



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

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

**World Heritage**

**42 COM**

**WHC/18/42.COM/18**  
**Manama, 4 July 2018**  
**Original: English**

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

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

**WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

**Forty-second session**  
**Manama, Bahrain**  
**24 June – 4 July 2018**

**Decisions adopted**  
**during the 42nd session**  
**of the World Heritage Committee**  
**(Manama, 2018)**

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## 2. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

### **Decision: 42 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 42nd session, as observers, of the 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 in the fields covered by the *Convention*, listed in Part I of the present document.

## 3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND THE TIMETABLE

### 3A. Adoption of the Agenda

### **Decision: 42 COM 3A**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/3A,
2. Adopts the Agenda contained in the above-mentioned document.

### 3B. Provisional Timetable of the 42nd session of the World Heritage Committee (Manama, 2018)

### **Decision: 42 COM 3B**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/3B,
2. Adopts the Timetable contained in the above-mentioned document.

#### 4. REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR OF THE 41ST SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (KRAKOW, 2017)

##### **Decision: 42 COM 4**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Takes note of the report of the Rapporteur of the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee (Krakow, 2017).

#### 5. REPORTS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE AND THE ADVISORY BODIES

##### 5A. Report of the World Heritage Centre on its activities and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's decisions

##### **Decision: 42 COM 5A**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/5A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 5A** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017) and Decision **40 COM 5D** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),

##### **General:**

3. Takes note with appreciation of the activities undertaken by the World Heritage Centre over the past year in pursuit of the Expected Result to ensure that “tangible heritage is identified, protected, monitored and sustainably managed by Member States, in particular through the effective implementation of the 1972 *Convention*”, and the five strategic objectives as presented in Document WHC/18/42.COM/5A;
4. Welcomes the proactive role of the Secretariat for enhancing synergies between the *World Heritage Convention* and the other Culture and Biodiversity-related Conventions, particularly the integration of relevant synergies aspects in the revised Periodic Reporting Format and the launch of a synergy-related web page on the Centre's website;
5. Also welcomes the increased collaboration among the Biodiversity-related Conventions through the Biodiversity Liaison Group and focused activities, including workshops, joint statements and awareness-raising;
6. Takes note of the Thematic studies on the recognition of associative values using world heritage criterion (vi) and on interpretation of sites of memory, funded respectively by Germany and the Republic of Korea and encourages all States Parties to take on board their findings and recommendations, in the framework of the identification of sites, as well as management and interpretation of World Heritage properties;
7. Noting the discussion paper by ICOMOS on Evaluations of World Heritage Nominations related to Sites Associated with Memories of Recent Conflicts, decides to convene an Expert Meeting on sites associated with memories of recent conflicts to allow for both

philosophical and practical reflections on the nature of memorialization, the value of evolving memories, the inter-relationship between material and immaterial attributes in relation to memory, and the issue of stakeholder consultation; and to develop guidance on whether and how these sites might relate to the purpose and scope of the *World Heritage Convention*, provided that extra-budgetary funding is available and invites the States Parties to contribute financially to this end;

8. Also invites the States Parties to support the activities carried out by the World Heritage Centre for the implementation of the *Convention*;
9. Requests the World Heritage Centre to present, at its 43rd session, a report on its activities.

#### **Thematic Programmes:**

10. Welcomes the progress report on the implementation of the World Heritage Thematic Programmes and Initiatives, notes their important contribution towards implementation of the Global Strategy for representative World Heritage List, and thanks all States Parties, donors and other organizations for having contributed to achieving their objectives;
11. Acknowledges the results achieved by the World Heritage Cities Programme and calls States Parties and other stakeholders to provide human and financial resources ensuring the continuation of this Programme in view of its crucial importance for the conservation of the urban heritage inscribed on the World Heritage List, for the implementation of the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape and its contribution to achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals related to cities as well as for its contribution to the preparation of the New Urban Agenda, and further thanks to China and Croatia for their support for the implementation of the Programme;
12. Also acknowledges the results achieved of the World Heritage Marine Programme, also thanks Flanders, France and the Annenberg Foundation for their support, notes the increased focus of the Programme on a global managers network, climate change adaptation strategies and sustainable fisheries, and invites States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and other stakeholders to continue to provide human and financial resources to support for the implementation of the Programme;
13. Further acknowledges the results achieved in the implementation of the World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme, in particular the development of the Sustainable Tourism and Visitor Management Assessment tool and encourages States Parties to participate in the pilot testing of the tool, expresses appreciation for the funding provided by the European Commission and further thanks the Republic of Korea, Norway, and Seabourn Cruise Line for their support in the implementation of the Programme's activities;
14. Further notes the progress in the implementation of the Small Island Developing States Programme, its importance for a representative, credible and balanced World Heritage List and building capacity of site managers and stakeholders to implement the *World Heritage Convention*, thanks furthermore Japan and the Netherlands for their support as well as the International Centre on Space Technology for Natural and Cultural Heritage (HIST) and the World Heritage Institute of Training & Research for the Asia & the Pacific Region (WHITRAP) as Category 2 Centres for their technical and financial supports and also requests the States Parties and other stakeholders to continue to provide human, financial and technical resources for the implementation of the Programme;
15. Takes note of the activities implemented jointly by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and ICOMOS under the institutional guidance of the World Heritage Centre, in line with its Decision **40 COM 5D**, further requests the World Heritage Centre to disseminate among the States Parties the second volume of the IAU/ICOMOS Thematic Study on

Astronomical Heritage and renames this initiative as Initiative on Heritage of Astronomy, Science and Technology;

16. Also takes note of the progress report on the Initiative on Heritage of Religious Interest, endorses the recommendations of the Thematic Expert Consultation meetings focused on Mediterranean and South-Eastern Europe (UNESCO, 2016), Asia-Pacific (Thailand, 2017) and Eastern Europe (Armenia, 2018), thanks the States Parties for their generous contribution and reiterates its invitation to States Parties and other stakeholders to continue to support this Initiative, as well as its associated Marketplace projects developed by the World Heritage Centre;
17. Takes note of the activities implemented by CRATerre in the framework of the World Heritage Earthen Architecture Programme, under the overall institutional guidance of the World Heritage Centre, and of the lines of action proposed for the future, if funding is available;
18. Invites States Parties, international organizations and donors to contribute financially to the Thematic Programmes and Initiatives as the implementation of thematic priorities is no longer feasible without extra-budgetary funding;
19. Requests furthermore the World Heritage Centre to submit an updated result-based report on Thematic Programmes and Initiatives, under Item 5A: Report of the World Heritage Centre on its activities, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

## **5B. Reports of the Advisory Bodies**

### **Decision: 42 COM 5B**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/5B,
2. Takes note with appreciation of the reports of the Advisory Bodies (ICCROM, ICOMOS and IUCN) on their activities;
3. Also takes note with appreciation of the paper on the Evaluations of World Heritage Nominations related to Sites Associated with Memories of Recent Conflicts developed by ICOMOS and encourages ICOMOS to further improve this paper by broadening the participation of experts in this new thematic area, including from the African region;
4. Further takes note of the progress made as well as of the challenges and gaps identified by the Advisory Bodies in the framework of the implementation of the *Convention*.
5. Affirms the value of strengthening and improving dialogue between the Advisory Bodies and the States Parties and proposes that a point be added to the agenda on this issue at the next session of the World Heritage Committee.



## 6. FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD HERITAGE CAPACITY-BUILDING STRATEGY AND PROGRESS REPORT ON THE WORLD HERITAGE-RELATED CATEGORY 2 CENTRES

### **Decision: 42 COM 6**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/6,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 6** (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the progress made in the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy (WHCBS);
4. Notes with appreciation the ongoing commitment of the Government of Norway to the six-year, World Heritage Leadership Programme, as well as the ongoing support for capacity building by the Government of Switzerland;
5. Calls upon other States Parties and organizations to provide additional funding and support for the implementation of the World Heritage Leadership Programme and other activities as part of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy at the international and regional levels;
6. Takes note of the development of the regional capacity-building strategies and initiatives, and also calls upon States Parties and all concerned partners and stakeholders to follow up on the implementation of the strategies developed for each region;
7. Welcomes the progress made by the category 2 centres related to World Heritage in implementing their activities and further calls upon interested stakeholders to support these activities;
8. Requests the World Heritage Centre and ICCROM to submit a progress report on the implementation of the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy and the activities of the category 2 centres related to World Heritage for examination by the Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

## 7. STATE OF CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

### **Decision: 42 COM 7**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/7, WHC/18/42.COM/7A, WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add, WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add.2, WHC/18/42.COM/7B and WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 7** and **41 COM 7**, adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,

3. Thanks the State Party of Bahrain for having organized a World Heritage Site Managers Forum (Manama, 2018), as a capacity-building exercise aiming at increasing the understanding of the World Heritage decision-making process among site managers, in order to achieve a more effective protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV); acknowledges the importance and benefit of this Forum and considers that it should be convened in conjunction with all future sessions of the World Heritage Committee;
4. Takes note of the Statement of Participants to the Forum and encourages States Parties to support the participation of their respective site managers to future fora and other capacity-building opportunities in order to enable them to provide appropriate information with regard to the management of their respective sites;

### **Statutory matters related to Reactive Monitoring**

#### Reactive Monitoring evaluation

5. Takes note with appreciation that the World Heritage Centre has launched an evaluation of the Reactive Monitoring process and thanks the State Party of Switzerland for its financial support to this activity;
6. Notes with concern that some properties have remained on the List of World Heritage in Danger for more than ten years; this raises questions on whether the OUV has been maintained and requests the World Heritage Centre to establish an inclusive working mechanism for assessing the OUV of these sites, and to present a report during the 44th session;
7. Urges States Parties along with other stakeholders to actively contribute to the evaluation of the Reactive Monitoring process to ensure this mechanism remains a valuable indicator and overview of the state of conservation of heritage;
8. Also takes note that the Secretariat has prepared audio-visual communication and outreach material related to the List of World Heritage in Danger;
9. Encourages all stakeholders of the *World Heritage Convention* to engage in the promotion of a better understanding of the implications and benefits of properties being inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and to develop appropriate information material in this regard with a view to overcome the negative perceptions of the List of World Heritage in Danger;
10. Requests that the Reactive Monitoring Evaluation includes options for process improvements for sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger, in particular how actions recommended by Reactive Monitoring missions to assist States Parties meet their Desired state of conservation should be incorporated into the costed Action Plans decided by the World Heritage Committee in its Decision **41 COM 14**;
11. Further requests the World Heritage Centre develop a proposal, for sharing in the World Heritage Market Place, for funds to support a workshop to assist States Parties with sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger to develop and implement prioritized, staged and costed actions plans, and notes that these plans can be linked to requests for international assistance and shared in the Market Place;
12. Recognizing the importance of focusing on those properties of greatest concern, recommends that, with effect from the 43rd session of the Committee, the World Heritage Centre considers geographical and thematic distribution of properties as additional criteria when determining which properties to open for discussion under Agenda items 7A and 7B;

## Dialogue with civil society

13. Welcomes the continued interest of civil society organizations in the *Convention*, acknowledging the important contribution that can be made to the promotion and conservation of heritage on the ground and to capacity-building;
14. Also welcomes the initiative of the World Heritage Centre to open the consultation processes related to the *Convention* to a larger number of stakeholders, including civil society;
15. Takes note of the World Heritage Civil Society Workshop organized further to the initiative of World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in March 2018, which discussed how civil society participation in the *Convention*, and specifically in World Heritage Committee sessions, can be further improved;
16. Encourages again States Parties and civil society organizations to continue to explore possibilities to further civil society engagement in the *Convention*, both by contributing to enhanced conservation of heritage on the site and national level and by providing relevant input to the heritage related debate at the global level;

## Emergency situations resulting from conflicts

17. Deplores the loss of human life as well as the degradation of humanitarian conditions resulting from the conflict situations prevailing in several countries, and expresses its utmost concern at the devastating damage sustained and the continuing threats facing cultural and natural heritage in general;
18. Urges all parties associated with conflicts to refrain from any action that would cause further damage to cultural and natural heritage and to fulfill their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage, in particular the safeguarding of World Heritage properties and the sites included in the Tentative List;
19. Also urges the States Parties to adopt measures against World Heritage properties being used for military purposes and to stop uncontrolled development;
20. Also expresses its utmost concern about the impacts of conflicts causing an escalation of the already severe poaching crisis in central Africa, as armed groups are financing their activities through illegal wildlife trade, which is having a severe impact on wildlife populations, thereby degrading the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of natural World Heritage properties;
21. Appeals to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural objects and illegal wildlife trade, as well as cultural heritage protection in general, including through the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2199 (2015), 2253 (2015) and 2347 (2017) and of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import and Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property;

## Emergency situations resulting from natural disasters

22. Welcomes the efforts undertaken by the World Heritage Centre to implement the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties;
23. Urges States Parties, in coordination with the World Heritage Centre, to give priority within international assistance in implementing emergency measures to mitigate significant

damages resulting from natural disasters that are likely to affect the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties;

24. Encourages States Parties and other stakeholders to further strengthen international cooperation aiming at mitigating impacts of major natural disasters affecting World Heritage properties and reducing vulnerabilities on lives, properties and livelihoods;

### **Other conservation issues**

#### Reconstruction

25. Thanks the Government of Poland for hosting the International Conference on Reconstruction “The Challenges of World Heritage Recovery” (Warsaw, 6-8 May 2018), providing a forum for review of specific case studies and understanding of the role of reconstruction in recovery, especially in post-conflict and post-disaster situations;
26. Welcomes the Warsaw Recommendation providing clear principles on reconstruction and recovery and requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to broadly disseminate it among States Parties, World Heritage stakeholders and partner organizations;
27. Also requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to continue the reflection and report back to its 43rd session in 2019 on the implementation of the Warsaw Recommendation;
28. Encourages the ongoing cooperation with the World Bank and with United Nations agencies in addressing the challenges of World Heritage recovery and reconstruction;

#### Climate Change

29. Expresses its continued concern about the impacts of climate change on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of World Heritage properties and reiterates the importance of States Parties undertaking the most ambitious implementation of the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and by pursuing efforts to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;
30. Notes with appreciation the initiatives taken by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to advance work on the updating of the Policy Document on the impacts of climate change on World Heritage properties;
31. Requests that the development of the updated Policy Document include consultation with States Parties, the Advisory Bodies and civil society, and be completed for consideration by the Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
32. Expresses its gratitude to the State Party of Germany for the organization of a workshop on World Heritage and Climate Change (Vilm, October 2017), to the State Party of the Netherlands for its generous support to the updating of the Policy Document and to the State Party of France for its generous support to the first global scientific assessment of climate change impacts on World Heritage-listed coral reefs;
33. Thanks the Secretariat of the UNFCCC for its active participation in the above-mentioned workshop and inputs into the forthcoming broader Policy Document updating process;

#### Absent or unclear boundaries

34. Urges States Parties that still have properties with unclear boundaries and/or buffer zones to undertake the necessary mapping exercises to clarify their boundaries and buffer zones of properties at the time of their inscription, and submit those to the World Heritage Centre for subsequent examination by the World Heritage Committee;
35. Reminds States Parties that any change to existing boundaries and buffer zones must be approved by the World Heritage Committee through the applicable procedures, as outlined in paragraphs 163-167 of the *Operational Guidelines*;

#### Heritage Impact Assessments/Environmental Impact Assessments (HIAs/EIAs)

36. Welcomes the increasing use of Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) to assess the potential impact of proposed development projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of cultural World Heritage properties, and encourages States Parties to use the HIA methodology for all developments within or otherwise affecting cultural World Heritage properties, as part of the accepted decision-making process;
37. Stresses the necessity for HIAs and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) to be proportionate to the scope and scale of projects, with simpler assessments being undertaken for smaller projects and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) for very large projects, and the necessity for assessments to be undertaken in a timely fashion and submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, as part of notifications made under Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
38. Reiterates that HIAs and EIAs should include a dedicated section examining the potential impact of the project on the OUV of the World Heritage property, in accordance with the existing ICOMOS Guidance and IUCN Advice Note;
39. Notes that HIAs cannot be assessed as stand-alone documents and requests States Parties to ensure that when HIAs are submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies that they are accompanied by full details of the project to which they refer;
40. Also welcomes the initiative of IUCN and ICCROM to develop further advice on impact assessment for cultural and natural heritage in the framework of the World Heritage Leadership programme with the support of Norway;

#### Large scale development projects and Strategic Environmental Assessments

41. Noting with concern that an increasing number of properties are threatened by large-scale development projects including dams, extractive industries, and transportation infrastructure, located both inside and outside their boundaries,
42. Also noting that Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) do not always allow for a broad enough assessment of the potential impact of these large-scale developments, nor an assessment of a broad enough range of options at an early enough stage in the planning process,
43. Requests States Parties to ensure that the potential impacts of such large-scale developments on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of World Heritage properties directly affected or located within their zone of influence are assessed through Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) at an early stage in the development of the overall project, before locations/routes have been fixed and prior to any approvals being given;

44. Recalling Article 6 of the *Convention*, also requests States Parties to systematically inform the World Heritage Centre, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, of any planned large-scale development projects in their territories that may impact on the OUV of a property, even if the property concerned is situated on the territory of other States Parties, and to ensure that these impacts are assessed as part of the SEA of the project concerned;

