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# World Heritage

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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC  
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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF  
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

World Heritage Committee

Thirty-fifth session

Paris, UNESCO Headquarters

19-29 June 2011

**Item 10 of the Provisional Agenda: Periodic Reports**

**INF10C. Regional Programme for Arab States**

## SUMMARY

As a follow-up to the Second cycle of Periodic Reporting and in the framework of the Regional programme for the Arab States, this document presents , the sub-regional Action Plans elaborated by the Focal Points of Arab States Parties at the Regional meeting held in Rabat (Morocco) from 7-9 March 2011. The following tables show the actions and related activities set out to address the needs expressed in Section I (Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*) and Section II (World Heritage properties) of the Periodic Reporting Questionnaire presented to the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010).

## I. INTRODUCTION

### **Objectives and challenges in the elaboration of the Regional Programme**

The Arab region was the first to engage in the demanding exercise of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting; it was also the first to attempt building on this new basis a Regional Programme for the coming years (2011-2016). The present document reflects the substantial work done by the Arab States in the follow-up of the Periodic Reporting exercise which constitutes an essential step in the progress towards the Regional Programme for effective implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*. Indeed during this new exercise, the Arab States have demonstrated active participation in addressing, in a comprehensive manner, issues highlighted by the analysis of Periodic Reporting results.

The following Action Plans provide a rich source of proposals identified by the States Parties to implement at the sub-regional and regional levels. The current challenge is to implement the proposed activities and the objective is to group and organize them into a realistic timetable given the budgetary constraints, in order to ensure an optimal implementation.

### **Presentation of the methodology**

In accordance with the sub-regional division requested by the States Parties for the analysis of the Questionnaire, the participants were divided into three working groups during the Rabat meeting (Morocco, 7-9 mars 2011) in order to elaborate the Regional Programme, as follows:

- 1) The Gulf sub-region (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen);
- 2) The Maghreb sub-region (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia – however Libya has not participated in the Periodic Reporting exercise);
- 3) The Middle-East sub-region (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan and Syria).

Participants to the meeting:

- Focal points from Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen;
- Experts in natural heritage from Bahrain, Jordan, Morocco, Mauritania, Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen;
- Representatives of the World Heritage Centre, UNESCO field offices in the region and Advisory Bodies, as well as the Chairperson of the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee and an observer from Saudi Arabia.

It is to be noted that, although all national Focal Points could not attend the Rabat meeting, all of them were provided with the working documents and all had the opportunity to review the draft Action Plans in the weeks following the meeting.

The following tables have been filled according to the needs expressed in the Periodic Report using the same structure, in order to ensure that all issues of the Questionnaire are addressed:

- Part I: Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*;
- Part II: Protection, management and monitoring of World Heritage properties.

## II. PART I: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

### a) Summary of the proposed actions

#### **INVENTORIES/LISTS/REGISTERS FOR CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

The results of the Periodic Report indicate that the preparation of inventories is a key issue and the basis for any further development of policies and strategies for protection and conservation.

Main actions proposed:

- Harmonize inventories using a common methodology;
- Give consideration to under-represented categories of heritage.

#### **TENTATIVE LISTS**

The results of the Periodic Report indicate a notable advance in preparing and updating Tentative Lists.

Main actions proposed:

- Identify gaps in Tentative Lists ;
- Harmonize Tentative Lists for a balanced representation.

#### **NOMINATIONS**

Since the first cycle, from 1993 to 2008, there have been 29 new nominations and 22 properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, including three natural sites (one was deleted from the List in 2007). Since 2008, nine new nominations were submitted and a cultural site has been inscribed in Saudi Arabia in 2010.

Main actions proposed:

- Improve national expertise for drafting nominations;
- Encourage the development of under-represented heritage nominations.

#### **GENERAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

The results of the Periodic Report show that in many cases the existing legal framework does not necessarily meet the present-day requirements, not only in the enforcement of legal regulations, but also the coordination between various legal instruments as well as the development of national strategies in conservation. Nevertheless, several States Parties have reported on initiatives in the improvement of legislation.

Main actions proposed:

- Analyze gaps in existing legislations with a view to enhancing them;

- Consider designating a focal point for legal affairs to be part of the national committee for World Heritage;
- Ensure sufficient information on international conventions relating to heritage and encourage their ratification;
- Elaborate a strategy for the integration of World Heritage into larger-scale planning and raise awareness among decision-makers and stakeholders;
- Involve communities in processes relating to World Heritage in order to ensure its sustainable preservation and use.

#### **STATUS OF SERVICES FOR PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND PRESENTATION**

The results of the Periodic Report indicate that collaboration between the different stakeholders concerned about heritage protection and management remains an issue that requires attention and finally that capacity building in conservation needs to be strengthened.

Main actions proposed:

- Designate a focal point for natural World Heritage;
- Establish of national committees for World Heritage that would cooperate at a national and international level for the follow-up of the Periodic Reporting and the effective implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in the States Parties, developing awareness raising activities and strategies for capacity building activities.

#### **SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH**

The results of the Periodic Report indicate that the region lacks of specific and comprehensive research programmes on World Heritage.

Main actions proposed:

- Set up research strategy and programmes;
- Establish/strengthen networks of professionals in the field of heritage both at the academic and technical levels;
- Strengthen cooperation and information sharing with universities, research institutions and category 2 centres (notably the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage in Bahrain, ARC-WH).

#### **FINANCIAL STATUS AND HUMAN RESOURCES**

The results of the Periodic Report indicate that there is an increasing interest in diversifying financial sources for funding heritage conservation, considering that the budgets are generally not sufficient compared to the needs.

The question of human resources is a constant problem. It is noted that some of the senior conservation experts have retired and that there is now a new generation that is gaining experience and gives hope for the future.

Main actions proposed:

- Elaborate strategies to ensure funding for Arab World Heritage properties (either through financial support workshops, creation of a fundraising unit at

the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage in Bahrain, or the creation of an Arab Fund for World Heritage);

## **TRAINING**

The results of the Periodic Report reveal new initiatives, such as ICCROM's Athar programme, which has targeted managers in all Arab States, and can be considered a useful reference for sub-regional and national programmes as well.

Main actions proposed:

- Set up an updated programme of training activities, notably in link with the ICCROM Athar Programme and the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), including training for site managers.

## **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

The results of the Periodic Report underline that there is a lot of potential, whether in professional exchange of experiences or training programmes.

Main actions proposed:

- Coordinate, as from the inventory exercise, in order to develop nominations for transboundary sites;
- Establish/strengthen regional and international networks of professionals;
- Initiate a cooperation mechanism between international partners.

## **EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND AWARENESS BUILDING**

The results of the Periodic Report show that there is an increasing awareness of the need to inform and involve the local authorities and the local communities in the conservation management and maintenance processes of World Heritage properties. This awareness is reflected particularly at the site-management level, where the management are more closely in contact with the people.

Main actions proposed:

- Establish a strategy to raise the profile of World Heritage
- Implement information and awareness raising campaigns for decision-makers, stakeholders and the general public
- Encourage the media to promote World Heritage
- Promote the integration of World Heritage in educational programmes

## **Current activities:**

1. The World Heritage Centre followed the recommendation of the Rabat meeting relating to the balanced representation of experts in the fields of cultural and natural heritage and officially requested States Parties to designate, in addition to the current focal points who are experts in culture, focal points for natural heritage. So far, a focal point for nature has been officially designated in Egypt, Syria, Sudan and Yemen.

2. Relating to the establishment, in each State Party, of a national entity (whether a national unit or a national committee) specifically in charge of coordinating the various aspects of the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* at national level and as counterpart to the World Heritage Centre, the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee published a statement on the World Heritage Centre web site, inviting States Parties to establish their national committees for World Heritage and highlighting the focus on natural heritage in the Region.

