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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD
CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE BUREAU

Twenty-eighth session

Suzhou, China
27 June 2004

Item 2 of the Provisional Agenda: International assistance requests

Background: In accordance with paragraphs 94-121 of *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (2002) in force at the time of the final drafting of this document, the Bureau examines and decides whether or not to approve requests for international assistance requiring financial support:

- of more than US\$ 20,000 and up to US\$ 30,000 in the categories of preparatory assistance, technical cooperation and training;
- of more than US\$ 50,000 and up to US\$ 75,000 for emergency assistance.

The Bureau also issues recommendations to the World Heritage Committee on requests exceeding the above approval ceilings.

The World Heritage Centre received **12** requests for International Assistance as of 1 April 2004. Eight requests out of the eleven received are for the Bureau's decision, the rest of the four for decision by the Committee.

Action by the Bureau: The Bureau is requested to

- take decisions concerning the 8 requests presented in this document;
- make recommendations about the 4 requests to be submitted to the Committee;
- recommend that the Committee ensure fair and equitable distribution of International Assistance resources during the next two years when the World Heritage Fund shall continue to have inadequate funds.

GENERAL ISSUES

The International Assistance budget, which represented half of the total World Heritage Fund budget during the biennium 2002-2003, dropped to one third for the biennium 2004-2005. As a result, the requests that were submitted for approval to the Chairperson since the beginning of the year have drastically decreased the funds available for requests to be presented at the time of the Committee session.

It is especially the case for the technical cooperation and training budgets set aside for cultural properties. Consequently, the funds available for cultural heritage under technical cooperation are nearly exhausted in 2004 (only US\$ 1,848 left) and are only US\$ 34,229 available under training.

In view of the fact that this situation is likely to recur next year (2005) and the following biennium due to the overall decrease of the World Heritage Fund, it is suggested that the Bureau make the enclosed recommendations to the Committee on priorities for granting international assistance and rules for their approval.

SECTION I

PREPARATORY ASSISTANCE

N°	Region	State Party - Name of activity	Amount requested (US\$)	Amount recommended for approval (US\$)
1	Asia	China – International Symposium for the identification and harmonization of potential karst natural heritage properties in China	20,100	20,100
2	Asia	Tajikistan – Preparation of the nomination dossier of the Tajik National Park (TNP) and preparation of the Tentative lists of natural and mixed heritage of Central Asian States Parties through regional consultation	20,760	20,760

Funds available as at 11 May 2004 for approval: US\$ 120,966

Total amount of requests submitted for approval by the Bureau and the Committee: US\$ 40,860

Comments of the Secretariat: adequate funds available for approval.

REQUEST N° 1
Preparatory Assistance
Natural Heritage
Asia

State Party: CHINA

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2003: all dues paid

Name of Activity: International Symposium for the identification and harmonization of potential karst natural heritage properties in China

Amount requested: US\$ 20,100

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this property/activity:
None

Background:

This activity was designed as a follow-up to the Expert Workshop on Karst Biodiversity and World Heritage in East and Southeast Asia, which was held in the Gunung Mulu National Park (Malaysia) in May 2001. The workshop identified significant new opportunities for nominating mixed karst properties of potential universal outstanding value in China and also identified potential sites in all other East and Southeast Asian countries. Karst ecosystems provide a unique basis for the identification of sites that could satisfy both cultural as well as natural heritage criteria and therefore provide unique opportunities for integrating the cultural and natural aspects of the World Heritage Convention.

Since the 1980's, China has proposed several sites such as Lunan Shilin (Stone Forest), Guilin (Li river and Yangshu tower karst), Huangguoshu waterfall (cone karst, gorge and waterfall) and Fengjie Collapsed Doline and underground river on its national Tentative List for World Heritage nomination. Since then, Chinese and foreign scientists have done a lot of research work on the evolution processes of karst geomorphology, geology and hydrogeology, ecology system, environment and biodiversity. The comparison of China karst with the karst landscape has been done. As the study work is extremely complicated and difficult, the outstanding karst landscape has not been nominated for World Heritage listing.

The Gunung Mulu workshop (May 2001) recognized China as a priority for action to identify and conserve karst and karst related biodiversity. A general consensus was reached amongst the Chinese scientists about the need to carry out a range of activities, including rapid assessments of major karst areas for biodiversity and karst values, and a series of workshops. These activities would help the Government of China to build capacity and collect the necessary background information to prepare a nomination for World Heritage status.

The four areas that were considered to be of particular importance for karst related biodiversity, karst values, and geodiversity are:

- The Stone Forest in Yunnan Province,
- The limestone massif in Guizhou Province,
- The Guilin tower karst,
- Deepest Collapsed karst Doline groups in Fengjie of Chongqing and Leye of Guangxi.

The Government of China wishes to nominate more than one karst area for World Heritage nomination in the future. As China contains two thirds of the world's karst, an holistic approach needs to be developed in this regard. This should start with identifying, managing and protecting important karst areas in a systematic manner, and only then it would be possible to determine potential priorities for World Heritage nomination. What is required is the establishment of a network of karst managers, an increased awareness of karst issues, especially pertaining to management and protection, and also the ability to effectively co-ordinate the process described above.

Objectives:

In this context, an International Symposium for the Identification and Harmonization of Potential Karst Natural Heritage Properties in China has been proposed, to be held in the Stone Forest of Yunnan Province in October 2004.

This meeting will be jointly organized by the Ministry of Construction of China, the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO, the Chinese Academy of Sciences and experts from UNESCO and IUCN. Other relevant authorities responsible for karst management in China will be invited, including representatives from the National and Provincial Construction Bureau, the Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources, the Guilin Karst Institute of the Chinese Academy of Geology, Guiyang University, Kunming University, Guizhou Normal University and Yunnan University. International participation will include karst, protected area and biodiversity experts from the WCPA, the International Union of Speleology, the International Union of Geography and the International Geomorphologist Association as well as other relevant stakeholders such as the Cement Industry and potential donors.

Project plan:

After the five-day meeting, all participants will visit the most important and characteristic karst areas in Yunnan, Guizhou, Guangxi and Chongqing, followed by a discussion about the Shilin Karst. The agenda for the workshop will include discussions on wider karst management issues in China, including:

- Stakeholders: role and responsibilities;
- General identification, management and protection issues;
- Identification of priority actions at provincial and national levels;
- Consideration of a future cluster nomination of China's most important karst areas.