#### Tourism and Visitor Management

45. Acknowledging the contribution of sustainable tourism to the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the positive impact it can have on local communities and the protection of World Heritage properties, nevertheless notes with concern that the number of properties negatively affected by inadequate visitor management and tourism infrastructure development continues to increase;
46. Requests States Parties to develop Visitor Management Plans that assess appropriate carrying capacity of properties for visitors and address the issue of unregulated tourism;
47. Encourages the States Parties to support UNESCO in its effort to develop an overall Visitor Management Strategy for World Heritage, with policy recommendations to assist States Parties in addressing the issues of unregulated and unsustainable tourism use and development, and to provide resources to UNESCO for the implementation of the Strategy;

#### Impact of sports facilities and activities on World Heritage properties

48. Welcomes the continued agreement between IUCN and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) aiming at integrating biodiversity considerations in IOC's processes, and takes note of the Sport and Biodiversity guide launched by IUCN as the first in a series of reports that will provide guidance to the sports sector regarding its potential impacts on nature, including on World Heritage properties;
49. Also welcomes the World Rowing Federation (FISA) commitment to respect and preserve the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of natural and mixed World Heritage properties, and calls on other Sport Federations to consider making similar commitments, including for all types of World Heritage, both natural and cultural;

#### Dialogue with the extractive industries and the finance sector on the "No-go Commitment"

50. Takes note of the continued dialogue between the World Heritage Centre and the extractive industries on extending the "No-go" commitment to other companies;
51. Welcomes the growing interest from the investment sector for the conservation of World Heritage properties and strongly encourages all banks, investment funds, the insurance industry and other relevant private and public sector companies to integrate into their sustainability policies, provisions for ensuring that they are not financing projects that may negatively impact World Heritage properties and that the companies they are investing in subscribe to the "No-go commitment", and invites them to lodge these policies with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre;
52. Requests the World Heritage Centre, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, to continue the fruitful dialogue with extractive industries and the investment sector, including reflections on how to make these commitments and policies publically available online to inspire other companies in these sectors to follow suit;

## Earth Observation technologies

53. Noting that Earth Observation satellite technologies and spatial analysis tools have tremendously improved over the past decade and that they provide powerful additional means for decision-makers and stakeholders of the *Convention* to find comprehensive solutions to today's global challenges for World Heritage properties,
54. Encourages States Parties to make full use of such Earth Observation technologies for the early detection of activities potentially harmful to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of World Heritage properties, such as deforestation, mining, illegal fisheries, agricultural encroachment, etc. and to better understand trends and respond appropriately;

## Illegal trade in endangered species and the cooperation with the CITES Convention

55. Reiterates its utmost concern about the growing impacts of the illegal trade in endangered species, which is affecting many natural World Heritage properties;
56. Welcomes the increased attention to this threat and launches an appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to fully implement Resolution 71/326 of United Nations General Assembly on "Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife", including through the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and with the full engagement of transit and destination countries;
57. Also welcomes the continued fruitful cooperation between the World Heritage Centre, IUCN and the CITES Secretariat and invites the World Heritage Centre and IUCN to further strengthen this cooperation;

## Invasive species

58. Notes with concern the important number of properties significantly affected by invasive alien species (IAS);
59. Recalls its encouragement to States Parties to develop adequately-resourced IAS strategies that emphasize prevention and early warning and rapid response in World Heritage properties;
60. Strongly encourages States Parties to incorporate IAS response strategies into climate change mitigation policies for World Heritage properties.

## 7A. State of conservation of the properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

### CULTURAL PROPERTIES

#### ASIA AND PACIFIC

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

#### Decision: 42 COM 7A.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.54** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Notes with satisfaction the long-awaited launch, in the framework of the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust (JFiT) project for the safeguarding of the Bamiyan Buddha Niches, of the technical works aiming at consolidating the Western Buddha niche, which also contributed to the adequate conservation of fragments from the niche and helped assess the conditions of remaining mural paintings in several cliffs throughout the Bamiyan Valley, and requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a detailed technical report on the activities undertaken;
4. Also notes that surveys were conducted at Shahr-i-Ghulghulah, with support from UNESCO and the UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust, in order to establish a long-term plan for the conservation of historical monuments, and also requests the State Party to submit a detailed technical report on the research conducted and the plans made for the future conservation of this component;
5. Welcoming the organization of the International Symposium “The Future of the Bamiyan Buddha Statues: Technical Considerations and Potential Effects on Authenticity and Outstanding Universal Value” (OUV), held in Tokyo in September 2017 as part of the UNESCO/Japan FiT project, acknowledges the Symposium’s recommendations, which notably invite the State Party and international partners to deepen the reflection on the possible reconstruction of the Bamiyan Buddha statues; and further requests the State Party to conduct extensive consultation with local communities, civil society, as well as spiritual leaders and other stakeholders and to submit any selected proposals or options for review by the Advisory Bodies before any irreversible decision is made;
6. Welcomes the organization of the 14th Bamiyan Technical Working Group meeting, held in December 2017, which set the priorities for future activities;
7. Expresses its concern over lack of on-going resources which has led to disruption in the deployment of on-site guards since April 2017, and the absence of significant conservation efforts for several components of the property which are in imminent danger of collapse;



8. Encourages the State Party to prepare a long-term strategy to ensure that the necessary resources for the most important operations are reliably and continuously available, taking into account the existing financial constraints;
9. Calls upon the international community to provide technical and financial support, notably to other components of the serial property in the Bamiyan Valley, such as Shahr-i-Zohak, Kakrak and Fuladi Valleys, in order to assist the State Party in reaching the adopted Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
10. Further notes that the Cultural Master Plan is used as a tool to protect the OUV of the property, in consultation with national and local stakeholders, and further welcomes the State Party's efforts to promote a closer synergy between this instrument, the upcoming Strategic Master Plan for Bamiyan and the City Master Plan;
11. Noting nevertheless that industrial development and uncontrolled urban growth in the buffer zone could represent a potential threat to conservation in the future, requests moreover that the State Party closely monitor these activities within the framework of the implementation of the CMP and supports the State Party's commitment to proceed with a boundary modification and the revision of national legislation, in an effort to enhance the permanent protection of heritage resources, notably the cultural landscape of the Bamiyan Valley that is not currently included in protected zones and its setting;
12. Encourages the State Party to continue capitalizing on various capacity-building activities for national heritage experts by encouraging their participation in international projects, which also strengthens national and local capacities for heritage conservation and management, notably by developing the local communities' capacity to contribute to the safeguarding of the property;
13. Notes with concern that little progress has been achieved with the implementation of corrective measures due to the lack of human and financial resources, and urges again the State Party to review, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, the timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre, for examination by the Advisory Bodies;
14. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including a revised timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
15. **Decides to retain the Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.2**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,

2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.55**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Notes that the Conservation Action Plan (CAP) was finalized as an outcome of the Emergency International Assistance granted under the World Heritage Fund and submitted to the World Heritage Centre in February 2018 and urges the State Party to start implementing the short- and medium-term actions specified by this CAP and to secure the necessary financial and human resources;
4. Also notes that the first field visit to the property in three years was conducted in September 2017, with support from the Heritage Emergency Fund, and will provide detailed scientific data to further inform the implementation of the CAP;
5. Further notes the capacity-building workshop conducted in Germany in April 2017 to reinforce the scientific and technical skills of national engineers in view of the upcoming conservation activities in and around the property;
6. Regrets that the boundaries of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone remain to be precisely defined and, recalling that a topographical map was realized for this purpose as part of a UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust project in 2012, also urges the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, a proposal for a minor boundary modification, in conformity with the CAP and in accordance with Paragraphs 163-164 of the *Operational Guidelines*, for review by ICOMOS;
7. Further urges the State Party to address the following three critical issues:
  - a) The installation of a monitoring instrument on the Minaret of Jam to measure its inclination,
  - b) The emergency stabilization work for the wooden staircases, in order to prevent further destabilization of the Minaret's structure,
  - c) The construction of a footbridge over the Hari Rud River and a guesthouse at the property, in order to improve access to the property and site security;
8. Encourages the State Party to capitalize on the capacity-building activities made possible via international cooperation mechanisms in order to further develop and strengthen the theoretical and technical knowledge and capacities of national heritage experts and encourage their participation in the training activities provided;
9. Calls upon the international community to provide technical and financial support, in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, for the implementation of above-mentioned CAP, which will be part of a strategy to implement the corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007);
10. Also requests the State Party to revise the timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2019**, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
11. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
12. **Decides to retain the Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

3. **Nan Madol: Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia (Micronesia, Federated States of) (C 1503)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.3**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.56**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Welcomes the commitment to appoint a Designated Property Manager by the State Party;
4. Notes that progress is being made to strengthen the legal protection of the property and that a revised Law is expected to be approved in 2018;
5. Also notes that a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property has been carried out and requests the State Party to implement all of the mission's recommendations;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
7. **Decides to retain Nan Madol: Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia (Micronesia Federated States of) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

4. **Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz (Uzbekistan) (C 885)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.4**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decisions **39 COM 7B.74**, **40 COM 7B.48** and **41 COM 7A.57**, adopted at its 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively, and, in particular, its Decision **41 COM 7A.57** paragraph 11, requesting the World Heritage Committee to consider whether the property had “deteriorated to such an extent that it has lost the attributes of the OUV defined at the time of inscription and should therefore, in accordance with Paragraph 192 of the *Operational Guidelines*, be deleted from the World Heritage List”; and noting the concern that the reconstruction project ‘State Programme for complex measures for the building and reconstruction of Shakhrisyabz city’ represented a threat to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 179 (b) of the *Operational Guidelines*,
3. Also recalling that the March 2016 and December 2016 Reactive Monitoring missions to the property confirmed that “the heart of the Timurid town planning has been lost, that traditional dwelling houses in the core of the medieval town have been destroyed” (Decision **41 COM 7A.57**), and that the key attributes of the OUV have been damaged,

4. Further recalling that States Parties have an obligation under the *Convention* to protect and conserve the World Cultural and Natural Heritage situated on their territory, notably to ensure that effective and active measures are taken for the protection and conservation of such heritage,
5. Recalling furthermore that, according to Article 6.1 of the *Convention*, properties inscribed on the World Heritage List constitute ‘a world heritage for whose protection it is the duty of the international community as a whole to co-operate’, and recalling furthermore the duty of the international community to assist and cooperate with States Parties in their endeavour to conserve such heritage,
6. Regrets that no information was provided on the reconstruction and development scheme to the World Heritage Centre in due time, and before any irreversible decision was taken, despite the provisions of Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Notes that the State Party has not defined any possible mitigation measures to recover lost attributes or proposed a significant boundary modification based on any recoverable attributes, in response to the Committee’s request to explore these options;
8. Also notes that the work is currently suspended on the ‘State Programme for complex measures for the building and reconstruction of Shakhriyabz city’ and requests the State Party to halt any further work at the Historic Centre of Shakhriyabz until the World Heritage Committee reconsiders this matter at its 43rd session in 2019, with the exception of possible emergency recommendations from the high-level World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring Mission referred to in paragraph 18 below;
9. Considers that the State Party’s 2017 report has not questioned the conclusions of the December 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission;
10. Also regrets that the requests of the World Heritage Committee at its 39th, 40th, and 41st sessions were not properly addressed to protect key attributes of the OUV of the property;
11. Takes note of the Decree of the Government of the State Party and its annex that includes a road map on the protection of the Historic Centre of Shakhriyabz;
12. Bearing in mind the Reactive Monitoring mission’s conclusion that “recovering sufficient attributes to justify the OUV identified at the time of inscription seems impossible at this stage” (**41 COM.7A.57**), recommends that the State Party should further explore options for the potential recovery of attributes and, if needed, consider, in consultation with ICOMOS, whether a significant boundary modification based on some of the monuments and the remaining urban areas might have the potential to justify OUV;
13. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, further details and documentation to allow an assessment of what, if anything, could be recovered, for review by ICOMOS, including:
  - a) Detailed plans of the town centre showing the layout and buildings before and after demolition,
  - b) Detailed plans of the remaining mahalla areas and descriptions of their characteristics,
  - c) Inventories of remaining traditional houses,
  - d) Assessment of changes to houses and streets since inscription, including comparisons with the 1983 drawings of selected houses,

- e) Current plans for further improvements and upgrade work on houses and access routes,
  - f) Documentation on work carried out on the monuments and their settings since inscription,
  - g) A report on the current Master Plan for the city;
14. Also requests that the State Party develop, in consultation with ICOMOS, detailed and specific indicators for the attributes of OUV for the entire property in order to assess the impact on authenticity and integrity in relation to these indicators, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
  15. Also recommends the State Party to develop a holistic interpretation strategy for the property in order to communicate the historic development of the urban fabric and allow residents and visitors to establish a connection between the preserved elements of the property and its original structure and appearance;
  16. Urges the State Party to address recommendations of the World Heritage Committee as well as those of the December 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission, notably regarding protection, management and tile decay on the façade of Ak-Saray Palace;
  17. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019, with a view to considering retaining the property on the World Heritage List;
  18. Requests furthermore the State Party to invite as soon as possible a high-level World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to discuss with the relevant Uzbek authorities and stakeholders possible mitigation of the impacts to the attributes that convey the property's OUV and/or possible major boundary modification to the property;
  19. **Decides to retain the Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz (Uzbekistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger;**
  20. Finally notes that the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies stand ready to provide capacity-building assistance to the State Party at the national level, notably regarding the implementation of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, the process for Heritage Impact Assessments, in line with the ICOMOS Guidelines, and other important aspects of heritage management and conservation, and strongly encourages the State Party to use this opportunity as a means of strengthening management and conservation at other urban World Heritage properties in Uzbekistan.

## EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

### 5. Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) (C 1033)

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.5**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 7B.49** and **41 COM 7B.42**, adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Also recalling the concerns expressed by the 2012 mission regarding the critical level of urban development reached since inscription and its cumulative impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, the need for new tools to guide the development process towards sustainable development that protects the attributes of the OUV, and the specific recommendations of the 2015 mission to the property;
4. Welcomes the process put in place by the State Party together with the City of Vienna, ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre in order to establish a clear milestone plan for addressing the Committee's decisions;
5. Also welcomes the completion of the study on historic roof constructions in the Historic Centre of Vienna by the Federal Monuments Authority in collaboration with the City of Vienna, which will contribute to the conservation of this important attribute of the property, as highlighted in the 2012 and 2015 mission reports;
6. Notes with concern that legal approval was given in June 2017 for the "Intercontinental Hotel – Ice Skating Club – Vienna Concert Hall" project by the Vienna City Council, and that construction work is proposed to start in spring 2020, subject to a 'clarification of whether the 2017 modifications to the project are sufficient to retain the authenticity of the property', even though the Committee has advised that this project in its current form would adversely affect the OUV of the property; and that a political decision allowing the Wien Museum and the Winterthur Building projects is expected in spring 2018;
7. Requests the State Party to halt any further approvals for high-rise projects, and the implementation of already approved projects, pending the adoption of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and corrective measures by the Committee;
8. Notes with satisfaction the three-stage process proposed by the State Party, to address the substantive threats posed by current planning instruments and new developments at the property that led to Danger listing; and also requests that the State Party ensure that an outcome of the three-stage process is an agreed DSOCR and a related set of corrective measures and timeframe for their implementation, addressing decisions **40 COM 7B.49** and **41 COM 7B.42**, and the recommendations of the 2012 and 2015 missions, for adoption by the Committee;

9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain the Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.6**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Decides to adjourn the debate on this agenda item until its next ordinary session.
  