3. The Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) in Manama (Kingdom of Bahrain), a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, will shortly become operational.. Considered as a major benefit for the Arab region, it includes providing information about the *World Heritage Convention*, training on its application and bringing together professionals from all the Arab States to cooperate in the fields relating to heritage conservation and management. Such a structure would also reinforce the cooperation with international organizations, with other States Parties outside the Arab Region, which might be interested in exchanging experience and information, and finally with other similar regional centres elsewhere in the world, thus creating a network for the benefit of all.

#### **b) Action Plans**

The following tables present the action plans developed during the Regional meeting in Rabat (7-9 March 2011) by the Gulf, Maghreb and Middle East sub-regions successively.

(WH= World Heritage Centre; AB= Advisory Bodies; SP= States Parties; SM= Site Managers)

GULF / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved					Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM		
<b>I - GENERAL FRAMEWORK</b>						
<b>1. Establish National Committees for World Heritage to coordinate the implementation of the <i>Convention</i> in each State Party including the follow-up to the Periodic Reporting</b>						
1.1 Request the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee to send an official letter to the concerned authorities in the sub-region encouraging the creation of such national committees	X		X			World Heritage Centre
1.2 Organize a meeting with the participation of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies (possibly with representatives of Jordan and Tunisia) to develop guidelines regarding the composition and mandate of the national committees	X	X	X			States Parties
<b>2. Nominate a national focal point for natural World Heritage for each State Party</b>						
2.1 Write to each State Party to request the designation of a national focal point for natural World Heritage	X		X			World Heritage Centre
<b>II - INVENTORIES/LISTS/REGISTERS FOR CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE</b>						
<b>1. Establish, revise or modernize national inventories</b>						
1.1 Establish benchmarks to evaluate the inventory process, requesting assistance, if needed, of UNESCO	X	X	X			States Parties
1.2 Prepare a document presenting the inventory system process			X	X		States Parties
1.3 Request, if needed, from UNESCO the relevant expertise assistance	X	X	X			States Parties
<b>III - TENTATIVE LIST</b>						
<b>1. Identify several types of cultural and natural properties (prehistoric, modern, industrial and marine heritage, cultural landscapes, transboundary sites, etc) as well as underrepresented categories of heritage</b>						
1.1 Request, if needed, the organization of a training workshop on Tentative Lists (concept, form, procedures, etc.)	X	X	X			National Committees
1.2 Organize a sub-regional workshop to identify the different types of heritage and the underrepresented categories referring to the thematic studies done by the Advisory Bodies and with a view to get a balanced representation of nature and culture	X	X	X			ARC-WH
1.3 Request assistance from the World Heritage Centre and/or the ARC-WH for the drafting or updating of the Tentative Lists	X	X	X			National Committees
<b>IV - NOMINATIONS</b>						
<b>1. Improve the nomination files</b>						
1.1 Prepare a list of model nominations	X	X				World Heritage Centre
1.2 Request, if needed, a training workshop on Nomination File preparation (concept, form, procedures, etc.) and make sure that this covers both cultural and natural heritage	X	X	X	X		States Parties

GULF / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
1.3 Organize a sub-regional workshop bringing together representatives of the National Committees for World Heritage, the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and IUCN to present the best practices, notably in terms of involvement of local communities in the process	X	X	X	X	ARC-WH
1.4 Involve wider stakeholder participation to develop nomination files	X	X	X		States Parties
1.5 Seek the help of the Arab League Environmental Commission to help on the elaboration of serial and/or transboundary nominations			X		States Parties
<b>V - GENERAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT</b>					
<b>V.1 Legal framework</b>					
<b>1. Encourage States Parties to harmonize their national legislations in order to ensure that the provisions of the World Heritage are met</b>					
1.1 Form a legal team with expertise in cultural legislation to conduct gap analysis of current laws in order to define areas of need and weaknesses to be addressed	X	X	X		States Parties
1.2 Conduct briefing sessions with the legal drafting individuals/bodies in order to discuss approaches and legal tools to address gaps	X	X	X		National Committees
1.3 Nominate a focal point on legal issues to be part of the National Committees	X		X		States Parties
1.4 Convene cultural and natural focal points and associate legal experts from countries with updated laws to share experiences	X		X		ARC-WH
1.5 Set a structure for convening the focal points on legal issues, similar to the one for the World Heritage focal points	X		X		States Parties
1.6 Raise the issue at the 20 <sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Arab States on Cultural heritage and antiquities and get consensus regarding the need to have focal points for legal issues			X		States Parties
<b>V.2 Integration of Conventions</b>					
<b>1. Encourage the ratification of all heritage-linked international conventions</b>					
1.1 Request UNESCO to present the conventions, including the legal implications of their ratification	X		X		States Parties
1.2 Organize a workshop/meeting exclusively for natural heritage focal points on World Heritage in relation to the other Conventions	X	X	X		World Heritage Centre
<b>V.3 Communities</b>					
<b>1. Ensure a systematic approach to public and local involvement in heritage management and preservation</b>					
1.1 Organize a workshop on best practices of public and local involvement. Each State Party should also present its relevant experience.	X	X	X	X	World Heritage Centre
1.2 Establish criteria (out of the above workshop) for achieving public and local involvement and communicate those to the planning bodies and focal points of World Heritage properties	X	X	X	X	National Committees
1.3 Establish clear approaches and strategies for public involvement by a dedicated task force	X	X	X	X	National Committees



GULF / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>2. Encourage broad recognition of the importance of sustainable use of World Heritage, including tourism, for the economic and social benefit of local and national communities</b>					
2.1 Carry out, under related activities, an awareness campaign at the level of the concerned ministries/ authorities/ stakeholders to foster broader recognition of the importance of the sustainable use of World Heritage including tourism			X	X	National Committees
<b>V.4 Larger-scale planning</b>					
<b>1. Integrate heritage issues in general development policies and decision-making processes (e.g. national development policies and plans, negotiations with international and regional financial institutions, tourism development strategies and national biodiversity strategies)</b>					
1.1 Establish a task force for integrating heritage issues in general development policies and plans			X		National Committees
1.2 Draft strategies for achieving the abovementioned goals			X		National Committees
<b>VI - STATUS OF SERVICES FOR PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND PRESENTATION</b>					
<b>1. Encourage networking between natural heritage experts</b>					
1.1 Organize a regional meeting of natural heritage focal points and experts	X	X	X	X	World Heritage Centre
<b>2. Develop sub-regional strategies and programmes for capacity building in the conservation, administration and management of heritage</b>					
2.1 Identify the institutions in the sub-region which can propose capacity building programmes		X	X		States Parties
2.2 Cooperate to help defining a strategy for each State Party and/or a common strategy	X	X	X	X	National Committees
<b>3. Enhance exchanges between site managers on best practices including the development of thematic site networks and site twinning</b>					
3.1 Link the site managers of the States Parties with the managers of properties elsewhere in the world presenting similar characteristics which can lead to a kind of twinning	X	X	X	X	National Committees
3.2 Collect a series of best practices in terms of protection, conservation and preservation, in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre, ARC-WH and the Advisory Bodies	X	X	X	X	National Committees
<b>4. Encourage States Parties to link the national site managers via the national committees</b>					
4.1 Build the network of site managers and facilitate networking	X	X	X	X	States Parties
<b>VII - SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH</b>					
<b>1. Establish an award for best research/study</b>					
1.1 Formulate and draft TOR for an Arab heritage award	X	X	X		National Committees

