. Moreover, existing national and local disaster preparedness and response mechanisms usually do not include heritage expertise in their operations. As a result, hundreds of sites are virtually defenceless with respect to potential disasters, and communities worldwide are not exploiting the full potential of their heritage, both tangible and intangible, that have maintained it over the centuries, and therefore, essential towards prevention and mitigation of disasters.

The revised Strategy for Risk Reduction at World Heritage Properties as formulated in 2007, The UN-Hyogo Framework For Action Priority 4 and the proposed UN World Conference WCDRR in Sendai, Japan in March 2015 recognise the role of Protected Areas as an instrument for ecosystem-based adaptation to Disasters and Climate Change. Natural World Heritage Sites exemplify this role by adding the dimension of traditional values, ecosystem integrity, and hence contribute immensely to this strategy. There are 59 Natural and 11 mixed World Heritage Sites in the Asia-Pacific. The proposed thematic training and workshop is intended to provide a platform to site managers and multi-disciplinary experts for training and work out on a possible action plan for Disaster preparedness through the medium of World Heritage Sites in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Objectives

1. To identify, assess and monitor natural and man-made disaster risks at World Heritage properties in the Asia-Pacific Region.
2. To raise awareness about the need to integrate special concern for Natural and Mixed World Heritage properties into national disaster reduction policies;
3. Carry out training for managers of natural and mixed World Heritage properties in disaster Risk Reduction and adaptation strategies.

4. To deliberate and develop an Action plan for Disaster Risk Reduction, and to form an integral part of World Heritage management plans in the Asia-Pacific Region;

Learning Outcomes

A customised training manual, training compendium and Protocols for site managers in the Asia-Pacific to deal with disaster risk shall be prepared and launched at the workshop. Site-specific deliberations and documentation of disaster-risk preparedness shall be brought out as an Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Heritage Sites in the region. The overall aim will be to influence the post 2015 agenda such as the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) or the successor of the UNFCCC Kyoto Protocol.

Detailed Budget: 20 lakhs

S.No	Item of expenditure	Cost (in Rs. lakhs)
A.	Travel (International) LS	700000
	Travel (Domestic) LS	300000
B.	Boarding and Lodging at Dehradun (@2500/ person) for 5 nights (for 30 persons)	375000
C.	Resource Material (tool kit) (@5000/person)	150000
D.	Miscellaneous (Honorarium, banners, etc.)	475000
	GRAND TOTAL	2000000

C2C Team members : Sonali, Niraj, Chitiz, Dhruv, Rupa

C) 5-day International Conference for Terrestrial Natural World Heritage Sites in Asia-Pacific Region (NOV-DEC 2015)

- **Title : Managing Natural World Heritage with special focus on Terrestrial landscapes**
- Target Group : World Heritage Site managers (tentative 19)
- No. of participants/ country : two / country and invited experts (**total 50 participants**)
- Partner(s) : SAARC Forestry Centre, Bhutan ? , ICIMOD ? , IUCN ?
- Venue : UNESCO C2C at Wildlife Institute of India
- Date & Duration : 23-28 November, 2015 (Tentative)

- **Background**

Natural World heritage Sites play a significant role in enhancing the value of existing Protected Areas. The World Heritage Convention recognizes the most exceptional natural places in the world. Characterised by their outstanding biodiversity, ecosystems, geology or superb natural beauty. With more than 1000 natural and cultural sites already inscribed on the list, the current challenge is to ensure that the values for which the sites were listed are maintained in the context of a rapidly changing and globalised world. The aim of this training workshop would be to guide managers and practitioners on the specificity of managing a world heritage site, building on the central concept of the Convention, that of OUVs (Outstanding Universal Values) and also direct the managers towards the existing best practises examples and resources.

- **Objectives**
 1. To sensitise and orient Terrestrial Natural World heritage Site managers towards the implementation of World heritage Convention and its guidelines for maintaining site integrity and its Outstanding Universal Values.
 2. To impart training on managing Natural world heritage sites by providing best practises and resource materials.
 3. To provide a forum for world heritage site managers and establish a network for future collaborations.

- **Learning Outcomes**

A customised training manual, training compendium and Protocols for Terrestrial Natural WHS managers in the Asia-Pacific will be prepared. A best practises guidelines for the region will also be prepared. It is expected that the site managers will be better informed and prepared to incorporate the criteria for maintaining OUVs in their management plans.