7. **Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (C 1150)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.7**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **37 COM 7A.35**, **38 COM 7A.19**, **39 COM 7A.43**, **40 COM 7A.31**, and **41 COM 7A.22**, adopted at its 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014), 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Recalls that it has repeatedly expressed its serious concerns over the impact of the proposed Liverpool Waters developments in the form presented in the approved Outline Planning Consent (2013-2042);
4. Acknowledges the increasing engagement of civil society in the care of the World Heritage property and its status, in particular the organization “Engage Liverpool”;
5. Although noting that the State Party has proposed a draft Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), including a set of corrective measures, a timeframe for implementation, as well as indicators; also notes that comprehensive assessment of the proposed DSOCR by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies is not feasible at this stage, as the DSCOR is not yet complete and relies on the content of additional documents, which are yet to be prepared by the State Party, including the Local Plan, the revised Supplementary Planning Document, the neighbourhood masterplans, and the height (‘skyline’) policy;
6. Further notes that Peel Holdings (Liverpool Waters developer) has recently confirmed to Liverpool City Council that there is no likelihood of the scheme coming forward in the same form of the Outline Planning Consent, and that Peel Holdings is undertaking a

comprehensive review of the scheme and drawing up new neighbourhood masterplans taking full account of heritage considerations and recorded commentary by the World Heritage Committee;

7. Reiterates its previous request to the State Party to adopt a moratorium for new buildings within the property and its buffer zone, until the Local Plan, the revised Supplementary Planning Document, the neighbourhood masterplans, and the height ('skyline') policy are all carefully reviewed and endorsed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and the DSOCR is completely finalized and approved by the World Heritage Committee;
8. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, the Local Plan, the revised Supplementary Planning Document, the neighbourhood masterplans, and the height (skyline) policy, or any other relevant document, for preliminary examination by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2019** a revised DSOCR and a report on the state of conservation of the property for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019 and, in this context, recalls its position expressed in Decision **41 COM 7A.22** - Paragraph 11, in case the State Party does not:
  - a) Provide substantive commitments to limitation on the quantity, location and size of allowable built form,
  - b) Link the strategic city development vision to a regulatory planning document,
  - c) Submit a fully-complete DSOCR and corrective measures in a form that might be considered for adoption by the Committee;
10. **Decides to retain the Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

### 8. City of Potosi (Bolivia, Plurinational State of) (C 420)

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.8**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.23**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Acknowledges with appreciation the State Party's commitment to implementing the corrective measures to achieve the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), and encourages the State Party to continue working towards their effective implementation within the established timeline;
4. Takes note of the progress achieved in elaborating the Integrated and Participatory Management Plan (IPMP) for the property, as facilitated by the two recent technical



missions, and urges the State Party to submit the final draft to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, as soon as it becomes available;

5. Also takes note of the advances in elaborating a proposal for definition of the property's buffer zone, and also urges the State Party to submit a final proposal for a Minor Boundary Modification, in line with Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Requests the State Party to provide complete and clear information on the progress in implementing the entire set of corrective measures, and include the relevant reports, legislation, policies, etc. mentioned in its 2018 state of conservation report, to allow for a fuller understanding of the current situation particularly regarding the management and conservation of the Cerro Rico and the eventual relocation of miners above 4,400 meters;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
8. **Decides to retain the City of Potosí (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.9**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.24**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for its sustained effort and commitment to implement the programme of corrective measures within the established timeframe and welcomes the recent creation of the Ministry of Cultures, Arts and Heritage;
4. Encourages the State Party to complete the programme of corrective measures by the end of 2018 in order to assess the achievement of the Desired state of conservation, in view of the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;
5. Also welcomes the solution found for the protection of the proposed buffer zone and the declaration of this zone as a National Monument under the category of Typical Zone, requests the State Party to establish the regulatory measures for its management and protection, and further requests it to submit the buffer zone as a formal Minor Boundary Modification application, as per Paragraph 163 and 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to the World Centre for evaluation by the Advisory Bodies and consideration by the World Heritage Committee;
6. Urges the State Party to complete the Conservation Plan and to submit it as soon as it becomes available to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;

7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
8. **Decides to retain Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Chile) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**
  
10. **Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo (Panama) (C 135)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.10**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.25**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Expresses its regret that the implementation of the programme of corrective measures has suffered delays due to a lack of appropriate fund allocation, as a consequence of which the property risks losing important attributes and its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
4. Welcomes the opportunity of funding offered by the Inter-American Development Bank for the conservation and management of cultural heritage that includes a major component for interventions in the World Heritage property;
5. Notes that the revised timeframe proposed by the State Party for implementation of the programme of corrective measures confirms June 2019 as the final date, and urges it to ensure that this programme be implemented in its entirety, and that due attention be given to the definition and protection of buffer zones and the preparation of an integral Management Plan, which should give priority to conservation programmes and a sustainable public use plan;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, the finalized Management Plan for review by the Advisory Bodies and 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 43rd session in 2019;
7. **Decides to retain the Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo (Panama) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.11**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.26**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for the important progress made in the implementation of most of the programme of corrective measures, and requests the State Party to continue its efforts;
4. Welcomes the research and monitoring activities of the Pan-American Conservation Centre for Earthen Heritage Sites (PCCEHS), and the implementation of a number of important conservation projects, public awareness and outreach activities with educational institutions and communities in the vicinity of the property;
5. Urges the formal approval of the Master Plan by the Minister of Culture, and also requests the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre immediately once this has been resolved;
6. Expresses its most serious concerns about the continued delays in the formal delimitation and regulation of the proposed buffer zone due to the lack of response from the management office of the Trujillo Provincial Municipality's Urban Development Plan, as well as in the implementation of Law 28261 that would address the matter of illegal occupation, which are both essential components of the programme of corrective measures, as adopted in Decision **36 COM 7A.34**;
7. Further urges the State Party, once again, to address these matters with the utmost urgency;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above matters, along with an assessment of the level of implementation of the effectiveness of all corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
9. **Decides to retain Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 12. Coro and its Port (Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of) (C 658)

### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.12**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,

2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.27**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party on its continued commitment to improving the state of conservation and management of the property, and ensuring the broad participation of community councils and the communities at large in these processes;
4. Taking note that the redefinition of the property's boundaries is still in the analysis phase, requests the State Party to finalize a clear boundary definition proposal as a matter of priority, in cooperation with ICOMOS, and submit a Minor Boundary Modification, in accordance with Paragraphs 163-164 of the *Operational Guidelines*, for the extension of the buffer zones;
5. Recognizes the advances in the diagnostic phase of the Management Plan's elaboration, and also requests the State Party to complete the draft version of this Plan, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies as soon as it becomes available;
6. Urges the State Party to start implementation of a prioritized and costed plan for the property's drainage system, and ensure that adequate financial resources are secured for its correct execution;
7. Further requests the State Party to provide complete and clear information on the implementation status of the entire set of corrective measures, and a detailed analysis of the progress in achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
8. Given that the timeline adopted by Decision **38 COM 7A.23** has lapsed, also urges the State Party to provide updated and detailed timelines for the implementation of the remaining corrective measures;
9. Encourages the State Party to take advantage of opportunities for technical assistance, guided by ICOMOS, in addressing the above issues with the aim of advancing the implementation of the outstanding corrective measures;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
11. **Decides to retain Coro and its Port (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## AFRICA

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.13**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.28**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Notes with satisfaction the projects carried out by the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures, in particular the rehabilitation of degraded or dilapidated houses and the securization of the archaeological sites, the measures to combat water erosion, development of a section of the banks, as well as enhancement and awareness-raising measures;
4. Congratulates the State Party for the development of the new 2018-2020 Management and Conservation Plan and the creation of a Management Committee;
5. Also notes with appreciation the financial support of the Spanish Developing Cooperation Agency (AECID) to carry out an architectural diagnostic and solar electrification of the Grand Mosque of Djenné and welcomes the granting of International Assistance to the State Party for rehabilitation work on the monumental houses and the Moroccan Palace;
6. Expresses its concern about the continuing problems linked notably to the degradation of the ancient urban fabric and the negative impacts affecting the buildings, the effects of water erosion, and encroachment of the archaeological sites that suffer from clandestine and superficial excavations;
7. Recommends that the State Party accelerate the definition of the conservation and maintenance regulations for the buildings of the historic Town (corrective measure), including urban standards for the reconstruction of dilapidated houses, and encourages, through the Cultural Mission of Djenné, the pursuit of the awareness-raising and information efforts of the local population with a view to slowing down the degradation of the ancient urban fabric, lessen the negative impacts on the buildings, and reduce encroachment of the archaeological sites;
8. Launches an appeal to the international community to support the efforts of the State Party and contribute towards the implementation of the second phase of the Programme for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali;
9. Encourages the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to explore the possibility of setting up a short-term distance support programme, in order to allow dialogue on capacity building and on drafting the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
10. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;

11. **Decides to retain the Old Towns of Djenné (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

14. **Timbuktu (Mali) (C 119rev)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.14**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.29**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Notes with satisfaction the progress achieved in the implementation by the State Party of the corrective measures adopted at its 40th session, in a continuingly difficult context in northern Mali, notably the rehabilitation and safeguarding work of the three mosques, the private libraries and the museums, the El-Farouk monument and the development of Independence Square, and also the extension of the HERI-AB;
4. Congratulates the State Party for the preparation of the new 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan, and the increased involvement of the local community in activities carried out for the benefit of the property;
5. Warmly welcomes the interventions foreseen for the security of two cemeteries, and recommends the State Party to broaden the scope of its efforts to include all the cemeteries containing the mausoleums of saints through additional measures, in particular the recruitment and training of guards for each cemetery, as well as public lighting;
6. Expresses its concern as regards the continuing unstable security situation and notably certain impacts due to military presence, such as the potentially negative effects of vibrations caused by military vehicles to the listed buildings, and also recommends that the State Party study, in consultation with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), reorganization options for traffic adjacent to the concerned buildings to reduce these effects;
7. Encourages the State Party to increase the financial, logistical and human resources of the Timbuktu Cultural Mission, to enable an improved fulfilment of its central function and ensure the implementation of the new Management and Conservation Plan;
8. Launches an appeal to the international community to provide support to the efforts of the State Party and contribute towards the implementation of the second phase of the Rehabilitation Programme for Cultural Heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali;
9. Also encourages the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to explore the possibility of setting up a short-term distance support programme, in order to allow dialogue on capacity building and on drafting the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);

10. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
11. Decides to pursue the application of the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;
12. **Also decides to retain Timbuktu (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

15. **Tomb of the Askia (Mali) (C 1139)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.15**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.30**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Takes note of the progress recorded (or carried out) in the implementation by the State Party of the corrective measures adopted at its 40th session, in a continuing difficult security context in northern Mali, in particular the restoration and improvement of the physical components of the property, the action to combat water erosion, the clean-up activity and the construction of the enclosure wall, and encourages the State Party to continue these actions with support from its partners;
4. Congratulates the State Party for the preparation of the new 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan, as well as in increasing the involvement of the local community in actions carried out for the benefit of the property;
5. Notes with satisfaction the submission by the State Party, and the granting, of International Assistance for the restoration and enhancement of the property, specifically the repair of the damaged roof, the maintenance of the pyramid tower and the regeneration of the basu trees;
6. Expresses its concern about the continuing degradation risks to the Necropolis due to water erosion, despite measures undertaken, and notably following the collapse of the roof of the men's mosque in August 2017, and also encourages the State Party to pursue the implementation of the corrective measures with particular attention to the regular inspection of the property and the development of a conservation handbook on the components of the property, indicating the periodic assessment mechanism of its state of conservation;
7. Launches an appeal to the international community to support the efforts of the State Party and contribute towards the implementation of the second phase of the Programme for the rehabilitation of the cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali;
8. Further encourages the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to explore the possibility of setting up a short-term distance support programme, in order to allow dialogue on capacity building and on drafting the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);

9. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
  10. Decides to pursue the application of the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;
  11. Also decides to retain the Tomb of Askia (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.
16. **Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) (C 1022)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.16**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.31**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Welcomes the progress made in the reconstruction of the Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga and that the work is on track to be completed in 2019, and notes the importance of funds being released from the Japanese extrabudgetary project as a matter of urgency in order to implement the disaster management system;
4. Also welcomes the progress made in developing a disaster risk strategy, appropriate management structure, draft management plan and draft Master Plan, in cooperation with the Buganda Kingdom Heritage and Tourism Board, the traditional custodians, the architects with knowledge of traditional building practices, and representatives of the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife, and Antiquities, and commends the State Party for the collaborative nature in which these plans, strategies and systems have been developed;
5. Further welcomes the progress made to submit a matrix with the corrective measures and a timeframe for implementation of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) as well as a workplan;
6. Acknowledges the constructive contribution of all parties, including state and non-state agents, in achieving the progress to date;
7. Encourages the State Party and all of the stakeholders involved in the management and use of the property to continue this active engagement, with support and guidance from the Advisory Bodies, with a view to implementing these strategies and plans at the earliest possible time, thereby achieving as soon as possible the DSOCR;
8. Expresses its concern however at the rapid deterioration of the Bujjabukula, and also acknowledges the State Party's willingness to address the state of conservation of this highly significant structure;
9. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Urgently research and document the Bujjabukula, its construction and the individual elements that compose it,



- b) Urgently develop plans for its stabilization and restoration for submission to the Advisory Bodies,
  - c) Implement the stabilization and restoration of the Bujjabukula as soon as possible and in parallel with the continuing process of the reconstruction of the Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga;
10. Also requests the State Party to further develop guidelines for the buffer zone of the property and reassess and align the development of Masiro and Hoima roads with the values for which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List, and to duly reflect the urban dimension of the property and its OUV in the policies, measures and tools adopted by the State Party and the Kampala Capital City Authority, to ensure adequate conservation, using, if necessary, the approach carried by the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (2011);
  11. Further requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of any change to the 2017 timeline for reaching the DSOCR;
  12. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
  13. **Decides to retain the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## ARAB STATES

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.17**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.32**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Continues to express great concern regarding the state of conservation of the property and the low level of implementation of the recommended corrective measures;
4. Notes that a scientific committee to study the threats to the property arising from the rise of the groundwater level and elaborate a project to address them, has been established, and urgently requests the State Party to:
  - a) Devise an action plan to address the rise of the groundwater level,
  - b) Establish an efficient system for monitoring the water table in the archaeological site and in the surrounding zones,
  - c) Devise mitigation measures for the archaeological remains, during the process of lowering and stabilizing the water table;

5. Also notes that, with the agreement of the State Party, an Advisory mission involving UNESCO and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is to visit the property to provide advice on appropriate irrigation and water management technologies;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, details for all on-going or planned restoration interventions at the property, particularly at the Great Basilica, the reburial strategy, and initiatives arising from the project for restoration and rehabilitation of the property, or any new envisaged constructions such as a visitors' centre, for review prior to implementation, noting that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) should be prepared for rehabilitation and construction projects in accordance with the 2011 ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties;
7. Urges the State Party to proceed with comprehensive implementation of the corrective measures, to protect and conserve the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, with particular attention to the following issues:
  - a) Preparation of a comprehensive Integrated Management Plan,
  - b) Preparation of a conservation plan, which includes a condition survey and the identification of priority interventions to ensure stabilization of archaeological remains,
  - c) Removal of inadequate new constructions, and the creation of facilities to allow for religious uses in areas outside the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone, if need be;
8. Further requests the State Party to finalize the minor boundary modification request in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and in line with Paragraphs 163-165 of the *Operational Guidelines*, for examination by the World Heritage Committee;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain Abu Mena (Egypt) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

18. **Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Iraq) (C 1130)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.18**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.33**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Expresses its very grave concern about the state of conservation of the property following the armed conflict and intentional destructive acts;

4. Notes with concern the continuing lack of information on the state of conservation of the property, and requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed about the situation on the ground;
5. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit a report on the rapid emergency assessment of the property undertaken in 2017, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
6. Encourages the State Party to continue to pursue efforts to ensure the protection of the property, despite the difficult prevailing situation, and in particular to take steps toward the urgent implementation of the priority actions outlined at the International Coordination Conference on the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq (UNESCO, February 2017), with the support of UNESCO and the international community;
7. Urges all parties associated with the situation in Iraq to refrain from any action that would cause further damage to cultural and natural heritage of the country and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage;
8. Reiterates its appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage coming from Iraq as per the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2199 of February 2015, 2253 of December 2015 and 2347 of March 2017;
9. Calls again on all Member States of UNESCO to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
11. **Decides to retain Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

19. **Hatra (Iraq) (C 277rev)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.19**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.34**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Acknowledges the damage assessment undertaken by the Iraqi authorities and underlines the need for a detailed damage assessment followed by a comprehensive project for the conservation and protection of the property;
4. Encourages the State Party to pursue efforts to protect the property, despite the difficult prevailing situation, and in particular to prevent looting and further damages to the property, as outlined at the International Coordination Conference on the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq (UNESCO, February 2017), with the support of UNESCO and the international community;

5. Invites the State Party to inform it, through the World Heritage Centre, of any future plans for major restoration or new construction projects that may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse.
6. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to further assess damages and to discuss with the Iraqi authorities the short-, medium- and long-term goals and actions required to protect the property from further damage and looting, as well as a more complete and detailed damage assessment in support of a comprehensive project for the conservation and restoration of the property;
7. Urges all parties associated with the situation in Iraq to refrain from any action that would cause further damage to cultural and natural heritage of the country and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage;
8. Reiterates its appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage coming from Iraq as per the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2199 of February 2015, 2253 of December 2015 and 2347 of March 2017;
9. Calls again on all Member States of UNESCO to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
11. **Decides to retain Hatra (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 20. Samarra Archaeological City (Iraq) (C 276 rev)

### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.20**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.35**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Expresses its very grave concern about the state of conservation of the property following intentional destructive acts;
4. Notes with concern the continuing lack of information on the state of conservation of the property, and requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed about the situation on the ground;
5. Reiterates its request that the State Party submit a copy of the Samarra Department of Antiquities' documentation of the damage done to the affected monuments, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
6. Encourages the State Party to continue to pursue efforts to ensure the protection of the property, despite the difficult prevailing situation;

7. Urges all parties associated with the situation in Iraq to refrain from any action that would cause further damage to cultural and natural heritage of the country and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage;
8. Reiterates its appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage coming from Iraq as per the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2199 of February 2015, 2253 of December 2015 and 2347 of March 2017;
9. Calls again on all Member States of UNESCO to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
11. **Decides to retain Samarra Archaeological City (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.21**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having considered document WHC-18/42.COM/7A.Add.2 and the Annex attached to this decision,
2. Recalling its previous decisions concerning the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls,
3. Decides that the status of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls relating to the World Heritage List remains unchanged as reflected in Decision 41 COM 7A.36 of the last World Heritage Committee,

