



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

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

**World Heritage**

**36 COM**

**WHC-12/36.COM/19**

**Original: English / French**

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC  
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF  
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

**WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

**Thirty-sixth session**

**Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation  
24 June – 6 July 2012**

**DECISIONS ADOPTED  
BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE  
AT ITS 36TH SESSION  
(SAINT-PETERSBURG, 2012)**

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## **2. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS**

### **Decision: 36 COM 2**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Taking into consideration Rule 8 (Observers) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee,
2. Authorizes the participation in the 36th session as observers of those representatives of the international governmental organizations (IGOs), international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), permanent observer missions to UNESCO and non profit-making institutions having activities in the fields covered by the *Convention*, who have requested observer participation at the session and as listed in Section A of document WHC-12/36.COM/2;
3. Further confirms the participation in the 36th session as observers of all those invited by the Director-General of UNESCO in accordance with Rule 8.4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee and as listed in Section B of document WHC-12/36.COM/2.

The List of Participants is presented in document WHC-12/36.COM/INF.2.

## **3A. PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE 36TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (SAINT PETERSBURG, 2012)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 3A**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/3A,
2. Adopts the agenda included in the above-mentioned document.

## **3B. PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE OF THE 36TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (SAINT PETERSBURG, 2012)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 3B**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/3B,

2. Adopts the timetable included in the above-mentioned Document.

#### **4. REPORT OF THE RAPPOREUR OF THE 35TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (UNESCO, 2011).**

No decision.

#### **5A.1. REPORT OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE ON ITS ACTIVITIES AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE'S DECISIONS**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 5A.1**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined documents WHC-12/36.COM/5A.1, WHC-12/36.COM/INF.5A.1 and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.5A.3;
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 5A** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note with appreciation of the results of the activities undertaken by the World Heritage Centre over the past year in pursuit of its five strategic objectives as presented in document WHC-12/36.COM/5A.1;
4. Further notes the progress report on the implementation of the recommendations by the external auditor on the 2009 audit of the World Heritage Centre presented in document WHC-12/36.COM/INF.5A.3;
5. Welcomes the report on UNESCO Conventions in the field of culture presented in document WHC-12/36.COM/INF.5A.1;
6. Takes note of the consultations between the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies towards the elaboration of a thematic paper proposing to States Parties general guidance regarding the management of their cultural and natural heritage of religious interest, and requests the World Heritage Centre to present to the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, a progress report on this activity.

#### **5A.2 DRAFT OF THE NEW PARTNERSHIPS FOR CONSERVATION (PACT) INITIATIVE STRATEGY**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 5A.2**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/5A.2, document WHC-12/36.COM/INF.5A.2 and document WHC-12/36.COM/9A,

2. Recalling Decisions **34 COM 5A** and Decision **35 COM 5A** respectively,
3. Also recalling Resolution **18 GA 8** adopted by the 18th General Assembly of States Parties to the *Convention* by which the recommendations of the External Auditor on the Partnership for Conservation Initiative (PACT) were endorsed,
4. Considering that the open-ended working group in charge of producing an implementation plan for the recommendations of the External Auditor will be meeting prior to the 37th session of the Committee to discuss the recommendations on the PACT Initiative,
5. Mindful that the UNESCO's Policy Framework for Strategic Partnerships will be presented for consideration to the Executive Board at its 190th session,
6. Takes note of the proposed strategy to improve the development of partnerships for World Heritage with the private sector, their implementation and their evaluation through adequate tools and guidelines, as contained in document WHC-12/36.COM/5A.2;
7. Requests the World Heritage Centre to present, at its 37th session, a revised PACT Initiative strategy that takes into account:
  - a) the Plan of Action proposed by the open-ended working group on the recommendations of the External Auditor concerning PACT,
  - b) the decision adopted during the 190th Executive Board session regarding the Organization's Framework for Strategic Partnerships,
  - c) the debates of the 36th session of the Committee;
8. Requests the World Heritage Centre to continue to keep it informed with regard to the partnerships in an analytical manner.

## **5B. REPORTS OF THE ADVISORY BODIES**

### **Decision: 36 COM 5B**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/5B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 5B** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note of the reports of the Advisory Bodies (ICCROM, ICOMOS and IUCN) on their activities and expresses its gratitude for the efforts undertaken;
4. Welcomes the harmonization of the reports by the Advisory Bodies and the comments on the progress made and gaps identified for the implementation of the *Convention*.

## 5C. WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### **Decision: 36 COM 5C**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/5C,
2. Recalling Decisions **33 COM 14A.2**, **34 COM 5D** and **35 COM 5E** adopted at its 33rd (Seville, 2009), 34th (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th (Paris, 2011) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the outcome of the Consultative Meeting on World Heritage and Sustainable Development held in Ouro Preto (Brazil) from 5 to 8 February 2012, takes note of its recommended actions and thanks the State Party of Brazil for having generously hosted this event;
4. Recognizing that the conservation of cultural and natural heritage is of critical importance for the achievement of sustainable development in its various dimensions at global and local levels, recommends that, in full consistency with the *Convention's* primary objectives, the processes of the *Convention* should seek to appropriately integrate a sustainable development perspective to realize the full benefits of heritage to society, and the benefits of sustainable development approaches to the enhanced protection and conservation of heritage;
5. Requests the World Heritage Centre, with the support of the Advisory Bodies to convene a small expert working group to develop, within a year, a proposal for a policy on the integration of sustainable development into the processes of the *World Heritage Convention*, for possible inclusion in the future Policy Guidelines document. This policy should take into consideration the outcomes of the Ouro Preto Meeting, of other meetings that are taking place in the anniversary year across the world and of the Rio + 20 Conference, as well as integrate the relevant reflection from previous and ongoing discussions on related topics, in connection with the UNESCO initiative to promote the role of culture in development;
6. Further requests the interested States Parties to consider provision of extrabudgetary resources to enable the implementation of this and the other actions recommended by the Ouro Preto Meeting;
7. Also requests, within available resources, the World Heritage Centre to submit a draft of the above-mentioned policy and a report on the progress made in the implementation of other actions recommended by the Paraty and Ouro Preto meetings, for examination by the Committee no later than at its 38th session in 2014.

## 5D. REPORT ON THE WORLD HERITAGE THEMATIC PROGRAMMES

### **Decision: 36 COM 5D**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/5D,

2. Recalling Decisions **32 COM 10**, **32 COM 10A** and **34 COM 5F.1** adopted at its 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) and 34th (Brasilia, 2010) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the progress report made on the implementation of the World Heritage Thematic Programmes;
4. Requests the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, and with the support of interested States Parties to continue its efforts to implement the activities foreseen under each of these programmes in 2012-2013;
5. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Spain for its financial commitment and support given by other States Parties to the programme Human Evolution: Adaptations, Dispersals and Social Developments (HEADS) and encourages the development of the category 2 Centre for Rock Art in Spain to enhance fruitful international cooperation in rock art research, conservation and management;
6. Further requests States Parties, site managers and research institutions in the Africa Region to strengthen collaboration in support of human evolution-related research, conservation and awareness-raising activities and in pursuance to the activities which have taken place in the framework of HEADS in the Region;
7. Also welcomes financial and technical support provided by States Parties and the International Astronomical Union for Thematic Initiative “Astronomy and World Heritage”, since 2003 and also encourages cooperation between the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, specialized agencies and relevant interdisciplinary scientific initiatives towards the elaboration of a Global Thematic Study on Heritage of Science and Technology, including studies and research on technological heritage connected with space exploration;
8. Further encourages States Parties, international organizations and other donors to contribute to the thematic programmes and initiative and also requests an updated report on Thematic Programmes to the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **5E. WORLD HERITAGE TOURISM PROGRAMME**

### **Decision: 36 COM 5E**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/5E,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 5F.2** adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Welcomes the finalization of the new and inclusive Programme on World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism and notes with appreciation the participatory process for its development, objectives and approach towards implementation;
4. Also welcomes the contribution of the Steering Group comprised of States Parties representatives from the UNESCO Electoral Groups, the World Heritage Centre, the



Advisory Bodies (IUCN, ICOMOS, ICCROM), Switzerland and the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) in the elaboration of the Programme;

5. Thanks the Government of Switzerland, the United Nations Foundation and the Nordic World Heritage Foundation for their technical and financial support to the elaboration of the Programme;
6. Notes with appreciation the contribution provided by the States Parties and other consulted stakeholders during the consultation phase of the Programme;
7. Takes note of the results of the Expert Meeting in Sils/Engadin (Switzerland), from 18 to 22 October 2011 contributing to the Programme, and further thanks the Government of Switzerland for hosting the Expert Meeting;
8. Adopts the World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme;
9. Requests the World Heritage Centre to refine the Draft Action Plan 2013-2015 in an Annex to the present document and to implement the Programme with a Steering Group comprised of representatives of the UNESCO Electoral Groups, donor agencies, the Advisory Bodies, UNWTO and in collaboration with interested stakeholders;
10. Notes that financial resources for the coordination and implementation of the Programme do not exist and also requests States Parties to support the implementation of the World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme;
11. Further requests the World Heritage Centre to report biennially on the progress of the implementation of the Programme;
12. Notes with appreciation the launch of the Programme foreseen at the 40th Anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention* event in Kyoto, Japan, in November 2012.

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

### **Decision: 36 COM 6**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/6,
2. Recalling Decisions **34 COM 9C** and **35 COM 6** adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th session (Paris, 2011) respectively,
3. Welcomes the establishment of two new category 2 centres related to World Heritage in Spain and Italy, as well as the progress made by all category 2 centres towards the establishment of their system of governance and the implementation of their activities;
4. Thanks the International Research Centre on the Economics of Culture and World Heritage Studies (Turin, Italy) for having hosted the second annual coordination meeting of category 2 centres related to World Heritage;

5. Requests all category 2 centres related to World Heritage to ensure that their strategies, programmes and activities are directly contributing to the goals and objectives of the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity-Building and in general to actions agreed in the framework of World Heritage statutory processes at global and regional levels, notably those resulting from decisions by the World Heritage Committee, by the General Assembly of States Parties and from the outcomes of periodic reporting exercises;
6. Further requests the World Heritage Centre to submit a progress report on the activities of the category 2 centres related to World Heritage for examination by the Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## 7. STATE OF CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

### 7A. STATE OF CONSERVATION OF THE PROPERTIES INSCRIBED ON THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER

#### NATURAL PROPERTIES

#### AFRICA

##### 1. **Manovo Gounda St. Floris National Park (Central African Republic) (N 475)**

#### Decision: 36 COM 7A.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.1**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Thanks the State Party for the confirmation of its political willingness to restore the property, but notes the absence of concrete information in the State Party report, on the implementation of the corrective measures and their impact on the safeguarding of the property;
4. Expresses its strong concern regarding the continuation of insecurity problems in the property due to the collateral effects of the Darfour conflict in Sudan, but also the recent positioning of the Ugandan rebels of the “Lord Resistance Army” (LRA);
5. Reiterates its extreme concern with regard to the probable disappearance of almost all the flagship species of large mammals in the property due to poaching and the impact of transhumance cattle, which could bring to question the Outstanding Universal Value for which the property was inscribed;

6. Takes note of the fact that there remains a potential, but a very fragile one, for regeneration of the populations of wildlife from the relic pockets of biodiversity adjacent to the property;
7. Strongly urges the State Party to prepare an emergency action plan based on the corrective measures adopted by the Committee at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009) and the orientations described in the conclusion of the present report;
8. Warmly welcomes the request for International Assistance to organize a workshop to develop an action plan and considers that the workshop should discuss the feasibility of regenerating the Outstanding Universal Value of the property under the present conditions of insecurity and should be urgently organized in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;
9. Calls upon the States Parties of Chad and Sudan to cooperate in the preparation of a common conservation strategy, combat poaching and the management of transhumance;
10. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the results of the workshop and preparation, funding and implementation of the management emergency plan for the safeguarding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, as well as a report on the implementation of the corrective measures adopted, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
11. Decides to continue to apply the Reinforced monitoring mechanism to the property;
12. **Also decides to retain the Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park (Central African Republic) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## **2. Comoé National Park (Côte d'Ivoire) (N 227)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.2**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.2**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes with satisfaction the normalisation of the socio-political situation of the country and the restoration of State authority over the property as reported by the State Party;
4. Reiterates its utmost concern that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property appears to be seriously compromised and considers that a census of the populations of key species and indications of poaching and other threats such as the straying of cattle and agricultural encroachment is necessary to assess the status of Outstanding Universal Value of the property;

5. Requests the State Party, with the support from IUCN, to develop a three-year project to rehabilitate the property with clear and achievable goals, and encourages the State Party to mobilize the necessary funds for its implementation;
6. Appeals to the international community and donors to support the implementation of the requested rehabilitation project;
7. Urges the State Party to strengthen efforts to implement the corrective measures, in particular by strengthening surveillance to eliminate poaching, as well as evacuating livestock and agricultural encroachment on the property, to restore wildlife and flora within the property;
8. Also requests the State Party to invite an IUCN mission to assess the state of conservation and the status of Outstanding Universal Value, update the corrective measures which will form the basis of the rehabilitation project and develop a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
9. Reiterates its request to the State Party to officially confirm that no mining exploration license covering the property has been granted;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, on the results of the inventory of March 2012, on the implementation of the revised corrective measures, and on the mining issue, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
11. **Decides to retain Comoé National Park (Cote d'Ivoire) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### **3. Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve (Côte d'Ivoire/Guinea) (N 155 bis)**

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.3**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.3**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party of Guinea did not submit a conservation report on the property as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session, making it impossible to assess the progress of the implementation of corrective measures;
4. Welcomes with satisfaction the dynamics of trans-boundary management of the property as practised by the State Parties of Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia, and reiterates its request to the State Parties of Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire to concretise this commitment to joint management of the property by implementing a common strategy for management and joint monitoring of Mount Nimba;

5. Notes with satisfaction the stabilization of the socio-political situation in Côte d'Ivoire and requests the State Party of Côte d'Ivoire to urgently ensure a presence on the property, resume the monitoring operations and reoccupy the bases closest to the site at Kouan-Houlé and Yéalé;
6. Notes the start of the implementation of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) by the Iron Ore Mining Company of Guinea and reiterates its request that the study be conducted in accordance with the highest international standards, and that it should quantify the potential impact of proposed mining on the property, in close consultation with all stakeholders, and to submit to the World Heritage Committee, any intermediate result;
7. Requests the State Parties of Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire to intensify their efforts to implement corrective measures, especially strengthening of surveillance;
8. Also requests the State Party of Liberia to submit to the World Heritage Centre the ESIA of the potential Arcelor Mittal mining project in Liberia, situated 20 kms from the property, and which could have negative effects on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
9. Further requests the State Parties of Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire to invite a joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN mission to assess the state of conservation of the property, update the corrective measures and propose a timetable for their implementation, develop a proposal for the Desired State of Conservation in view of the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, and evaluate the progress of the ESIA by the Iron Ore Mining Company of Guinea;
10. Further requests both States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property and on progress in implementing corrective measures and other recommendations of the 2007 and 2008 missions, and on the progress of the ESIA by the the Iron Ore Mining Company of Guinea, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
11. **Decides to retain the Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve (Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

#### **4. Virunga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 63)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.4**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.4**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Extends its deepest condolences to the families of guards killed during operations conducted to protect the property, since its last session;

4. Welcomes with satisfaction the significant progress reported by the State Party in the implementation of certain corrective measures, including the resumption of control of 80% of the Park, despite the persistence of pockets of militias in the Park, diminishment of the carbonization problem, the measures taken against encroachment at Lubiliha and the creation of forums for dialogue with the communities to resolve important conflicts;
5. Expresses its deep concern over the granting of a Certificate of Environmental Acceptability for an aeromagnetic and aerogravimetric data gathering campaign, which appears to contradict the Government's decision announced at the 35th session of the Committee to suspend petroleum exploration pending completion of the strategic environmental assessment;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to revise its authorizations and not to grant new authorizations for petroleum and mining exploration and exploitation within the property boundaries and recalls its position on the incompatibility of petroleum and mining exploration and exploitation with World Heritage status;
7. Appeals to the TOTAL and SOCO companies to adhere to commitments already made by Shell and ICMM not to undertake petroleum and mining exploration or exploitation within World Heritage properties;
8. Notes that the TOTAL company, in conformity with its current policy of non-exploration of the protected areas of the park, has not undertaken any petroleum or mining exploration or exploitation within the World Heritage properties, and invites it to formally commit to this policy;
9. Requests States Parties to the *Convention* to make every effort to ensure that petroleum and mining companies in their territory cause no damage the World Heritage properties, in accordance with Article 6 of the *Convention*;
10. Notes that the report of the State Party refers to an unquantified increase in the numbers of wildlife in some areas of the Park, and considers that it will take time to restore these populations, given that the numbers of most species of large mammals of the plains have been reduced by 50% to 96% since the inscription of the property;
11. Also requests the State Party to undertake aerial surveys of key species to confirm these positive trends and monitor indicators established for the Desired State of Conservation for removing the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
12. Urges the State Party to continue the implementation of the corrective measures decided by the Committee at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011) in accordance with the commitments in the Kinshasa Declaration to rehabilitate the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
13. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed and quantified report on the conservation status of the property and on progress in implementing corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
14. Decides to continue the application of the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism;
15. Also decides to retain Virunga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

## 5. Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 137)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.5**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalls Decision **35 COM 7A.5**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes with satisfaction the important progress reported by the State Party in the implementation of some corrective measures, notably the evacuation of the armed groups from the property and the increase in the area of surveillance, the closure of a large number of artisanal mining operations in the property and the resolution of illegal occupations in Bitale;
4. Notes with concern the absence of progress accomplished concerning the cancellation by the Government of land rights illegally granted in the property by the Land Titles and Cadastre Service as well as the mining concessions encroaching on the property granted by the Mining Cadastre;
5. Strongly urges the State Party to initiate a dialogue at the political level with the services of the State (Ministry responsible for the Cadastre and Land rights, Ministry for Mines, Provincial authorities) to reinforce efforts for the implementation of the updated corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010), and particularly the immediate cancellation by the Government of land rights illegally granted in the property as well as mining concessions encroaching on the property, in conformity with the commitments undertaken in the Kinshasa Declaration;
6. Takes note of ongoing discussions with concerned populations on the zoning of the property and requests the State Party to ensure that the identified zoning options guarantee the conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and that they are submitted for consideration to the World Heritage Committee before any final decision is made;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to carry out as soon as possible a survey of the main populations of wildlife in the lowland sectors of the property to enable an assessment of the state of the Outstanding Universal Value and establishment of a timetable for the rehabilitation of the property;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, including an updated situation of the mining concessions and land rights granted on the territory of the property, progress accomplished in the resolution of the problem of illegal occupation of the ecological corridor and in the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
9. Decides to maintain the Reinforced monitoring mechanism for the property;
10. Also decides to retain the Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

## 6. Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 136)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.6**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.6**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the corrective measures but requests the State Party to provide a more detailed and quantitative report to enable the Committee to assess the reported progress;
4. Regrets that the persistence of pockets of armed groups continue to render difficult the management of the property and especially the anti-poaching efforts, and that the lack of mapping equipment continues to cause important risks to the guards when on patrol;
5. Recalls the commitments undertaken by the Congolese Government in the Kinshasa Declaration of January 2011, notably to reinforce the operational capacities of the ICCN, and also requests that mapping equipment for surveillance activities be made available;
6. Reiterates its concern regarding the probable extinction of the Northern White Rhinoceros in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and considers that, unless there is proof that the sub-species still survives in the DRC, the State Party should consider other options for the conservation of the animals remaining in Kenya in consultation with the African Rhino Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission, with a view to the possible future reintroduction of the sub-species within the property, crossed or not with the southern white rhinoceros;
7. Further requests the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the corrective measures to rehabilitate the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
8. Strongly urges the State Party to urgently carry out a survey of the large mammal populations to quantify the impact of the corrective measures on the rehabilitation of the Outstanding Universal Value and also requests the State Party, based on the results and in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to finalize the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and to update the required timetable, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, including an update of progress accomplished in the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
10. Decides to continue the application of the reinforced monitoring mechanism for the property;
11. Also decides to retain Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.



## 7. Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 280)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.7**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.7**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes with satisfaction the recent progress in the security of the property and progress accomplished by the managers and their partners concerning the participatory management of the natural resources, notably the delineation of the property;
4. Expresses its deep concern regarding the conclusion of the reactive monitoring mission that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, although intact, has further deteriorated since the 2007 reactive monitoring mission with erosion of biodiversity and questioning of the integrity of the property;
5. Requests the State Party for detailed information on the oil exploration and exploitation projects in the central basin that risk to overlap the property and recalls its established position on the incompatibility of oil exploration and exploitation with World Heritage status;
6. Urgently requests the State Party to implement the corrective measures, as updated by the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission of 2012 for the rehabilitation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property:
  - a) Secure the property through the implementation of the third stage of 'Operation Bonobo' to eliminate the pockets of rebellion still present inside the property,
  - b) Revitalize the permanent consultation framework between the political, administrative and military provincial authorities of the four provinces concerned with the property to eliminate poaching in the Park by rapidly organizing a second meeting and establishing a monitoring mechanism for this consultation,
  - c) Revise, adapting to the current situation in the Park and implement the anti-poaching strategy and ensure its monitoring by immediately establishing the monitoring of law enforcement through the daily use of the MIST programme,
  - d) Implement without delay the overall ecological monitoring of the whole Salonga National Park to collect updated data to orient the anti-poaching strategy and finalize the Management Plan,
  - e) Address the conflicts concerning the management of natural resources by accelerating the participatory delineation process of the non-natural boundaries of the Park and pursue the present formalization procedure for the fishing associations by establishing a zoning, creating restricted zones and reconsidering the land boundary granted locally for fishing,
  - f) Pursue the creation of an ecological continuum between the two sectors of the Park through participatory work for the orientation of this area and propose a listing status for this protected area and accompany this process with a simple Management Plan,
  - g) Conduct studies concerning the situation and ecological impact of the two communities established inside the Park, before taking any relocation decision;

7. Takes note of the indicators developed by the mission with the management team of the Park and also requests the State Party, in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, to quantify these indicators based on the results of overall ecological monitoring of the whole property and the results of monitoring law enforcement to enable the proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property and progress achieved in the implementation of the updated corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
9. Decides to continue the application of the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism;
10. **Also decides to retain Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

#### **8. Okapi Wildlife Reserve (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 718)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.8**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalls Decision **35 COM 7A.8** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Extends its deepest condolences to the families of guards killed during operations conducted to protect the property, since its last session;
4. Warmly welcomes the efforts of the State Party and in particular the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation, in implementing the corrective measures;
5. Expresses its strong concern with regard to the reports indicating an extremely serious deterioration of the security situation in the property, the total loss of control of all the south-eastern and south-western parts of the Reserve, the invasion by the Simba rebels, the increase in organized and commercial poaching of elephants, the reopening of the artisanal mines and the lack of collaboration of the military authorities based in Kisangani to assist in dealing with this situation and considers that these developments risk to cancel all progress achieved in the last five years;
6. Notes the lack of progress in the cancellation of mining rights encroaching on the property granted by the Mining Cadastre, despite national legislation and recalls that the mining exploration and exploitation are contrary to the World Heritage status, in accordance with the position of the International Council on Minerals and Metals, and that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) including a clear conclusion on the potential impacts of the projects on the Outstanding Universal Value and integrity of the property, should be carried out and transmitted to the World Heritage Centre for all mining projects adjacent to the property, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;

7. Strongly urges the State Party to initiate a dialogue/cooperation at the political level with the State services (Ministry of Defense, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Mines, Provincial authorities,...) to strengthen the efforts in the implementation of the current corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009), and more specifically to undertake immediate measures to halt the involvement of the FARDC military in poaching activities, regain control of the zones occupied by the Simba rebels and the immediate cancellation of the mining rights encroaching on the property, in conformity with the commitments undertaken in the Kinshasa Declaration;
8. Requests the State Party to submit the final results of the wildlife inventory as soon as they are available and also recalls that the results are indispensable for the evaluation of the tendencies of the eight indicators defined for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
9. Also requests the State Party to invite a World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission to assess the state of conservation of the property and the progress achieved in the implementation of the corrective measures, evaluate the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, and if necessary to revise the corrective measures and consequently their timetable for application, taking into account the situation in the field;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, in particular the state of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property based on the final results of the 2011 survey, the progress accomplished in the implementation of the corrective measures and the other recommendations of the 2009 mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.
11. **Decides to retain the Okapi Wildlife Reserve (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger**

## **9. Simien National Park (Ethiopia) (N 9)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.9**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.9**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Commends the State Party for the reported efforts to strengthen the management effectiveness of the property as well as progress in the implementation of several recommendations on previous monitoring missions as well as the reported significant increases in populations of the endangered Walia ibex and Ethiopian wolf but notes that progress should continue to be made to resolve the core issues affecting the long-term ecological integrity of the property, namely the unsustainable levels of grazing by domestic stock and the pressures of cultivation and resource use arising from a large number of settlements inside the property;

4. Reiterates its request to the State Party to organize the donor conference as soon as possible in order to mobilize the additional funding necessary to implement key outstanding corrective measures, in particular the grazing pressure reduction strategy and alternative livelihoods strategies;
5. Reiterates its call to the International Community to financially support the implementation of these strategies;
6. Urges the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the three remaining outstanding corrective measures, in particular:
  - a) finalize the gazettelement of the extended park boundaries into national law,
  - b) implement an effective grazing reduction strategy,
  - c) provide alternative livelihoods for those who currently depend on cultivation and other forms of resource use within the property, as requested by the World Heritage Committee in its previous decisions;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to submit a proposal for boundary modification of the World Heritage property once the gazettal is completed, to reflect the new boundaries of the National Park and encourages the State Party to clarify with the World Heritage Centre the requirements for the boundary modification;
8. Recommends that the State Party establish a program to monitor and report on the six indicators of the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger to evaluate progress in restoring the ecological integrity and Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
9. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, in particular on progress accomplished in the implementation of the outstanding corrective measures and the recommendations of the 2009 mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
10. **Decides to retain Simien Mountains National Park (Ethiopia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

#### **10. Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar) (N 1257)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.10**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.10**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the efforts by the State Party to start implementing the corrective measures, in particular the inscription of ebony and rosewood species under Appendix III of CITES, and the reported halting of all illegal logging in Masoala National Park;

4. Considers that to address the issue of illegal logging in a sustainable way, it is important to tackle the governance of the forest sector and in particular eliminate all existing rosewood and ebony stocks, as foreseen in the urgent corrective measures;
5. Takes note of the strategy to eliminate rosewood and ebony stocks based on a “zero stock, zero logging and zero transporting” approach proposed by the State Party, and urges the State Party to confiscate illegal timber, and include illegal timber stocks retained by timber traders in the operation, and requests the State Party to involve an independent observer in this process;
6. Also urges the State Party to take an unequivocal position on the illegal logging and trade of rosewood and ebony at the highest level and enforce the existing trade ban legislation as defined in Decree 2010-141;
7. Reiterates the importance of the States Parties to the *Convention* taking measures to ensure that illegal timber from Madagascar is both forbidden and cannot enter their domestic markets;
8. Notes with concern reports that an estimated 10,000 sapphire artisanal miners are currently based near Zahamena National Park, one of the components of the property, which could affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and further urges the State Party to provide immediate and appropriate support to park management and local authorities to effectively address this threat;
9. Also requests the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the corrective measures;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, including, notably, an overall assessment of the impacts of illegal logging in Masoala and Marojejy National Parks, and an evaluation of the implementation of corrective measures, for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
11. **Decides to retain the Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

#### **11. Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger) (N 573)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.11**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.11**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets the absence of precise information in the reports submitted by the State Party on the implementation of the corrective measures and their impact, in response to the decisions of the Committee;
4. Reiterates its deep concern concerning the deterioration of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property based on reports received indicating that several species of

antelope and other large mammals have disappeared from the property, or are on the point of disappearing, following important poaching activities within and around the property due to the insecurity situation;

5. Reiterates its request to the State Party to clarify the information concerning the existence of an oil concession in the property, and recalls that the Committee adopted several years ago a clear position regarding the issue of mining and oil exploitation and exploration within inscribed properties, judging these activities incompatible with the World Heritage status;
6. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to organize, before the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee (in June-July 2013), and in cooperation with the IUCN Species Survival Commission, an inventory of the remaining large fauna, in order to assess the state of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and prepare rehabilitation programmes and re-establishment of the populations;
7. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property, as soon as the inventory is available to update the corrective measures and establish a timetable for their implementation and develop the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
8. Strongly urges the State Party to continue and reinforce its efforts to fully implement all the corrective measures, and in particular the anti-poaching measures, as well as the other recommendations proposed by the 2005 monitoring mission and invites the international community to increase its support to the property;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, and in particular on the implementation of corrective measures and their impact on the restoration of integrity of the property, the inventory of fauna, an update on security in the property, and the existence of an oil concession likely to affect the property, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
10. **Decides to retain the Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## **12. Niokolo-Koba National Park (Senegal) (N 153)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.12**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.12**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Reiterates its concern about the alarmingly low densities of wildlife in the property, as indicated by the reported survey results, which reflect a significant deterioration of the property's Outstanding Universal Value;
4. Welcomes the actions undertaken by the State Party in the development of a management framework for the property and in strengthening cooperation with local communities and other local stakeholders to improve the conservation of the property;

5. Expresses its concern about the limited progress in the implementation of the corrective measures, as compared to the timeframe set by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010);
6. Requests the State Party to intensify its efforts to implement the corrective measures to halt the decline in biodiversity, and to urgently implement the Emergency Action Plan in an effort to save the remaining elements of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property that may permit the eventual restoration of the property;
7. Expresses its satisfaction with the State Party's decision to close the basalt quarry at Mansadala;
8. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to provide a report of a specific study of the impacts of the proposed Sambangalou dam on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including the possible reduction of gallery forests and palm forests, wildlife river crossings and water supply to flood basins and ponds in the property, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, prior to making a decision on its construction;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including on progress achieved in the implementation of all seven corrective measures and the other issues raised above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
10. **Decides to retain Niokolo-Koba National Park (Senegal) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## ASIA-PACIFIC

### 13. Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Indonesia) (N 1167)

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.13**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.16**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the progress reported by the State Party, and urges the State Party to continue increasing the efforts to combat illegal activities within the property;
4. Notes the on-going process of updating the Action Plan, and requests the State Party to urgently reactivate the Inter-ministerial World Heritage Working Group which would facilitate its implementation;
5. Also requests the State Party, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, to develop corrective measures and a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, for examination

by the Committee at its 37th session in 2013, and considers that the planned workshop for discussing the Emergency Action Plan could be used as a platform for this process;

6. Also urges the State Party to impose a moratorium on the construction of new roads that could negatively impact the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, until a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the road network in the Bukit Barisan Mountain Range has been conducted, in order to identify transport options for the region that do not adversely impact the property's OUV, and to submit this assessment to the World Heritage Centre for review;
7. Further requests the State Party to develop and implement a property-wide mechanism for monitoring the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including for Sumatran Rhino and other key species, in consultation with the IUCN Species Survival Commission and the involvement of conservation organizations working actively in the property;
8. Requests moreover that the State Party revoke any existing mining concessions where they overlap with the property, and to ensure that no further mining concessions are issued within the property or in adjacent areas where mining could have negative impacts on the property's OUV, in line with the established position of the Committee that mineral exploration and mining are incompatible with World Heritage status;
9. Further advises the State Party to facilitate the process of resolving the differences between park authorities, small encroachers and human-rights organizations, in order to formulate solutions to the complex issue of small scale encroachment throughout the property, and particularly in the Merangin district, Sekoci and Sei Lapan;
10. Finally requests that the State Party submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, including confirmation of the reactivation of the Interministerial World Heritage Working Group, information on the status of the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Bukit Barisan road network, and on the progress achieved in addressing the other points raised above, for examination by the Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
11. **Decides to retain the Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Indonesia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## **EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA**

### **14. Everglades National Park (United States of America) (N 76)**

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.14**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.14**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),



3. Welcomes the significant effort of the State Party to refine and quantify the indicators developed for the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and to connect them to the 14 corrective measures allowing a comprehensive report on progress;
4. Expresses concern about the results of the assessment of the effects of exotic invasive plant and animal species which concludes that exotic species are affecting native animal communities as well as the biological processes that are the foundation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value, and also welcomes the establishment of an appropriate framework and funding for addressing this threat;
5. Notes with appreciation that the State Party is making progress on the implementation of the corrective measures, including the adoption of a common vision for a catchment scale approach to land and water planning and mobilizing the outstanding budget necessary for the full implementation of projects crucial to the delivery of more natural flow of water and improved water quality, and encourages the State Party to maintain this level of effort;
6. Also notes that significant work remains to be done to recover the integrity of the property, and requests the State Party to consider, in its next report to the Committee:
  - a) How progress with the corrective measures is being incorporated in the existing Management Plans for Everglades National Park,
  - b) How the proposed new plans will provide added value to the corrective measures already underway,
  - c) When actions in the proposed plans will be implemented;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, including progress achieved in implementing the corrective measures and in meeting the indicators developed for the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
8. **Decides to retain Everglades National Park (United States of America) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

### 15. Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (Belize) (N 764)

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.15**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.15**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),

3. Expresses its utmost concern that the State Party has not made a clear and unequivocal commitment to eliminate oil concessions granted within the boundaries of the property, which threaten to seriously and irreversibly affect its Outstanding Universal Value if activated, and reiterates its position that oil exploration and extraction are incompatible with World Heritage status;
4. Notes with extreme concern that the property is highly threatened, taking into account possible offshore oil exploitation, uncertainty about the impact of invasive species, increasing risk from climate change, in addition to existing threats for which corrective measures exist but progress toward their implementation is unclear;
5. Regrets that very little measurable progress has been achieved towards implementation of the corrective measures and the achievement of the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and urges the State Party to increase significantly its efforts to implement the corrective measures adopted by the Committee at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009);
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre as soon as possible, a copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment of the Yum Balisi resort, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, for review by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;
7. Also requests the State Party to seek assistance from the World Heritage Centre's Marine Programme and to invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission to consider the state of conservation of the property as a whole, update the corrective measures and establish a timeframe for their implementation, and assist the State Party in developing the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, supported by appropriate detailed documentation including relevant laws, policies and Management Plans, including a report on concrete progress achieved in implementing the corrective measures and progress regarding the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
9. **Decides to retain the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (Belize) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 16. Los Katios National Park (Colombia) (N 711)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.16**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.16**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Endorses the recommendations expressed by the reactive monitoring mission;

4. Welcomes the efforts of the State Party to implement the interim corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session, in particular efforts at providing adequate human resources for the management of the property;
5. Takes note that major infrastructure projects such as canals and highways do not at this time present a threat to the property, however requests the State Party to inform the Committee should such projects be proposed in the future, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Also requests that an Environmental Impact Assessment be duly carried out for the electrical utilities corridor planned near the property's boundaries, including an evaluation of its potential impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value, in order to inform project design and operations;
7. Urges the State Party to implement the updated technical corrective measures to restore the integrity of the property, and to submit a financial estimation of the costs to implement the updated corrective measures:
  - a) Illegal logging, hunting and fishing: Control illegal logging, related illegal hunting, and inappropriate use of fishing techniques by investing in monitoring, control and law enforcement to further implement the Action Plan 'Plan Choque', while increasing the involvement of local communities in the governance of Los Katios National Park and promoting legal livelihood alternatives for them in the surrounding landscape,
  - b) Settlements within the property: Finalize and implement comprehensive natural resource use agreements with the Wounaan community within the property,
  - c) Mega projects: Integrate World Heritage concerns into Environmental Impact Assessments for development projects affecting the property, and ensure that its Outstanding Universal Value is not threatened by mega projects including the planned electrical utilities corridor,
  - d) Security: Ensure that the National Park's staff are able to carry out their work without disturbance, guaranteeing a minimum stable number of permanent staff required for the monitoring and surveillance of the property;
8. Considers that the Desired state of conservation indicators intended to measure the restoration of the values and ecological integrity of the property, which were jointly developed by the State Party and the 2011 monitoring mission, should be reached to enable the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, with a particular focus on the advances related to the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
10. **Decides to retain Los Katios National Park (Colombia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 17. Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve (Honduras) (N 196)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.17**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.31**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made towards the relocation of illegal occupants from within the property, and also the establishment of an inter-ministerial judicial group to lead the land tenure regularization process for indigenous groups living in and around the property;
4. Takes note of the Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposed Patuca III hydroelectric project on the Patuca River and considers that “the dam does not pose a threat” to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and that the State Party reiterates its commitment to protect the Outstanding Universal Value and ensure that appropriate mitigation measures would be put in place, as needed;
5. Urges the State Party to pursue its efforts at redrawing the property’s boundaries to reflect the increased size of the protected area, the new zonation, and the existing land uses, taking into account different aspects related to the Patuca III dam on areas that are considered for inclusion in the property;
6. Also welcomes the State Party’s efforts to assure a Government presence in the area, and urges it to ensure that the fourteen checkpoints designed to control illegal activities in and around the property are effectively staffed in 2012;
7. Also urges the State Party to ensure the adequate presence of non-military, permanent, and trained protected areas staff responsible for site management, to provide for the protection and conservation of the property;
8. Reiterates its request to the State Party to establish the capacity to permanently monitor the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, particularly in relation to encroachment and land use change, using a systematic approach, including through the use of remote sensing applications to complement field activities;
9. Requests the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the corrective measures identified in Decision **35 COM 7B.31**;
10. Also requests the State Party to ensure that efforts to prevent the use of the property and surrounding lands for drug trafficking continue, and further welcomes the participation of partner States Parties in finding a solution to this regional problem;
11. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to finalize, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
12. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, with a particular focus on the advances related to the corrective measures and on property boundary

modification progress, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;

13. **Decides to retain Rio Plátano Biosphere Reserve (Honduras) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## **CULTURAL PROPERTIES**

### **AFRICA**

18. **Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) (C 1022)**

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.18**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.17**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in the implementation of the adopted corrective measures, and in the reconstruction of the Muzibu Azaala Mpanga in particular, and urges it to continue its efforts in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
4. Also welcomes the support by the Government of Japan through UNESCO to address the fire fighting and disaster risk management component of the reconstruction of the Muzibu Azaala Mpanga, as well as the research on traditional thatching of royal tombs;
5. Takes note with appreciation of the important contributions to be provided by the Government of Uganda and the Buganda Kingdom, for the reconstruction of the Muzibu Azaala Mpanga;
6. Also takes note of the results of the reactive monitoring mission to the property and encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations, in particular:
  - a) Continue the research project, through enhanced partnerships with universities and other allied institutions, and implement actions to reflect traditional architectural knowledge and to witness traditions, such as in the reconstruction of the custodians' houses or in the design of the Interpretation Centre,
  - b) Define a comprehensive capacity building strategy and identify resources to address gaps in technical capacity critical for the implementation of the reconstruction strategy, including documentation, visitor management, risk management, among others,
  - c) Prioritize the development of the Master Plan to address critical issues such as landscape management, urban pressure, enforcement of regulatory measures and increased collaboration between the different levels of authority and stakeholders,

- d) Finalize the development of the risk management strategy and train staff on disaster risk management measures,
  - e) Develop a comprehensive interpretation and public awareness programme;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
  8. **Decides to retain Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**
- 19. Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara (United Republic of Tanzania) (C 144)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.19**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.18**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes with satisfaction the efforts made for the development and resourcing of the Integrated Preservation project including its three components at the ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara and requests the State Party to submit the fully developed World Monuments Fund project, including technical specifications for interventions, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, prior to implementation and as soon as possible;
4. Urges the State Party, in line with the corrective measures and the time frame for their implementation adopted at the 32nd session of the World Heritage Committee, to:
  - a) Secure the necessary resources for the sustained implementation of the Management Plan upon completion to ensure a fully operational management system,
  - b) Survey and delineate boundaries of the property and its buffer zone as well as the extension of the property to include Kilwa Kivinje and Sanje ya Kati,
  - c) Establish a proper land-use plan;
5. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
6. **Decides to retain the Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara (United Republic of Tanzania) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## ARAB STATES

### 20. Abu Mena (Egypt) (C 90)

**Decision:** 36 COM 7A.20 The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.19**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit a report as requested and expresses its concern about the lack of information on the state of conservation of the property;
4. Urges the State Party to take all necessary steps to implement the corrective measures adopted at its 31st session in 2007;
5. Requests the State Party to submit a revised timeframe, previously announced for 2010, to complete the corrective measures so as to attain the Desired State of conservation of the property adopted at its 31st session in 2007;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to identify a buffer zone surrounding the property, together with regulatory measures for protection and to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 December 2012** the relevant information and map for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the technical specifications for proposed interventions projects, for review prior to implementation;
8. Reiterates its invitation to the State Party to submit a request for International Assistance to the World Heritage Fund to support the preparation of the requested conservation and Management Plans and to provide a basis for shaping and articulating priority needs;
9. Further requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to assess the state of conservation of the property prior to the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee;
10. Requests finally the State Party to submit, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed progress report on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
11. **Decides to retain Abu Mena (Egypt) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 21. Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Iraq) (C 1130)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.21**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.20**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit the report on the state of conservation of the property as requested;
4. Takes note of the results of the reactive monitoring mission of June 2011, encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations and urges it to prioritize the implementation of the following actions:
  - a) Develop baseline documentation to carry out a comprehensive condition assessment of the property, including architectural drawings and topographical maps that have yet to be completed,
  - b) Undertake identified priority conservation actions to improve the conservation conditions of the built fabric,
  - c) Undertake a planning process for the formulation of the Management Plan for the property, including a comprehensive conservation plan, a risk Management Plan and provisions for maintenance and monitoring,
  - d) Implement capacity building activities for earthen architecture conservation and site management;
5. Requests the State Party to submit, as per Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, detailed and updated technical information on the proposed interventions foreseen for the property, in particular the retaining wall to mitigate the erosion from the Tigris River and the project for the Makhool Dam and its environmental impact assessment;
6. Also notes the limited capacities that currently exist for the implementation of the above, and invites the State Party to submit an International Assistance request for the development of a conservation and Management Plan for the property and for the implementation of priority conservation measures;
7. Calls upon the international community to financially and technically support the implementation of the above measures, in co-operation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is sustained;
8. Reiterates its request to the State Party to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, altogether with a proposed timeframe, and to finalise the retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
9. Also requests the State Party, in the framework of the Retrospective Inventory process, to submit a boundary clarification, no later than **1 December 2012**;



10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
  11. **Decides to retain Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**
- 22. Samarra Archaeological City (Iraq) (C 276 rev)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.22**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.21**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit the report on the state of conservation of the property as requested;
4. Takes note of the results of the reactive monitoring mission of June 2011, encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations and urges it to prioritize the implementation of the following actions:
  - a) Develop baseline documentation, including missing architectural plans and topographic surveys, to carry out a detailed conservation condition survey,
  - b) Undertake identified preventive conservation actions to ensure the stability of the built fabric,
  - c) Identify regulatory measures to ensure the protection of the property and establish protocols for the approval of public works in the vicinity of the site, including the development of heritage and environmental impact assessments,
  - d) Initiate the planning process for the development of the Management Plan for the property, including a comprehensive conservation plan,
  - e) Establish a site management unit with adequate staff to implement priority conservation measures as well as maintenance and monitoring actions;
5. Also notes the limited capacities that currently exist for the implementation of the above, and reiterates its invitation to the State Party to submit an International Assistance request to support the implementation of capacity building endeavors;
6. Calls upon the international community to financially and technically support the implementation of the above measures, in co-operation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is sustained;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, altogether with a proposed timeframe, and to finalize the retrospective Statement of

Outstanding Universal Value for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;

8. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
9. **Decides to retain Samarra Archaeological City (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### **23. Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls (site proposed by Jordan) (C 148 rev)**

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.23.I**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.22**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Recalling the relevant provisions on the protection of cultural heritage including the four Geneva Conventions (1949), the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict of 1954, the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972, the inscription of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls at the request of Jordan on the World Heritage List (1981) and on the List of World Heritage in Danger (1982), and the recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO,
4. Reaffirming that nothing in the present decision, which aims at the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls, shall in any way affect the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, in particular the relevant Security Council resolutions on the legal status of Jerusalem,
5. Affirming the importance of maintaining the integrity and authenticity in the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls on both sides,
6. Affirms the necessity of cooperation to facilitate access to the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls, including heritage sites therein, in the context of the UNESCO Conventions for the protection of the cultural heritage, and recognizes the concerns expressed regarding the restricting obstacles imposed by the Israeli authorities on the freedom of access;
7. Thanks international donors for their generous contributions to the UNESCO Action Plan for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem and both sides of its Walls, and calls upon the international donor community to further support, through extra-budgetary funding, activities aimed at the safeguarding of the integrity and authenticity of the cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem and both sides of its Walls;

8. Requests the World Heritage Centre to make technical expertise and assistance available for the current and future conservation works foreseen in and around the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls, taking into consideration the activities foreseen in the context of the Action Plan, as needed;
9. Regrets the Israeli refusal to comply with the World Heritage Centre and UNESCO decisions and requests Israel to timely cooperate and facilitate the implementation of the World Heritage Committee Decision **34 COM 7A.20** which requests, *inter alia*, a joint World Heritage Centre/ICCROM/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls;
10. Also regrets the persistence of the Israeli archaeological excavations and works in the Old City of Jerusalem and on both sides of its Walls, and the failure of Israel to provide the World Heritage Centre with adequate and comprehensive information about its archeological activities thereon, and asks the Israeli authorities to cease such excavations and works in conformity with the UNESCO Conventions for the protection of cultural heritage;
11. Asks in this regard, that the World Heritage Centre states in its relevant reports on the obstacles related to the provision of such information by the Israeli authorities and also requests the World Heritage Centre to play a proactive role;
12. Further requests the World Heritage Centre to apply the Reinforced monitoring mechanism to the Old City of Jerusalem and on both sides of its Walls, and also requests that the World Heritage Centre validates in a concrete manner the flow of information provided by the concerned parties on the ongoing activities in and around the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls;
13. Encourages the Director-General of UNESCO to take the necessary measures, in consultation and cooperation with the concerned parties, to reactivate and reinvigorate the implementation of the short-, medium- and long-term objectives of the Action Plan, including training, education and cultural activities, and the preservation of sites and monuments of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls as inscribed on the World Heritage List;
14. Thanks the Director-General of UNESCO and the World Heritage Centre for steps undertaken in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem and further requests them to report on this matter and on the state of conservation of the property at its 37th session in 2013;
15. **Decides to retain the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls (site proposed by Jordan) (C 148 rev) – The Mughrabi Ascent**

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.23.II**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,

2. Recalling previous UNESCO decisions, including 176 EX/Special Plenary Meeting/Decision, Decision **34 COM 7A.20** of the World Heritage Committee adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010), and 187 EX/Decision 5 relating to the Ascent to the Mughrabi Gate in the Old City of Jerusalem,
3. Also recalling the relevant provisions on the protection of cultural heritage, including in the four Geneva Conventions (1949), the relevant provisions of the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict of 1954, the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972, the inscription of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls at the request of Jordan on the World Heritage List (1981) and on the List of World Heritage in Danger (1982), and recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO,
4. Reaffirming the purpose and spirit of the professional encounter at the technical level on 13 January 2008, as well as the follow-up meeting on 24 February 2008,
5. Noting the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth and its Addendum, Tenth and Eleventh Reinforced Monitoring Reports prepared by the World Heritage Centre,
6. Recognizes the concerns raised in this regard about the decision by the Jerusalem District Planning and Construction Commission on the town planning scheme for the Mughrabi Ascent, and the subsequent decision by Israel's National Council for Planning and Construction to adopt "an alternative plan for the Mughrabi Ascent", approved on 31 October 2010 by the above-mentioned Commission;
7. Requests that, despite the decisions mentioned in paragraph 6, the process for the design of the Mughrabi Ascent be inclusive of all parties concerned, in accordance with obligations and duties of such parties as stipulated in the content of previous World Heritage Committee decisions;
8. Reaffirms in this regard, that no measures, unilateral or otherwise, should be taken which will affect the authenticity and integrity of the site, in accordance with the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 1972 and the relevant provisions on the protection of cultural heritage of the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict of 1954;
9. Notes the request made by the World Heritage Committee in previous decisions, and requests, in this regard, the Israeli authorities to continue cooperation with all concerned parties, in particular with Jordanian and Waqf experts;
10. Acknowledges receipt of the Jordanian design for the restoration and preservation of the Mughrabi Ascent, submitted to the World Heritage Centre on 27 May 2011, and thanks Jordan for its cooperation in accordance with the relevant provisions of UNESCO conventions for the protection of cultural heritage;
11. Affirms in this regard, that the UNESCO-initiated process for follow-up to the design of the Mughrabi Ascent, which aims at proactively facilitating an accepted and monitored solution concerning the Mughrabi Ascent among all parties concerned, be coordinated with all such parties, in accordance with the spirit and content of previous World Heritage Committee decisions;
12. Acknowledges in this regard, the concerns raised regarding Israel's submission and content of its plan for the Mughrabi Ascent, referred to in paragraph 6, and requests the World Heritage Centre to be proactive and follow closely, in the context of the Reinforced monitoring mechanism, the developments associated with this process;
13. Notes with satisfaction the access provided by Israel to the Mughrabi Ascent for Jordanian and Waqf experts on 23 May, 8 August and 28 November 2010, and reiterates its request that Israel continues cooperation commenced with all parties concerned, in particular with Jordanian and Waqf experts to enable agreement on, and

implementation of, a final design for the restoration and preservation of the Mughrabi Ascent among all parties concerned;

14. Also notes in this regard, reports of preliminary discussions between Jordan and Israel concerning the Mughrabi Ascent, which stipulate, *inter alia*, that no measures, unilateral or otherwise, shall be taken on the site in accordance with paragraph 8 above, and the necessity of an accepted design and implementation thereof among all parties concerned; and reiterates in this regard, the need for the parties concerned to coordinate and cooperate on all related aspects of this issue;
15. Encourages the Director-General to facilitate coordinated action and professional exchanges between all the parties concerned;
16. Decides to continue applying the Reinforced monitoring mechanism for the state of conservation of the Mughrabi Ascent, and also requests a report from the World Heritage Centre every four months, until the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2013.