Provincial level workshops:

Following the National workshop, four smaller workshops will be organised at a provincial level, in Yunnan Province (Stone Forest), Guizhou Province (Xingyi), Guanxi Province (Guilin) and Chongqing (Fengjie). These provincial workshops will consider the outcomes and recommendations of the International Symposium and adopt an action plan for each individual property. The results will include a draft programme to identify, manage and protect karst and its related biodiversity in the relevant Provinces, consistent with the overall China Karst Programme.

Expected outcomes:

The conclusions of the meeting will include a list of actions and recommendations that will form the basis of an overall programme to identify, manage and protect karst in China.

Another possible output of the Workshop could be the establishment of a China Karst Management Committee that would play an important role overseeing karst work in China, coordinate and focus the capacity of implementing agencies to protect karst. Membership, roles and responsibilities could be decided upon during the Workshop.

A database of organisations and individuals responsible for management of karst in China will be developed and circulated to all relevant stakeholders to assist communication. IUCN Bangkok will assist the Construction Ministry of China and Chinese Academy of Sciences in this task.

The final result will be a consolidated Natural World Heritage nomination of the karst ecosystem in China.

Budget:

Total activity budget (in US\$):		42,600
Contribution from Ministry of Construction (in US\$):		12,000
Contribution from provincial authorities (in US\$):		10,500
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):		20,100
Travel expenses for 15 international experts (15 x US\$ 1,100)	16,500	
Accommodation for 10 national experts (US\$ 60 x 6 days x 10 people)	3,600	

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

IUCN supports this request for preparatory assistance. In addition, IUCN would recommend that the State Party always consider the importance of international comparative analysis when studying the various possibilities for future nominations of karst properties.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Centre supports this activity within the framework of the Global Strategy adopted by the World Heritage Committee.

DRAFT DECISION

28 BUR 2.1

China: International Symposium for the identification and harmonization of potential karst natural heritage properties in China

The World Heritage Bureau,

1. *Decides to approve this preparatory assistance request for natural heritage for US\$ 20,100 under the 2004 budget.*

REQUEST N° 2
Preparatory Assistance
Natural Heritage
Asia

State Party: TAJIKISTAN

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2003: all dues paid

Name of Activity: Preparation of the nomination dossier of the Tajik National Park (TNP) and preparation of the Tentative lists of natural and mixed heritage of Central Asian States Parties through regional consultation

Amount requested: US\$ 20,760 for Phase I

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this site/activity:

- Preparatory Assistance (2001), US\$ 19,748

Background:

The Republic of Tajikistan ratified the *World Heritage Convention* in 1992, consequently undertaking obligations to provide adequate conservation of its natural and cultural heritage. Unfortunately, because of social and economic instability caused by civil war, which lasted for five years, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan did not have the opportunity to carry out its obligations. Moreover, these circumstances have contributed towards the deterioration of much of Tajikistan's heritage, some of which has been irremediably lost. The country is slowly recovering from the terrible consequences of war. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan has focused its attention on the protection and conservation of its natural and cultural heritage, but cannot ensure proper protection without the assistance of the international community.

Environmental threats affecting Tajik natural heritage have increased during the past years. Poverty and slow development of the country's wealth have forced the population to over-exploit natural resources and this has developed in a more uncontrolled way in remote regions where the central Governmental support is weaker. The Pamirs region gives great concern as its situation has radically changed. It was considered as an invaluable natural resource of the USSR in the past but currently mountain forests are felled for firewood with only very moderate reforestation activities being carried out and rare animal species, whose derivatives can be profitably sold to foreigners on the local market (Marco Polo sheep, Snow Leopard), are disappearing. There is practically no supervision of the condition of natural and historical heritage in the area, which is gradually falling into decay, and will eventually be completely lost (Bozordara Mausoleum, Pamirs Argali natural habitat).

The Tajik National Park (TNP) was created by Decision of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in July 2002. It is a unique protected mountain territory covering 2,6 million ha, the largest in Central Asia, and comprises 11% of the total national surface. The TNP is situated mostly in the territory of the Pamirs. The Park has united extensive mid-mountain and high-mountain territories, together with 14 different ecosystems. The TNP includes all natural climatic zones.

More than 2,000 species of vascular plants, including 160 endemic, rare and endangered species, can be found on-site. Fauna includes argali, snow leopard, brown bear, Tibetan snowcock, and Tibetan sand grouse. The largest glacier (Fedchenko) and the deepest lake of the country (Sarezskoe lake) fall within its borders, as well as the highest mountainous peaks in the country (Somoni, former 'Communism' peak, 7495 m; Lenin, 7134 m). Cultural features include historical sites of ancient settlements such as

‘Bozordara’. The TNP also has great recreational potential due to the presence of more than 150 mineral and thermal springs.

Because of the economic and social instability caused by past civil war, the anthropogenic impact on the nature of the TNP has increased during the last century. Activities such as grazing, logging and poaching have negative impacts on the flora and fauna of the TNP. To ensure better law enforcement, the Government took a series of measures to improve the socio-economic situation of the region. The creation of the TNP is a direct step to meet this need for improved ecological security of the Pamirs. However, because of the insufficiency of its economic, scientific and technical resources, the Republic of Tajikistan cannot carry out the effective protection of these unique natural and cultural threatened features alone.

Objectives:

Phase 1 (for implementation in 2004-2005)

1. Elaboration of a provisional Tajikistan tentative list and submission to UNESCO;
2. Information collection and GIS mapping of the TNP;
3. Organization of an expert mission to assist in the preparation of the nomination of the TNP;
4. Roundtable to provide final and signed version of the nomination of TNP.

Phase 2 (for implementation in 2005-2006)

1. Organization of a regional thematic meeting in Dushanbe to determine and approve the official Tentative Lists of natural and mixed heritage for the five Central Asian States Parties;
2. Elaboration and submission of the Tentative List of Tajikistan.