GULF / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>2. Setup monitoring and risk assessment systems at World Heritage sites with relevant university departments</b>					
2.1 Organize meetings with the authorities and the concerned universities/faculties to discuss, agree and develop partnership agreements			X		National Committees
<b>2. Reinforcement of the cooperation in the field of scientific research related to World Heritage with the ICOMOS Scientific Committees</b>					
3.1 Agree on a common research programme to be conducted with the scientific committees of ICOMOS (including thematic studies in the Arab region for potential transboundary nomination files)	X	X	X	X	States Parties
<b>3. Encourage the development of a World Heritage programme to be hosted by one the universities of the sub-region and if needed in cooperation with existing similar programmes in other universities in the world</b>					
4.1 Seek partnership agreements with universities to develop World Heritage programmes	X	X	X		National Committees
<b>5. Encourage youth participation in the above-mentioned activities</b>					
5.1 Invite national authorities to actively engage youth in these activities	X		X		National Committees
<b>VIII - FINANCIAL STATUS AND HUMAN RESOURCES</b>					
<b>1. Encourage long-term stewardship to demonstrate social, environmental and corporate responsibility towards World Heritage sites</b>					
1.1 Encourage national authorities to take action accordingly			X		National Committees
<b>2. Foster the activities of the fundraising unit at the ARC-WH which should seek financial support from the existing funding bodies</b>					
2.1 Develop a fund-raising unit at ARC-WH and set up a steering committee to develop transparent TOR for fund donation to assist World Heritage sites in the Arabian Peninsula	X		X		ARC-WH
<b>IX - TRAINING</b>					
<b>1. Implement training activities within the sub-regions in the framework of the Global Capacity Building Strategy</b>					
1.1 Elaborate a set of training activities that addresses the needs of the various regions and sub-regions.	X	X	X	X	Advisory Bodies
1.2 Initiate this process and pursue to the update of the training programme (set of workshops etc...)	X	X	X	X	National Committees
1.3 Make use of the toolkits for site managers already developed by ICCROM	X	X	X	X	States Parties
<b>X - INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</b>					
<b>1. Facilitate inter-Arab cooperation in liaison with other partner organizations (AMU, GCC, ISESCO, ALECSO) and establish a network of professionals</b>					

GULF / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
1.1 Initiate a meeting between all the relevant Arab bodies to identify the best way of coordinating between the different organizations, national and regional governmental bodies	X	X	X		ARC-WH
<b>2. Explore the role of non-governmental and community based organizations in the conservation and management of heritage, identify best practices and share these within the region</b>					
2.1 Map the existing organizations in the field and cluster them by theme and expertise	X	X	X		National Committees
2.2 Meet with all these bodies in order to assess the best way to enhance and support them for future activities to be determined			X		National Committees
<b>3. Encourage multilateral, not only bilateral cooperation</b>					
3.1 Programme exchanges to gauge interest and possibilities of cooperation			X		States Parties
3.2 Contact representatives of the State Party at international organizations, embassies, foreign affairs ministry's (UNESCO, ICOMOS etc...) to seek cooperation possibilities			X		National Committees
3.3 Participate in conferences in order to facilitate networking possibilities			X	X	National Committees
<b>4. Encourage creation of transnational sites as a tool of international cooperation</b>					
4.1 During the inventory exercise, coordinate with the relevant States Parties to consider transnational sites as possible joint nominations	X	X	X		States Parties
<b>XI - EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND AWARENESS BUILDING</b>					
<b>1. Raise the profile of World Heritage and be active proponents of the World Heritage Convention</b>					
1.1 Develop jointly a strategy in partnership with a Public Relation company that can be adapted to each country depending on means and interest			X		National Committees
<b>2. Implement campaigns on World Heritage at national level</b>					
2.1 Implement with the Public Relation company the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold audiences to the parliaments, ministries &amp; relevant government bodies, educational centres (universities, institutes, vocational centres, schools)</li> <li>• Organize press conferences, seminars, workshops, etc.</li> <li>• Run TV spots like the episodes of Patrimonto</li> <li>• Organize exhibitions, lectures, etc.</li> </ul>			X		National Committees
2.2 Approach existing women's organizations as potential awareness raising and dissemination of information			X		National Committees
<b>3. Encourage the Ministries of Education to incorporate the World Heritage in Young Hands Programme in the school curricula and create or reactivate the Associated Schools Project network in States Parties</b>					
3.1 Request the World Heritage Centre to assist in implementing World Heritage in Young Hands, by providing the educational materials and supporting activities	X		X		National Committee

GULF / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
3.2 Meet with educational authorities and introduce the aims and objectives of the World Heritage in Young Hands programme			X		National Committee
<b>4. Encourage media to promote World Heritage</b>					
4.1 Prepare with the authorities concerned a national media programme for World Heritage by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contacting media representatives</li> <li>• Preparing site visits</li> <li>• Providing materials (brochures, videos, etc.) that can be used for media purposes</li> <li>• Contacting Universities/Faculties of Media and communications and/or fine arts to create special programmes/projects to enhance World Heritage as potential thesis or university graduation project. Have the proposals reviewed and implemented by the relevant authority</li> </ul>			X	X	National Committees

MAGHREB / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>I - GENERAL FRAMEWORK</b>					
<b>1. Reinforce the constitutional coordination on World Heritage on a national and sub-regional level</b>					
1.1 Establish entities within the administrations in charge of cultural and natural heritage			X		States Parties
1.2 Establish national focal structures for World Heritage in the image of the Tunisian experience			X		States Parties
1.3 Develop a sub-regional partnership between the entities			X		National Focal Structures
<b>2. Reinforce national coordination in Maghreb between respective administrations in charge of natural and cultural heritage</b>					
2.1 Request the designation of a focal point for the natural World Heritage	X		X		World Heritage Centre
<b>II - INVENTORIES/LISTS/REGISTERS FOR CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE</b>					
<b>1. Analyze current inventory systems and propose a harmonization on a sub-regional level (with particular attention given to natural and mixed sites, cultural landscapes and transboundary sites)</b>					
1.1 Identify the national inventory systems: high-level analysis and proposals		X	X	X	States Parties
1.2 Develop and validate a methodology for the harmonization of inventory systems in Maghreb		X	X	X	States Parties
<b>III - TENTATIVE LIST</b>					
<b>1. Analyze current Tentative Lists and propose a harmonization on the sub-regional level (with particular attention given to natural and mixed sites, cultural landscapes and transboundary sites)</b>					
1.1 Develop and validate a methodology for harmonization of Tentative Lists in the Maghreb, ensuring the involvement of local communities	X	X	X	X	National Focal Structures
1.2 Include more stakeholders in the process of revising Tentative Lists			X		States Parties
<b>IV - NOMINATIONS</b>					
<b>1. Develop nominations for natural sites</b>					
1.1 Encourage States Parties to develop nominations for natural sites involving more stakeholders	X	X	X		National Focal Structures
<b>V - GENERAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT</b>					
<b>V.1 Legal framework</b>					
<b>1. Strengthen the national legal protection for World Heritage properties</b>					
1.1 Update and adapt national legislation to the 1972 <i>Convention</i> , including the integration of the various categories of World Heritage		X	X		States Parties
<b>2. Strengthen legislation on procedures for processing (potential acquisition) heritage under private ownership</b>					