#### **24. Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen) (C 611)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.24**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.23**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party on the actions being taken to implement some of the corrective measures and urges the State Party to continue its work on all the corrective measures adopted at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007);
4. Calls upon the international community to support financially and technically the implementation by the State Party, in co-operation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, of priority conservation and management measures and capacity building endeavours;
5. Requests the State Party, in the framework of the Retrospective Inventory process, to submit a boundary clarification, no later than **1 December 2012**;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
7. Decides to retain the Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

## ASIA AND PACIFIC

### 25. Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Afghanistan) (C 211 rev)

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.25**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **33 COM 7A.20**, **34 COM 7A.20** and **35 COM 7A.24** adopted at its 33rd (Seville, 2009), 34th (Brasillia, 2010) and 35th (UNESCO, 2011) sessions respectively,
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit a state of conservation report, as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011);
4. Takes note of the planned Third expert working group meeting for Jam and Herat to take place in tentatively September 2012 and encourages the State Party to utilise this meeting to define future strategies for achieving the Desired state of conservation;
5. Reiterates its request to the State Party to continue its efforts towards implementing all the corrective measures adopted at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007) and requests the State Party to update the time frame for the implementation of the corrective measures in order to attain the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
6. Calls upon the international community to continue its technical and financial support in co-operation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies with the aim of implementing all the corrective measures;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
8. **Decides to retain the Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### 26. Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Afghanistan) (C 208 rev)

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.26**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,

2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.25**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that no report was submitted by the State Party, as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011);
4. Notes the production of the first Annual Progress Report (June 2010-June 2011) for the Preparation of a Management Plan for Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley;
5. Urges the State Party to finalise the Management Plan of the Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley with an overall strategy of managing the property as a Cultural Landscape;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party, when considering options for the treatment of the Buddha niches, to ensure that proposals are based on feasibility studies which include:
  - a) An overall approach to conservation and presentation of the property,
  - b) An appropriate conservation philosophy based on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property,
  - c) Technical and financial possibilities for the implementation of the project proposals;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to submit information on any planned development, in particular the proposed Foladi Valley Road, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, including a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage cultural properties;
8. Also urges the State Party to ensure that the Cultural Master Plan is respected by all national and international actors intervening in the valley; and further urges the State Party to enforce building codes and regulations on development in the buffer zones of the property and other areas protected under the Afghan Law on the Protection of Historical and Cultural Properties 2004;
9. Requests the State Party to continue its work on the implementation of the adopted corrective measures and to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, a revised timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
10. Calls upon the international community to continue providing technical and financial support for the protection and management of the property, in order to achieve the Desired state of conservation;
11. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
12. **Decides to retain the Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 27. Bam and its Cultural Landscape (Islamic Republic of Iran) (C 1208 bis)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.27**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.25**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures for the property and calls upon the international community to continue to support these efforts;
4. Takes note of the results of the October 2011 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission;
5. Requests the State Party to implement the mission's recommendations, in particular to:
  - a) Systematically implement monitoring and security measures and enforce regulatory measures at the different component parts of the property to avoid encroachment and illegal construction,
  - b) Complement the Management Plan by defining the existing resources and allocating tasks and timeframes for its efficient implementation,
  - c) Secure human and financial resources and ensure their continuity for the sustained implementation of the Management Plan,
  - d) Develop guidelines for the physical stabilisation of structures, as well as criteria for conservation interventions and a manual for maintenance of earthen structures to ensure that the conditions of integrity and authenticity continue to be met and to promote a unity in conservation approaches,
  - e) Finalise the public use strategy, including the potential development of infrastructure and visitation routes and submit to the World Heritage Centre,
  - f) Consider the development of a proposal for the establishment of a training research centre to enhance capacity building and scientific research efforts,
  - g) Undertake community awareness-raising activities to enhance a better understanding by the local population of the Outstanding Universal Value of property;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
7. **Decides to retain Bam and its Cultural Landscape (Islamic Republic of Iran) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**



**28. Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore (Pakistan) (C 171–172)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.28**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.27** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Commends the State Party for the significant efforts made to address the threats to the property and to implement the corrective measures and therefore considers that the Desired state of conservation has been met;
4. Takes note of the results of the 2012 reactive monitoring mission to the property and encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations, in particular:
  - a) Formally submit to the World Heritage Centre the new proposal of the buffer zone of the property as a request for minor boundary modification, in accordance to Paragraphs 163-165 of the *Operational Guidelines*, by **1 February 2013**,
  - b) Continue with the review and update of the Conservation Plan,
  - c) Allocate the necessary human and technical resources to ensure the sustainability of the management system and the adequate implementation of conservation interventions,
  - d) Reconstitute the training institute within the Lahore Fort to ensure capacity building for craftsmen and professional and technical staff,
  - e) Continue its efforts to relocate existing infrastructure and to enforce regulatory measures at the buffer zones to ensure the protection of the property,
  - f) Further develop a comprehensive presentation and interpretation strategy to incorporate conservation works implemented;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014;
6. **Decides to remove the Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore (Pakistan) from the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**29. Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras (Philippines) (C 722)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.29**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,

2. Recalling Decisions **33 COM 7A.24**, **34 COM 7A.26** and **35 COM 7A.29** adopted at its 33rd (Seville, 2009), 34th (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th (UNESCO, 2011) sessions respectively,
3. Commends the State Party for its significant efforts to address the threats that led to the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger and the implementation of the corrective measures;
4. Considers that, in line with the state of conservation report and the findings of the 2011 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS monitoring mission, the threats to Outstanding Universal Value have been addressed;
5. Notes nevertheless that the establishment of sustained financial resources for the property remains a critical long term requirement, and requests the State Party to:
  - a) Ensure the necessary resources to sustain the implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan through operational arrangements,
  - b) Continue with the development and implementation of community-based land-use and zoning plans which respond to traditional value systems,
  - c) Develop an integrated Tourism Management Plan in close cooperation with the local communities as well as mechanisms to control tourism related infrastructure developments,
  - d) Pursue the adoption of a legislation requiring Environmental Impact Assessment for development projects, as well as to establish Heritage Impact Assessment procedures,
  - e) Pursue the adoption of a national legislation declaring the World Heritage property as an Environmentally Critical Area;
6. Also requests the State Party to continue to actively follow the further implementation of the above measures, to sustain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the progress made with the implementation of the above;
7. **Decides to remove the Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras (Philippines) from the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

### 30. Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery (Georgia) (C 710)

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.30**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Decides exceptionally to adjourn the debate on the agenda item until its next 37th ordinary session of the World Heritage Committee (2013).

### 31. Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Georgia) (C 708)

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.31**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.30** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the detailed information provided by the State Party on the progress made to implement the corrective measures and urges the State Party to continue its work on all the corrective measures adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010);
4. Also urges the State Party to define the buffer zone of the property to allow a clear understanding of the archaeological and visually sensitive areas around the property and to submit this proposal as a minor boundary modification of the property;
5. Expresses its great concern regarding developments being undertaken by the State Party in the vicinity of the property within the area of the river Mtkvari bank, between the Svctitskhoveli Cathedral and Jvari church, and further urges the State Party to halt developments within the property and its setting until details of proposed developments, together with Heritage Impact Assessments, have been submitted to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, for review and comments by the Advisory Bodies before any irreversible decisions have been made;
6. Notes that the State Party intends to complete a Management Plan for the property by the end of 2012, requests the State Party to ensure that this Plan recognises that the property is an ensemble of religious monuments within a very sensitive historical environment, and also requests it to submit the draft of this plan to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Invites the State Party to consider the development of a national law for all World Heritage properties in Georgia;
8. Further requests the State Party, in coordination with the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, to develop a “5C strategic World Heritage country programme” proposal, based on the State Programme for the protection of Georgian cultural heritage, to serve as a consolidated basis for cooperation within the State Party to enhance the implementation of its commitments within the framework of the *World Heritage Convention*;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
10. **Decides to retain the Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Georgia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### **32. Medieval Monuments in Kosovo (Serbia) (C 724 bis)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.32**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Decides to adjourn the debate on this agenda item until its next ordinary session.

### **LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN**

### **33. Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Chile) (C 1178)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.33**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.32**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party on the implementation of identified corrective measures, and urges it to continue its efforts to secure the required resources for their full implementation;
4. Notes that the International Expert Meeting is scheduled for October 2012, and requests the State Party to take this opportunity to develop a draft Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, corrective measures, timeframe and its related financial estimation of costs, as well as a clear course of action to guide the property's conservation strategy, to be submitted as part of the outcomes of the meeting, to be reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
5. Also requests the State Party to ensure that an adequate balance is achieved in the allocation of resources for visitation purposes and for conservation programmes, critical to maintaining the property's integrity;
6. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies by **October 2012**, a copy of the Management Plan for the property;
7. Moreover requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
8. Decides to retain Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Chile) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

### 34. Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) (C 366)

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.34**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.33**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in implementing the recommendations of the 2010 reactive monitoring mission;
4. Adopts the following Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, as follows:
  - a) Operational and sustainable management system for the Chan Chan Archaeological Zone in place, including functional institutional arrangements and secured funding,
  - b) Approval of revised Management Plan and integration with other planning tools at the municipal and provincial levels, particularly for the management of the buffer zone,
  - c) Continued implementation of conservation and maintenance measures at the property, including mitigation measures to address the vulnerability of the earthen architecture remains,
  - d) Legislative and regulatory measures to address the issues of illegal occupations and activities at the site enacted and enforced;
5. Also adopts the following corrective measures and timeframe for their implementation in order to ensure conditions of integrity and authenticity of the property and meet the Desired state of conservation:
  - a) Measures to be implemented within one year:

Conservation

    - (i) Comprehensive conservation condition assessment and monitoring to assess the existing state of conservation of the property,
    - (ii) Identification of priority areas for interventions,
    - (iii) Implementation of priority and emergency conservation measures at vulnerable areas of the property, with particular focus on the nine palaces and areas with decorated surfaces, as well as measures centered on the control of water table levels,
    - (iv) Definition and adoption of conservation guidelines for intervention,
    - (v) Implementation and maintenance of the physical delineation of the property including vegetation barriers and perimeter walls,
    - (vi) Comprehensive assessment of the current conditions of the existing site museum, identification of priority emergency measures and definition of a comprehensive intervention programme to be included in the public use plan.

- (vii) Addressing of solid waste management at the boundaries of the site in collaboration with pertinent authorities,

#### Protection and planning

- (viii) Updating of the Management Plan, including a revised risk Management Plan and a public use plan as well as scheduled and costed provisions for the conservation and management of the property and its buffer zone,
- (ix) Finalization of the definition of the buffer zone and its regulatory measures in collaboration with municipal authorities,
- (x) Dissemination and circulation among stakeholders of updated plans for the property and its buffer zone, including provisions and regulations for each zone. Collaboration with entities in defining regulatory measures for the management of the buffer zone and of the World Heritage property,
- (xi) Finalization of regulations for Law no. 28261 to address fundamental issues such as the illegal removal of soil, agricultural works and the illegal occupation at the property,

#### Management

- (xii) Evaluation of effectiveness of existing institutional arrangements to include revised provisions in the updated Management Plan,
- (xiii) Identification of sources for secured funding in the long-term,

#### b) Measures to be implemented within two years:

##### Conservation

- (i) Continued implementation of conservation and maintenance actions, with particular focus on finalizing interventions at vulnerable areas,
- (ii) Monitoring programme fully in place to evaluate the efficacy and results of interventions and to revise them if needed,
- (iii) Maintenance of the physical delimitation of the site,
- (iv) Measures for solid waste management at the boundaries of the site fully addressed,
- (v) Interventions for public use at the property, particularly in respect to the site museum in accordance to provisions included in the revised Management Plan,
- (vi) Interventions for risk management in accordance to provisions identified in the Management Plan,

##### Protection and planning

- (vii) Integration of the Management Plan in territorial and urban development plans,
- (viii) Dissemination of the revised Management Plan to strengthen public and private support in its implementation,
- (ix) Approval / enactment of regulatory measures for Law No. 28261 to ensure the conservation and protection of the Outstanding Universal Value and conditions of integrity and authenticity of the property,
- (x) Adoption of regulatory measures for the management of the buffer zone,

#### Management

- (xi) Operational management arrangements and budgets secured for the comprehensive implementation of the Management Plan,

#### c) Measures to be implemented within three years:

#### Conservation

- (i) Continued implementation of conservation and maintenance measures according to the revised Management Plan,
- (ii) Continued implementation of the monitoring programme and evaluation of results to adapt measures,
- (iii) Continued implementation of public use actions according to Management Plan,
- (iv) Continued implementation of risk management actions according to Management Plan,
- (v) Conclusion of measures at the existing site museum;

#### Protection and planning

- (vi) Full enforcement of legislative and regulatory frameworks passed by the State Party,
- (vii) Relocation of illegal settlers in collaboration with pertinent authorities,
- (viii) Adequate control of encroachments and urban pressure;

#### Management

- (ix) Full and systematic implementation of the revised Management Plan in accordance to prescribed policies,
- (x) Functional institutional arrangements with adequate resources secured for long-term implementation of the formulated Management Plan;

6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to finalize the process for the approval of pertinent legislation and regulations for the property and buffer zone to ensure their adequate protection, and to find an urgent solution to the legal issues that have been pending for the last 10 years;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to provide the updated Master Plan, including a public use plan and a comprehensive risk preparedness plan for the property by **1 February 2013**;
8. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
9. **Decides to retain Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**35. Coro and its Port (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (C 658)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7A.35**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.34**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Recognizes the efforts being made by the State Party for the conservation of the property, and encourages it to continue such efforts in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
4. Also encourages the State Party to continue with the implementation of the recommendations of the 2011 reactive monitoring mission, to ensure the protection of the property, with a special focus on:
  - a) The development of a conservation programme with short, medium and long term priorities, and a plan of action for emergency situations,
  - b) The finalization of a database to include historical and archaeological information, plans, a detailed photographic record, as well as a detailed description and state of conservation of all buildings and priority actions for each, and a linked inventory to previous records,
  - c) An alternative proposal for the drainage system of Coro,
  - d) The regulation of traffic in Coro, with particular emphasis on Zamora Street;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies by **1 February 2013**, a copy of the Management Plan for the property, and its approval by the Management Commitment;
6. Urges the State Party to finalize the delimitation of the property and its buffer zone, to include new components that will contribute to the property's Outstanding Universal Value, and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies within the framework of the Retrospective Inventory by **1 February 2013**;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to update, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, the Desired state of conservation and the corrective measures for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, as well as a revised timeframe, and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013** for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
8. Invites the State Party to consider submitting a request for international assistance from the World Heritage Fund for technical support;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
10. **Decides to retain Coro and its Port (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**



## **GENERAL DECISION**

### **36 World Heritage properties of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7A.36**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.35**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Expresses its concern that signature of the January 2011 Kinshasa Declaration has not yet resulted in a concerted action between the different Ministries, the army and different technical agencies which is necessary to resolve some urgent conservation issues in the sites and create the conditions for their rehabilitation;
4. Notes with concern the consistent reports from different properties about continued involvement of elements of the Congolese Army in illegal exploitation of the natural resources;
5. Considers that the recent permit which has been granted to the international oil and gas company SOCO to start oil exploration activities in Virunga National Park is not in conformity with commitments made by the State Party in the Kinshasa Declaration;
6. Urges the State Party to ensure a full implementation of the commitments made in the Kinshasa Declaration and ensure the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan and in particular to urgently set up the inter-ministerial committee to ensure that specific activities of the action plan which need political decisions or the cooperation and commitment from other Ministries and state entities are implemented;
7. Welcomes the continued support from donor countries for the conservation of the five properties of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the on-going efforts to set up a sustainable financing mechanism;
8. Requests the State Party in close cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to organize an evaluation of the implementation of the action plan, identify obstacles to its implementation and ways to address these with the concerned Ministries and present a report on this evaluation to the World Heritage Centre, for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## 7B. STATE OF CONSERVATION OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

### NATURAL PROPERTIES

#### AFRICA

##### 1. Dja Wildlife Reserve (Cameroon) (N 407)

##### Decision: 36 COM 7B.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalls Decision **35 COM 7B.1** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011)
3. Notes with concern that the State Party has not suspended the GEOVIC mining license, as requested by the Committee at its 34th and 35th sessions, although no activity has begun at the site since the 2009 mission, and that the new environmental impact study submitted to the World Heritage Centre does not meet international standards and does not take into account the presence of the property;
4. Expresses its deep concern regarding the granting of mining exploration licenses, including one for iron exploration, within the property, the impacts of the Mekin Dam and the rubber plantation on the property, the consequences of which would significantly affect its Outstanding Universal Value and in particular its integrity;
5. Recalls its position concerning the incompatibility of mining exploration and exploitation with World Heritage status;
6. Takes note of the conclusion of the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN mission that the threats and pressures on the property continue to increase affecting its Outstanding Universal Value, and that the management body of the property does not dispose of financial, logistical or human resources to respond to these threats and pressures present inside and at the immediate periphery of the property;
7. Considers that in view of this accumulation of possible and even imminent threats, the property meets, according to Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*, criteria for inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, **and that the property would possibly be inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger at the 37th session in 2013, if the following conditions are not fulfilled:**
  - a) Review the limits of the iron exploration license to exclude the area inside the property and to ensure that this has no impact on the Outstanding Universal Value,

- b) Suspend GEOVIC mining work until the completion by the company of an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment meeting international standards, before any commencement of exploitation at the site and create a consultation framework with the management body of the property to prepare and implement a biodiversity safeguarding plan supported by adequate resources,
  - c) Define, in consultation with Sud Hévéa Cameroun company, the measures to be undertaken to foresee, reduce and compensate the negative effects of the agriculture exploitation project (rubber plantation) on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property,
  - d) Suspend the Mekin Dam work until the appropriate measures to mitigate the direct and indirect impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for examination by IUCN;
8. Urgently requests the State Party to implement the following measures to prevent, the degradation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property:
- a) Strengthen the human and logistic resources of the management body to enable permanent surveillance and control, under normal conditions, of the land and aquatic parts of the property; to this end motorized transportation, notably aquatic, should be made available to the ecoguards,
  - b) Establish the technical and financial means for the effective operation of the monitoring system of large wildlife and enable the creation of a reference data base on the state of conservation of the biodiversity of the property,
  - c) Revise and modify the boundary and physical marking of the property and submit a map in the required format to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013**;
9. Requests the State Party to also implement the other recommendations of the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN mission of 2012;
10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a progress report on the state of conservation of the property, including a detail of progress accomplished in the implementation of the corrective measures and recommendations of the mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;

## 2. Taï National Park (Côte d'Ivoire) (N 195)

### Decision: 36 COM 7B.2

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 7B.2**, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),
3. Congratulates the State Party for resuming, with support from international cooperation, conservation activities following the post-electoral crisis;
4. Welcomes the initiative of the State Party to establish Village Associations for Conservation and Development and Village Surveillance Committees to improve the

participation of neighbouring populations in decisions concerning activities and development;

5. Notes with satisfaction the results of bio-monitoring of 2009-2010 indicating the maintenance of flagship species including chimpanzees, deukars and elephants but expresses its concern as regards the reduction in the populations of certain species of primates, the increase in poaching, gold-mining and agricultural encroachment since the post-electoral crisis;
6. Requests the State Party to evaluate the impact of the post-electoral crisis on the Outstanding Universal Value, quantifying the threats of poaching, agricultural encroachment and gold mining and providing an updated ecological monitoring report showing the evolution of the populations of primate species, including the Diana monkey, by **1 February 2013**, to be transmitted to the World Heritage Centre;
7. Strongly urges the State Party to strengthen its action against poaching by concentrating efforts on surveillance of the vulnerable zones, agricultural encroachment and gold mining noted in the Park;
8. Encourages the State Party to continue its efforts to establish a sustainable funding mechanism and a business plan for the Park;
9. Also requests the State Party to publish as soon as possible the decree formalizing the extension of the territory of the Park and to submit, following publication, a request to modify the boundaries of the property to the World Heritage Centre for examination by the World Heritage Committee in this respect;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property with particular emphasis on the evolution of poaching, the animal populations (notably monkeys), the implementation of sustainable funding and the publication of the decree modifying the boundaries of the Park in view of a proposal for modification of the boundaries of the property, as well as on the implementation of the other recommendations of the 2006 mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

### **3. Lake Turkana National Parks (Kenya) (N 801bis)**

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.3**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.3**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note of the results of the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN monitoring mission undertaken to Kenya to assess the state of conservation of the property and in particular the impact of the GIBE III dam project and related developments;
4. Reiterates its utmost concern about the potential and ascertained cumulative impacts on Lake Turkana of the GIBE III dam, the related on-going and planned irrigation projects as well as the planned Gibe IV and V dams, and considers that these developments represent a clear potential threat to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 180 (b) of the *Operational Guidelines*;

5. Urges the State Party of Ethiopia to invite the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN mission to review the impacts of the GIBE III dam on the Outstanding Universal Value of Lake Turkana, as was done by the State Party of Kenya;
6. Also urges the State Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia to address this issue on a bilateral basis and conduct a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to assess the cumulative impacts of all developments impacting on the Lake Turkana basin in order to identify appropriate corrective measures to ensure that the water level in Lake Turkana, as well as a level of seasonal variation be maintained, which is sufficient to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
7. Further reiterates its request to the State Party of Ethiopia to immediately halt all construction on the GIBE III dam and related irrigation projects until the SEA is completed and appropriate corrective measures have been identified and implemented;
8. Takes note that oil exploration licences have been granted for exploration blocks which cover part of the property, but that so far no oil exploration activities have been carried out or are planned within the property, and requests the State Party of Kenya to clarify the provision already included within the oil exploration licence on the protection of the World Heritage property, to ensure that no exploration can take place within the property;
9. Calls on Tullow Oil to subscribe to the no-go commitment, already supported by the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) and Shell, not to explore or exploit oil or minerals inside World Heritage properties;
10. Notes the significant impacts of poaching, fishing and livestock grazing on the property reported by the World Heritage Centre / IUCN monitoring mission, and requests the State Party to implement the recommendations of the mission to address these and other management issues, in particular:
  - a) Conduct a detailed census of key wildlife species to establish their status and develop a baseline to monitor their recovery,
  - b) Strengthen the efficiency of law enforcement and surveillance based on the results of the MIST monitoring system which is being introduced in the property,
  - c) Establish a permanent presence of Kenya Wildlife Service staff in the northern part of Sibiloi National Park as well as on Central and South Island National Parks,
  - d) Develop in close consultation with representatives of the local pastoralist communities a strategy to diminish grazing pressure in the property, including by identifying grazing areas outside the property and provide them with access to water,
  - e) Assess the feasibility of reintroducing flagship species which have disappeared from the property such as reticulated giraffe and Grevy's zebra;
11. Also requests Kenya Wildlife Service and National Museums of Kenya to ensure that the new management plan addresses all three components of the property and covers both the biodiversity and paleontological values;
12. Further requests the State Party of Kenya in cooperation with the State Party of Ethiopia to develop based on the corrective measures identified through the SEA, a timeframe and costed action plan for their implementation as well as a draft Desired state of conservation;

13. Requests furthermore the States Parties of Ethiopia and Kenya to submit to the World Heritage Centre, **1 February 2013**, information on the negotiations between Ethiopia and Kenya and a progress report on the implementation of the above mentioned requested actions for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
14. Decides not to inscribe Lake Turkana National Parks (Kenya) on the List of World Heritage in Danger before the completion of a mission by the Advisory Bodies to the State Party of *Ethiopia as recommended in paragraph 5*.

#### **4. Rwenzori Mountains National Park (Uganda) (N 684)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.4**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 7B.7**, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),
3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in engaging local communities in the conservation of the property;
4. Reiterates its request to the State Party to continue its efforts to establish a sustainable financing strategy and business plan for the property, and calls on the international donor community to strengthen its support for the management of the property;
5. Also welcomes the transboundary collaboration between the States Parties of Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo in coordinating protection activities in the border areas between the two adjoining properties of Rwenzori Mountains National Park and Virunga National Park, and encourages the States Parties to further strengthen this collaboration through the development of a formal protocol to address unresolved challenges such as communication barriers and cross-border movement restrictions;
6. Recognizes the efforts made by the State Party to monitor the impacts of climate change and initiate mitigation and adaptation measures, and also encourages the State Party to consult with the Mountains Specialist Group of the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and other experts, in order to identify and implement further measures to safeguard the property's Outstanding Universal Value over the long term;
7. Notes with concern the damage caused by the recent wild fire in the property, indicating that park management is not adequately equipped to respond to high-altitude wild fires, and urges the State Party to implement the recommendations from the management report, as well as to ensure that adequate fire fighting equipment is made available;
8. Reiterates its request to the State Party to revoke any existing licenses for mining within the property and ensure that no further mining licenses are issued within the

property, in line with the Committee's established position that mineral exploration and mining are incompatible with World Heritage status and the international policy statement of the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) of not undertaking these activities in World Heritage properties;

9. Requests the State Party to confirm the permanent cessation of mining activities and licenses within the property, and to submit a copy of the park's ecological monitoring plan to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2014**, together with additional information on the location and extent of the 14 new resource harvesting zones, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **5. Selous Game Reserve (United Republic of Tanzania) (N 199)**

### **Decision : 36 COM 7B.5**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.6**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Reiterates its utmost concern about the multiple threats affecting the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), including high levels of wildlife poaching (particularly of elephants), the evident deterioration in management, and the proposed Stiegler's Gorge and Kidunda dams which, if approved, are likely to cause serious and irreversible damage to the property's OUV;
4. Takes note of the statement by the State Party on the protection and the conservation of the Selous Game Reserve;
5. Considers that the approval of any dam, mining or oil exploration within the property would constitute a clear basis for its inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and urges the State Party to abandon plans for the different development projects which are incompatible with the World Heritage status of the property;
6. Notes with satisfaction that Dominion Petroleum has relinquished its oil production sharing agreement for Selous, but deems that oil exploration and exploitation remain a threat to the property and also urges the State Party to make a clear commitment to not explore for or exploit oil within the property, in line with the Committee's established position that such developments are incompatible with World Heritage status, and to enact specific legislation to prohibit prospecting, oil developments and mining within the property on the basis of its World Heritage status;
7. Further urges the State Party to implement the remaining actions requested by the Committee in Decision **35 COM 7B.6**, in order to ensure the protection of the property's Outstanding Universal Value, in particular:
  - a) Finalize the creation of the autonomous Wildlife Authority and reinstate the Revenue Retention Scheme,

- b) Ensure that the design of the Kidunda dam will not affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and avoid flooding part of the property or key wildlife areas on its boundaries,
  - c) Develop and implement an emergency plan to strengthen anti-poaching activities in the property in order to cope with the alarming increase in poaching,
8. Also reiterates its encouragement that the State Party provide appropriate protection to the Selous-Niassa Corridor which is becoming progressively fragmented, and considers that its permanent protection as a buffer zone or its inclusion within the property is vital to the long-term integrity of the latter;
  9. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and on progress in the implementation of anti-poaching measures, the reinstatement of the Revenue Retention Scheme and the creation of an autonomous Wildlife Authority, including confirmation that no permits have been issued for the various development projects within the property under consideration, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to considering, in the absence of substantial progress, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 6. Serengeti National Park (United Republic of Tanzania) (N 156)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.6**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.7**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the substantial efforts made by the State Party to implement the recommendations of the 2010 mission as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session, and encourages the State Party to continue its efforts to fully implement them;
4. Notes the commitment of the State Party to solicit funding for a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SEA) for the northern Tanzanian road and calls on donors to provide funding for this study as well as for the construction of a southern alignment, which will avoid Serengeti National Park;
5. Also welcomes the announcement by the State Party that the planned railway linking the coast via Musoma to Kampala will not traverse the property but will go south of it;
6. Remains concerned by the rise in poaching within the property, and requests the State Party to continue strengthening its anti-poaching efforts and to provide specific information on the extent and impact of poaching in its next report;
7. Takes note of reports of on-going deforestation of the Mau catchment area of the Mara River and other rivers in Kenya vital to the northern Serengeti ecosystem, and also requests the State Parties of Tanzania and Kenya, via the Lake Victoria Basin



Commission to step up their efforts to implement the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) for the Sustainable Management of the Mara River to address this;

8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, in particular on progress in implementing the recommendations of the 2010 mission as well as detailed information on the evolution of poaching in the property, for examination by the World heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **7. Mosi-oa-Tunya / Victoria Falls (Zambia/Zimbabwe) (N 509)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.7**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.6** adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Welcomes the further progress of the two States Parties in strengthening the joint management of the trans-boundary property through the work of the Joint Technical and Site Management Committees, and the measures taken to promote sustainable tourism by halting construction of hotels and lodges on the river banks and islands, reducing noise and water pollution, and upgrading visitor facilities at the property;
4. Encourages the two States Parties to develop a sustainable financing strategy and business plan for the property, recognising that implementation of the Joint Integrated Management Plan may be largely financed from park entry fees and other internally-generated sources;
5. Also welcomes the voluntary agreement of the State Party of Zambia to introduce a limit on the dry-season diversion of water from the falls for hydro-electric power generation, which would significantly restore a major attribute of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and requests the State Party of Zambia to implement this new water abstraction regime as soon as possible, and consider further reductions in water abstraction by the power station;
6. Notes that the State Party of Zambia submitted three environmental project briefs, including for a tethered balloon project adjacent to the property, reiterates its previous conclusion at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) that any tethered balloons close to the property will adversely impact its visual integrity, and urges the States Parties not to authorize any tethered balloon or other tall structures within the vicinity of the falls;
7. Also requests that the State Party of Zambia to address IUCN's comments regarding the proposed amphicoach and spa lodge projects, before considering whether to proceed with the two proposed projects;
8. Recommends the States Parties to conduct a joint Strategic Environmental Assessment of developments within the property and in its vicinity, in order to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including its aesthetic value and the related conditions of integrity;

9. Also recognizes the progress made in developing benchmarks and indicators to monitor the State of Conservation of the property and also requests the States Parties to develop a comprehensive monitoring plan for the property and submit a copy to the World Heritage Centre by **1 December 2012**;
10. Reiterates its request to the two States Parties to continue their on-going efforts to control invasive species;
11. Further requests the two States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2014** a jointly prepared report on the state of conservation of the property, including details of progress made in the implementation of measures to address the recommendations of the 2006 mission and the issues mentioned above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## ASIA-PACIFIC

### 8. Great Barrier Reef (Australia) (N 154)

#### Decision: 36 COM 7B.8

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.10**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the initial positive results of the Reef Plan and associated measures to address major long-term impacts on the property from poor water quality, and requests the State Party, in collaboration with its partners, to maintain, and increase where necessary financial investment and sustain the positive trend beyond 2013;
4. Takes note of the findings of the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property undertaken in March 2012, and also requests the State Party to address the mission recommendations in its future protection and management of the property;
5. Notes with great concern the potentially significant impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value resulting from the unprecedented scale of coastal development currently being proposed within and affecting the property, and further requests the State Party to not permit any new port development or associated infrastructure outside of the existing and long-established major port areas within or adjoining the property, and to ensure that development is not permitted if it would impact individually or cumulatively on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
6. Requests furthermore the State Party to complete the Strategic Assessment and resulting long-term plan for the sustainable development of the property for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015, and to

ensure that the assessment and long-term plan are completed against a number of defined criteria for success, fully address direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on the reef and lead to concrete measures to ensure the overall conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;

7. Urges the State Party to establish the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as a clearly defined and central element within the protection and management system for the property, and to include an explicit assessment of Outstanding Universal Value within future Great Barrier Reef Outlook Reports;
8. Recommends the State Party, in collaboration with its partners, to sustain and increase its efforts and available resources to conserve the property, and to develop and adopt clearly defined and scientifically justified targets for improving its state of conservation and enhancing its resilience, and ensure that plans, policies and development proposals affecting the property demonstrate a positive contribution to the achievement of those targets, and an overall net benefit to the protection of Outstanding Universal Value;
9. Requests moreover the State Party to undertake an independent review of the management arrangements for Gladstone Harbour, that will result in the optimization of port development and operation in Gladstone Harbour and on Curtis Island, consistent with the highest internationally recognized standards for best practice commensurate with iconic World Heritage status;
10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including on the implementation of actions outlined above and in the mission report, for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to consider, in the absence of substantial progress, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger**;
11. Decides to also consider a further report from the State Party on the state of conservation of the property, the findings of the second Great Barrier Reef Outlook Report, and the anticipated outcomes of the completed Strategic Environmental Assessment and related long term plan for sustainable development at its 39th session in 2015.

## 9. Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Area (China) (N 1083 bis)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.9**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.12** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party on the on-going actions to address conservation issues at the property and urges the State Party to continue these efforts;

4. Welcomes the efforts made by the State Party to ensure those mining areas which were excluded through the boundary modification and are now adjacent to the property and its buffer zone comply with international environmental and health standards;
5. Regrets that comprehensive lists and accompanying maps of proposed dams in areas near to the property and its buffer zone have not yet been provided, and requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 December 2012** a detailed list and maps of all proposed dams that could affect the property, and to submit to the World Heritage Centre the Environmental Impact Assessments for any such dam proposals, prior to their approval, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Also urges the State Party to ensure that active site preparation works for proposed hydroelectric projects do not proceed ahead of an approved Environmental Impact Assessment;
7. Also requests the State Party to invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission to review the potential impacts of the proposed dams, and of mining in the areas adjacent to the property, on the property's Outstanding Universal Value, and to assess the overall management effectiveness of the property, and further requests the State Party to make available prior to the mission the English documents necessary to this review, including pertinent Environmental Impact Assessments, reports on hydroelectric power planning, and the terms of reference for a possible Strategic Environmental Assessment of all the dam proposals in the region;
8. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the progress made in undertaking a Strategic Environmental Assessment of all the proposed dams and ancillary development that could potentially affect the property's Outstanding Universal Value, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## 10. Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (India) (N 338)

**Decision:**                    **36 COM 7B.10**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7A.13**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Commends the State Party for the progress achieved in the operationalization of the Manas Tiger Conservation Foundation (MTCF) and the implementation of an integrated ecosystem-based monitoring system and the Eastern Swamp Deer recovery plan;
4. Welcomes the respective and joint initiatives of the States Parties of India and Bhutan to consider an extension of the property, including a transboundary extension, and

also welcomes the proposal by the State Party of Bhutan to include Royal Manas National Park on its Tentative List;

5. Requests the State Party to urgently address the slow release of funds to the property, by approving the direct fund flow from Central Government to the MTCF, or through other appropriate measures, to ensure that the current rate of progress can be maintained;
6. Urges the State Party to include clear guidelines for tourism numbers and activities in the further development of the comprehensive tourism management plan, in order to ensure that the fragile and recovering Outstanding Universal Value of the property is not negatively affected;
7. Also requests the State Party of Bhutan to submit a copy of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the proposed Mangdechhu hydro-electric project, including an assessment of potential impacts on OUV and potential cumulative impacts in relation to the existing Kurichu dam, to the World Heritage Centre for review as soon as it is available and prior to making a decision on whether to approve the project, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including a report on the progress achieved in addressing the issue of fund release and the implementation of the other recommendations made by the Committee at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011), as well as on progress in addressing the issues raised above, for examination by the Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **11. Keoladeo National Park (India) (N 340)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.11**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.14**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the efforts and the progress made by the State Party to replenish the water regime within the property's wetland systems through the decisions to release environmental water flows from reservoirs and completed water related projects and urges the State Party to continue to provide adequate water flows on a sustainable basis;
4. Regrets the delays in completion of the Govardhan Drain project and reiterates its request to the State Party to expedite completion of this project and initiate the planned water flows from this project to the property;
5. Encourages the State Party to continue ecological monitoring programmes, which are independent of specific projects, in order to assess long-term ecosystem changes and particularly the recovery of bird populations;

6. Also urges the State Party to further intensify the involvement of local communities in the management of the property, building on its existing achievements, including in the control of invasive species and other aspects of management, as appropriate;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property including confirmation of the completion of the Govardhan Drain, the progress made in providing adequate water flows to the property, updated statistics on bird populations and the management of the threats of alien invasive species and development on the edge of the property, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **12. Shiretoko (Japan) (N 1193)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.12**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **32 COM 7B.16**, adopted at its 32nd session (Quebec City, 2008),
3. Acknowledges the efforts made by the State Party and information on the on-going actions to address conservation issues at the property and urges the State Party to continue these efforts;
4. Requests the State Party to update statistics on annual Steller Sea Lion quotas and numbers caught and to report on population trends within the property;
5. Also requests the State Party to continue monitoring the status of salmonid migration and spawning, and consider further river construction modifications including other appropriate measures, as needed, on the Rusha River in order to ensure natural salmonid migration and spawning;
6. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Center by **1 February 2015**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, including on progress achieved in improving natural salmonid migration and spawning within the property and in addressing the conflict between fishers and Steller Sea Lion, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015.

## **13. Phoenix Islands Protected Area (Kiribati) (N 1325)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.13**

The World Heritage Committee,

7. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,

8. Recalling Decision **34 COM 8B.2**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
9. Welcomes the State Party's effort in attracting a preliminary financial contribution for the implementation of the 2010-2014 Management Plan from the Global Environment Facility, and for the design of a fundraising framework for the envisaged Trust Fund for the property;
10. Notes the essential importance of the establishment and full capitalisation of the Trust Fund to the long term conservation of the property, and requests the State Party, with the support of its partners, to:
  - a) Ensure the Trust Fund is fully capitalised, operational, and disbursing funds,
  - b) Provide a clear financial plan outlining funds to be allocated for core management needs, including the proportion to compensate the State Party for the loss in tuna fishing licences fees ,
  - c) Enable the extension of no-take zones for the property no later than 2014;
11. Considers that the envisaged future extension of the zonation, as requested by the Committee at the time of inscription as an essential requirement, should consider the Outstanding Universal Value of the property by establishing no-take zones in the areas of greatest ecological significance, and consider the level of threat posed to each zone from both legal and illegal resource extraction;
12. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2015** a report on the progress made with the management of the property, in particular measures addressing illegal and overfishing of inshore and offshore fisheries, prevention of the degradation of seamounts, extension, surveillance and enforcement of no-take zones and establishment of long-term sustainable financing of the property's management system, including the full capitalisation of the initial endowment of the Trust Fund for the property, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015.

#### **14. Sagarmatha National Park (Nepal) (N 120)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.14**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.16**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party on the on-going actions to address conservation issues at the property, and urges the State Party to continue these efforts;
4. Reiterates its concern that the legal process has not been completed with respect to the Kongde View Resort which is within the property's core area and is reportedly still operating, and also urges the State Party to submit the verdict to the World Heritage Centre as soon as it is issued by the Supreme court;

5. Recommends the State Party to consult the Mountains Biome Specialist Group of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas for technical advice on the overall state of conservation of the property with particular attention to the impacts of the Kongde View Resort and tourism on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and the proposed buffer zone, and also to consider the possibility of inviting an advisory mission by the Mountains Biome Specialist Group to the property to provide advice on these matters;
6. Welcomes the commitment of the State Party to:
  - a) Revise the Sagarmatha National Park Tourism and Management Plan for 2013-2017,
  - b) Request international assistance in support of enhanced tourism planning, development and management, and
  - c) Submit documentation to incorporate the Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone as a buffer zone to the World Heritage property, and to seek further advice on this proposal from IUCN;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property and on the progress with respect to legal proceedings related to the Kongde View Resort, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **15. East Rennell (Solomon Island) (N 854)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.15**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.17**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Commends the State Party for its work to rectify deficiencies in the protection legislation, Management Planning and administration of the property, that have been the subject of Committee concerns since 2003;
4. Expresses its serious concern that applications for commercial logging rights within the property are being considered by the State Party, which if granted would represent an ascertained danger to the property in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and also over the impacts of large scale commercial logging operations in West Rennell on the property;
5. Requests the State Party to immediately ban all commercial logging from Rennell Island to avoid loss of integrity and the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and to assess the possible associated introduction of rats and invasive land snails, and institute the necessary control measures, and also calls upon companies applying for licences which could impact the property to not proceed further with those applications;



6. Urges the State Party to make an immediate assessment of the over-exploitation of Coconut Crab and other marine resources;
7. Also requests the State Party to invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property, to assess its current state of conservation, particularly in relation to the threat of logging operations on Rennell Island, the associated threat of invasive species, and the over-exploitation of Coconut Crab and marine resources, as well as other relevant conservation issues;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including a report on the outcome of an assessment of over-exploitation of resources and the possible introduction of invasive species, and on the imposition of a ban on logging operations on Rennell Island that might impact the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, for examination by the Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to considering possible inscription of the property on the World Heritage List in Danger.**

## 16. Central Highlands of Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka) (N 1203)

### Decision: 36 COM 7B.16

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.18**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress achieved in the development of an overall management framework for the serial property, as required by the *Operational Guidelines*, as well as management plans for each of the component parts of the property;
4. Urges the State Party to expedite the development of an effective management and monitoring framework for tourism, and requests the State Party to provide three printed and electronic copies of the tourism management plans for review by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN when these will have been finalized;
5. Also urges the State Party to ensure that adequate staffing and funding are available for the effective implementation of the new management plans, and to expedite the field demarcation of property boundaries;
6. Encourages the State Party to include as part of the planned regular monitoring of threats the regular evaluation of the effectiveness of management provisions, in order to ensure that existing and new threats are effectively controlled;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, including a report on the current status of threats to the property and its buffer zones.

## 17. Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex (Thailand) (N 590)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.17**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.19** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes with concern that expansion works on Highway 304 have been completed outside the property without the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures along the sections of the highway within the property, and requests the State Party to:
  - a) Urgently submit the completed EIA for section 26-29 km along with detailed plans for ecologically effective wildlife corridors including a detailed timeline, financial planning and resources for construction of the corridors, and mitigation actions to be implemented during construction and long-term enforcement actions to prevent encroachment,
  - b) Implement and enforce speed limits and impact mitigation actions on the sections of Highway 304 running within the boundaries of the property, as well as other roads that bisect the property, and to monitor use of other roads as shortcuts and transport routes through the property;
4. Also notes with concern that construction continues at the Huay Samong Dam site, and also requests the State Party to halt construction of the Huay Samong Dam until appropriate resources are committed to ensure mitigation, enforcement and anti-encroachment actions are effectively in place, including enhanced cooperation between management authorities and enforcement actions to prevent further impacts on the property;
5. Further requests the State Party to implement all the other recommendations from the 2012 joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission by **June 2014**, in particular:
  - a) Closely monitor the level of encroachment, including by undertaking detailed mapping of the encroachments, including location, land use and magnitude, in relation to current boundaries of the World Heritage Property and to assess any increase in encroachment since inscription using satellite imagery and topographic analysis, and consider submitting a boundary modification request where appropriate, following the relevant procedures as outlined in the *Operational Guidelines*,
  - b) Strengthen enforcement measures, provide adequate resources to the management authority and law enforcement agencies, work with surrounding communities to increase awareness of the boundaries of the property and garner support for the conservation of the property and its OUV,
  - c) Prioritize reduction of illegal grazing activities within the property and pay particular attention to stopping grazing activities conducted by commercial agricultural companies,
  - d) Consider extending the property in order to include areas that better represent its Outstanding Universal Value, based on the mapping of encroachments recommended above, and considering current levels of encroachment, realistic

- boundaries for enforcement, and impacts and mitigation from construction of the Huay Samong Dam,
- e) Strengthen efforts in implementing the Management Plan for Dong Phrayayen – Khao Yai Forest Complex, including an updated and revised plan for the complex that involves and encourages cooperation and coordination of all relevant ministries and agencies, and stakeholders at both national and local levels,
  - f) Develop and implement a detailed, integrated, extensive and long-term tourism management plan that includes actions to address the current impacts from high intensive tourism and encourages them to submit a request for International Assistance to the Committee to support the development of the tourism plan,
  - g) Consider a detailed management related zoning plan for the property, to ensure core areas of habitat are identified and provided with increased levels of protection, including designation of an appropriate buffer zone around the property to ensure protection against adjacent developments;
6. Considers that cattle grazing in the property represents a serious concern, and that the on-going encroachment of the property has not yet been adequately addressed, and encourages the State Party to secure the appropriate high-level political support to tackle these threats;
  7. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated and detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, including a report on the progress achieved in the implementation of the 2012 mission recommendations, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, when the Committee should also consider the need for a further reactive monitoring mission, **and the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

### 18. Pirin National Park (Bulgaria) (N 225)

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.18**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.21** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note of conclusion of the World Heritage Centre / IUCN monitoring mission that the recent capacity upgrades of ski facilities undertaken in the buffer zone of the property do not appear to have negatively impacted the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and requests the State Party to ensure developments in the buffer zone are assessed to ensure that they do not create impacts on the property;
4. Notes with concern the reported plans to expand new ski zones into the property, including the proposed reopening of the Tzarna Mogila ski lift and ski run, and

- reiterates its position that if any additional development of ski facilities, ski runs, or associated infrastructure within the property are undertaken, the conditions for inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger will be fulfilled;
5. Urges the State Party to ensure, including through provisions in the new Management Plan, that no further areas within the property, outside the already excluded areas, are permitted for ski or other similar high-impact developments;
  6. Requests the State Party to implement the recommendations of the 2011 joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property, in particular:
    - a) ensure effective wider regional planning for economic development, and ensure that no developments that exceed the capacity of the area are permitted,
    - b) promote and implement the 2010 strategy for sustainable nature tourism as a viable alternative to ski-based tourism development,
    - c) clearly demarcate, communicate and maintain the boundaries of the property as defined in Decision **34 COM 8B.5**, using ascertained Global Positioning System (GPS) measurements, and ensure that these boundaries are respected,
    - d) put in place processes to monitor the impacts of the ski and other activities within the buffer zone on the surrounding property, in order to ensure that they do not negatively impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and put in place sufficient legal, contractual or other administrative arrangements to ensure that the Pirin National Park Directorate can influence the use and environmental impact of the chalets owned by the Bulgarian Tourism Union,
    - e) ensure that the implementation of restoration measures are strictly supervised and monitored by the Pirin National Park Directorate in accordance with conditions in the Territorial Arrangement Plan (TAP), Environmental Impact Assessments or any other subsequent administrative decisions,
    - f) expedite the process and make available sufficient resources to ensure that the new Management Plan of the property is completed and approved on time for its implementation immediately after the current Management Plan ceases being in effect in 2013,
    - g) prepare detailed "Tourism Implementation Plans" for the Bansko and Dobrinishte buffer zones, consolidating existing, approved and envisaged plans in a transparent manner, and ensure that these buffer zone areas are explicit parts of the new Management Plan;
  7. Also requests the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre, as soon as it is available, three printed and electronic copies of the new Management Plan for review;
  8. Further requests that the State Party submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, including confirmation that no further ski development has been or will be permitted within the property, and a report on progress achieved in the implementation of the mission's recommendations, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**19. Gulf of Porto: Calanche of Piana, Gulf of Girolata, Scandola Reserve (France) (N 258)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.19**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **07 COM VIII** adopted at its 7th session (Florence, 1983),
3. Notes with concern the request for renewal of the prospection license for liquid or gaseous hydrocarbons by the Melrose Mediterranean Limited and Noble Energie France companies, given that this prospection stage could be extended by an exploratory drilling activity during the second half of 2013 in the event of satisfactory results;
4. Considers that the exploratory drillings in this zone could have major negative, irreversible and non-compensatory impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and requests the State Party to conduct an environmental impact assessment study in accordance with the highest international standards and prior to authorizing any exploratory drilling, and which should include an in-depth examination of the potential impact of exploration projects on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre;
5. Urgently requests the State Party not to grant a license to conduct hydrocarbon drilling exploration likely to affect the property and its environment, as well as the adjacent protected areas, until the requested above-mentioned study has been completed and evaluated by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;
6. Also notes the major increase in tourism pressure on the property since its inscription and urges the State Party to implement the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the European Council to cope with this pressure and to define a management plan for the entire property;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, including the potential impacts on the property of hydrocarbon exploration and progress in the definition of a management plan and the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the European Council.

**20. Natural System of "Wrangel Island" Reserve (Russian Federation) (N 1023)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.20**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,

2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 7B.30**, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),
3. Welcomes the efforts of the State Party to increase inspection, monitoring and waste removal from the property;
4. Reiterates its request to the State Party to ensure that ministerial approval and adequate finance are in place for the implementation of the Management Plan and to establish an effective monitoring system that considers potential climate change impacts on the property;
5. Notes the plans to develop further tourism infrastructure and increase visitation to the island and urges the State Party to develop and implement an effective plan for tourism use within the property and, taking into account the particular sensitivity of the tundra ecosystem, to conduct an environmental impact assessment for the planned upgrading of tourism facilities, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including the ministerial approval and provision of adequate and increased financing of the Management Plan, the establishment of an effective monitoring system that pays attention to possible climate change impacts on the property, copies of the tourism Management Plan and the environmental impact assessment for the upgrading of tourism facilities within the property.