Project plan:

2 months	Analysis of the available information on the natural and cultural heritage of the Tajik National Park
1 month	Identification of the natural and mixed heritage sites for the Tentative List
3 months	Field trips to the sites identified to collect up-to-date information and evaluate the current state of conservation of the sites
1 month	Preparation of the cartographic material based on compiled information
3 days	Examination of the Tentative List on the basis of information collected in the fieldtrips, discussion on the inclusion of the Tajik National Park to the World Heritage list as a mixed property (workshop)
1 month	Preparation of the nomination dossier of the Tajik National Park for inclusion on the World Heritage List
2 days	Agreement and assertion of the nomination by all stakeholders
	Submission of the Tentative List and the nomination dossier to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre

Anticipated output:

- 1) Consolidated Tentative Lists of natural and mixed sites for the Central Asian States Parties
- 2) Accrued capacity-building in the elaboration of Tentative Lists and of nomination dossiers for natural and mixed heritage in the Central Asian region;
- 3) Increase efficiency in the protection of the natural and cultural properties of the Pamirs by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the international community, through the possible inscription of the Tajik National Park on the World Heritage List.

Total activity budget for Phase I (in US\$):	21,670
Contribution from Tajik national authorities (in US\$)	910
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):	20,760

1. Informational component (expert fees and IT and office equipment)	1,100
2. Expedition (Experts' fees, DSA and travel; audio and video equipment, expedition equipment)	7,250
3. GIS Component	700
4. International expert mission	6,000
5. National roundtable (expert fees, DSA and travel, organizational costs)	4,710
6. Preparation of the nomination file (expert fees, documentation and translation)	1,000

Total activity budget for Phase II (in US\$):	22,930
Contribution from Tajik national authorities (in US\$)	1,150
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):	21,780

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

IUCN welcomes this request from the State Party of Tajikistan to submit its Tentative List for natural and mixed heritage, as a direct follow-up to the Regional Workshop held in Almaty, Kazakhstan in December 2002. This Tentative List should be compiled and submitted before the preparation of the nomination of Tajik National Park. We would therefore recommend that this project be carried out in a phased approach, i.e. that funding be provided first for the preparation of a Tentative List, followed by funding for the preparation of the Tajik National Park.

When preparing their Tentative List, IUCN would like to remind the State Party of the recommendations of the Regional Workshop (Almaty, 2002), in particular the need to elaborate a Central Asia Regional Approach for the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, and the preparation of a 'regional tentative list' by an Inter-Governmental Regional Task Group (with experts from NGO organisations such as World Wildlife Fund, NABU, Flora and Fauna International and others as appropriate).

In the preparation of the Tentative List and future nominations, IUCN also emphasises the importance of focusing not only on the values of potential sites, but also on issues of integrity so as to address any problems of coherence before nominating a site. *The World Heritage Convention* cannot provide protection to a property; a competent national policy must already be in operation.

IUCN therefore supports this request for assistance but recommends that it be carried out in a phased approach with the preparation of the Tentative List being carried out first. The proposal and budget would need to be amended accordingly.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Secretariat supports this activity for the total requested amount of US\$ 42,540, in a phased approach, in accordance with the recommendations from IUCN and taking into account the results and recommendations of the Almaty December 2002 meeting.

DRAFT DECISION

28 BUR 2.2

Tajikistan: Preparation of the nomination dossier of the Tajik National Park (TNP) and preparation of the Tentative lists of natural and mixed heritage of Central Asian States Parties through regional consultation

The World Heritage Bureau,

1. Decides to approve this preparatory assistance request for natural heritage for US\$ 20,760 under the 2004 budget.

SECTION II

TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Cultural Properties

N°	Region	State Party - Name of activity	Amount requested (US\$)	Amount recommended for approval (US\$)
3	Africa	Uganda – Kasubi Tombs, World Heritage Property Uganda, Research Program on the thatched roofs	14,915	14,915
4	Arab States	Morocco –Elaboration of a management plan for Ksar Ait-Ben-Haddou	20,000	20,000
5	Arab States	Iraq – Equipment for training on photogrammetry techniques for Iraqi experts	30,000	30,000
6	Arab States	Sudan – Elaboration of the Management Plan for Jebel Barkal and the properties of the Napatan region	30,000	30,000
<i>Request for the Committee for recommendation by the Bureau (cf details of the request in WHC-04/28.COM/10A p. 5)</i>				
	Asia	Bangladesh – Study of the drainage problems and monitoring of the internal moisture conditions of the monuments of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur	40,000	40,000

Funds available as at 11 May 2004 for approval: US\$ 1,848

Total amount of requests submitted for approval by the Bureau and the Committee: US\$ 134,915

Comments of the Secretariat: Insufficient funds. All the requests must be submitted again in 2005 for consideration for approval, in accordance with normal procedures. Given the current situation of the Fund, the Centre advises against using 2005 budget to approve these requests at the 28th Session of the World Heritage Committee as it was done last biennium.

Details of individual requests attached.

DRAFT DECISION

28 BUR 2.3

The World Heritage Bureau,

1. Noting that no funds are available in 2004 for consideration of technical cooperation requests for cultural properties;
2. Recommends that the Committee do not approve requests in advance on 2005 budget;

3. Decides that the following requests:

- Uganda: Kasubi Tombs World Heritage Property Uganda, Research Program on the thatched roofs
- Morocco: Elaboration of a management plan for Ksar Ait-Ben-Haddou
- Iraq: Equipment for training on photogrammetry techniques for Iraqi experts
- Sudan: Elaboration of the Management Plan for Jebel Barkal and the properties of the Napatan region

be submitted again on January 2005 for decision by the Chairperson or the Bureau, in accordance with the Operational Guidelines in force at that time, provided the relevant States Parties have paid their dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2004.

4. Recommends to the Committee that the following request:

- Bangladesh: Study of the drainage problems and monitoring of the internal moisture conditions of the monuments of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur
- be submitted again in 2005 for decision by the Committee, in accordance with the Operational Guidelines in force at that time, provided the relevant State Party has paid its contributions to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2004.*

REQUEST N° 3
Technical Cooperation
Cultural Heritage
Africa

State Party: UGANDA

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2003: all dues paid

Name of Activity: Kasubi Tombs World Heritage Property: research programme on the thatched roofs

Amount requested: US\$ 14,915

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this property/activity:

- Training Assistance (1998), US\$ 20,000

Background:

The Kasubi Tombs were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2001. The property is an outstanding example of traditional Ganda architecture and palace design. In particular, the royal tombs of Buganda Kabakas, which are sheltered in a gigantic thatched hut, offer a unique example of an architectural style developed by the powerful Buganda kingdom since the 13th century. This structure represents one of the most remarkable buildings using purely vegetal materials in the entire region of sub-Saharan Africa.

