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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

Forty-third session

Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan  
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**Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda: Follow-up to the World Heritage Capacity-Building strategy and Progress report on the World Heritage-related category 2 centres**

## RESUME

By Decision **42 COM 6**, the World Heritage Committee requested the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM to submit a progress report on the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy and the activities of the category 2 centres related to World Heritage for examination by the Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

**Draft Decision: 43 COM 6**, see Part III.

## **I. FOLLOW UP TO THE CAPACITY- BUILDING STRATEGY**

1. The World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy (WHCBS) was approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session (Paris, 2011) (Decision **35 COM 9B**). The Strategy was developed by ICCROM and IUCN in collaboration with ICOMOS, the World Heritage Centre, and other capacity-building partners such as the UNESCO category 2 centres in various regions of the world. The work was made possible by contributions from the World Heritage Fund and the Swiss Government, which also provided professional expertise.
2. Since the adoption of the WHCBS, the Advisory Bodies, the World Heritage Centre and capacity-building partners have been working to implement capacity-building activities at both the regional and international levels to address the needs of heritage practitioners, institutions and other networks and communities. Reinforcement of the capacity-building pillar of the *Convention* continues to be a priority to equip States Parties with the relevant expertise to protect and manage their sites, as well as to ensure that the World Heritage List remains representative, credible and balanced.

### **A. Implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy**

3. The World Heritage Leadership Programme is now in its third year of implementation since its initiation in September 2016. The programme supports the contribution of World Heritage properties to sustainable development as foreseen in the Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the World Heritage Convention. The partnership of ICCROM and IUCN, working in cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS, is supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment. The Swiss Federal Office of Culture has also contributed significantly in 2018, and other capacity building partners such as universities and Category 2 Centres are also partnering on specific activities of the programme or allied activities.
4. The World Heritage Leadership Programme aims to build the skills of practitioners working through the World Heritage Convention. It takes into account the totality of conservation practice, so that World Heritage can provide leadership to achieve innovation and excellence within the conservation sector. The World Heritage Leadership programme integrates nature and culture from the outset, focusing on areas where World Heritage has the most compelling potential to address pressing challenges, such as climate change and impacts from development.
5. Long-term activities for all five modules have started and active implementation is in progress in all areas of the Programme, especially in terms of revising the World Heritage management manuals and creating a web-based learning platform.
6. In regard to the module on Effective Management: Nature, Culture, and Communities, a two-week African regional course on *People, Nature and Culture* was organized in August 2018, at the World Heritage property of Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls together with the AWHF and the National Heritage Conservation Commission of Zambia. 20 participants from 16 countries took part in the course and gave positive feedback on the benefits of having both professionals from culture and nature perspectives participate in the course together. The next course is scheduled to take place in Sri Lanka later in 2019, and other Asian courses are also being planned with the support of the Cultural Heritage Administration of Korea.
7. The Enhancing Our Heritage Toolkit has also been tested for use with cultural heritage at workshops in Bahrain in collaboration with the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), and in South Africa with the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF).
8. Other activities within this module included a Nordic-Baltic Course on World Heritage Procedures with took place in Bergen, Norway in September 2018, and an Advisory Bodies Networking Activity

which took place at ICCROM in September 2018. The objective of this later activity was to provide a chance for experts conducting evaluations and reactive monitoring on behalf of the Advisory Bodies to build capacity on new developing approaches to heritage conservation such as people-centred approaches and linking nature and culture.