## **21. Volcanoes of Kamchatka (Russian Federation) (N 765bis)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.21**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.23** adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Regrets that the State Party report provides information only on the 4 components of the property managed by the regional authorities but not on the two federally administered components and does not provide detailed information on trends in wildlife populations in the property, including salmon, the integrated management framework, the draft Regulation of the "Kamchatka Nature Park, and an update on the implementation of the recommendations of the 2007 reactive monitoring mission, and considers that, in the absence of this information, the current state of conservation of the property cannot be adequately assessed;
4. Notes with concern the reports about plans to construct two hydropower stations inside the property and to develop four ski resorts in its vicinity, and requests the State Party to provide detailed information about these plans, including copies of the Environmental Impact Assessments for the hydropower and other projects that may have a potential impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value, before taking any irreversible decisions;

5. Also notes that the State Party report refers to a 2010 boundary revision, which seems to indicate that a certain area was taken out of the nature parks, and urges the State Party to provide detailed information about this boundary revision, including a detailed map showing the boundaries of all components of the property;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to fully implement the recommendations of the 2007 reactive monitoring mission, particularly regarding the strengthening of the conservation capacity, integrated management plan and coordination structure, and a comprehensive tourism management plan;
7. Expresses its utmost concern about Federal Law No. 365-FZ dated 30 November 2011, which significantly weakens the protection status of Strict Nature Reserves and therefore could affect the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties in the Russian Federation and reiterates its request to the State Party to take appropriate legal measures to maintain a high level protection of the World Heritage properties on its territory, in accordance with Paragraph 15(f) of the *Operational Guidelines*;
8. Recommends that all legal issues concerning natural properties in the Russian Federation, which are composed of federal and regional protected areas, be addressed through a comprehensive national legal framework for the protection and management of natural World Heritage properties in order to ensure the fulfilment of the State Party's obligations under the *Convention* and also requests the State Party to convene a high-level workshop to assist in developing such a framework, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including detailed information on trends in wildlife populations inside the property, a map showing the current boundaries of the property, and a detailed progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the 2007 reactive monitoring mission, as well as the other documents requested above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## 22. Lake Baikal (Russian Federation) (N 754)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.22**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.23**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes with serious concern that the permit for operation of the Baikalsk Paper and Pulp Mill (BPPM) has been extended to 2015 without adequate measures being in place to address the problem of waste water discharged into the lake, recalls the State Party's commitment made at the 34th session (Brasilia, 2010), to develop and implement a closed-loop water system by **December 2012**;

4. Requests the State Party, in the event that the required investment for the closed-loop water system is not secured by **December 2012**, to close the Baikalsk Paper and Pulp Mill (BPPM), and considers that the continued operation of BPPM without adequate measures in place to address the considerable negative environmental impacts would represent a clear ascertained danger to the property's Outstanding Universal Value as defined in paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
5. Welcomes the State Party's efforts to develop alternatives for the socio-economic development of the town of Baikalsk and its surroundings, but also considers that as long as an adequate solution to the environmental impacts resulting from the Baikalsk Paper and Pulp Mill is pending, the effectiveness of these efforts is likely to be limited;
6. Further considers changes in the Baikal special law which would allow for the development of mineral deposits inside the Central Ecological Zone would represent a clear potential danger to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines* and reiterates its established position that mining is incompatible with World Heritage status;
7. Also requests the State Party to implement the 2011 joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission recommendations, in particular to:
  - a) assist BPPM in obtaining as a matter of urgency the required investment to effectively implement the closed-loop water treatment system and to ensure that this investment is used for this purpose and not for enhancing the existing production system,
  - b) continue the effective implementation of a long-term alternative livelihoods strategy for the town of Baikalsk,
  - c) develop, under the umbrella of the Special Law for Baikal, an integrated management plan and land-use planning for this World Heritage property that fully considers all proposed projects, including the mega-project proposed for the development of a Special Economic Zone for tourism in Buryatia, to ensure that they are implemented in a way that is compatible with the Outstanding Universal Value and conditions of integrity of this property. Such an integrated management plan should also consider options to address the impact associated to the pollution coming into the lake from the Upper Angara and the Selenga rivers;
8. Expresses its concern about the potential direct and indirect environmental impacts from the development of the "Baikal Harbour" Special Economic Zone for tourism and further requests the State Party to submit an Environmental Impact Assessment, including an assessment of potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, to the World Heritage Centre in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
9. Expresses its utmost concern about Federal Law No. 365-FZ dated 30 November 2011, which significantly weakens the protection status of Strict Nature Reserves and therefore could affect the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties in the Russian Federation and also reiterates its request to the State Party to take appropriate legal measures to maintain a high level protection of the World Heritage properties on its territory, in accordance with Paragraph 15(f) of the *Operational Guidelines*;
10. Recommends that all legal issues concerning natural properties in the Russian Federation, which are composed of federal and regional protected areas, be addressed through a comprehensive national legal framework for the protection and



management of natural World Heritage properties in order to ensure the fulfillment of the State Party's obligations under the *Convention* and requests furthermore the State Party to convene a high-level workshop to assist in developing such a framework, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;

11. Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of all component protected areas of the property, including Zabaikalskiy and Pribaikalskiy National Parks, as well as on the implementation of the points noted above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to considering, in the absence of substantial progress, the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### 23. Western Caucasus (Russian Federation) (N 900)

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.23**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **32 COM 7B.25**, **34 COM 7B.24**, and **35 COM 7B.24**, adopted at its 32nd (Quebec City, 2008), 34th (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th (UNESCO, 2011) sessions respectively,
3. Expresses its utmost concern about Federal Law No. 365-FZ dated 30 November 2011, which is weakening the protection status of Strict State Nature Reserves and therefore could affect the Outstanding Universal Value of several World Heritage properties in the Russian Federation and reiterates its request to the State Party to take appropriate legal measures to maintain a high level of protection of the property or other Natural World Heritage properties on its territory, in accordance with Paragraph 15(f) of the *Operational Guidelines* when establishing the list of allowed infrastructure in the Strict Nature Reserves that are part of a World Heritage property;
4. Also expresses its serious concern about the plans to construct tourist and mountain ski facilities at Lagonaki and considers that a decision to proceed with plans to develop these facilities would affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and constitute a case for inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger, in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
5. Reiterates its request to urgently implement all recommendations of the 2010 monitoring mission in order to protect the property's Outstanding Universal Value, and in particular urges the State Party to immediately abandon any plans for recreational use of the Lagonaki plateau, Mt Fisht and Mt Oshten areas and to halt all road developments in the property;
6. Encourages financial institutions not to invest in any developments on the Lagonaki Plateau or other parts of the property, which might impact its Outstanding Universal Value;

7. Regrets that the State Party has not submitted the updated map of the boundaries of the property and detailed information on the activities allowed in the Natural Monuments which are part of the property, and urges the State Party to submit the updated map, showing the exact location of all proposed or planned infrastructure and the special economic zone, as well as documentation of all EIAs conducted for projects inside or adjacent to the property that might affect its Outstanding Universal Value for review by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;
8. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN mission to the property to review the state of conservation of the property, progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the 2010 monitoring mission and to determine the status of the proposed tourism and ski development on the Lagonaki and to evaluate the possible impacts of the proposed development on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to considering the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

#### **24. Virgin Komi Forests (Russian Federation) (N 719)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.24**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.25**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Deeply regrets that the State Party has not implemented the key recommendations of the UNESCO/IUCN mission, namely to immediately halt the planned gold mine within the property and to reverse the boundary changes which removed the legal protection status of four areas within the property, including the 19.9 square km gold mining site;
4. Expresses its utmost concern that since its 35th session, full-scale gold mining preparatory works have begun within the property;
5. Reiterates its utmost concern with regard to the boundary changes of the northern component of the property, Yugyd Va National Park (YVNP), which removes the protection status of these areas, and about the approval of a gold mine within the property at Chudnoe;
6. Encourages the State Party to pursue its efforts for the protection of the property as a whole under its initial boundaries in accordance with existing legislation and regulations;

7. Considers that these issues constitute a danger to the property's Outstanding Universal Value, in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines* for the Implementation of the World Heritage *Convention*;
8. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to implement the recommendations of the 2010 World Heritage Centre /IUCN reactive monitoring mission;
9. Further reiterates its established policy that mining is incompatible with World Heritage status, which is supported by ICMM's international policy statement of not undertaking such activities within World Heritage properties, and calls upon the involved mining companies not to proceed with gold mining within the property;
10. Notes with appreciation the State Party's positive intention to create an eastern buffer zone, to incorporate the Upper Illych Basin forest within YVNP, and to also upgrade the protection status of PL 350 forest plot, and also considers that the improvement in the protection status of these areas, particularly the Upper Illych Basin forest which links the northern and southern components of the property, will be important for its long-term integrity;
11. Takes note of the State Party's intention to submit a boundary modification proposal to the Committee, and further considers that any proposed changes to the boundaries of a World Heritage property should be subject to procedures at least as rigorous as those involved in the nomination of the property and should be considered through the procedure for significant modifications of boundaries, as required under Paragraph 165 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
12. Also requests the State Party, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, to develop a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value;
13. Recommends that all legal issues concerning natural properties in the Russian Federation, which are composed of federal and regional protected areas, be addressed through a comprehensive national legal framework for the protection and management of natural World Heritage properties in order to ensure the fulfillment of the State Party's obligations under the *Convention* and requests the State Party to convene a high-level workshop to assist in developing such a framework, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;
14. Urges the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, as it was requested by Decision **35 COM 7B.25**, a significant boundary modification request containing clarified boundaries of the property and following the recommendations of the 2010 World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission regarding establishment of a buffer zone and including other valuable forest lands and welcomes the efforts made by the State Party to that end;
15. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, describing the progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN monitoring mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## 25. Golden Mountains of Altai (Russian Federation) (N 768rev)

### Decision: 36 COM 7B.25

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **35 COM 7B.26**, **33 COM 7B.27** and **32 COM 7B.22** adopted at its 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 33rd (Seville, 2009) and 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) sessions respectively,
3. Takes note of the conclusion of the 2012 World Heritage Centre/IUCN monitoring mission that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property continues to be preserved, and welcomes the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the 2007 mission;
4. Also takes note of the affirmation by the State Party that no official decision has been made on the Altai gas pipeline project and that such a decision will be based on an environmental impact assessment in accordance with the Russian legislation;
5. Expresses its utmost concern that in spite of this affirmation, the pipeline developer Gazprom is conducting preparatory work on the pipeline route, including within the World Heritage property in violation of Russia's protected area legislation;
6. Reiterates that any decision to go forward with the gas pipeline project through the property would constitute a threat to its Outstanding Universal Value and represent a clear case for inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
7. Urges the State Party to make an unequivocal decision to abandon the construction of the Altai gas pipeline through the property as requested in Decision **33 COM 7B.27**, to ensure that no further preparatory works are undertaken within the property, and to ensure that the pipeline developer Gazprom considers alternative routes;
8. Also urges the State Party to ensure that Environmental Impact Assessments are submitted to the World Heritage Centre for any infrastructure development in or around the property which could affect its Outstanding Universal Value, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
9. Requests the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the recommendations of the 2007 monitoring mission as updated by the 2012 monitoring mission, in particular:
  - a) Ensure the implementation of the 2009-2015 general management strategy for the property,
  - b) Strengthen the management capacity of the Ukok Quiet Zone and Belugha Mountain Nature Parks in terms of staffing and budget,
  - c) Ensure that the inspectors of the nature parks have the necessary legal authority to perform their protection mandate by making the necessary legal provisions at the level of the Altai Republic;
  - d) Assess the impacts of grazing on the biodiversity in the traditional use zone of the Ukok Quiet Zone and develop a policy for the sustainable use of the natural

- resources in the traditional use zones in the property in close cooperation with the indigenous communities using these areas,
- e) Develop an overall strategy for sustainable tourism of the property, which could be the basis to set the policy for sustainable tourism at the level of the Altai Republic,
  - f) Further strengthen the transboundary cooperation with Mongolia and China based on the experience with Kazakhstan,
  - g) Strengthen the cooperation with the civil society and in particular the indigenous communities, taking advantage of their knowledge relevant for the management of the property,
  - h) Assess the cultural values of the property for its possible renomination under cultural criteria;
10. Recommends that the State Party continue the process on extending the property, including key areas in Altai Republic, Mongolia, China and Kazakhstan;
  11. Also expresses its utmost concern about Federal Law No. 365-FZ dated 30 November 2011, which significantly weakens the protection status of Strict Nature Reserves and therefore could affect the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties in the Russian Federation and reiterates its request to the State Party to take appropriate legal measures to maintain a high level protection of the World Heritage properties on its territory, in accordance with Paragraph 15(f) of the *Operational Guidelines*;
  12. Also recommends that all legal issues concerning natural properties in the Russian Federation, which are composed of federal and regional protected areas, be addressed through a comprehensive national legal framework for the protection and management of natural World Heritage properties in order to ensure the fulfilment of the State Party's obligations under the *Convention*, and also requests the State Party to convene a high-level workshop to assist in developing such a framework, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;
  13. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, including an update on the status of the proposed pipeline, on the Environmental Impact Assessment process as well as on progress in the implementation of the 2012 monitoring mission recommendations, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## **26. Henderson Island (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (N 487)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.26**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.27**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),

3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in the implementation of the rat eradication programme, and the reported preliminary results indicating the success of the eradication operation with minimal negative impacts on non-target species;
4. Urges the State Party, in close cooperation with the Pitcairn authorities and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, to rapidly finalize biosecurity assessments and the strengthening of biosecurity measures, and to establish a permanent Ranger Post at the property as soon as possible, in order to prevent the (re-)introduction of rats or other invasive species through uncontrolled visitation;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, the final result of the rat eradication programme, and the progress achieved in the establishment of a permanent Ranger Post.

## **27. Yellowstone National Park (United States of America) (N 28)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.27**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.28**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Commends the State Party for the substantial progress made to find effective solutions to conservation issues affecting the property, particularly relating to bison migration, suppression of the lake trout population, mitigation of human-grizzly bear conflict, improvement in winter visitor use, and mining and road impacts;
4. Notes that the conservation programmes will require sustained effort and considerable input of resources if they are to be successful in the long term;
5. Encourages the State Party to establish effective co-operative relations between the park and private landowners and State land and wildlife regulatory agencies in lands surrounding the park, in the interest of achieving long-term conservation goals for the park's bison, grizzly and wolf populations;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including on progress in addressing the key conservation issues, including mobilizing the necessary financial support for the implementation of the conservation programmes to address them as well as the establishment of co-operative relations between the park and other stakeholders.

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### 28. Iguazu National Park (Argentina) (N 303)

**Decision:** 36 COM 7B.28

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.30**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Regrets that little progress has been made in formalizing and operationalizing transboundary cooperation with the neighbouring Iguazu National Park World Heritage property in Brazil, despite having been informed by the State Party of Brazil at its 34th session that the signing of such an agreement was imminent;
4. Reiterates its request that the State Party of Argentina, in cooperation with the State Party of Brazil, formalize transboundary cooperation through appropriate international instruments, under which site based cooperation can be structured, implemented and monitored;
5. Takes note of the hydrographical report on water flows in the Iguazu River, and recommends the State Party of Argentina, in cooperation with the State Party of Brazil, to continue river flow monitoring so that informed discussions with the managers of the Caxias dam can ensure the safeguarding of the property's Outstanding Universal Value;
6. Reminds the State Party that, as per Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, any intention to undertake or authorize infrastructure works likely to impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value should be communicated to the World Heritage Centre;
7. Also notes the concerns raised by the State Party over the incipient threats caused by alien species in the property, and urges it in coordination with the State Party of Brazil to engage in a concerted effort to ensure that this issue receives the appropriate level of management attention;
8. Requests the State Party of Argentina, in cooperation with the State Party of Brazil, to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a single joint report on the state of conservation of the property, including special consideration on advances in cooperation, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## 29. Iguazu National Park (Brazil) (N 355)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.29**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.31**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) and recalling the recommendations of the 2008 reactive monitoring mission report;
3. Regrets that little progress has been made in formalizing and operationalizing transboundary cooperation with the neighbouring Iguazu National Park World Heritage property in Argentina, despite having been informed by the State Party at its 34th session that the signing of such an agreement was imminent;
4. Reiterates its request that the State Party of Brazil, in cooperation with the State Party of Argentina, formalize transboundary cooperation through appropriate international instruments, under which site based cooperation can be structured, implemented and monitored;
5. Notes with serious concern that the Baixo Iguazu hydroelectric project and the re-opening of the Estrada do Colono road through the property appear to again be actively considered, and reminds the State Party that, as per Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, any intention to undertake or authorize infrastructure works likely to impact the property's Outstanding Universal Value should be communicated to the World Heritage Centre;
6. Urges the State Party to make a permanent commitment not to authorize the construction of the Baixo Iguazu hydroelectric project, or any other hydroelectric project that may be considered to have a negative impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value;
7. Also notes the concerns raised by the State Party of Argentina over the incipient threats caused by alien species in the property on the Argentinean side, and calls upon both the States Parties of Brazil and Argentina to engage in a concerted effort to ensure that this issue receives the appropriate level of management attention;
8. Requests the State Party to ensure the development of a qualified ranger corps specifically trained in conservation issues to address the on-going management challenges at the property;
9. Also requests the State Party, in cooperation with the State Party of Argentina, to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a single joint report on the state of conservation of the property, including special consideration on advances in cooperation, and progress made in the creation of a stable and professional ranger corps, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.



**30. Cerrado Protected Areas: Chapada dos Veadeiros and Emas National Parks (Brazil) (N 1032)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.30**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.28**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011);
3. Notes with concern that the majority of the Chapada dos Veadeiros component of this serial property continues to no longer benefit from National Park status, and that its integrity is no longer guaranteed;
4. Also recalling the State Party's earlier commitment to resolve this situation by March 2012;
5. Also notes that the State Party has committed to presenting the final project for the re-establishment of sufficient protection status for the property, or an equivalent configuration of what is currently recognized as the property under the World Heritage *Convention*, to the Minister of Environment by June 2013;
6. Considers that any new configuration of property boundaries and/or conservation status proposed by the State Party will likely require a re-nomination, and recommends the State Party to consult closely with IUCN in this regard;
7. Requests the State Party to invite a reactive monitoring mission undertaken by IUCN to assess issues related to the legal status of the property, and to provide further advice to the State Party as required;
8. Urges the State Party to resolve, in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, the integrity issues resulting from the loss of protection status without further delay;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, including a report on the state of advancement on the re-establishment of its conditions of integrity, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**31. Talamanca Range-La Amistad Reserves / La Amistad National Park (Costa Rica / Panama) (N 205bis)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.31**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.29**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),

3. Welcomes the examples of transboundary cooperation in management planning, in addressing the requests of the World Heritage Committee, and in carrying out field missions;
4. Regrets that the State Party of Panama was unable to invite a reactive monitoring mission to the property, as requested in Decision **35 COM 7B.29**;
5. Expresses its serious concern about the State Party of Panama's stated intent to complete the Bonyic dam without prior consideration of the results of the on-going Strategic Environmental Assessment, and requests the State Party of Panama to put in place adequate mitigation measures at the CHAN-75 and Bonyic dams to overcome barriers to the movement of aquatic species along the affected waterways, and to also put in place an effective and long term monitoring programme to measure the extent to which mitigation measures are effective;
6. Also requests the States Parties to submit a copy of the Strategic Environmental Assessment to the World Heritage Centre as soon as it is completed;
7. Expresses its concern over the absence of progress in developing and implementing a systematic approach regarding the cattle in the property, and in the unresolved situation concerning the remaining mineral exploration permits in Costa Rica, and further requests the States Parties to address these issues;
8. Requests furthermore that both States Parties jointly invite an IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property, prior to its 37th session in 2013, which should assess the threats posed by ongoing dam construction in Panama, existing and further potential dam developments, mining in Costa Rica, the planned road project to traverse the property from Boquete to Bocas del Toro, and the effects of cattle in the property, and to make a recommendation on the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
9. Requests moreover both States Parties of Costa Rica and Panama to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a joint report on the state of conservation of the property, including on the halting of dam construction that may impact the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, a report on progress on the transboundary dam Strategic Environmental Assessment project, a report on progress achieved in resolving land tenure and land use issues, as well as on the other points raised above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to consider, if the ascertained or potential danger to Outstanding Universal Value is confirmed, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### **32. Galápagos Islands (Ecuador) (N 1bis)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.32**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.30**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),

3. Welcomes the further progress achieved by the State Party in implementing the recommendations of the 2010 World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission;
4. Requests the State Party to sustain its efforts to implement all of the recommendations of the reactive monitoring mission, in particular those where activities are at the planning stage and require finalization and implementation as soon as possible, including:
  - a) Putting in place the biosecurity infrastructure for the islands, with a particular focus on the requirements for international biosecurity standards both for cargo ships, and for loading and offloading facilities,
  - b) Implementing a sustainable tourism strategy through appropriate regulatory, legal and policy instruments,
  - c) Resolving the issue over the capacity of judges in Galapagos to hear environmental crime cases as a matter of urgency,
  - d) Resolving the sport fishing / artisanal fishing issue;
5. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, with particular emphasis on the implementation of the points noted above, as well as on further progress made in the implementation of the 2010 mission recommendations, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

**33. Coiba National Park and its Special Zone of Marine Protection (Panama) (N 1138 rev)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.33**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.33**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit a report on the state of conservation of the property, as requested by the World Heritage Committee in Decision **35 COM 7B.33**;
4. Takes note that it is unclear whether the Management Plan for the Special Zone of Marine Protection has been finalized and adopted as previously urged by the World Heritage Committee in Decision **35 COM 7B.33**, and considers that the property's lack of management capacity, if not addressed, is likely to negatively affect its Outstanding Universal Value;
5. Requests the State Party to urgently confirm the status of the Management Plan for the Special Zone of Marine Protection, and to report on its progress in undertaking an independent Management Effectiveness Evaluation in order to inform the effective implementation of the Management Plan and fishing regulations for both Coiba National Park and its Special Protection Zone;

6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to develop and implement a coastal zone development and conservation policy in order to ensure that cumulative coastal zone development impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value are effectively addressed, and encourages the State Party to develop this policy on the basis of a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the coastal zone's development potential;
7. Notes that the State Party did not submit a revised International Assistance Request for the removal of cattle from Coiba Island, and urges the State Party to re-submit a revised request in line with the recommendations made by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN at the time of submission;
8. Welcomes the State Party's submission of a revised retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, and also urges the State Party to submit a final version within the framework of the Periodic Reporting Exercise in Latin America and the Caribbean;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, and on the progress made on the issues mentioned above, including increased fishing pressures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **34. Pitons Management Area (Saint Lucia) (N 1161)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.34**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.35**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Also recalling the State Party's intervention at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010), in which it committed to a strict moratorium on further development within the property;
4. Notes with grave concern that additional developments within the property were granted in 2011, despite the as yet incomplete drafting of the Limits to Acceptable Change and of development regulations and guidelines, which are likely to further degrade the property's Outstanding Universal Value;
5. Notes that the property's Outstanding Universal Value may have already been compromised by developments within the property;
6. Requests the State Party, inasmuch as construction may not have commenced, to issue a stop work order and to cancel the five development permits granted in 2011, and to not approve any additional developments until the Limits to Acceptable Change study, along with development regulations and guidelines, are completed and legally integrated into the development review process;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, focusing specifically on progress in halting existing development permits within the

property and establishing an effective development control system, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to consider inscribing the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger if the measures requested by the Committee are not implemented.**

## **MIXED PROPERTIES**

### **AFRICA**

#### **35. Ngorongoro Conservation Area (United Republic of Tanzania) (C/N 39)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.35**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision 35 COM 7B.36 adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in addressing the recommendations made by the 2007, 2008 and 2011 missions, particularly in relation to tourism management, control of invasive species, control of poaching and the pastoralism strategy;
4. Urges the State Party to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding and secure the necessary resources to have a fully operational cultural department within the management structure of the property to implement recommendations made regarding the mapping, conservation and management of the cultural components;
5. Takes note of the results of the 2012 reactive monitoring mission to the property and urges the State Party to implement its recommendations, with particular attention on:
  - a) Convene an international technical committee meeting to review the reports from the partial re-excavation of the Laetoli footprints and to identify a potential course of action for its sustainable conservation and management,
  - b) Develop the cultural component of the tourism strategy,
  - c) Continue to explore alternatives to address pressures derived from growing pastoralism activities, including the improvement of livestock quality and improved livelihoods outside the property, among others,
  - d) Carry out a participatory workshop, involving the Maasai, to address concerns regarding the management of the property and the implications derived from World Heritage listing,
  - e) Develop a clear road strategy for the entire Serengeti ecosystem in collaboration with the Serengeti National Park World Heritage Property and other agencies and carry out the corresponding Heritage and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and submit these to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, in

- accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, for review prior to implementation,
- f) Maintain the utmost vigilance in addressing threats derived from invasive species and poaching,
  - g) Develop and implement a comprehensive monitoring plan for the property, using suitable benchmarks and indicators to evaluate the impact of management interventions and the State of Conservation of the property;
6. Encourages the State Party to ensure that technical and regulatory documents (including EIAs) through which management of the property is effected be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, preferably in draft form so that any recommended changes can be incorporated before they are finalized;
  7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage centre, by 1 February 2014, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property, including progress made on the implementation of the above and on the recommendations of the 2012 mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## ASIA-PACIFIC

### 36. Tasmanian Wilderness (Australia) (C/N 181 ter)

#### Decision: 36 COM 7B.36

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.38**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Welcomes the State Party's commitment under the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement to provide interim protection to forests adjacent to the property from logging activities while assessments are undertaken to identify the values of these area, including the Upper Florentine, and areas within the Styx, Huon, Picton and Counsel River Valleys;
4. Also welcomes the State Party's intention to provide legislative protection to areas that are identified as being of conservation value, which may possibly include their nomination for inclusion within the property, in line with the Committee's requests at its 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) and 34th (Brasilia, 2010) sessions that the State Party consider, at its own discretion, the potential for additional areas of Outstanding Universal Value to be added to the property;
5. Takes note however that a number of forest reserves adjoining the property appear to have been exempted from interim protection and that logging and road construction is ongoing in parts of the Styx, Huon, Picton and Counsel Areas, and requests the State Party to clarify in writing to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013** that areas of

potential Outstanding Universal Value are not exempted from interim protection, in order to retain their potential for possible addition to the World Heritage property;

6. Also takes note that the property's existing monitoring structures together with the revision of the State of Tasmanian World Heritage Area Report in 2014 should provide comprehensive data on the impacts of adjacent forestry operations on the property's integrity and values, and that this should inform the management of these impacts, and of adjoining forest reserves, within the framework of the 2015 Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Management Plan review;
7. Notes the continuing commitment of the State Party to resource support for Aboriginal cultural heritage, and reiterates its recommendation to increase property staff with cultural heritage specialists, in order to ensure the adequate protection and management of cultural sites both within the property and immediately outside the boundaries;
8. Welcomes the re-formed property Area Advisory Committee and recommends that it should include representatives of all stakeholders, including the Aboriginal community;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2015**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including data on the impacts of logging operations on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and on the proposed management response, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015.

## EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

### 37. Pyrénées – Mont Perdu (France/Spain) (C/N 773 bis)

#### Decision: 36 COM 7B.37

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 7B.40** and **34 COM 7B.39** adopted at its 33rd (Seville, 2009) and 34th (Brasilia, 2010) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes with interest the elements of information concerning the joint governance of the property, whilst encouraging the State Parties to finalize the participation of representatives of the two national parks in the jurisdictions of these institutions;
4. Regrets that no concrete progress has been accomplished concerning the relocation of the Gavarnie Festival and, given its location in the most scenic place of the property explicitly inscribed for the aesthetic values of its natural landscape, strongly reiterates its request for the relocation of the Festival due to its incompatibility with the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;

5. Strongly urges the State Party of France to prepare a study on potential relocation sites for the Festival, integrating the advantages and inconveniences of these sites, property rights and usage, as well as the costs of the operation;
6. Also regrets that the study on the closure of the Troumouse Road that should have been completed in 2010, is still not finalized, and also strongly urges the State Party of France to submit this study to the World Heritage Centre by **31 December 2012**;
7. Further regrets that the 2012-2014 Action Plans do not place sufficient emphasis on agro-pastoralism activities and the restoration of pastoral built heritage, and encourages the State Parties to improve support to these activities in the next action plan;
8. Requests the State Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated joint report on the state of conservation of the property, notably on the issues relating to the relocation of the Festival and the closure of the Troumouse Road, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

### **38. Mount Athos (Greece) (C/N 454)**

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.38**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **32 COM 7B.43** and **34 COM 7B.40**, adopted at its 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) and its 34th (Brasilia, 2010) sessions respectively;
3. Notes with satisfaction the progress made by the State Party and the Holy Community of Mount Athos to prepare a preliminary inter-disciplinary management plan which will address the recommendations of the 2006 joint reactive monitoring mission and the recommendations of the Committee and which, once approved, will form the basis of a 'Final systematic, management, environmental and land planning study of the Athos peninsula';
4. Recommends that the State Party, in collaboration with the Holy Community provide, by **1 February 2013**, three printed and electronic copies of the preliminary management plan for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies; before it is finalized;
5. Reiterates its request to the State Party and the Holy Community to consider possibilities to support, in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, a key stakeholder multi-disciplinary workshop to shape the approach to development of the management framework, and thus contribute, inter alia, to the discussion on appropriate management mechanisms concerning World Heritage properties of religious interest addressed by Committee Decision **35 COM 5A** adopted at its 35th session on heritage of religious interest;
6. Requests the State Party, in collaboration with the Holy Community, to provide to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2014** a report on progress made in developing



an integrated management framework and Management Plan, in line with the recommendations of the joint 2006 World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN reactive monitoring mission, and on the implementation of the above recommendations.

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### 39. Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru) (C/N 274)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.39**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.38**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the information provided on the implementation of actions at the property, and regrets that no substantial progress has been made in addressing threats to the property that have been underscored for more than ten years;
4. Considers that threats to the property derived from increased public use, continued difficulties with access routes, deficiencies in decision-making and governance mechanisms, uncontrolled development at the Machu Picchu Village, among others, have not been comprehensively addressed;
5. Notes the ongoing discussions between the State Party, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies regarding the organization of an advisory mission and the development of terms of reference for the International Support Panel, and also considers that the successful establishment of the Panel would be a crucial step towards the urgent implementation of the Emergency Action Plan;
6. Reiterates its requests to the State Party to complete work to address unresolved issues with special attention to the:
  - a) Definition of provisions to strategically address public use and urban planning within the framework of the updating of the Management Plan by the end of 2012, and to include a Limits of Acceptable Change Study and a related carrying capacity study for Aguas Calientes village,
  - b) Definition of a comprehensive strategy for the Western access to the property,
  - c) Full development of risk reduction and disaster recovery plans, including a clear and precise course of action,
  - d) Harmonization of legislative frameworks and enforcement of regulatory measures,
  - e) Finalization of the inventory of land ownership of the property and in its immediate setting and definition of regulatory measures in accordance to established land use zones,

- f) Strengthening of decision-making processes and governance at the property, and approving the regulations of the Management Unit still pending, so as to establish a real collegiate authority for the Sanctuary,
  - g) Establishment of a clear and unambiguous carrying capacity for the Sanctuary and consistent guidelines for a Public Use Plan that should be officially approved by the Management Unit of the Sanctuary;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property, including a comprehensive report on the actions taken according to the recommendations of the technical mission report of the International Support Panel, and the progress made in the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan, as well as on the steps taken to implement the above-mentioned recommendations, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## **CULTURAL PROPERTIES**

### **AFRICA**

#### **40. Royal Palaces of Abomey (Benin) (C 323 bis)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.40**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.43**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party in regard to the state of conservation of the property and urges it to continue its efforts in the sustained implementation of conservation and management measures;
4. Expresses its concern at the damage caused to the Houégbadja Palace by the fire in January 2012 and the lack of any mention of the fire and its impact in the State Party report;
5. Considers that the lack of adequate prevention and maintenance measures and response plans appears to have contributed to the fires in 2009 and 2012;
6. Requests the State Party to develop a comprehensive disaster risk Management Plan and submit it to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for review by **1 February 2013**;
7. Also urges the State Party to develop a reconstruction policy document as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session and to halt all reconstruction work

until such a policy and a detailed reconstruction project plan for the fire damaged buildings have been approved by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;

8. Further urges the State Party to update the Management Plan as a framework for the reconstruction policy and disaster risk Management Plan;
9. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission to assess the state of conservation of the property and to assist in defining ways to address the development of a reconstruction policy, a detailed reconstruction project plan for the fire damaged buildings, a disaster risk Management Plan and an updated Management Plan;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **41. Aksum (Ethiopia) (C 15)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.41**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.45** adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party, in particular the efforts made towards the delimitation of boundaries of the property and of a suggested buffer zone, as well as the submission of a draft retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value;
4. Expresses its concern that the construction of the Orthodox Church Museum has started on the property without prior submission of information on this construction to the World Heritage Centre in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* and as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010);
5. Also expresses its strong concern that this Orthodox Church Museum construction will have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to establish more structured management arrangements at the property, including a Management Plan, and to provide the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, with maps showing the precise boundaries of the property and the buffer zone;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to undertake investigations on the causes of the rising water table and renews its invitation to the State Party to submit a request for International Assistance to:
  - a) Conduct the study on the causes of the rising water,
  - b) Support the Stele 3 consolidation project;

8. Requests the State Party to invite a World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS high level reactive monitoring mission to assess the Orthodox Church Museum project before any further construction activity takes place;
9. Also requests the State Party to halt the Orthodox Church Museum construction until the World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission and the assessment are completed;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to considering, if the Orthodox Church Museum construction is not halted until the project is comprehensively assessed by a high level reactive monitoring mission, and until appropriate solutions to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is fully preserved have been identified and agreed upon, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

#### **42. Rock-Hewn Churches, Lalibela (Ethiopia) (C 18)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.42**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.44**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party, notably the development of maps of the property's boundaries and suggested buffer zone, and requests the State Party to submit the finalized maps in the context of the retrospective inventory and plans of the suggested buffer zone as a minor modification;
4. Encourages the State Party to finalize the consultation process for the draft Management Plan for the property, and also requests the State Party to submit the draft Management Plan, including the resettlement action plan and the development plan for Lalibela area for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
5. Reiterates its request to the State Party to:
  - a) Submit details of the type and frequency of monitoring arrangements for all temporary shelters,
  - b) Regularly provide information about the World Bank Tourism Development Project that is being implemented at the property,
  - c) Pursue its efforts to implement the pilot preservation project at Gabriel Rufael Church in cooperation with the World Monuments Fund;
6. Further requests the State Party to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage cultural properties, to evaluate the potential impact of any planned demographic or other changes to strengthen tourist-targeted services in the property or immediate surroundings on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;

7. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, **by 1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

#### **43. Lamu Old Town (Kenya) (C 1055)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.43**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision 35 COM 7B.39, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes the general information provided by the State Party on the Lamu-Southern Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) corridor, Lamu Port development, encroachment and uncontrolled development in the Shela sand dunes and Lamu Old Town;
4. Expresses its strong concern that detailed information on the LAPSSET corridor and Lamu Port project, such as its scope, projected kinds of primary and secondary developments foreseen, projected economic and population data, has not been submitted by the State Party as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th session (UNESCO, 2011);
5. Notes with concern, that information made available by Kenyan government authorities to the public domain suggests a project of major scale, which may impact the social and cultural unity of Lamu Old Town, its environment and setting, in particular the coastline, tidal flows and the ecological balance of the water catchment area at the Shela sand dunes;
6. Also expresses its concern about the likely negative impact of the LAPSSET corridor and the new Lamu Port and Metropolis, including secondary developments foreseen, on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
7. Requests the State Party to halt and prevent any further construction of the new Lamu Port and LAPSSET facilities at Lamu until:
  - a) A comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage Cultural Properties, to assess the project's potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value including its social, cultural and religious impacts, have been carried out by independent experts in collaboration with the National Museums of Kenya (NMK),
  - b) These EIA and HIA have been submitted to the World Heritage Centre for examination by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies,
  - c) Appropriate solutions to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is fully preserved, have been identified and agreed upon;
8. Reiterates its request to the State Party to provide detailed information on the development of the LAPSSET corridor and new Lamu Port and Metropolis, and

planned secondary developments, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, including but not limited to its scope, exact location of all developments, anticipated construction schedule as well as compensation procedures for traditional and legal land owners, before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse;

9. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies:
  - a) The requested maps showing the precise boundaries of the property and the buffer zones areas, indicating those gazetted at present as well as those planned to be gazetted in the near future,
  - b) Three printed and electronic copies of the finalized draft Management Plan;
10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **44. Old Towns of Djenné (Mali) (C 116 rev)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.44**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.47**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Acknowledges the information provided on the state of conservation of the property and the measures implemented in regard to its conservation;
4. Notes with concern the conservation conditions at the property and the lack of significant progress made in implementing the management and conservation plans;
5. Expresses its regret at the demolition of the Old Courthouse, a significant and prominent example of the Djenné architectural style, that had been renovated as part of an urban restoration project and considers that its destruction impacts adversely on the integrity of the property and that it is symptomatic of the lack of adoption of developed planning tools;
6. Urges the State Party to cooperate with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, as well as any other relevant international bodies, to put in place measures to address pressing concerns regarding implementation of regulatory measures to control development pressures, conservation conditions of the built heritage and sanitation;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2012**, a boundary clarification in the framework of the Retrospective Inventory process;
8. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to assess the state of conservation of the property, in particular the vulnerability of its distinctive architecture, the conditions of the archaeological

components of the property and development proposals for different sectors, and to develop an action plan for the implementation of priority conservation and protection measures;

9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the steps taken to implement the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to considering, in the case of confirmation of ascertained or potential danger to the Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

#### **45. Aapravasi Ghat (Mauritius) (C 1227)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.45**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.41**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in improving the management system for the property and urges it to secure the necessary resources for its effective operation;
4. Notes the results of the March 2012 reactive monitoring mission and encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations, with particular emphasis on:
  - a) Finalize the updating of the management plan and submit it to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for consideration and review,
  - b) Develop a capacity building strategy to ensure that qualified conservation and management professionals are available to support the work of the Technical Committee,
  - c) Improve collaboration mechanisms to ensure the adequate protection and management of the buffer zones and better utilise mechanisms such as the consultative meeting to strengthen participatory decision-making,
  - d) Increase awareness raising activities and produce summaries of existing planning tools for easier consultation by different public users;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the steps taken to implement the recommendations set out above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

#### 46. Island of Mozambique (Mozambique) (C 599)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.46**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.50**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Commends the State Party for the considerable progress made in improving the state of conservation of the property including the completion of the management plan, the hiring and training of staff, establishment of new zones for residential use to reduce congestion in Macuti Town, the infrastructure projects of sewage and water provision and the increased dialogue over conservation issues with stakeholders;
4. Expresses its concern about the impact of past uncontrolled development on the authenticity of the property and encourages the State Party to seek ways to mitigate its impact;
5. Also encourages the State Party to continue its efforts to recruit technical staff to the Conservation Office of Mozambique Island (GACIM) to a level compatible with the effective management of the property;
6. Requests the State Party to implement the Management Plan by organizing appropriate conservation of buildings and strengthening the legal framework for management;
7. Notes the work of the State Party in clarifying and enlarging the buffer zone to protect marine archaeology, as well as surrounding islands and coastal strip and further encourages the State Party to pursue efforts to formalize and adopt the buffer zone in conformity with Paragraph 107 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, details of any large-scale conservation or infrastructure projects planned for the property with Heritage Impact Assessments designed to show their potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2014** an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and progress with the implementation of the above for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.



#### 47. Saloum Delta (Senegal) (C 1359)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.47**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 8B.14**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes with satisfaction that the decisions taken by the State Party are steps in the right direction towards greater attention to the management of the cultural heritage of the property and encourages it to continue its efforts;
4. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Continue to give priority attention to the simultaneous protection and conservation of cultural elements of the property and the natural elements associated with them,
  - b) Ensure that this joint protection and conservation is carried out at the same level on the entire property, in particular through the deployment of eco-guards over the entire site,
  - c) Establish a training programme for eco-guards in the cultural values of the property,
  - d) Continue studies and research on protection of the shell mounds against erosion by currents, as well as projects and technical research for better management of human waste and domestic waste within the property,
  - e) Develop a policy for monitoring the conservation of the property with clearly defined indicators and a regular programme of observation of these indicators;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property.

#### 48. Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape (South Africa) (C 1099)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.48**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.44**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that mining activities were re-started before the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission was able to consider the Heritage Impact Assessment on site;

4. Requests the State Party to submit the relevant documents to clarify the delineation of the property and of its buffer zone;
5. Also requests the State Party to ensure that any mining activities do not affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
6. Also urges the State Party to ensure that measures are taken as soon as possible to protect, conserve and consolidate the archaeological evidence on the property and particularly at the Leopard's Kopje (K2) site, which the mission reported to be seriously deteriorated;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit a copy of the Integrated Management Plan to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, by 1 February 2013;
8. Requests finally the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2013, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **49. Stone Town of Zanzibar (United Republic of Tanzania) (C 173rev)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.49**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.45**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes the information provided by the State Party on the efforts made to improve the conservation and management of the property;
4. Also notes that the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) has been undertaken on the proposed hotel complex development at Mambo Msiige and the adjacent designated public open space, and that it has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Expresses its deep concern about the state of conservation of the property and the lack of significant progress in addressing the requests of the Committee;
6. Reiterates its requests to the State Party to:
  - a) Complete and submit a comprehensive condition assessment of the property and identify priority measures for intervention, including required resources for implementation,
  - b) Establish an effective monitoring system to control and enforce sanctions on illegal construction and evaluate the adequacy of proposals for new construction and development, both at the inscribed property and within its buffer zone,
  - c) Further develop the tourism development plan to effectively contribute to poverty alleviation and improvement of socio-economic conditions of the local population;

7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## ARAB STATES

### 50. Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis (Egypt) (C 87)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.50**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.56**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit a report as requested;
4. Reiterates its request to the State Party for:
  - a) An integrated management plan for the property as a whole,
  - b) The establishment of a West Bank buffer zone;
5. Also reiterates its request to the State Party, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to provide detailed information on the planning and design of proposed and on-going projects, in particular the Corniche and the landing stage for cruise boats on the West Bank, for review prior to implementation;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

### 51. Historic Cairo (Egypt) (C 89)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.51**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.48**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not provide a state of conservation report as requested;

4. Acknowledges the information provided by the team of the Urban Regeneration project for Historic Cairo (URHC) on the progress made in the implementation of the project;
5. Expresses its deep concern about the state of conservation of the property;
6. Urges the State Party to put in place urgent protection measures and to enforce them;
7. Encourages the State Party to continue its cooperation within the URHC project to define and apply an effective management system;
8. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre the revised draft of the retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value and the boundaries' clarifications for the property;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## **52. Tyre (Lebanon) (C 299)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.52**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.51**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes the information provided by the State Party on the implementation of actions at the property and urges it to secure the necessary resources to address holistically pressing concerns at the property and to prioritise the development of a management plan;
4. Also urges the State Party to finalize the process of definition of a buffer zone for the property, including the definition of appropriate regulatory measures, to protect the property from excessive development and to submit a request for minor boundary modification to this end according to paragraphs 163-165 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
5. Requests that a Heritage Impact Assessment be carried out for projects being undertaken in heritage areas and that these, along with the technical specifications for the redevelopment projects be submitted, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies prior to approval and implementation;
6. Also requests the State Party, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS to organize the foreseen reactive monitoring mission to the property before the end of 2012, in order to assess any changes in the state of conservation of the property since the 2009 mission;

7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to considering, in the absence of substantial progress, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**53. Ouadi Qadisha (the Holy Valley) and the Forest of the Cedars of God (Horsh Arz el-Rab) (Lebanon) (C 850)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.53**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.52**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes with concern the persistence of problems of management on the property reflected in the State Party's report;
4. Also notes the report of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the property and endorses its recommendations;
5. Urges the State Party to take all appropriate measures to maintain the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value at the property, as recommended in the mission report, and in particular to:
  - a) Revise the management mechanism for the property and establish a permanent management structure,
  - b) Update the 1998 management plan on the basis of the 2007 principles, including a conservation plan and a sustainable visitor management plan,
  - c) Abandon the project of enlarging the road, creating cablecars or building model villages in the property,
  - d) Undertake socio-economic studies aimed at improving the living conditions of the communities in and around the property;
6. Encourages the State Party to submit a Request for International Assistance for the development of the Action Plan mentioned in its report;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

#### **54. Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Libya) (C 190)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.54**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.53**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party has not submitted a state of conservation report to its previous four sessions;
4. Urges the State Party to implement its earlier decisions and measures recommended by the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission of January 2007;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a state of conservation report on the property and the implementation of its Decision **31 COM 7B.63** for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **55. Rock-Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus (Libya) (C 287)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.55**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.54**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Encourages the State Party, once conditions allow, to implement the action plan and the recommendations made by the 2011 reactive monitoring mission;
4. Invites the State Party to consider submitting an International Assistance request for the implementation of priority measures and for the development of a multi-faceted conservation and management strategy for the property;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**56. Ancient Ksour of Ouadane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata (Mauritania) (C 750)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.56**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.60**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Regrets that the State Party has not submitted the requested report;
4. Strongly urges the State Party to implement all the recommendations, notably those concerning the establishment of legal protection, the consolidation of appropriate local management mechanisms and the preparation of a management plan for the property;
5. Requests the State Party to transmit to the World Heritage Centre a technical report on the restoration of the Tichitt Mosque;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on progress accomplished in the implementation of its recommendations for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**57. Bahla Fort (Oman) (C 433)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.57**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.62**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Acknowledges the revised project scheme for the souq rehabilitation, requests that details of the final plans be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies and recommends that the State Party undertake immediate emergency measures for the shops affected by critical decay or disintegration;
4. Notes the submission of the revised Management plan, also requests the State Party to finalize it, taking into account the comments provided by ICOMOS and to officially adopt it by decree, and further requests the State Party to provide three printed and electronic copies of the finalized Management plan to the World Heritage Centre;
5. Requests furthermore the State Party, as indicated in the annex of the Management plan, to define an enlarged buffer zone and submit the buffer zone boundaries according to the procedure for minor boundary modification, outlined in paragraphs 163-164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Encourages the State Party to monitor over a longer period the aging characteristics of the different brick types in order to continuously improve the selection of materials for

restoration and rehabilitation and to continue its training activities to develop local masonry and brick production expertise;

7. Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.

## **58. Ancient Villages of Northern Syria (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 1348)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.58**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 8B.23**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Expresses its utmost concern for the country's current situation, the loss of life and potential risks to the property;
4. Notes the report sent by the State Party and the circumstances that hinder the implementation of responses to recommendations of the World Heritage Committee;
5. Maintains most of its previous recommendations and requests the State Party to:
  - a) Continue and extend the policy of protection and conservation of the cultural landscapes, notably through the revision of the Antiquities Law,
  - b) Increase the number of guards for the parks with the least number or those most exposed to illegal activity,
  - c) Confirm that Park No.1 (Saint Simeon Sanctuary) is not affected by a project for high voltage power lines,
  - d) Confirm that the visual integrity of Park No. 5 (Jebel Zawiye) is not compromised by large quarry and/or industrial projects,
  - e) Promptly complete the land surveys for each of the parks, under the General Directorate for Antiquities and Museums (DGAM)'s supervision,
  - f) Maintain throughout the management transition period, DGAM's prerogatives for the supervision of the preservation and conservation of the property,
  - g) Provide the "Maison du patrimoine" and park management centres with the human and material resources commensurate with their new missions for the protection, conservation, and economic and tourism development of the property as stipulated in the Management Plan,
  - h) Finalize the Management Plan and the Action Plan with a schedule of actions considered suitable for the property's conservation and its expression of Outstanding Universal Value, together with their implementation timeframes,
  - i) Detail the monitoring indicators for the property's conservation as a function of the particularities of each site and as a function of more extensive landscape data;



6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **59. Archaeological Site of Carthage (Tunisia) (C 37)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.59**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.59**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes the report presented by the State Party and the information provided on the property's boundaries;
4. Encourages the State Party to continue its policy of land management of the areas in the archaeological zone to avoid alteration to the integrity of the property;
5. Requests the State Party to implement the recommendations of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission of January 2012, including:
  - a) the revision, adoption and implementation of the Protection and Enhancement Plan for the property,
  - b) the elaboration of a Presentation Plan and a Tourism Management Plan,
  - c) the development of an archaeological and conservation strategy,
  - d) the coordination of preservation and management tools of the property, and coordination of the roles of the different stakeholders concerned;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014** a report on progress made in implementing the above recommendations for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

#### **60. Old City of Sana'a (Yemen) (C 385)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.60**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.60**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit the report as requested;

4. Expresses its concern at the increasing vulnerability of the property as a result of the current difficult situation as well as the potential threats to its integrity;
5. Calls upon the international community to support the State Party, in co-operation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to develop priority conservation and management measures and capacity building programmes;
6. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to evaluate the state of conservation of the property and identify measures needed to reverse the decay and ensure the conservation and protection of the property;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## ASIA-PACIFIC

### 61. Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya (India) (C1056 rev)

#### Decision: 36 COM 7B.61

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.70**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Acknowledges the efforts made by the State Party to address the conservation issues at the property; and notes the pragmatic approach currently applied by the Bodhgaya Temple Management Committee (BTMC) to retain its special legal status, under the Bodhgaya Temple Act of 1949;
4. Also notes the results of the February 2011 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission, endorses its recommendations on the satisfactory condition of the property, including the sacred Bodhi Tree, and requests the State Party to:
  - a) Ensure urgent protection of the vulnerable setting and the wider landscape through a balanced vision, which integrates conservation, pilgrimage and community development,
  - b) Formally designate an adequate buffer zone for the immediate setting of the property and appropriate protection for the wider landscape,
  - c) Identify, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies a two-step approach, firstly, an adequate buffer zone for the protection of the immediate setting as well as a regulatory framework for the protection of the wider landscape, following as second step, a serial extension of the property to include other sites with outstanding associations to the life of Lord Buddha,

- d) Revise the Management Plan and the regional development plan in light of the proposed buffer zone boundaries and regulations; and conduct a study of pilgrimage patterns and visitor behaviour to identify the most significant pressures and develop, on this basis, a comprehensive visitor/pilgrims management strategy,
  - e) Undertake capacity-building activities for all local stakeholders concerned to raise awareness of World Heritage management requirements;
5. Encourages the State Party to submit the designated buffer zone as a minor boundary modification;
  6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **62. Meidan Emam, Esfahan (Islamic Republic of Iran) (C 115)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.62**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.71**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Takes note of the further reduction in height of the Jahan-Nama Building and reiterates its request to the State Party to confirm as soon as possible, in writing, to the World Heritage Centre, that the demolition has been completed;
4. Requests the State Party to submit, as a matter of urgency, to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, detailed information and documentation on the proposed route of metro line 2;
5. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to develop a Management Plan for the property, in consultation with all stakeholders, and to ensure that this Management Plan becomes part of a larger strategic vision for integrated urban development and conservation;
6. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the property to consider the impact of the current metro constructions on the property and its wider setting;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit maps precisely indicating the property boundaries and buffer zone;
8. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**63. Town of Luang Prabang (Lao People's Democratic Republic) (C 479 rev)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.63**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 7B.77** adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),
3. Acknowledges the submission of the revised urban plan which proposes a buffer zone, as well as priority zones for development;
4. Notes the suspension of the hotel projects near the Mekong River and requests the State Party to revise these projects in line with the new urban plan and based on full Heritage Impact Assessments;
5. Regrets that the airport runway realignment and terminal extension was implemented despite the concerns expressed by the World Heritage Committee and urges the State Party not to take any decisions on future developments, which may impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property without prior Heritage Impact Assessments and provision of information in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Requests the State Party to clarify the current status of proposals for the development of the new town in Chompeth Valley and also notes that no details are included in the new urban plan;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the Mekong dam to be constructed 60 km upstream of the property;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

**64. Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape (Lao People's Democratic Republic) (C 481)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.64**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.72**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit a report on the state of conservation of the property as requested by the World Heritage Committee;

4. Expresses its concern that infrastructure developments have occurred at the property without heritage impact assessments carried out or without a landscape plan in place and urges the State Party to implement necessary measures to mitigate their identified impacts;
5. Notes the results of the February 2012 reactive monitoring mission and encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations, with a particular emphasis on:
  - a) Monitor road traffic on route 14A and implement measures to control the number and speed of vehicles and consider creating a viable alternate route to the west of the property,
  - b) Develop a comprehensive land-use plan that addresses zoning, use, potential infrastructure development and guidelines for facilities,
  - c) Carry out visual impact assessments on the proposed locations for the construction of water towers and submit their results to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for review prior to committing to its implementation,
  - d) Implement measures to mitigate the visual impact of the new site management office and the entrance gate,
  - e) Develop an interpretation and awareness raising strategy for the property, including a local community engagement programme, to enhance the interpretation of the property and appropriation by associated living communities,
  - f) Develop a policy for engaging foreign missions based on actions proposed in the Management Plan instead of ad-hoc decisions;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the recommendations set out above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

#### **65. Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha (Nepal) (C 666 rev)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.65**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.74**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes the progress in developing the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) as well as the conservation measures taken for the property;
4. Requests the State Party to continue its work on the finalization of the Integrated Management Plan (IMP), and to continue its commitment to not approving any development project within the property or in the adjacent areas identified as having potential archaeological significance before the completion of the IMP and before conducting Heritage Impact Assessments, in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage cultural properties;

5. Encourages the State Party to continue to develop also strategies to further reduce industrial activity in the vicinity of the property; and requests that for any future proposals an Heritage Impact Assessment should be undertaken to consider the potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and its setting, as part of a wider Environmental Impact Assessment, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre detailed information on any proposed major restoration or new construction in the vicinity of the property, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **66. Kathmandu Valley (Nepal) (C 121)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.66**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.75**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note of the results of the November 2011 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the property;
4. Welcomes the cancellation of the tunnel road construction;
5. Urges the State Party to propose an alternative new route by determining a trajectory which passes around and outside the property boundary and to mitigate urgently the road construction work at Pashupati Monument Zone through a scheme of ecological restoration;
6. Requests the State Party to implement the recommendations of the November 2011 mission with regard to the development of an urban transport strategy, strengthened development control, including regulation for heritage impact assessment, a disaster risk management plan and improved systems of coordination and communication between government departments and other stakeholders;
7. Encourages the State Party to take measures to ensure adherence to international conservation standards for major conservation projects and to mobilize funding and grant aid for these projects;
8. Also requests the State Party's to consider all ways to mitigate the impact of the inappropriate new structure adjacent to the Pujari Math of Bhaktapur site, and to minimise the presence of the Army within the property to levels necessary for security;

9. Considers that the State Party decision to review the Integrated Management Plan provides an opportunity to implement the recommendations of the 2011 mission;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre detailed information, including independently prepared heritage impact assessments, for proposed developments for the revised new road, the airport extension or any other major scheme of development, conservation or reconstruction, in particular for the Bhaidegah Temple in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
11. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**67. Historical Monuments at Makli, Thatta (Pakistan) (C 143)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.67**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.76**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Expresses concern that little progress has been made in addressing the requests of the Committee at their last session or the recommendations of the previous mission in relation to the serious degradation of the property;
4. Considers that the very extensive property with its thousands of monuments could be considered to be under serious threat;
5. Takes note of the new Memorandum of Understanding on management with an NGO and welcomes the very recent activity and the promise of some funding;
6. Also notes that investigative work has been undertaken on the Tomb of Jam Nizamuddin and the recommendations of the mission that further investigation and monitoring is urgently needed;
7. Urges the State Party to develop a Management Plan to address the critical issues facing the property;
8. Suggests that the State Party considers requesting international assistance for survey, monitoring and conservation projects, especially for the Tomb of Jam Nizamuddin;
9. Further urges the State Party to undertake a survey of the boundaries of the property in order to establish the boundaries and a buffer zone as a basis for management and planning;

10. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre defined boundaries and proposals for the establishment of a buffer zone for approval by the World Heritage Committee;
11. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013** a detailed report of the state of conservation of the property including progress on implementing the recommendations of the 2012 joint UNESCO/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**68. Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications (Sri Lanka) (C 451)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.68**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.78**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that no state of conservation report has been submitted by the State Party since 2009 despite the requests of the Committee at its 34th and 35th sessions and notes that the concerns raised by the 2010 reactive monitoring mission remain unaddressed;
4. Also notes the submission of the Galle Management Plan (2010) by the State Party, and urges the State Party to continue his efforts and develop more detailed Conservation Plans;
5. Expresses its concern at the lack of management system and control, coherent conservation principles and plans, appropriately qualified staff and suitable levels of funding risk which jeopardize the conservation of the property;
6. Strongly urges the State Party to review the buffer zone surrounding the Old Town of Galle, its fortifications and marine archaeology, in the context of protecting its setting from adverse effects of any future development;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, details of the proposed developments in the port area accompanied by heritage impact assessment detailing potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and the newly discovered marine archaeology within the harbour;
8. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, detailed information concerning any significant new developments before their approval, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
9. Invites the State Party to explore all the possibilities to attract financial and technical assistance for conservation schemes including through international assistance from the World Heritage Fund;



10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and progress with the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## **69. Samarkand – Crossroads of Cultures (Uzbekistan) (C 603 rev)**

### **Decision 36 COM 7B.69**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.80**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in the preparation of the Management Plan and encourages the State Party to continue its cooperation with Ministry of Culture, local authorities, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS to finalize the Management Plan for submission by **1 February 2013** for review by ICOMOS;
4. Requests the State Party to ensure that the Management Plan contains a clear articulation of conservation principles for restoration and conservation of historic structures and especially of the traditional urban fabric, and also contains the system of monitoring to ensure their implementation;
5. Notes the maps provided for an overall traffic scheme for the Samarkand area which includes proposed new roads in the property and its buffer zone, and also requests the State Party, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to develop and submit to the World Heritage Centre, as a matter of urgency, a draft traffic scheme including the size of the roads, traffic use and timescales for construction, to the World Heritage Centre for assessment by the Advisory Bodies, before any commitments are made to individual road proposals, as well as information concerning proposed, new constructions including parking schemes before their approval;
6. Further requests that once the overall draft traffic scheme has been scrutinised by the World Heritage Committee any detailed road proposals should be subject to an Heritage Impact Assessment in accordance with ICOMOS Guidance;
7. Also notes the list of proposed conservation projects within the State program up to 2015 and reiterates the recommendations of the 2007 mission report that priority should be given to the conservation of traditional houses;
8. Further notes the State Party's assertion that, at the current stage of urban development, neither new large constructions nor crucial infrastructure works are foreseen within the property and also reiterates the recommendation of the 2007 mission report that priority should be given to parking issues within the property and to mitigation of the impact of the four lane road between Afrosiab and Timurid;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013** an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including submission of the completed Management Plan

and draft Traffic scheme for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

### 70. Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley (Andorra) (C 1160 bis)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.70**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.75**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Takes note with satisfaction of the approval and entry into force of the “Management Plan of the Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley” on 28 December 2011;
4. Requests the State Party to update the Management Plan as soon as the Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value is adopted by the Committee;
5. Also requests the State Party to present a global access strategy for the property, as requested by the Committee at its 28th session (Suzhou, 2004);
6. Invites the State Party to submit a progress report on the implementation of the above recommendations to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies within the second cycle of Periodic Reporting.