On the occasion of the nomination of Kasubi Tombs to the World heritage List, a Management Plan was prepared, which plan defines a management framework and has identified priority actions in four main areas, including technical assistance.

The tendency of rejecting traditional materials in order to modernize the property has disappeared. Efforts have been made over the last three years to enhance the general values of the property and revive traditional skills. But most of this conservation work carried out in the last three years was done in haste and the actual results have not reached the expectations. There is still need for major thatching works before a more simple and affordable conservation mechanism (regular maintenance) can be set up.

Despite all recent efforts to stabilize the state of conservation, the thatched roofs continue to suffer from rain, entailing need for the implementation of major repairing. It is thought that the conservation of the roofs would be much easier if maintenance was done on a regular basis, but this is still difficult to implement. There are still a number of technical issues that need to be explored to increase the efficiency of the maintenance process, and reduce its heavy cost:

- The first one concerns the shape of the roofs that has evolved over time (the pitch was more conical and steeper initially). The present shape seems to be inefficient at draining rainwater away.
- The second is on the thatching practice itself. There was quite a long period during which the traditional practice was stopped. This might have lead to changes in the practice and also to loss of know-how, explaining why the roof decay is so rapid. The project intends to study the whole thatch production line, from the harvesting of the grass to the laying on the roof, in order to identify the weak points. Finally ways of treating the thatch should be explored.
- The third concerns the funding system. A project has been submitted to the French Embassy to produce a set of promotional products.

Objectives:

1. make an in-depth analysis of the decay processes:
 - evolution of the shape of the roof
 - identify the reasons for grass rotting
 - comparison with other thatched roofs in the region
2. fully revise the current practice of maintenance and repair of the thatch roof at all levels:
 - harvest of the grass
 - preparation of the grass
 - thatching technique
 - maintenance practices
3. test treatments
4. implement repairs to a level from which a light regular maintenance mechanism can be sufficient
5. define specifications for the regular maintenance mechanism

Project plan:

1. With national financing
 - a. supervision and follow-up of all project activities
 - b. organization of field trips
 - c. identification of skilled craftsmen
2. With assistance from the World Heritage Fund:
 - a. project preparation and gathering of documentation
 - b. a seven-day mission by international expert to undertake a field survey of heritage sites covered with thatch to analyse the decay processes. Wamala tombs and other similar properties around Kampala will be visited with all the Ugandan stakeholders involved in the conservation of the Kasubi Tombs (Kasubi Tombs manager, thatcher's clan, DAM (Department of Antiquities and Museums), Buganda technicians, etc.). This mission will be organised in the rainy season, in order to observe the decay processes in detail. The information gathered will be analyzed and a restoration campaign will be prepared accordingly.
 - c. preparation of all necessary materials by the Ugandan Government and DAM under the supervision of the Kasubi Tombs Manager.
 - d. a fifteen-day mission by international expert to implement the conservation works.
 - e. After complete restoration of the thatched roofs, preparation of technical specifications for their conservation and maintenance.

Complementary activities

The French Embassy in Uganda is seriously considering sponsoring a project for the elaboration and printing of 5,000 booklets, 2,000 posters and 16,000 postcards that would be sold to establish a fund that will ensure a long-term regular maintenance of the property.

Tentative programme

Project preparation and gathering of documentation	4 months
Mission 1 - 1 week field survey, and preparation of the restoration campaign	2 months
Preparation of materials	5 months
Mission 2 - 2 weeks, and restoration of the thatched roofs	2 months

Expected outcomes:

- i) A better understanding of the current situation
- ii) Thatched roofs fully restored
- iii) Specifications for the maintenance mechanism

Budget:

Total activity budget (in US\$):		17,915
National contribution:		3,000
Overall supervision and co-ordination of project activities, Department of Antiquities and Museums (equivalent in US\$):	1,000	
Property supervision and co-ordination of property works - Uganda Government (equivalent in US\$):	2,000	
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):		14,915
Local Organization		5,200
- Overall supervision and co-ordination of project activities, including per diem and other expenses (communication, transportation...)	1,000	
- Property supervision and co-ordination of property works, including per diem and other expenses	1,000	
- Per diem and other expenses for the manager of the property (Property Supervisor)	700	
- Craftsmen	2,500	
Materials		6,200
- Building materials	5,500	
- Equipment	700	
International Expert		3,515
- International expert fees (15 days)	1,865	
- International travel (2 return tickets)	1,000	
- International expert per diem (13 days)	650	

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

ICOMOS attaches great value to the project proposed and supports the international assistance request.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Centre supports in principle the approval of this request for US\$14,915 for 2005.

DRAFT DECISION

Please refer to Draft Decision 28 BUR 2.3, paragraph 3

REQUEST N° 4
Technical Cooperation
Mixed Heritage
Arab States

State Party: MOROCCO

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2003: all dues paid

Name of Activity: Elaboration of a management plan for Ksar Ait-Ben-Haddou

Amount requested: US\$ 20,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this property/activity:
None

Background:

The Ksar Ait-Ben-Haddou, a group of earthen buildings within defensive walls with corner towers, was inscribed on the World Heritage list in 1987 and is one of the most famous ksour in the Oumilla Valley. It is an amazing example of the wide range of pre-Saharan building techniques in Morocco (adobe, earthen constructions, raw bricks, etc.). The Ksar is also a testimony of ancient lifestyles.

In 1989, the Moroccan Ministry of Culture created the Centre for the Conservation and Rehabilitation of Architectural Heritage of Atlasic and Subatlasic Zones to supervise the restoration of earthen architecture in the pre-Saharan regions of Morocco. Since 1991, several of these safeguarding activities have been performed on the property of the Ksar Ait-Ben-Haddou, including:

-the restoration of the Mosque and related buildings (01/11/1991-01/06/1992), funded by the Ministry of Culture.

-the paving of alleyways (01/10/1992-31/12/1992), the cleanup and restoration of covered passageways (21/07/1993-30/09/1993), the protection of the banks of the Oued river and the surrounding fields against floods and landslides (21/07/1993-30/09/1993), the restoration of the towers of five Kasbahs and their facades (05/10/1994-30/02/1995), all funded by UNDP.

