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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANISATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND
NATURAL HERITAGE

Bureau of the World Heritage Committee
Twelfth session

(Room XIV - Unesco Headquarters, 14-17 June 1988)

Item 13 of the Provisional Agenda: Other matters -- Revision of
the Operational Guidelines.

INTRODUCTION:

1. At its eleventh session the Committee requested the Secretariat to amend the "Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention", document WHC/2 Revised, (January 1987), in accordance with the Committee's decisions concerning the monitoring of cultural properties, the procedure for the nomination of extensions to World Heritage properties, and assistance for promotional activities. These texts are proposed in section A below.

2. In addition, members of the Committee had drawn attention to the need to update the "Operational Guidelines" to make them conform with current practice in the implementation of the Convention. For this purpose, the Secretariat has prepared the texts presented in section B, in consultation as necessary with ICOMOS and IUCN.

3. The Bureau is requested to examine the texts below and make recommendations thereon to the Committee. Once approved by the Committee, the Secretariat will incorporate these amendments in a revised version of the Guidelines.

SECTION A: AMENDMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMMITTEE'S
DECISIONS:

Monitoring of cultural properties

4. The following new paragraph is proposed for insertion after paragraph 43:

§ With regard to cultural properties, the Committee has adopted, on a trial basis, a system by which each year the Secretariat sends out questionnaires to the States Parties concerned for fifty World Heritage properties, starting with the properties first inscribed on the List. States Parties are requested to complete the

questionnaires with the utmost care and to return them to the Secretariat by the date indicated. Copies of the questionnaire can be obtained for consultation by States Parties from the Secretariat.

Nomination of extensions to World Heritage sites

5. The following new paragraph is proposed for insertion after paragraph 52:

§ In the event that a State Party wishes to nominate an extension to a property already inscribed on the World Heritage List, the same documentation should be provided and the same procedure shall apply as for new nominations, set out in paragraph (52) above. This provision will not apply for extensions which are simple modifications of these limits of the property in question: in this case, the request for modification of these limits is submitted directly to the Bureau which will examine in particular the relevant maps and plans. The Bureau can approve such modifications, or it may consider that the change is sufficiently important to constitute an extension of the property, in which case the procedure for new nominations will apply.

Assistance for promotional activities

6. The following text is proposed for insertion in the place of paragraph 88, (v) Regional meetings:

(v) Assistance to promotional activities to make the Convention better known or to encourage its implementation.

§ a) at the regional and international levels:

The Committee has agreed to support the holding of meetings which could:

- help to create interest in the Convention within the countries of a given region;
- create a greater awareness of the different issues related to the implementation of the Convention to promote more active involvement in its application;
- be a means of exchanging experiences;
- stimulate critical evaluation and comparative assessments prior to the submission of tentative lists and nominations;
- stimulate joint promotional activities.

b) at the national level:

The Committee felt that requests concerning national activities for promoting the Convention could be considered only when they concern:

- meetings specifically organised to make the Convention better known or for the creation of national World Heritage associations, in accordance with Article 17 of the Convention;
- preparation of information material for the general promotion of the Convention and not for the promotion of a particular site;

The World Heritage Fund shall provide only small contributions towards national promotional activities on a selective basis and for a maximum amount of \$5,000. However, requests for sums above this amount could exceptionally be approved for projects which are of special interest: the Chairman's agreement would be required and the maximum amount approved would be \$10,000.

SECTION B: AMENDMENTS TO UPDATE THE GUIDELINES:

Criteria and integrity of natural properties.

7. It is proposed that paragraph 33 of the Guidelines be presented in two sections a) and b) in a similar manner to the criteria and conditions of authenticity for cultural properties under paragraph 21. This means that section 33 b) will list the conditions of integrity that should be fulfilled for natural nominations. It is also proposed that another condition be added referring to administrative protection: indeed the Committee has on several occasions followed the recommendation of IUCN to defer the nominations of natural sites due to a lack of adequate long-term legal protection and/or a lack of an adequate management regime. To better guide States Parties, the following text is proposed to be listed as condition (vi), paragraph 33 section b):

- (vi) The sites described in paragraph 33 a) should have adequate long-term legislative, regulatory or institutional protection. They may coincide with or constitute part of existing or proposed protected areas such as national parks. If not already available, a management plan should be prepared and implemented to ensure the integrity of the natural values of the site in accordance with the Convention.

International assistance

8. In order to update the procedure for requests for emergency assistance, it is proposed that the following text replace paragraph 72:

§ Requests for emergency assistance should be forwarded to the Secretariat using form WHC/5. The Secretariat shall submit these requests to the Chairman who is authorised by the Committee to approve amounts up to \$20,000. Additional amounts above this sum may be granted by the Bureau and the Committee, following the same procedure as for technical cooperation requests (see paragraphs ----).

9. In order to update the Guidelines for training activities, it is proposed to merge the parts of the Guidelines which deal with individual fellowships (Section A (iii) paragraphs 73-77) with those on training at national and regional centres (Section A (iv) for technical cooperation). It is proposed that the following text would replace paragraphs 73-77 of Section A (iii) to cover all training activities:

(iii) Training

§ States Parties may request support for the training of specialised staff at all levels in the field of identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of the cultural and natural heritage. The training must be related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

§ Priority in training activities will be given to group training at the local or regional levels, particularly at national or regional centres in accordance with article 23 of the Convention. The training of individual persons will be essentially limited to short term refresher programmes and exchanges of experience.

§ Requests for the training of specialised staff at the national or regional level should contain the following information:

(i) details on the training course concerned (courses offered, level of instruction, teaching staff, number of students and country of origin, date, place and duration, etc.);

(ii) type of assistance requested (financial contribution to costs of training, provision of specialised teaching staff, provision of equipment, books and educational materials for training courses);

(iii) approximate cost of support requested, including as appropriate tuition fees, daily subsistence allowance, allocation for purchase of educational material, travel costs to and from training centre, etc.

(iv) other contributions: national financing, received or anticipated multilateral or bilateral contributions.

§ Requests for support for individual training courses should be submitted on the standard "Application for Fellowship" form used for all fellowships administered by Unesco and which can be obtained from Unesco National Commissions, Unesco offices and the offices of the United Nations Development Programme in Member States, as well as from the Secretariat. Each request should be accompanied by a statement indicating the relationship of the proposed study plan to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention within the State Party submitting the request.

§ All requests for support for training activities should be transmitted to the Secretariat which will ensure that the information is complete and forward these requests along with an estimation of the costs to the Chairman for his approval. In this regard the Chairman can approve amounts up to \$20,000. Requests for sums above this amount follow the same procedure for approval as for requests for technical cooperation set out in paragraphs -----.

10. The section for requests for technical cooperation will accordingly exclude all references to training activities.

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