### 71. Walled City of Baku with the Shirvanshah’s Palace and Maiden Tower (Azerbaijan) (C 958)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.71**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.77**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Takes note of the progress made by the State Party in addressing concerns raised in prior sessions of World Heritage Committee and urges it to secure the necessary resources for the sustained operation of the management system currently in place and for the implementation of prescribed priority conservation and rehabilitation actions;

4. Expresses its serious concern about the degradation of the setting of the property and the visual impact generated by high-rise buildings and also urges the State Party to introduce a moratorium on further construction of tall buildings until legal provisions, integrated urban policies and a survey of the urban landscape of the property have been developed and adopted to ensure the protection of the property's surroundings;
5. Requests the State Party to submit technical specifications of all on-going and planned new construction projects, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for review prior to granting approval for implementation;
6. Recommends that the State Party establish a Technical Review Committee, including representatives from all stakeholders, to review all major development proposals that could adversely impact on the Outstanding Universal Value, and to propose planning controls and policies;
7. Notes the results of the February 2012 reactive monitoring mission and encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations, with particular emphasis on:
  - a) Ensuring closer cooperation between State Historical-Architectural Reserve "Icherisheher" (SHAHAR) and the Greater Baku Planning and collaboration in the formulation of integrated urban policies,
  - b) Implementation of Heritage Impact Assessments prior to the approval of projects within the property and its buffer zone,
  - c) Development of a guidance manual for maintenance of historic buildings,
  - d) Prioritisation of the implementation of research and conservation of urban elements set out in the Integrated Area Management Plan (IAMAP) and the rehabilitation action plan for urban residential quarters prescribed in the Conservation Master Plan (CMP),
  - e) Strengthening the implementation of the living city approach policy by providing financial and administrative support to maintain inhabitants within the Walled City,
  - f) Expanding representation on the Council of Elders to ensure larger participation and transparency in decision-making processes;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the steps taken to implement the recommendations set out above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **72. Historic Centre of Brugge (Belgium) (C 996)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.72**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **33 COM 7B.94** and **34 COM 7B.79**, adopted respectively at its 33rd (Seville, 2009) and 34th (Brasilia, 2010) sessions,

3. Recognizes the efforts of the State Party in the preparation of the Management Plan and requests the State Party to finalize this Plan, also taking into account the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Historic Urban Landscape (November 2011) and to submit it in 2013 to the World Heritage Centre for examination by the Advisory Bodies, and to ensure that the management of the property is based on the recognition of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and reiterates recommendations c), d) and e) of Decision **34 COM 7B.7** adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010);
4. Also reiterates its concern regarding the gradual erosion of the attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value, as continued erosion is a threat to the integrity of the property;
5. Also requests the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, of any project presenting a potential impact to the Outstanding Universal Value and integrity of the property;
6. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a detailed report on the progress achieved in the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

### **73. Historic Centre of Prague (Czech Republic) (C 616)**

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.73**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision 35 COM 7B.89, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the information that the building permissions for the Epoque Towers on the Pankrác Plain have been revoked and acknowledges the progress towards a land-use plan amendment extending the height restriction zone on the basis of a ban on buildings of excessive height and detailed regulations for the authorisation of high buildings outside the prohibition zone;
4. Requests the State Party to notify the World Heritage Centre when the amendment to the land-use plan has been passed by the Prague City Assembly;
5. Also requests the State Party to provide the finalized Management Plan to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013**;
6. Encourages the State Party to continue informing the World Heritage Centre, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, about any envisaged developments, major restorations or rehabilitations;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including the progress towards a design for downgrading the North-South Trunk Road and the rehabilitation plans for Vyšehrad and Žižkov Stations.

#### 74. Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay (France) (C 80 bis)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.74**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.83** adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Takes note of the results of the November 2011 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission, particularly, the conclusion that wind turbines impact adversely on the landscape setting of the property which provides its context and supports its Outstanding Universal Value;
4. Strongly recommends the State Party to implement all the recommendations of the mission;
5. Welcomes with satisfaction the identification by the State Party of a wind turbine exclusion zone, beyond the buffer zone, incorporated into the planning process, and also notes with interest the implementation of terrain modelling procedures for assessing visual impact;
6. Further notes the definition of a replicable method of defining such a zone, based on computer-based cartography and by a terrain approach;
7. Also notes the project to remove the 19th century causeway, and replace it with a permeable bridge that will allow the mount to be seen as an island, and requests that its inclusion be compatible with the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
8. Further notes the urgent needs for an integrated Management Plan for the property, and further requests the State Party to produce such a plan based on the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value and a landscape approach to the management of the property, its buffer zone and its wider setting, and to put in place a Coordination Committee to oversee its implementation;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to provide copies of the draft Management Plan for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies by **1 February 2013**;
10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

**75. Provins, Town of Medieval Fairs (France) (C 873 rev)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.75**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.84**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Takes note of the information provided by the State Party in response to the concerns raised by the revision of the Architectural, Urban, and Landscape Heritage Protection Zones (ZPPAUP) and their possible transformation into architecture and heritage enhancement areas (AVAP) before 15 July 2015;
4. Notes with satisfaction of the convention between the State and the Town of Provins concluded on 9 December 2004, comprising 16 million Euros devoted to the restoration of historic monuments of the Town, as well as the unfavourable advice concerning the two wind farm projects;
5. Requests the State Party to do its utmost so that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and the attributes conveying this value be preserved, and even reinforced, in the framework of a transformation of the protection regulations concerning the property, and to inform the World Heritage Centre;
6. Also requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of any project that might have an impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and if need be, to use the ICOMOS Guidance on heritage impact assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties.

**76. Villa Adriana (Tivoli) (Italy) (C 907)**

**Decision 36 COM 7B.76**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Welcomes the State Party's allocation of funding for the conservation of the property;
3. Commends the State Party for its decision to abandon the construction of a waste dump in the Corcolle area;
4. Requests the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre in due time about any major development project planned in the buffer zone of the property, including the housing development at Comprensorio di Ponte Lucano, for which a Heritage Impact Assessment should be included, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before any irreversible commitment is made;

5. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2014** an updated report on the state of conservation of the property.

**77. Portovenere, Cinque Terre and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto) (Italy) (C 826)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.77**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Extends its sympathy to the victims of the floods of October 2011 and their families;
3. Takes note of the emergency response provided by the State Party and encourages the State Party to conduct a detailed survey in order to obtain further information on the state of conservation of the property;
4. Commends the steps undertaken by the regional authorities for the safeguarding of the property;
5. Notes that the State Party has invited an advisory mission to assess the overall state of conservation of the property and to provide technical advice on remedial measures and risk preparedness;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.

**78. Curonian Spit (Lithuania/Russian Federation) (C 994)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.78**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **31 COM 7B.114**, **32 COM 7B.98** and **34 COM 7B.91** adopted at its 31st (Christchurch, 2007), 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) and 34th (Brasilia, 2010) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the submission of the first joint report by the two States Parties;
4. Recognizes the efforts made by both States Parties to ensure the safeguarding of the property and encourages them to continue such efforts in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;

5. Also welcomes the progress made in terms of greater collaboration between the National Parks in both parts of the property and the joint actions that have been agreed to take forward work on an overall Tourism Strategy, a joint Traffic Management Plan and joint Management Structures;
6. Notes that the State Party of the Russian Federation has suspended the proposed Economic Development Zone in the Kaliningrad region;
7. Requests confirmation from the State Party of the Russian Federation, by **1 September 2012**, that the proposed large leisure complexes will not be constructed;
8. Takes note of the possibility of a liquefied gas terminal outside the property at Klaipeda and also requests the State Party of Lithuania to undertake full impact assessments (Strategic Environmental and Heritage Impact Assessments) prior to any decision on such a development, in order to consider the potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. These assessments should be provided to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
9. Also notes the progress with the revised National Park Plan for Lithuania and further requests the State Party of Lithuania to provide three printed and electronic copies of the revised Management Plan for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
10. Requests furthermore both States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a joint updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## **79. Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor (Montenegro) (C 125)**

### **Decision 36 COM 7B.79**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 7B.114**, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),
3. Welcomes the progress made in updating and adopting the Management Plan;
4. Requests the State Party to submit three printed and electronic copies of the revised Management Plan, including information how the issue of tourism pressure is addressed, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Takes note that the State Party has submitted a draft retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the property, as requested in the Decision **32 COM 7B.101**; as well as a proposal for a Buffer zone, as requested in the Decision **33 COM 7B.114**;



6. Notes the progress made on developing legal protection, but urges the State Party to develop detailed prescriptions for its implementation and for the overall coordinated management of the property;
7. Also urges the State Party, in the light of the negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value identified by the Visual Impact Assessment, to reconsider the idea of a bridge at Verige, to explore alternative means of linking the bays, such as a tunnel, improved ferry services and a by-pass road in the Kotor Bay and find appropriate solutions in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
8. Highlights the continued need to put in place as soon as possible an integrated spatial development plan of the three neighbouring municipalities and a regional transport strategy that includes alternatives to the Verige bridge project and its associated road network and the by-pass road in the Kotor Bay and encourages the State Party to address this need, with a particular focus on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, within the framework of the ongoing activities with regard to the development of the Coastal Area Spatial Plan of Montenegro;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

#### **80. Centennial Hall in Wroclaw (Poland) (C 1165)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.80**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36 COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.101** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note of the results of the mission concerning the overall improved state of conservation of the property but notes certain shortcomings in the quality of works on the Main Restaurant Pavilion and urges the State Party to ensure higher standards during future works;
4. Requests the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, full details of all proposed projects which may have an impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the Property, including the underground car park, the Four Domes Pavilion and the future projects in the buffer zone, together with heritage impact assessments, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before any commitments are made;
5. Also requests the State Party to provide an overall development plan for the property and its buffer zone to allow understanding as to how the various proposed projects relate to the Spatial Plan, 2004 and, in terms of design concepts, to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;

6. Also takes note of the halting of the Eastern Bridge road proposal, along the edge of the buffer zone as well as of its downgrading to a single carriageway, and further requests the State Party to submit any revised plans, together with a Heritage Impact assessment of its potential impact on the setting of the property, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, in line with Paragraph 172 of *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above.

## **81. Alto Douro Wine Region (Portugal) (C 1046)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.81**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **25 COM X.A**, adopted at its 25th session (Helsinki, 2001),
3. Notes with concern the conclusions of the ICOMOS advisory mission that the potential impacts of the Foz Tua Hydro-electric Dam Project on the property and its setting would cause irreversible damage to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
4. Also notes with concern that initial planning processes for this project have not taken full account of the World Heritage status of the property through an analysis of impact on its Outstanding Universal Value, and that an Environmental Impact Assessment had already given a conditionally favourable approval;
5. Regrets that information on this project was not mentioned in the nomination dossier and was not communicated to the World Heritage Centre before commitments have been made, as required by Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, but notes with satisfaction the explanation which has since been provided by the State Party;
6. Expresses its concern that construction works commenced in April 2011, before the recommendations of the advisory mission were known and before the World Heritage Committee could consider the project;
7. Notes with satisfaction the invitation by the State Party for a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN reactive monitoring mission to the property to consider the potential impact of the revised Foz Tua Hydro-electric Dam project on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and to consider the property's management system, the protection of the setting and the overall state of conservation of the property;
8. Takes note of the decision of the State Party to significantly slow down the pace of the construction work of the Foz Tua Dam and related infrastructure, as from the adoption of this decision until the report of the joint reactive monitoring mission is published and to implement the recommendations;

9. Decides to request the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, to officially put forward concrete requests for action to the State Party based on the results of the joint reactive monitoring mission, if necessary;
10. Notes that the State Party is revising the plans for the dam, power station and other landscape works linked to infrastructure and requests that full details of these plans, together with a heritage impact assessment, be submitted as soon as possible to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
11. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the revision or reconsideration of the Foz Tua Hydro-Electric Dam project and on the overall state of conservation of the property for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## **82. Historic Centre of Sighișoara (Romania) (C 902)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.82**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.93**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Takes note of the measures established by the State Party to ensure the monitoring of the state of conservation of the property, as well as its protection and management, in particular the institution of the World Heritage Bureau of Sighișoara, and encourages it to pursue all the activities undertaken to ensure a good conservation of the Historic Centre of Sighișoara;
4. Expresses its concern with respect to the development projects mentioned in the report and invites the State Party to prepare and submit to the World Heritage Centre visual impact studies of any restoration or construction project foreseen in the perimeter of the property, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
5. Recognizes also the efforts of the State Party in the preparation of a Management Plan, but considers that the current project remains at present insufficient and must involve all the parties concerned in the management of the property in order to become effective, multidisciplinary and far-reaching;
6. Requests the State Party to submit a final version of the Management Plan to the World Heritage Centre for examination by the Advisory Bodies, prior to its approval by the national authorities;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above.

### 83. Kizhi Pogost (Russian Federation) (C 544)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.83**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.94**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Acknowledges the progress made by the State Party in the implementation of the World Heritage Committees decisions and in the restoration works and urges it to continue these efforts in close collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
4. Takes note of the results of the reactive monitoring mission of February 2011 and the advisory mission of November 2011 and encourages the State Party to implement their recommendations and to prioritise the implementation of the following actions:
  - a) Formally submit to the World Heritage Centre the new proposal of the buffer zone of the property as a request for minor boundary modification, in accordance to paragraphs 163-165 of the *Operational Guidelines*, by **1 February 2013**,
  - b) Finalize the development of the integrated management plan, including a revised zoning proposal with adequate provisions for the protection of the landscape setting, a tourism strategy, risk preparedness and an archaeological rescue and monitoring strategy, all in consideration of clear boundaries and buffer zone definitions, and to submit the draft plan for review prior to approval,
  - c) Update the project schedule and funding requirements upon completion of stage 3 to secure the necessary resources for the conservation, management and protection of the property beyond 2014,
  - d) Develop guidelines for interventions to address restoration criteria and issues such as the treatment of elements from various periods, treatment of witness marks, introduction of modern materials, structural reinforcement, among others,
  - e) Develop guidelines for the planning and design of new construction to regulate scale, massing and materials to ensure compatibility with the attributes that sustain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
5. Reiterates its concern regarding proposals for new developments in the vicinity of the property, such as new visitor facilities and a new visitor centre and also urges the State Party to halt any developments within the property, its setting and protected areas of the Kizhi Museum-Reserve and Kizhi Island, and to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, all projects for review and comments prior to their approval;
6. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission in early 2013 to assess the progress made in the restoration works and on the implementation of the above;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the steps taken to implement the recommendations set out above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### 84. Historic Centre of the City of Yaroslavl (Russian Federation) (C 1170)

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.84**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.103**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Expresses its concern at the impact of a considerable number of major projects completed in recent years in the property and its buffer zone on the overall urban silhouette and on the harmonious relationship of the 16th- 18th century buildings within their planned urban surroundings;
4. Notes the highly negative impact of the reconstructed Cathedral of the Assumption on the skyline of the property; and considers that the proposed addition of a tall bell tower could irreversibly damage the skyline;
5. Also notes that certain projects have been halted and considers that these need major reconsideration if they are to be acceptable;
6. Further notes that inadequacies within the current protection and management arrangements, and the apparent ease with which planning constraints are avoided, has contributed towards negative development;
7. Strongly urges the State Party to establish an appropriate management system for the property in order to handle planning permissions in a clear and transparent manner, to ensure effective coordination between the authorities concerned and stakeholders and to improve monitoring, as well as to consider appointing a property manager;
8. Also urges the State Party to finalize the Urban Master Plan, underpinned by a clear understanding of the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value, to ensure that Area Regulations are related to the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value in terms of the character of urban fabric, its scale, and strong silhouettes, and to develop an Urban Traffic Plan to minimize car traffic within the property;
9. Further urges the State Party to produce a management plan for the property and a conservation strategy that might inform decisions on reconstruction and re-development projects;
10. Urges furthermore the State Party to regulate the buffer zone in federal law;
11. Requests the State Party to develop guidelines for the planning and design of new construction to regulate scale, massing and materials to ensure compatibility with the attributes that sustain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in line with Paragraph 172 of *Operational Guidelines*, documentation of all current and proposed major projects, together with Heritage Impact Assessments, in line with ICOMOS Guidance, for review and comments prior to their approval;
12. Also requests the State Party to ensure that development projects are supported by adequate archaeological investigations and recording;

13. Strongly recommends to the State Party to develop a national law for all cultural World Heritage properties in the Russian Federation to ensure that they meet the State Party's obligations to the *Convention*;
14. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a state of conservation report for the property that addresses the above points for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**85. Historic Centre of Saint Petersburg and Related Groups of Monuments (Russian Federation) (C 540)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.85**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.104**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes the conclusions of the International expert forum on boundary issues held in Saint Petersburg regarding the establishment of an international open-ended group of experts on boundary issue;
4. Welcomes the efforts of the State Party deployed for cancelation of the “Okhta-Center” tower project, also notes the development of a new skyscraper project of the Lakhta business Center in the Primorskiy District of St. Petersburg and requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, a detailed heritage impact assessment for this new project prepared in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage cultural properties, before any final decisions are made;
5. Invites the State Party to designate a principal management authority with sufficient authority to control the property, as well as to develop an overall Management Plan for the property, including a Plan for Environmental Design and Urbanism for the entire territory, as well as a Safeguarding Plan defining appropriate degrees of intervention for each element of the property;
6. Also invites the State Party to study, in coordination with the World Heritage Centre, the feasibility to develop a legal mechanism for the protection and management of the World Heritage properties in the Russian Federation;
7. Takes note that the State Party submitted a draft retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the property, as requested in Decision **35 COM 7B.104**;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

**86. Cultural and Historic Ensemble of the Solovetsky Islands (Russian Federation) (C 632)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.86**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.107** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit a state of conservation report and has not otherwise provided information on the implementation of its decision;
4. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre detailed information concerning the Master Plan of the Solovetsky Monastery and any other planning documents prior to the mission;
5. Reiterates its concern about the possible reconstruction of the monastery buildings and other major interventions in the landscape of the property, in terms of impact on its Outstanding Universal Value, and also requests the State Party to provide detailed information to the World Heritage Centre prior to the mission;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre all project proposals that may threaten the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, as well as to accompany all new proposals by Heritage impact assessments, in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage cultural properties;
7. Also reiterates its concern about the apparent lack of monitoring mechanisms and adequate management structures and urges the State Party to develop and implement appropriate legal measures and rules for conservation, restoration and management and use of religious World Heritage properties, as well as to develop a joint management system by establishing a special board including all stakeholders, as well as representatives of the Patriarchate of Moscow and All-Russia;
8. Also reiterates its request to the State Party and the Moscow Patriarchate to organise a special training workshop, in close coordination with the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, for the religious representatives involved in the management and use of the World Heritage properties in the Russian Federation;
9. Further reiterates its request to the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission to the property to:
  - a) Review the existing management system and decision-making mechanisms,
  - b) Assess the overall state of conservation of the property;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## 87. Old City of Salamanca (Spain) (C 381 rev)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.87**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.99**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Takes note of the draft Management Plan of the property and requests the State Party to take into account the results of its review by the Advisory Bodies;
4. Also takes note that the State Party has submitted a draft retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the property;
5. Urges the State Party to complete, as soon as possible, the Special Plan for Protection of the Historical Area mandated by regional legislation (2002) which will take into consideration the provisions of the Management Plan and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre;
6. Expresses its satisfaction that the State Party has decided to abandon the “Plaza de los Bandos” project, and to suspend the “Huerto de las Adoratrices” and the “Vaguada de la Palma” projects, and also requests the State Party to revoke the relevant planning decisions;
7. Also urges the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre in due course about any plans to resume the above projects and any other major development projects that may negatively impact the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, before any irreversible commitments are made, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

## 88. Cathedral, Alcázar and Archivo de Indias in Seville (Spain) (C 383 rev)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.88**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **33 COM 7B.123**, **34 COM 7B.100**, **35 COM 7B.110**, adopted at its 33rd (Seville, 2009), 34th (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th (UNESCO, 2011) sessions respectively,
3. Regrets that work on the Torre Pelli-Cajasol has not been suspended, as requested by the Committee at its last session, and that no discussions or consultations have been undertaken to consider how the project could be improved and any possible impact further reduced;



4. Notes with concern the findings of the ICOMOS Advisory Mission that the tower has a highly negative visual impact on the setting of the property and thus on its context and relationship to the river and other buildings which support its attributes that convey Outstanding Universal Value;
5. Urges the State Party to undertake, in collaboration with ICOMOS, studies to avoid similar developments in the future;
6. Also urges the State Party to complete and approve the necessary Special Protection Plans for all sectors of the buffer zone and to put in place appropriate protection for the wider setting in order to address the current development pressures; such buffer zone will have to be revised in order to provide the appropriate protection to the property;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, technical details of all major building projects planned for the buffer zone and setting, that might impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, together with appropriate Heritage Impact Assessments, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before any irreversible commitments are made;
8. Takes note of the State Party offer to organize, before the end of 2012, an international expert meeting in Seville to study the issue of contemporary architecture and of historic urban landscapes;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the advancement and results of the above decided actions, for review by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **89. Historic Areas of Istanbul (Turkey) (C 356)**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.89**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.102** (Brasilia, 2010) and **35 COM 7B.111** (UNESCO, 2011), adopted at its 34th and 35th session respectively,
3. Notes that an Advisory Expert Committee has been established, as requested by the Committee, but expresses its regret that the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies have not been involved in the work of this Committee until its 8th meeting in April 2012 at UNESCO;
4. Regrets that, according to the information received, no further mitigation measures to the negative visual impact of the proposed Golden Horn Bridge have so far been proposed beyond those already announced by the State Party and examined by the Committee in 2011, and that, as construction work has progressed, no further structural changes are possible;

5. Considers that the Bridge, as currently being constructed, will have an overall negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and urges the State Party to pursue, as a matter of urgency, any further possible work to mitigate the negative visual impact of the proposed Bridge such as through changes to colour and lighting, and to discuss emerging proposals with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
6. Requests the State Party to invite an urgent joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to assess progress in mitigating the visual impacts of the proposed Golden Horn Bridge, to consider proposed renewal and conservation projects, as well as progress with the overall strategic management of the property, and to assess the overall state of conservation of the property;
7. Acknowledges the detailed information provided by the State Party on the revision of the Management Plan and on proposed renewal and conservation projects and other conservation initiatives;
8. Further acknowledges the efforts made by the State Party to address the need for conservation plans, an effective management system, development strategies for traffic and tourism, and a buffer zone;
9. Also considers that the revised Management Plan is a significant improvement, commends the State Party for its scope in relation to the overall Historic Peninsula, and also requests it to address, at the first annual review of the Management Plan, the recommendations that ICOMOS has provided;
10. Also commends the proposals to develop a Silhouette Master Plan for the Historic Peninsula that will lead to a definition of the silhouette and appropriate height controls;
11. Acknowledging the concerns expressed by the World Heritage Committee in previous sessions on renewal projects in various areas of the Historic Peninsula, further considers that the detailed information now provided by the State Party on proposed renewal and conservation projects should be appraised on site;
12. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**90. Kiev: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kiev-Pechersk Lavra (Ukraine) (C 527 bis)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.90**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.112**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),

3. Expresses its grave concern at the degradation of the panorama along the Dnieper river and that the ongoing construction of high-rise buildings could affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
4. Reiterates its requests to the State Party to impose a moratorium on all high-rise buildings, to implement, in coordination with the City Administration all necessary measures to reduce their adverse effect, by modifying projects and by demolishing constructed levels to an appropriate scale and also to undertake a survey of the overall monastic river landscape as a basis for planning and impact assessment;
5. Considers that the lack of legal protection and planning mechanisms that would enable the national authorities to exercise control over the property constitute a potential threat for the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and urges the State Party to strengthen protection and planning mechanisms as a matter of urgency, to define a protected historic urban area for central Kyiv and to develop special Area Plans for the property, its buffer zone and its setting, based on a careful analysis of important views, typologies and urban fabric, and to submit these to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013**, for review;
6. Also expresses its grave concern about the continuous lack of a management system and defined mechanisms of coordination for the management of the property, and also urges the State Party to put in place a unified system of management for the property;
7. Regrets that adequate information on these development proposals and the status of their approval was not provided by the State Party prior to the beginning of the construction works, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of *Operational Guidelines* and as previously requested and further urges the State Party to ensure that all major projects have adequate impact assessments in line with the ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessment for Cultural World Heritage properties and be then presented to the Committee before any irreversible decisions are made;
8. Invites the State Party to consider the establishment of a special board, including representatives of the national authorities, the city administration, as well as site managers of the property and other relevant stakeholders, and to review all major development proposals and proposed planning controls and policies that could impact adversely on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
9. Notes the multi-disciplinary study that has been carried out on the Varangian caves, and also reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre details of the proposed rehabilitation plan for the caves;
10. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the property which will discuss, at the highest decision makers level, the development of a national strategy for the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in Ukraine, including all sensitive issues regarding the protection of the historic urban landscape of the city of Kyiv;
11. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**91. Tower of London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island) (C 488)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.91**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.114** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party on the protection of the visual integrity of the property and in respect to major developments in the area and urges it to continue to develop the National Planning Policy Framework to consolidate existing planning policies;
4. Notes the results of the December 2011 reactive monitoring mission to the property and encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations, in particular:
  - a) Further define the immediate and wider setting of the property in relation to its Outstanding Universal Value and embed these in the policies of all relevant planning authorities,
  - b) Define specific measures, based on the definition of the setting of the property, to ensure the protection of the property and minimize its vulnerability to potential threats to its Outstanding Universal Value,
  - c) Regulate further build-up of the area surrounding the Shard of Glass building, ensuring that approved heights do not exceed a height whereby they would become visible above the on-site historic buildings;
5. Requests the State Party, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, any major proposed development project before any irreversible commitment is made;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the steps taken to implement the recommendations set out above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

**92. Westminster Palace, Westminster Abbey and Saint Margaret's Church (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island) (C 426 bis)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.92**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.115**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),

3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party on the protection of the visual integrity of the property and in respect to major developments in the area;
4. Notes the results of the December 2011 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the property and encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations, in particular:
  - a) Further define the immediate and wider setting of the property in relation to its Outstanding Universal Value and embed these in the policies of all the relevant planning authorities,
  - b) Define specific measures, based on the definition of the immediate and the wider setting of the property, and ensure that adequate mechanisms are in place to protect the property and minimize its vulnerability to potential threats to its Outstanding Universal Value;
5. Requests the State Party, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, the proposed development project at Elizabeth House and any other major proposals, before any irreversible commitment is made;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

**93. Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island) (C 1150)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.93**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.118** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party in regard to the state of conservation of the property and welcomes the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations from the 2006 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission;
4. Notes the results of the November 2011 reactive monitoring mission, including the evaluation of the current conditions of the property, and encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations;
5. Also notes that the Liverpool City Council is inclined to grant consent to the application submitted by the developer and expresses its serious concern at the potential threat of the proposed development of Liverpool Waters on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;

6. Urges the State Party to reconsider the proposed development to ensure that the architectural and town-planning coherence, and the conditions of authenticity and integrity of the property are sustained;
  7. Considers that the proposed development of Liverpool Waters constitutes a potential danger to the World Heritage property and, therefore, **decides to inscribe Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) on the List of World Heritage in Danger, with the possibility of deletion of the property from the World Heritage List, should the current project be approved and implemented;**
  8. Requests the State Party to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and a set of corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
  9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the steps taken to implement the above-mentioned recommendations for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.
- 94. Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island) (C 1215)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.94**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **30 COM 8B.50**, adopted at its 30th session (Vilnius, 2006),
3. Expresses its utmost concern that full details of the resumption of mining at South Crofty were submitted to the World Heritage Centre after planning consent had been issued, contrary to the request of the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription, and considers that these projects should be halted until an assessment has been made of their impacts;
4. Takes note that mining within World Heritage properties violates the standards recognized by the World Heritage Committee and the International Council on Mining and Metals and recommends that the State Party considers proposing a significant modification of the boundaries of the property to assure the removal of areas that are proposed for the resumption of commercial mining from the property, prior to any resumption of mining;
5. Requests the State Party to halt the development of Hayle Harbour in the light of its potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property to allow for smaller-scale heritage-led regeneration;

6. Also requests the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre in due time about any major development project planned within the property or in its vicinity, including about the planned waste management facility at the Gwennap Mining District, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### 95. Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison (Barbados) (C 1376)

#### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.95**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 8B.42**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes that a programme for traditional building conservation is being planned; and encourages the State Party to ensure that this is directed by experts trained in traditional building conservation and that there is involvement from local tertiary institutions through the development of a national programme in collaboration with local or regional universities and technical institutions;
4. Requests the State Party to provide further details of both programmes, including timelines and to submit this information to the World Heritage Centre;
5. Acknowledges the intention of the State Party to appoint consultants to undertake a comprehensive technical assessment of twenty-one specified listed buildings, and also encourages the State Party to consider enlarging its scope to include non listed buildings within the property;
6. Also notes that there is no confirmation that the Management Plan has been officially adopted or implemented, nor whether the necessary funding for its implementation has been put in place, and also requests the State Party to provide confirmation of these;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## 96. City of Potosi (Bolivia) (C 420)

### Decision: 36 COM 7B.96

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.120**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the submission of the Geophysical study of the Cerro Rico Mountain;
4. Notes the creation of an Emergency Committee for the safety of Cerro Rico Mountain which will be responsible for the development of a Strategic Emergency Plan, and urges the State Party to finalize this Strategic Emergency Plan as soon as possible;
5. Encourages the State Party to consider widening the scope of the Emergency Committee to involve stakeholders and representatives from non-governmental organizations concerned with the protection of the Cerro Rico Mountain and the City of Potosi;
6. Requests the State Party to clarify whether Article 6 of Supreme Decree 27787 has been modified and to halt all exploration, extraction and any other interventions under and above ground between altitudes 4400m and 4700m;
7. Also notes that a project has been developed to consolidate the top of the Mountain and also requests the State Party to provide further details on the scope and extent of this project and its time-frame for implementation by **30 September 2012**;
8. Also notes with concern that no information has been provided on putting in place a comprehensive topographic study and a monitoring system, and also urges the State Party to install as soon as possible a system for monitoring the safety of the existing mining activity on a regular basis and provide information on the development of a topographic study;
9. Further requests the State Party to complete the geophysical study following its final recommendations in order to further identify the anomalies affecting Cerro Rico, to undertake a more complete analysis, and to elaborate a three dimensional model covering the entire Cerro Rico in the range of elevations studied;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to finalize the development of the participatory Management Plan for the property and upon completion to provide an electronic copy of the draft revised Management Plan for review by the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS;
11. Invites the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies for review, any proposals for development at the property, prior to approval and implementation, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
12. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013, **with a view to considering, in the case of confirmation of the ascertained or potential danger to Outstanding Universal Value, or in case that**



**no intervention will be undertaken as a matter of urgency to prevent any further collapse of the summit of the mountain, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**97. Brasilia (Brazil) (C 445)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.97**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.121**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note of the results of the 2012 reactive monitoring mission to the property, endorses its recommendations and requests the State Party to implement them, with priority actions on the following processes:
  - a) Ensure that the original characteristics, spirit and scale of the original project designed by Lucio Costa, which warranted inscription on the World Heritage List, are contemplated in the Plano de Preservacao do Conjunto Urbanistico de Brasilia (PPCUB),
  - b) Establish an operational and efficient management system to coordinate the decision-making process and enhance cooperation regarding the conservation and management of the property through the definition of a legal framework, the creation of a central management structure for the World Heritage property, the clarification of roles and responsibilities of the involved administrative authorities and the allocation of necessary resources for its adequate operation at the local, regional and national levels,
  - c) Put in place mechanisms to ensure that heritage impact assessments are carried out prior to granting approvals, and submit to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies detailed information and technical specifications as they become available, on proposals for land use and new urban interventions, that may alter or threaten the Outstanding Universal Value of the property,
  - d) Submit the proposals for infrastructure development at the Stadio and its surroundings, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, for evaluation by the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, prior to any intervention,
  - e) Enforce regulations to prohibit the construction of new buildings in open spaces defined by the Plano Piloto, and to maintain the characteristics of each urban scale,
  - f) Develop a comprehensive strategy for public transportation and submit, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, technical specifications for major developments foreseen;
4. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**98. Port, Fortresses and Group of Monuments, Cartagena (Colombia) (C 285)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.98**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.107**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Notes the finalization of the Special Protection and Management Plan for the property, and urges the State Party to finalize its approval process as soon as possible, and to secure the required resources to guarantee the sustained implementation of the provisions made; and requests the State Party to provide copies of this Plan to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for review;
4. Acknowledges the development of the conservation action plan for the ensemble of walls and the fortified city, and also requests the State Party to begin the implementation of identified priority measures;
5. Reiterates its request to the State Party finalize the delimitation of the property, including all elements of the fortified system according to the required formats, and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for their consideration and review;
6. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

**99. National History Park – Citadel, Sans Souci, Ramiers (Haiti) (C 180)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.99**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.125** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note of the information provided by the State Party concerning the steps taken to implement the World Heritage Committee Decisions, and recognizes the efforts deployed by the Institut de Sauvegarde du Patrimoine National (ISPAN) to ensure the safeguarding of the property;
4. Thanks the Government of Spain and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation for the generous contribution that enabled the further implementation of the World Heritage Committee Decisions;

5. Takes note of the World Heritage Centre mission report (9-15 January 2012) and the multidisciplinary technical mission (6-22 March 2012), and endorses the recommendations developed to ensure the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in particular the urgent interventions regarding (i) structural stability, (ii) visitor security, and (iii) the solution to the water infiltration problems, so that they will be integrated in the conservation plan without delay;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to submit to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for examination prior to any intervention, the final project for the construction of the third section of the National Road RN003, as well as environmental, heritage and socio-economic impact assessment studies on the site;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to submit the technical project for the improvement of the existing road within the Park boundaries, including the route, the engineering work for the canalization of the river, the type of asphalt to be used and the width of the route;
8. Requests the State Party to continue its efforts to complete the cadastral survey as well as the delineation of the Park boundaries and its buffer zone, and the legal framework for their protection, in the context of the retrospective inventory process undertaken in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region, and to await the results of the study before proceeding with the physical demarcation of the property, in order to facilitate the establishment of a participatory strategy for the conservation and management of the Park;
9. Also requests the State Party to await the completion of the conservation plan before pursuing tourism development projects, so that the conservation measures of the plan may be taken into account in the implementation of these projects and to actively involve the local communities in the conservation and management process;
10. Further takes note of the recent results obtained from the surveys concerning the structural stabilization of the Citadel, and urges the State Party to take all measures to start the emergency actions in collaboration with technical and financial institutions to ensure the integrity of the fortified structures;
11. Further requests the State Party to halt all touristic visits to the Citadel without delay until urgent security measures can be implemented to ensure secure conditions for visits;
12. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre before **30 November 2012**, a timetable of interventions, indicating the technical needs, as well as a detailed budget;
13. Calls upon the international community to ensure by every possible means, its support in the implementation of the recommendations to rapidly approve financial and human resources in order to assist the State Party to ensure the conservation of the entire property;
14. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## 100. Maya Site of Copan (Honduras) (C 129)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.100**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision 35 COM 7B.126, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes that no direct impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the inscribed property is to be expected from the construction of the Rio Amarillo Aerodrome and requests the State Party, should a decision be made to proceed with its construction, to update the Environmental Impact Assessment and carry out a Heritage Impact Assessment to identify mitigation measures;
4. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party regarding the implementation of conservation measures for the property and reiterates its request to fully develop a comprehensive strategy for the conservation of the tunnels and the establishment of conservation guidelines for interventions at the property;
5. Also requests the State Party to finalize the process for updating the Management Plan for the property, including provisions for risk management and a public use plan based on carrying capacities studies, and upon completion to provide three printed and electronic copies of the draft revised Management Plan for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
6. Further requests the State Party to update, approve and enforce the regulatory measures for the management of different zones prescribed in the Plan and to work with the Local Government to ensure the protection of the property against development pressures;
7. Urges the State Party to integrate the updated Management Plan within local and regional planning instruments to develop a coherent territorial planning and management strategy with a regional vision;
8. Moreover requests the State Party to submit, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the results from the prototype protective shelter for the Hieroglyphic Stairway as well as the technical specifications for the final design, for review prior to implementation;
9. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## 101. Pre-Hispanic City of Teotihuacan (Mexico) (C 414)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.101**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 7B.111**, adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party on the conservation conditions of the property and encourages it to use the resulting baseline documentation for the development of a priority action plan and for subsequent monitoring of conditions;
4. Urges the State Party to take the necessary steps to ensure the full implementation of the Management Plan and to secure the required human and financial resources for its systematic and sustained operation;
5. Requests the State Party to submit additional information on the state of conservation of the property, its buffer zone and wider setting and their related regulations, and on actions being taken to address pressing concerns, including peddlers, land use and urban development and reiterates its request to elaborate conservation guidelines for intervention, including those for drainage systems and protective shelters;
6. Invites the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS any new proposals for development and public use at the property, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, for review prior to approval and implementation;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

## 102. Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobello-San Lorenzo (Panama) (C 135)

### **Decision: 36 COM 7B.102**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.129**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2010),
3. Notes the limited implementation of activities being carried out by the State Party with regards to the fragile state of conservation of the property;
4. Reiterates its deep concern regarding the state of conservation of the property, in particular the significant and accelerated degradation of the historic fabric which

directly impacts its Outstanding Universal Value, and the lack of significant progress made in addressing the decay conditions of the property;

5. Urges the State Party to finalize the processes related to the establishment of boundaries, buffer zones and the related regulations of the two components of the inscribed property, and to submit them within the Retrospective Inventory process of the Periodic Reporting exercise in the Latin America and the Caribbean region;
6. Considers that the State Party has not complied with all the requests expressed by previous World Heritage Committee Decisions, and that therefore the property is in danger in conformity with Chapter IV.B of the *Operational Guidelines* and **decides to inscribe the Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo (Panama) on the List of World Heritage in Danger**;
7. Adopts the following Desired state of conservation for the property, for its future removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger:
  - a) The approval and full implementation of an emergency plan, a comprehensive assessment of structural and mechanical risks, preventative conservation strategy and maintenance measures at San Lorenzo and Portobelo,
  - b) National laws and policies for the conservation of built heritage at San Lorenzo and Portobelo defined and in place,
  - c) Long-term consolidation and conservation through annual plans for the components of the inscribed property ensured,
  - d) The operational and participatory management system, including its related public use plan, approved and implemented,
  - e) The Management Plan fully integrated within territorial and urban development plans,
  - f) Encroachments and urban pressure adequately controlled,
  - g) The boundaries and buffer zone of all component parts of the World Heritage property precisely clarified,
  - h) Budgets for the preparation, implementation and follow-up of the management structures and conservation measures secured;
8. Also adopts the following corrective measures and the timeframe for their implementation:
  - a) To be carried out immediately (by September 2012-March 2013)
    - (i) Risk assessment completed for all structures and built materials, and an Emergency Plan for all the components of the property in coherence with the recommendations of the reactive monitoring mission and defined timeframe and phasing for their implementation finalized,
    - (ii) Operational management arrangements and budgets for its implementation ensured,
    - (iii) Budgets for the implementation of the Emergency Plan (first stage) secured,
    - (iv) Encroachments and urban pressure adequately controlled and reforestation undertaken,

- (v) Technical Office in Portobelo to secure the implementation of the conservation measures and management arrangements set up and functioning,

b) To be carried out within one year (by September 2013)

First phase of the Emergency Plan implemented:

Protection

- (i) Boundaries and buffer zones for each of the component parts of the property defined,
- (ii) Regulatory measures for the established buffer zones for controlling development and addressing existing threats finalized and approved,
- (iii) Monitoring indicators as a tool to assess the state of conservation of the fortified built heritage put in place,

Management and Planning

- (iv) Development of a Management Plan begun,
- (v) Awareness raising activities within the local communities to identify opportunities for eco and cultural tourism to contribute to the improvement of living conditions of the surrounding communities undertaken in full coherence with the conservation measures for the property,

c) To be carried out within two years (by September 2014):

Second Phase of the Emergency Plan implemented

Protection

- (i) National laws and policies for the conservation of built heritage at San Lorenzo and Portobelo developed,

Management and planning

- (ii) Management Plan for the property, including scheduled and costed provisions for conservation, preventative conservation and maintenance of built heritage, public use, and risk management finalized, approved and adopted,
- (iii) Management, territorial and urban development plans integrated,
- (iv) Annual conservation plans for each of the components of the inscribed property developed and in place,

d) To be carried out within two-three years (by September 2015):

- (i) Implementation of the Emergency Plan completed,
- (ii) Operational management arrangements and budgets for the continued implementation of the approved Management Plan secured;

9. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a financial estimation of the costs associated with the implementation of each of the corrective measures, and invites the State Party to consider a request for international assistance from the World Heritage Fund for technical support ;

10. Also urges the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, as well as other relevant bodies, to cooperate with the State Party to implement the adopted corrective measures;

11. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**103. Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo and Historic District of Panamá (Panamá) (C 790bis)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.103**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.130**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Reiterates its deep concern regarding the state of conservation of the property, in particular unaddressed issues including the efficacy of the management system, the risk of collapse of historic buildings in the Historic Centre and the potential impacts related to the Cinta Costera project;
4. Also recalls the report provided by the reactive monitoring mission of October 2010, and notes that the critical issues have not been comprehensively and sustainably addressed, and that some of the recommendations were discarded;
5. Also notes that the actions requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session on legal improvements and management issues are still in the planning phase, and requests the State Party to undertake as a matter of urgency, the implementation of the following actions:
  - a) Revise the draft Law as to reinforce the role of the institutions responsible for World Heritage protection in the decision-making process for any intervention at the World Heritage property,
  - b) Officially submit a comprehensive and legally-supported policy for the protection of the property and buffer zone, including the maritime area and the related enforcement of their regulatory measures,
  - c) Improve coordination on the decision-making process between the Directorate of Cultural Heritage and the Patronato of Panama Viejo to ensure the appropriate measures for the preservation of both components of the property,
  - d) Submit three printed and electronic copies of the updated Management Plan;
6. Welcomes the fact that work on the viaduct has not yet begun, in accordance with the decision taken by the Committee at its 35th session;
7. Further notes that the State Party has not fully complied with the requests expressed by the Committee in Decision **35 COM 7B.130** and considers that the continuation of the Cinta Costera III Maritime Viaduct project should be the subject of an impact study as to its Outstanding Universal Value, under the currently inscribed criteria;



8. Also requests the State Party to submit an updated version of the Management Plan according to the requirements made by the Committee in its Decision **35 COM 7B.130**, as well as a comprehensive urban transportation traffic strategy, including alternative options for Cinta Costera III;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **104. Historic Centre of the City of Arequipa (Peru) (C 1016)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.104**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.132**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note of the information provided by the State Party regarding work carried out at the property and expresses its concern that many of the required actions to ensure the holistic conservation and protection of the property have remained in planning stages since 2008;
4. Urges the State Party to implement the following activities:
  - a) Finalize the risk preparedness plan for the property and submit three printed and electronic copies to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for review by **1 February 2013**,
  - b) Finalize the approval process for the delimitation of the property and its buffer zone, including the definition of adequate regulatory measures, such as Municipal Ordinances and zoning, to ensure its protection,
  - c) Finalize the process for updating the Master Plan for the property,
  - d) Submit the technical evaluation of the Chilina Bridge by the appropriate body at the Ministry of Culture;
5. Requests the State Party to officially submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2013**, a request for the revised boundaries and proposed buffer zone of the property in accordance to Paragraphs 163-165 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment for the Via Troncal Interconectora project as a whole, including the assessment and potential mitigation measures for the landscape areas of Lari Lari, Los Tucos, Cayma and Yanahuara, and submit the assessment for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies prior to the approval and implementation of the project;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2013**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the

implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **105. Historic Quarter of the City of Colonia del Sacramento (Uruguay) (C 747)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.105**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.135**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the development of the Management Plan for the property and requests the State Party to finalize its approval process at the national and local level;
4. Encourages the State Party to continue its efforts in the harmonisation of planning tools for the property, in particular the articulation of the recently developed Management Plan with the Local Plan for Sustainable Land Use Planning and Development;
5. Reiterates its invitation to the State Party to consider, within the framework of the Retrospective inventory exercise, the extension of the property and/or its buffer zone to include the "Bay and Islands of the City of Colonia del Sacramento" and to submit a proposal to the World Heritage Committee for approval;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

#### **AFRICA**

#### **106. Mali World Heritage properties (Mali)**

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.106**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Congratulates the State Party for having immediately expressed its concern regarding the worsening threats to the World Heritage cultural properties, in particular to Timbuktu and the Tomb of Askia, and for having requested UNESCO assistance for measures to be undertaken in the event of a future deterioration of the situation;

3. Thanks the Director-General of UNESCO for having sent a mission to Mali to study with the State Party emergency measures to be taken to ensure the preservation of the World Heritage properties in Mali and takes note of the report on the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties in Mali threatened by armed conflict in the northern region of Mali;
4. Expresses its serious concern regarding the situation of armed conflict in the northern region of Mali and the seriousness of threats to the World Heritage properties following the degradation of the Timbuktu tombs, and the threats to the conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Tomb of Askia;
5. Considers that the optimal conditions are not present anymore to ensure the preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the properties of Timbuktu and the Tomb of Askia and that they are threatened by a specific and proven imminent danger, in accordance with Paragraph 179 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. **Decides to inscribe Timbuktu (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger;**
7. **Also decides to inscribe the Tomb of Askia (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger;**
8. Requests the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS to prepare, in consultation with the State Party, all the corrective measures as well as a Desired State of Conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, once a return to stability is effective in the northern region of Mali;
9. Launches an appeal to the frontier States Parties to Mali (Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal) to cooperate in the preparation of a joint conservation strategy for World Heritage properties of Mali and to combat the illicit traffic of cultural objects, in particular those linked to these properties;
10. Also launches an appeal to the African Union and the CEDEAO in order that all the necessary measures may be undertaken to protect cultural heritage located in the northern region of Mali and to the international community to provide technical and financial support to ensure the strengthened protection of the World Heritage properties in Mali;
11. Encourages the State Party to request emergency funding from the World Heritage Fund to implement the priority actions identified during the UNESCO mission, and also requests the assistance of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM to this end;
12. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre **by 1 February 2013**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties in Mali and more particularly on the progress achieved regarding their Outstanding Universal Value for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**Decision: 36 COM 7B.107**

The World Heritage Committee:

1. Recalling the high-level UNESCO mission to the State Party of Mali that was sent in May 2012 at the decision of the Director-General of UNESCO, in response to the disastrous occupation of the cultural property of the Timbuktu shrines by armed groups, and met with the senior government officials, including the Prime Minister and the Minister of Culture in order to offer support to the people of Mali,
2. Further recalling that during the UNESCO high-level mission, both the Government of Mali and UNESCO agreed to reinforce the protection of all cultural properties which are fundamental for the preservation of the Malian culture, described by the Government as both “rich and tolerant, and forming an integral part of the heritage of humanity”,
3. Welcoming the declaration of the Secretary General of the United Nations of 1 July 2012 supporting the efforts of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the countries of the region to assist the people of Mali to resolve the crisis,
4. Noting with great sadness the destruction of the mausoleums which are part of the World Heritage property of Timbuktu,
5. Expresses its gratitude to the international community for the manifestations of concern and for the appeals for the cessation of these repugnant acts of destruction;
6. Strongly condemns these acts of destruction and calls upon the perpetrators responsible to immediately halt these unacceptable actions;
7. Rejects any correlation between the recent inscription of the property of the Timbuktu shrines on the List of World Heritage in Danger and the acts of vandalism that are being perpetrated, which deprive the world and future generations from enjoying Mali’s precious heritage;
8. Calls upon the international community, to provide the support required at the request of the State Party of Mali in ensuring that its cultural properties are conserved and protected for present and future generations;
9. Requests the Director-General of UNESCO to consider the creation of a Special Fund to assist Mali in its efforts to support the conservation of its cultural heritage, and to this end, appeals to all Member States of UNESCO, to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to provide financial resources to this Fund;
10. Further requests the Director-General of UNESCO to dispatch a mission to Mali when possible, with a view to assessing, together with the national authorities concerned and the local authorities, the extent of the damage to and destruction of the property and the urgent conservation needs in order to safeguard its integrity and its Outstanding Universal Value;
11. Decides to apply the Reinforced monitoring mechanism to the property and to report back to the World Heritage Committee;
12. Decides that a report on progress made in that context be submitted to the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session for consideration and follow-up action.