MAGHREB / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
2.1 Prepare a project document for the organization of an international seminar on the procedures for handling heritage under private ownership	X	X	X		States Parties
2.2 Organize the seminar	X	X	X	X	States Parties
2.3 Present post seminar recommendations to the attention of decision-makers in the States Parties	X	X	X		National Focal Structures
<b>V.2 Integration of Conventions</b>					
<b>1. Take into account the various international conventions in the management of World Heritage properties</b>					
1.1 Examine all possible synergies between various international conventions relating to heritage	X	X	X		States Parties
<b>2. Encourage the ratification of all international conventions relating to heritage</b>					
2.1 Develop advocacy for decision-makers and stakeholders in view of ratification, establishing synergies and implementing various international conventions	X	X	X		States Parties
<b>V.3 Communities</b>					
<b>1. Involve local communities in the management of World Heritage sites</b>					
1.1 Organize awareness workshops for local communities	X	X	X	X	National Focal Structures
1.2 Encourage management models likely to generate revenue to ensure preservation of sites while benefiting local communities through the development of income-generating activities (IGA)	X	X	X	X	States Parties
<b>V.4 Larger-scale planning</b>					
<b>1. Encourage setting up planning tools</b>					
1.1 Conduct studies/benchmark planning tools tailored to the Maghreb and develop advocacy for decision-makers	X	X	X	X	National Focal Structures
<b>VI - STATUS OF SERVICES FOR PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND PRESENTATION</b>					
<b>1. Develop awareness raising tools for decision-makers</b>					
1.1 Organize national workshops to raise awareness on World Heritage for decision-makers of the various ministries and parliament commissions	X	X	X	X	National Focal Structures
<b>2. Encourage the development of firms specializing in the areas of heritage</b>					
2.1 Formulate guidelines for the establishment of an institutional and legal framework to promote the creation of small and medium sized enterprises (SME) that specialize in the areas of heritage	X	X	X	X	National Focal Structures
<b>3. Strengthen the network of focal points for natural heritage</b>					
3.1 Organize a regional meeting with all focal points for natural heritage (introduction to the <i>Convention</i> , update on Periodic Reporting, national representation, revision of action plan)	X	X	X		World Heritage Centre

MAGHREB / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>VII - SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH</b>					
<b>1. Develop a framework for cooperation between heritage professionals in Maghreb</b>					
1.1 Establish a network of World Heritage professionals in Maghreb			X	X	States Parties
<b>2. Encourage a research strategy and provide financial support for research projects in the field of World Heritage</b>					
2.1 Implement research projects conducted jointly between the institutions of conservation management and research on priority themes related to World Heritage sites in Maghreb (e.g. through <i>Vocations patrimoine</i> fellowships ; thematic studies on natural or transboundary heritage)	X	X	X	X	States Parties
2.2 Define key-indicators for conservation of World Heritage properties (impact of natural and anthropogenic factors)	X	X	X	X	National Focal Structures
<b>VIII - FINANCIAL STATUS AND HUMAN RESOURCES</b>					
<b>1. Strengthen and develop human and financial resources to improve management, conservation, protection and presentation</b>					
1.1 Develop advocacy tools for decision-makers for the establishment/strengthening of management structures and World Heritage properties conservation structures with the adequate human and financial resources.	X	X	X	X	Focal Structures
1.2 Organize a workshop on techniques for preparing financial documents and funding historic towns	X	X	X	X	Focal Structures
<b>IX - TRAINING</b>					
<b>1. Elaborate a sub-regional training programme for the conservation and preservation of World Heritage</b>					
1.1 Conduct a study to identify needs in terms of training (trainers, site managers, etc.) and develop a detailed training programme document with financial details	X	X	X	X	National Focal Structures
<b>2. Strengthen World Heritage professionals' capacities in Maghreb</b>					
2.1 Develop a cooperation between World Heritage professionals and other professional networks, including intangible heritage	X	X	X	X	States Parties
2.2 Organize national annual workshops to strengthen site managers' capacities	X	X	X	X	States Parties
2.3 Develop a management manual intended for site managers	X	X	X	X	World Heritage Centre
<b>X - INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</b>					
<b>1. Elaborate and establish a cooperation framework around World Heritage sites of the Maghreb sub-region</b>					
1.1 Conduct a study to identify needs in terms of international cooperation and develop a detailed project documents with financial details.	X	X	X		States Parties
<b>2. Develop a framework for international cooperation through the network of professionals</b>					

MAGHREB / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
2.1 Include international cooperation activities in the network's programme			X		States parties
2.2 Develop pilot international twinning projects with other World Heritage sites			X	X	States Parties
<b>XI - EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND AWARENESS BUILDING</b>					
<b>1. Develop educational, information and public awareness raising tools</b>					
1.1 Conduct a study to formulate a methodology for the establishment and function of hosting services and interpretation structures at World Heritage sites	X	X	X	X	National Focal Structures
1.2 Develop a manual for education, information and awareness raising on World Heritage sites	X	X	X	X	States Parties
1.3 Develop awareness raising and information campaigns on World Heritage sites for decision-makers and the general public, including information related to the property boundaries and buffer zones			X		States Parties



MIDDLE EAST / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>I - GENERAL FRAMEWORK</b>					
<b>1. Enlarge the representation of Arab States Parties in the World Heritage Committee meetings and encourage their active participation in the process</b>					
1.1 Invite more technical/hands on people to participate to the World Heritage Committee sessions			X		States Parties
<b>2. Increase the commitment of Arab representatives to the World Heritage Committee</b>					
2.1 Thoroughly prepare and actively participate in the Committee debates			X		ARB representatives
2.2 Organize an annual meeting of the Arab representation for World Heritage in the region to coordinate Arab response to the Committee			X		States Parties
<b>3. Establish a national Committee for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention</b>					
3.1 Write to each State Party to request the designation of a national focal point for natural heritage	X		X		World Heritage Centre
3.2 Write to States Parties requesting the establishment of National Committees and giving terms of reference/guidelines	X		X		World Heritage Centre
<b>4. Enforce the national monitoring of the implementation of the World Heritage Convention</b>					
4.1 Update annually the Periodic Reporting questionnaire ensuring thus the monitoring of the implementation of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i>			X		National Committees
<b>II - INVENTORIES/LISTS/REGISTERS FOR CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE</b>					
<b>1. Update/complete the national inventories by identifying standards/criteria (including the encompassing legal protection for the sites) for sites of national value with a view to harmonize the national Tentative Lists</b>					
1.1 Organize a Middle East meeting on the preparation of national inventories (including the reconsideration of existing legal frameworks) with a view to harmonize the national Tentative Lists	X	X	X		National Committees
1.2 Exchange information on utilization of the existing inventory tools			X		States Parties
<b>2. Foster the preparation of thematic studies in preparation of transboundary World Heritage site nomination</b>					
2.1 Analyse the national inventories to identify the relevant thematic studies on the heritage of the region with a view to identify potential WH transboundary nominations	X	X	X		States Parties
<b>III - TENTATIVE LIST</b>					
<b>1. Harmonize the Tentative Lists of the region, including the addition of natural sites</b>					
1.1 Translate in Arabic the IUCN and ICOMOS gap analysis report and make them available online	X	X			ARC-WH

MIDDLE EAST / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
1.2 Identify the gaps in the Tentative Lists of the Arab Region	X	X			Advisory Bodies
1.3 Organize a sub-regional workshop for the harmonization of the Tentative Lists regarding cultural and natural heritage (with a view to get a balanced representation of nature and culture and involving wider stakeholder participation)	X	X	X		World Heritage Centre
<b>2. Foster the preparation of thematic studies in preparation of nominations for transboundary World Heritage sites</b>					
2.1 Request financial support from the World Heritage Fund to review the Tentative Lists according to the national inventories & thematic studies	X	X	X		States Parties
<b>IV - NOMINATIONS</b>					
<b>1. Encourage involvement of national experts into the nomination process to increase ownership</b>					
1.1 Organize trainings for national professionals in the preparation of the nomination files taking stock of successful national nomination cases	X	X	X	X	National Committees
1.2 Involve wider stakeholder participation to develop nomination files			X		States Parties
<b>2. Improve the capacities for the elaboration of nominations</b>					
2.1 Provide guidelines for best practices in the identification of criteria and Outstanding Universal Value and ensure the translation into Arabic	X	X			National Committees
<b>3. Increase the number of nominations, in particular for natural, mixed and transboundary sites</b>					
3.1 Develop nominations for natural sites to get to a balanced representation of nature and culture	X	X	X		National Committees
3.2 Seek the help of the Arab League Environmental Commission to help on the elaboration of serial and/or transboundary nominations			X		States Parties
<b>V - GENERAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT</b>					
<b>V.1 Legal framework</b>					
<b>1. Revision of the national heritage laws (including by-laws), in line with international conventions and standards</b>					
1.1 Provide guidelines and best practices for the harmonization of national laws with international standards	X	X			UNESCO
1.2 Request international assistance to provide expertise to States Parties	X		X		States Parties
<b>V.2 Integration of Conventions</b>					
<b>1. Increase access for States Parties to information about international conventions</b>					
1.1 Provide access to different web sites of international conventions and encourage their translation into Arabic	X				ARC-WH
<b>2. Coordinate the integration of other international conventions</b>					
2.1 Ratify the relevant international convention for heritage and coordinate their implementation			X		States Parties