9. Work is also ongoing on the development of the web-based platform for World Heritage Leadership. Topics to be addressed will include culture-nature management, EOH, risk management, and impact assessment. It is expected that the web platform will include general conservation principles, guidelines, and hands-on tools and worksheets for better management of cultural and natural heritage. Coordination meetings on the development of the web platform will continue as it continues to be developed.
10. In regard to the Module on Resilience, a task team met in June 2018 to begin work on the revision of the Disaster Risk Management manual with the idea of addressing the issue of climate change within the revision. Towards this end, a scoping study on Climate Change and heritage was conducted to diagnose the current situation on the effects of climate change on heritage management. This work will be integrated into the already mentioned web platform.
11. A workshop on Impact Assessment took place at IUCN, bringing together Impact Assessment and heritage professionals to analyse the current gaps and challenges that World Heritage sites are facing in the Impact Assessment process, and identify new solutions and opportunities. A total of 18 participants from 14 States Parties / Organizations attended the meeting covering both Environmental Impact Assessment and Heritage Impact Assessment sectors. ICCROM and IUCN staff also attended the annual meeting of the International Association for Impact Assessment in 2018 in Durban, South Africa. The objective was to promote the importance of heritage as an element in any impact assessment process. This has led to the development of several sessions on heritage and impact assessment to take place at the next meeting of the IAIA in Brisbane, Australia in April 2019.
12. WHITR-AP and ICCROM also implemented their biennial course on Impact Assessment for Heritage in October 2018 in Zhenze Water Town, Jiangsu Province, China. This is the 6<sup>th</sup> time this course has been offered. Further discussions are currently underway between ICCROM, WHITRAP and AWHF to consider the feasibility of hosting an impact assessment course for Africa with funding from China. The programme was also involved in two national workshops on IA held in Oman in September 2018 and Montenegro in December 2018.
13. On the occasion of the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee the 2<sup>nd</sup> Site Managers Forum was held, in partnership with the Kingdom of Bahrain, ICCROM, IUCN, the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS, and the National Heritage Board of Poland. A total of 44 site managers from 33 States Parties attended the eight-day Forum, given under the theme of “Roles, Responsibilities and Capacity-Building Needs.” A similar forum is currently being planned to coincide with the 43<sup>rd</sup> session of the Committee in Baku.
14. The Programme has carried out most planned activities, and also actively participated in allied activities. The content development of the integrated manuals and web platform will occupy the most attention over the next year. The interrelationship between the different modules of work is proving to be highly effective as the discussions from the respective modules are constantly being compared and contrasted to increase efficiency throughout. The collaboration formed between the three Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre is highly positive, as all four entities are working in collaboration, especially for the module of Impact Assessment.
15. On the topic of linking cultural and natural heritage conservation and management, in addition to the World Heritage Leadership Programme and the ICOMOS/IUCN Connecting Practice programme, Tsukuba University (Japan) is teaming up with IUCN, ICCROM, ICOMOS, and the World Heritage

Centre to host a series of courses. The most recent course was held in September 2018, and covered the subject of Nature-Culture Linkages in Disasters and Resilience.

16. The topic of monitoring of World Heritage properties was highlighted in a course carried out by ICCROM in partnership with the Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage, the Chinese National Cultural Heritage Administration, and the Government of Macao SAR. The course took place at the Historic Centre of Macao World Heritage property and was attended by participants from around the world.
17. In the Arab States Region, a number of activities were implemented over the past year by the ICCROM-Sharjah Regional Office, including a workshop to enhance World Heritage management skills for professionals from Lebanon, and a workshop for disaster risk management in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (UAE). The Office continues its work on the issue of strengthening legal and institutional frameworks in the region, and also carried out a number of activities aimed at the conservation of historic cities with a workshop on Post-Crisis Recovery of Urban Heritage, held in Sharjah and an International Forum on Cities and Heritage in Arab Countries held in Eassaouira, Morocco. ICCROM-Sharjah is also collaborating with UNESCO, the UAE Ministry of Culture, and the Al-Khalifa Foundation on the reconstruction of the Mosque of Mosul. An exhibit entitled, "The Day After: Shadows of Heritage" has been shown at the Egyptian Academy in Rome and at the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee in Manama, Bahrain.
18. In regard to physical conservation of built heritage including at World Heritage properties, ICCROM continues with courses related to specific materials. The biennial International Course on Wood Conservation Technology took place in June 2018 in Oslo, Norway in partnership with the Riksantikvaren and NTNU. The 20th International Course on Stone Conservation took place from 19 March to 18 May 2018 in Mexico City and Chicanná, Mexico, in partnership with CNCPC-INAH.
19. ICCROM continues to update information on regular training opportunities for World Heritage and for cultural heritage conservation in general as well as meetings, seminars, workshops, and other events and activities related to heritage conservation. This information is found in the "Classifieds" section of the ICCROM website as well as on ICCROM's social media (Facebook and Twitter). These sources also contain significant information on conservation issues as well as educational and job opportunities in conservation.