- **Detailed Budget: 35 lakhs**

S.No	Item of expenditure	Cost (in Rs. lakhs)
A.	Travel (International) LS	10,00000
	Travel (Domestic) LS	6,00000
B.	Boarding and Lodging at Dehradun (@2500/ person) for 5 nights	5,000000
C.	Resource Material (tool kit) (@5000/person)	200000
D.	Miscellaneous (Honorarium, banners, field trip etc.) LS	1200000
	GRAND TOTAL	35000000

- C2C Team members : Sonali, Bhumesh, Anukul, Persis, Jyoti

D) 5-day International Conference for Marine/Coastal Natural World Heritage Sites in Asia-Pacific Region (JAN-FEB 2016)

- Title: **WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF COASTAL AND MARINE WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**
- Target Group : In the Asia-Pacific region, there are 10 nations having coastal and marine WHSs (including Tentative WHSs) which are indicated in the Table below:

	COASTAL & MARINE WHS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC		REMARKS
1	Kiribati	<i>Phoenix Islands Protected Area</i>	
2	Solomon Islands	<i>East Rennell</i>	In Danger
3	Palau	<i>Rock Islands of Southern Lagoon</i>	Mixed site
4	Japan	<i>Ogasawara Islands N, Shiretoko</i>	
5	Republic of Korea	<i>Jeju Volcanic Islands & Lava Tubes</i>	
6	Philippines	<i>Tubbataha Reefs NP</i>	
7	Australia	<i>Great Barrier Reef, Shark Bay, Lord Howe Island Group, Heard & McDonald Islands, Ningaloo Coast</i>	
8	New Zealand	<i>New Zealand sub-Antarctic Islands</i>	
9	Bangladesh	<i>Sunderbans</i>	
10 11	India	<i>Sunderbans Bhitarkanika Chilika Rann of Kutch</i>	

Hence, the Site Managers of 15 Coastal and Marine WHSs, from 10 countries of the Asia-pacific region as mentioned above, will constitute the target group.

- No. of participants / country : Resource Persons : 03 , Participants : 15 Site Managers + 3 CWLWs
- Partner(s) : SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme), GIZ ?
- Venue : Wildlife Insitute of India, Dehradun.
- Date & Duration : 1st to 5th March 2016; 5 days duration.
- **Objectives**
 1. To provide conceptual clarity regarding the uniqueness of Coastal and Marine WHSs as opposed to terrestrial WHSs.
 2. To orient the participants, especially those from the pacific islands, to the current global standards on managing CMWHSs.
 3. To expose the participants to Best Practices in CMWHSs through Case Studies drawn from around the globe for better decision making.
 4. To enable the Site Managers to prepare comprehensive WHS Management Plan aimed at long-term conservation of the OUVs of their respective sites.
 5. To have an informal network of CMWHS managers so as to facilitate sharing of updated information and current technical know-how.

- **Learning Outcomes**

1. To possess a clear conceptual framework of the basic precepts of Coastal and Marine PA Management.
2. Understanding and application of the currently available guidelines for managing CMPAs in their respective sites.
3. Ability to prepare a site-specific Management Plan for CMPAs incorporating globally state of the art methods
4. To assimilate examples of Best Practices in Coastal & Marine PA Management and incorporate.
5. To have an informed peer group which will foster experience sharing, continuous learning which in turn will enable informed management decisions.

C2C Team members: Manoj, Niraj, Chitiz, Dhruv and Rupa.

- **Detailed Budget: 35 lakhs**

TENTATIVE BUDGETARY OUTLAY				
S.No	Item of expenditure	Unit Cost	Number	Total Cost (in Rs.Lakhs)
1	Travel			
	International participants	1.50	10	15.00
	SAARC and Indian participants	0.5	5+3	4.00
	Resource Persons	1.25	3	3.75
2	Boarding			
	Hotel charges for participants @ 5,000 INR/day for two days	0.05	18	1.80
	Hotel charges for participants @ 2,500 INR/day for four days	0.025	18	1.80
	Food charges / day / person for 5 days	0.015	25	1.875
3	Local Travel	LS		
	Hiring of vehicles for field tour etc.			2
4	Venue, Resource Material etc.			
	Cost of banners, stationery, resource material			2
5	Honorarium for Resource Persons @			
	Consolidated honorarium for RPs	LS		1
6	Contingency	LS		1.775
	GRAND TOTAL			35.00

Website of the Centre:

<http://www.wii.gov.in/>

Designated Focal Point

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Title: Director

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