## 7C. REFLECTION ON THE TRENDS OF THE STATE OF CONSERVATION

### **Decision: 36 COM 7C**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/7C,
2. Recalling Decisions **35 COM 7C** and **35 COM 12E** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),

### **Significant factors negatively impacting the Outstanding Universal Value**

3. Takes note of the statistical analysis and encourages the World Heritage Centre to continue with the production of such informative data, including regional analyses;

### **Recurrent conservation issues**

4. Also takes note of the completion of the independent review process on extractive industries and World Heritage properties as a contribution to the Policy Guidelines development and invites the World Heritage Centre to disseminate this review as widely as possible;

### **Disaster risk reduction**

5. Requests States Parties to make every endeavor to take into consideration disaster risks, including from human-induced hazards, in the management plans and systems for the World Heritage properties located in their territories;
6. Also requests the World Heritage Centre, with the support of the Advisory Bodies, to continue working with global and regional institutions involved in disaster risk management, with an aim to mainstream a concern for heritage within their policies and programmes as well as in UN-led processes such as the Post-Disaster-Needs-Assessment (PDNA);

### **Follow-up to decisions 35 COM 7C and 35 COM 12E**

7. Further takes note of the information provided regarding the recognition for the protectors of World Heritage properties in conflict and post-conflict zones, including through the use of blue/green berets or other appropriate insignia;
8. Takes note furthermore of the correspondence process in place to increase dialogue between the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies regarding conservation issues at World Heritage properties;
9. Thanks the Government of Flanders for its support to the establishment of a “state of conservation information system” hosted on the World Heritage Centre’s website and

further requests the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report on the database and its access online, during the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2013;

#### **Other conservation issues not reported on at the 36th session under Items 7A and 7B**

10. Expresses its concern with regard to the state of conservation of World Heritage property of “Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata” and urges the State Party of Italy to intensify its efforts towards implementing the Committee’s decision taken at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011);
11. Extends its sympathy to the victims of the earthquake in northern Italy; also encourages the State Party of Italy to continue its important efforts for the assessment of the damage occurred and for the planning and implementation of the necessary remedial measures, including with a view to strengthening the overall resilience of the three properties in the future against all possible hazards; and requests furthermore the State Party of Italy to provide to the World Heritage Centre updated information on the situation and to coordinate with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies possible initiatives for the recovery and restoration of the three affected properties;
12. Finally requests the State Party of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to halt the proposed development of a golf resort at the World Heritage property “Giant’s Causeway and Causeway Coast” until its potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage property has been assessed.

#### **8. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST AND OF THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER**

##### **8A. TENTATIVE LISTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES AS OF 15 APRIL 2012, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

#### **Decision: 36 COM 8A**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/8A,
2. Stressing the importance of the process of revision and updating of Tentative Lists, as a tool for the regional harmonization of the World Heritage List and of long term planning of its development;
3. Takes note of the Tentative Lists presented in Annexes 2 and 3 of this document.

## 8B. NOMINATIONS TO THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

### CHANGES TO NAMES OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

#### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.1**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/8B,
2. Approves the proposed name change to Los Glaciares as proposed by the Argentine authorities. The name of the property becomes **Los Glaciares National Park** in English and **Parc national de Los Glaciares** in French.

#### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.2**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/8B,
2. Approves the proposed name change to Skellig Michael as proposed by the Irish authorities. The name of the property becomes **Sceilg Mhichíl** in English as well as in French.

#### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.3**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/8B,
2. Approves the proposed name change to Pueblo de Taos as proposed by the American authorities. The name of the property becomes **Taos Pueblo** in English as well as in French.

#### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.4**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/8B,
2. Approves the proposed name change to Samarkand – Crossroads of Cultures as proposed by the Uzbek authorities. The name of the property becomes **Samarkand – Crossroad of Cultures** in English.

## EXAMINATION OF NOMINATIONS OF NATURAL, MIXED AND CULTURAL PROPERTIES TO THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

### NOMINATIONS TO BE PROCESSED ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS

#### Decision: 36 COM 8B.5

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add2,
2. Considers that the conditions required by paragraph 161 of the *Operational Guidelines* are fully met, concerning damage or serious and specific dangers to the Church of the Nativity that make its condition an emergency that needs to be addressed by the World Heritage Committee with immediate action necessary for the survival of the property;
3. Inscribes the **Birthplace of Jesus, Church of the Nativity and the pilgrimage route, Bethlehem, Palestine**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iv) and (vi)**;
4. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief Synthesis**

Since at least the 2nd century AD people have believed that the place where the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem, now stands is where Jesus was born. One particular cave, over which the first Church was built, is traditionally believed to be the Birthplace itself. In locating the Nativity, the place both marks the beginnings of Christianity and is one of the holiest spots in Christendom. The original basilica church of 339 AD (St Helena), parts of which survive below ground, was arranged so that its octagonal eastern end surrounded, and provided a view of, the cave. This church is overlaid by the present Church of the Nativity, essentially of the mid-6th century AD (Justinian), though with many later alterations. It is the oldest Christian church in daily use. Since early medieval times the Church has been increasingly incorporated into a complex of other ecclesiastical buildings, mainly monastic. As a result, today it is embedded in an extraordinary architectural ensemble, overseen by members of the Greek Orthodox Church, the Order of St Francis and the Armenian Church in a partnership (the *Status Quo*) established by the Treaty of Berlin (1878).

For most of the last 1500 years, Bethlehem and the Church of the Nativity have been, as is still very much the case, a pilgrim destination. The eastern end of the traditional route from Jerusalem to the Church is along what is now officially called the Pilgrimage Route, that is, along Star Street, through the Damascus Gate, and along a short stretch of Paul VI Street and Manger Square. This route is still followed ceremonially each year by the Patriarchs of the three Churches at their several Christmases. The Christian Christmas, centred on Bethlehem, is the most widely-celebrated religious festivity in the world.

**Criterion (iv):** The Church of the Nativity is an outstanding example of an early church in a remarkable architectural ensemble which illustrates both a significant stage in human history in the 4th-6th centuries AD and in later stages up to the present century.

**Criterion (vi):** The Church of the Nativity, and the Pilgrimage Route to it, are directly associated with events and beliefs of outstanding universal significance. The city of Bethlehem is Holy to Christians as well as to Muslims. It is a strong symbol for more than 2 billion believers in the world.



## **Integrity**

The integrity of the architectural ensemble embracing the Church of the Nativity and its neighbours is conceptually unimpaired and only physically diminished in relatively minor respects by modern additions. The immediate surroundings included in this nomination embrace a small area of land to the east and some other structures directly associated with the ensemble, an area known to contain as yet systematically unexamined and largely undisturbed evidence of occupation and burial from the early centuries AD back to at least the mid-2nd millennium BC. The approach to the Church via Star Street and Paul VI Street retains the street width and line fossilized by urban development since c. 1800 AD. This 'width and line', as well as defining a working street in a busy town, now formalize a commemorative route for a religious ceremony. For the purposes of this nomination, the significant historical and religious feature is this line in the urban fabric rather than the architectural and historical features of the individual buildings which collectively delimit that line. Nevertheless, a few buildings of earlier date still stand and the street is now mainly defined by facades of the 19th and 20th centuries. The general aspect, almost completely in pale yellow limestone, is attractive. Most of the buildings incorporate traditional design and appearance, for example with living accommodation above and workshops at street level opening out on to the street. Most importantly, the relatively few unsympathetic modern intrusions are along the south side of Paul VI Street and around Manger Square.

## **Authenticity**

Located on the spot believed to be the Birthplace of Jesus Christ for some 2000 years, the Church of the Nativity is one of the most sacred Christian sites in the world. In relation to this outstanding fact the authenticity of the place is unquestionable. That has been enhanced by worship and pilgrimage to the site since at least the 4th century AD up to the present. The sanctity of the site is maintained by the three churches occupying it. The construction of the church in 339 AD above the grotto commemorates the birth and attests to seventeen hundred years-long tradition of belief that this grotto was indeed the birthplace of Jesus Christ.

## **Protection and management requirements**

The Church of the Nativity is managed under the terms and provisions of the '*Status Quo*' currently supplemented by an advisory committee formed by the Palestinian President. Each of the three adjacent Convents is maintained under its own arrangement: the Armenian Convent is controlled by the Armenian Patriarchate in the Holy City of Jerusalem; the Greek Orthodox Convent by the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in the Holy City of Jerusalem; and the Franciscan Convent and the Church of St Catherine by the Custody of the Holy Land, Holy City of Jerusalem. The second main component, the Pilgrimage Route, principally Star Street, is part of the Municipality of Bethlehem and is therefore covered by the provisions of 'Building and Planning Law 30, 1996', of 'the 'Bethlehem Charter 2008', of the 'Guidelines for the Conservation and Rehabilitation of the Historic Towns of Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour, 2010, and of the 'General Rules for the Protection of the Historic Area and Historic Individual Buildings, Bethlehem, 2006'. 'Protection', 'Conservation', and 'Rehabilitation' are the stated objectives of the last two enactments, and the 'Charter', which is already working well in the Historic Town, embodies a statement of principles as well as working practices to achieve those objectives.

5. Notes with satisfaction that the State Party has reconsidered its decision to submit the site as a first nomination of a serial property of sites and decided to submit the nomination of the site as a site *per se*;

6. Acknowledges the ascertained threats due to the vulnerability of the property, in order to support the urgent and necessary consolidation works, as well as to safeguard the authenticity and integrity of the property;
7. Inscribes the **Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the pilgrimage route, Bethlehem, Palestine**, on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
8. Encourages the international community to facilitate the conservation of the property;
9. Requests that the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS provide support to the State Party as may be appropriate.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.6**

The nomination of **Chauvet – Pont d’Arc decorated cave, France**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**NATURAL PROPERTIES**

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.7**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/ 36.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Inscribes the **Lakes of Ounianga, Chad**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (vii)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Located in North-Eastern Chad, in a hot and hyperarid desert setting with less than 2mm rainfall per year, the Lakes of Ounianga comprises a total of 18 lakes, in two groups, displaying a variety of sizes, depths, colorations and chemical compositions. The property covers 62,808 ha and has a 4,869 ha buffer zone. The Lakes of Ounianga property is located in a basin which, less than 10,000 years ago, was occupied by a much larger lake and has a globally unique hydrological system, sustaining the largest permanent freshwater lakes system in the heart of a hyperarid environment.

The property also displays a range of striking aesthetic features, with varied coloration associated with the different lakes and their vegetation, and the presence of dramatic natural desert landforms that all contribute to the exceptional natural beauty of the landscape of the property. The shape and distribution of the lakes, combined with the effect of the wind moving the floating vegetation in the lakes, gives the impression of “waves of water flowing in the desert”.

**Criterion (vii):** The property represents an exceptional example of permanent lakes in a desert setting, a remarkable natural phenomenon which results from an aquifer and associated complex hydrological system which is still to be fully understood. The aesthetic beauty of the site results from a landscape mosaic which includes the varied coloured lakes with their blue, green and /or reddish waters, in reflection of their

chemical composition, surrounded by palms, dunes and spectacular sandstone landforms, all of it in the heart of a desert that stretches over thousands of kilometres. In addition, about one third of the surface of the Ounianga Serir Lakes is covered with floating reed carpets whose intense green colour contrasts with the blue open waters. Rock exposures which dominate the site offer a breathtaking view on all the lakes, of which the colours contrast with the brown sand dunes separated by bare rock structures. The shape and distribution of the lakes, combined with the effect of the wind moving the floating vegetation in the lakes, gives the impression of “waves of water flowing in the desert”.

### **Integrity**

The boundaries of the 62,808 ha property have been designed to ensure its integrity. The property includes the area situated below the 450m contour line within the immediate lake watershed. The 4,869 ha buffer zone includes the village of Ounianga Kebir beside Lake Yoan. Zoning for management of the site takes into account pressures which are now mainly concentrated on Lake Yoan. Ounianga Serir, the smallest village (population of c. 1,000 in 2012) is next to the lake Teli, inside the property.

The hydrological system of the Lakes of Ounianga is functioning and the water level is stable apart from a slight seasonal variation, thanks to a groundwater supply which compensates evaporation losses.

The beauty and aesthetic values of the property have been well conserved. Although a good number of people live around lakes Yoan and Teli, local initiatives are assuring the compatibility between human activities and conservation of the site's values. Activities planned in the management plan strengthen and complement these initiatives. In addition the recently adopted Decree No. 095 which aims to maintain traditional agricultural practices in the property instead of intensive agriculture will enhance the conservation of the property.

### **Protection and management requirements**

Decree n° 1077/PR/PM/MCJS/2010 of 15.12.2010 designated the Lakes of Ounianga as a “Natural site”; the protected area system of Chad, as established in Law n°14/PR/2008, focuses on fauna and flora conservation and, alone, is not fully suited to Ounianga; thus, responsibility for the property is vested in the Ministry of Culture. There is high level political support for the protection and management of the property at national and local levels.

Under the decree, all activities that could threaten the integrity of the property, including mining, are forbidden. The national designation is similar to IUCN Category III for protected areas. This decree is complemented by the Decree No. 630 which regulates the need to prepare Environmental Impact Assessments for development projects.

The property has an effective management plan in place for the short and long term, and there are adequate resources and staffing provided its implementation and monitoring.

Wetlands such as the Lakes of Ounianga are also protected by Law 14/PR/98. An action plan is implemented through local associations to avoid negative impacts on the site. Conservation efforts focus on factors that could impact the site's integrity, which include effective measures to regulate urban development, address litter and waste management, support sustainable agriculture and ensure that traffic, tourism and other uses is maintained at levels that do not impact the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. Several local associations created at the initiative of the local governmental authorities and the local communities are also responsible for the conservation of the property. These activities are implemented with the support of a Local Management Committee, which provides input for improving the existing management plan.

4. Commends the State Party, and the local communities associated with the property, for their efforts to conserve this property and to maintain the sustainable traditional use of resources in the region;
5. Requests the State Party to implement in full the commitments to both short-term and long term requirements to substantially revise and enhance the management plan for the property, and to provide adequate staffing and resources for its implementation, as noted during the evaluation of the nomination;
6. Also requests the State Party to:
  - a) Increase further the involvement and representation of local and indigenous communities in the future conservation and management of the Lakes of Ounianga in recognition of their rich cultural heritage, the legitimacy of their rights to maintain sustainable traditional resource use and their rich local knowledge, including through providing effective and enhanced mechanisms for consultation and collaboration,
  - b) Enhance the authority and effective work of the Local Management Committee and use it as platform by which the government, agencies and indigenous peoples will discuss, analyze and resolve land use and/or management actions that could represent threats to the property whilst sharing and making the best use of local and traditional knowledge to improve the existing management plan for the property,
  - c) Provide the necessary human and financial resources to ensure the effective enforcement of the recently approved Decrees No. 095 and 630 for ensuring the conservation and sustainable traditional use of the property;
7. Further requests the State Party to provide a report to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2014** on the establishment and resourcing of the management plan and the progress in implementing the above recommendations, for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.8**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/ 36.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Inscribes the **Sangha Trinational, Cameroon, Central African Republic and Congo**, on the World Heritage List under **criteria (ix) and (x)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Sangha Trinational (TNS) is a transboundary conservation complex in the North-western Congo Basin where Cameroon, the Central African Republic and the Republic of Congo meet. TNS encompasses three contiguous national parks totalling a legally defined area of 746,309 hectares. These are Lobéké National Park in Cameroon, Dzanga-Ndoki National Park in the Central African Republic and Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park in the Republic of Congo. Dzanga-Ndoki National Park is comprised of two distinct units. The parks are embedded in a much larger forest landscape, sometimes referred to as the TNS Landscape. A buffer zone of 1,787,950 hectares has been established in recognition of the importance of the broader landscape and its

inhabitants for the future of the property. The buffer zone includes Dzanga-Sanga Forest Reserve in the Central African Republic, which connects the two units of Dzanga-Ndoki National Park.

Natural values and features include the ongoing ecological and evolutionary processes in a mostly intact forest landscape at a very large scale. Numerous and diverse habitats such as tropical forests comprised of deciduous and evergreen species, a great diversity of wetland types, including swamp forests and periodically flooded forests and many types of forest clearings of major conservation importance continue to be connected at a landscape level. This mosaic of ecosystems harbours viable populations of complete faunal and floral assemblages, including top predators and rare and endangered species, such as Forest Elephants, Gorillas, Chimpanzees, and several antelope species, such as the Sitatunga and the emblematic Bongo.

**Criterion (ix):** The property is characterised by its large size, further supported by the very large buffer zone, minimal disturbance over long periods and intactness thereby enabling the continuation of ecological and evolutionary processes at a huge scale. This includes the continuous presence of viable populations and natural densities of wildlife, including top predators and large mammals which are often affected by hunting and poaching elsewhere. There is a fully connected mosaic of very diverse habitats, including numerous types of ecologically remarkable forest clearings attracting major wildlife aggregations and countless plant species otherwise not found in the forest landscape. Unlike many other forest protected areas, the property is not a remaining fragment but continues to be part of a much larger intact and landscape with good conservation prospects. This is increasingly rare and significant at a global scale.

**Criterion (x):** The property represents a wide spectrum of the species-rich humid tropical forests in Central Africa's Congo Basin, and provides protection for a range of endangered species. The flora is enriched by species occurring exclusively in the many types of forest clearings. TNS protects a large number of tree species which are heavily commercially exploited elsewhere, such as the critically endangered Mukulungu. In addition to viable populations of forest elephants, significant populations of the critically endangered Western Lowland Gorilla and the endangered Chimpanzee occur both in and around the property, together with several endangered antelope species, such as the Sitatunga and the emblematic Bongo.

### **Integrity**

The boundaries of the property coincide with the boundaries of three existing national parks thereby forming a large and contiguous protected area in the heart of the broader TNS Landscape. The entire property is surrounded by a large buffer zone in all three countries which responds to the intricate ecological linkages between the property and its surroundings. This approach provides an umbrella for land-use planning and for integrating the legitimate livelihood needs of local and indigenous communities with nature conservation within the broader TNS landscape. Logging and hunting is banned in the national parks. In addition, the remoteness of TNS adds a natural layer of protection from resource exploitation. It will be essential to ensure that the future activities in the buffer zones, including forest and wildlife management, tourism, agriculture and infrastructure are fully compatible with the conservation objectives for TNS so the surrounding landscape will satisfy the needs of local and indigenous communities while indeed serving as a "buffer" for the property.

### **Protection and management requirements**

There is strong and committed joint management of the property bringing together all three States Parties, an indispensable permanent requirement. The three national parks that make up the property all have management and administrative staff provided by governments and if needed complemented through international support from non-governmental organizations, as well as multi-lateral and bi-lateral agencies.

Management, law enforcement, research, monitoring and tourism all require coordination across the national boundaries. There is a Trinational Monitoring and Action Committee (Comité Trinational de Suivi et d'Action), bringing together the three countries at the ministerial level. A Trinational Monitoring Committee unites the three countries at the level of regional administrations. These mechanisms are effective in providing a joint protection and management approach to the property, and will need to be maintained and built upon.

The rights and traditional livelihoods of local and indigenous peoples, such as the BaAkas, are a fundamental and increasingly recognised element in the management of the property. Whereas in Lobéké National Park (Cameroon) there are use zones within the park, in the Central African Republic and the Republic of Congo, local resource use, including indigenous hunting and gathering, is not permitted in the protected areas thereby affecting local livelihoods and creating the potential for conflict. This illustrates the crucial importance of finding an overall balance between nature conservation and local resource use in the broader landscape. The significantly enlarged buffer zone presents an opportunity to better understand and integrate the livelihood needs but also the knowledge of local and indigenous communities under the umbrella of a living TNS landscape. The inscription on the World Heritage List presents a concrete opportunity for the States Parties to translate a range of different commitments of the States Parties regarding the rights of local and indigenous people into action on the ground.

Maintaining the ecological values of the property will not only depend on law enforcement but eventually both on the standards of commercial resource extraction in the buffer zone and the acceptance and support of parks by the local and indigenous communities in the surrounding landscape.

4. Strongly commends the three State Parties for their constructive joint response to Decision **35 COM 8B.4** of the World Heritage Committee, in particular as regards the consideration of a much larger landscape as a formal buffer zone for the property and the stronger acknowledgment of and reference to the need to effectively engage local and indigenous communities, in the management of the property;
5. Considers that inscription of the property on the World Heritage List provides an opportunity to further enhance a number of protection and management arrangements for the property and its buffer zone, and therefore requests the State Parties to:
  - a) Use the declaration of a large buffer zone surrounding the entire property as an opportunity to further develop an integrated landscape approach in line with commitments stated in the nomination,
  - b) Increase further the involvement and representation of local and indigenous communities in the future conservation and management of the TNS landscape in recognition of the rich cultural heritage of the region, the legitimacy of their rights to maintain traditional resource use and their rich local knowledge, including through providing effective and enhanced mechanisms for consultation and collaboration,
  - c) Further ensure and monitor socially and environmentally high performance standards of the logging and hunting concessions,
  - d) Further harmonize objectives and guidelines for the various conservation initiatives and management planning, including tourism planning among the three State Parties;
  - e) Further improve coordination between ministries and sectors to ensure adequate and consistent planning of land and resource use, and law enforcement in the buffer zone,

- f) Ensure adequate long-term funding support for the property, including through full support to the Trust Fund and to the retention of tourism revenues for conservation and community development purposes.
6. Expresses its strong appreciation to the States Parties for their longstanding transboundary approach to conservation and management efforts of a shared landscape and the major and on-going international support that has been provided to support this work;
7. Requests the States Parties to provide a report to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2014** on the progress in implementing the above recommendations, for possible consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.9**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Inscribes the **Chengjiang Fossil Site, China**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (viii)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

The Chengjiang Fossil Site, located in the Province of Yunnan, China, conserves fossil remains which are of exceptional significance. The rocks and fossils of the Chengjiang Fossil Site present an outstanding and extraordinarily preserved record that testifies to the rapid diversification of life on Earth during the early Cambrian period, 530 million years before present. In this geologically short interval, almost all major groups of animals had their origins. The diverse geological evidence from the Chengjiang Fossil Site presents fossil remains of the highest quality of preservation and conveys a complete record of an early Cambrian marine community. It is one of the earliest records of a complex marine ecosystem and a unique window of understanding into the structure of early Cambrian communities.

**Criterion (viii):** The Chengjiang Fossil Site presents an exceptional record of the rapid diversification of life on Earth during the early Cambrian period, 530 million years before present. In this geologically short interval almost all major groups of animals had their origins. The property is a globally outstanding example of a major stage in the history of life, representing a palaeobiological window of great significance.

The exceptional palaeontological evidence of the Chengjiang Fossil Site is unrivalled for its rich species diversity. To date at least 16 phyla, plus a variety of enigmatic groups, and about 196 species have been documented. Taxa recovered range from algae, through sponges and cnidarians to numerous bilaterian phyla, including the earliest known chordates. The earliest known specimens of several phyla such as cnidarians, ctenophores, priapulids, and vertebrates occur here. Many of the taxa represent the stem groups to extant phyla and throw light on characteristics that distinguish major taxonomic groups.

The property displays excellent quality of fossil preservation including the soft and hard tissues of animals with hard skeletons, along with a wide array of organisms that were entirely soft-bodied, and therefore relatively unrepresented in the fossil record. Almost all of the soft-bodied species are unknown elsewhere. Fine-scale detailed preservation

includes features as the alimentary systems of animals, for example of the arthropod *Naraoia*, and the delicate gills of the enigmatic *Yunnanozoon*. The sediments of Chengjiang provide what are currently the oldest known fossil chordates, the phylum to which all vertebrates belong.

The fossils and rocks of the Chengjiang Fossil Site, together, present a complete record of an early Cambrian marine community. It is one of the earliest records of a complex marine ecosystem, with food webs capped by sophisticated predators. Moreover, it demonstrates that complex community structures had developed very early in the Cambrian diversification of animal life, and provides evidence of a wide range of ecological niches. The property thus provides a unique window of understanding into the structure of early Cambrian communities.

### **Integrity**

The property has clear boundaries including the most significant rock exposures of the region, and has a buffer zone that provides wider protection to the property. It is noted that fossil evidence is provided in some sites that lie outside the property boundaries and its buffer zone, and these areas need to receive appropriate wider protection and are important to provide context for the property.

Prior to 2004, 14 phosphate mining operations occurred in the buffer zone of the property. Since 2008 they have all been closed down. The process of rehabilitating these former mining sites is ongoing and will take some considerable time. No mining activities have actually impacted on the property itself and the ongoing commitment of County and Provincial governments to not open or re-open mines within the property or its buffer zone are critical to protect the values of the property.

Various excavations have occurred within the property in relation to the two key fossil sites. At the key stratigraphic section of Xiaolantian, a deep excavation has been made to create a walkway. Additionally, a museum has been built at Miaotanshan, over the site of the first Chengjiang Fauna fossil discovery. Both the path and museum construction have had impacts on the integrity of the site. The State Party has introduced a process for systematic review and approval for any development which may impact on the site. Moreover, the management authority has completely restricted future infrastructure development in the property.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The Chengjiang Fossil Site is state-owned and protected under the Article 9 of the constitution of the People's Republic of China and by various laws including the Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China (2002), the Law of the People's Republic of China on Cultural Relic Protection (2002), the regulations on the management of paleontological specimens (Ministry of Land and Resources, 2002), regulations on the protection and management of geological relics (1995) and the regulation on the protection of Yunnan Chengjiang Fauna Fossil (1997).

The property is designated as a protected area ensuring that potentially damaging human activities within the site can be prevented. The area is largely covered with secondary forest and shrub and there is no industrial activity or permanent human habitation within the boundary. The property lies entirely within a Chinese National Geopark.

There is an effective management plan, supported by a dedicated and adequately staffed and resourced management body. The Chengjiang Fossil Site Management Institute is responsible for coordinating on-site management of the protected area. The property protection strategy includes a National Geopark zoning plan which affords adequate protection to key fossil sites, supported by staffing for implementation. The finances of the Chengjiang Fossil Site come largely from national sources and are supplemented by smaller contributions at the City and County levels. Stable and special



funding for the ongoing management of the property is adequate to address ongoing protection, promotion and presentation of the property. The property has an established monitoring programme including defined indicators for the conservation of this property, and which needs to be integrated with monitoring of the protection of the wider surroundings of the property. The need for ongoing and effective curation of fossil specimens collected from the property, to the highest international standards, is fully recognised and provided for by the State Party.

Visitor numbers are anticipated to increase from a few thousand (4-5,000) individuals in 2012, most of whom are locals or individuals from neighbouring areas and visiting scientists. Increased visitation to the property requires effective management strategies and the provision of guides, designation of restricted areas, and strict restrictions on fossil collecting. It will be essential to carefully regulate visitor numbers within the capacity of the property. The anticipated maximum numbers at the time of inscription were estimated at c.30-40,000 people. There is a need to assure effective land-use planning in areas surrounding the property in order to secure its long-term conservation, including the conservation of fossil sites in the surrounding area that provide context for understanding the value of the property.

4. Commends the State Party on its continued and responsive efforts to improve protection and management of the property and on increasing conservation investments;
5. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Continue to strengthen and enhance land-use planning to avoid further impacts to the values and integrity of the property and its buffer zones,
  - b) Ensure proactive tourism management in anticipation of increased future visitation, and to ensure that visitation remains within the capacity of the property,
  - c) Ensure any proposed infrastructure development and excavations are sympathetic to the site's values and are subject to rigorous prior impact assessments, to determine if they are appropriate, including via reporting to the World Heritage Committee in line with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Strongly encourages strengthened management and protection of important fossil sites and strata bearing Chengjiang biota in the wider region to complement research and further the understanding of this significant stage of Earth's history. Enhanced land-use planning as well as management and protection through national and provincial laws is imperative to ensure that the fossil record in the wider landscape is protected, as it provides important context for the comprehension of the property.

#### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.10**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/ 36.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Inscribes the **Western Ghats, India**, on the World Heritage List, on the basis of **criteria (ix) and (x)**;
3. Adopts the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

The Western Ghats are internationally recognized as a region of immense global importance for the conservation of biological diversity, besides containing areas of high geological, cultural and aesthetic values. A chain of mountains running parallel to India's western coast, approximately 30-50 km inland, the Ghats traverse the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and Gujarat. These mountains cover an area of around 140,000 km<sup>2</sup> in a 1,600 km long stretch that is interrupted only by the 30 km Palghat Gap at around 11°N.

Older than the great Himalayan mountain chain, the Western Ghats of India are a geomorphic feature of immense global importance. The outstanding universal values of the Western Ghats are manifested in the region's unique and fascinating influence on large-scale biophysical and ecological processes over the entire Indian peninsula. The high mountains of the Western Ghats and their characteristic montane forest ecosystems influence the Indian monsoon weather patterns that mediate the warm tropical climate of the region, presenting one of the best examples of the tropical monsoon system on the planet. The Ghats act as a key barrier, intercepting the rain-laden monsoon winds that sweep in from the south-west during late summer. A significant feature of the Western Ghats is their exceptionally high level of biological diversity and endemism. This mountain chain is recognized as one of the world's eight 'hottest hotspots' of biological diversity along with Sri Lanka.

The forests of the Western Ghats include some of the best representatives of non equatorial tropical evergreen forests in the world. At least 325 globally threatened (IUCN Red Data List) species occur in the Western Ghats. The globally threatened flora and fauna in the Western Ghats are represented by 229 plant species, 31 mammal species, 15 bird species, 43 amphibian species, 5 reptile species and 1 fish species. Of the total 325 globally threatened species in the Western Ghats, 129 are classified as Vulnerable, 145 as Endangered and 51 as Critically Endangered.

**Criterion (ix):** The Western Ghats region demonstrates speciation related to the breakup of the ancient landmass of Gondwanaland in the early Jurassic period; secondly to the formation of India into an isolated landmass and the thirdly to the Indian landmass being pushed together with Eurasia. Together with favourable weather patterns and a high gradient being present in the Ghats, high speciation has resulted. The Western Ghats is an "Evolutionary Ecotone" illustrating "Out of Africa" and "Out of Asia" hypotheses on species dispersal and vicariance.

**Criterion (x):** The Western Ghats contain exceptional levels of plant and animal diversity and endemism for a continental area. In particular, the level of endemism for some of the 4-5,000 plant species recorded in the Ghats is very high: of the nearly 650 tree species found in the Western Ghats, 352 (54%) are endemic. Animal diversity is also exceptional, with amphibians (up to 179 species, 65% endemic), reptiles (157 species, 62% endemic), and fishes (219 species, 53% endemic). Invertebrate biodiversity, once better known, is likely also to be very high (with some 80% of tiger beetles endemic). A number of flagship mammals occur in the property, including parts of the single largest population of globally threatened 'landscape' species such as the Asian Elephant, Gaur and Tiger. Endangered species such as the lion-tailed Macaque, Nilgiri Tahr and Nilgiri Langur are unique to the area. The property is also key to the conservation of a number of threatened habitats, such as unique seasonally mass-flowering wildflower meadows, Shola forests and Myristica swamps.

### **Integrity**

The 39 component parts of this serial property fall under a number of protection regimes, ranging from Tiger Reserves, National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, and Reserved Forests. All components are owned by the State and are subject to stringent protection under laws including the Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972, the Indian Forest Act of 1927, and the Forest Conservation Act (1980). Through these laws the

components are under the control of the Forestry Department and the Chief Wildlife Warden, thus the legal status is adequate. 40% of the property lies outside of the formal protected area system, mostly in Reserved Forests, which are legally protected and effectively managed. The Forest Conservation Act (1980) provides adequate regulatory framework to protect them from infrastructure development.

### **Protection and management requirements**

Integrating the management of 39 components across 4 States is a challenge, for which a 3-tier governance mechanism will be set up that would operate at the Central, State and Site levels to provide effective coordination and oversight to the 39 components. A Western Ghats Natural Heritage Management Committee (WGNHMC) under the auspices of the Ministry of Environment of Forests (MoEF), Government of India to deal with coordination and integration issues is already functional. All 39 components in the 7 sub-clusters are managed under specific management / working plans duly approved by the State/Central governments.

4. Commends the State Party on its continued and responsive efforts to improve protection and management of the property and on ensuring better and effective coordination and oversight mechanisms;
5. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Take into account the outcomes of scientific studies of institutes specialized in the field, and their recommendations,
  - b) Ensure proactive tourism management in anticipation of increased future visitation, and to ensure that visitation remains within the capacity of the property,
  - c) Ensure any proposed infrastructure developments are subject to rigorous prior impact assessments, to determine if they are appropriate, including via reporting to the World Heritage Committee in line with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines to the World Heritage Convention*,
  - d) Establish improved coordination and integration between the components, particularly through the preparation and implementation of an overarching management plan or framework for the serial property as a whole.

### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.11**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Inscribes the **Lena Pillars Nature Park, Russian Federation**, on the World Heritage List, on the basis of **criterion (viii)**;
3. Adopts the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

The property of the Lena Pillars Nature Park describes key stories about our planet and the early evolution of life, namely a record of the Cambrian Explosion and the story of the emergence of the frozen ground karst phenomenon.

The property is an outstanding natural property providing an unmatched synthesis of Cambrian geological and paleontological data, which serves as the basis for our

understanding of the distant past, the evolution of the Earth and of life on our planet during one of the most pivotal and dramatic points of its development.

The property includes valuable geological sites (lower to middle Cambrian strata), paleontological sites (exceptional, rich fossils and biocenoses, including the earliest metazoan reef belt) and unique geomorphological sites (frozen ground karst, thermokarst and sand dunes-tukulans).

**Criterion (viii):** The property represents the most significant natural monument of the Cambrian Explosion, which was one of the pivotal points in the evolution of life on Earth. Due to the platformal carbonate sedimentation which occurred in the tropical belt without subsequent metamorphic and tectonic transformation, the property preserves the most continuous, fully documented, and richest record of the diversification of skeletal animals and calcified algae from their first appearances until the first mass extinction event. This is documented in parallel by three types of sedimentary basins during the first 35 million years of the Cambrian evolution.

The property comprises the earliest, and the temporally and spatially largest, fossil metazoan reef of the Cambrian world. This reef, being a site of Cambrian diversification, is comparable to the Great Barrier Reef today. The high preservation quality of both skeletal and soft-bodied fossils being coupled with high resolution isotope and palaeomagnetic records, as well as with various well-preserved sedimentary fabrics allows researchers to better understand ecological and evolutionary problems with accuracy comparable to the study of today's biotas and communities.

The Cambrian carbonates situated within the property are a place of unique ongoing geological processes and the only model of recent frozen ground karst of karst plateaus. The entire rock massif is affected by karst processes of perennially cryotic rocks under extremely continental semi-humid climate conditions. The Lena and Buotama pillars are the only area on the globe where the processes of the fine disintegration of the rocks – cryohydration weathering – dominate the shaping of the relief of carbonate pillars. These karst phenomena are enriched by thermokarst processes developed in the area of a great permafrost thickness (up to 600 m) which led to appearances of alases, a thermokarst feature almost only found in Yakutia. The frozen ground karst in combination with thermokarst is a worldwide unique phenomenon of Eastern Siberia and is outstandingly documented in the property. It is quite different from other karst properties in the World Heritage List, which are located in humid areas. In turn, the semi-humid continental climate conditions are expressed in a formation of tukulans which are eolian sand dunes being developed at almost polar latitudes.

### **Integrity**

Lena Pillars Nature Park presents a single natural site and its main components are inseparably tied with each other by a common origin, history and the dynamics of natural development, and includes all the elements necessary to express its outstanding universal value.

By its size (1,272,150 ha) the property is large enough to support its geological and ecological processes and to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes which convey its significance. In addition local and Republican Resource Preserves adjacent to the Park's boundaries give additional integrity guarantees for the property.

The property presents an integral system. Natural ecosystems, numerous nature monuments, and also evidence of human activity from ancient times has been sustainably preserved with its boundaries over a long period of time.

The biophysical processes and landform features of the property are intact.

The property includes all the elements essential for maintaining its features. Firstly, a great variety of skerries relief forms: fancy pillars, spires, towers, columns, intertwined with grottos, passages, and caves, stretching along the riverbanks of the Lena and Buotama for dozens of kilometers. The area of the “Lena Pillars Nature Park” has gone through a long and complex period of geological development since Early Cambrian. The property reflects both significant geological processes of surface development and outstanding geomorphological relief features. All significant relief forms of the property are interrelated and interdependent elements in their natural relationships.

#### **Protection and management requirements**

The whole property is managed by the Park administration and the staff on the basis of laws and decrees of the Governments of the Russian Federation and of the Republic of Sakha.

Traditional nature management and licensed use of biological resources by local residents from eight communities of small nationalities of the North inhabiting the Park territory (and absolute absence of permanent settlements) present the main condition for conservation of the nature monuments and biological diversity of ecosystems of the property.

In 2011 the management plan for 2012-2016 was drawn up elaborated in conformity with the Order of the Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage of the Russian Federation №491 of 03.12. 2007.

4. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Consider including the Sinyaya component of Lena Pillars Nature Park, and relevant areas of the Lena River that are necessary to strengthen the integrity within the property,
  - b) Provide a clear demonstration that the legal regime supporting the property is effective,
  - c) Provide a revised long-term management plan for the property which includes a strong programme of awareness devoted to the, geomorphological and geological features, and ensures the necessary scientific skills required to protect and manage these values are in place;
5. Expresses its appreciation to the State Party, the State Government of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia), and stakeholders, regarding the work that has been done to research, present and protect the values within the Lena Pillars region;
6. Welcomes the collaborative efforts of the State Party, stakeholders and IUCN during the evaluation of this nomination, and requests that lessons learned during this process are appropriately considered in the reflection on the Future of the *Convention*;
7. Further requests the State Party to provide a report to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2015** on the progress in implementing the above recommendations for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session in 2015.

## MIXED PROPERTIES

### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.12**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B, WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1 and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Inscribes the **Rock Islands Southern Lagoon, Palau**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii), (v), (vii), (ix) and (x)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

The Rock Islands Southern Lagoon consists of numerous large and small forested limestone islands, scattered within a marine lagoon protected by a barrier reef. The property lies within Koror State, immediately to the south of Palau's main volcanic island Babeldaob in the western Pacific Ocean.

The marine site covers 100,200 ha and is characterized by coral reefs and a diversity of other marine habitats, as well as 445 coralline limestone islands uplifted due to volcanism and shaped over time by weather, wind and vegetation. This has created an extremely high habitat complexity, including the highest concentration of marine lakes in the world, which continue to yield new species discoveries. The terrestrial environment is lush and at the same time harsh, supporting numerous endemic and endangered species. Although presently uninhabited, the islands were once home to Palauan settlements, and Palauans continue to use the area and its resources for cultural and recreational purposes. This is regulated through a traditional governance system that remains an important part of national identity.

The islands contain a significant set of cultural remains relating to an occupation over some five thousand years that ended in abandonment. Archaeological remains and rock art sites are found in two island clusters - Ulong and Negmelis, and on three islands - Ngeruktabel, Ngeanges, and Chomedokl.

Remains of former human occupation in caves, including rock art and burials, testifies to seasonal human occupation and use of the marine ecosystem, dating back to 3,100 BP and extending over some 2,500 years.

Permanent stone villages on a few islands, some dating back to between 950 and 500 BP, were occupied for several centuries before being abandoned in the 17th-18th centuries, when the population moved to larger islands. The villages include the remains of defensive walls, terraces and house platforms. The settlements reflect distinctive responses to their local environment and their abandonment demonstrates the consequences of population growth and climate change impacting on subsistence in a marginal environment.

The descendants of the people who moved from the Rock Islands to the main islands of Palau identify with their ancestral islands through oral traditions that record in legends, myths, dances, and proverbs, and traditional place names the land- and seascape of their former homes.

The abandoned islands now provide an exceptional illustration of the way of life of small island communities over more than three millennia and their dependence on marine resources. They also are seen as ancestral realms by the descendants of those

who migrated to the main island of Palau and this link is kept alive through oral traditions.

**Criterion (iii):** The Rock Islands cave deposits, burials, rock art, abandoned remains of stonework villages and middens bear exceptional testimony to the organisation of small island communities and their harvesting of marine resources over some three millennia.

**Criterion (v):** The abandonment of Rock Island villages in the 17th and 18th centuries demonstrated by the remains of human settlement and evidence of marine harvesting activity in the Rock Islands Southern Lagoon is an exceptional illustration of the intersection and consequences of climate change, population growth, and subsistence behaviour on a society living in a marginal marine environment.

**Criterion (vii):** The Rock Islands Southern Lagoon contains an exceptional variety of habitats within a relatively limited area. Barrier and fringing reefs, channels, tunnels, caves, arches, and coves, as well as the highest number and density of marine lakes in the world, are home to diverse and abundant marine life. The maze of dome-shaped and green Rock Islands seemingly floating in the turquoise lagoon surrounded by coral reef is of exceptional aesthetic beauty.

**Criterion (ix):** The Rock Islands Southern Lagoon contains 52 marine lakes, more than at any other site in the world. Furthermore, the marine lakes of the property are at different stages of geological and ecological development, ranging from lakes with high connectivity to the sea to highly isolated lakes with notably different species composition, including unique and endemic species. These features represent an outstanding example of how marine ecosystems and communities develop, and make the lakes valuable as “natural laboratories” for scientific study of evolution and speciation. Five new subspecies of the *Mastigias papua* jellyfish have been described from these marine lakes, and new species discoveries continue to be made both in the marine lakes as well as in the complex reef habitats of the property.

**Criterion (x):** The Rock Islands Southern Lagoon has exceptionally high biological and marine habitat diversity. The marine lakes are unique in terms of number, the density at which they occur, and their varying physical conditions. With low fishing pressure, limited pollution and human impact, as well as an exceptional variety of reef habitat, the resilience of reefs of the property makes it a critical area for protection, including as an area important for climate change adaptation of reef biota, and potentially as a source of larvae for reefs in the region. All the endangered megafauna of Palau, 746 species of fish, over 385 species of corals, at least 13 species of sharks and manta rays, 7 species of giant clams, and the endemic nautilus are found in the property, and the forests of the islands include all of Palau’s endemic birds, mammals, herpetofauna and nearly half of Palau’s endemic plants. This makes the area of exceptional conservation value.

### **Integrity**

The property has clear boundaries and includes a large part of the lagoonal and reef habitat surrounding the main islands of Palau, as well as most land of coralline origin occurring within Koror State. This ensures a high degree of replication of habitat type. Although past and present use has altered both marine and terrestrial environments, or at least the abundance of resource species, the present conservation status of the property is good. Activities in and around the property that may impact on it are subject to specific management regulations and/or interventions. The inclusion of waters outside the barrier reef and within Koror State jurisdiction in a buffer zone further increases its ecological integrity.

The property contains a complete representation of the features and processes that convey the value of the property. Most of these elements do not suffer inordinately from development or neglect and are in good condition. However a conservation programme

is required to ensure ongoing conservation and maintenance. The property has been largely isolated from human interference since pre-European occupation ceased. They are nevertheless highly vulnerable to uncontrolled tourism activities.

### **Authenticity**

The form and materials of village settlements, burial caves and their setting continue to convey the cultural value of the property. Excavated deposits have been recorded and reburied, and the reports of these campaigns have been lodged with the Koror State Government. To achieve a full understanding of the remains on all the islands will need more survey work.

Oral histories and ongoing cultural traditions in the main island of Palau keep alive the memories of the migration away from the Rock Islands and the histories associated with them.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The legislative framework regulating use and management of the environment and its resources is comprehensive and clear. The area falls in its entirety in Koror State, and the management jurisdiction of Koror State Rangers is well known and respected. Management authorities are operating on relatively reliable revenue from tourism. The strength of traditional value systems including resource governance systems is an asset, and can enable management and zoning that accommodate both cultural/traditional and biodiversity conservation needs. Management objectives and priorities are defined in the Rock Islands Southern Lagoon Management Plan. Both legislative framework and management arrangements are conducive to protecting and maintaining the values of the property.

Cultural sites within the Rock Islands Southern Lagoon are protected under Title 19 'Cultural Resources' by the Historical and Cultural Preservation Act of the Republic of Palau. Underwater archaeological and historical remains are protected under Title 19 as the 'Palau Lagoon Monument'. All the designated sites within the property should be included on Palau's National Register of historic places.

The Koror State Department of Conservation and Law Enforcement collaborates with the Palau Historic Preservation Office, Bureau of Arts and Culture in working with locally based agencies and organisations on management and research activities within the property. Koror State Regulations (1994) cover general resource use, recreational activities and the designation of protected areas within the Rock Islands Southern Lagoon. The Rock Islands Use Act was legislated in 1997 to regulate tourist activity in the islands. The laws and regulations are enforced by the Koror State Rangers.

The Rock Islands Southern Lagoon Area Management Plan 2004-2008 was adopted by the Koror State Legislature and Governor in 2005 and is currently under review.

Long term protection and management requirements for the property include the need to prevent negative impacts from tourism, including maintaining access restrictions to vulnerable areas, ensuring visitor numbers are within the capacity of the property, and mitigating adverse effects from development of infrastructure and facilities in Koror. Subsistence and recreational fishing taking place within the property and in designated zones require constant monitoring. However, the property may also be constructively used for research on and preservation of traditional knowledge of the marine environment. Additional needs include maintaining restrictions on development, including aquaculture, within the property and in the vicinity of property boundaries. An adaptive approach to management of the property and the provision for effective long term monitoring including ecosystem health and water quality are necessary in order to maintain the resilience of the property in the face of climate change.



4. Commends the State Party for its efforts to sustainably manage the property and safeguard its globally significant biodiversity, spiritual, cultural and recreational values, including through modern/statutory as well as traditional/customary governance approaches, and recommends further development of the direct involvement of key stakeholder groups including the tourism industry in management, as well as close and consistent liaison between state and national authorities in managing the property as a part of the national protected area network;
5. Also commends the State Party for having included all the designated sites within the property on Palau's National Register of historic places, and having developed a database of identified cultural sites within the property, including archaeological sites, caves, burials, rock art, stone money quarries and villages;
6. Requests the State Party to embark on a process to address present and potential future negative impacts of tourism on the property and adjacent areas, including through detailed projection of tourism development, careful mitigation planning as well as options for reducing or restricting visitor numbers in vulnerable areas or in the property as a whole;
7. Encourages the State Party to strengthen and formalize coordination and liaison on science and monitoring in the property among national and overseas organizations, with a view to enhancing the use of such information in the adaptive management of the property;
8. Strongly encourages the State Party to:
  - a) Ensure effective conservation of the values of the property, including but not limited to marine lakes, habitats of unique or threatened species or where new species discoveries continue to be made, as well as particularly important areas such as spawning sites, including through establishment of further strictly protected areas if required,
  - b) Complete and approve the new Management Plan, with the involvement of relevant communities, to include:
    - (i) a conservation programme for the cultural sites covering access, monitoring, maintenance, research, consolidation, and any necessary physical protection, and provide a timetable for the implementation of this programme;
    - (ii) a tourism management strategy;
    - (iii) a risk preparedness strategy;
    - (iv) extension of the key monitoring indicators to include a baseline survey of the rock art, and oral histories.
9. Recommends that the State Party give further consideration to changing the name of the property to reflect its cultural value.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.13**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B, WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1 and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B2,

2. Inscribes the **Sites of Human Evolution at Mount Carmel: The Nahal Me'arot / Wadi el-Mughara Caves, Israel**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii)** and **(v)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

*The four Mount Carmel caves (Tabun, Jamal, el-Wad and Skhul) and their terraces are clustered adjacent to each other along the south side of the Nahal Me'arot/Wadi el-Mughara valley. The steep-sided valley opening to the coastal plain on the west side of the Carmel range provides the visual setting of a prehistoric habitat.*

Located in one of the best preserved fossilised reefs of the Mediterranean region, the site contains cultural deposits representing half a million years of human evolution from the Lower Palaeolithic to the present. It is recognised as providing a definitive chronological framework at a key period of human development.

Archaeological evidence covers the appearance of modern humans, deliberate burials, early manifestations of stone architecture and the transition from hunter-gathering to agriculture. The attributes carrying Outstanding Universal Value include the four caves, terraces, unexcavated deposits and excavated artefacts and skeletal material; the Nahal Me'arot/ Wadi el-Mughara landscape providing the prehistoric setting of the caves; el-Wad Terrace excavations, and remains of stone houses and pits comprising evidence of the Natufian hamlet.

**Criterion (iii):** The site of the Nahal Me'arot/ Wadi el-Mughara Caves displays one of the longest prehistoric cultural sequences in the world. From the Acheulian complex, at least 500,000 years BP, through the Mousterian culture of 250,000-45,000 years BP, and up to the Natufian culture of 15,000-11,500 years BP and beyond, it testifies to at least half a million years of human evolution. Significantly, the site demonstrates the unique existence of both. Neanderthals and Early Anatomically Modern Humans (EAMH) within the same Middle Palaeolithic cultural framework, the Mousterian. As such, it has become a key site of the chrono-stratigraphic framework for human evolution in general, and the prehistory of the Levant in particular. Research at Nahal Me'arot/ Wadi el-Mughara Caves has been ongoing since 1928, and continues to promote multidisciplinary scientific dialogue. The potential for further excavation and archaeological research at the site is to date far from exhausted.

**Criterion (v):** The Nahal Me'arot/ Wadi el-Mughara Caves are a central site of the Natufian culture in its Mediterranean core zone. This significant regional culture of the late Epi-Palaeolithic period presents the transition from Palaeolithic to Neolithic ways of life, from nomadic to complex, sedentary communities, bearing testimony to the last hunter-gatherer society and the various adaptations it underwent on the threshold of agriculture.

#### **Integrity**

The Nahal Me'arot/Wadi el-Mughara site includes all elements necessary to express the values of the property, comprising the caves and the visual habitat. The caves are intact, in good condition and do not suffer from neglect, except in the case of Skhul Cave, which has been partly defaced with graffiti. The visual habitat defined as the caves, the terrace in which the caves are found and the area that can be viewed from the caves is intact except below Skhul Cave, where Eucalyptus trees are growing along the riverbed around the water pumping station.

#### **Authenticity**

Archaeological research over 90 years has established the authenticity of the Nahal Me'arot/Wadi el-Mughara site as a crucial record of human, biological, behavioural and

cultural origins. The caves, terraces and excavated structures, together with excavated artefacts and human remains, truthfully and credibly express the values of the property. The authenticity of the habitat is impacted by the alien Eucalyptus trees and water pumping station.

### **Protection and Management requirements**

Legal protection is provided at the highest national level possible in Israel. The caves and their surroundings were declared a National Nature Reserve in 1971. The property is protected by the National Parks, Nature Reserves, National Sites and Memorial Sites Law 1998, administered by the Israel Nature and Parks Authority (INPA) and the Antiquities Law (1978) and the Antiquities Authorities Law (1989). Research activities or excavations within the property require permits from both the INPA and the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA). INPA and IAA share responsibility for the management of the archaeological resources that sustain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. An agreement between the Antiquities Authority and the INPA (2005) outlines the effective protocol necessary to facilitate cooperation, conservation and management of Antiquities in Israel's Nature Reserves and National Parks.