Despite these efforts to preserve the Ksar, the property has undergone severe degradation. The means mobilized for the upkeep and restoration of the property as World Heritage are still insufficient. The experts' studies at the property level emphasize the urgent need for the elaboration of a management plan which would be approved by all the administrative bodies and institutions involved in the preservation of the property of Ait-Ben-Haddou. But the CERKAS and other administrative bodies or institutions do not possess the necessary experience to develop a management plan. Although the delegations and the various external services are represented in Ouarzazate, the participation of the central services based in Rabat in the decision-making process is essential. For the time being, no meetings have been organized with them because of lack of funds.

Objectives:

To elaborate a management plan for the property within the framework of the recommendations of the *Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, taking into account the local conditions for the preservation and safeguarding of this property.

Project plan:

Covered by the Moroccan authorities:

- Preparation and organization of meetings
- Providing of the premises and material means for the holding of these meetings

Amount requested through the World Heritage Convention:

- US\$20,000 to cover the expenses of the organization of the three meetings on the site, and the full funding of the international expert.

Expected outcomes:

- Identification and implication of all relevant parties in the Management Committee for the property;
- Reaching a consensus on problems still blocking the development of the property;
- Drafting a realistic list of actions;
- Responsibilities clearly defined and accepted by all members of the Management Committee for the property;
- Setting-up of a precise and realistic timetable.

Budget:

Total activity budget (in US\$):		35,000
Contribution from Moroccan national authorities in kind (equivalent in US\$):		15,000
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):		20,000
1. International Consultant (1 expert)		10,000
- Honoraria	8,000	
- Per diem (2 weeks), international and national travel	2,000	
2. Local Organization of Meetings and participation to the elaboration of the management plan (3 meetings)		10,000
- Accommodation of the national participants	7,000	
- Publications, photos, scanning, photocopies	3,000	

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

What is missing from the request is any reassurance that a specialised knowledge will be used to resolve the highly complex problems of conserving tall and extensive mud buildings. This is now a well-defined and well researched area of expertise and it is necessary to know how this expertise will be incorporated into the project.

ICOMOS considers this request should be supplemented by another one to fund an earthen architecture specialist to carry out urgently a State of Conservation report. On the basis of information supplied, the development of a Management Plan should be then the second step, once a more detailed analysis of the maintenance and possibly structural problems have been undertaken.

Subject to this recommendation, ICOMOS would support this request.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Centre supports in principle the request for US\$ 20,000 for 2005.

In response to the comments made by ICOMOS, the Centre wishes to make it clear that all technical aspects linked to this activity will be followed in coordination with the Ministry of Culture and CERKAS, the local administrative body.

DRAFT DECISION

Please refer to Draft Decision 28 BUR 2.3, paragraph 3

REQUEST N° 5
Technical cooperation
Cultural Heritage
Arab States

State Party: IRAQ

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2003: The Italian Government will cover the US\$ 57,950 of outstanding dues during the official ceremony, which will take place on 24 May 2004.

Name of Activity: Equipment for training on photogrammetry techniques for Iraqi experts.

Amount requested: US\$ 30,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this property/activity:

None

Background:

In view of strengthening the relations between the Iraqi and the Latvian national research institutions, focusing particularly on those responsible of the conservation of tangible heritage, the Latvian Government has taken the initiative to support a training activity for Iraqi specialists of the SBOAH (State Board of Antiquities and Heritage) on documentation of cultural heritage through the up-to-date technique of photogrammetry. This activity, supported by UNESCO, will be divided into the following components: 1) Two-week intensive theoretical and practical training in Latvia; 2) ten-day practical training *in situ* in Iraq. The Latvian Government has offered to cover the expenses of the training. In order to carry out this training in the most effective way, it is urgent to purchase the necessary equipment to be used for this activity, as well as to continue the surveys of the Iraqi heritage in the future.

Objectives:

The activity aims at training 4-5 Iraqi experts of the SBOAH in photogrammetry, thanks to the contribution of two Latvian experts. The survey based on this technique will focus on one property inscribed on the Tentative List, and will use the most up-to-date equipment. Most of this equipment cannot be bought in Iraq and therefore UNESCO's assistance is requested to purchase them abroad and obtain the relevant UN authorization for import to Iraq. This equipment is essential to enable the SBOAH to undertake more surveys on the Iraqi heritage.

Project plan:

The first component of the activity, the training to be held in Latvia, is tentatively foreseen for June 2004. A representative of the Iraqi Ministry of Culture/SBOAH will launch the project in Riga. The second component of the activity, the ten-day practical training *in situ*, will be held in Iraq in one of the archaeological properties inscribed on the Iraqi Tentative List. Ur has been considered, but is still to be confirmed. The practical session in Iraq is tentatively scheduled for November-December 2004.

Expected outcomes:

1) the Iraqi staff from the national institution in charge of heritage conservation (SBOAH) will be trained in the survey technique of photogrammetry;

2) the equipment distributed to the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage can be used for future surveys of the national heritage.

Budget:

Total activity budget (in US\$):		50,000
Contribution from Latvian Government (in US\$):		20,000
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):		30,000
Equipment:		
1 photogrammetrical digital camera FUJI finepix S2 pro	5,000	
1 photogrammetrical programme ELCOVISION-10	14,000	
1 electronical tahimetr SET 330R 3 (total station)	11,000	

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

ICOMOS wishes to have three estimates, following the usual procedure, when purchasing this expensive equipment. Besides, ICOMOS expresses its concern regarding the actual possibility of implementing such an activity due to the current situation, and on resulting possible damage to the equipment.

ICCROM recommends that the profile of the experts to be trained be well defined, preferably with background in architecture, architectural documentation, and surveying. Moreover, in buying the necessary equipment, ICCROM advises to ensure its compatibility with the software that will be used and with those used by other international bodies for similar documentation purposes.

Comments of the Secretariat:

Taking into consideration the difficulties of purchasing any equipment of that kind in Iraq and the urgent need to document the national heritage, the Centre supports in principle this request for the amount of US\$ 30,000 to purchase the equipment necessary for the photogrammetry training.

Following ICOMOS and ICCROM comments, the Centre confirms that, in establishing a contract for the implementation of this activity, it will make sure that the equipment and software used are compatible also with those used by other international bodies for similar purposes and that three estimates will be submitted before their purchase. Moreover, the Centre will make sure that the trainees' profile corresponds to that suggested by ICCROM.