MIDDLE EAST / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>V.3 Communities</b>					
<b>1. Assure the involvement of communities in the preparation of nomination files and in the establishment of the Tentative Lists, as well as the involvement of local communities in the monitoring of the World Heritage sites</b>					
1.1 Develop modalities for successful community participation in the protection of World Heritage properties by gathering best practices and information on alternative livelihoods	X	X	X	X	Advisory Bodies
1.2 Set up regional activities to build the capacity of professionals to apply modalities in the local context	X	X	X	X	ARC-WH
<b>V.4 Larger-scale planning</b>					
<b>1. Integrate World Heritage management into national, regional and local planning mechanism involving local stakeholders</b>					
1.1 Organize <i>World Heritage Convention</i> information meetings at national level for different audiences of national institutions related to the implementation of the <i>Convention</i>	X	X	X	X	National Committees
<b>VI - STATUS OF SERVICES FOR PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND PRESENTATION</b>					
<b>1. Improve awareness among different relevant international stakeholders on the <i>Convention</i></b>					
1.1 Make use of all the relevant international settings to disseminate World Heritage management procedures and best practices	X	X	X		World Heritage Centre
1.2 Create a cooperation mechanism among international stakeholders as support in the implementation of the <i>Convention</i>	X		X		National Committees
<b>2. Create political support for the implementation of the <i>Convention</i></b>					
2.1 Make use of the existing international networking in order to create political support	X		X		National Committees
2.2 Make use of the existing platform within the Arab League dealing with natural heritage by introducing the concept of the <i>Convention</i> and encourage the creation of such platforms in key regional institutions (ALECSO, ISESCO, etc.)			X		States Parties
<b>3. Strengthen the management capacities of institutions dealing with the implementation of the <i>Convention</i></b>					
3.1 Develop a sub-regional programme for management capacities of institutions dealing with the implementation of the <i>Convention</i>			X		States Parties
<b>4. Enforce the monitoring system at World Heritage sites to reduce risks</b>					
4.1 Develop criteria for granting permission to work at World Heritage sites (restoration, conservation, studies, presentation, etc.)			X	X	National Committees
<b>5. Strengthen the network of focal points for natural heritage</b>					
5.1 Organise a regional meeting of all national natural focal points (introduction to the <i>Convention</i> , update on the Periodic Reporting, national presentation, review of the action plan)	X	X	X		World Heritage Centre

MIDDLE EAST / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>VII - SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES AND RESEARCH</b>					
<b>1. Making use of the existing category 2 Centres dealing with World Heritage, World Heritage masters courses, UNESCO Chairs in World Heritage</b>					
1.1 Exchange professional and academic experiences between the category 2 centres and the local universities	X	X	X		National Committees
1.2 Direct the master researches of these centres toward the real needs of the States Parties (for example thematic studies in the Arab Region for potential transboundary nomination files)			X		National Committees
<b>2. Improve the university research on World Heritage</b>					
2.1 Approach universities granting scholarships for World Heritage related researches			X		National Committees
2.2 Integrate World Heritage related programmes into the existing master courses in the fields of heritage		X	X		States Parties
<b>VIII - FINANCIAL STATUS AND HUMAN RESOURCES</b>					
<b>1. Create an Arab Fund for World Heritage</b>					
1.1 Prepare a feasibility study on the establishment of the Arab Funds	X		X		ARC-WH
<b>IX - TRAINING</b>					
<b>1. Improve capacities of technical staff in charge of the implementation of the World Heritage Convention</b>					
1.1 Review and update for the Arab region training modules in view of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise	X	X			Advisory Bodies
1.2 Align Athar program to respond to the World Heritage sites' management and conservation needs	X	X			ICCROM
1.3 In line with the agreement between IUCN and ICCROM further develop the natural component of the training modules in Athar	X	X			Advisory Bodies
<b>X - INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</b>					
<i>References to international cooperation are made under other issues (cf item 6)</i>					
<b>XI - EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND AWARENESS BUILDING</b>					
<b>1. Increase awareness of school children and youth through formal and non-formal education</b>					
1.1 Disseminate and promote the use of the World Heritage in Young Hands kit and the training material for teachers in the Arab region	X		X		States Parties
1.2 Explore possibilities to establish partnerships and engage with game developers (software and hardware) to develop games targeting World Heritage in the Arab region			X		States Parties
<b>2. Increase awareness of local partners and communities</b>					
2.1 Distribute the UNESCO and Advisory Bodies publications relevant to heritage education and awareness, particularly through the ministries of education	X	X	X		States Parties
<b>3. Increase information spreading on World Heritage values through making use of local and international media network in the region</b>					

MIDDLE EAST / IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION Actions and related activities	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
3.1 Keep communities actively informed and make them participate in World Heritage site's activities from the early start. Explore possibility to establish community focal points/committees to be recognized as stakeholders in decision making processes			X	X	National Committees
3.2 Explore possibilities to engage with international Arab TV channels to plan for series of emission targeting World Heritage in the region			X		States parties

### **III. PART II: PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING OF WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES**

#### **a) Summary of the proposed actions**

The 59 properties considered during the Periodic Reporting exercise (excluding Libyan sites and the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls) were grouped into three categories:

- 1) Urban clusters,
- 2) Archaeological sites,
- 3) Natural properties.

#### **BOUNDARIES AND BUFFER ZONES**

The preparation of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value has given the opportunity to verify and redefine the boundaries of several properties. The process is expected to improve the protection of the World Heritage areas and result in better land-use control of the buffer zones and surrounding areas.

Main action proposed:

- Ensure the property and buffer zone boundaries are clearly and correctly defined and relevant.

#### **PROTECTIVE MEASURES**

The results of the Periodic Report show that there are lacunae in the legal framework and its enforcement. As a result, there has been a general move by the professionals and authorities involved in World Heritage to update the legal framework and improve its enforcement. In several cases, the legal processes are on-going or being finalised at the present.

Main actions proposed:

- Review the regulations specific to types of heritage in order to ensure protection for all property values, including in buffer zones areas;
- Accelerate the issuance of the necessary laws for the protection of heritage.

#### **MANAGEMENT SYSTEM/MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The results of the Periodic Report indicate that in several properties new management plans are being implemented. At the same time, it is noted that there are also properties without a proper management plan, or where the implementation of such plans suffers from lack of collaboration between the different levels of administration. Furthermore, the comments by States Parties have brought out great awareness of the need to empower and involve the local population in the management process as a vital element for the success of such processes.

Main actions proposed:

- Develop/update and implement management plans for all World Heritage sites;

- Ensure the effectiveness of management plans, notably by establishing structures with qualified professionals;
- Ensure the community involvement in the management of properties.

### **FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES**

The results of the Periodic Reports indicate an urgent need of human resources as well as a continuous need for on-site training of local teams, technicians, professionals and administrators.

Main actions proposed:

- Elaborate a detailed financial plan for management and diversify funding;
- Enable communities to benefit from World Heritage properties;
- Set up a capacity building plan/programme.