A steering committee of stakeholders was established to oversee the nomination and will serve as a governing body that integrates local, regional, and national management of the site. The steering committee includes representatives of the INPA, the IAA, archaeologists from Haifa University, the Carmel Drainage Authority, Kibbutz Ein HaCarmel and Moshav Geva Carmel (who leases the agricultural land designated as Buffer Zone B), the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, the Society for the Preservation of Israel Heritage Sites, the Carmel Tourism Organization, and the Hof HaCarmel Regional Council. A Site Conservation and Management Programme describing all management procedures for the site was prepared in 2003 and currently serves as the foundation for the day to day management of the site.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Removing the invasive Eucalyptus trees growing along the valley floor below Skhul Cave,
  - b) Downsizing, conceal or remove the water pumping station located near Skhul Cave,
  - c) Cleaning off the graffiti observed on the wall of Skhul Cave,
  - d) Including Skhul Cave on the main tourist circuit and improve the presentation of the cave in order to enhance its protection, better integrate the cave with the others, and ensure that its significance is made clear,
  - e) Evaluating possible erosion of the rock-cut basins on el-Wad Terrace and if need be, consider including a protective cover of the basins to limit erosion due to rainfall and exposure,
  - f) Referring any proposal for new buildings at the property such as the proposed new museum of prehistory and adjacent research centre to the World Heritage Committee for review in accordance with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* for the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*;
  
5. Decides not to inscribe the **Sites of Human Evolution at Mount Carmel: The Nahal Me'arot / Wadi el-Mughara Caves, Israel**, on the World Heritage List under criterion (viii).

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.14**

The nomination of **Plasencia-Monfrague-Trujillo: Mediterranean Landscape, Spain**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.15**

The nomination of **Banco Chinchorro Biosphere Reserve, Mexico**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**CULTURAL PROPERTIES**

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.16**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Bassari Country: Bassari, Fula and Bedik Cultural Landscapes, Senegal**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii), (v) and (vi)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

The cultural landscape of Bassari is located in south-eastern Senegal, close to the Mali and Guinean borders, in a hilly territory, formed by the northern foothills of the Fouta Djallon Massif. Two distinct geographic environments feature the region: the alluvial plain and the peneplain to the north and the mountains to the south. The former exhibit a mosaic of cultivated patches, pastures, bushes, the latter, relatively high and sheer, are dotted with several natural caves and have offered an environment particularly advantageous for the establishment of different cultural clusters and their defence. Archaeological evidences of early human occupation abound in the area. The property comprises three different geo-cultural areas: the Bassari – Salémata, the Bedik – Bandafassi and the Fula – Dindéfello areas, each exhibiting specific morphological and cultural traits. In this barely accessible region, but rich in natural resources and biodiversity, the Bassari, Fula and Bedik peoples settled and developed specific cultures, symbiotic with the surrounding natural environment. Until the last century, inhabited villages were grouped and located on rises, so as to control the plains, and consisted of round thatched huts congregated around a central space. Today dispersion and impermanence are the main traits of the Bassari settlements, the populations choosing to live close to the fields. Ancient villages are nowadays used only periodically for ritual ceremonies or festivals.

The property and its associated cultural expressions bear outstanding witness to the cultural specificity and interaction between the Bassari/Beliyan, Bedik, and Fula people in agro-pastoral, social, ritual and spiritual practices, and represent an outstanding, original response to natural environmental constraints and anthropic pressures, so as to use wisely the limited resources of the area.

**Criterion (iii):** The physical layout of the Bassari Cultural landscape bears an exceptional witness to the complex interactions among environmental factors, land-use practices, social rules, beliefs that altogether have concurred to shape a peculiar and

remarkably preserved cultural landscape that outstandingly reflects the ability of make a respectful and sustainable use of the resources of the region.

**Criterion (v):** The Bassari cultural landscape bears witness to peculiar uses of the land, including crop rotation and manuring, communal sowing, weeding and harvesting and commuting practices imposed by traditional agricultural systems and by the relative scarcity of resources, thus representing an outstanding example of human interaction with a vulnerable environment.

**Criterion (vi):** The Pays Bassari as well as the sacred dimension that Bassari, Fula and Bedik people attach to it bear exceptional, tangible witness to the intertwined complex of practices, social rules, rites and beliefs that have helped the Bassari regulate the interaction between men and their living environment and have produced a cultural landscape shaped by and imbued with cultural traditions and spiritual meanings that persist in a lively dynamic of transmission.

### **Integrity**

The serial property includes all elements necessary to make manifest its proposed Outstanding Universal Value. Each area contributes to make evident and to reinforce the value of the whole system and the profound cultural connections between humans and nature. Their individual and overall sizes are also convenient to represent adequately the cultural features and processes conveying the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. In the long term, the sustenance of the integrity of the property needs that measures be set up to safeguard the Bassari culture from the disrupting impact of an excessive exposure to alien cultural models.

### **Authenticity**

The landscapes and their land-use and settlement pattern, along with the traditional architecture, the sacred forests, and the sanctuaries bear credible witness to a complex socio-economic cultural system in which peculiar agricultural and social practices, rituals, beliefs and traditional education have contributed to make possible and durable the human settlement through the respectful and sustainable use of the scarce resources of the region.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The Bassari cultural landscape is covered by specific layers of formal protection according to the law in force. Forms of traditional protection and management continue to be implemented, complemented by the action of several national and local institutional bodies and NGOs. Overall the combination of legal, institutional and traditional protective measures is adequate to ensure the safeguard of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. However its sustenance in the long term requires a strong coordination among all authorities, organisations and communities responsible at different levels for the protection and management of the Bassari region within a comprehensive management strategy that need to integrate all plans, measures and projects into one management system/plan. The joint management authority must be confirmed in its structures as well as in its means. Specific attention must also be paid to the control of economic development projects in the region, tourism within the property and potential mining or forestry projects in buffer zones. A strategy for the conservation of the property and its attributes must be attached to the Management Plan.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Putting in place strict measures to effectively counteract fire, arson, poaching, illicit logging and traffic of cultural items,
  - b) Providing a map showing the boundaries of the areas included under the protection of the Ministerial decree N. 004510,

- c) Developing and providing a complete cartography at the appropriate scale including inventories of heritage resources related to the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, for conservation and monitoring purposes,
- d) Developing a strategy for conservation based on all different projects and integrating it in the management plan,
- e) Elaborating a solution in the medium term for the water supply of the villages, especially those located on the Bandafassi and Ethiolo Plateaux; so as to improve the quality of life of the population and help them to continue their lives within the property,
- f) Formalising the management structure, the role of each party and body and their tasks through a Memorandum of Understanding,
- g) Sustaining and facilitating the traditional conservation actions which have allowed the survival of the property,
- h) Exploring the development of cultural banks so as to eradicate illicit trafficking of cultural objects,
- i) Reinforcing the monitoring system on the basis of a cartographic inventory and implementing it as soon as possible.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.17**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Inscribes the **Historic Town of Grand-Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii) and (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

The historic town of Grand-Bassam is an example of a colonial town built at the end of the 19th century and during the early 20th century. It follows a planning concept based on the specialisation of quarters for commerce, administration, housing for Europeans and housing for Africans. It embodies, on the one hand, colonial architecture and town planning, based on the principles of functionalism and hygiene of the time, and adapted to climatic conditions, and, on the other hand, an village N'zima which demonstrates the permanency of indigenous cultures. Grand-Bassam was the first colonial capital, and the most important port, economic centre and legal centre of Côte d'Ivoire; it bears witness to the complex social relations between Europeans and Africans, and then to the popular movement in favour of independence.

**Criterion (iii):** Grand-Bassam bears witness, through its well preserved urban organisation, to an important cultural tradition linked to its role as a colonial capital, an administrative centre for the former AOF (Afrique occidentale française) and a regional commercial hub. From the 1880s to the 1950s, the town brought together various African, European and Middle Eastern populations. Cohabitation between them was harmonious but at the same time conflictual.

**Criterion (iv):** Grand-Bassam constitutes an outstanding example of rational colonial town planning, with its specialised quarters in an overall urban network in which vegetation has an important role. The colonial architecture is characterised by a sober

and functional style, using principles of hygiene adapted to a tropical location. The organisation of the vernacular house in the N'zima village echoes this approach, expressing the permanency of indigenous values.

### **Integrity**

The integrity of the urban fabric is generally good. The property includes sufficiently large ensembles of characteristic built structures to enable them to be well understood. However, the architectural integrity of the buildings is under threat in many cases, because of abandonment and lack of maintenance. The integrity of the urban landscape might be under threat from the pressure for property linked to beach tourism.

### **Authenticity**

The authenticity of the urban fabric has been generally conserved, enabling satisfactory expression of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. While some buildings, which are generally the public ones, have been acceptably restored and reused, the architectural integrity of a large number of buildings is often mediocre or poor, and their authenticity has in some cases been adversely affected by alterations which are not in keeping with the original design.

### **Protection and management requirements**

Protection of the property and its management system are appropriate and their implementation is under way, including through the establishment of the Cultural Heritage Centre and through the overarching Building Permits Commission. However, it is essential to confirm the suspensive effect of decisions of the latter and strengthen the human and financial resources dedicated to the conservation of the property. The boundaries of the unified buffer zone should be extended around the Petit Paris embankment and the lighthouse as in the original nomination dossier.

4. Requests the State Party to implement the following regulatory measures:
  - a) Refine the already well advanced definition of the contour of the property on the basis of cadastral boundaries,
  - b) Enlarge the property's buffer zone by reverting to the initially planned boundaries near the Quai du Petit Paris and the lighthouse, while retaining the current extension which unifies the buffer zone,
  - c) Inscribe all the "buildings of heritage interest" in the local inventory on the National Cultural Heritage List,
  - d) Clarify, in the near future, the land ownership situation, as the number of land lots announced is the same as in the initial dossier (of 2008), even though the property has been extended to include the N'zima village, and in relation to land lots for which there is no property deed,
  - e) Define operational monitoring indicators (in addition to the current indicators) which correspond to precise, periodic and quantified monitoring actions, by considering international standards in this area,
  - f) Strengthen and give details of the permanent human resources of the Local Committee and/or of the Cultural Heritage Centre for the property conservation monitoring actions; the presence of an architect and of conservation specialists is necessary;
5. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Providing a progress report on the setting up and functioning of the Building Permits Commission,

- b) Continuing the efforts undertaken to reinforce the practical and operational dimension of the Plan for the Conservation and Management of the property,
  - c) Confirming the measures to provide encouragement for the restoration and conservation of the privately owned buildings;
6. Requests the State Party to submit, by **1 February 2013**, a report to the World Heritage Centre outlining progress made in the implementation of the demands and above-mentioned recommendations to be examined by the Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.18**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes **Rabat, modern capital and historic city: a shared heritage, Morocco**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii) and (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value;

**Brief synthesis**

Rabat bears witness to a capital city conceived at the time of the Protectorate, at the beginning of the 20th century. The project successfully adapts modernist town planning and architectural values within the context of the Maghreb, whilst incorporating them into the framework of the ancient city with its many historic and heritage components. The result embodies the emergence of a distinctive architectural and decorative style which is characteristic of contemporary Morocco.

The well-conserved modern city has been rationally designed, and contains quarters and buildings with clearly defined functions and significant visual and architectural qualities. The modern city is characterised by the coherence of its public spaces and by the putting into practice of public health ideas (services, role of vegetation, etc.). The habitat is illustrated by quarters with clearly asserted identities: the Medina and the Kasbah, the residential quarters and the middle-class housing of the modern city, and finally the neo-traditional quarter of Habous de Diour Jamaâ. The city includes a full range of monumental, architectural and decorative elements from the various earlier dynasties. The modern city of Rabat tangibly expresses a pioneering approach to town-planning, which has been careful to preserve historic monuments and traditional housing. The reappropriation of the past and its influence on 20th century town planners and architects has resulted in a distinctive and refined urban, architectural and decorative synthesis. The property as a whole makes visible a heritage shared by several major cultures of human history: ancient, Islamic, Hispano-Maghrebian and European.

**Criterion (ii):** Through its urban ensemble, its monuments and its public spaces, the modern city of Rabat shows respect for, and draws inspiration from, the earlier Arabo-Muslim heritage. It bears outstanding testimony to the diffusion of European ideas in the early 20th century, their adaptation to the Maghreb, and in return the influence of local, indigenous styles on architecture and decorative arts.

**Criterion (iv):** The city constitutes an outstanding and fully realized example of modern town planning, for a 20th century capital city, achieved by functional territorial organisation which incorporates the cultural values of the past in the modernist project. The synthesis of decorative, architectural and landscape elements, and the interplay between present and past, offer an outstanding and refined urban ensemble.



## **Integrity**

The various dimensions of the integrity of the property are satisfactory: the balance between the urban plan of the modern city and the conservation of its many earlier urban strata, the integrity of the habitation in the various quarters, the integrity of the archaeological ensembles, the adequately conserved fortifications of the Almohad wall, etc. However, it is necessary to carefully monitor the impact of the major works being considered outside the property, particularly with regard to the view of the property and of the River Bou Regreg from the Kasbah site which overlooks them.

## **Authenticity**

Many individual elements are indicated in the inventory descriptions, and it is clear that the elements forming the property have a high level of authenticity, particularly as regards perceived urban authenticity. More generally, the conditions of authenticity in urban and monumental terms are satisfactory. However, quantified data concerning the individual authenticity of the residential buildings would be a useful addition to the inventory system already in place.

## **Protection and management requirements**

The measures to protect the urban ensembles, the monuments and the archaeological sites are in place. Because of its introduction from an early date, the legislation which applies to the city of Rabat has made a fundamental contribution to the history of its conservation as an urban ensemble which is both ancient and modern. The new measures announced concerning more extensive urban protection and the protection of the urban landscape formed by the property are currently being promulgated.

The management structure is in place, and is coordinated by the new overarching authority of the Rabat Cultural Heritage Preservation Foundation. It relies, with regard to technical and scientific matters, on the National Heritage Directorate, and on various other bodies responsible for specific elements of the property, together with the services of the Municipality and Prefecture of Rabat. A large number of qualified staff are assigned to the conservation and management of the property. All the regulatory and organisational provisions, and the 5-Year Action Programme, are set out in the Management Plan.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Specifying the surface area of the new buffer zone and the number of inhabitants,
  - b) Promulgating the draft laws (new heritage law) and draft regulations (landscape regulation associated with the new PAU),
  - c) Better distinguishing between property conservation projects and other urban, cultural or buffer zone projects, and schedule them by setting out a detailed timetable,
  - d) Carrying out heritage impact studies with regard to the major urban projects for the city and for the Bou Regreg Valley, in order to guarantee the visual integrity of the property and its surrounding areas, and submit the projects to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*,
  - e) Systematically documenting the state of conservation and authenticity of the buildings in the inventories, and if possible express the results in terms of quantified and mapped indicators,
  - f) Clarifying, and strengthening, the technical and financial aid to be provided to local residents to encourage high-quality conservation of private buildings,

- g) Reinforcing the monitoring of the urban habitat, both in the traditional quarters and in the new town.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.19**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Refers the nomination of **Al Zubarah Archaeological Site, Qatar**, back to the State Party, in order to allow it to:
  - a) Further develop its understanding of how the fabric of Al Zubarah and its desert hinterland were an exceptional testimony to a specific interaction between nomadic herders, pearl divers, fishermen and traders that once characterised the way of life in the Gulf by:

Presenting the results of surveys and excavations carried out in the property and its wider setting, including underwater archaeology, that have already permitted the understanding of the origins of the town, the basis for its prosperity, its layout and how it related to the coast, its desert landscape and small satellite settlements and,

Completing the archival and oral history research developed within the project,
  - b) Formalize the official approval of the buffer zone limits and the Madinat Ash Shamal urban plan,
  - c) Complete and implement the Conservation Strategy identifying the interventions desirable to stabilize the urban remains,
  - d) Follow up the development of the Site Management Unit operational on site since 2011,
  - e) Monitor the effectiveness of the Management Plan;
3. Recommends that Heritage Impact Assessments be renewed in case major infrastructural projects in the vicinity of the property should become active again in order to ensure that these do not impact adversely on the town and its wider desert setting.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.20**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Inscribes **Pearling, testimony of an island economy, Bahrain**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (iii)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

The traditional sea-use of harvesting pearls from oyster beds in the Persian Gulf shaped the island of Bahrain's economy for millennia. As the best-known source of pearls since ancient times, the Gulf industry reached the apex of its prosperity at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries. The wealth of what had become a

global trade is reflected in the development of the merchant quarters of Muharraq city. A few distinctive commercial and residential buildings remain as a testimony to this proud but dangerous and demanding economic activity which suffered a sudden and catastrophic demise in the 1930s as a result of the development in Japan of cultured pearls from freshwater mussels.

The property includes seventeen buildings embedded in the urban fabric of Muharraq city, three off shore oyster beds, and a part of the seashore at the southern tip of Muharraq Island, from where the boats set off for the oyster beds.

The architectural testimony comprises residential and commercial structures that are tangible manifestations of the major social and economic roles and institutions associated with the pearling society. Most of the structures have survived relatively unaltered since the collapse of the pearl industry in the early 20th century and bear witness to distinctive building traditions that the industry fostered, and particularly their high standard of craftsmanship in timber and plaster. These buildings evoke memories of that industry, its supporting social and economic structures, and of the cultural identity it produced.

**Criterion (iii):** The ensemble of urban properties, fort, seashore and oyster beds is an exceptional testimony to the final flourishing of the cultural tradition of pearling which dominated the Persian Gulf between the 2nd and early 20th centuries. Although the pearling industry has died, these sites carry the memory of its prosperity and the building traditions that it fostered.

### **Integrity**

The property reflects the buildings created as a result of the great prosperity of the pearl industry in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and its economic structures. It also reflects the oyster beds upon which the prosperity was based and the seashore link between land and sea.

The choice of urban sites was limited by the neglect of the pearl industry's heritage since the industry's demise in the 1930s almost until the new millennium. As a result many buildings were demolished and those that remain have suffered from neglect and the adverse effects of new development around them. The urban sites chosen reflect extensive architectural, anthropological and historical surveys and are seen as those that carry the memory of the pearling industry for the local community. They variously reflect the key activities of merchants associated with the pearl industry as well as its building traditions.

The urban sites are thus islands within the city. They are still extremely vulnerable with many of the buildings needing extensive work to give them satisfactory stability. The oyster beds are not under threat and neither is the sea shore or fort.

To maintain integrity, great care will be needed in stabilising and conserving the structures so that the optimum amount of original fabric can be kept and traditional materials and processes are used. It will also be necessary to ensure that the sites can be seen to relate sympathetically to the wider urban structures within which they are embedded.

### **Authenticity**

The authenticity of the property is related to its ability to convey the Outstanding Universal Value in terms of transmitting information about the social and economic process of the pearl industry. In terms of the buildings this relates to their ability to manifest their status, use, architectural form, local materials and techniques and their craftsmanship – particularly the exceptionally high quality of some of the craftsmanship deployed in timber and plaster work. Many of the urban buildings are highly vulnerable in terms of their fabric and decoration as a result of lack of use and maintenance. Any

work will need to ensure minimum intervention in order that as much as possible of the original material is conserved so that the buildings may still provide tangible links to the decades of their former glory while being robust enough for use and a degree of access. For the fort there is a need to reverse some of the restoration of the last few decades and to re-introduce traditional materials.

The underwater oyster beds are still thriving, although there is nothing to convey their sea-harvesting traditions; the sea shore, although a fraction of what used to exist and now much compromised by later development nevertheless adds an important attribute, and is a focal point for important intangible cultural associations that relate to pearling. The fragility of the urban fabric presents a potential threat to authenticity as conservation, if overdone, could erase the memory that the buildings currently evoke.

### **Protection and Management requirements**

The Bū Māhir Seashore and the individual sites in Muharraq all have national protection as designated national monuments under Decree Law No (11) of 1995 Concerning the Protection of Antiquities on 10 January 2010, and their future management resides under the Ministry of Culture. The three oyster beds and their marine buffer zone are currently generally protected at a national level in terms of Decree (2) 1995 with respect to the Protection of Wildlife; Legislative Decree No. 21 of 1996 in respect with the Environment (Amiri Decree); and Decree (20) 2002 with respect to the Regulation of Fishing and Exploitation of Marine Resources. A legislative decree that specifically designates the marine sites and buffer zone as a national marine protected area was approved in 2011.

In November 2011, the Ministry of Culture drew up a Vision for the development of old Muharraq – both the sites and the entire area of old Muharraq that surrounds them, which includes the buffer zone. This sets out a holistic approach for preserving the historic character of Muharraq under two key ‘perspectives’, legal and societal. The new laws to limit the increase in unplanned construction or population, prevent the deterioration of the special character of the urban fabric, and protect sites, urban settlements and antiquities should be in place at the end of 2013. The Societal framework will aim to assert the identity of the Old Muharraq area, through upgrading living standards; specific restoration projects and design guidance. This approach will allow for the buffer zone to be managed as the urban context for the sites and for them to be part of a living dynamic city.

A dedicated Site Administration Unit has been established within the Ministry of Culture to co-ordinate the implementation of the management system. The Unit, which reports to the Undersecretary for Culture, consists of an interdisciplinary team including researchers, conservation architects, an urban planner and rehabilitation specialist, a marine biologist and environmental specialist, a site manager for the urban properties and a GIS specialist, all supported by an administrative team which deals with finances, marketing, etc.

A Steering Committee has been established as the governing body of the management and administrative system for the properties. The Committee brings together at ministerial level, members of the 12 governmental agencies representing the full range of partners and stakeholders in the project, as well as representatives of the private owners of the Muharraq properties and the businesses in the urban buffer zone. The Steering Committee is chaired by the Minister of Culture. A Management Plan is in place for the property.

In order to address the challenges of restoring the fragile buildings within Muharraq, and maintaining them on an on-going basis, there is a need for training in traditional skills, particularly in woodwork and fine plaster techniques, and for the development of knowledge in traditional materials. The State Party has indicated its commitment to this

training, at a practical site level and as part of university education. There will also be a need to ensure that the context of the sites is respected within urban Muharraq.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.21**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Site of Xanadu, China**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value;

**Brief synthesis**

The Site of Xanadu is the site of a grassland capital characteristic of cultural fusion, witnessing clashes and mutual assimilation between the nomadic and agrarian civilisations in northern Asia. Located on the southeast edge of the Mongolian plateau, it was the first capital (1263-1273) of Kublai Khan and later the summer capital (1274-1364) of the Yuan Dynasty. The city site and associated tombs are located on the grassland steppe with a north south axis determined by traditional Chinese feng shui principles, backed by mountains to the north and a river to the south.

From Xanadu, the mounted warriors of Kublai Khan unified the agrarian civilisations of China, and partly assimilated to the latter's culture, while extending the Yuan empire right across North Asia. The plan of Xanadu, with Palace and Imperial cities enclosed partly by the Outer City containing evidence of the nomadic encampments and royal hunting enclosure, comprises a unique example of this cultural fusion. Evidence of large water control works instigated to protect the city exists in the form of remains of the Tiefan'gan Canal. As the place where Kublai Khan rose to power, hosted religious debates and entertained foreign travellers whose writings gave inspiration down the centuries, it has achieved legendary status in the rest of the world and is the place from where Tibetan Buddhism expanded.

**Criterion (ii):** The location and environment of the Site of Xanadu exhibits influence from both Mongolian and Han Chinese values and lifestyles. The city site exhibits an urban planning pattern indicative of integration of the two ethnicities. From the combination of Mongolian and Han ideas and institutions the Yuan Dynasty was able to extend its control over an extremely large part of the known world at that time. The Site of Xanadu is a unique example of an integrated city plan involving different ethnic communities.

**Criterion (iii):** The Site of Xanadu is exceptional testimony to the supreme rule of the Yuan conqueror Kublai Khan, the assimilation and conversion to the culture and political system of the conquered, and the determination and effort of the conqueror in adhering to and maintaining the original cultural traditions.

**Criterion (iv):** The site location and environment of the Site of Xanadu together with its urban pattern demonstrates a coexistence and fusion of nomadic and farming cultures. The combination of a Han city plan with the gardens and landscape necessary to the Yuan dynasty's Mongolian lifestyle at Xanadu resulted in an outstanding example of urban layout that illustrates a significant stage in human history.

**Criterion (vi):** The city of Xanadu hosted the great debate between Buddhism and Taoism in the 13th century, an event that resulted in dissemination of Tibetan Buddhism over North-east Asia.

## **Integrity**

The Site of Xanadu was abandoned in 1430. The large archaeological site now generally covered by grassland preserves the overall urban plan and city site of Xanadu as built and used in the 13th and 14th centuries. Wall lines of the Palace City, Imperial City and Outer City which together display the traditional urban planning of central China and arrangements for Mongolian tribal meetings and hunting can be clearly perceived, as can mounds indicating palace and temple buildings, some of which have been excavated, recorded and reburied. The remains of the neighbourhoods outside the gates, Tiefan'gan canal and the tomb areas, all within their natural and cultural environment. The latter preserves the natural elements crucial for the siting of the city – mountains to the north and water to the south, together with the four existing types of grassland landscape, especially the Xar Tala Globeflower plain associated with the river wetlands. The Site of Xanadu can be clearly read in the landscape.

## **Authenticity**

Archaeological excavation and historical records bear witness to the authenticity of the property as representing the interchange between Mongolian and Han people in terms of capital design, historical layout and building materials. The Tombs authenticate the historical claims concerning the life of both Mongolian and Han people in Xanadu. Apart from repairs to the Mingde Gate and the east wall of the Imperial City, there has been minimal intervention in the structure. The geographical environment and grassland landscape are intact and still convey the environmental setting and spatial feeling of the grassland capital.

## **Protection and management requirements**

The property is protected variously by the laws of the State, the Region and the Municipality. A limited area covering Xanadu city and its neighbourhoods and the Tiefan'gan Canal is protected at State level under the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics. A designated area including the Tombs of Zhenzi Hill is protected at the level of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region People's Government; a designated area including the Tombs of Modot and the 12 designated Oboo sites are also protected at the level of Zhenglan Qi. The entire property will be submitted to the State Council of China in 2012 for approval as a National Priority Protected Cultural Heritage Site.

The grassland surrounding the protected site falls under the Grassland Law of the People's Republic of China (promulgated in 1995, amended in 2002), and Grassland Regulations of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region (promulgated in 1984, amended in 2004). Overall protection is provided by the Regulations on the Protection and Management of the Site of Xanadu in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region (2010), administered by Xilingol Meng. As a result of this legislation, farmland reclamation near the site has been controlled and the grassland eco-system and natural landscapes are conserved. The State protected area around the Xanadu city site and its neighbourhoods has been fenced, together with areas around the Tombs of Modot and Tombs of Zhenzi Hill.

Management of the property is co-ordinated by the Xilingol Meng Cultural Heritage Administration (Bureau/Office) of Xanadu, under the Xilingol Meng Conservation and Management Committee, guided by the Conservation and Management Plan for the Site of Xanadu (2009-2015). The aim is to achieve sustainable development of the local social economy while ensuring protection of the property. This requires a balance between conservation of the grassland ecology including control of desertification, and the needs of stakeholders in relation to livestock capacity and the rising demands of tourism. To this end the efficiency of heritage management is constantly being strengthened and improved.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Early completing of the procedures described in the State Party's letter dated 7 February 2012 which will provide cultural heritage protection to the entire property at the highest level,
  - b) Developing a Tourism Management Strategy to ensure environmental protection at the property, including clear guidelines on the limits of reconstruction,
  - c) Increasing fire protection equipment at the site,
  - d) Engaging international co-operation on preservation technology and skills in relation to archaeological excavations,
  - e) Further establishing scientific research facilities to monitor overall environmental conditions around the Site, particularly desertification,
  - f) Involving the local community at the Wuyi Breeding Farm in the protection and management of the property.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.22**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/ 36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Refers the nomination of the **Hill Forts of Rajasthan, India**, back to the State Party, in order to allow it to:
  - a) Provide a more detailed approach for the selection of the components to show that they present the various categories of Rajput military architecture in the whole range of the Rajput kingdoms' physiographical terrain,
  - b) Provide more information on management of the five components under the Fort Apex Advisory Committee and the overarching authority for the serial nomination;
3. Recommends that the State Party requests an advisory mission to the site or discusses other forms of dialogue to encourage the upstream process which is essential for this nomination.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.23**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Masjed-e Jāmé of Isfahan, Iran (Islamic Republic of)**, on the World Heritage List, on the basis of **criterion (ii)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Masjed-e Jāme' is the oldest Friday (congregational) mosque in Iran, located in the historical centre of Isfahan. The monument illustrates a sequence of architectural construction and decorative styles of different periods in Iranian Islamic architecture, covering 12 centuries, most predominantly the Abbasid, Buyid, Seljuq, Ilkhanid,

Muzaffarid, Timurid and Safavid eras. Following its Seljuq expansion and the characteristic introduction of the four iwans (Chahar Ayyān) around the courtyard as well as two extraordinary domes, the mosque became the prototype of a distinctive Islamic architectural style.

The prototype character is well illustrated in the earliest double-shell ribbed Nezam al-Molk dome, the first use of the four iwan (Chahar Ayyān) typology in Islamic architecture, as well as the textbook character of the Masjed-e Jāme' as a compilation of Islamic architectural styles. The Masjed-e Jāme' of Isfahan is an outstanding example of innovation in architectural adaptation and technology applied during the restoration and expansion of an earlier mosque complex during the Seljuq era, which has been further enlarged during later Islamic periods by addition of high quality extensions and decoration.

**Criterion (ii):** Masjed-e Jāme is the first Islamic building that adapted the four iwan (Chahar Ayyān) courtyard layout of Sassanid palaces to Islamic religious architecture and thereby became the prototype construction for a new layout and aesthetic in mosque design. The Nezam al-Molk Dome is the first double-shell ribbed dome structure in the Islamic empire, which introduced new engineering skills, allowing for more elaborate dome constructions in later mosque and burial complexes. On the basis of these two elements, the Masjed-e Jāme is a recognized prototype for mosque design, layout and dome construction, which was referenced in several later eras and regions of the Islamic world.

### **Integrity**

The Masjed-e Jāme' contains a continuous sequence of Islamic architectural styles, the most prominent of which date from the Seljuq period. The remains from the Seljuq era, especially the key elements of the ground plan, the four iwans, and the two domes are sufficient to illustrate the advances in mosque and dome architecture made at the time. The boundaries of the property are adequate to encompass the entire mosque complex with all its extensions and significant functions over time. However, the integrity of the property is highly vulnerable to development projects in its vicinity. For this reason, any project proposed should be carefully assessed on the basis of comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessments and respect the historic setting and urban proportions around the Masjed-e Jāme'.

### **Authenticity**

Most elements of the mosque, in particular the four iwans and the Malek al-Molk and Taj al-Molk domes, are authentic in material, design and location. Restorations and a reconstruction, which became necessary following an air raid in 1984, were carried out to an adequate standard, using traditional craftsmanship and materials. One of the most important aspects of authenticity is the function of the Masjed-e Jāme' of Isfahan, both as a mosque, which continues to be used for prayers, and as a component of the Isfahan historic bazaar fabric. Attached to and accessed from the street network of the bazaar area, the mosque has a significant setting, the authenticity of which is highly vulnerable to changes in urban character. To respect the authenticity of spirit and feeling, the museum function of Masjed-e Jāme' has to remain sensitive to its religious use, both in terms of information panel design and visitor numbers.

### **Protection and management requirements**

Masjed-e Jāme' of Isfahan is designated as a national monument (no. 95 of 1932) following article 83 of the Constitution Law of the Islamic Republic of Iran (1920). Likewise its buffer zone is protected by regulations set up by the Iranian Cultural Heritage, handicraft and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO), following a cabinet decision adopted in 2001, which stipulates that buffer zones fall under national law. Yet, it is essential that the designated property and buffer zone is integrated in the zoning



bylaws and the Isfahan urban master plan, as well as a continuous cooperation between the ICHHTO and the responsible municipal authorities is established.

The management of the property is coordinated by three bodies, a Steering Committee, a Technical Committee and the site management office. The Steering Committee consist of representatives of the ICHHTO, the Vaqf authorities, the governor and mayor of Isfahan, as well as reputable experts, and it is responsible for supervising the protection and conservation of the site. The Technical Committee has the authority to review and approve detailed project plans and schedules of activities and monitors work progress at regular intervals. The site management office is responsible for the day-to-day coordination and supervision of activities. At the time of inscription it is located in the vicinity of the Masjed-e Jāme' but is in the process of moving into a permanent base in the mosque complex.

An integrated conservation and management plan for the property, which includes sections on sensitive visitor management and risk-preparedness strategies, should be developed and adopted with high priority.

4. Requests the State Party to:

- a) Strengthen the protection of the buffer zone and wider setting and expand the monitoring mechanisms related to urban development, in particular through integration of the buffer zone in the Isfahan master plan and municipal by-laws,
- b) Develop and adopt an integrated conservation and management plan, with special sections on visitor management and risk-preparedness strategies,
- c) Further revise the Meydan-e Atiq project, in particular its north-western corner in the immediate vicinity of the Masjed-e Jāmé of Isfahan, in a way that will:
  - i) not foresee any structural connection between the new galleries and the historic walls of the mosque or the structures connected to the mosque walls, which could transmit loads or vibrations to these,
  - ii) provide ample passage for pedestrians, in particular through redesign of the entrance gate situation to the Meydan in the north-western corner, to ensure that the mosque and its adjacent historic structures are not endangered by crowds accessing the square during major events,
  - iii) ensure that the overall design is appropriate to the local urban design tradition and setting of the mosque and sensitive to its Outstanding Universal Value, and
  - iv) follow a revised implementation schedule that allows for ample time to assess the revision through a comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessment and conduct further archaeological excavation,
- d) Following the availability of a revised project design for Meydan-e Atiq (following the criteria listed above), conduct a comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessment to ensure that the revised project proposal does not cause any negative impact on the historic mosque structure or its setting;

5. Takes note of the statement by the State Party that the Meydan-e Atiq project will only be carried out in the part of the buffer zone that is furthest removed from the property in order to respect the Outstanding Universal Value;

6. Encourages the State Party to invite an advisory mission to assist in the revision of the Meydan-e Atiq project;

7. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

- a) Ensuring that the design and presentation of information in the property are based on the principle of minimal intervention in full respect for the aesthetic and religious significance of the Masjed-e Jāmé of Isfahan,
  - b) Giving priority attention to the challenge posed by the necessary removal of the bracings in the shabestani domed areas;
8. Also recommends that Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) are carried out for any future developments in the buffer zone, such as further rehabilitation of the surrounding historic bazaar or the envisaged ablution facilities to the north-west of the mosque, in particular if these are intended to be directly attached to the mosque complex or in its immediate vicinity, to ensure that any developments do not impact adversely on the property and its wider setting;
  9. Also requests the State Party to submit, by **1 February 2013**, a report to the World Heritage Centre outlining progress made in the implementation of the demands and above-mentioned recommendations to be examined by the Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.24**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes **Gonbad-e Qābus, Iran (Islamic Republic of)**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Visible from great distances in the surrounding lowlands near the ancient Ziyarid capital, Jorjan, the 53-metre high Gonbad-e Qābus tower dominates the town laid out around its base in the early 20th century. The tower's hollow cylindrical shaft of unglazed fired brick tapers up from an intricate geometric plan in the form of a ten pointed star to a conical roof. Two encircling Kufic inscriptions commemorate Qābus Ibn Voshmgir, Ziyarid ruler and literati as its founder in 1006 AD.

The tower is an outstanding example of early Islamic innovative structural design based on geometric formulae which achieved great height in load-bearing brickwork. Its conical roofed form became a prototype for tomb towers and other commemorative towers in the region, representing an architectural cultural exchange between the Central Asian nomads and ancient Iranian civilisation.

**Criterion (i):** Gonbad-e Qābus is a masterpiece and outstanding achievement in early Islamic brick architecture due to the structural and aesthetic qualities of its specific geometry.

**Criterion (ii):** The conically roofed form of Gonbad-e Qābus is significant as a prototype for the development of tomb towers in Iran, Anatolia and Central Asia, representing architectural cultural exchange between the Central Asian nomads and ancient Iranian civilisation.

**Criterion (iii):** Gonbad-e Qābus is exceptional evidence of the power and quality of the Ziyarid civilisation which dominated a major part of the region during the 10th and 11th

centuries. Having been built for an emir who was also a writer, it marked the beginning of a regional cultural tradition of monumental tomb building including for the literati.

**Criterion (iv):** The monument is an outstanding example of an Islamic commemorative tower whose innovative structural design illustrates the exceptional development of mathematics and science in the Muslim world at the turn of the first millennium AD.

### **Integrity**

The property expresses its value as an exceptional geometric structure and icon in the small town of Gonbad-e Qābus, clearly visible from many directions. It continues to express features of an Islamic commemorative monument combining traditions of Central Asia and Iran. The exterior flanges and inscription bands are in good condition, but the insertion of the ramp and the design of the retaining wall on the hillside have slightly damaged the form of the mound on which it stands.

### **Authenticity**

The monument retains its form and design, materials, visual dominance in the landscape, and continues as a holy place visited by local people and foreigners, and as a focus for traditional events.

### **Protection and management requirements**

Gonbad-e Qābus is protected under the Law for Protection of National Heritage (1930) and was inscribed on Iran's list of national monuments in 1975 as number 1097. Regulations pertaining to the property provide that damaging activities are prohibited and any intervention, including archaeological investigation, restoration and works to the site must be approved by the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organisation (ICHHTO). The tomb tower and surrounding area are managed jointly by the Municipality and ICHHTO in accordance with the Master Plan for Gonbad-e Qābus town (1989) and the detailed plan (2009), which aim to preserve the historic and visual characteristics of the city. Protection measures controlling heights in the buffer zone and landscape zone are supported by the Master Plan. The management plan should be extended to include a conservation programme.

4. Recommends that the State Party extend the Management Plan to integrate a conservation programme for the property, to be implemented under the guidance of the Steering Committee. This should cover:
  - a) Completion of the geotechnical research programme concerning the consolidation of the mound and the building itself,
  - b) A detailed record of the existing condition of the structure as a basis for the conservation programme,
  - c) Guidelines for interventions to the monument and regular monitoring and feedback to the Steering Committee as a basis for ongoing maintenance,
  - d) A risk preparedness strategy,
  - e) Review of the landscaping of the mound in conjunction with developing a strategy for dealing with the rising damp problem,
  - f) A tourism management strategy.

## **Decision: 36 COM 8B.25**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Archaeological Heritage of the Lenggong Valley, Malaysia**, on the World Heritage List, on the basis of **criteria (iii) and (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

### **Brief synthesis**

The lush Lenggong Valley on the Malay Peninsula contains evidence in open-air and cave sites along the Perak River spanning all the periods of hominid history outside Africa from 1.83 million to 1,700 years ago.

Undisturbed *in situ* Palaeolithic stone tool workshops are located on the shores of a paleolake and ancient river gravel beds and dated in a long chronological sequence.

A meteorite strike 1.83 million b.p. blocked and diverted the river preserving Palaeolithic tools at Bukit Bunuh, where hand axes are among the oldest so far discovered outside Africa. Analysis suggests these were made by hominids which thus provide an extremely early date for hominid presence in South-East Asia.

A catastrophic Toba volcanic eruption 70,000 b.p. caused abandonment of a workshop site containing multiple tool types at Kota Tampan. Other workshop sites date from 200,000-100,000 BP at Bukit Jawa, 40,000 BP at Bukit Bunuh and 1000 BP at Gua Harimau.

The relative abundance of these sites hints at a relatively large or semi sedentary population.

Perak Man was discovered within Gua Gunung Runtuh cave. Perak Man is South-East Asia's oldest most complete human skeleton. It is radiocarbon dated to 10,120 BP and identified as Australomelanesoid, a hominid type occupying the western part of the Indonesia archipelago and continental South-East Asia at the end of the Pleistocene and early Holocene.

Within the large karst outcrop of Bukit Kepala Gajah are 20 caves. Three of these, Gua Gunung Runtuh, Gua Teluk Kelawar and Gua Kajang, have revealed prehistoric burials.

Together these four sites in two clusters sites represent the sequence of significant stages in human history unrivalled in the region.

**Criterion (iii):** The series of cave and open air sites along the Perak River in the Lenggong Valley is an exceptional testimony to occupation of the area particularly during the Palaeolithic era, but also during the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods from 1.83 million years ago to 1,700 years ago.

**Criterion (iv):** The undisturbed *in situ* Palaeolithic stone tool workshops located on the shores of a paleolake and ancient river gravel beds and dated in a long chronological sequence are an outstanding ensemble of lithic technology.

### **Integrity**

The Lenggong Valley has provided a fertile and environmentally stable habitat for repeated human occupation since early Palaeolithic times. The archaeological deposits are relatively undisturbed and generally in good condition, largely due to low visitation. The visual integrity is impacted by the current industrial agricultural plantations. The

property contains all the elements necessary to express its values. However the whole valley holds the potential for further discoveries.

### **Authenticity**

The authenticity of the property relates to the intactness of the sites themselves and of their landscape setting that allows understanding of ancient river gravel beds and the impact of meteoric impact. The documented evidence supports the values claimed for this site from 1.83 million to 1,700 years ago. The recent (post 1987) Lenggong Valley research relating to the story of early human migration ensures the reliability and authenticity of the property. Much of the documentation has been independently peer reviewed through the academic publishing process, albeit not yet on a fully international scale. The artefacts and research are available for study.

### **Protection and management requirements**

All designated sites within the property are expected to be registered under the National Heritage Act 2005 and gazetted by 2012. The property is protected under the National Land Code 1965 and the Town and Country Planning Act 1976, where any removal of soil, rocks and minerals as well as development activities require approval from State and Local Governments. The Special Area Plan currently being prepared will further refine protection measures for the property and buffer zones under the Town and Country Planning Act.

The property including all components is managed by the Lenggong District Council (the local authority) with the co-operation of the Department of National Heritage (which is ultimately responsible for the nationally registered sites), and with the occasional assistance of the Centre for Global Archaeological Research, University of Science Malaysia.

A Heritage Steering Committee chaired by the Chief Minister of the State of Perak, with members representing Federal, State and Local governments and independent expert members, will cover all aspects of implementation of the Property Management Plan including fundraising. The Committee will be advised as to implementation of the work plan by a Heritage Technical and Scientific Committee, chaired by the District Officer. The District Council's Heritage Unit will be upgraded to become the World Heritage Office headed by a General Manager, the staff of which will implement the work plan with external assistance from the University of Science Malaysia and others as required.

The Property Management Plan for the Archaeological Heritage of the Lenggong Valley needs to be completed, approved by all parties concerned and then the Plan will set out objectives including the development of tourism and visitor management strategies, risk management strategies and provision for stakeholder participation and collaboration.

In order to manage any increases in visitors, more active conservation needs to be undertaken to manage visitor impacts on the sites, to prevent graffiti and to address pressure for the development of tourism facilities in the buffer zone.

Responses to other potential threats, such as change of land use, housing development, and quarrying activities, need to be addressed through specific measures in the Management plan and the introduction of appropriate protection measures in planning policies.

#### **4. Further recommends that the State Party:**

- a) Ensures that the extension of buffer zones to additionally protect the setting of the property including palaeo-environmental features, ensuring that the boundaries of the buffer zones protect the entire perimeter of each site,

- b) Ensures that the sites of Bukit Bunuh and Bukit Gua Harimau remain protected under the National Heritage Act until the Special Area Plan is completed,
  - c) Integrates the archaeological zoning plan that identifies areas of known archaeological significance within the property and buffer zones within the Property Management Plan,
  - d) Continues to implement the approved Draft Management Plan until the adoption of the detailed Management Plan;
5. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to completing the Special Area Plan and a detailed Conservation Management Plan before **February 2014**.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.26**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Cultural Landscape of Bali Province: the Subak System as a Manifestation of the Tri Hita Karana Philosophy, Indonesia**, on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape on the basis of **criteria (iii), (v) and (vi)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

A line of volcanoes dominate the landscape of Bali and have provided it with fertile soil which, combined with a wet tropical climate, make it an ideal place for crop cultivation. Water from the rivers has been channelled into canals to irrigate the land, allowing the cultivation of rice on both flat land and mountain terraces.

Rice, the water that sustains it, and *subak*, the cooperative social system that controls the water, have together shaped the landscape over the past thousand years and are an integral part of religious life. Rice is seen as the gift of god, and the *subak* system is part of temple culture. Water from springs and canals flows through the temples and out onto the rice paddy fields. Water temples are the focus of a cooperative management of water resource by a group of *subaks*. Since the 11th century the water temple networks have managed the ecology of rice terraces at the scale of whole watersheds. They provide a unique response to the challenge of supporting a dense population on a rugged volcanic island.

The overall *subak* system exemplifies the Balinese philosophical principle of *Tri Hita Karana* that draws together the realms of the spirit, the human world and nature. Water temple rituals promote a harmonious relationship between people and their environment through the active engagement of people with ritual concepts that emphasise dependence on the life-sustaining forces of the natural world.

In total Bali has about 1,200 water collectives and between 50 and 400 farmers manage the water supply from one source of water. The property consists of five sites that exemplify the interconnected natural, religious, and cultural components of the traditional *subak* system, where the *subak* system is still fully functioning, where farmers still grow traditional Balinese rice without the aid of fertilisers or pesticides, and where the landscapes overall are seen to have sacred connotations.

The sites are the Supreme Water Temple of Pura Ulun Danu Batur on the edge of Lake Batur whose crater lake is regarded as the ultimate origin of every spring and river, the *Subak* Landscape of the Pakerisan Watershed the oldest known irrigation system in

Bali, the *Subak* Landscape of Catur Angga Batukaru with terraces mentioned in a 10th century inscription making them amongst the oldest in Bali and prime examples of Classical Balinese temple architecture, and the Royal Water temple of Pura Taman Ayun, the largest and most architecturally distinguished regional water temple, exemplifying the fullest expansion of the *subak* system under the largest Balinese kingdom of the 19th century.

*Subak* components are the forests that protect the water supply, terraced paddy landscape, rice fields connected by a system of canals, tunnels and weirs, villages, and temples of varying size and importance that mark either the source of water or its passage through the temple on its way downhill to irrigate *subak* land.

**Criterion (iii):** The cultural tradition that shaped the landscape of Bali, since at least the 12th century, is the ancient philosophical concept of *Tri Hita Karana*. The congregations of water temples, that underpin the water management of the *subak* landscape, aim to sustain an harmonious relationship with natural and spiritual world, through an intricate series of rituals, offerings and artistic performances.

**Criterion (v):** The five landscapes within Bali are an exceptional testimony to the *subak* system, a democratic and egalitarian system focused on water temples and the control of irrigation that has shaped the landscape over the past thousand years. Since the 11th century the water temple networks have managed the ecology of rice terraces at the scale of whole watersheds. They provide a unique response to the challenge of supporting a dense population on a rugged volcanic island that is only extant in Bali.

**Criterion (vi):** Balinese water temples are unique institutions, which for more than a thousand years have drawn inspiration from several ancient religious traditions, including Saivasiddhanta and Samkhyā Hinduism, Vajrayana Buddhism and Austronesian cosmology. The ceremonies associated with the temples and their role in the practical management of water together crystallise the ideas of the *Tri Hita Karana* philosophy that promotes the harmonious relationship between the realms of the spirit, the human world and nature. This conjunction of ideas can be said to be of outstanding significance and directly manifest in the way the landscape has developed and is managed by local communities within the *subak* system.

### **Integrity**

The property fully encompasses the key attributes of the *subak* system and the profound impact that it has had on the landscape of Bali. The processes that shaped the landscape, in the form of irrigated, terraced agriculture organised by the *subak* system, are still vibrant and resilient. The agricultural areas are all still farmed in a sustainable way by local communities and their water supplies are democratically managed by the water temples.

None of the component parts is under threat but the terraced landscape is highly vulnerable to a range of social and economic changes, such as changes in agricultural practices and increasing tourism pressures. The management system will need to provide support to sustain the traditional systems and to provide benefits that will allow farmers to stay on the land.

Furthermore the setting of the various sites is fragile and under pressure from development particularly associated with tourism. The visual setting for the five sites extends beyond the boundaries and in many instances beyond the buffer zones. In a few cases some adverse development has already occurred. It will be essential to protect the wider context of the sites to avoid further loss of visual integrity. The management of water is also a critical element in maintaining the visual quality of the property.

### **Authenticity**

The authenticity of the terraced landscapes, forests, water management structures, temples and shrines in terms of the way they convey Outstanding Universal Value and reflect the *subak* system is clear.

The overall interaction between people and the landscape is however highly vulnerable and, if the sites are still to reflect the harmonious relationship with the spiritual world and the ancient philosophical concept of *Tri Hita Karana*, it will be essential for the management system to offer positive support.

The village buildings have to a degree lost some of their authenticity in terms of materials and construction, although they are still functionally linked to the landscape.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The broad legal framework for the protection of the property was established by Provincial Decree of 2008 for conservation and spatial planning for the proposed sites. A specific legal framework for the areas has been established by a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Bali and Regencies of Bali for the Establishment of the Strategic Area of Bali. This agreement legally codifies conservation and spatial planning for the five sites, including tangible and intangible heritage and agricultural and forest ecosystems within the site boundaries. The Provincial Decree is based on National Law No. 26/2007, and National Government Decree No. 26/2008, concerning spatial planning and the establishment of National Strategic Areas for conservation of critical cultural landscapes.

Most *subaks* possess written legal codes, called *awig-awig*, which detail the rights and responsibilities of *subak* membership. *Awig-awig*, or traditional customary laws and regulations, including *subak* management and the traditional protection and conservation of cultural properties are covered by regulations of Bali Province Number 5 (2005) Section 19, that clarify zoning for protected sacred sites such as temples, based on local *awig-awig*. Rice terraces within the sites are also protected against large-scale tourism development by Tabanan Regency Decree No 9/2005. The temples and archaeological sites are currently protected under National Law No.5/1992 concerning Items of Cultural Heritage. The component sites are designed as Strategic Areas which may receive unusual levels of support from the Provincial Government.

A Management Plan has been adopted by the Provincial Government of Bali. This Plan puts in place a management system that aims to sustain traditional practices and deflect inappropriate development. The uses established management principles of 'adaptive co-management by diverse stakeholders' and modifies these to suit the Balinese context. It connects individuals, organisations, agencies, and institutions at multiple organizational levels by means of a democratic Governing Assembly.

Regulation of the Government of Bali No. 17, 2010 approved the creation of the Governing Assembly of Bali Cultural Heritage. This Decree sets out the composition of the Governing Assembly that includes representatives from different government departments and empowers *subak* community members to jointly undertake a major role in the management of the sites. To foster links between Ministries with an interest in the property, two inter-Ministerial Committees have been put in place, under the Coordination of the Ministry for People's Welfare.

All of the properties and their component parts are living sites still in heavy and continuous use by the local community. These sites are communally maintained by the *subak* system in the traditional manner. Temple maintenance is in the hands of the community who traditionally contribute funds and materials, and also volunteer labour for routine conservation measures that are carried out in cooperation with the local government and the Archaeological Office for Bali-NTB-NTT Province who provide the necessary expertise.



To sustain the living landscape ways will need to be found to provide more support to support the traditional systems and to provide benefits that will allow farmers to stay on the land. The protection of the setting of the landscapes will also be essential in order to protect the source of water that underpins the *subak* system.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Adapting the buffer zone boundaries to landscape features, and particularly watersheds, through detailed studies,
  - b) Elaborating a disaster preparedness plan,
  - c) Developing detailed monitoring indicators,
  - d) Creating low-key site specific information to raise awareness of the subak system,
  - e) Promoting traditional building practices for village houses.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.27**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Landscape of Grand Pré, Canada**, on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape on the basis of **criteria (v) and (vi)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

The Grand Pré ‘marshland’ and the remains of the associated old villages constitute a cultural landscape bearing testimony to a remarkable effort, over many centuries, using the polder technique to develop agricultural farmland, in a maritime location with extreme tides. In particular, it demonstrates the permanency of its hydraulic drainage system using dykes and aboiteaux and its agricultural use through a community-based management system established by the Acadians and then taken over by the Planters and their modern successors. Grand Pré is also testimony to the history of the Acadians in the 17th and 18th centuries and their deportation.