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**ANNEX**

**The World Heritage Committee**

**42nd session of the Committee (42 COM)**

**Item 21: Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls (site proposed by Jordan)**

**DECISION**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-18/42.COM/7A.Add.2,
2. 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 (1954) and its related protocols, the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970), the *Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (1972), the New Delhi UNESCO Recommendation of 1956 concerning excavations undertaken in occupied territories, 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 related recommendations, resolutions and decisions of UNESCO,
3. Reaffirming that nothing in the present decision, which aims at the safeguarding of the authenticity, integrity and cultural heritage of the Old City of Jerusalem on both sides of 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, including United Nations Security Council resolution 2334 (2016),
4. Also reaffirming the importance of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls for the three monotheistic religions,
5. Reminding that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purport to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, and in particular the "basic law" on Jerusalem, are null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,
6. Further recalling the 14 decisions of the Executive Board: 185 EX/Decision 14, 187 EX/Decision 11, 189 EX/Decision 8, 190 EX/Decision 13, 192 EX/Decision 11, 194 EX/Decision 5.D, 195 EX/Decision 9, 196 EX/Decision 26, 197 EX/Decision 32, 199 EX/Dec.19.1, 200 EX/Decision 25, 201 EX/PX 30.1, 202EX/Decision 38, 204/EX/Decision 25 and the eight World Heritage Committee decisions: 34 COM/7A.20, 35 COM/7A.22, 36 COM/7A.23, 37 COM/7A.26, 38 COM/7A.4, 39 COM/7A.27, 40 COM/7A.13,
7. Regrets the failure of the Israeli occupying authorities to cease the persistent excavations, tunneling, works, projects and other illegal practices in East Jerusalem, particularly in and around the Old City of Jerusalem, which are illegal under international law and reiterates its request to Israel, the occupying Power, to prohibit all violations which are not in conformity with the provisions of the relevant UNESCO conventions, resolutions and decisions;
8. Also regrets the Israeli refusal to implement the UNESCO request to the Director-General to appoint a permanent representative to be stationed in East Jerusalem to report on a regular basis about all aspects covering the fields of competence of UNESCO in East Jerusalem, and reiterates its request to the Director-General to appoint, as soon as possible, the above-mentioned representative;
9. Stresses again the urgent need to implement the UNESCO reactive monitoring mission to the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls, and invites the Director-General and the World Heritage Centre, to exert all possible efforts, in line with their mandates and in conformity with the provisions of the relevant UNESCO conventions, decisions and resolutions, to

ensure the prompt implementation of the mission and, in case of non-implementation, to propose possible effective measures to ensure its implementation;

10. **Decides to retain the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.22**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.37** and **41 COM 8C.2** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for the important efforts made to elaborate the strategy to protect Libyan World Heritage properties, despite the prevailing unstable situation and difficult working conditions on the ground;
4. Notes with appreciation the issuing of a Municipal Resolution in 2017 to address urban encroachment at the property and requests the State Party to continue its efforts to eliminate encroachment;
5. Also commends the State Party for the important advances in the definition of the buffer zone of the property, and encourages it to pursue the finalization of the boundary clarification and the minor boundary modification in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and in line with Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Also encourages the State Party to submit an International Assistance request to address the pressing conservation and management issues, lack of funds and inadequate human resources that the property is currently facing;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre regularly informed of the evolution of the situation at the property and of any new measures undertaken to ensure its protection and conservation, and to continue to provide detailed information on the works carried out, including technical explanations justifying the interventions;
8. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, as soon as the security conditions permit;
9. Calls for an increased mobilization of the international community to provide more financial and technical support to the State Party, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, to implement the short and medium-term measures identified during the International Meeting on the Safeguard of Libyan Cultural Heritage (Tunis, May 2016);
10. Launches an appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in fighting against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage coming from Libya, in engaging in the protection of

cultural heritage during armed conflict as per the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2347 of March 2017, the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Heritage during times of Armed Conflict and the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, and further encourages the State Party to consider ratifying the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on stolen or illegally exported cultural objects;

11. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
12. **Decides to retain the Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Libya) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### 23. **Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna (Libya) (C 183)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.23**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.38** and **41 COM 8C.2** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for the important efforts made to elaborate the strategy to protect Libyan World Heritage properties, despite the prevailing unstable situation and difficult working conditions on the ground;
4. Notes with appreciation the activities undertaken by the State Party to address the conservation threats in the property despite the numerous difficulties faced;
5. Also commends the State Party for the important advances in the definition of the buffer zone of the property, and encourages it to pursue the finalization of the boundary clarification and the minor boundary modification in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in line with Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre regularly informed of the evolution of the situation at the property and of any new measures undertaken to ensure its protection and conservation, and to continue to provide detailed information on the works carried out, including technical explanations justifying the interventions;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, as soon as the security conditions permit;
8. Calls for an increased mobilization of the international community to provide more financial and technical support to the State Party, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, to implement the short- and medium-term measures identified during the International Meeting on the Safeguard of Libyan Cultural Heritage (Tunis, May 2016);



9. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna (Libya) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

#### 24. **Archaeological Site of Sabratha (Libya) (C 184)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.24**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.39** and **41 COM 8C.2** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for the important efforts made to elaborate the strategy to protect Libyan World Heritage properties, despite the prevailing unstable situation and difficult working conditions on the ground;
4. Expresses great concern over the damages incurred at the property due to the armed conflict, in particular to the theatre, urban encroachment, vandalism and weathering, in conjunction with the technical and financial difficulties to undertake appropriate protection and conservation measures;
5. Notes with appreciation the activities undertaken by the State Party to address the conservation threats in the property despite the numerous difficulties faced;
6. Also commends the State Party for the important advances in the definition of the buffer zone of the property, and encourages it to pursue the finalization of the boundary clarification and the minor boundary modification in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in line with Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre regularly informed of the evolution of the situation at the property and of any new measures undertaken to ensure its protection and conservation, and to continue to provide detailed information on the works carried out, including technical explanations justifying the interventions;
8. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, as soon as the security conditions permit;
9. Calls for an increased mobilization of the international community to provide more financial and technical support to the State Party, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, to implement the short- and medium-term measures identified during the International Meeting on the Safeguard of Libyan Cultural Heritage (Tunis, May 2016);

10. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
11. **Decides to retain the Archaeological Site of Sabratha (Libya) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

25. **Old Town of Ghadamès (Libya) (C 362)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.25**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.40** and **41 COM 8C.2** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for the important efforts made to elaborate the strategy to protect Libyan World Heritage properties, despite the prevailing unstable situation and difficult working conditions on the ground;
4. Notes with appreciation the commitment and efforts of the Department of Antiquities (DOA) and the local authorities in undertaking maintenance and conservation measures at the property, and the engagement of the local communities in contributing to maintaining the property's Outstanding Universal Value;
5. Also commends the State Party for the important advances in the definition of the buffer zone of the property, and encourages it to pursue the finalization of the boundary clarification and the minor boundary modification in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in line with Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre regularly informed of the evolution of the situation at the property and of any new measures undertaken to ensure its protection and conservation, and to continue to provide detailed information on the works carried out, including technical explanations justifying the interventions;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, as soon as the security conditions permit;
8. Calls for an increased mobilization of the international community to provide more financial and technical support to the State Party, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, to implement the short- and medium-term measures identified during the International Meeting on the Safeguard of Libyan Cultural Heritage (Tunis, May 2016), and in particular the urgent maintenance and conservation measures following heavy rain that damaged the property;

9. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain the Old Town of Ghadamès (Libya) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.26**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.41** and **41 COM 8C.2** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for the important efforts made to elaborate the strategy to protect Libyan World Heritage properties, despite the prevailing unstable situation and difficult working conditions on the ground;
4. Notes the activities undertaken by the State Party to address the conservation threats in the property despite the numerous difficulties faced, and requests it to continue its efforts in this regard;
5. Expresses deep concern over the increase in vandalism at the property and the looting of entire fragments of rock art;
6. Also commends the State Party for the important advances in the definition of the buffer zone of the property, and encourages it to pursue the finalization of the boundary clarification and the minor boundary modification in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in line with Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre regularly informed of the evolution of the situation at the property and of any new measures undertaken to ensure its protection and conservation, and to continue to provide detailed information on the works carried out, including technical explanations justifying the interventions;
8. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, as soon as the security conditions permit;
9. Calls for an increased mobilization of the international community to provide more financial and technical support to the State Party, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, to implement the short- and medium-term measures identified during the International Meeting on the Safeguard of Libyan Cultural Heritage (Tunis, May 2016);
10. Launches an appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in fighting against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage coming from Libya in engaging in the protection of cultural

heritage during armed conflict as per the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2347 of March 2017, the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Heritage during times of Armed Conflict and the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, and also encourages the State Party to consider ratifying the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on stolen or illegally exported cultural objects;

11. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
  12. **Decides to retain Rock-Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus (Libya) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**
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27. **Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Palestine) (C 1433)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.27**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.42**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party on the implementation of high-standard conservation works which have occurred at the Church of the Nativity;
4. Requests the State Party to submit details of the completed works to mosaics, plaster, architraves, and stone pillars, and proposed future works, including works to a sub-floor mosaic, paintings and stone floors, as well as proposals for the revival of Star Street and its branches, to the World Heritage Centre;
5. Also reiterates its previous request to the State Party to submit a resume and analysis of all evidence revealed during the conservation work in order that there is a better understanding as to whether any material survives from the 6th century AD and, if not, to provide the dates of the surviving fabric;
6. Notes that the 'Manger Square Tunnel' project has been postponed and that the 'Manger Square Village' has been cancelled and, should the 'Manger Square Tunnel' project proceed and also requests the State Party to prepare an independent Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and submit this to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, in line with the requirements of Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before any irreversible commitments are made;
7. Commends the State Party for submitting the draft Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the property in February 2018 and requests that it be revised in accordance with the comments and advice provided by ICOMOS, particularly to incorporate analysis of the values of the property, planned projects and provisions for disaster risk management in particular fire hazards;

8. Also notes that, following finalization of the CMP for the property, it would be appropriate to consider 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 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain the Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Palestine) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 28. Hebron/AI-Khalil Old Town (Palestine) (C 1565)

### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.28**

#### **Hebron/AI-Khalil Old Town (Palestine)**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having considered Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add.2 and the annex attached to this decision,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 8B.1**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Decides that the status of **Hebron/AI-Khalil Old Town** relating to the World Heritage List remains unchanged as reflected in Decision **41 COM 8B.1** of the last World Heritage Committee.

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### **ANNEX**

#### **The World Heritage Committee**

#### **42nd session of the Committee (42 COM)**

1. Having considered Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add.2;
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 8B.1**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017), which did not include a SOUV, and noting that in compliance with Paragraph 154 of the *Operational Guidelines*, when deciding to inscribe a property on the World Heritage List, guided by the Advisory Bodies, the Committee adopts a SOUV for the property,
3. Taking note of a preliminary proposed SOUV contained in the state of conservation report submitted by the State Party,

4. Requests the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre to work with the State Party in the framework of the International Assistance project on the Management Plan to finalize this SOUV;
  5. Notes that a proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) was submitted by the State Party, as none was adopted at the 41st session, also notes that no ICOMOS field visit to the property was possible before inscription, and, as the current situation still does not permit any missions, proposes that a meeting be organized for representatives of the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS to discuss with the State Party the proposed SOUV, the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), related corrective measures and a timeframe for their implementation;
  6. Decides to consider the examination of a draft SOUV for the property at its 43rd session in 2019;
  7. Commends the State Party for the actions which are being taken to conserve significant attributes of the Property;
  8. Welcomes efforts to begin the preparation of a Management Plan, and requests the State Party to work in close coordination with the World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Ramallah Office and the Advisory Bodies in the implementation of the International Assistance Request regarding the preparatory studies for the elaboration of a Management Plan for the property;
  9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, detailed information on current conservation and development projects, particularly projects which have potential adverse impact on heritage, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
  10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
  11. **Also decides to retain Hebron/AI-Khalil Old Town (Palestine) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**
29. **Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir (Palestine) (C 1492)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.29**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.43** and **41 COM 8C.2** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),

3. Acknowledges the efforts made by the State Party to improve the state of conservation of the property;
4. Notes that the State Party has achieved good progress in preparing the comprehensive Management and Conservation Plan (MCP) for the property and encourages it to complete and implement the MCP, taking into account the preliminary analysis by ICOMOS and its forthcoming detailed recommendations;
5. Welcoming the efforts being made by the State Party to implement the corrective measures to achieve the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), urges the State Party to pay additional attention to measure (iv) through allocating funds to put in place an adequate sewage system, which has thus far witnessed no progress;
6. Invites the State Party to inform it, through the World Heritage Centre, of any future plans for major restoration or new construction projects that may affect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
8. **Decides to retain Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir (Palestine) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**Note: the following reports on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic need to be read in conjunction with Item 36 below.**

### 30. **Ancient City of Aleppo (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 21)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.30**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.44** and **41 COM 7A.50**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Taking into account Decision **42 COM 7A.36** on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic,
4. Expresses its great concern at the impact of the armed conflict and resulting humanitarian crisis and irreversible destruction within the property, including of whole neighborhoods;
5. Recalls its request that humanitarian and security actions be done in coordination with cultural heritage stakeholders, to avoid further irreversible damages to the property, and allow for undertaking of first aid measures on its cultural heritage;

6. Reiterates its deep concern about the instability of buildings within the property and urges the State Party to undertake a detailed risk assessment and emergency consolidation works for the concerned structures in order to guarantee the safety of the inhabitants;
7. Notes the efforts mobilized by the State Party for the recovery of Aleppo since December 2016 and encourages it to continue its efforts in documenting and assessing damages and carrying out emergency interventions, despite the extremely difficult situation;
8. Also encourages the State Party to implement the actions agreed upon at the technical coordination meeting organized by UNESCO in March 2017, and to allow sufficient time for the development of integrated strategic plans for the rehabilitation and revitalization of the property in its broader urban context, in line with the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (UNESCO, 2011) and in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
9. Calls on all UNESCO Member States to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
10. Requests that the invited joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission be carried to proceed to a comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of the property and identify measures needed to reverse the decay and ensure the conservation and protection of the property, as soon as the security situation allows;
11. Further encourages the State Party to finalize the minor boundary modification proposal for the property and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2019**, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
12. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
13. **Decides to retain the Ancient City of Aleppo (Syrian Arab Republic) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### 31. **Ancient City of Bosra (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 22)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.31**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.45**, **41 COM 7A.50** and **41 COM 8B.39**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Taking into account Decision **42 COM 7A.36** on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic,
4. Expresses its concern about the situation at the property and the lack of detailed information on damages and restoration works undertaken;



5. Acknowledges the efforts of the local communities to monitor and protect the property despite very difficult circumstances;
6. Calls on all UNESCO Member States to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
7. Requests that the invited joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission be carried out to proceed to a comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of the property and identify measures needed to reverse the decay and ensure the conservation and protection of the property, as soon as the security situation allows;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
9. **Decides to retain the Ancient City of Bosra (Syrian Arab Republic) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### 32. Ancient City of Damascus (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 20bis)

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.32**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.46** and **41 COM 7A.50** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Taking into account Decision **42 COM 7A.36** on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic,
4. Expresses its great concern over the damage regularly caused by fire within the property and its buffer zone, and urges the State Party to analyze reasons behind fires, continue implementing all necessary risk-prevention and mitigation actions outlined in the Emergency Response Plan of December 2013, and to report back to the World Heritage Centre on the progress made thereon;
5. Regrets that the restoration works undertaken in the property and its buffer zone are not based on historical archives and documentation, and do not use traditional materials, thus impacting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to:
  - a) Limit conservation or restoration works to first aid interventions until the security situation improves,
  - b) Take immediate action to save the remaining structures through adequate shoring and temporary consolidation measures,
  - c) Submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by ICOMOS, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, any reconstruction and restoration

project within property, of all damaged structures, including the “Ottoman Bank”, prior to the commencement of any works,

- d) Implement the recommendations of the 2016 UNESCO First Aid Support Meeting,
  - e) Develop an integrated management plan for the property along with a database of documentation and archives to inform restoration decisions;
7. Welcomes the State Party’s decision to revise the restoration project for the Ottoman Bank in al-Asrooniya neighborhood in line with the recommendations of the 2016 UNESCO Technical Assistance Workshop, further requests it to provide the detailed designs for the revised project, and encourages it to continue implementing all the recommendations of the workshop
  8. Also urges all parties associated with the situation in Syria to refrain from any action that could cause further damage to the Ancient City of Damascus, including preventing the use of cultural property and prominent architectural elements for military purposes;
  9. Calls on all UNESCO Member States to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
  10. Requests that the invited joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission be carried to proceed to a comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of the property and identify measures needed to reverse the decay and ensure the conservation and protection of the property, as soon as the security situation allows;
  11. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
  12. **Decides to retain the Ancient City of Damascus (Syrian Arab Republic) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### **33. Ancient villages of Northern Syria (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 1348)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.33**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.47** and **41COM 7A.50**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Taking into account Decision **42 COM 7A.36** on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic,
4. Expresses its concern about the situation at the property, in particular following the escalation of the conflict, and the lack of detailed information on damages;
5. Calls on all parties involved in the conflict to refrain from any action that could cause further damage to the property, including preventing using it for military purposes;