DRAFT DECISION

Please refer to Decision 28 BUR 2.3, paragraph 3

REQUEST N° 5
Technical cooperation
Cultural Heritage
Arab States

State Party: SUDAN

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2003: all dues paid.

Name of Activity: Elaboration of the Management Plan for Jebel Barkal and the properties of the Napatan region.

Amount requested: US\$ 30,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this property/activity:
None

Background:

This property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2003 and includes five distinct properties, representing the most important and best-preserved elements of the Napatan culture (9th - 4th century BC). The property is under the responsibility of the central administration of the NCAM, in Khartoum. No permanent staff is available at the site. A proper Management Plan has not been prepared, although the Nomination File contained a summary of the main management issues and objectives.

Various deteriorating factors affect the property, such as wind erosion, uncontrolled visitation and looting. At least three of the five properties composing the property are also exposed to significant pressure from due to growing urban settlements, tourism, agriculture and are also exposed to the foreseeable environmental impact of a dam under construction on the 4th cataract of the Nile upstream from Jebel Barkal.

At a time when fast changes are occurring in Sudan, it is essential to develop an appropriate management framework to ensure the safeguarding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. However, Sudan lacks the experience to develop the necessary framework of legal, institutional and the technical tools, which would be required to manage a such a complex property.

Objectives:

The objective of this project is to assist the NCAM and other concerned Sudanese institutions in elaborating a Management Plan for the inscribed property, as requested by the World Heritage Committee in 2003. In doing so, some technicians from the NCAM could be trained in the conceptual and methodological framework of a Management system, which could be adopted for other sites of the country and serve as a model for the next property that Sudan wishes to nominate for World Heritage listing.

Project plan:

- Organization of a two-day stakeholders' consultative workshop parties on the objectives of the project and assess interests around the inscribed property;
- Elaboration of a draft Management Plan based on the results of the stakeholders' workshop and existing institutional and financial context (approx. one month);

- Organization of a second stakeholders' meeting (one day) to present the draft Management Plan, collect comments and reactions and integrate them into a semi-final Management Plan to be presented to National authorities for official endorsement.

This will be carried out by the NCAM, assisted by two international experts. The first international expert should be English-speaking and have a solid experience in developing Management Plans for cultural heritage properties and negotiation with governmental authorities. He/she will come twice to Sudan, at the start and at the end of the project, and will participate in and animate the two stakeholders' workshops.

The second international expert, possibly Arab-speaking, should be an experienced jurist who has worked in the field of heritage protection in the Arab world. He/she will come once to Sudan to evaluate the existing institutional framework and assist in defining the most appropriate legal and administrative set for the management of the World Heritage property.

The entire duration of the project, including preparation and collection of documentation by international experts and NCAM staff, will be three months.

Expected outcomes:

- A sensitized local community and representatives. The consultation mechanism developed through the project could be institutionalized and become a permanent 'Site Management Commission';
- A draft Management Plan resulting from open consultations with all concerned parties;
- Trained technicians within the NCAM in the process required to develop and implement a Management Plan

Budget:

Total activity budget (in US\$):		35,000
Contribution from the Sudanese Government: administrative and technical support to the project (in kind-equivalent in US\$):		5,000
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):		30,000
a) International experts		24,500
Travel (1,500 x 3 travels)	4,500	
Per diem (150 x 50 days)	7,500	
Fees (5,000 x 2 missions x 1 expert and 2,500 x 1 mission x 1 expert)	12,500	
b) Support to logistics and internal travel for organization of two stakeholders' meetings and technical and administrative assistance to international experts' team (lump sum)		6,000

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

The objectives of the request as well as the process proposed for the implementation of a management plan are appropriate and ICOMOS supports them.

As far as the budget is concerned, the following remarks can be made:

- The fees for the first international expert seem to be excessive. Although he/she will travel to Sudan twice for a short time, the budget suggests US\$ 5,000 of fees for each visit (which corresponds to around 20 days, while the total per diem is for 50 days).

- It might be questioned whether the 'technicians' (as indicated in the request) are the most appropriate people to be trained in management planning and implementation. ICOMOS wishes to know the real profession of the people who will be trained.

ICCROM supports the request and considers the proposal and budget as reasonable to establish a management framework for the site, elaborate a draft management plan, and use this site as a model to train selected technicians of the National Corporation of Antiquities and Museums of Sudan (NCAM) on the processes and methodologies used in devising management plans for World and National Heritage sites.

However, ICCROM suggests to keep the outcome of the two proposed stakeholders meetings as "draft" and "semi-final" management plans, respectively, within the timeframe allowed in the proposal, because a management plan would need at least a year to ensure that all management aspects are covered.

Moreover, ICCROM underlines the need to involve an Arabic-speaking expert to help the NCAM to improve its institutional and legal capacities for the protection of this site. His/her expertise can be used since the preparations and implementation of the first stakeholders meeting.

ICCROM also advises to make a budget re-distribution to increase the number of days for the international expert missions, needed to better understand the administrative context in Sudan and to have a close contact with relevant interest groups in advance of stakeholders meetings. In addition, taking into consideration that only one day is foreseen for the second stakeholders meeting, ICCROM encourages to make sure to collect in advance the comments of all parties to the draft management plans.

ICCROM finally underlines that, preferably, the profile of the proposed international expert(s) should also include experience in the Arab Region on WH topic(s); and, in addition to expertise in cultural heritage conservation, the profile should include capacity in understanding possible natural qualities of this site.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Centre supports this request for the amount of US\$ 30,000.

Upon inscription on the World Heritage List, in July 2003, the World Heritage Committee recommended to the State Party to work together with the World Heritage Centre to strengthen the management of the property. The Centre organized a mission in February 2004, which helped identifying the main management issues for the World Heritage property, as well as defining the structure and scope of action for the finalization of a Management Plan.

The first international expert, as indicated in the budget breakdown, will travel twice to Sudan for a total period of 50 days, in order to coordinate the work to finalize the management plan and organize and conduct the two stakeholders workshops. The Centre, therefore, believes that the fees for the expert are justified.

Taking into account ICOMOS advice, the Centre suggests that the technicians be chosen among the staff of the NCAM, who will be responsible for developing and implementing the Management Plan.