Grand Pré forms a vast area of polders or marshlands, in which the land division and crop farming methods have continued for three centuries. It is the most important example of its type in North America. The farming landscape is complemented by the strip land division method along the coastal area, bearing testimony to 17th century French colonization. The hydraulic system is based on an exemplary ensemble of dykes, aboiteaux to evacuate the water, and a drainage network. These techniques and community-based management have continued through to today. The property includes archaeological remains of the villages of Grand Pré and Hortonville that testify to the settlements and lifestyles of the Acadian settlers and their successors. The property and its landscape include traces of the major pathways that crossed the marshland and organized the adjacent coastal area. The locations of Grand Pré village and Horton Landing have memorial buildings and monuments erected in the 20th century in homage to the Acadian ancestors and their deportation, starting in 1755. The overall property forms the symbolic reference landscape for the Acadian memory and the main site for its commemoration.

**Criterion (v):** The cultural landscape of Grand Pré bears exceptional testimony to a traditional farming settlement created in the 17th century by the Acadians in a coastal

zone with tides that are among the highest in the world. The polderisation used traditional techniques of dykes, aboiteaux and a drainage network, as well as a community-based management system still in use today. The resultant rich alluvial soil enabled continuous and sustainable agricultural development.

**Criterion (vi):** Grand Pré is the iconic place of remembrance of the Acadian diaspora, dispersed by the Grand Dérangement, in the second half of the 18th century. Its polder landscape and archaeological remains are testimony to the values of a culture of pioneers able to create their own territory, whilst living in harmony with the native Mi'kmaq people. Its memorial constructions form the centre of the symbolic re-appropriation of the land of their origins by the Acadians, in the 20th century, in a spirit of peace and cultural sharing with the English-speaking community.

### **Integrity**

The conditions of integrity of the material and landscape ensemble formed by the property are met, as well as for the memorial and symbolic values. However, the coastal instability due to the tidal currents makes this integrity fragile in the long term. Also, the possibility of wind farm projects being developed in the maritime and coastal environment could also affect it.

### **Authenticity**

The conditions of authenticity are met for the component material elements of the marshland and its landscapes, and for the hydraulic, regional and agrarian management of the marshland. They are also met for the memorial aspects of the Acadian culture and for the symbolic dimension of these landscapes.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The property's protection measures are appropriate and they are effective because they correspond to clear directions and choices that are well accepted by both the inhabitants and the Acadian diaspora. They are applied to the main place of remembrance by the Federal Government's Parks Canada Agency, and elsewhere by the other stakeholders in the property's practical management: regional technical authorities, the municipality, the Grand Pré Marsh Body and farmers. The maritime component of the buffer zone has been extended to guarantee the visual integrity of the property viewed from the coastal area of the old village of Grand Pré at Horton Landing.

The property's management system is in place and acts effectively. It involves a series of specialist entities, either public, such as the Federal Parks Canada, provincial, or traditional bodies such as the Grand Pré Marsh Body. Overarching coordination of the various stakeholders has been confirmed by the implementation of the Stewardship Board and its personnel, together with a schedule for the implementation of actions programmed in the Management Plan. The property's memorial dimension is handled by the Société Promotion Grand Pré.

4. Recommends the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Applying without delay the Archaeological Management Plan announced for the overall property, and consider extending it to the property's buffer zone and surrounding coastal areas,
  - b) Expanding the property's monitoring system with a regular assessment of changes to farmland and building use.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.28**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Refers the nomination of the **Sacral Complex on the remains of the Roman Forum in Zadar, Croatia**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Consider whether it is possible to review the justification for the nomination on the basis of more substantial evidence to support the idea that the Sacral Complex could be considered exceptional as an ensemble related to the way it developed over time,
  - b) Support such a review by a detailed comparative analysis that compares the ensemble with other religious ensembles, including both those inscribed on the World Heritage List and others, to demonstrate that the Sacral Complex has no comparators;
3. Recommends that the State Party give attention to the following:
  - a) Review the visitor management concept to incorporate larger visitor flows in the historic city and review the carrying capacity of individual buildings, not only in terms of physical visitor impacts, such as humidity, abrasion and vandalism, but also in terms of their atmospheric impacts,
  - b) Expand the partnership established for the management of the site to include the relevant authorities responsible for tourism and spatial planning in the historic city,
  - c) Implement the traffic exclusion plans for the western part of the historic city and re-utilizing the public space east of the Roman forum in a way that can contribute to the preservation and enhancement of the historic surroundings,
  - d) Expand the buffer zone to protect not only the immediate setting of the Sacral Complex but also the wider setting of the historic peninsula, in particular through inclusion of the urban components along the shores of the peninsula bay,
  - e) Develop a conservation plan based on an approach of minimalistic intervention,
  - f) Develop a risk preparedness strategy, which gives adequate attention to earthquakes, fires and cultural events which attract considerable visitor numbers,
  - g) Review the monitoring system and indicators proposed, to allow for anticipation of threats or challenges and adequate monitoring of the property;
4. Also recommends the State Party to invite a consultative mission by ICOMOS as soon as possible.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.29**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Nord-Pas de Calais Mining Basin, France**, on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape on the basis of **criteria (ii), (iv) and (vi)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

## **Brief synthesis**

The Nord-Pas de Calais Mining Basin corresponds to the French part of the northwest European coal seam. On a broad open plain, it extends some 120 km, through the two administrative departments of Nord and Pas-de-Calais. It presents a remarkable cultural landscape in terms of its continuity and homogeneity. It provides an important and well preserved example of coal mining and its associated urban planning throughout the two centuries of intensive coal extraction from the end of the 18th century to the last quarter of the 20th century, through industrial methods involving a great many workers. This succession of landscapes resulting from the virtually mono-industry of coal extraction includes: physical and geographic components (slag heaps, farmland, mining subsidence ponds and woods), a mining industrial heritage (pit heads, residual industrial buildings and headgear), vestiges of transport equipment, the so-called 'cavaliers', (canals, railways, conveyors), worker housing and characteristic urban planning (mining villages, garden cities, detached housing estates and tenement buildings), monumental and architectural components testifying to community life (churches, schools, managers' châteaux, company head offices, worker union premises, stations, town halls, hospitals and clinics, community halls and sports facilities), and finally places of remembrance and celebration of the Basin's history and its miners.

**Criterion (ii):** The Nord-Pas de Calais Mining Basin provides exceptional testimony to the exchange of ideas and influences regarding the extraction methods used for underground coal seams, the design of worker housing and urban planning, as well as the international human migration that accompanied the industrialization of Europe.

**Criterion (iv):** The living and evolving mining landscapes of the Nord-Pas de Calais Basin provide an eminent example of the large-scale development of coal mining in the 19th and 20th centuries, by large industrial companies and their considerable workforce. This is a space structured by urban planning, specific industrial structures and the physical vestiges of coal extraction (slag heaps and subsidence).

**Criterion (vi):** The social, technical and cultural events associated with the history of the Mining Basin had international repercussions. They are a unique and exceptional illustration of the danger of mine-working and of the history of its major disasters (Courrières). They are testimony to the evolution of the social and technical conditions of coal extraction. They represent a major symbolic place of the workers' condition and their solidarity, from the 1850s to 1990. They are testimony to the dissemination of the ideals of worker unionism and socialism.

## **Integrity**

The diversity and the number of components that make up the property, and the many additional aspects of its landscapes express a good level of technical, territorial, architectural and urban integrity. The integrity of the industrial testimony to coal extraction is, however, much weaker. This unequal integrity in the material testimonies nonetheless still enables a satisfactory expression of the property's economic and social values. In practice, the integrity can be satisfactorily read on three levels: the technical object or building, the intermediate level of the coal extraction pit, worker estate or local territory, and, lastly, the more expansive view of the landscapes and horizons that meet the visitor's eye.

## **Authenticity**

The property's authenticity should be considered at the level of its 109 components and at the level of each of the associated landscapes. Owing to a rigorous selection of these components, the conditions of authenticity are generally good. However, they suffer from occasional gaps in the housing, that it would be a good idea to remedy, and potential threats to the landscape from economic development.

## Protection and management requirements

Within a complex legal, regulatory and regional arsenal, the Historic Monuments legislation forms a coherent body of legislation which, together with the protection of cultural landscapes, forms the core of the protection. This complexity does, however, have dual merit: none of the aspects of the protection is overlooked and it applies continuously to the property's components and to their buffer zones. All these provisions have been compiled in a Unified Mining Basin Heritage Charter that governs all the property's public and private partners.

The property, comprised of 109 sites, has an operational management system and an overarching technical organization, the Mining Basin Mission, which has produced an inventory and the high quality selection of the property's components and associated landscapes. However, the implementation of an overarching policy authority, the Conference of Regional Authorities, needs to be confirmed and institutionally established, and the human and financial resources allocated for the property's conservation and its landscapes to be sustained.

The Management Plan and the Heritage Charter attempt to assemble in a coherent ensemble the many regulatory texts, the many regional works provisions and the sector plans concerning the serial property's management and its conservation.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) The ensemble of protection regulations grouped together in the Heritage Charter being very complex, it is necessary to write a version that is as comprehensible as possible for the stakeholders in the field to make it applicable,
  - b) Including a summary programme of the conservation actions planned for the short and medium term for the entire serial property in the Management Plan, together with information about their financial consolidation and implementation schedule,
  - c) Confirming the official publication of the Conference of regional Authorities as the overarching policy management authority and indicate its institutional and technical links with the Mining Basin Mission and the Mining Basin Association,
  - d) Rapidly performing a detailed survey of the personnel working on the property's conservation and management and their qualifications, in order to draw up a policy for human resources and training requirements,
  - e) Scheduling monitoring actions and implement the new indicators announced.

## Decision: 36 COM 8B.30

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Margravia Opera House Bayreuth, Germany**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (i) and (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

### **Brief synthesis**

The 18th century Margravia Opera House in Bayreuth is a masterwork of Baroque theatre architecture, commissioned by Margravine Wilhelmine of Brandenburg as a venue for opera seria over which the princely couple ceremonially presided. The bell-shaped auditorium of tiered loges built of wood and lined with decoratively painted

canvas was designed by the then leading European theatre architect Giuseppe Galli Bibiena.

The sandstone façade designed by court architect Joseph Saint Pierre provides a focal point within the urban public space that was particularly planned for the building. As an independent court opera house rather than part of a palace complex, it marks a key point in opera house design, foreshadowing the large public theatres of the 19th century. Today it survives as the only entirely preserved example of court opera house architecture where Baroque court opera culture and acoustics can be authentically experienced. The attributes carrying Outstanding Universal Value are its location in the original 18th century public urban space; the 18th century Baroque façade; the original 18th century roof structure spanning 25 metres; the internal layout and design of the ceremonial foyer, tiered loge theatre and stage area including all existing original materials and decoration.

**Criterion (i):** The Margravian Opera House is a masterwork of Baroque court theatre architecture by Giuseppe Galli Bibiena in terms of its tiered loge form and acoustic, decorative and iconological properties.

**Criterion (iv):** The Margravian Opera House is an outstanding example of a Baroque court theatre. It marks a specific point in the development of opera houses, being a court opera house located not within a palace but as an urban element in the public space, foreshadowing the great public opera houses of the 19th century.

### **Integrity**

The elements necessary to express outstanding universal value are included within the property as one sole building and are intact and in good condition. No adverse effects are expected to occur and an overall conservation and restoration plan has been approved by the State Party.

### **Authenticity**

Most of the building and the decorative programme of the loge theatre remain unchanged. Adaptations were due to regulations for fire safety in public buildings and requirements in line with the contemporary use of theatres. The highly unified Baroque work can still be appreciated. The survival of the interior materials of wood and canvas enable the opera house's original acoustic quality to still be appreciated, and testifies to the authenticity of the property as an 18th century opera house.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The property is protected at State level by the Bavarian Law for the Protection and Preservation of Monuments (1973, 2007). It is also protected by inclusion on the List of Monuments of Bayreuth under the Bayreuth City Civic Statutes and Ordinances. The buffer zone has been agreed and established with local authorities and its historic buildings are included in the Bayreuth Monuments List.

The Management authority is the Bavarian Palaces Department. Implementation of the Management Plan is guaranteed by a steering group including the Bavarian Palaces Department; the City of Bayreuth; the Upper Franconia regional government; the Bavarian State Ministry for Science, Research and Arts; the Bavarian State Office for the Preservation of Monuments and Historic Buildings, and ICOMOS Germany. As a result of research, experience and consultations the impact of visitors and events has been regulated by the Bavarian Department of Palaces. Effective measures have been established to control the number of visitors and frequency of events which will be exclusively limited to the summer period after the restoration program is concluded.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

- a) Ensuring that all interventions planned are done according to the abundant documentation and research in the hands of Bavarian authorities and valid conservation principles, under strict supervision by the correspondent technical bodies,
- b) Including a Risk Preparedness Plan and a Visitor Management Plan as such within the existing Management Plan,
- c) Explicitly establishing the direct relation of key indicators to attributes and potential threats and clarify the periodicity of monitoring reporting to the Ministry of Science, Research and Arts of Bavarian State.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.31**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Defers the examination of the nomination of **Schwetzingen: a Prince Elector's Summer Residence, Germany**, to the World Heritage List, in order to allow the State Party to make a substantial revision of the nomination.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.32**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/ 36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Defers the examination of the nomination of the **Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato, Italy**, to the World Heritage List, in order to allow the State Party, with the advice of ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre, if requested, to:
  - a) Review the application of the selection criteria of the sites and the choice of the series' components, taking into account the central notion of a native grape variety associated with a terroir and a grand cru of truly exceptional value and to demonstrate in what way each site significantly contributes to the potential Outstanding Universal Value of the ensemble,
  - b) Review the boundary of each of the sites making up the series as a function of an approach that better integrates all the material elements testifying to the winemaking and wine cellaring values,
  - c) Review the buffer zones as a function of the property's redefinition,
  - d) Draw up a precise inventory of the monuments and sites covered by national or regional historic heritage listing within the property and an inventory of the vernacular heritage; the maps need to be completed in a way that these elements are easily identifiable by name,
  - e) Ensure the conservation measures recommended in the Agreement Act and local town planning rules are adopted by all the municipalities in the property,
  - f) Specify the material and human resources of the property's overarching management Association, and more broadly all the staff employed for the property's management, stating their sectors of activity and any training requirements,

- g) Rank the Management Plan actions by order of priority for the explicit benefit of the property's conservation; provide precise implementation schedules for those actions for which finance has been consolidated,
  - h) Confirm that monitoring is effectively coordinated by the property's overarching management Association,
  - i) Supplement the property's monitoring plan indexes with a group covering tourism and permanent cultural activities;
3. Considers that any revised nomination would need to be considered by an expert mission to the site.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.33**

The nomination of **Archaeo-astronomical Site – Kokino, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.34**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Garrison Border Town of Elvas and its Fortifications, Portugal**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Guarding the key border crossing between Portugal's capital Lisbon and Spain's capital Madrid, in an undulating, riverine landscape, the Garrison Town of Elvas was fortified extensively from the 17th to the 19th centuries to become the largest bulwarked dry ditch system in the world, with outlying forts built on surrounding hills to accommodate the changing needs of defensive warfare.

The town was supplied with water by the 7km-long Amoreira Aqueduct, built in the late 16th and early 17th centuries and a key feature enabling the stronghold to withstand a lengthy siege. Within the walls, the town contains extensive barracks and other military buildings, as well as churches and monasteries, some adapted to military functions. The property includes seven components: the Historic Centre, the Amoreira Aqueduct, the Fort of Santa Luzia, and the covered way linking it to the Historic Centre, the Fort of Graça, and the Fortlets of São Mamede, São Pedro and São Domingos.

The historic centre with its castle, remnant walls and civil and religious buildings demonstrate the development of Elvas as three successive walled towns from the 10th to the 14th century and its subsequent incorporation into the major fortification works of the Portuguese War of the Restoration period (1641-68), when a wide range of military buildings were built for its role as a garrison town.

The bulwarked fortifications of the town and the outlying Fort of Santa Luzia and Graça and fortlets of São Mamede, São Pedro and São Domingos reflect the evolution of the Dutch system of fortification into an outstanding dry-ditch defence system.



These surviving fortifications were begun in 1643 and comprise twelve forts inserted in an irregular polygon, roughly centred on the castle and making use of a landscape of hills. The bulwarks are battered, surrounded by a dry ditch and counterscarp and further protected by a number of ravelins. The fortifications were designed by the Dutch Jesuit Cosmander, based on the treaties of fortification engineer Samuel Marolois, whose work together with that of Simon Stevin and Adam Fritach launched the Dutch school of fortification worldwide. Cosmander applied the geometric theory of Marolois to the irregular topography of Elvas, to produce a defensive system considered a masterpiece of its time.

In the 18th century the Fort of Graça was constructed in response to the development of longer-range artillery, as well as four fortlets to the west.

As the remains of an enormous war fortress, Elvas is exceptional as a military landscape with visual and functional relationships between its fortifications, representing developments in military architecture and technology drawn from Dutch, Italian, French and English military theory and practice. Elvas is an outstanding demonstration of Portugal's desire for land and autonomy, and the universal aspirations of European nation States in the 16th-17th centuries.

**Criterion (iv):** Elvas is an outstanding example of a garrison town and its dry-ditched bulwarked defence system, which developed in response to disruptions in the balance of power within 17th century Europe. Elvas can thus be seen as representing the universal aspirations of European nation States in the 16th-17th centuries for autonomy and land.

### **Integrity**

All elements necessary to express the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are included within the property boundary. A number of buildings are unoccupied and are closed up against squatters and vandalism, and are subject to encroachment by vegetation. In particular the Fort of Graça, being relatively isolated and unused is vulnerable to vandalism. Views of the fortifications from a distance and between each other are vulnerable to new development and the visual integrity of the property needs to be protected by a slightly enlarged buffer zone with adequate controls.

### **Authenticity**

The large collection of original plans and drawings, military reports, photographs and descriptions testify to the authenticity of the property. Overall, the form and materials of the fortifications are still in virtually the same state as when they were rendered obsolete in the 19th century. The military and religious buildings have largely retained their function or another appropriate use until the present. The authenticity of the setting is impacted by large communication masts and is vulnerable to new development.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The property will be declared a National Monument subject to the National Law No. 107/2001 on Cultural Heritage by the end of 2012. The buffer zone will be declared a Special Protection Area subject to controls in the Municipal Master Plan by the end of 2012. This whole area including the property will then be managed by the Municipality with input from the Ministry of Culture through IGESPAR.

There is a need to slightly enlarge the buffer zone to protect the views between the Fortlet of São Domingo and the Fort of Graça.

The Integrated Management Plan for the Fortifications of Elvas (IMPFE) aims to bring all stakeholders together to ensure the integrity of the property and enhance its potential use. It aims to control the buffer zone area as well as the area of the property, focusing on institutional cooperation, involvement of private stakeholders, educational, scientific

and cultural initiatives and dissemination of information. The Management Plan will be implemented by the Office for the Fortifications of Elvas within the city of Elvas, once this is appointed by the Mayor.

In order to underpin the Plan there is a need to establish a full inventory of the features and structures as a basis for management and monitoring. There is also a need for the preparation of guidance on appropriate design for new and infill buildings.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Advancing as soon as possible in the identification of financial resources and new uses for the unoccupied buildings, particularly the Fort of Graça,
  - b) Establishing a full inventory of features and structures for the property as a basis for conservation, and extending the monitoring system to cover this as part of the Management Plan. The inventory should be incorporated in the Municipal Master Plan,
  - c) Including guidelines in the Management Plan on appropriate design for new or infill buildings within the historic centre and outside the walls, and incorporating these in the Municipal Master Plan.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.35**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Refers the nomination of the **Russian Kremlins, Russian Federation**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Develop further, the important theme of Russian Kremlins to the World Heritage List and to strengthen the comparative analysis of the serial nomination of the three components considering the four Russian Kremlins already inscribed on the World Heritage List and other kremlins to be proposed as future extension of the series,
  - b) Further strengthen the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the serial nomination,
  - c) Elaborate the functioning of the overarching Russian National World Heritage Committee set up to coordinate management across all Kremlin sites;
3. Recommends the State Party to invite a consultative mission by ICOMOS as soon as possible.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.36**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Neolithic Site of Çatalhöyük, Turkey**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii) and (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

## **Brief synthesis**

The vast archaeological site of Çatalhöyük comprises two tells rising up to 20 meters above the Konya plain on the Southern Anatolian Plateau. Excavations of the Eastern tell have revealed 18 levels of Neolithic occupation dating from 7,400-6,200 BC that have provided unique evidence of the evolution of prehistoric social organisation and cultural practices, illuminating the early adaptation of humans to sedentary life and agriculture. The Western tell excavations primarily revealed Chalcolithic occupation levels from 6,200-5,200 BC, which reflect the continuation of the cultural practices evident in the earlier Eastern mound.

Çatalhöyük is a very rare example of a well-preserved Neolithic settlement and has been considered one of the key sites for understanding human Prehistory for some decades. The site is exceptional for its substantial size and great longevity of the settlement, its distinctive layout of back-to-back houses with roof access, the presence of a large assemblage of features including wall paintings and reliefs representing the symbolic world of the inhabitants. On the basis of the extensively documented research at the site, the above features make it the most significant human settlement documenting early settled agricultural life of a Neolithic community.

**Criterion (iii):** Çatalhöyük provides a unique testimony to a moment of the Neolithic, in which the first agrarian settlements were established in central Anatolia and developed over centuries from villages to urban centres, largely based on egalitarian principles. The early principles of these settlements have been well preserved through the abandonment of the site for several millennia. These principles can be read in the urban plan, architectural structures, wall paintings and burial evidence. The stratigraphy of up to 18 settlement layers provides an exceptional testimony to the gradual development, re-shaping and expansion of the settlement.

**Criterion (iv):** The house clusters of Çatalhöyük, characterized by their streetless neighbourhoods, dwellings with roof access, and house types representing a highly circumscribed distribution of activity areas and features according to a clear spatial order aligned on cardinal directions, form an outstanding settlement type of the Neolithic period. The comparable sizes of the dwellings throughout the city illustrate an early type of urban layout based on community and egalitarian ideals.

## **Integrity**

The excavated remains of the prehistoric settlement spanning 2,000 years are preserved *in situ* in good condition, and are completely included in the property boundaries. The two archaeological mounds rise from the surrounding plain and constitute a distinctive landscape feature which has preserved its visual integrity. Shelters constructed above the two main excavation areas protect the archaeological structures from direct effects of the climate and thereby reduce the immediate dangers of rainfall and erosion.

## **Authenticity**

The archaeological remains of Çatalhöyük have retained authenticity in material, substance, location and setting. Over forty years of well-documented research and excavation at the site bear testimony to the site's readability as an early Neolithic settlement and thereby its authenticity. The site and excavations are well preserved. The physical mass and scale of the mounds have not much altered since the site was first discovered in 1958.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The property is protected at the highest level as an ancient monument under the Turkish Directorate General of Monuments by Law 2863/1983 on the Protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage amended in 1987 and 2004. It was registered as a conservation site on the national inventory of 1981 by the Superior Council for Immovable Antiquities and Monuments. According to these instruments, local authorities are also responsible for the property's protection.

The management of the site is supervised by the Çatalhöyük Coordination and Supervision Council (CSC), an Advisory Board and a Management Plan team. A site manager has been formally appointed and a Management Plan team including experts from the excavation team in Çatalhöyük and the departments related to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism has also been established. On the basis of the experience gained with a previous management plan drafted in 2004, the new management plan to be adopted shall contain specific sections on visitor management, access, education, risk preparedness and involvement of the local community and is announced to be finalized in late 2012. The provision of regular financial and human resources, as well as a dedicated archive for documentation of excavation and conservation activities are key to the management system.

4. Takes note of the State Party's written commitment for the future funding of the property, as well as for the finalization of its Management Plan by December 2012;
5. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Including, among the monitoring indicators, the evaluation of environmental and climatic impacts, as well as those related to the effects of agriculture, tourism or other developments, which might affect the property,
  - b) Defining, besides the Çatalhöyük Research Project, the national and local entities responsible for the custody of the inventories and documentation on the property;
6. Requests the State Party to submit, by **1 February 2013**, a report on the financial strategy for the conservation and maintenance of the property, as well as on the finalization and implementation of the new management plan, to be examined by the Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.37**

The nomination of **Twin Monastery of Wearmouth-Jarrow, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.38**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Major Mining Sites of Wallonia, Belgium**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii) and (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

## **Brief synthesis**

The Grand-Hornu, Bois-du-Luc, Bois du Cazier and Blegny-Mine sites represent the best preserved places of coal mining in Belgium, from the early 19th to the second half of the 20th centuries. The Walloon Coal Basin is one of the oldest, and most emblematic of the industrial revolution, on the European continent. The four sites include numerous technical and industrial remains, relating to both the surface and the underground coal mining industry, the industrial architecture associated with the mines, worker housing, mining town urban planning and the social and human values associated with their history, in particular the memory of the Bois du Cazier disaster (1956).

**Criterion (ii):** Among the earliest and largest in Europe, the four Walloon coalmines are testimony to the early dissemination of the technical, social and urban innovations of the industrial revolution. They then played a major exemplary role on the technical and social levels through to recent times. Finally, they are one of the most important sites of interculturalism arising out of mass industry through the participation of workers from other regions of Belgium, Europe and later Africa.

**Criterion (iv):** The ensemble of the four Walloon mining sites provides an eminent and complete example of the world of industrial mining in continental Europe, at various stages of the industrial revolution. It bears significant testimony to its industrial and technological components, its urban and architectural choices, and its social values, especially following the Bois-du-Cazier disaster (1956).

## **Integrity**

The series' components have been selected for the quality, diversity and wealth of the testimonies they provide. Each expresses an original and complementary dimension of the serial property's overall value, and each has the necessary components demonstrating sufficient integrity for an intelligible expression of this overall value.

## **Authenticity**

The authenticity of the individual components of the serial property varies somewhat depending on the component considered and depending on all the property's sites, but it achieves a satisfactory level overall. The programmes announced for the renovation of certain components, such as the Grand-Hornu workers' city, should favourably restore the conditions of authenticity for this property. Nonetheless, an overarching conservation plan would be welcomed to ensure the authenticity of this serial property is lastingly maintained.

## **Protection and management requirements**

Overall, the protection measures for the sites are adequate. Guarantees have been provided for the sound management of the urban and rural buffer zones through local town planning or sector plans, implementing the general provisions of the Development Code for the environment of the listed monuments and sites.

Starting from the addition of sites with separate management and conservation systems, the serial property has recently acquired a permanent overarching body that is operating effectively: the overarching Coordination Group. The scientific capacities of this group must be strengthened and the programmes and actions coordinated to achieve a level of management and conservation compliant with that of a property with recognised Outstanding Universal Value.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Strengthening the scientific capacity of the overarching Coordination Group by merging the four site scientific committees or at least establishing closer cooperation between them,

- b) Strengthening the presence and the professional involvement of the Regional Heritage Department in the property's overarching management bodies,
- c) Writing conservation management plans for each of the sites based on a common format prepared by the Coordination Group and by its associated scientific and professional bodies, and produce an overarching conservation plan,
- d) Carrying out, for the urban or industrial conversion projects in the buffer zones, landscape impact studies insofar as the property's visual values are concerned,
- e) Confirming the financial capacity of the Grand-Hornu Foundation for the restoration of the worker city's conditions of authenticity,
- f) Forwarding to the World Heritage Centre the deed of transfer to the Walloon Region of the long-term lease for the underground mine at the Blegny-Mine site once it has been enacted.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.39**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Heritage of Mercury. Almadén and Idrija, Slovenia, Spain**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii) and (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Mercury is a relatively rare metal, whose use has long been irreplaceable in a variety of technical, chemical and industrial processes. It has only been produced in substantial quantities and over a long period by a small number of mines worldwide, of which the two largest, until recent times, were at Almadén in Spain and Idrija in Slovenia. These two mining towns, whose origins date from ancient or Medieval times, demonstrate the lengthy period over which a socio-technical system of extraction specific to this metal was in operation, and the process of evolution it underwent. Controlling mercury extraction enabled control of the market, which very quickly became intercontinental in scope because of its decisive role in the extraction of silver from deposits in the New World. A heavy metal, which is liquid at room temperature and has very specific chemical and physical properties, mercury is also a pollutant, which is dangerous for human health. The two sites contain technical remains of large numbers of mine shafts, and their galleries and surface facilities, with artefacts which are specific to the extraction of mercury-bearing ores; they also include significant urban, monumental and infrastructure elements and material and symbolic materials associated with the life styles and social organisation of mercury extraction.

**Criterion (ii):** Mercury extraction took place in a very limited number of mines, of which the two largest were Almadén and Idrija. From the Renaissance period in Europe, the activity took on an international dimension. Its worldwide strategic importance increased steadily, particularly because of its role in the working of gold and silver mines in America. The interchanges were at once economic, financial and related to technical expertise.

**Criterion (iv):** The mining sites of Almadén and Idrija constitute the most important heritage left behind by the intensive extraction of mercury, particularly in the modern and contemporary periods. This dual testimony is unique, and it illustrates the various

industrial, territorial, urban and social elements of a specific sociotechnical system in the mining and metal production industries.

### **Integrity**

The mining sites of Almadén and Idrija form a coherent whole with complementary components, satisfactorily illustrating all the technical, cultural and social aspects associated with mercury extraction. The elements are present in sufficient number to enable satisfactory interpretation. These are the two most significant sites for this activity to have been preserved, in terms of volumes produced, historical duration, and the completeness of the evidence provided. The integrity of the serial property has been justified.

### **Authenticity**

At both sites, the presence of mining infrastructure elements both underground and on the surface, the presence of technical artefacts linked to mining extraction, its upstream needs (hydraulic energy, wood) and its conversion into “quicksilver” (furnaces), its transport and its storage are authentic. This also applies to the urban and monumental elements, and for the testimony to the miners’ working conditions.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The protection measures for the sites are satisfactory; in both cases they have led to municipal general plans of land use and the control of construction works projects which could affect the sites. These urban and rural planning measures also apply to the buffer zones. At Almadén however, the existence of projects which could have a visual impact on the property and the belated inclusion of the property and its boundaries in the municipal general plan demonstrate the need for closer cooperation between the municipal authorities and the property management entity. For both sites, a satisfactory local management system exists, and the overarching International Committee for the coordination of the serial property has demonstrated that it functions satisfactorily.

4. Recommends that the States Parties give consideration to the following:
  - a) Carrying out a thorough inventory of the technical and industrial heritage elements which are actually present, for the two sites, in order to ensure high-quality conservation and enhancement,
  - b) At Almadén, reinforcing the cooperation between the municipal authorities in charge of the General Plan and the property management authority,
  - c) At Almadén, confirming that maintaining the visual integrity of the property and its environment is properly taken into account with regard to the various urban projects being considered in the town. It is also necessary to inform the World Heritage Committee of such projects at a sufficiently early stage, in accordance with Article 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* for the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*,
  - d) At Idrija, specifying the surface areas of the new buffer zones, following the recent redrawing of their boundaries (January 2012).

### **Decision: 36 COM 8B.40**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/ 36.COM/INF.8B1,

2. Inscribes the **Decorated Farmhouses of Hälsingland, Sweden**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (v)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

### **Brief synthesis**

In a comparatively small area of north-eastern Sweden, bordering the Gulf of Bothnia and known as Hälsingland, are a concentration of large richly decorated, wooden farmhouses and associated farm buildings reflecting the peak of prosperity for the farming landscape in the 19th century and the social status of its farmers.

Seven large timber farmhouses with richly decorated interiors are part of a concentration of over a thousand surviving timber structures in the Hälsingland area, dating mainly from the 18th and 19th centuries that reflect a timber building tradition that originated in the Middle Ages (12th-16th centuries AD).

The farmhouses, set in long fertile valleys within the Taiga forest landscape, reflect the prosperity of independent farmers who used economic surplus from their exploitation of flax and woodland to build substantial new houses with entire buildings or suites of rooms used solely for festivities. The owners commissioned artists from Hälsingland or itinerant painters from neighbouring Dalarna to provide highly decorative interiors to reflect their social status. These decorated houses combine local building and local folk art traditions in a highly distinctive way that can be seen as the final flowering of a folk culture with deep roots in north-west Europe.

The seven houses are spread across an area 100 km from east to west and 50 km north to south. Six of these are in Hälsingland Province with a seventh just across the border in Dalarna Province – although this area was culturally part of Hälsingland in the 1800s.

A particularly distinctive feature of the farmhouses is the provision of either a separate house, a Herrstuga, or rooms in the main house, set aside for festivities, special occasions or assemblies, and hardly used for the rest of the year. These rooms were usually the most highly decorated in the farmstead. Decoration consists of canvas or textile paintings affixed to the walls, or paintings directly onto the wooden ceilings or walls, some supplied in the 19th century by itinerant painters from neighbouring Dalarna, and known as Dalecarlian paintings. The subjects were often biblical but with the people depicted in the latest fashions of the time. The painting style can be seen as a fusion of popular art and contemporary landed-gentry styles, such as Baroque, Rococo or “le style gustavien”.

The seven farmhouses are Kristofers farm, Stene, Järvsö, Gästgivars farm, Vallstaby, Pallars farm, Långhed, Jon-Lars farm, Långhed, Bortom åa farm, Gammelgården, Bommars farm, Letsbo, Ljusdal, and Erik-Anders farm, Askesta village, Söderala. All have a number of decorated rooms for festivities (between four and ten), largely intact ranges of farm buildings, and are sited within a landscape context that has the capacity to reflect their agrarian function.

**Criterion (v):** The large, impressive farmhouses of Hälsingland, with their highly decorative rooms for festivities, reflect an extraordinary combination of timber building and folk art traditions, the wealth and social status of the independent farmers who built them, and the final flowering of a long cultural tradition in Hälsingland.

### **Integrity**

Each of the seven farmhouses contributes strongly to the overall outstanding universal value of the property in terms of displaying highly decorated festivities rooms in timber buildings, within an overall farmstead and within an open landscape that reflects its agrarian origins. Also each farmstead reflects slightly different aspects of the way



farmhouses incorporated rooms for festivities and the types of decorations that were applied by different artists. Together the seven sites display all the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value.

None of the attributes can be said to be vulnerable.

### **Authenticity**

All the farmhouses have been selected to show the relationship between the festivities rooms and the rest of the farmstead, for their good state of preservation and for their ability to display the full range of responses in architectural and decorative terms.

Together the seven components can be said to include all the attributes necessary to convey fully and truthfully Outstanding Universal Value. The repairs and restoration of individual elements have been undertaken by skilled professionals using mostly traditional materials and techniques. The exception is the roofing of farmhouses and farm buildings where traditional roofing material has been replaced by more modern materials in order to ensure the protection of the decorative rooms. In a very few cases, wall decoration has been reconstructed but these do not relate to the key rooms decorated between 1800 and 1870. Five of the sites are still directly associated with farming activities. The exceptions are Gästgivars and Bortom åa but these retain their agricultural surroundings.

### **Protection and management requirements**

All components of the property are protected as cultural heritage buildings under the Cultural Heritage Act, 1988 and this ensures protection of the fabric and decorated interiors.

All the buffer zones, except Bommars, have been designated as areas of national interest for the conservation of the cultural environment under the Environmental code, 1988. That for Bommars needs to be extended to encompass the visible village landscape and given national protection.

For all the buffer zones, special protection measures have been draw up, under the Planning and Building Act, 1987. These allow for building permits to be requested even where these are not mandatory. The protective measures afforded by the buffer zone are included in the Municipal Plans. All municipalities have given assurances that all measures at their disposal will be used to protect the areas from unsuitable development.

All but one of the components of the property are in private ownership. There is thus a high reliance on private owners having the resources and competences to carry out maintenance, on-going conservation of buildings, and to keep agricultural practices alive in the surrounding farmland. As there is a long standing tradition of local craftsmanship in Hälsingland, this traditional protection currently works well.

The overall management of the series is undertaken by a World Heritage Management Committee. It consists of the farmhouse owners and authorities with a supervisory responsibility (the County Administrative Board and the municipalities) as well as other actors which have a vested interest in the development and continued existence of the property, such as local and county museums, the local development agency and the University of Gävle. The partners in the management committee will make decisions on measures to protect the property's values in accordance with Swedish legislation. The management committee also functions as a forum for raising important and current issues related to conservation and preservation, educational initiatives, sustainable development as well as participation and collaboration.

The Committee reports annually to the National Heritage Board.

A management plan for the property sets out over-arching objectives and areas for priority work. The Management Plan awaits approval by the County Governor. The Management Plan will be implemented by the World Heritage Management Committee and facilitated by a World Heritage Coordinator.

The value of the seven houses is conveyed by the smallest details of the decorated interiors. Although the state of conservation of the decorations is currently good, there is a need to benchmark what is there now and to document conservation history for each of the houses to underpin future monitoring.

The greatest threat to the seven components of the property is fire and there is an urgent need for fire protection policies to be in place for all components, within the context of overall emergency response policies. This process has now been started and will be enacted during 2012.

4. Requests the State Party to provide a revised plan for the extended buffer zone for Bommars;
5. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Paying specific attention to the expansion and location of wind power turbines which could impact adversely on the scale and openness of the landscape setting,
  - b) Strengthening documentation of the conservation history for each component of the property and add this aim in the management plan.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.41**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Defers the examination of the proposed extension of **Kiev: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kiev-Pechersk Lavra**, to include **St. Cyril's and St. Andrew's Churches, Ukraine**, to the World Heritage List, in order to allow the State Party, with the advice of ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre, if requested, to:
  - a) Clarify the situation with regard to Saint Cyril's Church boundaries,
  - b) Consider creating a buffer zone northeast of Saint Andrew's Church, on the hillside below the building,
  - c) Confirm that the right of ownership of the extended property was transferred to the Ministry of Culture in 2011,
  - d) Confirm that the ministerial responsibility over the body in charge of the extended property, the Saint Sophia Conservation Area, was transferred to the Ministry of Culture in 2011,
  - e) Clearly indicate the legal protection in place and the management system responsible for its application, and include the conservation schedule,
  - f) Put an end to the absence of control over construction work in the buffer zone, guarantee under the new draft Law on Town Planning Regulations that all new projects in the buffer zone will be examined by the Ministry of Culture, which will have a suspensive power in the event of a threat to the environmental and landscape values of the property's sites,

- g) Implement a unified Management Plan for the properties, buffer zones, and landscape protection of the Orthodox Metropolis of Kiev,
  - h) Stop the project to rebuild a bell tower at Saint Cyril's Church,
  - i) Implement forthwith a moratorium on the restructuring of Andreevsky Spusk street, alongside Saint Andrew's Church, in order to manage better the visual impacts on the site;
3. Considers that any revised nomination should be examined by a mission to the site;
  4. Recommends the State Party give consideration to the following:
    - a) Continuing the research and monitoring efforts for the unstable subsoil at both churches,
    - b) Confirming the possibility for rapid intervention of emergency services in the event of a fire at Saint Cyril's Church,
    - c) Settling the issue of the abundant use of tapers and candles that are blackening and damaging the already fragile painted and decorative schemes,
    - d) Regulating automobile traffic and parking within the perimeter of Saint Andrew's Church,
    - e) Improving tourist facilities outside these two churches, especially Saint Andrew's, where the environmental quality of the church is threatened (booths, parking, etc.),
    - f) Ensuring the property's overarching authority, the Saint Sophia National Protection Area, involves the other parties in the property's management, notably the Orthodox Churches and the municipality of Kiev, as well as the local population.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.42**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes **Rio de Janeiro, Carioca Landscapes between the Mountain and the Sea, Brazil**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (v) and (vi)**;
3. Adopts the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief Synthesis**

The city of Rio de Janeiro, shaped by interaction with mountains and sea, lies in the narrow strip of alluvial plain between Guanabara Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. Its exceptionally dramatic landscape is punctuated by a series of forested mountains that tower over the city, rising to the uppermost peak of the Tijuca massif at 1,021 m high, and cascading down to the coast where the steep cone shapes of Sugar Loaf (Pão de Açúcar), Urca, Cara de Cão and Corcovado frame the wide sweeps of Guanabara Bay that shelters Rio de Janeiro from the Atlantic Ocean.

Cradled between these mountains and Guanabara Bay, the urban landscape of the city has been shaped by significant historical events, influenced by a diversity of cultures, is perceived to be of great beauty, and is celebrated in the arts, through painting and poetry in particular.

The property encompasses all the key natural, structural elements that have constrained and inspired the development of the city. These stretch from the highest points of the mountains of the Tijuca National Park with its restored Atlantic forest, down to the sea, and include the Botanical Gardens established in 1808, Corcovado mountain, with its statue of Christ, and the chain of dramatic steep green hills, Sugar Loaf, Pico, Leme and Glória, around Guanabara Bay, as well as the extensive designed landscapes on reclaimed land along Copacabana Bay which, together with Flamengo and other parks, have contributed to the outdoor living culture of the city.

The boundary includes all the best view points to appreciate the way nature has been shaped to become a significant cultural part of the city as well as the Guanabara Bay system of historic fortifications that gave Rio de Janeiro the character of a fortified city.

The city's densest buildings sit on the narrow strips of alluvial land between the mountains and the sea laid out in irregular clusters of tall white blocks which contrast vividly with the green vegetation of the mountains and the blue of the sea. None of these buildings are included in the property, but a significant number are included in the buffer zone.

**Criterion (v):** The development of the city of Rio de Janeiro has been shaped by a creative fusion between nature and culture. This interchange is not the result of persistent traditional processes but rather reflects an interchange based on scientific, environmental and design ideas that led to innovative landscape creations on a major scale in the heart of the city during little more than a century. These processes have created an urban landscape perceived to be of great beauty by many writers and travellers and one that has shaped the culture of the city.

**Criterion (vi):** The dramatic landscape of Rio de Janeiro has provided inspiration for many forms of art, literature, poetry, and music. Images of Rio, which show the bay, Sugar Loaf and the statue of Christ the Redeemer have had a high worldwide recognition factor, since the middle of the 19th century. Such high recognition factors can be either positive or negative: in the case of Rio, the image that was projected, and still is projected, is one of a staggeringly beautiful location for one of the world's biggest cities.

### **Integrity**

The property encompass all the key natural, structural elements that have constrained and inspired the development of the city of Rio, stretching from the highest points of the Tijuca mountains down to the sea, and including the chain of dramatic steep green hills around the Guanabara Bay, as well as the extensive designed landscapes on reclaimed land around the Bay, that have contributed to the outdoor living culture of the city.

None of these elements is under threat, although the interface between these natural elements and the built-up city is vulnerable to urban pressures, the higher peaks are marred by a profusion of antennae and the Rodrigo da Freitas Lagoon (in the buffer zone) and the sea are subject to a degree of water pollution.

### **Authenticity**

The mountains and open green areas of the Tijuca National Park, together with Corcovado and the hills around the Guanabara Bay still retain a similar combination of forest and open observation points as at the time of colonisation and allow access to vistas of the city from many high vantage points that demonstrate very clearly the extraordinary fusion between culture and nature in the way the city has developed.

The Botanical Gardens have retained their original neoclassical design with its special alignments and the fortresses keep alive the memory of the Portuguese settlements,

engraved and described by the travellers that navigated the marine routes that focused on Rio de Janeiro.

The landscape designs of Burle Marx around almost the entire coast of Guanabara Bay, comprising Flamengo Park and the redesign of Copacabana beach conserve entirely the landscape morphology of their original designs and still confer high social benefits to the city.

However, in some instances elements of the designed landscape are vulnerable to incremental change – such as the paving and planting along Copacabana and Flamengo Park, where missing trees and mosaics need replacing, and in the Botanical Garden where the Imperial Palms along the main avenue are dead and need replacing.

### **Protection and Management Requirements**

The Tijuca National Park was created by Federal Decrees in 1961. The Research Institute of the Botanical Garden was created by a federal autarchy under the auspices of the Ministry of Environment by a Law of 2001, which establishes its legal statutes, objectives, its structure of management and administration. The Pão de Açúcar (Sugar Loaf) and Urca were declared national monuments under the Law N° 9.985, of June 18 of 2000.

The Institute of the National Historical and Artistic Heritage (IPHAN) and its predecessors have catalogued, since 1938, the entirety of the sites and defined individual structures for national protection. They include as well as Tijuca National Park and the Botanical Gardens, the Parque Lage mansion, Flamengo Park, Cara de Cão, Babilônia, Urca, Sugar Loaf, Dois Irmãos and Pedra da Gávea hills, São João fort, Santa Cruz fort, and the urban landscape of Leme, Copacabana, Ipanema and Leblon beaches.

The Decree of IPHAN N° 127 of 30 April 2009 – established the designation of Brazilian Cultural Landscapes and a request has been made to designate Rio de Janeiro Landscape, as a Brazilian Cultural Landscape.

In the 20th century, high buildings were regulated through the creation of a norm establishing that it was not allowed to build more than twelve stories in height. In the 1970, planning instruments were adopted to control urban growth toward the hills in order to protect the nature conservation areas, sanctioned in 1976. This means that construction is not allowed beyond 60 meters above the sea level in the surroundings of the Pão de Açúcar (Sugar Loaf) and in Urca and the limit of no more than 100 meters above the level in the other hills of the city, considered areas of forest reserve.

A new Master Plan for Sustainable Urban Development of the City of Rio de Janeiro came into force in February 2011. The Plan establishes that the Landscape of Rio de Janeiro represents the most valuable asset of the city.

The Plan includes principles and guidelines to promote sustainable development as a means to promote economic development, social equity, and environmental and landscape preservation; sustainable use of the environment, landscape, and natural, cultural, historical, and archaeological heritage in the city's development and management; and conditioning of urban occupation to the preservation of the city's identity and cultural landscapes.

The Plan also allows for land use and occupation to be regulated by limitations of density, of economic activities, of the right to enjoy the natural landscape of the city, and of the quality of the urban environment. Heights of buildings shall be defined by the preservation and conservation of the integrity of the natural landscape.

The implementation of the Plan needs to progress through the adoption of its policies in the different areas of the city, including through specific laws.

The protection offered by the buffer zone needs strengthening with stricter guidelines on preservation, and, if found necessary by the Management Committee, more restrictive soil use and occupation parameters. The buffer zone needs to ensure the protection of views and the broad setting of the property as well as the interface with the property.

All areas of the buffer zone needs to be designated as Cultural Environment Protection Areas (APACs) and management plans for individual APACs developed accordingly further clarification is needed as to what is to be managed within the buffer zone.

A Management Committee to coordinate the management of the serial sites was established by Decree No. 464 of 29 December 2011 to develop and deliver an overall Management Plan for the property. The Management Committee, chaired by IPHAN, draws together the key stakeholders at the Federal, State and Municipal levels involved in the management of the different areas of the property. The Committee will determine the joint management structure and develop the joint management plan for the property and its buffer zone.

The Management Committee will ensure the adoption of possible additional protection measures for the sites, enforced through enhanced preservation structures.

A Management Plan needs to be finalized for the property and its buffer zone that addresses potential threats and possible remaining gaps in protection .so that preservation of the overall cultural landscape might be achieved.

As a basis for the Management Plan, there is a need to put in place a system for defining, recording and inventorying the key components of the overall cultural landscape and for defining monitoring indicators related to the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value.

The management of the property needs to address the issue of water pollution around Guanabara Bay through monitoring and positive action. In order to conserve both long views and the individual details of the property, there is a need to develop an overall Conservation Plan or Conservation approach for the property and for Conservation projects at various sites in order to conserve their important details.

4. Recommends that the State Party:
  - a) Put in place an overall management framework for all the component parts of the serial property that draws together the management of the component sites and involves all key stakeholders in line with the requirements of the *Operational Guidelines*, paragraph 114,
  - b) Complete the Management Plan for the property,
  - c) Provide details as to how the buffer zone will be protected and managed,
  - d) Put in place a system for defining, recording and inventorying the key components of the overall cultural landscape,
  - e) Define monitoring indicators related to the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value,
  - f) Provide more details on plans to address water pollution,
  - g) Develop an overall Conservation Plan or Conservation approach for the property;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a report on the above recommendations, in particular with regard to the implementation of the Management Plan for the property, by **1 February 2014**, for examination at the 38th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2014.

## EXAMINATION OF MINOR BOUNDARY MODIFICATIONS OF NATURAL, MIXED AND CULTURAL PROPERTIES ALREADY INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

### NATURAL PROPERTIES

#### Decision: 36 COM 8B.43

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Recalling Decisions 33 COM 7B.8, 34 COM 7B.3, 35 COM 7B.6 and 35 COM 8B.46;
3. Reiterates that the modifications to boundaries of World Heritage properties that are related to mining activities have to be dealt with through the procedure for significant modifications of boundaries, in accordance with para. 165 of the *Operational Guidelines* given the potential impact of such projects on the Outstanding Universal Value;
4. Takes note and regrets that the State Party did not submit the application as a significant but as a minor boundary modification on 1 February 2011 as stated in Decision **35 COM 8B.46**;
5. Considers that through the referral process a completed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been submitted which demonstrates that the impact of the mining project on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is limited and can be mitigated;
6. Recalls in particular the commitments made by the State Party at the 35th session of the Committee to secure and enhance the continued effectiveness of the Selous-Niassa corridor as a key feature to maintaining the long-term integrity of the property, as well as to make proposals for the inclusion into the property of additional land to the effect of further maintaining and enhancing the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
7. Considering the reiteration of the commitments of the State Party to the protection and conservation of the property, as stated in the letter of the State Party received on 1 July 2012, requests it to:
  - a) Provide additional valuable wildlife forest area to compensate for the excised area of Selous Game Reserve for inclusion into the property to the effect of further maintaining and enhancing the OUV of the property,
  - b) Ensure enhanced and effective protection of the Selous-Niassa corridor,
  - c) Not to engage in any mining activity within the Selous Game Reserve World Heritage property after exclusion of the Mkuju River Mining site as per the decision of the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee,
  - d) Ensure that the investors contribute to the Protection Fund (provided for in the Wildlife Conservation Act N°5 of 2009),

- e) Complete the process of establishing a Tanzanian Wildlife Authority by November 2013 which will ensure 100% retention scheme for the management of the Selous Game Reserve,
  - f) Not to undertake any development activities within Selous Game Reserve, and its buffer zone without prior approval of the World Heritage Committee in accordance with the *Operational Guidelines* for the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*;
8. Decides in an exceptional and unique manner to approve the proposed boundary modification of the **Selous Game Reserve, United Republic of Tanzania**;
  9. Urges the State Party to ensure:
    - a) That the environmental management and monitoring plan is implemented,
    - b) that economic and social needs of the local population and workers are respected and that social conditions in and around the Selous Game Reserve, in particular linked to the Mkuju River Mining site, are subject to monitoring, and
    - c) that the mining activity and processing of the uranium is carried out corresponding to state of the art international standards in adherence to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) rules governing the processing of uranium materials,
  10. Further urges the State Party to submit before **1 February 2013** a proposal for the extension of the property to strengthen the integrity in the context of the greater Selous ecosystem;
  11. Further reminds the State Party of its obligations to ensure that all measures to address the impact of the approved boundary modification to the property identified in the environmental impact assessment are timely and properly implemented to assure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained and effectively protected;
  12. Requests the State Party to submit a progress report by **1 February 2013** on the implementation of this decision for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.44**

The minor boundary modification of the **Manas Wildlife Sanctuary, India**, was withdrawn due to an administrative error by the Secretariat.