## **B. Regional Capacity-Building Strategies**

20. As part of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy, the World Heritage Centre, Advisory Bodies, category 2 centres and interested States Parties have also been working on the development and implementation of regional capacity-building strategies:
  - a) In the region of Asia and the Pacific, training and capacity-building workshops were held in Bhutan, China, India, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines and Turkmenistan to reinforce the capacities of States Parties with regard to the preparation of nomination dossiers, the sustainable management of World Heritage properties (notably Cultural Landscapes and Historic Urban Landscapes) and the development of disaster risk reduction strategies. Details on these activities can be found in Document WHC/19/43.COM/5A. Capacity-building activities are also carried out in the framework of the sub-regional Action Plans adopted at the end of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting: the Suwon Action Plan for Asia and the Pacific Action Plan (see Document WHC/17/41.COM/10A). The *Capacity Building Strategy and Associated Programmes for Asia and the Pacific* were developed by the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITR-AP, China) and adopted by the Committee at its 38th session (Doha, 2014). This was a direct result of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the region and is in line with a number of the priority areas identified in the Action Plans. The Capacity Building Strategy is available at:

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/682/>. In this context, WHITR-AP and its partners have organised a number of activities, reflected in Section II below and in Document WHC/19/43.COM/5A.

- b) In the Latin America and the Caribbean region, seminars and capacity building training were held in Cuba, Peru, Saint Maarten and Uruguay in close cooperation with the relevant Field Offices. Likewise, an extra-budgetary project (funded by the German Foreign Office for International Cooperation) is being implemented in Costa Rica to strengthen the capacity of local communities, particularly youth and indigenous people, in the conservation of the World Heritage property Pre-Columbian Chiefdom Settlements with Stone Spheres of the Diquís. A national seminar was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on the topic of strengthening capacities of site managers for risk management in World Heritage properties, and an exchange of best practices between Belize and Australia for reefs protection took place in late 2018. Finally, a set of capacity-building modules were included in the recently approved 2-year work plan of the Category 2 Centre "Lucio Costa", in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. For all capacity building activities in the South American sub-region, see also document WHC/19/43.COM/5A).
- c) The Europe and North America Unit has developed several initiatives to increase States Parties capacities to mitigate specific regional and sub-regional heritage risk factors. For example, Heritage Impact Assessment workshops and trainings held in Eastern and Central Europe were designed to address development and urbanization, while those held in Western and Northern Europe were designed to address threats posed by renewable energy sources, such as wind farms. Efforts have also been made to ensure the methodological validity and analytical quality of Heritage Impact Assessments through robust dialogue with States Parties. Most capacity building is done through one on one consultations with States Parties and stakeholders. (For all capacity building activities in the Europe and North America Region see also document WHC/19/43.COM/5A).
- d) In the Africa region, the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) worked closely with the World Heritage Centre to strengthen capacities of State Parties to improve the representation of African heritage sites on the World Heritage List, the management and conservation of the African World Heritage properties, the inclusion of World Heritage in sustainable economic growth, and the promotion, networking and developing partnerships related to the safeguarding of the African World Heritage.

Several activities were implemented, such as:

- Training courses, workshop and regional meetings on World Heritage nominations, Tentative Lists and sustainable development;
- Technical and financial assistance for World Heritage nomination and grant assistance;
- Documents, papers and publications (such as the "Position Paper on World Heritage and Sustainable Development in Africa" and the "Algiers Call to Action: Our Living Heritage for African Renaissance").

The AWHF Strategic Plan for the period April 2019 – March 2022, which was approved during the 24<sup>th</sup> AWHF Board of Trustees meeting in December 2018, deals with the under-representation of African properties on the World Heritage List and the management and conservation of those sites. It focuses on skills development and capacity-building, and how local communities can obtain sustainable benefits from the World Heritage properties through tourism, entrepreneurship and related activities.

The Strategic Plan is based on five main objectives:

- 1- Contribute to a better representation of African properties on the World Heritage List;
- 2- Contribute to improving the management and conservation of World Heritage properties in Africa;

- 3- Stimulate the inclusion of World Heritage properties in sustainable growth for local communities;
  - 4- Strengthen partnerships and improve awareness of AWHF and World Heritage in Africa;
  - 5- Consolidate the sustainability of the African World Heritage Fund.
- e) In the Arab States region, capacity-building activities were developed and implemented by the World Heritage Centre at the national and regional levels, with the support of the UNESCO Field Offices, the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), the Advisory Bodies and other relevant partners. The activities were dedicated to the safeguarding of cultural heritage in conflict situations, the nomination process with a focus on conservation, management and integration of sustainable development policies in the conservation and management of properties (urban heritage and buffer zones/ settings of archaeological sites).

The activities undertaken included a general workshop on Cultural Heritage in Impact Assessments (HIA) that was organized in Cairo, Egypt (18-20 March 2019). The workshop aimed at providing Egyptian stakeholders with the necessary tools to undertake HIA in order to evaluate effectively the impact of potential new construction and development works on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of their properties.