Following ICCROM comments, and if the request is approved, the Centre will make sure that the expert(s) have experience in the Arab Region on WH topics and capacity to understand natural aspects, as well, and that at least one of the experts is Arab-speaker. Moreover, the Centre will discuss with the State Party a revision of the budget to allow the expert(s) to make longer missions to Sudan, so as to understand better the context and effectively organize the stakeholder meetings, making sure to collect all their comments.

DRAFT DECISION

Please refer to Draft Decision 28 BUR 2.3, paragraph 3

SECTION III

TRAINING

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Cultural and Mixed Properties

N°	Region	State Party - Name of activity	Amount requested (US\$)	Amount recommended for approval (US\$)
7	Latin America	Brazil – XIII Specialization Course on the Conservation of Monuments and Rehabilitation of Historical Cities - XIII CECRE	50,000	25,000
8	Global	Argentina – Ninth International Seminar of Forum UNESCO - University and Heritage: 'Heritage and Management-Centre and Periphery'	27,620	27,620
<i>Requests for the Committee for recommendation by the Bureau (cf details of the requests in WHC-04/28.COM/10A p. 10 to 18)</i>				
	Africa	Ghana – Workshop on History, Slavery, Religion, Culture in Ghana linked with conservation and protection of the World Heritage	35,000	35,000
	Arab States	Sudan – Conservation of the mural paintings of Jebel Barkal and the properties of the Napatan region	38,900	38,900
	Africa	Botswana – International Training Workshop for decision-makers on the World Heritage from Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands	48,645	48,645

Funds available as at 11 May 2004 for approval: US\$ 54,229 for cultural heritage and US\$ 84,880 for natural heritage.

Total amount of requests submitted for approval by the Bureau and the Committee: US\$ 175,165

Comments of the Secretariat: Insufficient funds. Most of the requests must be submitted again in 2005 for consideration for approval, in accordance with normal procedures. Given the current situation of the Fund, the Centre advises against using 2005 budget to approve these requests at the 28th Session of the World Heritage Committee as it was done with regard to projects submitted last biennium. Details of individual requests attached.

DRAFT DECISION

28 BUR 2.4

The World Heritage Bureau,

1. Recommends to the Committee that the following requests:

- *Ghana: Workshop on History, Slavery, Religion, Culture in Ghana linked with conservation and protection of the World Heritage*
- *Sudan: Conservation of the mural paintings of Jebel Barkal and the properties of the Napatan region*
- *Botswana: International Training Workshop for decision-makers on the World Heritage from Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands*

be submitted again in 2005 for decision by the Committee, in accordance with the Operational Guidelines in force at that time, provided the relevant States Parties have paid their dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2004.

REQUEST N° 7
Training
Cultural Heritage
Latin America

State Party: BRAZIL

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2003: all dues paid

Name of Activity: 13th Specialization Course on the Conservation of Monuments and Rehabilitation of Historical Cities - XIII CECRE

Amount requested: US\$ 50,000

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this property/activity:

- Training Assistance for CECRE (1996), US\$ 65,000
- Training Assistance for CECRE (1997), US\$ 50,000
- Training Assistance for CECRE (1998), US\$ 50,000
- Training Assistance for CECRE (2000), US\$ 14,649
- Training Assistance for CECRE (2002), US\$ 50,000

Background:

The Regional Courses on the Conservation of Monuments and the Rehabilitations of Historical Cities (CECRE), in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, are organized every two years at the Federal University of Bahia in close collaboration with the Brazilian Institute for Cultural Heritage (IPHAN) and the UNDP/UNESCO in Lima. The CECRE course is considered outstanding in its field, due to the fact that is the only post-graduate restoration course in Latin America and the Caribbean that has achieved continuity. So far, there have been twelve CECRE courses, the last nine in Salvador of Bahia, being a part of Federal University of Bahia's regular education programme.

Data referring to the professional life of ex-students, brought up during the last CECRE's Evaluation Workshop, showed that about 44% of the restoration projects developed during the several editions of the course were integrally or partially completed, and 40% were used as a support for further studies and actions on preservation of the monuments or historic sites.

The CECRE courses must continue because they have proven to be an effective means of educating decision-makers in the field of conservation of immovable properties (both World Heritage Properties and other sites) in the State Parties concerned.

Objectives:

- Training of architects, engineers and town planners in conservation and restoration of historical monuments and properties;
- The application of the acquired knowledge on a specific study-project for execution by one of the cooperating national institutions or, in the case of international students, by an institution in their home country;
- The creation of a network for exchange of information and experiences between specialists from Brazil, Latin America and Portuguese speaking Africa.

Project plan:

The 13th edition of this Training Course will be conducted from June to December 2004.

2) The benefits to World heritage are very tenuous. It is not enough simply to hold a six-month course in a World Heritage city: for example, no evidence is shown that participants working with World Heritage properties are given special preference.

Given the above analysis, and in the context of diminished funds and increasing competition for training activities much more directly providing benefits for World Heritage properties and managers, ICCROM would suggest that the Committee make US\$25,000. (50% of the amount requested) available to the CECRE course, on the condition that information concerning funding from IPHAN and UFBA be provided, and upon completion of promised publications for the last two CECRE courses and the June 2002 seminar. It is recalled that the promised publications were syntheses of the courses, describing the experience and lessons learned.

Comments of the Secretariat:

As indicated in its letter dated 8 April 2004 to the Permanent Delegation of Brazil, the Centre would support this activity for the amount of US\$ 25,000 as suggested by ICCROM, provided support from the World Heritage Fund benefits World Heritage in a more direct way. It is suggested that the financial means provided from the World Heritage Fund to CECRE should be allocated to facilitate participation of World Heritage site managers in the course. Furthermore, the dependence on the limited funds of UNESCO cannot be maintained and therefore it is strongly suggested that CECRE seeks a gradual increase in funding from other sources, thereby decreasing its dependence on UNESCO funds.