### **SCIENTIFIC STUDIES/RESEARCH PROJECTS**

The results of Periodic Reporting indicate a need for research oriented towards the conservation and management of heritage resources. This needs good coordination. Universities and research centres should be encouraged to support heritage oriented research, which also needs to be better diffused in the international context.

Main actions proposed:

- Make use of the studies available or conduct on site;
- Plan a research programme oriented towards properties' real needs.

### **EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND AWARENESS BUILDING**

The results of the Periodic Report indicate that education remains an interesting field; however there are few concrete actions.

Main actions proposed:

- Elaborate a communication and awareness building strategy which enhance the presentation of the properties;
- Design an appropriate educational programme.

### **VISITOR MANAGEMENT**

The results of the Periodic Report indicate an increasing consciousness of the need to improve visitor management, developing collaboration between government institutions, tourism operators, the local authorities, and the local community.

Main actions proposed:

- Enhance visitors experience at World Heritage sites;
- Develop visitor management plans that consider carrying capacities.

## **MONITORING**

The results of the Periodic Report show that more attention is given to management at the site level, compared to the First cycle.

Main action proposed:

- Set up an effective monitoring system for each site (criteria, staff, information management, evaluation).

## **CURRENT NEGATIVE FACTORS**

The results of the Periodic Report demonstrate an increasing awareness of the threats that come from the outside of the World Heritage properties, whether concerning the pressures from development, from general planning strategies, or from environmental causes.

Main actions proposed:

- Complete the assessment of the influence of negative factors affecting the properties and propose corrective measures for all;
- Integrate responses to risks into management plans.

### **b) Action Plans**

Experts in natural heritage of all sub-regions gathered to develop a Regional Action Plan for natural World Heritage.

The Gulf sub-region developed an Action Plan which groups Urban clusters and Archaeological sites.

Considering needs of the Urban clusters and Archaeological sites, the Maghreb sub-region added information directly into the Action Plan relating to the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* (Section I). Following are presented the themes for the management and monitoring of World Heritage properties, for which participants made specific propositions, considering Urban clusters and Archaeological sites together.

The Middle-East sub-region developed an Action Plan for Urban clusters and another one for Archaeological sites.

The tables hereunder present the Action Plans developed by the Gulf, Maghreb and Middle-East sub-regions successively, and finally the Regional Action Plan for natural World Heritage.



GULF / URBAN CLUSTERS and ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>I - Boundaries and Buffer Zones</b>					
<b>1. Encourage States Parties to review the relevance of the delineation of the buffer zones of the existing World Heritage sites</b>					
1.1 Establish a task force for reviewing the validity of existing buffer zones and site boundaries			X	X	National Committees
1.2 Hold a workshop with the planning authorities in order to agree on ways to integrate site boundaries and buffer zones into urban or regional master plans			X		National Committees
1.3 Have a formal protocol with the planning authorities defining the modalities and timeframe for enforcing the establishment of site boundaries and buffer zones in the national planning system			X		National Committees
1.4 Take the necessary statutory measures to ensure the application of this protocol			X		National Committees
<b>II - Protective measures</b>					
<b>1. Accelerate the issuance of the necessary laws for the protection of the cultural and natural heritage</b>					
1.1 Define a process, a timeframe and necessary means			X		States Parties
<b>2. Enforce the existing laws and responsible institutions</b>					
2.1 Meet the different stakeholders in order to ensure the understanding of the laws and their appropriate application			X		National Committees
<b>3. Adapt the existing legal framework as to guarantee the integrated protection of cultural and natural properties</b>					
3.1 Establish a task force bringing together legal experts from all the national institutions with an impact on the cultural and natural heritage			X		National Committees
<b>III - Management System/Management Plan</b>					
<b>1. Ensure the creation of structures dedicated to the management of the World Heritage properties with the qualified professionals</b>					
1.1 Identify the composition of the management structure			X	X	National Committees
1.2 Define the strategy and mandate of the structure			X	X	National Committees
1.3 Entrust the implementation of the site management plans/systems for World Heritage to this structure			X	X	National Committees
<b>IV - Financial and Human Resources</b>					
<b>1. Establish dedicated budgets for World Heritage sites to be separately adopted by national governments whilst illustrating the return on investment in terms of socio-economic impact (e.g. tourism, jobs for local community etc.)</b>					
1.1 Organize a workshop to help prepare detailed budgets for the properties			X	X	National Committees

GULF / URBAN CLUSTERS and ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
1.2 Organize meetings between relevant government bodies to adopt the specified budgets			X		National Committees
<b>2. Encourage the private sector involvement in supporting/funding the conservation and site management process</b>					
2.1 Prepare proposals for funding to the private sector and present them to the private sector			X		National Committees
<b>3. Set up a capacity development plan or programme</b>					
3.1 Organize a workshop to identify the capacity needed	X	X	X	X	National Committees
3.2 Design a detailed programme for the required capacity building in conjunction with ICCROM	X	X	X		National Committees
<b>V- Scientific studies/research projects</b>					
<b>1. Plan a programme of research at the property oriented towards management needs and/or improving understanding of OUV</b>					
1.1 Hold workshops with relevant experts to establish a programme of research	X	X	X	X	National Committees
<b>2. Disseminate results from research programmes</b>					
2.1 Use appropriate channels to disseminate results from research programmes (such as publications, website, public lectures, awareness campaign)			X		National Committees
<b>VI - Education, information and awareness building</b>					
<b>1. Elaborate a strategy to adequately communicate the Outstanding Universal Value of each property to the general public and to design educational and awareness raising</b>					
1.1 Put in place a task force on the basis of a multidisciplinary approach to be in charge of drafting the strategy			X		National Committees
<b>VII - Visitor management</b>					
<b>1. Design a detailed plan for of each property to provide better accessibility and appreciation of the Outstanding Universal Value, including schemes for managing visitors at the site and increasing visitor satisfaction</b>					
1.1 Ensure that existing management plans for World Heritage sites include a detailed visitor plan			X	X	National Committees
<b>VIII – Monitoring</b>					
<b>1. Setup an effective monitoring process within the management system of each property</b>					
1.1 Request assistance from the World Heritage Centre and/or ARC-WH to develop monitoring programme for each property	X	X	X	X	National Committees

MAGHREB / URBAN CLUSTERS and ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>III - Management System/ Management Plan</b>					
<b>1. Strengthen sites management</b>					
1.1 Develop/update and implement management plans for all World Heritage sites			X	X	States Parties
<b>VIII- Monitoring</b>					
<b>1. Strengthen the monitoring of World Heritage properties in the sub-region</b>					
1.1 Develop/update and implement national monitoring programmes for World Heritage sites and cooperate at the sub-regional level			X	X	National Focal Structure

MIDDLE EAST / URBAN CLUSTERS	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>I - Boundaries and Buffer Zones</b>					
<b>1. Clearly identify the World Heritage property boundaries and buffer zones</b>					
1.1 Establish, depict the size and designate buffer zones on maps on which the sites' boundaries are indicated			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Organize a workshop or a seminar with the concerned bodies to identify and develop the issues related to boundaries and buffer zones	X	X	X	X	States Parties
<b>2. Ensure Appropriate property boundaries are defined</b>					
2.1 Establish carefully the purpose of the site's boundaries and buffer zone and set the conditions required in the buffer zone for the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value within the proposed limits		X	X	X	States Parties
2.2. Elaborate an urban plan in order to identify and define adequately the boundaries and ensure the protection of the properties		X			States Parties
<b>II - Protective measures</b>					
<b>1. Enhance the protective measures for the sites</b>					
1.1 Include in the legal requirements the immediate setting of the nominated property, important views and other areas or attributes that are functionally important to the value of the property and its protection			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Carry out accurate studies and document the visual relationship between historical and current scenes, to ensure the development of appropriate and comprehensive measures and concepts for site preservation		X	X	X	States Parties
1.3 Present the results of the studies and the documentation on internal/external urban visual relationships to the responsible authorities to encourage them to preserve the qualities of World Heritage sites			X	X	States Parties
<b>III- Management System/Management Plan</b>					
<b>1. Ensure the elaboration/completion of management plans for the World Heritage properties</b>					
1.1 Carry out a complete inventory of the World Heritage sites that assess the element worth conserving, including the elements that define their urban value			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Integrate local communities in the management process			X	X	States Parties
<b>2. Ensure the effectiveness of the management plans</b>					