6. Acknowledges the efforts of the local communities to monitor and protect the property despite the very difficult circumstances;
7. Calls on all UNESCO Member States to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
8. Requests that the invited joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission be carried to proceed to a comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of the property and identify measures needed to reverse the decay and ensure the conservation and protection of the property, as soon as the security situation allows;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain the Ancient Villages of Northern Syria (Syrian Arab Republic) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**34. Crac des chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 1229)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.34**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.48** and **41 COM 7A.50** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Taking into account Decision **42 COM 7A.36** on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic,
4. Takes note of the restoration works undertaken at the Chapel despite difficult conditions;
5. Encourages the State Party to continue implementing the recommendations of the Technical Assistance Workshop organized by the World Heritage Centre, and in particular, while undertaking urgent restoration works, to reuse as much as possible the original stones, and supplement them with identical newly- extracted ones from the quarry of origin, as much as the current circumstances allow it;
6. Urges the State Party to:
  - a) Abandon the project of a cable car at Qal'at Salah El-Din,
  - b) Limit interventions to emergency measures and urgent conservation activities until the situation improves,
  - c) Submit to the World Heritage Centre, for examination by the Advisory Bodies, a detailed project on the tourism facilities foreseen at the property accompanied by a Heritage Impact Assessment, before any work is implemented, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;

7. Calls on all UNESCO Member States to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
8. Requests that the invited joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission be carried to proceed to a comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of the property and identify measures needed to reverse the decay and ensure the conservation and protection of the property, as soon as the security situation allows;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain the Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din (Syrian Arab Republic) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### 35. **Site of Palmyra (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 23)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.35**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7A.49**, **41 COM 7A.50** and **41 COM 8B.51**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Taking into account Decision **42 COM 7A.36** on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic,
4. Reiterates its request to the State Party to limit restoration works to first aid interventions until the security situation improves and allows conducting detailed studies and extensive field work, and also discussions on defining optimal approaches;
5. Reiterates its encouragement to the State Party to implement the recommendations of the UNESCO technical assistance workshop of 2016, and in particular the emergency consolidation measures;
6. Calls on all UNESCO Member States to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
7. Requests that the invited joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission be carried out to proceed to a comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of the property and identify measures needed to reverse the decay and ensure the conservation and protection of the property, as soon as the security situation allows;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
9. **Decides to retain the Site of Palmyra (Syrian Arab Republic) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 36. General Decision on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic

### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.36**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.50**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Deplores the conflict situation prevailing in the country, the loss of human life and the degradation of humanitarian conditions;
4. Taking note of the reports provided by the State Party regarding the state of conservation of the six Syrian World Heritage properties and of the sites inscribed on the Syrian Tentative List, commends the Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums (DGAM) and all the heritage professionals and the local communities in Syria who are working on monitoring and protecting cultural heritage for their sustained efforts amidst extremely difficult conditions, but expresses its utmost concern at the damage occurred and the threats facing these properties and cultural heritage in general;
5. Urges all parties associated with the situation in Syria to refrain from any action that would cause further damage to cultural heritage of the country and to fulfil their obligations under international law, and in particular the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2347 of March 2017, by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage, including the halting of all damages that result from targeting World Heritage properties, sites included in the Tentative List and other cultural heritage sites;
6. Also urges the State Party to adopt measures for the evacuation of World Heritage properties being used for military purposes;
7. Further urges the State Party and the international community to include recovery actions within the properties to the overall humanitarian, security and peace building response;
8. Urges furthermore the State Party to safeguard damaged properties through minimal first aid interventions to prevent theft, further collapse and natural degradation, and to refrain from undertaking conservation and restoration work until the situation allows, for the development of comprehensive conservation strategies and actions that respond to international standards in full consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
9. Launches an appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in fighting against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage coming from Syria as per the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2199 of February 2015, and in engaging in the protection of cultural heritage during armed conflict as per the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2347 of March 2017, and reiterates its suggestion to the State Party to consider ratifying the Second Protocol (1999) of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Heritage during times of Armed Conflict;
10. Requests the State Party to pursue the systematic documentation of all damage incurred by the World Heritage properties, whenever conditions allow, and to implement all possible risk mitigation measures, to inform on the development of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and the identification of corrective measures for all six properties;

11. Calls upon the international community to further support the safeguarding of Syrian cultural heritage through earmarked funds or through contribution to the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
12. Also calls upon the international and national cultural heritage professionals to unite for the safeguarding of Syria's cultural heritage, and pursue their ongoing initiatives in coordination with UNESCO;
13. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the properties and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.37**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.51**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017);
3. Expresses its continuing concern at the recent damage caused to the cultural heritage of the Historic Town of Zabid as a result of ongoing armed conflict, and that the property continues to be threatened by the current security situation, ongoing social change and continuing lack of organisational support and resources for both heritage management and physical conservation;
4. Commends the local actors and the communities of Zabid for efforts to protect and conserve the property despite the very difficult conditions;
5. Reiterates the need for a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to advise on short-term repair and conservation works, and to contribute to the development of a set of corrective measures and a timeframe for their implementation, as well as the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as soon as the security situation in Yemen has improved;
6. Urges all parties involved in the conflict to refrain from any further action that would cause damage to the cultural heritage of Yemen and the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage, in particular the safeguarding of properties on the World Heritage List and those included in the Tentative List of Yemen, and encourages all concerned stakeholders to unite for the preservation of cultural heritage in Yemen;
7. Reiterates its previous calls for the international community to provide technical and financial support, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, for the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan for the Safeguarding of Yemen's Cultural Heritage, adopted at the UNESCO expert meeting in July 2015, including funding for capacity building and first-aid restoration and protection measures, and calls on the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to continue providing technical assistance and support;

8. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit details of the buffer zone and other technical requirements for a minor boundary modification proposal as soon as the conditions allow it, for adoption by the World Heritage Committee;
9. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain the Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.38**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.52**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Expresses its continuing concern at the damage caused to the cultural heritage of Yemen as a result of armed conflict, and that the Old City of Sana'a has incurred irreversible destruction, and continues to be vulnerable, owing to the current security situation, ongoing social change and continuing lack of organisational support and resources for both heritage management and physical conservation;
4. Commends the local technical actors and other parties involved in damage assessment, documentation and emergency interventions at the property, and requests that they restore damaged buildings based on surveys and documentation, and using traditional construction techniques and materials, as much as possible, to avoid incrementally affecting the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
5. Notes the actions taken to address unauthorized construction of new buildings within the property without prior consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and reiterates its previous request that the State Party submit to the World Heritage Centre, for examination by the Advisory Bodies, further information on these new buildings and on new projects prior to initiating any construction works;
6. Reiterates the need for a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to advise on short-term repair and conservation works, and to contribute to the development of a set of corrective measures and a timeframe for their implementation, as well as the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as soon as the security situation in Yemen has improved;
7. Urges all parties involved in the conflict to refrain from any further action that would cause damage to the cultural heritage of Yemen and the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage, in particular the safeguarding of properties on the World Heritage List and those included in the Tentative List of Yemen, and encourages all concerned stakeholders to unite for the preservation of cultural heritage in Yemen;

8. Reiterates its previous call to the international community to provide technical and financial support, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, for the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan for the Safeguarding of Yemen's Cultural Heritage, adopted at the UNESCO expert meeting in July 2015, including funding for capacity building and first-aid restoration and protection measures; and also calls on the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to continue providing technical assistance and support where needed;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain the Old City of Sana'a (Yemen) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

### 39. **Old Walled City of Shibam (Yemen) (C 192)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.39**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.53**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Expresses its continuing concern at the recent damage caused to the cultural heritage of the property as a result of natural elements and ongoing armed conflict, and that the property continues to be vulnerable, owing to the residual impact of previous flooding, as well as the current security situation, ongoing social change and continuing lack of organisational support and resources for both heritage management and physical conservation;
4. Commends the local technical actors and other parties involved in damage assessment, documentation and emergency interventions, and for its communication with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and acknowledges the efforts of the General Organization for the Preservation of Historic Cities in Yemen (GOPHCY), the community and the other concerned stakeholders of Shibam to protect and conserve the property despite the very difficult conditions;
5. Requests the State Party to submit, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, details for the 'Shibam Oases Development Project';
6. Reiterates the need for a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to advise on repair and conservation works, and to contribute to the development of a set of corrective measures and a timeframe for their implementation, as well as the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as soon as the security situation in Yemen has improved;
7. Urges all parties involved in the conflict to refrain from any further action that would cause damage to the cultural heritage of Yemen and the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible



measures to protect such heritage, in particular the safeguarding of properties on the World Heritage List and those included in the Tentative List of Yemen, and encourages all concerned stakeholders to unite for the preservation of cultural heritage in Yemen;

8. Reiterates its previous calls for the international community to provide technical and financial support, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, for the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan for the Safeguarding of Yemen's Cultural heritage, adopted at the UNESCO Expert meeting in July 2015, including funding for capacity building and first-aid restoration and protection measures, and calls on the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to continue providing the State Party with technical assistance and support where needed;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain the Old Walled City of Shibam (Yemen) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## **NATURAL PROPERTIES**

### **ASIA-PACIFIC**

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.40**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decisions **38 COM 7A.28** and **41 COM 7A.18**, adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the State Party's continued progress in increasing patrols and law enforcement efforts in the property;
4. Notes with significant concern the substantial, ongoing forest loss primarily as a result of encroachment and strongly urges the State Party to take urgent action to halt the current trend and rehabilitate degraded areas;
5. Also welcomes that the State Party has cancelled the proposed geothermal project on the Kappi Plateau within Gunung Leuser National Park and that no other plans exist for geothermal development within the property;
6. Further welcomes the 6-month extensions to the moratoria on new oil palm plantations and on mining issued by the Governor of Aceh in December 2017, and also strongly urges the State Party to extend these moratoria further to ensure that important wildlife habitats and corridors in the Leuser Ecosystem are protected against these damaging developments;

7. Appreciates that no new road development exists inside the property but notes with concern that two road upgrade projects have been approved without the necessary Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, and reiterates its request to the State Party to ensure that any upgrade to existing roads and footpaths are only permitted if it is demonstrated through an EIA that they would not cause any negative impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
8. Also noting with concern that the boundaries of two of the national parks have been reduced through Ministerial Decrees, requests the State Party to clarify whether it intends to modify the boundaries of the property, in which case a boundary modification request should be submitted in accordance with paragraphs 163-165 of the *Operational Guidelines*, including clear maps of the revised boundaries, for approval by the Committee, and reiterates its recommendation to the State Party to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, a proposal for a significant boundary modification to better reflect the OUV of the property;
9. Reminds the State Party that changes to existing boundaries and buffer zones should have the primary objective of strengthening the protection of OUV and must be approved by the World Heritage Committee through one of its established processes;
10. Also requests the State Party to ensure that monitoring of key wildlife species (Sumatran Elephant, Sumatran Orangutan, Sumatran Rhino and Sumatran Tiger) comprise systematic data collection across the three national parks using consistent monitoring methods and replicable protocols;
11. Adopts the indicators that describe the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as revised by the 2018 IUCN mission, and further requests the State Party to implement the following revised corrective measures to restore the OUV of the property:
  - a) Strengthen efforts to remove all encroachers from the property and carry out necessary forest restoration work to ensure that encroachment does not recur. Ensure that forest restoration is focused initially on degraded areas in key ecological corridors and along roads, paths and tracks that traverse the property, and that key restored wildlife corridors are designated as a core zone. Review any historical land rights claims within the property and take necessary action to resolve such claims whilst maintaining the OUV of the property,
  - b) Clarify in law the boundaries of each component national park of the property, in consultation with Provincial governments, local communities and all other stakeholders and restore and complete the demarcation of these boundaries on the ground,
  - c) Further enhance law enforcement capacity and the geographic reach and intensity of patrols throughout the property in collaboration with conservation NGOs, local communities and other partners. Ensure that forest crimes are effectively detected and prosecuted,
  - d) Ensure standardised monitoring protocols and data formats to track progress in the implementation of all activities towards the DSOCR within each park, so that these can be readily consolidated for regular reporting on progress for the property as a whole. Ensure that new data on the extent of forest cover are derived from recent satellite imagery in a manner that can be repeated at regular intervals,
  - e) Strengthen property-wide monitoring of key species, including Sumatran Elephant, Tiger, Rhino and Orangutan, by:
    - (i) continuing collaboration among Government, NGO and university stakeholders,

- (ii) agreeing a common methodological framework for monitoring each species,
  - (iii) expanding monitoring efforts to address geographical gaps in monitoring activities,
  - (iv) ensuring that simple GPS-referenced presence/absence data for key species are collected as part of routine SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) patrols, so that changes in range occupancy can be detected and monitored,
  - (v) synchronizing data analyses for all key species to facilitate progress reporting,
- f) Strengthen species recovery efforts by implementing habitat improvement and ecosystem restoration programmes, as required, including the control of invasive species,
  - g) Maintain the policy that prohibits the construction of new roads in national parks, and implement the strategies and recommendations of the 2017 Strategic Environmental Assessment for the road network in the Bukit Barisan Mountain Range and the additional requests made by the Committee, in order to minimize the impact of road networks on the property's OUV,
  - h) Ensure that rigorous EIAs are carried out for all proposed developments within the property (e.g. road improvement projects) and its vicinity (e.g. roads, mining, geothermal and hydro dam projects), with particular attention to the Leuser Ecosystem National Strategic Area, to ensure that these do not have a negative impact on the OUV of the property,
  - i) Complete the process of closing and rehabilitating all mines within the property, further investigate the existence of any mining concessions and exploration permits that may still overlap with the property, and revoke any overlapping concessions and/or permits that are identified,
  - j) Ensure that all provinces, districts and sub-districts that include parts of the property recognize its World Heritage status and avoid the designation of development zones within its boundaries,
  - k) Ensure that the World Heritage Working Group under the Coordinating Ministry of Human Development and Culture is taking an active role in promoting effective coordination between different ministries in the protection and management of the property especially concerning difficult issues related to encroachment and boundary reconstruction,
  - l) Review the buffer zones around each park comprising the property, and revise them where necessary and appropriate, based on ecological criteria, to protect critical wildlife habitats bordering the property and ensure that land use in the wider landscapes around each park contributes to sustaining all aspects of the property's OUV, including animal migration corridors and parts of each species natural range that are essential to maintaining viable populations in the long term;
12. Requests furthermore the State Party to assess the full potential impact of invasive species, including *Merremia peltata* and *Lantana camara*, on the OUV of the property and their possible control methods;
  13. Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
  14. **Decides to retain the Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Indonesia) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

#### 41. East Rennell (Solomon Islands) (N 854)

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.41**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.19**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit a report on the state of conservation of the property, as requested by the Committee;
4. Notes with utmost concern the letter submitted to the World Heritage Centre by the Tuhunui Tribe of East Rennell, raising serious concerns on the practical modalities of customary ownership, management and decision-making, and expressing their wish to “withdraw all its customary land from the World Heritage Program Site in East Rennell” in light of their concern that they are not benefiting from its World Heritage status, and their opposition to the property being declared under the Protected Area Act 2010;
5. Considers that the long term conservation of the property’s Outstanding Universal Value can only be secured with the full consent of the customary land owners and land users in full respect of their rights;
6. Also considers that the development of sustainable livelihoods for the local communities is of utmost importance, requests the State Party to seek technical and financial support to address this issue and calls upon the international community to support the State Party with this effort;
7. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property:
  - a) to facilitate a dialogue between and amongst different stakeholders/communities and to evaluate how the concerns expressed by the customary land owners can be addressed, whilst fully respecting their right to self-determination,
  - b) to provide advice to the State Party regarding possible measures which can be implemented in order to achieve the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), in close consultation with local communities and customary land owners,
  - c) to assess the current state of conservation of the property and the progress achieved towards combatting threats identified in previous state of conservation reports, including invasive species, bauxite mining and logging;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
9. **Decides to retain East Rennell (Solomon Islands) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.42**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.1**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Recalls its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the adopted corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
4. **Decides to retain Everglades National Park (United States of America) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.43**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.2**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for the progress made in achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and particularly welcomes the legal enactment of a moratorium on oil exploration and other petroleum operations in the entire maritime zone of Belize;
4. Considers that Indicators 2, 3 and 4 of the DSOCR have been fully achieved, and that Indicator 1 can be considered as achieved given the confirmation by the State Party that official verification of land tenure and subsequent declaration as mangrove reserves of the remaining public lands within marine reserves comprising the property has been officially agreed and initiated by the relevant ministries, and is expected to be completed in 2018;
5. **Decides to remove Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (Belize) from the List of World Heritage in Danger;**

6. Requests the State Party to ensure that the process of official land tenure verification within the property is completed in due course and no later than by the end of 2018, and that the remaining public lands within the property are designated as strict reserves, in line with the commitment expressed by the State Party;
7. Urges the State Party to address the pending issues related to the revised regulatory instruments, in particular to ensure that specific provisions for consideration of potential impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) are included in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Checklist for all types of projects, and that the ongoing revision of the EIA Regulations reflects this and is completed as a matter of priority;
8. Strongly encourages the State Party to continue to ensure that the resources required for the long-term implementation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan are secured;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