Particular focus was given to the integration of sustainable development policies in the management of sites facing the pressure of urban growth, and to the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) notably in the management of the World Heritage property of Petra in Jordan (urban pressure in the vicinity of the site due to tourism development pressures) and assistance for the nomination file for the Ile of Djerba, inscribed on the Tentative List of Tunisia, due to the pressure of urbanization.

### C. Other Capacity-Building Activities

21. In the framework of the project “Buddhist Heritage Route for Sustainable Tourism Development in South Asia”, three capacity building workshops were organized (, Nepal (July 2018); India (November 2018) and Bangladesh (March 2019)) for building and strengthening sustainable destination partnerships between heritage and tourism managers and across borders between the sites. The Workshops provided more inclusive and sustainable tourism development approaches at the sites. Interactive exercises were conducted to identify and develop the narrative of each World Heritage site that will be used for promoting the project platform ([visitbuddhaworldheritage.com](http://visitbuddhaworldheritage.com)). Launched in 2018, implemented in collaboration with National Geographic and with the support of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), this project aims at developing sustainable tourism in South Asia with a focus on Bangladesh, Nepal and India, through the creation of a Buddhist Heritage Circuit.
22. In the framework of the project “Central African World Heritage Forests Initiative – CAWHFI PHASE 2”, two capacity-building workshops (in Brazzaville, Congo in August 2018 and Douala, Cameroun in November 2018) were organized to train the national heritage professionals from these two beneficiaries countries. The workshop held in Congo aims to disseminate information on the general principles of the World Heritage Convention to government officials in view of the preparation of the nomination proposal of Odzala Kokoua National Park. The second workshop held in Cameroon brought together site managers from Sangha Trinational National Park (TNS) (Cameroon, Congo and Central African Republic). They met in November with the objective to assess the level of implementation of the recommendations for this property adopted by the Committee (Decision 41 COM7B.19). Afterwards, the site managers drafted the state of conservation report for the TNS with the technical support of an IUCN expert. The project is being implemented by UNESCO with the support of the European Union (EU).

23. In the Caribbean sub-region, the phase II of the project “Préservation du patrimoine et appui au secteur touristique” (PAST) in Haiti, financed by the World Bank (2,600,000 USD) is on-going, following the planning established with the donor, the relevant ministries and cultural institutions, and all relevant stakeholders. Likewise, the extra-budgetary project “Towards a Sustainable Community Tourism Strategy in the Valley of Viñales” (Cuba) financed by the Spanish cooperation, is ongoing. The project includes capacity-building activities and most particularly on Sustainable Community Tourism Strategy. In the South America sub-region, the Japan Funds-in-Trust project “Support to the reinforcement of the participative management structure of the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System” is reaching conclusion. The six State Parties involved participated in different international capacity building workshops on HIAs, databases to monitor the state of conservation of the property, disaster risk management, and conservation of stone and earthen structures. The project will be finalized in October 2019 and a final publication is expected to be published in late 2019.

Capacity-building is at the core of the strategy of the Regional Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean (2014-2024) and of the resulting sub-regional action plans for the Caribbean (PAC 2015-2019), for South America (PASS 2015-2020), and for Central America and Mexico (PAMAC 2018-2023). It is in this context that during the period concerned, the World Heritage Centre has continued to support the institutional consolidation and operational activities of the two Category 2 Centres established in the LAC region: the Regional Heritage Management Training Centre “Lucio Costa” (C2C-LCC), of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and the Regional World Heritage Institute (C2C-ZAC) of Zacatecas (Mexico). In regard to the latter, its work plan was drafted and developed in close cooperation with national and local authorities, and final approval by the Zacateca’s Centre [Governance Board](#) is expected for the second half of 2019. Regarding C2C-LCC, its biannual work plan was adopted in mid-2018 and comprises the operationalization of the following capacity-building modules: a) a regional seminar on participatory management in World Heritage properties; b) training on Heritage and Environmental Impact Assessments; c) workshops for site managers of natural, mixed and serial properties; d) online and in-person workshops on the Tentative List Process; e) engaging regional countries in the selection process for the Master’s Degree on Cultural Heritage offered by IPHAN; f) workshops on risk management for focal points and site managers; g) in-person workshops on sustainable tourism and community participation.