**MIXED PROPERTIES**

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.45**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add, WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 8B.46**;



3. Approves the minor modification of the boundaries of the property **Tasmanian Wilderness, Australia**, in line with the proposals of the State Party, and as previously considered by the World Heritage Committee;
4. Reiterates its recommendation that the State Party consider further minor modifications to the boundaries of the property, considering the past decisions of the World Heritage Committee on boundaries in relation to the natural and cultural values.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.46**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add, WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Approves the minor modification of **Mount Huangshan, China**, to extend the buffer zone to the property, in line with the proposals of the State Party;
3. Requests the State Party to provide descriptive information on the proposed buffer zone extension in relation to cultural values and to provide information regarding the controls applicable to development in the Special Plan for Huangshan Buffer Zone.

**CULTURAL PROPERTIES**

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.47**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Refers the examination of the proposed buffer zone for the **Archaeological Site of Carthage, Tunisia**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to provide more information about the criteria used to define the buffer zone, about the existing regulations and measures which govern it and which will enable the protection of the property, and about the measures taken for buffer zone management.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.48**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed minor modification to the boundaries and the proposed buffer zones of the **Old Town of Lijiang, China**.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.49**

The minor boundary modification of the **Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram, India** was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.50**

The minor boundary modification of the **Khajuraho Group of Monuments, India**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.51**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed extension to the buffer zone for the **Group of Monuments at Hampi, India**;
3. Recommends that the State Party continues for the future extension of the property and buffer zone towards the envisaged property boundaries presented in the integrated management plan.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.52**

The minor boundary modification of the **Sun Temple, Konârak, India**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.53**

The minor boundary modification of the **Agra Fort, India**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.54**

The minor boundary modification of **Fatehpur Sikri, India**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.55**

The minor boundary modification of the **Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi, India**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.56**

The minor boundary modification of the **Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus), India**, was withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.57**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed minor modifications to the boundary and to the buffer zone of **Choirokoitia, Cyprus**.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.58**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Refers the examination of the proposed minor modification to the boundary of the **Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor, Montenegro**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to provide justification and detailed information on the proposed variations to the original 1979 property boundary;
3. Approves the proposed buffer zone for the Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor, Montenegro;
4. Recommends that the State Party establish as soon as possible a coordination of the Management Plan with the municipal urban planning documents to include controls applicable to development and infrastructure within the buffer zone. Such controls on development and infrastructure need to recognise the components necessary to the visual integrity of the property, including vistas and visual accents, horizontal and vertical relationships, materials and form of new construction, and must be integrated with the individual municipal plans in order to ensure the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.59**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed buffer zones for the **Historic Centre of Prague, Czech Republic**.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.60**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Decides not to approve the proposed reduction of the buffer zone for the **Fortress of Suomenlinna, Finland**;
3. Requests the State Party to put in place for the existing buffer zone zoning that reflects different planning needs, and which could be recognised by land-use and development plans.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.61**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed buffer zone for **Vilnius Historic Centre, Lithuania**;
3. Encourages the State Party to complete the Special Area Protection Plan: “design documentation of heritage management” currently being prepared to set or amend heritage protection requirements and the system of specific management measures in the Vilnius Old Town and its Buffer Zone and submit it to the World Heritage Committee for review.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.62**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Refers the examination of the proposed buffer zone for the **Old Town of Segovia and its Aqueduct, Spain**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Provide a textual description and justification of the buffer zone boundary. This should consider views to and from the property and include an appropriate analysis,
  - b) Provide detailed information regarding the protection afforded the buffer zone by the Special Plans for the Historical Areas of Segovia (PEAHIS), and on how the loop of aqueduct and buffer zone outside the Special Plan area (Plano UNESCO 8) will be protected.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.63**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed buffer zone for **Studley Royal Park including the Ruins of Fountains Abbey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**;
3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Redefining the boundary of the property as intended in the 2014 review of the Management Plan,
  - b) Considering and redefining or confirming the buffer zone boundary in the light of any proposed amendments to the property boundaries,
  - c) Finalising planning protection policies for the vista to Ripon Cathedral.

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.64**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add and WHC-12/36.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Refers the examination of the proposed minor modification to the boundary of **Historic Centre of Santa Cruz de Mompox, Colombia** back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Extend the property boundary only to the east to include the river and east bank to the extent of the original width of the river opposite the currently inscribed property and for the length of the currently inscribed property,
  - b) Provide an adequate map of the property and buffer zone indicating their precise boundaries either topographic or cadastral, presented at a scale which is appropriate to the size in hectares of the property, including title and legend in English and bearing a labelled coordinate grid;
3. Approves the proposed buffer zone for **Historic Centre of Santa Cruz de Mompox, Colombia**.

**STATEMENTS OF OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE OF THE TWELVE PROPERTIES INSCRIBED AT THE 35TH SESSION (UNESCO, 2011) AND NOT ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

**Decision: 36 COM 8B.65**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add,

2. Adopts the following Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for the following World Heritage properties inscribed at the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee (UNESCO, 2011):
  - Ethiopia: Konso Cultural Landscape;
  - Kenya: Fort Jesus, Mombasa;
  - Jordan: Wadi Rum Protected Area;
  - Sudan: Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe;
  - United Arab Emirates: Cultural Sites of Al Ain (Hafit, Hili, Bidaa Bint Saud and Oases Areas);
  - Mongolia: Petroglyphic Complexes of the Mongolian Altai;
  - Viet Nam: Citadel of the Ho Dynasty;
  - Germany / Slovakia / Ukraine: Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and the Ancient Beech Forests of Germany;
  - Spain: Cultural Landscape of the Serra de Tramuntana;
  - Ukraine: Residence of Bukovinian and Dalmatian Metropolitans;
  - Barbados: Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison;
  - Colombia: Coffee Cultural Landscape of Colombia.

## **8C. UPDATE OF THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER**

### **Decision: 36 COM 8C.1**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Following the examination of the state of conservation reports of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List (WHC-12/36.COM/7B and WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add) and of proposals for inscription of properties on the World Heritage List (WHC-12/36.COM/8B and WHC-12/36.COM/8B.Add),
2. Decides to inscribe the following properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger:
  - Mali, Timbuktu (Decision **36 COM 7B.106**)
  - Mali, Tomb of Askia (Decision **36 COM 7B.106**)
  - Palestine, Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Decision **36 COM 8B.5**)
  - Panama, Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo (Decision **36 COM 7B.102**)
  - United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (Decision **36 COM 7B.93**)

### **Decision: 36 COM 8C.2**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Following the examination of the state of conservation reports of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger (WHC-12/36.COM/7A and WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add),
2. Decides to maintain the following properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger:

- Afghanistan, Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Decision **36 COM 7A.25**)
- Afghanistan, Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Decision **36 COM 7A.26**)
- Belize, Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (Decision **36 COM 7A.15**)
- Central African Republic, Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.1**)
- Chile, Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Decision **36 COM 7A.33**)
- Colombia, Los Katíos National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.16**)
- Côte d'Ivoire, Comoé National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.2**)
- Côte d'Ivoire / Guinea, Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve (Decision **36 COM 7A.3**)
- Democratic Rep. of the Congo, Virunga National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.4**)
- Democratic Rep. of the Congo, Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.5**)
- Democratic Rep. of the Congo, Garamba National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.6**)
- Democratic Rep. of the Congo, Salonga National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.7**)
- Democratic Rep. of the Congo, Okapi Wildlife Reserve (Decision **36 COM 7A.8**)
- Egypt, Abu Mena (Decision **36 COM 7A.20**)
- Ethiopia, Simien National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.9**)
- Georgia, Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery (Decision **36 COM 7A.30**)
- Georgia, Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Decision **36 COM 7A.31**)
- Honduras, Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve (Decision **36 COM 7A.17**)
- Indonesia, Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Decision **36 COM 7A.13**)
- Iraq, Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Decision **36 COM 7A.21**)
- Iraq, Samarra Archaeological City (Decision **36 COM 7A.22**)
- Islamic Republic of Iran, Bam and its Cultural Landscape (Decision **36 COM 7A.27**)
- Jerusalem, Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls (Decision **36 COM 7A.23.I**)
- Madagascar, Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Decision **36 COM 7A.10**)
- Niger, Air and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Decision **36 COM 7A.11**)
- Peru, Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Decision **36 COM 7A.34**)
- Senegal, Niokolo-Koba National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.12**)
- Serbia, Medieval Monuments in Kosovo (Decision **36 COM 7A.32**)
- United Rep. of Tanzania, Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara (Decision **36 COM 7A.19**)
- Uganda, Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Decision **36 COM 7A.18**)
- United States of America, Everglades National Park (Decision **36 COM 7A.14**)
- Venezuela, Coro and its Port (Decision **36 COM 7A.35**)
- Yemen, Historic Town of Zabid (Decision **36 COM 7A.24**)

### **Decision: 36 COM 8C.3**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Following the examination of the state of conservation reports of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger (WHC-12/36.COM/7A and WHC-12/36.COM/7A.Add),
2. Decides to **remove** the following properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger:
  - Pakistan, Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore (Decision **36 COM 7A.28**)
  - Philippines, Rice Terraces of the Philippine Cordilleras (Decision **36 COM 7A.29**)

## 8D. CLARIFICATIONS OF PROPERTY BOUNDARIES AND AREAS BY STATES PARTIES IN RESPONSE TO THE RETROSPECTIVE INVENTORY

### Decision: 36 COM 8D

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/8D,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 8D** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Acknowledges the excellent work accomplished by States Parties in the clarification of the delimitation of their World Heritage properties and thanks them for their efforts to improve the credibility of the World Heritage List;
4. Recalls that the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies will not be able to examine proposals for minor or significant modifications to boundaries of World Heritage properties whenever the delimitation of such properties as inscribed is unclear;
5. Takes note of the clarifications of property boundaries and areas provided by the following States Parties in response to the Retrospective Inventory, as presented in the Annex of Document WHC-12/36.COM/8D:
  - Algeria: M'Zab Valley;
  - Argentina: Los Glaciares National Park;
  - Australia: Lord Howe Island Group; Wet Tropics of Queensland; Shark Bay, Western Australia; Heard and McDonald Islands;
  - Cambodia: Angkor;
  - China: The Great Wall; Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian; Jiuzhaigou Valley Scenic and Historic Interest Area; Ancient City of Ping Yao; Summer Palace, an Imperial Garden in Beijing; Temple of Heaven: an Imperial Sacrificial Altar in Beijing;
  - Colombia: Historic Centre of Santa Cruz de Mompox;
  - Croatia: Plitvice Lakes National Park;
  - Czech Republic: Historic Centre of Prague;
  - Finland: Fortress of Suomenlinna;
  - Georgia: Historic Monuments of Mtskheta;
  - Germany: Aachen Cathedral; Collegiate Church, Castle and Old Town of Quedlinburg;
  - Germany and the United Kingdom: Frontiers of the Roman Empire: Hadrian's Wall;
  - Honduras: Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve;
  - India: Ajanta Caves; Kaziranga National Park;
  - Indonesia: Borobudur Temple Compounds;
  - Japan: Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area; Himeji-jo; Yakushima; Shirakami-Sanchi; Historic Villages of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama; Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome); Itsukushima Shinto Shrine; Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara;
  - Nepal: Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha;
  - Sri Lanka: Sinharaja Forest Reserve;
  - Seychelles: Aldabra Atoll;
  - Spain: Monastery and Site of the Escorial, Madrid; Works of Antoni Gaudí; Old Town of Segovia and its Aqueduct; Monuments of Oviedo and the Kingdom of the Asturias; Santiago de Compostela (Old Town); Old Town of Cáceres; Old City of Salamanca; Poblet Monastery; Archaeological Ensemble of Mérida; Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe;
  - Syrian Arab Republic: Ancient City of Aleppo;



- Thailand: Historic Town of Sukhothai and Associated Historic Towns; Historic City of Ayutthaya; Ban Chiang Archaeological Site;
  - Tunisia: Archaeological Site of Carthage;
  - Turkey: Göreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia;
  - Uzbekistan: Itchan Kala; Historic Centre of Bukhara; Samarkand – Crossroad of Cultures;
6. Requests the States Parties which have not yet answered the questions raised in the framework of the Retrospective Inventory to provide all clarifications and documentation as soon as possible and by **1 December 2012** at the latest.

## **8E. ADOPTION OF RETROSPECTIVE STATEMENTS OF OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE**

### **Decision: 36 COM 8E**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/8E,
2. Congratulates States Parties for the excellent work accomplished in the elaboration of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage properties in their territories;
3. Adopts the retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, as presented in the Annex of Document WHC-12/36.COM/8E, for the following World Heritage properties:
  - Australia: Great Barrier Reef; Lord Howe Island Group; Gondwana Rainforests of Australia; Wet Tropics of Queensland; Fraser Island; Australian Fossil Mammal Sites (Riversleigh / Naracoorte); Heard and McDonald Islands; Macquarie Island; Purnululu National Park;
  - Bangladesh: Historic Mosque City of Bagerhat;
  - Cambodia: Angkor;
  - China: Mount Taishan; The Great Wall; Imperial Palaces of the Ming and Qing Dynasties in Beijing and Shenyang; Mogao Caves; Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian; Jiuzhaigou Valley Scenic and Historic Interest Area; Temple and Cemetery of Confucius, and the Kong Family Mansion in Qufu; Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains; Historic Ensemble of the Potala Palace, Lhasa; Lushan National Park; Mount Emei Scenic Area, including Leshan Giant Buddha Scenic Area; Old Town of Lijiang; Temple of Heaven: an Imperial Sacrificial Altar in Beijing; Mount Wuyi; Dazu Rock Carvings; Mount Qincheng and the Dujiangyan Irrigation System; Capital Cities and Tombs of the Ancient Koguryo Kingdom; Sichuan Giant Panda Sanctuaries – Wolong, Mt Siguniang and Jiajin Mountains;
  - Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea: Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve;
  - Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Complex of Koguryo Tombs;
  - Democratic Republic of the Congo: Virunga National Park; Garamba National Park; Kahuzi-Biega National Park; Salonga National Park;
  - Egypt: Wadi Al-Hitan (Whale Valley);
  - Estonia: Historic Centre (Old Town) of Tallinn;
  - Ethiopia: Rock-Hewn Churches, Lalibela; Lower Valley of the Awash; Lower Valley of the Omo; Harar Jugol, the Fortified Historic Town;
  - Gambia: Kunta Kinteh Island and Related Sites;

- Gambia and Senegal: Stone Circles of Senegambia;
  - Ghana: Forts and Castles, Volta, Greater Accra, Central and Western Regions; Asante Traditional Buildings;
  - India: Taj Mahal; Keoladeo National Park; Sundarbans National Park; Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks;
  - Indonesia: Borobudur Temple Compounds; Prambanan Temple Compounds;
  - Islamic Republic of Iran: Bam and its Cultural Landscape;
  - Kazakhstan: Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi; Petroglyphs within the Archaeological Landscape of Tamgaly;
  - Madagascar: Tsingy de Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve; Royal Hill of Ambohimanga;
  - Malaysia: Gunung Mulu National Park;
  - Mali: Timbuktu; Cliff of Bandiagara (Land of the Dogons); Tomb of Askia;
  - Mongolia: Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape;
  - Nepal: Sagarmatha National Park; Kathmandu Valley; Chitwan National Park; Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha;
  - New Zealand: Te Wahipounamu – South West New Zealand; New Zealand Sub-Antarctic Islands;
  - Nigeria: Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove;
  - Pakistan: Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro;
  - Philippines: Baroque Churches of the Philippines; Puerto-Princesa Subterranean River National Park;
  - Republic of Korea: Seokguram Grotto and Bulguksa Temple; Haeinsa Temple Janggyeong Pajeon, the Depositories for the *Tripitaka Koreana* Woodblocks; Jongmyo Shrine; Changdeokgung Palace Complex; Hwaseong Fortress; Gyeongju Historic Areas; Gochang, Hwasun and Ganghwa Dolmen Sites;
  - Solomon Islands: East Rennell;
  - Thailand: Historic City of Ayutthaya;
  - Turkmenistan: State Historical and Cultural Park “Ancient Merv”; Kunya-Urgench;
  - United Republic of Tanzania: Serengeti National Park; Kondoa Rock-Art Sites;
  - Uzbekistan: Historic Centre of Bukhara; Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz; Samarkand – Crossroad of Cultures;
  - Viet Nam: Ha Long Bay; My Son Sanctuary; Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park;
  - Zambia and Zimbabwe: Mosi-oa-Tunya / Victoria Falls;
  - Zimbabwe: Great Zimbabwe National Monument; Khami Ruins National Monument; Matobo Hills;
4. Decides that retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage properties in Danger will be reviewed by the Advisory Bodies in priority;
5. Further decides that, considering the high number of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value to be examined, the order in which they will be reviewed by the Advisory Bodies will follow the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting, namely:
- World Heritage properties in the Arab States;
  - World Heritage properties in Africa;
  - World Heritage properties in Asia and the Pacific;
  - World Heritage properties in Latin America and the Caribbean;
  - World Heritage properties in Europe and North America.

## 9A. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EVALUATION OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY AND THE PACT INITIATIVE

### Decision: 36 COM 9A

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/9A,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 9A** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011) and Resolution **18 GA 8** of the 18th session of the General Assembly (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Notes that the World Heritage Centre in close collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, produced a working document on the recommendations of the independent evaluation by UNESCO's external auditor with a prioritized list of recommendations in the framework of the objectives of the Strategic Action Plan, adopted in Resolution **18 GA 11**, and considering Decisions **35 COM 12A** to **35 COM 12E**, which also indicated financial implications, and the allocation of responsibility between States Parties, the General Assembly, the World Heritage Committee, the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre;
4. Also notes that the World Heritage Centre, provided the document to all States Parties through Circular Letters dated 1 February 2012 and 24 April 2012;
5. Acknowledges with appreciation the financial support of the States Parties of Belgium, Switzerland and the Netherlands towards the travel support for experts and meeting other costs of the open-ended working group held at UNESCO 15-16 May 2012;
6. Takes note of the Implementation Plan concerning the Global Strategy prepared by the first meeting of the open-ended working group and that a second meeting on the PACT Initiative is scheduled to take place prior to the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee;
7. Welcomes that implementation has commenced on a number of recommendations and reiterates its request to all States Parties to fully comply with the provisions of the *World Heritage Convention*;
8. Decides to implement the recommendations within its mandate;
9. Further notes that a number of recommendations concern revisions to the *Operational Guidelines* and to the Rules of Procedures of the World Heritage Committee;
10. Also decides to include an item on Revisions to the *Operational Guidelines* and the Rules of Procedures on the agenda of its 37th session.

## **9B. FOLLOW-UP TO THE CAPACITY-BUILDING STRATEGY**

### **Decision: 36 COM 9B**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/9B;
2. Recalling Decisions **34 COM 9C** and **35 COM 9B** adopted at its 34th (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th (UNESCO, 2011) sessions respectively;
3. Takes note of the progress made on the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy (WHCBS) by a variety of capacity building stakeholders;
4. Thanks the State Party of Switzerland for its continued support to the on-going IUCN-ICCROM World Heritage Capacity Building Initiative;
5. Welcomes the proposed new international capacity building programme;
6. Requests the Advisory Bodies, the World Heritage Centre, and the UNESCO Category 2 Centres and relevant UNESCO Chairs to assist States Parties in the development of regional capacity building programmes which are based on the outcomes of the Periodic Reporting exercises and the WHCBS;
7. Requests the World Heritage Centre, in coordination with the Advisory Bodies and Category 2 centres, to continue providing an inventory of heritage training centres in all regions with a view to sharing experience and expertise;
8. Encourages States Parties and the international community to support both the international capacity building programme and the regional capacity building programmes as they are developed and put into implementation;
9. Also requests ICCROM, in consultation with IUCN, ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre, to report on the progress made in the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy (WHCBS) for examination by the Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## **10A. FINAL REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND CYCLE OF THE PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

### **Decision: 36 COM 10A**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC-12/36COM/10A;
2. Recalling Decisions **34 COM 10C** and **35 COM 10C.1** adopted respectively at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th session (UNESCO, 2011);

3. Expresses its sincere appreciation to the States Parties from Asia and the Pacific for their efforts in preparing and submitting their Periodic Reports and thanks especially all focal points and site managers for their effective participation and commitment;
4. Notes with satisfaction that all the 41 States Parties of Asia and the Pacific fully participated in the Periodic Reporting exercise and all 41 questionnaires of the Section I and all 198 questionnaires of the Section II were successfully submitted;
5. Also notes with satisfaction that all the 166 draft retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value were submitted to the World Heritage Centre;
6. Thanks the authorities of Australia, China, French Polynesia, India, Republic of Korea, and Samoa for their support in organizing regional and sub-regional meetings;
7. Also notes the successful use of the electronic tool and the ensuing pertinent documentation gathered in the World Heritage Centre database for future monitoring and follow-up;
8. Welcomes with satisfaction the synthesis report of Asia and the Pacific and endorses the regional Action Plan proposed by the focal points during the Suwon meeting for Asia, and the Pacific Action Plan adjusted by the focal points during the Apia meeting for the Pacific;
9. Decides that significant modifications to boundaries and changes to criteria (renominations) requested by States Parties as a follow-up to the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise will not fall within the limit of two nominations per State Party per year imposed by Paragraph 61 of the *Operational Guidelines*, while they will still fall within the overall limit of forty-five complete nominations per year. This decision shall apply for the **1 February 2013** and **1 February 2014** deadlines for Asia and the Pacific, after which time the normal limit established in Paragraph 61 will be resumed;
10. Encourages the States Parties and all other World Heritage partners and stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific to actively cooperate and to take the necessary actions to follow-up in a concerted and concrete manner the implementation of the Action Plans;
11. Also encourages the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITRAP), the UNESCO Category 2 Centre, to take a lead in developing a regional capacity-building strategy and associated programmes;
12. Further notes that the proposals contained in the Action Plans have considerable resource and workload implications for the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and encourages States Parties to contribute to their implementation through extra-budgetary funding;
13. Also welcomes the proposals made by the Governments of China, Indonesia, and the Islamic Republic of Iran to organize sub-regional workshops on several issues identified in the Action Plan and the proposals made by the Governments of Japan and the Republic of Korea to financially contribute to the implementation of Action Plans and the follow-up of Periodic Reporting;
14. Also thanks the Government of Japan for financing the development of a publication of the outcome of Periodic Reporting of Asia and the Pacific, and requests the World Heritage Centre to widely disseminate the Periodic Report among all stakeholders in the region;

15. Requests the States Parties to continue to work closely with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to further develop and implement both at national and sub-regional levels operational programmes based on the Regional Action Plans, and also requests the World Heritage Centre to present a progress report thereon at its 37th session in 2013.

## **10B. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE FIRST CYCLE AND PREPARATION OF THE SECOND CYCLE OF THE PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE FOR EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA**

### **Decision: 36 COM 10B**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/10B,
2. Recalling Decisions **30 COM 11A.1**, **30 COM 11A.2**, **31 COM 11A.1**, **31 COM 11A.2**, **32 COM 11D**, **34 COM 10B.3** and **35 COM 10C.2** adopted at its 30th (Vilnius, 2006), 31st (Christchurch, 2007), 32nd (Quebec City, 2008), 34th (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th (UNESCO, 2011) sessions, respectively,
3. Takes note of the follow-up activities to the first cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise in the region of Europe and North America and the activities in preparation of the launching of its second cycle;
4. Thanks the Maltese authorities for having hosted the preparatory meeting for Mediterranean Europe in Valetta from 21 to 24 September 2011 and the Icelandic authorities for having hosted the preparatory meeting for Nordic, Baltic and Western Europe in Reykjavik from 18 to 21 October 2011;
5. Also thanks the Nordic World Heritage Foundation for its collaboration in the preparation of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise, including preparation of meetings as well as relevant tools;
6. Expresses its sincere appreciation to the German authorities for having proposed to host a meeting for Nordic, Baltic, Western and Mediterranean Europe in Berlin from 19 to 20 September 2012, the Georgian authorities for having proposed to host a meeting for Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe in autumn 2012, the Italian authorities for having proposed to host a meeting for Mediterranean Europe in Florence in September 2013 and the authorities of Luxembourg for having proposed to host a meeting for Nordic, Baltic and Western Europe in 2013/2014;
7. Welcomes the initiative of the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM to address the priority needs in training and capacity-building for the preservation of World Heritage properties in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, by an integrated and targeted strategy in the context of the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting;
8. Commends the States Parties which have submitted draft retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value before the official launching of the Periodic Reporting exercise as requested in Decision **35 COM 10C.2** and urges the States Parties to submit the pending retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value as soon as possible;

9. Reiterates its gratitude to the States Parties of Andorra, Monaco, Portugal and the Netherlands who have made financial contributions to the implementation of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise in Europe and North America, acknowledges with thanks the pledge by the Flemish Government to financially support the exercise and encourages further support and collaboration for the future;
10. Also takes note of the Road Map developed at the Reykjavik meeting in 2011 and requests the States Parties to make an effort towards a coordinated approach for its implementation;
11. Decides to launch the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting in the Europe and North America region and also reiterates that it will take place on a two-year basis (North America, Western, Nordic and Baltic Europe sub-regions, for the first year, and Mediterranean, Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, for the second year) provided that a report on the Periodic Reporting exercise for North America will be presented at the 38th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2014, and an overall report on the Periodic Reporting exercise for Europe will be presented at the 39th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2015;
12. Also welcomes the creation of the web platform for the follow-up and implementation of the Periodic Reporting exercise and also encourages the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and other concerned partners to explore all the opportunities that this tool can provide for the joint implementation of the exercise;
13. Also requests the World Heritage Centre to report back to the World Heritage Committee on progress achieved in the Periodic Reporting exercise at its 37th session in 2013.

## **10C. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE SECOND CYCLE OF THE PERIODIC REPORTING IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

### **Decision: 36 COM 10C**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/10C,
2. Recalling decisions **28 COM 16**, **7 EXT.COM 5E**, **29 COM 5**, **30 COM 11E**, **32 COM 11D**, **34 COM 10B.2** and **35 COM 10B** adopted at its 28th (Suzhou, 2004), 7th extraordinary (UNESCO, 2004), 29th (Durban, 2005), 30th (Vilnius, 2006), 32nd (Quebec City, 2008), 34th (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th (UNESCO, 2011) sessions, respectively,
3. Acknowledges the information provided on the progress made in the implementation of the second cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region (LAC) and commends the States Parties for their efforts to achieve objectives in accordance with the approved calendar;
4. Commends the States Parties of the LAC Region for their active involvement and commitment to the Periodic Reporting exercise;
5. Thanks the States Parties of Dominican Republic, Brazil and Mexico for their financial and in-kind contributions to the organization of sub-regional meetings;

6. Welcomes the financial collaboration for the Periodic Reporting exercise provided by the Spanish Funds-in-Trust for World Heritage, Category 2 Centres, States Parties and Advisory Bodies, and encourages them to continue to provide assistance for the implementation of the process;
7. Takes note of the progress made by the Qhapaq Ñan project, coordinated by the World Heritage Centre, and for the fruitful cooperation between national institutions from the various States Parties to develop it further as a best practice for other transnational and serial nominations, as requested by Decision **31 COM.12B**;
8. Requests the States Parties of the Latin America and the Caribbean Region to complete and submit the Periodic Reporting questionnaires to the World Heritage Centre by **31 July 2012**;
9. Also requests the World Heritage Centre to submit a final report on the results of the Second Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Latin America and the Caribbean for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

#### **10D. FOLLOW-UP OF THE SECOND CYCLE OF THE PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE FOR AFRICA REGION**

##### **Decision: 36 COM 10D**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/10D and WHC-12/ 36.COM/INF.10D,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 10A**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made in the follow-up of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting in the Africa Region;
4. Takes note that important discussions have been carried out in the African region relating to development activities and resource extraction in and around World Heritage properties in Africa;
5. Recommends States Parties from other regions to join States Parties in Africa in discussing and reflecting on the same subject with a view to coming up with a common approach at a later meeting of the Committee;
6. Thanks the State Party of South Africa for its offer to host the special 40th anniversary conference on World Heritage and sustainable development;
7. Welcomes the publication initiative on World Heritage in the Africa Region and thanks the State Party of Switzerland for its financial support and encourages its effective implementation;
8. Endorses the Regional Action Plan 2012-2017, and its Regional Capacity Building Programme, prepared by the States Parties and also thanks the Director-General of UNESCO for her support to the preparatory phase;
9. Further thanks the States Parties of Belgium (in particular the Government of Flanders), Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, and Switzerland, as well



as IUCN, the African World Heritage Fund and the Nordic World Heritage Foundation for their committed support to the implementation of the Action Plan 2012-2017 and in particular the follow-up programmes of the second Periodic Reporting for the Africa Region;

10. Calls upon States Parties to support the implementation of the Action Plan 2012-2017 and also encourages them to intensify their contributions to the African World Heritage Fund while working closely with the Fund to improve on the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in the region;
11. Requests the States Parties of the Africa region to participate in the implementation of the 2012-2017 Action Plan, namely by producing national plans and budgets before the end of October 2012. These national plans should be drawn up in accordance with the Management and Conservation Plans of the properties, in order to protect their Outstanding Universal Value;
12. Also requests the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, and with the support of States Parties to continue its efforts to coordinate and implement the Regional Capacity Building Programme as per the Action Plan 2012-2017;
13. Further requests the World Heritage Centre to pay special attention to the management of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger, ensuring the application of the Reinforced monitoring mechanism and the mobilization of adequate resources;
14. Requests furthermore the World Heritage Centre to publish the synthesis report of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting, for wider dissemination and to keep it informed of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Action Plan at its 37th session in 2013.

## 11. PROTECTION OF THE PALESTINIAN CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

### **Decision: 36 COM 11**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/11,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 11** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note of the information provided by the World Heritage Centre and welcomes Palestine as a Party to the *World Heritage Convention*;
4. Commends the efforts of all professionals involved in preserving the Palestinian cultural and natural heritage despite the prevailing conditions;
5. Urges all parties concerned with the safeguarding of heritage to take appropriate measures to prevent and avoid any damage to the Palestinian cultural and natural heritage, including the Jerusalem Southern Terraced Landscape, known as *Battir*;
6. Encourages the reactivation of the joint Israeli-Palestinian Technical Committee for Archaeology, in coordination with the concerned parties, as recommended at the 29th, 30th, 34th and 35th sessions of the World Heritage Committee;

7. Reiterates its request that the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS undertake a mission to assess the state of conservation of the main sites listed in the inventory and the Tentative List;
8. Invites the World Heritage Centre to continue assisting the Palestinian institutions concerned in reinforcing their capacity in the protection, preservation and management of the Palestinian cultural and natural heritage.

## **12A. FUTURE OF THE *WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION* – PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION**

### **Decision: 36 COM 12A**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/12A,
2. Recalling Decisions **32 COM 10**, **33 COM 14A.2**, **34 COM 12**, and **35 COM 12A** adopted at its 32nd (Quebec City, 2008), 33rd (Seville, 2009), 34th (Brasilia, 2010) and 35th (UNESCO, 2011) sessions respectively and Resolutions **17 GA 9** and **18 GA 11** adopted at the 17th (UNESCO, 2009) and 18th (UNESCO, 2011) sessions of the General Assembly of States Parties respectively,
3. Acknowledges the adoption of the Strategic Action Plan and Vision by the 18th General Assembly of States Parties (UNESCO, 2011);
4. Welcomes the progress made in drafting the Implementation Plan by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies including appropriate roles, responsibilities and accountabilities, an implementation schedule and a list of priority actions;
5. Notes the close links between the Draft Implementation Plan and the work of the Open-ended Working Group established by Resolution **18 GA 8** of the General Assembly of States Parties (UNESCO, 2011);
6. Requests the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, and with the support of interested States Parties to continue its efforts to further define various activities contained in the Draft Implementation Plan;
7. Also requests that the outcomes and progress in the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan be presented to the General Assembly at its 19th session in 2013 for its consideration in line with Resolution **18 GA 11** point 8.

## 12B. DECISION-MAKING PROCEDURES OF THE STATUTORY ORGANS OF THE CONVENTION

### **Decision: 36 COM 12B**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/12B,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 12B**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in improving the conduct of statutory meetings, the capacity building related activities, the transparency of documents and statutory meetings, as well as the clarifications provided on the various World Heritage processes;
4. Requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to continue their work on the implementation of the remaining activities;
5. Takes note of the Study on oversight and monitoring mechanisms on priority policy issues prepared by the World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO Internal Oversight Service (IOS) as presented in Annex 2 of Document WHC-12/36.COM/12B;
6. Decides to assess the feasibility of an ordinary session in October/November 2013, as requested in its Decision **35 COM 12B** paragraph 9c, at its 37th session (June/July 2013);
7. Also requests the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, to present the draft “Policy Guidelines” document for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013.

## 12C. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE REFLECTION CONCERNING THE UPSTREAM PROCESSES

### **Decision: 36 COM 12C**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/12C,
2. Recalling Decision **34 COM 12.III** adopted at its 34th session (Brasilia, 2010) and Decision **35 COM 12.C** at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011);
3. Welcomes the actions undertaken to improve the processes and practices prior to consideration by the World Heritage Committee of a nomination (the ‘upstream processes’) and commends the States Parties, the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre for the pilot projects in which progress was made;

4. Urges the States Parties concerned that have not yet done so, to fully collaborate providing technical and financial support to implement the required actions and encourages them to seek assistance from the World Heritage Fund, if necessary;
5. Calls upon the international community to provide technical and financial support to assist the States Parties concerned in the implementation of their pilot projects which were not able to identify adequate resources;
6. Requests the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre to report on the progress in implementing the pilot projects for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session, in 2013.

## **12D. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONVENTION**

### **Decision: 36 COM 12D**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/12D;
2. Takes note of the progress made in the preparation of the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention* under the theme “World Heritage and Sustainable Development: the Role of Local Communities”;
3. Encourages States Parties to continue to develop, support and carry out activities to promote the anniversary;
4. Invites the World Heritage Centre to continue implementing the programme of activities assisted by extrabudgetary funding available or to be identified;
5. Requests the World Heritage Centre to report on the 40th anniversary celebrations to the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee (2013).

## **13. REVISION OF THE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

### **Decision: 36 COM 13.I**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC-12/36.COM/13, WHC-12/ 36.COM/9A, WHC-12/36.COM/12A and WHC-12/36.COM/14,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 13** adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011) to “establish an open-ended working group on the *Operational Guidelines* at the 36th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2012 to consider the proposals made by

Jordan on paragraph 68 and reflect on other elements of the *Operational Guidelines* as may be proposed by other States Parties”,

3. Recognizes the value of the proposal presented by Jordan aimed at replacing the text of paragraph 68 of the *Operational Guidelines*, however considers that no change to the text of paragraph 68 is necessary at this stage;
4. Thanks the State Party of the United Arab Emirates for hosting the International World Heritage Expert Meeting on Integrity for Cultural Heritage (Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, 12-14 March 2012) in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre, takes note of the recommendations of this meeting as a basis to continue working on this issue, recognizes the need for clearer guidance on the issue of integrity and requests that the World Heritage Centre, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies and States Parties, proposes a revision of paragraph 89 based on the findings of the experts meeting, to be presented for consideration at the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee;
5. Also thanks the Government of Poland for organizing the International World Heritage Expert Meeting on Criterion (vi) and Associated Values (Warsaw, Poland, 28-30 March 2012), notes the recommendations of that meeting and their contribution to the assessment of integrity of associative values which should be taken into consideration in the revision to paragraph 89, and also notes the need for thematic studies on certain types of sites with associative values, such as sacred sites and those associated with the heritage of science;
6. Recommends that supplementary guidance to the *Operational Guidelines* on the subjects of the above-mentioned meetings, and particularly on defining the conditions of integrity and authenticity for cultural sites, should also be provided in appropriate volumes of the Resource Manuals and other publications or training materials;
7. Takes note of the need to include in Chapter III.A (Preparation of Nominations) a reference to the desirability of preparatory work before beginning work on a nomination dossier, and adopts a revision of Paragraph 122 as indicated in Annex 1;
8. Also takes note of the revisions proposed on International Assistance in working document WHC-12/36.COM/14 and approves the following revisions of the *Operational Guidelines* for paragraphs 210, 235, 238, 240, 241, 252 and 254 as proposed in Annex 2;
9. Also requests the World Heritage Centre to proceed with the corrections of language consistency between the English and French versions of the *Operational Guidelines*, notably in paragraph 162 (d) to correct the French to read “d) Si les Organisations consultatives compétentes déterminent que le bien répond incontestablement aux critères d’inscription et que les exigences (voir a) ci-dessus) sont satisfaites, l’examen de la proposition d’inscription sera ajouté à l’ordre du jour de la prochaine session du Comité” while the English remains unchanged; and to adapt the French title of Annex 2B to read “Formulaire pour la soumission d’une liste indicative pour les futures propositions d’inscription transfrontalières et transnationales en série”;
10. Further requests the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies to:
  - a) Propose a revision to paragraph 115 of the *Operational Guidelines* to confirm the degree to which management systems and legal frameworks need to be in place before inscription,

- b) Review paragraph 150 to ensure that the World Heritage Committee and States Parties concerned are informed of the process and status of factual errors letters including their upload on the web-page of the World Heritage Centre,
  - c) Elaborate further proposals on options concerning deferral and referral, as well as on the process and timelines for emergency nominations presented under paragraphs 161-162, and to submit the findings and recommendations for examination at the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee,
  - d) Make proposals on the methodology for revisions to the *Operational Guidelines* for the next cycle;
11. Finally requests, in order to ensure the most effective implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, that the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies continue their reflections on clarifying the links between the different documents and their scope that have been elaborated for the implementation of the *Convention*.

## Annex 1

### **New Paragraph 122**

Before States Parties begin to prepare a nomination of a property for inscription on the World Heritage List, they should become familiar with the nomination cycle, described in Paragraph 168. It is desirable to carry out initial preparatory work to establish that a property has the potential to justify Outstanding Universal Value, including integrity or authenticity, before the development of a full nomination dossier which could be expensive and time-consuming. Such preparatory work might include collection of available information on the property, thematic studies, scoping studies of the potential for demonstrating Outstanding Universal Value, including integrity or authenticity, or an initial comparative study of the property in its wider global or regional context, including an analysis in the context of the Gap Studies produced by the Advisory Bodies. Such work will help to establish the feasibility of a possible nomination at an early stage and avoid use of resources on nominations that may be unlikely to succeed. States Parties are invited to contact the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre at the earliest opportunity in considering nominations to seek information and guidance.

## Annex 2

### **New Paragraph 210**

The Committee requested the Secretariat with the Advisory Bodies, in consultation with the relevant States Parties, to develop long-term follow-up Regional Programmes structured according to its Strategic Objectives and to submit them for its examination. These Programmes are adopted as follow up to Periodic Reports and regularly reviewed by the Committee based on the needs of States Parties identified in Periodic Reports. They should accurately reflect the needs of World Heritage in the Region and facilitate the granting of International Assistance. The Committee also expressed its support to ensure direct links between the Strategic Objectives and the International Assistance.

### **New Paragraph 235**

The World Heritage Committee co-ordinates and allocates types of International Assistance in response to State Party requests. These types of International Assistance, described in the summary table set out below, in order of priority are:

- a) Emergency assistance

- b) Conservation and Management assistance (incorporating assistance for training and research, technical co-operation and promotion and education)
- c) Preparatory assistance.

### **New Paragraph 238**

To support its Strategic Objectives, the Committee also allocates International Assistance in conformity with the priorities set out ~~by~~ in its decisions and in the Regional Programmes it adopts as a follow up to Periodic Reports (see para. 210). ~~These Programmes are adopted as a follow up to Periodic Reports and regularly reviewed by the Committee based on the needs of States Parties identified in Periodic Reports (see chapter V).~~

### **New Paragraph 240**

A balance will be maintained in the allocation of resources ~~for~~ between cultural and natural heritage and between Conservation & Management and Preparatory Assistance. This balance is reviewed and decided upon on a regular basis by the Committee and during the last 3 months of each biennium by the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee.

### **New Paragraph 241**

**[Preparatory]** assistance may be requested to (in order of priority):

- (i) prepare or update national Tentative Lists of properties suitable for inscription on the World Heritage List; a commitment will be required from the State Party to nominate in priority on these lists sites recognized in approved thematic advice, such as the thematic studies prepared by the Advisory Bodies, as corresponding to gaps on the List;
- (ii) organize meetings for the harmonization of national Tentative Lists within the same geo-cultural area;
- (iii) prepare nominations of properties for inscription for inscription on the World Heritage List ~~(this may include,~~ including preparatory work such as collection of basic information, scoping studies of the potential for demonstration of Outstanding Universal Value, including integrity or authenticity, comparative studies of the property in relation to other similar properties (see 3.e2 of Annex 5), including analysis in the context of the Gap Studies produced by the Advisory Bodies. Priority will be given to requests for sites recognized in approved thematic advice as corresponding to gaps on the List and/or for sites where preliminary investigations have shown that further inquiries would be justified, especially in the case of States Parties whose heritage is un-represented or under-represented on the World Heritage List.
- (iv) prepare requests for Conservation & Management assistance for consideration by the World Heritage Committee for training and research assistance and for technical co-operation for World Heritage properties.

### **New Paragraph 252**

All requests for International Assistance of more than US\$ 5,000, except those of Emergency Assistance ~~up to and including US\$ 75,000,~~ are evaluated by a panel composed of representatives of the World Heritage Centre Regional Desks and the Advisory Bodies, and if possible the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee or one vice-chairperson, meeting ~~at least once or~~ twice a year before action by the Chairperson and/or Committee. ~~Requests for the approval of the Chairperson can be submitted at anytime to the Secretariat and approved by the Chairperson after appropriate evaluation.~~ Requests for Emergency

Assistance of up to and including US\$ 75,000 can be submitted at anytime to the Secretariat and will be submitted for approval by to the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee or to the Committee at its next session for decision after comments by the Advisory Bodies and without examination by the panel.

#### **New Paragraph 254**

All requests for Preparatory Assistance or Conservation and Management Assistance of more than US\$ 5,000 for the approval of the Committee should be received by the Secretariat on or before 1 February 31 October. These requests are submitted to the Committee at its next session. Incomplete forms which do not come back duly completed by 30 November will be sent back to the States Parties for submission to a next cycle. Complete requests are examined by a first panel held in January during the meeting between the Secretariat and the Advisory Bodies. Requests for which the panel issues a positive or a negative recommendation will be submitted to the Chairperson/Committee for decision. A second panel may be held at least eight weeks before the Committee session for requests which were revised since the first panel. Requests sent back for a substantial revision will be examined by the panel depending on their date of receipt. Requests requiring only minor revision and no further examination by the panel must come back within the year when they were examined first; otherwise they will be sent again to a next panel. The chart detailing the submission process is attached in Annex 8.

#### **Decision: 36 COM 13.II**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/13,
2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 7.1**, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2006),
3. Taking note of the adoption of the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape by the UNESCO General Conference at its 36th session in 2011,
4. Acknowledging the need to mainstream the methodological approach related to the above-mentioned Recommendation in the *Operational Guidelines*,
5. Invites the Director of the World Heritage Centre to convene an expert meeting, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies, to reflect upon and propose appropriate revisions of the *Operational Guidelines*, in that regard, including its Annex III, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 37th session in 2013;
6. Taking into account the inscription of the property Rio de Janeiro: Carioca Landscapes between the Mountain and the Sea (Brazil) on the World Heritage List at the present session, welcomes the offer from the State Party of Brazil to host the aforementioned meeting in Rio de Janeiro, with the support of the UNESCO Category 2 Regional Heritage Management Training Centre "Lucio Costa".



## 14. EXAMINATION OF INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

### **Decision: 36 COM 14**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/14,
2. Takes note of the status of implementation of the International Assistance request for the Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar), approved in 2010 by the World Heritage Committee;
3. Requests the World Heritage Centre to submit a progress report on the implementation of this request at the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2013, under the agenda item relating to International Assistance;
4. Recalls its Decision **36 COM 13** whereby it adopted the revision of several paragraphs related to International Assistance in the *Operational Guidelines*;
5. Also requests the World Heritage Centre to implement the revised calendar for the yearly examination of International Assistance requests on an experimental basis until 2016, and approves the corresponding interim measure for pending requests;
6. Further requests the World Heritage Centre to submit a report on the implementation of the new calendar at the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2016, under the agenda item relating to International Assistance.

## 15. PRESENTATION OF THE FINAL ACCOUNTS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND FOR 2010-2011, THE INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND THE STATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2012-2013 BUDGET

### **Decision: 36 COM 15**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/15.Rev,
2. Takes note of the statement of accounts of the World Heritage Fund for 2010-2011 and the situation of the reserves and contributions as at 31 December 2011;
3. Recalls its budget decisions adopted since the 28th session of the Committee;
4. Further recalls its decision at its 35th session to establish a Budget Working Group as a Consultative Body of the Committee in order to examine item 15 of the Agenda, to formulate its recommendations thereon and to report back to the Committee at its plenary session.

PART I

5. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/15.Rev Part II on the Budget implementation for the Biennium 2012-2013,
6. Takes note of the statement of accounts of the World Heritage Fund for 2012-2013 and the current situation of the reserves and contributions as at 31 March 2012;
7. Recalls that the payment of contributions is an obligation incumbent on States Parties under the *Convention*;
8. Expresses its appreciation to the States Parties, who have already made their contributions and reiterates its request to States Parties to pay their annual contributions, by 31 January, and urges States Parties who have not yet paid the totality of their contributions, including voluntary contributions in accordance with Article 16.2 of the *Convention*, to ensure that their contributions are paid as soon as possible;
9. Recalls its invitation to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to harmonize the structure and format of their budget proposals;
10. Approves the revised budget of US\$5,208,205 for the World Heritage Fund for the biennium 2012-2013 and its corresponding breakdown as shown in Annex V, and notes that this amount constitutes a 21% reduction in the budget;
11. Recalls with deep concern the current financial situation of the World Heritage Fund which hampers its ability to provide for activities related to the *Convention*, including conservation and management of properties, which is a top priority, as well as nominations, and recognizes the necessity to urgently improve the sustainability of the Fund which is required to underpin the *Convention* as a flagship of UNESCO;
12. Deeply concerned that the substantial budget cuts to the World Heritage Fund have reduced international assistance and the provision of resources to the Advisory Bodies, which will mean that certain statutory activities such as evaluation and monitoring missions, services in the context of nominations and review of retrospective as well as provisional Statements of Outstanding Universal Value resulting from decisions of the Committee may not be fully undertaken,
13. Notes that advisory services for the preparation or revision of nominations and increased dialogue between Advisory Bodies and States Parties in the evaluation of nominations are not currently covered by the funds provided to the Advisory Bodies and can only be undertaken if additional funding is made available for such activities;
14. Also notes that a variety of other priority activities and strategic initiatives adopted by the World Heritage Committee regarding capacity building, upstream processes, and programmes of the World Heritage Centre are at risk without additional funding;
15. Furthermore notes that the expenses of advisory services to States Parties in the preparation and revision of nominations are to be funded by the States Parties concerned;
16. Requests concerned States Parties to provide voluntary assistance in covering the travel and accommodation expenses for evaluation and monitoring missions;
17. Also requests the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS to reconsider the detailed budget for ICOMOS in order to address the unfunded activities.

## PART II

18. Notes with concern the impact of the budget reduction of the UNESCO regular budget on programme activities, and appreciates the continuing efforts undertaken to manage and mitigate the challenges brought about by this situation;
19. Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for the finances allocated from the UNESCO Emergency Multi-Donor Fund to support the activities under the *World Heritage Convention* and appeals to the Director-General to consider allocating further resources from the Emergency Fund and other available sources of funding, in order to support the statutory functions of the *Convention*;
20. Notes with appreciation the supplementary costs absorbed by the Russian Authorities as host of the 36th session of the Committee in addition to those listed in the Statement of Requirements;
21. Recognizes that supplementary costs of future sessions of the Committee are reflected, in consultation with the host country, in the Host Country Agreement and the Statement of Requirements for the host country.

## PART III

22. Having examined document WHC-12/36.COM/15.Rev Part III on the sustainability of the World Heritage Fund,
23. Notes that the World Heritage Fund will not increase significantly in future due to the universality of the *Convention* and the provisions of the *Convention* that determines the statutory funding of the World Heritage Fund;
24. Further notes that due to the universality of the *Convention* the number of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List will continue to increase;
25. Considers that without additional contributions being made to the World Heritage Fund, financial resources will not be sufficient to provide for the statutory processes as well as International Assistance, thereby threatening the credibility of the *Convention* and the fulfilment of its objectives;
26. Highlights the urgent need to ensure the sustainability of the World Heritage Fund and having considered a range of options to this end, urges States Parties to consider allocating voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund, to the extent possible and within their capacity;
27. Calls upon States Parties to give serious consideration to this appeal in order to ensure the sustainability of the World Heritage Fund as well as the integrity of the World Heritage regime;
28. Decides that additional contributions received in terms of this appeal be utilized for International Assistance towards conservation and management of World Heritage properties;
29. Requests the World Heritage Centre to report annually to the Committee on the amounts received as well as the contributors of voluntary contributions;

30. Decides to review annually the response of States Parties in terms of paragraph 26 and to continue to explore appropriate ways to ensure the sustainability of the Fund;
31. Further proposes that given the financial constraints on the World Heritage Fund that consideration be given to amending the number of nominations referred to in paragraph 61 b) and c) of the *Operational Guidelines* by further limiting the number of nominations to be considered annually by the World Heritage Committee;
32. Decides that future decisions presented for the Committee's approval that have financial implications not provided for in the approved budget be clearly identified and reflected in the relevant decisions of the Committee, upon adoption;
33. Recommends that the World Heritage Centre, when preparing the budget for the next biennium (2014-2015), gives priority to conservation and monitoring activities;
34. Finally requests the World Heritage Centre to report on the implementation of this Decision at its 37th session in 2013.

## 16. OTHER BUSINESS

No Decision

## 17. ELECTION OF THE BUREAU OF THE 37TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (JUNE/JULY 2013)

### Decision: 36 COM 17

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Recalling its decisions **35 COM 18** and **10 EXT.COM 3**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011) and 10th extraordinary session (UNESCO, 2011) respectively, which elected its Bureau whose mandate will be until the end of its 36th session (Saint Petersburg, 2012),
2. Decides to elect, in accordance with Rule 13.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee, its Bureau with the following composition:
  - a) H.E. Mr SOK An (Cambodia) as Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will begin at the end of the 36th session of the Committee (Saint Petersburg, 2012) until the end of the 37th session of the Committee (June/July 2013),
  - b) Algeria,  
Senegal,  
Colombia,  
Thailand and

Switzerland as Vice-Chairpersons of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandates will begin at the end of the 36th session of the Committee (Saint Petersburg, 2012) until the end of the 37th session of the Committee (June/July 2013),

- c) Ms Jasna ZRNOVIC (Serbia) as the Rapporteur of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will begin at the end of the 36th session of the Committee (Saint Petersburg, 2012) until the end of the 37th session of the Committee (June/July 2013);
3. Also decides that the Bureau of the 38th session of the World Heritage Committee (June/July 2014) will be elected at the end of the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee (June/July 2013) in accordance with Rule 13.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Heritage Committee.

## **18. PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE 37TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (2013)**

### **Decision: 36 COM 18**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/18,
2. Decides that its 37th session will take place in Phnom Penh (Cambodia) from 17 to 27 June 2013;
3. Requests the World Heritage Centre to consult with the incoming Chairperson regarding the Provisional Agenda and a detailed timetable;
4. Adopts the Provisional Agenda for the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2013 as contained in Document WHC-12/36.COM/18.