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

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.44**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.3**, adopted at its 41st session (Kraków, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party and governmental and non-governmental partners on continued progress made in land titling and granting negotiated local access to natural resources in the buffer and cultural zones of the biosphere reserve, encourages the State Party and partners involved to consolidate the innovative and promising governance mechanisms and urges the State Party to develop an effective and funded exit strategy to sustain these advances beyond the duration of external project support;
4. Reiterates its strong concern that human, financial and logistical resources allocated by the State Party continue to be insufficient to ensure systematic law enforcement, presence on the ground and adequate monitoring of the property;
5. Reiterates its recommendation that the State Party maintain the overflights and ground level surveys to detect illegal activities and illegal new settlements as early as possible to enable immediate responses, avoiding evictions after the full establishment of settlements;
6. Also urges the State Party to take concrete steps to follow up on the updated conclusions and recommendations facilitated by the 2017 Advisory mission regarding the Significant Boundary Modification and the efforts to remove the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger - in line with the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) adopted in 2015 - with the technical support of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, as required;

7. Welcomes the acknowledgement of the possible benefits of a Significant Boundary Modification by the State Party, while fully respecting the interests, rights and aspirations of indigenous peoples, Afro-Honduran and Ladino (mestizo) communities;
8. Expresses its utmost concern that the State Party did not report on the possible impacts of the Patuca III project despite repeated requests, and requests the State Party to ensure that current and potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property are specifically assessed urgently, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and to ensure that the project will not proceed before this assessment is completed;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve (Honduras) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## AFRICA

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.45**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.4**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Notes with utmost concern the results of the census that reveal that the decimation of large wildlife continues endlessly and has already resulted in the disappearance of the elephant and that the progressive degradation of wildlife has, for several years, compromised the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
4. Expresses its concern as regards the persistent threats from poaching by armed groups, transboundary transhumance, artisanal mining exploitation and insecurity and congratulates the States Parties of the Central African Republic, Cameroon and Chad for the signature of the transboundary Tripartite Anti-Poaching Agreement and the development of a regional strategy to combat transhumance and poaching and requests these States Parties to secure the technical and financial means to urgently implement this strategy;
5. Warmly welcomes the continued efforts of the State Party, with support from the ECOFAUNE+ (Wildlife Ecosystem of north-eastern CAR) and PCBAC-SEAC (Central Africa Biodiversity Conservation Programme – Protecting Central Africa's Elephants) projects and technical partners, including the Wildlife Conservation Society, to improve the management and protection of the property and its surroundings and launches an appeal to donors to support the ecological restoration process of the property, to avoid the probable and imminent loss of its OUV;

6. Regrets that the State Party did not inform the World Heritage Centre in advance of the rehabilitation of the National Road 8, recalls that the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) of the project must take into account the “IUCN Advisory Note on World Heritage: Environmental Evaluation” to assess eventual impacts on the OUV of the property and also recalls the importance of avoiding acceptance of any new project that could aggravate the existing threats and could compromise the progress achieved in the management of the project;
7. Takes note of the invitation of the State Party for a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN reactive monitoring mission, for autumn 2018, security situation permitting, to evaluate the state of conservation of the property and determine whether there remain perspectives for the regeneration of the characteristics of the property justifying its OUV;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
9. Decides to continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism to this property;
10. Also decides to retain **Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park (Central African Republic) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

46. **Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve (Côte d’Ivoire/Guinea) (N 155bis)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.46**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.6**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Warmly welcomes the continued efforts of the State Party of Côte d’Ivoire to conduct anti-poaching patrols as well as ecological monitoring and requests the States Parties of Côte d’Ivoire and Guinea to provide additional information on the analysis of the data gathered during the surveillance patrols and the ecological monitoring, to enable an evaluation of the tendencies of anthropogenic activities, including poaching, and that of the populations of the key species in the property;
4. Also warmly welcomes the funding obtained to enable the implementation of the management functions of the Ivorian component of the property, expresses its concern as regards the level of formal trans-border collaboration and reiterates its request to the States Parties to develop trans-border management for the property and notably the necessary harmonization of ecological monitoring and the establishment of joint surveillance operations, and to prepare a follow-up of the Nimba Project on the entire property to promote the implementation of the corrective measures;
5. Takes note of the confirmation by the State Party of Côte d’Ivoire that no degraded area would be excluded from the Ivorian component of the property during the redefinition of the boundaries of the Reserve and also requests the State Party of Côte d’Ivoire to submit to the World Heritage Centre a high-resolution map of the updated boundaries.



6. Regrets that the report of the State Party of Guinea does not clearly distinguish the obsolete information from the current information concerning the implementation of the corrective measures;
7. Takes note of the information provided by the State Party of Guinea that all mining activities of the WAE and SMFG Companies have now been suspended and that the permit granted to the SAMA Resources Company has been withdrawn since 2014 and also reiterates its request that no new mining exploration and exploitation permits located around the property be granted without a Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment (SEIA) being carried out to evaluate the impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, including the accumulative effects of these projects;
8. Also regrets that the States Parties have provided no information concerning the road development project to facilitate transport within the Mano River Union, that would include tarmacking the Lola route (Guinea) – Danané (Côte d'Ivoire) passing by Mount Nimba, and further requests the States Parties:
  - a) to provide additional information concerning this project,
  - b) to ensure that the impacts of the project on the OUV of the property are assessed in the framework of an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), in conformity with the IUCN World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment,
  - c) to submit, as soon as possible, a copy of this ESIA to the World Heritage Centre for examination by IUCN ;
9. Further reiterates its request the States Parties to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, a proposed Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and all the corresponding indicators;
10. Moreover requests the States Parties to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission, to assess the state of conservation of the property, to update the corrective measures, propose a timetable for their implementation, develop a proposed DSOCR, and evaluate the current state of the different mining projects surrounding the property;
11. Finally requests the States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated joint report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
12. **Decides to retain Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve (Côte d'Ivoire/Guinea) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**Note: the following reports on the World Heritage properties of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) need to be read in conjunction with Item 52 below.**

**47. Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 136)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.47**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.7**, adopted during its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Congratulating the State Party for its continued efforts to strengthen surveillance, monitoring and control in response to the pressure of the international ivory trade, as well as the increase in the patrol effort covering the totality of the property and 40% of the hunting areas, requests the State Party to continue these efforts by strengthening the number of rangers;
4. Reiterates its call to all UNESCO Member States to cooperate in the fight against illegal wildlife trafficking, notably through the implementation of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), with the full participation of the countries of transit and destination;
5. Expresses its deepest concern at the continuing decline in the elephant population, as confirmed by the April 2017 inventory, despite the significant surveillance resources deployed, and the worrying situation of the giraffe, of which only 49 individuals remain in the property and throughout the country, and also requests the State Party to continue the efforts of ecological monitoring and protection of these species, including the installation of telemetry collars, to prevent the extinction of these two species;
6. Reiterates also its deepest concern about the continuing insecurity around the property, which constitutes a permanent threat to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
7. Also expresses its deepest concern about plans to set up two refugee camps in the vicinity of the property, which should accommodate around 20,000 people and which could increase the already heavy pressure on the natural resources of the property and possibly lead to increase the poaching;
8. Regrets that the State Party has still not submitted the finalized version of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and reiterates its request to the State Party to submit it urgently;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. Decides to continue to apply 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.**

48. **Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 137)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.48**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.8**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Expresses its relief as regards the liberation of the agents of the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) taken hostage by an armed group and commends the courage of the field staff of the property who exercise their functions under extremely difficult conditions and often at the risk of their lives;
4. Also expresses its utmost concern as to the persistent insecurity prevailing in a large part of the lowlands and the decrease in surveillance coverage of the property over the period under consideration;
5. Notes with satisfaction the recruitment and training of new guards and the infrastructures established to strengthen surveillance and encourages the State Party, when security permits, to deploy personnel to all the sectors of the property to ensure an effective surveillance;
6. Warmly welcomes the identification, together with the South-Kivu Provincial Consultative Forestry Committee, of illegal farms installed in the ecological corridor, and requests the State Party to accelerate the cancellation process of the land titles in order to evacuate the illegal occupants, which is crucial in guaranteeing the ecological continuity between the lowlands and highlands of the property, and to submit to the World Heritage Centre the maps and all relevant information to evaluate the impact of the encroachment on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
7. Urges the State Party to continue with the implementation of the corrective measures, as updated during the 2017 mission;
8. Regrets that the security problems have delayed the global census of the property, which was begun in 2014, and reiterates that the results of these studies are crucial for the evaluation of the OUV of the property;
9. Also requests the State Party to develop, in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, indicators for the draft Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as soon as the final results of the wildlife inventory are available;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
11. Decides to continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism;
12. Also decides to retain **Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.49**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.9** adopted during its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Condemns the violence perpetrated against the staff of the property and in particular the guards, killed during surveillance operations of the property, and addresses its most sincere condolences to their families;
4. Reiterates its concern as regards insecurity which has again led to a reduction in surveillance coverage, and reiterates its request to the State Party to rapidly strengthen the number of guards as well as the budget for the Okapi Wildlife Reserve in order to extend the coverage of the patrols and progressively gain control of the property and drastically reduce poaching that affects the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
5. Appreciates the efforts made to strengthen the capacities of the justice stakeholders and the guards and to implement the recommendations of the Mambasa Round Table of May 2013, having achieved a tempering of relations between the Okapi Wildlife Reserve and the local communities and their involvement in the management of the property;
6. Warmly welcomes the establishment of a permit system to control the use of the National Road 4 (RN4) and the number of illegal residents, also requests the State Party to update the data concerning the number of residents in the property and also reiterates its request to the State Party to assess the impacts of the increase in populations on the land-use in the property and the villages located along the RN4;
7. Reiterates its concern in the face of continuing illegal artisanal mining exploitation in the property and urges the State Party to undertake urgent measures to evacuate these illegal quarries and ensure their rehabilitation;
8. Further requests the State Party to update the Integrated Management Plan (PAG), integrating provisions relating to the different zones of the property including the subsistence zones, the Central Integral Conservation Area and the Forestry Concessions for Local Communities, and ensure its immediate implementation;
9. Moreover, reiterates its request to the State Party to provide data concerning progress accomplished with regard to the goals defined in the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
10. Finally, requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated state of conservation report and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
11. Decides to continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;
12. **Also decides to retain Okapi Wildlife Reserve (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

50. **Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 280)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7A.50**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.10**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Warmly welcomes the efforts of the State Party in implementing the corrective measures, in particular the involvement of the stakeholders in the management of the property and the implementation of a surveillance strategy and a triennial action plan and requests the State Party to continue these efforts;
4. Expresses its utmost concern as regards the attribution of three oil concessions within the property and the possible attribution of other blocks that would cover the entire property, reiterates its established position that oil exploration and exploitation are incompatible with World Heritage status;
5. Urges the State Party to cancel the current oil concessions that encroach part of the property and to prohibit the attribution of new concessions within the property and its periphery that could have negative and irreversible impacts on its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit all the inventory results for all the flagship species to the World Heritage Centre, as soon as they are available;
7. Takes note of the information provided by the State Party concerning demographic explosion in the biological corridor of the property and also requests the State Party to:
  - a) continue to implement the local development programmes to reduce pressure on the natural resources of the property,
  - b) strengthen surveillance at Kasaï, notably by installing a permanent patrol post, to halt poaching and bush meat trafficking;
8. Also takes note of the proposed boundaries for the ecological continuum in the corridor and further requests the States Party, once the boundaries have been legally determined, to undertake the necessary measures to ensure the protection of this ecological continuum and also reiterates its request to the State Party to study other possibilities to improve the connectivity between the “sustainable conservation zones” and the southern components of the property;
9. Further takes note of the efforts of the State Party to initiate a voluntary relocation of the Yaelima communities outside the Park, and requests furthermore the State Party to ensure that this process is voluntary and in accordance with the provisions of the *Convention* and the pertinent international standards, including the principles of prior consent, given freely and with full knowledge of the facts (CPLCC), fair compensation, access to social services and the preservation of cultural rights;
10. Requests moreover the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to assess the state of conservation of the property, update the corrective measures and prepare a timetable for their implementation and finalize the Desired state of

conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);

11. Finally, requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
12. Decides to continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism to the property;
13. **Also decides to retain Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.51**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.11**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Addresses its most sincere condolences to the families of the guards killed in the exercise of their functions and to all the staff of the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN);
4. Commends the efforts of ICCN in reinforcing surveillance, notably through the increase in the number of guards, but expresses its utmost concern as to persistent insecurity in certain sectors of the property that has led to continuing illegal activities by armed groups (poaching, illegal fishing and production of charcoal) threatening the safety of staff that resulted to halt tourism and call upon the international community to provide financial support to the property;
5. Expresses its concern in the face of serious threats that continue to affect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in particular encroachment by illegal implantations, illegal fishing, exploitation of wood and poaching, and requests the State Party to continue these efforts in the implementation of the corrective measures;
6. Recalls that the re-establishment of law and order and ICCN authority is the sine qua non to improve security conditions, regain control of the occupied areas and call a halt to illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the property;
7. Congratulates the State Party for the sustainable development activities established in the framework of the Alliance Virunga to improve the life of local communities and encourages it to continue this innovative model combining nature conservation and sustainable development;
8. Expresses its deepest concern as regards the proposal of the Ministry of Hydrocarbons to modify the boundaries of the property to authorize petroleum exploitation activities, reiterates its request to the State Party not to attribute petroleum exploration permits in Virunga National Park and reiterates again its position according to which all mining,

petroleum and gas exploration and exploitation is incompatible with World Heritage status, policy supported by the commitments undertaken by the leaders of industry, such as Shell and Total, not to engage in such activities in World Heritage properties;

9. Takes note of the recommendations done by the 2018 joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission, and also requests the State Party to implement the corrective measures, as updated by the mission, by 2023, as follows:
  - a) Reaffirm and re-establish ICCN authority as the principal national authority within the Park territory and ensure cooperation with the other competent authorities, including the Armed Forces and legal authorities, to guarantee the efficacy of its actions,
  - b) Continue to re-establish law and order enforcement by neutralizing the action of armed groups and contain their hold on the civilian populations and the illegal exploitation of natural resources,
  - c) Encourage transborder operational activities with Uganda to ensure the protection and circulation of itinerant species, such as the elephant,
  - d) Fight against the illegal traffic of charcoal organized from the Park, and promote alternative energies to satisfy the domestic and economic needs of the local populations,
  - e) Combat illegal encroachment by reaffirming the Park boundaries, halting agricultural activities inside the Park, and promoting economic development in its periphery,
  - f) Ensure protection of the fishery resources and the ecosystems of Lake Edward by combating illegal fishing, re-establishing governance of the property and promoting sustainable fish exploitation beneficial to the local communities,
  - g) Continue the anti-poaching combat that feeds international traffickers and the local bush meat commerce,
  - h) No attribution of petroleum exploitation concessions to be granted within the property,
  - i) Pursue and strengthen implementation of the “Alliance Virunga” programme as a leverage for development and pacification for the benefit of local populations through eco-tourism, renewable energy and sustainable agriculture,
  - j) Pursue efforts to ensure the professional and long-term management of the property by providing technical and financial means to the management authority to attain this objective;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
11. **Decides to** continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;
12. **Also decides to** retain Virunga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

## 52. General Decision on the properties of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.52**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.12**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017) and reaffirming the need to implement the Kinshasa Declaration adopted in 2011,
3. Expresses its concern regarding continued insecurity in and around the properties located in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), condemns the violence perpetrated against the guards and the staff of the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN), killed in the line of duty, and addresses its most sincere condolences to their families and all the ICCN staff;
4. Regrets the delay experienced in the establishment of the Corps responsible for the security of the National Parks and relevant protected areas (CorPPN) and requests the State Party to provide, without delay, financial means to enable the deployment of contingents in the sites to render them secure and combat the different armed groups;
5. Expresses its utmost concern as regards the attribution of blocks for oil exploration in the Central Basin of the DRC, that covers several sectors of Salonga National Park, reiterates with insistence its request to the State Party to cancel these concessions and to undertake a commitment not to authorize any new oil exploration and exploitation within the boundaries of the property, and reiterates its position according to which all oil and gas exploration and exploitation is incompatible with World Heritage status;
6. Expresses its deep concern again as to the proposal by the Ministry of Hydrocarbons of degazettement at the national level of one or several zones of Salonga and Virunga National Parks to authorize petroleum exploration activities and recalls that modifications made to the boundaries of World Heritage properties relating to extractive industries must be carried out in conformity with the procedures applied to major modifications of boundaries set out in Paragraph 165 of the *Operational Guidelines*, taking account of the potential impact of such projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
7. Also recalls that any proposal for modification to the boundaries of a World Heritage property must be based on strengthening its OUV and should not be proposed with the aim of facilitating extractive activities;
8. Commends the efforts of the State Party to make operational the Trust Fund for protected areas in the DRC, namely the « Okapi Funds for Conservation – FOCON », and also requests the State Party, as well as the donor community, to provide it with adequate financial means to respond to the needs of the protected areas and the World Heritage properties of the DRC;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, a detailed report on the implementation of the Kinshasa Declaration, the security situation in the properties, and the status of the oil exploration and exploitation concessions that encroach on World Heritage properties, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.