24. In the framework of the project “UNESCO Cultural World Heritage Sites in Europe (PHASE 2)”, two capacity-building workshops (in Helsingør, Denmark in June 2018 and Versailles, France in October 2018) were organized focusing on the use of policy guidelines and tools (developed in Phase 1 of the project) for sustainable tourism management in the World Heritage sites. Information and practical advice were provided to the site managers and tourism officials from 34 World Heritage sites participating in the project, with an emphasis on marketing strategies and activities for promoting the UNESCO World Heritage Journeys platform throughout 2018/2019. Launched in September 2018, it is the first ever web-platform dedicated to World Heritage and sustainable travel and offers travelers ways to discover and experience the World Heritage sites presented through thematic journeys and itineraries. The project is being implemented by UNESCO in collaboration with National Geographic with the support of the European Union (EU) and Seabourn Cruise Line.
25. The thematic network of World Heritage marine managers, under the auspices of the World Heritage Marine Programme since 2010, facilitates the sharing of best practices in heritage management among site managers. This currently includes 49 marine sites in 37 countries, and allows for the continuous exchange of information and good practices through newsletters, regional meetings and triennial global site managers conferences. 2018 exchanges focused on marine litter, innovative science, and poverty reduction using the World Heritage status to leverage sustainable jobs and income for local communities and climate adaptation strategies in response to climate change.

26. The World Heritage programme for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) has been supporting Preparatory support for Jodensavanne, Suriname through GPR surveys and conservation works with financial support from the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust at the WHC. The archaeological surveys at Jodensavanne were conducted between February and November 2018, and the analysis of collected data was completed by February 2019. The work has been carried out by the Jodensavanne Foundation in collaboration with Archaeological Services and students of the Anton de Kom University of Suriname (AdeKUS) with the support of an expert in a private sector. This cooperation through the project contributed to the building of local capacity in the use and application of GPR for archaeological research in Suriname. Furthermore, the conservation strategy was developed by the Wood Technology Department of the Department of the Centre for Agricultural Research (CELOS) of AdeKUS, and conservation works were carried out to restore some 14 wooden grave markers by volunteers including indigenous people from the neighbouring village and recently graduated archaeologist. The skills and knowledge obtained from on-site work will be used to contribute to the continuation of the remaining conservation works.

## **II. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE WORLD HERITAGE-RELATED CATEGORY 2 CENTRES**

27. Part II of this document presents activities and recent news and developments regarding the category 2 institutes and centres related to World Heritage, one of the key players for the implementation of the WHCBS.

### **A. Overview**

28. There are currently nine category 2 centres related to World Heritage. Agreements have been signed for seven centres: the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) (Bahrain); the Regional Heritage Management Training Centre "Lucio Costa" (Brazil); the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITR-AP) (China); the Centre on World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region (WNHMT) (India); the International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture and World Heritage Studies (Italy); the Regional World Heritage Institute in Zacatecas (Mexico); and the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) (South Africa). Agreements have not been signed yet for two centres: the International Centre for Rock Art and the World Heritage Convention (Spain) which was approved by the UNESCO General Conference in 2011, and the Regional Centre for Human Evolution, Adaptations and Dispersals in South East Asia (CHEADSEA) (Indonesia) which was approved by the UNESCO General Conference in 2017.
29. A new proposal for a category 2 centre related to World Heritage, the International Centre for the Interpretation and Presentation of World Heritage Sites, was submitted by the Republic of Korea in December 2018. In accordance with the established procedure, a feasibility study is currently underway. The outcomes of this study are scheduled to be presented at 207th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO in October 2019, and for subsequent review by the General Conference of UNESCO. This would be the first category 2 centre dedicated to questions of interpretation.
30. Along with a number of other activities, the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region in China (WHITR-AP) organised their fifth Training Course on Impact Assessments for Heritage (IAH) on 15-26 October 2018 in Shanghai and Zhenze Water Town, China. WHITR-AP also organized the First Meeting on Networking Asia Pacific Heritage Practitioners, hosted in Tongli Town, Jiangsu Province, China, on 5-8 November 2018.
31. The Category 2 Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), located in Dehradun, India, officially entered into force on 17 October 2018. Throughout the past year, this centre has made efforts to strengthen its international outreach by cooperating with the Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) Asia Regional



Office (Republic of Korea) to co-organise and host the 2018 ESP Asia meeting ( October 2018, Dehradun, India). On 1 July 2019, the centre's residential Master's Degree course in Heritage Conservation and Management will accept their first student intake for the academic year 2019-2020.