MIDDLE EAST / URBAN CLUSTERS	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
2.1 Ensure that the specialized services dealing with the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural heritage carry out their work in liaison and on an equal footing, with other public services, more particularly those responsible for regional development planning, major public works and environmental, economic and social planning			X	X	States Parties
2.2 Create a management Committee for the properties			X	X	States Parties
1.3 Continuously update the management plans to make it possible to quickly react to changes and developments			X	X	States Parties
1.4 Develop maintenance plans in a format and size that allows a continuous update			X	X	Site managers
<b>IV - Financial and Human Resources</b>					
<b>1. Ensure funding for the development of management plans</b>					
1.1 Establish financial coverage for the technical expertise needed to develop the management plans			X		States Parties
1.2 Itemize the annual budget (operational costs, staff, structural maintenance, projects) and specify special measures based on the budgets of the past five years			X	X	Site managers
1.3 Elaborate a mid-term financial plan for the next three to five years and list the sources of funding			X	X	States Parties
<b>V- Scientific studies/Research projects</b>					
<b>1. Make use of the available studies</b>					
1.1 Encourage international partners to share, distribute and make existing studies available to local stakeholders and encourage them to implement them	X	X	X	X	ARC-WH
1.2 Encourage mapping and assessment of scientific studies in view of sharing information		X	X		ARC-WH
<b>VI - Education, information and awareness building</b>					
<b>1. Improve the presentation of World Heritage properties</b>					
1.1 Encourage the development of a communication plan that includes the presentation of World Heritage emblem and information about the <i>Convention</i> on targeted locations, and have information on World Heritage published in guidebooks, pamphlets, etc.			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Develop adapted educational materials for different age groups who visit the sites, targeting local visitors in particular			X	X	States Parties
1.3 Acquire the missing information about the site (e.g. via internet)				X	States Parties
1.4 Cooperate closely with schools			X		States Parties
1.5 Ensure continuous research on the sites and its inhabitants over the years in order to fill gaps of knowledge			X	X	States Parties

MIDDLE EAST / URBAN CLUSTERS	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>VII - Visitor management</b>					
<b>1. Enhance the visitor experience at the World Heritage properties</b>					
1.1 Set up the adequate infrastructure to receive, host and guide visitors, including information points and visitor centres on sites to provide information on services, infrastructure, etc.			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Take necessary measures to guide the flow of visitors				X	Site managers
<b>VIII- Monitoring</b>					
<b>1. Ensure the monitoring of World Heritage properties</b>					
1.1 Develop monitoring criteria adapted to each site based on the existing documentation and inventories		X	X	X	Site managers
1.2 Set up a monitoring group responsible for each site, to monitor development, attend on site meetings and generate annual reports				X	Site managers
<b>Current negative factors</b>					
<b>1. Address current negative factors affecting Urban Clusters</b>					
1.1 Integrate risks preparedness (building, development, pollution, climate change, social uses) in management plans and legal applications.			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Assess the influence of these factors on the properties and determine whether they are increasing or decreasing			X	X	Site managers
1.3 Complete the description of the corrective measures that have been taken mitigate threats as well as planned measures and their timeframes			X	X	Site managers

MIDDLE EAST / ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>I - Boundaries and Buffer Zones</b>					
<b>1. Finalize the identification of boundaries and buffer zones of properties in the sub-region</b>					
1.1 Validate current limits and make them known to communities – modify them, if needed, according to new discoveries			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Request technical assistance from the World Heritage Centre on boundary issues	X	X	X	X	States Parties
<b>2. Ensure that the limits of the boundaries are correctly defined</b>					
2.1 Establish carefully the purpose of the sites' boundaries and buffer zones and set the conditions required in the buffer zones for the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value within the proposed limits.			X	X	States Parties

MIDDLE EAST / ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
2.2 Ensure, where relevant, that the boundaries are taken into account in urban plans			X	X	Site managers
<b>II - Protective measures</b>					
<b>1. Improve the buffer zone protection</b>					
1.1 Develop comprehensive legal provisions for buffer zones by establishing internal zoning with appropriate regulations for construction and land-use			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Strengthen, through education, global awareness on the types of measures needed to protect the properties, related buffer zones and related intangible aspects and dimensions	X		X	X	States Parties
1.3 Encourage ethical commitment and responsible citizenship within the corporate sector and its business communities to convince those whose actions can affect heritage to respect World Heritage properties and buffer zones			X	X	States Parties
1.4 Improve relevant legislations, notably by harmonising it with international conventions			X		States Parties
1.5 Present the limits of the sites to Municipalities in order to ensure they are understood and integrated in their plans			X	X	States Parties
<b>III- Management System/Management Plan</b>					
<b>1. Improve Management Plans</b>					
1.1 Produce updated guidelines for the preparation of the World Heritage properties management plans	X	X			World Heritage Centre
1.2 Set up clear objectives for the management of World Heritage sites supported by the adequate human, financial and other resources required to implement management prescriptions and monitor their effectiveness			X	X	States Parties
1.3 Clearly define the legal status of sites along with the appropriate activities in the management plan			X	X	States Parties
1.4 Involve all relevant authorities and institutions responsible for conserving World Heritage sites when drafting an outline of the management plan	X	X	X	X	States Parties
1.5 Elaborate management plans in line with sustainable development which take into account the role of local communities			X	X	States Parties
1.6 Organize regional or national workshops to involve local communities and other stakeholders in the management process			X	X	States Parties
<b>IV - Financial and Human Resources</b>					
<b>1. Enhance the participation of the communities</b>					
1.1 Develop training modules for economic issues related to World Heritage in order to involve local communities in sharing benefits and also participating responsively in the preservation of sites	X	X	X	X	World Heritage Centre
1.2 Involve local communities during the planning and implementation process to ensure management effectiveness			X	X	States Parties

MIDDLE EAST / ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
1.3 Enhance the role of World Heritage sites in realizing community benefits in ways that reinforce, support and draw on the values of the World Heritage property			X	X	States Parties
1.4 Make a list of all staff members (conservation, research, administration, visitor services and education) and record their academic and technical qualifications			X	X	States Parties
1.5 Train staff in scientific and technical conservation and preservation methods	X	X	X	X	World Heritage Centre
<b>V- Scientific studies/Research projects</b>					
<b>1. Orient site managers on the use of the scientific research undertaken at their sites</b>					
1.1 Introduce in the permits for working/study at site a clause requesting a practical abstract with the main outcomes of the research eventually impacting the management and conservation of the properties			X	X	States Parties
1.2 As required, recruit and train scientific, technical and administrative staff to be responsible for carrying out identification, protection and integration programmes and ensure their effectiveness			X	X	States Parties
1.3 Make research results available to interested parties, specialists and inform the public about them	X	X	X	X	States Parties
1.4 Encourage all relevant institutes and universities to communicate the results of the studies at the properties	X	X	X	X	States Parties
<b>VI - Education, information and awareness building</b>					
<b>1. Improve the presentation of properties</b>					
1.1 Encourage the development of a communication plan that includes the presentation of the World Heritage emblem along with information about the <i>Convention</i> in targeted locations and have information on World Heritage published in guidebooks, pamphlets, etc.			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Develop educational materials adapted to different age groups who visit the sites, targeting local visitors in particular	X		X	X	States Parties
<b>2. Enhance awareness on the necessity of the protection of properties and buffer zones</b>					
2.1 Develop a national education programme on World Heritage to be distributed to schools, public libraries and other institutions	X		X		States Parties
2.2 Integrate archaeological studies into university programs and studies on its economic benefits in order to graduate qualified conservation specialists	X	X	X		States Parties
2.3 Create awareness programmes for local communities and schools in surroundings of the properties			X	X	States Parties
2.4 Ensure that people living in and around World Heritage sites are aware of the legal status and its enforcement, of the beneficial provisions and the use compatible with the World Heritage status			X	X	States Parties