### 53. Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar) (N 1257)

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.53**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.14** adopted at its 41st session (Kraków, 2017),
3. Appreciates the State Party's continued efforts to implement the corrective measures, including for surveillance, ecological monitoring and restoration of degraded areas, welcomes the new Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects on forest restoration and strengthening local community involvement, and requests the State Party to continue implementing the corrective measures, and to report on the results of ecological monitoring and remaining sites to be rehabilitated;
4. Noting the reported decrease in the 2017 deforestation rate, notably in Andohahela National Park, and also recalling the increase in the 2016 deforestation rates of Andohahela and Masoala National Parks, also requests the State Party to provide further information on deforestation rates for each component of the property since 2009, including an analysis of satellite imagery;
5. Also noting the State Party's efforts to implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Action Plan and Biodiversity Management Plan, considers that the numbers of court cases and logs seized and the volume of stocks audited since November 2017 demonstrate that the illegal trade of precious wood species from Madagascar remains a persistent threat to the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), urges the State Party to strengthen its control and enforcement measures against illegal logging and export, and strongly encourages it to implement the CITES Decision 17.204 and all recommendations of the CITES Standing Committee;
6. Notes with significant concern that gold mining is becoming an increasingly severe threat to Ranomafana National Park, and further requests the State Party to provide an update on the status of the five-year Action Plan on illegal mining and its implementation;
7. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
8. **Decides to retain Rainforest of the Atsinanana (Magadascar) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.54**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.15**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Welcomes the State Party's continued efforts to implement the corrective measures, in particular the recruitment of additional staff for the property and the continued engagement of local communities to enhance surveillance of the property, and requests the State Party to continue and further strengthen these efforts;
4. Noting that the development of a Surveillance Plan and a Management Plan remain urgent needs, also welcomes the State Party's initiative to submit an International Assistance Request (IAR) with the aim of addressing these needs, and encourages the State Party to submit a revised IAR in line with the comments provided by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;
5. Notes with significant concern that support for the captive breeding programme of Red-necked Ostrich in the property remains inadequate, and reiterates its request to the State Party to secure the necessary funding for the effective operation of the captive breeding programme through close collaboration with other States Parties to develop and implement a regional action plan for the conservation of this species, and strongly encourages the State Party to seek expert advice of the IUCN Species Survival Commission Conservation Planning Specialist Group to evaluate and improve the efficiency of the programme and to develop a strategy for a potential reintroduction of the species;
6. Also notes with significant concern the reported presence of uranium, oil, and gold exploration and exploitation permits in the close vicinity of the property, as well as the continuation of illegal gold panning, and also requests the State Party to provide maps clearly showing the location of these permits in relation to the property, and to ensure that all exploration and exploitation activities are subject to a prior rigorous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, to ensure that these activities do not have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and submit these EIA to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, prior to authorizing these activities, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to provide detailed information and data on poaching and timber harvesting within the property and its vicinity, as well as the actions taken to combat these threats;
8. Also noting the State Party's ongoing efforts to monitor key species in the property, and to restore degraded areas, including those affected by the invasive alien species (IAS) *Prosopis juliflora*, further requests the State Party to clarify whether any new information regarding the presence of Cheetah has emerged since the 2015 mission to the property, which considered this species to be locally extinct, and further reiterates its request to the State Party to:
  - a) Submit to the World Heritage Centre the monitoring results for each species in order to demonstrate their conservation status and trends,

- b) Design and implement, in consultation with IUCN's Species Survival Commission Invasive Species Specialist Group, an eradication plan or IAS Management Plan for *Prosopis juliflora*, as appropriate;
9. Also encourages the State Party to seek advice from the World Heritage Centre and IUCN with a view to preparing the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
11. **Decides to retain Air and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.55**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.16**, adopted during its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Warmly welcomes the continued efforts of the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures, in particular those concerning the anti-poaching mechanism, the ongoing updating of the Management Plan of the property and the implementation of an ecological monitoring system, the combat against invasive species, the development of grazing areas and the reduction of livestock encroachment in the property, as well as the gradual participation of the communities in the management of the property, and requests the State Party to continue its efforts;
4. Takes note of the positive tendencies of the species monitored by the bio-monitoring programme but considers that the data base must be extended before these tendencies are confirmed, and notes a reduced level of poaching;
5. Reiterates its concerns concerning the impact of the Mako gold prospection project on the OUV of the property and takes note of the efforts of the State Party and the Pétowal Mining Company (PMC) to ensure a monitoring of these impacts, but regrets that no monitoring report on the quality of the waters has been provided and also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a monitoring report, including an analysis of the data on the quantity and quality of the surface and underground waters above and below the project;
6. Recalling its deep concern as regards the potential impacts of the Mako gold prospection project on the chimpanzees, further requests the State Party to provide specific and detailed data on the monitoring of this species, to enable an evaluation of the actual impacts of the project, as well as an assessment of the efficacy of the conservation areas created outside

the property with a view to mitigating these impacts and improving the conservation of this species;

7. Also considers that the current studies to determine the inter-connectivity of the waters of the River Gambia and the ponds located in the property are an important step towards providing an assessment of the impacts of the Sambangalou dam project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and reiterates its request to the State Party to develop an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) of the project, in conformity with the IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note: environmental assessment, and to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of its progress, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, as requested for many years;
8. Further requests the State Party to confirm, without delay, whether the closure of the basalt quarry at Mansadala has been effected as foreseen, recalling that the closure date has already been postponed several times;
9. Finally, requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain Niokolo-Koba National Park (Senegal) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7A.56**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decisions **36 COM 7B.5**, **36 COM 8B.43**, **40 COM 7**, **40 COM 7A.47** and **41 COM 7A.17**, adopted at its 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Expresses its grave concern about the State Party's decision to develop the Stiegler's Gorge hydropower project, and in particular the tendering of logging rights for 143,638 ha within the property, considers that the resulting large-scale deforestation represents a clear potential danger to the property in accordance with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and decides to add this issue to the justification for the continued inclusion of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
4. Also recalling the Committee's position that the construction of dams with large reservoirs within the boundaries of World Heritage properties is incompatible with their World Heritage status, as well as the commitment made by the State Party when the boundary modification was approved in 2012 not to undertake any development activities within Selous Game Reserve and its buffer zone without prior approval of the World Heritage Committee, reiterates its requests to the State Party to fully assess the cumulative impacts of the Stiegler's Gorge hydropower project on the property and its wider landscape through a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), undertaken to the highest international standards, and to consider alternative options to meet its power generation needs;

5. Urges the State Party to ensure that the planned logging and all other activities related to the Stiegler's Gorge hydropower project, which will affect the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and will be difficult to reverse, do not proceed prior to the completion of the SEA and its review by IUCN, and requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to review the status of the project, assess the state of conservation of the property and to assist the State Party in finalizing the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
6. Welcomes the launch of the Selous Ecosystem Conservation and Development (SECAD) project, funded by the German Development Bank, and its contribution to the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan (EAP), and also urges the State Party to ensure that the EAP is fully carried out and to report on progress made;
7. Noting that the efforts to improve law enforcement in the property appear to have reduced poaching, also requests the State Party to provide details on the data collection and to confirm these positive trends through an aerial census of the elephant population;
8. Also noting the indications that black rhinos are still present in the property, further requests the State Party to collect more data to evaluate the size and viability of the population, and to develop a strategy to ensure the long-term survival of the species;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, details of the elephant demographic survey and its methodology, including information on the selection of the surveyed elephant groups, comparisons with other demographic studies and classification of males and females;
10. Requests moreover the State Party to finalize the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) based on currently available data on elephants and the advice provided by the 2017 mission, and to submit it the World Heritage Centre for the Committee's adoption;
11. Notes with concern that the five-year Action Plan to protect the Selous-Niassa corridor is still not approved, lacks funding and has not been submitted to the World Heritage Centre, and further urges the State Party to take action to secure this important ecological corridor, and continue to report on progress made;
12. Urges furthermore the State Party to submit as soon as possible to the World Heritage Centre the revised Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Kidunda dam, including a model for the flooding regime, as well the ESIA for the Kito-1 oil and gas prospection project, including a study on the hydrological regime of the Kilombero floodplain and a specific assessment of potential downstream impacts on the OUV of the property;
13. Whilst noting the suspension of the Mkuju River Uranium Mining project, also reiterates its request to the State Party to conduct a full new ESIA and submit it to the World Heritage Centre if the design of the project is altered and In Situ Leaching technology (ISL) is applied;
14. Requests moreover the State Party to submit the new General Management Plan of the property as soon as it is available, as well as detailed information on the ecological importance of the area in the Mbarika mountains, which is proposed to be included within the property, in accordance with Decision **36 COM 8B.43**;
15. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019;

16. **Also decides to retain Selous Game Reserve (United Republic of Tanzania) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## **7B. State of conservation of the properties inscribed on the World Heritage List**

### **CULTURAL PROPERTIES**

#### **ASIA-PACIFIC**

##### **1. Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang Mountains (China) (C 705)**

###### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.1**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.30**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes the redesign of the shoreline and the progress made on the finalization of the uplift process for the Yuzhen Palace, and requests the State Party to provide an update on the reinstallation efforts as they continue to be implemented;
4. Also requests that the State Party provide more information on the visitor management system in place, and in particular that specific studies be carried out at all component parts of the property to better understand carrying capacities, and to guide the preparation of a visitor management plan, so as to guarantee the necessary physical conservation of the property and its setting and also to ensure that visitor experience is not compromised by too many people visiting any one component at the same time;
5. Welcomes the adoption of the municipal legislation for the protection of the property and further requests that the protection and management plan for the property be completed and submitted as soon as possible to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
6. Requests furthermore the State Party to initiate a meeting with representatives of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to clarify the following issues and determine the necessary processes for their resolution:
  - a) Final determination of the number of component parts of the property,
  - b) Potential revision of the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) for the property, depending on the final number of component parts,
  - c) Revised buffer zone to ensure that it is large enough to protect the entire property and its setting;

7. Requests moreover, further to the outcomes of the above-mentioned meeting, that the State Party prepare and submit the appropriate documentation for review by the World Heritage Committee at its subsequent session, especially regarding the final number of component parts, the definition of the buffer zone, and the SOUV;
8. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **2. Historic Ensemble of the Potala Palace, Lhasa (China) (C 707ter)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.2**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.31**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Expresses its regret at the fire of February 2018, and notes the work carried out by the State Party in the immediate aftermath of the fire;
4. Requests the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, more detailed reports of all the damage caused by the aforementioned fire, including images, drawings and other graphic illustrations and paying particular attention to the Golden Ceiling, as more detailed damage assessments are being carried out and restoration plans developed;
5. Takes note of the completion of the three conservation plans for the component parts of the property, which are awaiting final approval, and requests that they be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies as soon as possible, along with the maps to clarify the buffer zones, in line with the procedures defined in the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Also takes note of the efforts of the State Party to valorize traditional knowledge systems, improve visitor experience for pilgrims and tourists, improve monitoring and maintenance systems, and launch studies to analyse spatial relationships between the component parts of the property and cultural environment management planning;
7. Acknowledges the study to be launched on the potential impacts of the proposed television tower on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and also requests that the study be undertaken in accordance with the 2011 ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessment for Cultural World Heritage properties and submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, as soon as it is completed and before any work begins;
8. Further requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess the damage caused by the fire and the proposed restoration works to be undertaken, as well as to examine other aspects of the state of conservation of the property;

9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

### 3. **Temple and Cemetery of Confucius and the Kong Family Mansion in Qufu (China) (C 704)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.3**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.32** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Takes note of the positive steps taken by the State Party to improve the state of conservation and management of the property and its Buffer Zone;
4. Encourages the State Party to work towards a final resolution of the Panchi Pond project in the Buffer Zone of the property, taking into account the comments made by the Committee in the Decision recalled above;
5. Requests the State Party to review its proposed improved monitoring system with a view to determining whether it may be possible to reduce the three-year implementation timeframe;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, the 2016 Management Plan of Temple and Cemetery of Confucius and the Kong Family Mansion in Qufu;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for review by the Advisory Bodies.

### 4. **Zuojiang Huashan Rock Art Cultural Landscape (China) (C 1508)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.4**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 8B.19**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Acknowledges the progress made by the State Party with the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at the time of the property's inscription on the World Heritage List, and encourages the State Party to complete the ongoing process of



listing all 38 rock art sites located within the property as 'National Priority Protected Sites' as quickly as possible;

4. Takes note of the presentation and utilization projects within the property area and its buffer zones currently in the planning stages and under review, and invites the State Party to inform the Committee, through the World Heritage Centre, of any future plans for major restoration or new construction projects that may affect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse;
5. Recommends that the State Party prepare and adopt formal mechanisms to ensure that the OUV of the property, including its authenticity and integrity, is sustained over the long term, including:
  - a) a conservation/consolidation programme for all the rock art sites, with consequent monitoring systems,
  - b) a risk preparedness strategy for inclusion within the Management Plan that addresses, inter alia, the risk of forest fire,
  - c) mechanisms to restrict firewood collection from the forest as a means of protecting the environment of the rock art sites,
  - d) mechanisms to restrict areas allocated to farming to the present level;
6. Also encourages the State Party to keep the Committee informed of progress with the creation of a "green energy demonstration site", in particular regarding the implementation of environmentally sustainable alternatives to fossil fuel for the operation of boats and other facilities in the surrounding villages;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

**5. Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang'an – Tian-shan Corridor (China / Kazakhstan / Kyrgyzstan) (C 1442)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.5**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 7B.34** and **41 COM 7B.88**, adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the two detailed reports submitted by the State Parties of China and Kazakhstan addressing the requests made by the Committee in the aforementioned decisions, but strongly encourages all three States Parties involved in this serial transnational property to submit a joint report in the future;
4. Commends the State Party of China for:

- a) the ongoing work on interpretation, stakeholder involvement and monitoring along the Chinese components of the serial property, and notably the public education activities,
  - b) its extensive research, conservation and management activities, along with its efforts to enhance communication and coordination mechanisms among the three States Parties,
  - c) the project 'Study and Conservation of Beacon Towers in China', which looks at the possibility of incorporating several valuable and well-preserved beacon towers into the heritage conservation area by means of a minor boundary modification;
5. Also welcomes the assurances made by the State Party of Kazakhstan that the necessary impact assessments for road construction projects will be carried out and that mitigation measures will be developed to reduce any negative impacts;
6. Notes the decisions to re-route the Birlik-Akbulak highway outside all protective zones at the Talgar component site, to close all existing roads through the component site of Kostobe, and to divert the A3 Ust-Kamenogorsk-Almaty highway to the edge of the buffer zone at the Kayalyk component site; and requests the State Party of Kazakhstan to provide the following to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, before any further plans or commitments are made and before any work is undertaken:
- a) Details of the preferred option for the Talgar bypass road, showing the precise route and the location of the new bridge, as well as any areas which are to fulfil the functions of demolished buildings, accompanied by a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA),
  - b) Details of the overall road closure plans for Kostobe including the creation of a service zone and parking together with an appropriate HIA,
  - c) Details of an adjusted route for the A3 Ust-Kamenogorsk-Almaty that avoids the buffer zone of Kayalyk component site entirely, together with an HIA,
  - d) Details of the new road to the visitor centre at Akyrtyas;
7. Reiterates its requests to the State Party of Kazakhstan to provide details on:
- a) the dismantling of the partially constructed bridge adjacent to the Talgar component site,
  - b) mitigation measures to address reconstruction work and illegal, uncontrolled residential developments near the boundaries of the Talgar component site,
  - c) measures to strengthen the legal, planning and management frameworks of the Talgar component site and its setting;
8. Further welcomes the ongoing process of preparing Management Plans for all component sites in Kazakhstan and their landscape settings, and also reiterates its request that these be finalized as a matter of priority, taking into consideration the outcomes of the November 2016 mission, and submitted to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, by **1 December 2018** at the latest;
9. Also strongly encourages the three States Parties to make full use of the Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee (ICC), established prior to the inscription to better coordinate the protection and management of the serial transnational property, and notably of its Secretariat based at the ICOMOS International Conservation Centre in Xi'an (China);
10. Finally requests the three States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

**6. Archaeological Site of Nalanda Mahavihara (Nalanda University) at Nalanda, Bihar (India) (C 1502)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.6**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 8B.20**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Acknowledges the progress made by State Party on a number of the recommendations made by the Committee at the time of inscription of the property;
4. Takes note of the continuing historical and academic research related to the property and encourages the State Party to develop a research programme focused specifically on defining the authenticity of the property, including the necessary documentation to differentiate authentic archaeological fabric;
5. Requests the State Party to include appropriate recommendations and approaches in the Integrated Master Plan regarding any development plan within or in the vicinity of the property that may have an impact on its Outstanding Universal Value, including authenticity or integrity;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to work out a formal conservation plan for the excavated remains of the property;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to strengthen its approach to visitor management and interpretation, notably by preparing and implementing a visitor management plan;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

**7. Hill Forts of Rajasthan (India) (C 2447rev)**

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

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.35** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016);
3. Regrets that, despite the Committee's repeated requests, the Management Plan for Jaisalmer Fort has not yet been provided to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before its adoption, and urges the State Party to submit this document as a matter of priority, together with the requested sub-plans, by **1 December 2018**;

4. Requests the State Party to submit an update on progress with conservation and infrastructure work at Jaisalmer Fort, along with details of any unauthorised constructions and how these are being addressed;
5. Notes that the legal challenge to the mining and blasting controls in the setting of Chittorgarh Fort introduced in 2012 is still being considered by the Supreme Court, and also requests the State Party to provide more details on this matter and, as the relaxation of these controls was only temporary, to confirm that they are still in place and enforced;
6. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **8. Sangiran Early Man Site (Indonesia) (C 593)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.8**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.36**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Acknowledges the completion of the 2017 Sangiran Early Man Site Management Plan and requests the State Party to ensure that the new management entity, Memoranda of Understanding and Cooperation Agreements are established as soon as possible, to guarantee an adequate protection framework;
4. Encourages the State Party to continuously monitor the implementation of regulations to control infrastructural and physical developments within the property, and to ensure the full participation of local communities and residents in its operation;
5. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above for review by the Advisory Bodies.