32. The International Centre on Space Technologies for Cultural and Natural Heritage (HIST), based in China deals with heritage protection and takes part in coordination meetings. While it is administratively affiliated to the Natural Sciences Sector of UNESCO, HIST has organized activities related to the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy, including the use of remote sensing data acquired for the conservation and management of World Heritage sites.
33. Progress reports prepared by each of the category 2 centres in 2018 are available on the website of the World Heritage Centre (see: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/category2centres/>). The reports include a table indicating programmes and activities that are implemented or planned within the framework of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy.
34. As previously reported in Part I, the World Heritage Centre has continued to support the institutional consolidation of the two Category 2 Centres established in the Latin American and the Caribbean region. The final approval of the Regional World Heritage Institute in Zacatecas (Mexico) is expected for the second half of 2019. Whereas, the biannual work plan for Regional Heritage Management Training Centre "Lucio Costa" (Brazil) was adopted in mid-2018.
35. In the Arab States region, the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) as a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO based in Manama (Bahrain), continues to provide technical assistance to the Arab States Parties in order to reinforce the management and conservation of World Heritage properties. It also conducted a number of awareness raising and communication activities to sensitize the public, particularly youth and students, to the importance of preserving World Heritage in the Arab States.
36. In 2019, ARC-WHC announced the culmination of its regional training programme on the *Implementation of the Enhancing Our Heritage (EoH) toolkit: Management Effectiveness Assessment*. This programme was implemented in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies IUCN and ICCROM through their World Heritage Leadership Programme and local partners. Its main objective was to support World Heritage site managers of natural and mixed sites as well as cultural landscapes in the nine State Parties in the Arab Region (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Oman, Tunisia and Sudan) allowing them to enhance the effectiveness of their site management strategies.
37. Under these conditions, ARC-WH continues to seek to build a stronger network of World Heritage site managers in the Arab Region by creating an interconnected environment to meet and exchange experiences.
38. ARC-WH also continues to support the World Heritage Centre on a regular basis in monitoring the state of conservation of inscribed properties. Furthermore, ARC-WH's plays a key role in assisting the World Heritage Centre in the framework of the Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise launched in 2018 for the Arab region. Four international meetings were organized in this framework to train national Focal Points and site managers of the Arab States region in the completion of the Periodic Reporting exercise.
39. ARC-WH also brings its technical support in translating technical and statutory documents into Arabic and broadcasting them on its dedicated website.

## B. Coordination

40. The seventh Annual Coordination Meeting of the UNESCO World Heritage-related Category 2 Centres and Institutes took place in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain between 22 and 23 April 2019. Nine Category 2 Centres and Institutes, ICCROM, the World Heritage Centre and a number of heritage professionals from the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities attended the meeting in order to discuss topics related to the mandates of regional Centres and their fields of work. This year's meeting examined the Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting Exercise in which Category 2 Centres have a major role following the experience of ARC-WH in the Arab region and the potential role of the Category 2 Centres in the implementation of the Resource Mobilisation and Communication Strategy (Decision 42 COM 14). Furthermore, the participants reviewed the implementation of the recommendations of the previous meeting and discussed the current collaboration framework between UNESCO C2Cs and UNESCO. The need to develop synergies with other normative instruments and programmes in order to ensure a better implementation of the Convention in the context of urban heritage was also highlighted. Therefore, the meeting dedicated a whole session to discuss the approach of the Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation (HUL) and the role that UNESCO C2Cs can play in its application. in the meeting report.

## III. DRAFT DECISION

### **Draft Decision 43 COM 6**

*The World Heritage Committee,*

1. *Having examined Document WHC/19/43.COM/6,*
2. *Recalling Decision 42 COM 6 (Manama, 2018),*
3. *Commends the progress made in the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy (WHCBS);*
4. *Notes with appreciation the support from States Parties to capacity building;*
5. *Calls upon other States Parties and organizations to provide additional funding and support for the implementation of the World Heritage Leadership Programme and other activities as part of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy at the international and regional levels;*
6. *Takes note of the implementation of the regional capacity-building strategies and initiatives, and also calls upon States Parties and all concerned partners and stakeholders to follow up on the implementation of the strategies developed for each region;*
7. *Welcomes the progress made by the category 2 centres related to World Heritage in implementing their activities and further calls upon interested stakeholders to support these activities;*
8. *Requests the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM to submit a progress report on the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy and the activities of the category 2 centres related to World Heritage for examination by the Committee at its 44th session in 2020.*