MIDDLE EAST / ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>VII - Visitor management</b>					
<b>1. Enhance the visitor experience at properties</b>					
1.1 Establish information/visitor centre on sites -information points in large sites- to provide information on services, infrastructure, etc.			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Develop training courses for guides	X	X	X		States Parties
1.3 Employ and train local staff to conduct tours and inform visitors on local values			X	X	States Parties
1.4 Determine visitor categories to plan site visits				X	Site managers
1.5 Encourage staff and local communities to be friendly with tourists and to promote various creative traditional activities and craftwork			X	X	States Parties
<b>VIII- Monitoring</b>					
<b>1. Ensure the monitoring of World Heritage properties</b>					
1.1 Develop monitoring criteria, as well as key monitoring indicators, adapted to each site based on the existing documentation and inventories		X	X	X	Site managers
1.2 Have monitoring systems analysed by experts to be adapted to and implemented at each site	X	X	X	X	States Parties
1.3 Hire appropriate staff (with computer expertise, additional clerical help, etc.)			X	X	States Parties
1.4 Improve information management within the monitoring system				X	Site managers
1.5 Assess visitor experience and the effectiveness of management tools				X	Site managers
1.6 Improve management plans according to monitoring systems results				X	Site managers
<b>Current negative factors</b>					
<b>1. Address current negative factors affecting Archaeological sites</b>					
1.1 Integrate risk preparedness (building, development, pollution, climate change, social uses) in management plans and legal applications			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Assess the influence of these factors on properties and determine whether they are increasing or decreasing				X	Site managers
1.3 Organize workshops or seminars for site managers and local communities on risk assessment and management	X	X	X	X	States Parties
1.4 Complete the description of the corrective measures that have been taken to mitigate threats as well as planned measures and their timeframes			X	X	Site managers

ARAB REGION / NATURE	Entities involved				Action led by
	WH	AB	SP	SM	
<b>I - Boundaries and Buffer Zones</b>					
<b>1. Revise boundaries and buffer zones of World Heritage sites</b>					
1.1 Ensure site and buffer zone boundaries as adopted at the time of inscription are clearly defined and understood by both management authorities and communities, with field marking where necessary			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Review site boundaries to ensure they include areas that are of Outstanding Universal Value where necessary (and consider submitting a minor boundary modification or extension to include additional areas if required)		X	X	X	States Parties
<b>II - Protective measures</b>					
<b>1. Review and/or develop adequate protection measures to ensure integrity of the OUV</b>					
1.1 Evaluate effectiveness of current legal frameworks to meet <i>World Heritage Convention</i> requirements and of other international conventions			X		States Parties
1.2 Introduce new protection measures involving stakeholders to ensure adequate enforcement of such measures			X	X	States Parties
1.3 Raise stakeholder awareness of legislation and put in place capacity building programmes to support implementation of legislation			X	X	States Parties
<b>III - Management System/Management Plan</b>					
<b>1. Ensure the effective participation of local communities in preparing and implementing the management plan</b>					
1.1 Constitute and support site support groups representing communities and stakeholders			X	X	Site managers
1.2 Provide best practices for local community involvement and participation (expand IUCN best practices guidelines to include World Heritage)	X	X	X	X	IUCN
1.3 Organize a regional workshop for site managers to enhance capacities for local communities' participation and involvement	X	X	X	X	IUCN
<b>2. Evaluate and improve management effectiveness of Natural World Heritage sites</b>					
2.1 Apply management effectiveness tracking tools for World Heritage as baseline data (Enhancing Our Heritage toolkit)			X	X	Site managers
2.2 Carry out monitoring programme based on baseline data and tracking tools			X	X	Site managers
2.3 Organize workshops at site level to support the use of management effectiveness assessment	X	X	X	X	States Parties

<b>IV - Financial and Human Resources</b>					
<b>1. Diversify financial resources to ensure financial sustainability for properties</b>					
1.1 Develop and implement a business plan for each property to ensure sustainable funds for their management			X	X	States Parties
1.2 Invite ARC-WH to establish financial supporting programme for sites, if needed	X		X		States Parties
1.3 Conduct a study to explore sustainable financing mechanisms for properties	X	X	X	X	States Parties
1.4 Organize a workshop for enhancing capacities on fundraising for properties	X	X	X	X	States Parties
<b>V- Scientific studies/Research projects</b>					
<b>1. Encourage partnerships between universities and research institutes /centres to develop studies and research in natural World Heritage</b>					
1.1 Prepare a list of potential universities, institutes and experts who may be related to natural World Heritage studies	X	X	X		States Parties
1.2 Encourage postgraduate students to conduct research and studies about natural World Heritage	X	X	X		States Parties
1.3 Involve UNESCO interns and associate experts, consultants etc. to carry out surveys, studies and research on natural World Heritage sites	X	X	X		UNESCO
<b>VI - Education, information and awareness building</b>					
<b>1. Coordinate with Ministries of Education and Higher education to integrate natural WH topics in the curriculum</b>					
1.1 Provide capacity building programmes for teachers to introduce the World Heritage in young hands	X		X		States Parties
1.2 Establish where possible 'World Heritage in young hands' club in schools to promote World Heritage issues, sites, concepts, importance etc.			X	X	States Parties
<b>2. Develop education and awareness toolkit for natural World Heritage</b>					
2.1 Consult IUCN/CEC to obtain support in the preparation of the toolkit		X	X		States Parties
2.2 Organize a workshop to introduce this toolkit		X	X	X	States Parties
2.3 Integrate natural WH sites in the national environment awareness strategy			X		States Parties
<b>VII - Visitor management</b>					
<b>1. Develop visitors management plans considering the carrying capacities and the zoning of the site</b>					
1.1 Elaborate and implement a visitor management plan at each site, and the surrounding areas to protect the site and provide benefits to communities			X	X	States Parties

1.2 Carry out a visitor study for each site, also considering the management of visitor numbers within the capacity of the site				X	Site managers
1.3 Define a clear zoning plan for the site for the various activities at the site				X	Site managers
1.4 Ensure that the properties and their conservation needs are recognised in regional and national tourism strategies			X	X	States Parties
<b>VIII - Monitoring</b>					
<b>1. Prepare a monitoring and evaluation programme for each site</b>					
1.1 Identify key monitoring indicators for the property's OUV		X	X	X	Site managers
1.2 Establish periodical monitoring programmes for each site			X	X	Site managers
1.3 Adjust management plans according to the monitoring programme results and recommendations			X	X	Site managers
<b>Current negative factors</b>					
<b>1. Ensure conducting Environmental Impact Assessments for all projects/activities at the property and/or surroundings taking into account the impacts on the OUV</b>					
1.1 Conduct studies of all current or potential threats that may affect the natural properties and develop response strategies to mitigate them		X	X	X	States Parties
1.2 Organize a workshop for site managers and local communities on risk assessment management	X	X	X	X	States Parties
1.3 Organize a workshop to create a dialogue platform between site managers and people who have an interest in these sites			X	X	States Parties
1.4 Coordinate with the responsible authorities to integrate Environmental Impact Assessments in the legislations			X	X	States Parties