DRAFT DECISION

28 BUR 2.5

- Brazil: Specialization Course on the Conservation of Monuments and Rehabilitation of Historical Cities - XIII CECRE

The World Heritage Bureau,

1. *Recommends that CECRE seeks a gradual increase in funding from other sources, thereby decreasing its dependence on UNESCO fund;*
2. *Decides to approve this training assistance request for cultural heritage for US\$ 25,000 for funding in 2004 under the condition of that the promised publications for the last two CECRE courses, and the June 2002 seminar, be provided as well as details on the contribution given by IPHAN and/or UFBA.*

OR

2. *Decides not to approve this training assistance request for cultural heritage for US\$ 25,000 for funding in 2004.*

REQUEST N° 8

Training

Mixed Heritage

Global

State Party: ARGENTINA

Status of dues to the World Heritage Fund as at 31 December 2003: all dues paid

Name of Activity: Ninth International Seminar of Forum UNESCO – University and Heritage on 'Heritage Management – Centre and Periphery'

Amount requested: US\$ 27,620

Previous contributions from the World Heritage Fund for this property/activity:
None

Background:

The City of Buenos Aires is one of the great capitals of the world, both for the size of its population and its cultural heritage. At the same time, this city is an exponent and a reflection of the development of the Argentine provinces. Its geographical location and the institutional role it plays has made it the melting pot of the various schools of thought, expressions of styles and the arts and business undertakings. The massive waves of immigration are reflected in the city's music, language and forms of habitation. Buenos Aires has felt the throb of political events, cultural fashions and international events. It is precisely this close relationship with and sensitivity towards what is 'in' that is outlining its own personal profile in literature, painting and its foremost forms expression as a city, that its, its architecture and urban design.

For these reasons Buenos Aires was chosen to host the Ninth International Seminar of Forum UNESCO – University and Heritage, to be held from 11 to 15 October 2004.

Objectives:

- Deepening the education, information and circulation of World Heritage management and heritage management generally in universities, as a transmitter of knowledge.
- Training teachers and government officers with regard to Heritage Management issues.
- Mobilizing students with respect to significant World Heritage themes.

Project plan:

Participants:

- Universities among the 400 universities network of Forum UNESCO – University and Heritage
- University of Buenos Aires, School of Architecture, Design and Urban Planning, Host of the Seminar
- National Culture Centre
- City of Buenos Aires Culture Centre
- Polytechnic University of Valencia. Spain
- National Fine Arts Academy (Argentina)
- CICOP (Centro Internacional para la Conservación del Patrimonio)
- ICOMOS, IUCN, ICCROM
- UNESCO World Heritage Centre (Promotion, Publications and Education Unit)

The lectures and discussion workshops on the thematic areas (see paragraph below) will be complemented by some field work, visiting the historical centre of Buenos Aires and Paraná River Delta and by thematic exhibitions in various locations throughout the city.

Expected outcomes:

To provide material for a World Heritage papers series publication referring to five thematic areas, viz.:

1. Heritage, Centre and Periphery (theoretical framework, conceptions, access to and use of Heritage, a diversity of heritage).
2. Heritage as a factor for cultural, economic and social development (tourism and sustainable development, activities and Heritage, heritage as an opportunity for development; use of its symbolic value).
3. Management models (management policies and strategies, integrated management, the players / trans-disciplinary action, the legal framework / Active and passive management instruments / Applied legislation / Incentives / Direct State action)
4. Community and Heritage (heritage identification, interpretation and appreciation, cultural diversity, education, the role of universities, circulation, the media / opinion makers)
5. Heritage, City and Territory (Cultural landscapes, natural heritage, cultural routes and itineraries, urban and rural cities and towns of heritage value, historical centres and quarters, treatment of non-central heritage areas, archaeological sites, historical gardens, public spaces).

Budget:

Total activity budget (in US\$):		48,944
Contribution from National Culture Centre (in US\$)		21,324
Amount requested from the World Heritage Fund (in US\$):		27,620
1. Travel and accommodation of international speakers selected by the Scientific Committee		11,500
- per diem for 5 participants for 4 days (5 x 4 x US\$ 300)	6,000	
- internal transportation and terminal fares for 5 participants (car hire)	3,300	
- field trip	2,000	
- fuel	200	
2. Venue		1,500
3. Registration System		520
3 terminals - 1 laser printer and supplies		
4. Interpretation (English-French-Spanish)		5,000
- 4 interpreters for 5 days (4 x 5 x US\$ 250)		
5. Administrative support		3,500
6. Mailings		1,400
- to Correo Argentino - City of and Greater Buenos Aires	337	
- to Correo Argentino - Provinces	338	
- to Correo Argentino - International	725	
7. Printing		1,200
- Posters (1,000 x US\$ 12)		
8. Publication of the proceedings of the seminar		3,000

Comments of the Advisory Bodies:

ICCROM is not in favour of supporting this request, for the following reasons:

1. This does not qualify as a training request but rather as a technical cooperation request, using the Committee's criteria.
2. Funds for Forum UNESCO – University and Heritage activities have not been previously allocated by the Committee. ICCROM believes that given the relative low levels of available WH Fund budget for training activities directly related to the Committee's work, the Committee would need to consider whether in principle they would wish to support the activities of another UNESCO programme in preference to their own activities.
3. The programme is not about World Heritage conservation or themes, or designed for those from WH sites, and thus there are no appreciable WH benefits linked to this activity.
4. Technically, the funds requested appear primarily intended to support local costs instead of participation costs, generally the focus of Committee support in such requests. Also there are many unexplained sums (e.g., field trip - \$2,000.; personnel - \$3,500.) whose nature should be clarified.
5. Little information is presented about participants and presenters. Nothing is claimed about their link to World Heritage.
6. Effectiveness of the seminar cannot be judged as this activity is still in the early planning stages.

ICOMOS strongly supports the request by Argentina for funds to run a 9th International Seminar of Forum Unesco on 'Heritage Management - Centre and Periphery'. The theme is apposite and the suggested thematic structure for the conference should produce a useful outcome.

In order for this meeting to allow the widest participation from around the world, it is to be hoped that the fees for this conference can be structured at attainable level or perhaps at differential levels.

Comments of the Secretariat:

The Centre supports this activity for the requested amount of US\$ 27,620 and sees it as an important way of improving heritage knowledge through the exploration of the theme of Centre and Periphery which concerns many World Heritage Cities and natural sites. This activity will also provide substance to the Centre and promote the Convention among academics, students and heritage professionals, not only in the Latin American and Caribbean Region, but also at a global level.

Draft Decision 28 BUR 2.6

Argentina: Ninth International Seminar of Forum UNESCO - University and Heritage: 'Heritage and Management-Centre and Periphery'

The World Heritage Bureau,

1. *Decides to approve / not to approve this training assistance request for mixed heritage for US\$ 27,620 for funding in 2004.*