#### **9. The Persian Qanat (Iran, Islamic Republic of) (C 1506)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.9**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 8B.21** and **41 COM 8B.49** adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,

3. Urges the State Party to include, as a matter of priority, sections on strategic risk management and sustainable tourism management in the integrated management system, with clear objectives related to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, notably its authenticity and integrity, and relevant monitoring indicators;
4. Reiterates its recommendations to the State Party to:
  - a) Continue enriching the documentation centres with collected data related to each qanat in the relevant regional offices of the Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts & Tourism Organization (ICHHTO), and ensure the availability of this data to members of the local communities and internationally,
  - b) Extend the monitoring system to identify the responsible authority for each key indicator,
  - c) Complete the permanent marking of the boundaries of property components and buffer zones on the ground;
5. Requests the State Party to provide an indication of the expected timeframe(s) for the completion of the above-mentioned actions;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

**10. Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining (Japan) (C 1484)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.10**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decision **39 COM 8B.14**<sup>1</sup>, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),
3. Takes note of the illustrated reports provided on conservation work carried out at various component sites, along with future priorities;
4. Commending the State Party on the details provided so far concerning Hashima Island, notes the substantial progress achieved in the development of a detailed 30-year conservation work programme for the island and the commitment of resources for the length of the plan and also notes that the programme will stabilise the island's retaining walls, conserve decaying remains and preserve the battleship form of its silhouette, and that priority will be given in the first phase to the retaining walls and researching conservation techniques;
5. Requests the State Party to submit the following information to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, as it becomes available:
  - a) One or more study(ies) on those buildings made of wood, steel, and reinforced concrete which have collapsed or irreversibly decayed since 1974, and whether they can be conserved,

- b) Further archaeological studies,
  - c) More research on historical documents, structural materials and visitor movements,
  - d) An Action Plan, developed by Nagasaki City, covering project deadlines, implementation techniques for phased work, and setting annual goals;
6. Further notes that monitoring of the number of visitors is being undertaken systematically for all component sites, and that a visitor management strategy, including carrying capacities, will be formulated in 2018 on the basis of these results; and also requests the State Party to submit this strategy to the World Heritage Centre, once it is completed, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
  7. Notes furthermore that interpretation is available for all component sites, and that digital communications have been developed, but that further improvements are planned, including Information Centre to be opened;
  8. Further requests the State Party to provide an update on overall interpretation upon completion of Information Centre;
  9. Strongly encourages the State Party to take into account best international practices for interpretation strategies when continuing its work on the interpretation of the full history of the property, both during and outside of the period covered by its OUV, and in the digital interpretation materials;
  10. Encourages continuing dialogue between the concerned parties;
  11. Requests furthermore the State Party to fully implement Decision **39 COM 8B.14**<sup>1</sup> and to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## 11. Pyu Ancient Cities (Myanmar) (C 1444)

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.11

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.40** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Acknowledges the efforts of the State Party to continue addressing conservation and management issues, and in particular the development of Risk Preparedness and Tourism Management Strategies and encourages the State Party to ensure their timely adoption and implementation;

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<sup>1</sup> The World Heritage Committee takes note of the statement made by Japan, as regards the interpretive strategy that allows an understanding of the full history of each site as referred to in paragraph 4.g) of the [Decision 39 COM 8B.14](#), which is contained in the Summary Record of the session ([document WHC-15/39.COM/INF.19](#))

4. Welcoming the studies undertaken to assess the rehabilitation and restoration of historic hydraulic systems as a means of supporting the agricultural landscape and improving the living standards of local communities, requests the State Party to carry out non-invasive investigations prior to any reclamation of canals or other water bodies and to document interventions through detailed studies of the history and layout of the overall hydraulic system and through records of the reclamation work undertaken; and also requests the State Party to submit this documentation to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Recommends that the State Party address the lack of adequately skilled human resources for the management and conservation of the property by:
  - a) Increasing the technical capacity and human resources of the Department of Archaeology and Museums, currently restricted by National Civil Service regulations,
  - b) Developing and adopting a national training strategy, which encompasses the upgrading of the National Field School of Archaeology to include training in management skills and conservation techniques;
6. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for review by the Advisory Bodies.

## **12. Kathmandu Valley (Nepal) (C 121bis)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.12**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.95** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Acknowledges the strong commitment of the State Party and the work that it has undertaken for the recovery of the property, particularly its capacity-building efforts, as well as the efforts of international agencies and the six year plan for the recovery of the monuments damaged by the earthquake;
4. Also acknowledges the scale and scope of the disaster (as described in the reports of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring missions to the property of October 2015 and March 2017), the laudable work undertaken and the continuing, serious deterioration of the property's architectural and town-planning coherence resulting from the immediate impacts of the earthquakes;
5. Recognizes that the pace of recovery and the damaging restoration work on some monuments appears to reflect the current need for improvement in management capacity across the property, to undertake the necessary documentation, research and analyses that should underpin all recovery work;
6. Requests that the recommendations of the October 2015 and March 2017 missions be systematically carried out, fully followed and implemented in a best way by the State Party;

7. Encourages the State Party to invite the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to provide technical support to assist the State Party with developing structures to coordinate and guide the recovery of the property and its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
8. Also considers that the potential and ascertained threats to the OUV of the property are so considerable that the recovery process needs to be made more effective, and that the scale and scope of the disaster and the response required goes well beyond the capacity and resources of the Department of Archaeology of Nepal (DoA), and also considers that much greater input, collaboration and coordination of support is needed from the international community;
9. Requests the State Party to fully commit to use appropriate methods and materials in recovery works;
10. Reiterates its request that the State Party integrate the Recovery Master Plan (RMP) within an overall socio-economic revitalization programme for urban communities, encourage residents and local business to engage in the recovery process and ensure that it delivers wide-ranging social and economic benefits;
11. Calls upon the international community to support the State Party's urgent recovery work through financial, technical or expert assistance, including support for local communities in terms of their housing and social needs;
12. Suggests the State Party to invite a Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Advisory Mission to ascertain the progress accomplished by the State Party to assist in the implementation of the six year RMP as well as to give guidance on reviewing it and recommends that this mission take place by the end of 2018;
13. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019; with a view to assuring the maintenance of the OUV of the site.

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.13**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.42** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes the progress made with the finalization of the Integrated Management Framework (IMF) document, but regrets the delays encountered with its adoption by the State Party;
4. Notes with concern that development activities have been undertaken within the property and the Buffer Zone prior to the formal adoption of the Management Plan and without systematically conducting the necessary impact assessments or following the Archaeological Risk Map;



5. Urges the State Party to adopt and implement the IMF document as a matter of priority, and to systematically carry out Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) for the proposed projects, with a specific section focusing on the potential impact of the development projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in conformity with the 2011 ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for World Heritage Cultural Properties, before undertaking any further work within the property or in the adjacent areas identified as having potential archaeological significance;
6. Expresses concern about the Lumbini World Peace City project and its potential impacts on the property and reiterates its request to the State Party to provide details on the proposed project and carry out an HIA, in conformity with the aforementioned ICOMOS Guidelines, and that this assessment be provided to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, before any activity is implemented;
7. Encourages the State Party to develop a clear strategy and concrete further actions for the protection of the Greater Lumbini Area and its wider setting, including but not limited to Tilaurakot and Ramagrama, and to further reduce the increasing industrial activity in the vicinity of the property;
8. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

#### **14. Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore (Pakistan) (C 171)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.14**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 7B. 43** and **41 COM 7B.96**, adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Acknowledges the efforts made by the State Party to address the Committee's recommendations with regard to the conservation of the property;
4. Takes further note of the decision of the Honourable Supreme Court of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan that has given 31 directions with regard to protection, preservation and conservation of the property;
5. Expresses concern that the State Party did not inform the World Heritage Committee of the Orange Line Metro project before any irreversible decision was taken, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, especially in view of the impacts of the metro line, and notably its route and construction process, on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
6. Also expresses concern that, despite the Committee's previous decisions, the Orange Line Metro in Lahore has been almost completed without a satisfactory, comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the project;

7. Notes the efforts of the State Party in implementing all mitigation measures during the construction phase of Orange Line Metro Train Project (OLMTP) and requests that close monitoring and implementation of vibration control, noise, air pollution and visual mitigation measures directed in the order of the Honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan and suggested in various studies will be ensured during the operation phase of Orange Line;
8. Notes the impact on integrity and authenticity of the property;
9. Takes note of the outcomes of the April 2018 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, including the evaluation of the current condition of the property, and also requests the State Party to implement the mission's recommendations;
10. Further requests the State Party, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to submit, in relation to future projects, detailed project studies to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies and to ensure that implementation only start after positive feedback has been received from the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
11. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

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

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.15**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.45** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Regrets that the State Party did not submit a report on the state of conservation of the property by the deadline of 1 December 2017, as requested by the Committee in Decision **40 COM 7B.45**;
4. Welcomes nonetheless the efforts and progress made by the State Party to improve the overall state of conservation and management of the property;
5. Requests the State Party to continuously implement the Rice Terraces Master Plan 2015-2024, including not only the tangible conservation of the property, but also the Ifugao practices and intangible cultural heritage associated with it;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to ensure the necessary human and financial resources to support the implementation of the Master Plan of the property through operational arrangements;
7. Encourages the State Party to continuously monitor the implementation of regulations to control infrastructural and physical developments within the property, and to ensure the full participation of local communities and residents in its operation;

8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

## 16. Golden temple of Dambulla (Sri Lanka) (C 561)

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.16

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.46**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the State Party's advice regarding the improved arrangements for the conservation and management of the property between the Temple Authorities, the Department of Archaeology and the Central Cultural Fund, as well as the preparation of a 'Statement of Conservation Strategy' and other initiatives that have been instigated or are planned in order to conserve wall paintings, sculptures and other significant attributes of the property;
4. Encourages the State Party to implement the proposed Site Management Committee and related management structures, with clear lines of responsibilities, as a matter of urgency;
5. Requests the State Party to implement fully the recommendations of the March 2015 ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, as appropriate;
6. Reiterates its previous request to the State Party to revise and update the Management Plan for the property, based on clearly-defined governance and communication structures, while incorporating traditional management systems, and defining the interface between the State and Temple authorities, the setting of short-, mid- and long-term strategies for both conservation and pilgrim/visitor management, and budget planning, as well as incorporating the recently-prepared 'Statement of Conservation Strategy', and to provide the draft to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Also requests the State Party to facilitate the preparation of a comprehensive Tourism Management Strategy, which has strong regard to a balanced approach considering the role of the property as a pilgrim site, the vital needs for the conservation of Outstanding Universal Value and the needs of visitors, and submit the draft to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
8. Reminds the State Party of its obligation to submit details of proposed works to the property which may affect its Outstanding Universal Value, including projects for wall painting and sculpture remedial treatment and laser cleaning, floor tile replacement, and hydro-geological projects, to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, in line with the requirements of Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before any irreversible decisions or physical interventions occur;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019,

**with a view to considering, if adequate progress in the implementation of the above recommendations has not been made, and in case of the confirmation of the ascertained or potential danger to Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of the World Heritage in Danger.**

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

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.17**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.47**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the news that the implementation of the scaled-back port project has been deferred due to other port projects being implemented first, and that the need for considerably updated plans is clearly recognized, taking into account the recommendations of the July 2016 ICOMOS Advisory mission;
4. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, large-scale plans, detailed plans, and high-resolution photo montages of the proposed port development before any work commences at the property, so that the Committee can review the port project and determine its appropriateness;
5. Also welcomes the commitment of the State Party to strengthen the legislative and financial frameworks for the management of the property, and to engage a marine archaeologist before the commencement of the implementation of the proposed port project to prevent any impacts of the project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and initiate mitigation measures, if necessary;
6. Further requests the State Party to provide information on the implementation status of the Sustainable Tourism Management Plan and to clarify the financial standing of the Galle Heritage Foundation, including information on the financial resources available to implement the recommendations of the Tourism Management Plan;
7. Requests furthermore that the State Party provide information on the measures taken to ensure the appropriate quality and number of staff necessary to implement the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) and the Sustainable Tourism Management Plan;
8. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including a detailed report be submitted on the implementation of the IMP, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

## EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

### 18. The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement (Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan, Switzerland) (C 1321rev)

#### Decision: 42 COM 7B.18

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 8B.31**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes clarification that the Standing Conference of States Parties takes a pro-active approach to considering the potential impact of development proposals and standards for conservation work across the whole series, and the creation by the Foundation Le Corbusier of a Committee to inform decisions on conservation, restoration and development projects;
4. Noting that although impact assessments of individual proposals are undertaken at the level of component sites, Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) are not used in line with the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage Properties as impact is only assessed on the components rather than on the whole series, encourages the States Parties to strengthen approaches to impact assessment through using HIAs and through ensuring impacts are considered against the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the series;
5. Also welcomes the creation of Restoration Archives by the Foundation Le Corbusier as a substantial contribution towards the harmonisation of technical and methodological approaches to the conservation of Le Corbusier's buildings, and specifically in relation to its potential use for reinstatement or replacement of materials and features;
6. Notes the detailed work being undertaken on the Chandigarh Conservation Plan due to be completed by 2020, and specifically its broad scope that includes proposed technical advice on concrete conservation and the rationale for architectural interventions to be used as a basis for detailed conservation proposals for specific aspects of the property;
7. Also notes that work has been undertaken in Chandigarh to complete the original plans of the Geometrical Hill and the proposed work to complete the Martyrs Memorial but regrets that details of these were not submitted in advance in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and requests the State Party of India to submit detailed documentation on both these projects as soon as possible and by **1 December 2018**;
8. Further notes the current lack of specific protection for the Maison Guiette buffer zone and, considering the existing changes to its urban setting and the fact that the recently enlarged buffer zone aimed to protect its integrity from any visual impact, also requests the State Party of Belgium to put in place protection that addresses the specific needs of the component site and augments the current generic protection;
9. Notes furthermore that possible extensions of the series have not been discounted and also encourages States Parties to ensure that the Standing Conference approves in advance

any proposal for Tentative List entries before they are submitted by an individual State Party to the World Heritage Centre;

10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, 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 45th session in 2021.

**19. Stećci Medieval Tombstones Graveyards (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia) (C 1504)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.19**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 8B.24**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO 2016),
3. Welcomes the information provided by the States Parties concerning the establishment of the International Coordination Committee (ICC) and associated coordination mechanisms ;
4. Requests the States Parties to continue to progress on the issues identified by the World Heritage Committee at the time of the inscription of the property, including:
  - a) Continue implementing a consistent mapping and cataloguing system for the components of the serial property,
  - b) Developing active conservation programmes for the stećci, based on monitoring outcomes, and utilising the advice of skilled conservators,
  - c) Developing and implementing monitoring indicators that include the impacts of development and tourism,
  - d) Developing and implementing consistent Heritage Impact Assessment and Disaster Risk Management approaches within the transnational management system,
  - e) Continuing to organize and provide capacity development activities for site managers in relation to these objectives;
5. Also requests the States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, a consolidated progress report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, and by **1 December 2020**, a consolidated report on the completed measures, for examination by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

## 20. Old City of Dubrovnik (Croatia) (C 95bis)

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.20**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.50**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes the positive steps taken to develop an action plan for conservation and repair of inappropriate interventions to the city walls, as well as the creation of a working group to develop a Risk Preparedness Action Plan for the property, and encourages the State Party to develop, as a matter of priority, guidelines on conservation, providing strict rules for conservation, restoration, and maintenance to prevent the structural instability of the city walls;
4. Regrets that only minor progress has been achieved with the development of the Management Plan, which, to date, has not progressed beyond the scoping stage, and requests the State Party to increase efforts to:
  - a) Prepare the Management Plan for the property and its buffer zone, incorporating the tourism strategy and regulations on cruise tourism,
  - b) Ensure that the Management Plan incorporates the necessary regulatory and management measures to allow the proposed buffer zone to act effectively as an added layer of protection for the inscribed property,
  - c) Prepare an interpretation strategy;
5. Welcomes the suspension of the projects Bosanka 2, the Lazaretto and the Komarda Landing Stage, and recalls the need for full Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) to be undertaken in accordance with the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage Properties, and also requests the State Party to submit comprehensive project details to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Also notes the information provided on the “Sports and recreation centre with golf course and tourism settlement Bosanka North and Bosanka South” project with regard to the minimum distance of 50m, and recalls its request for further project information, such as the amended plans for the golf course, relevant documentation, and the HIAs, to be provided to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, prior to commencement of project works;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit project information, including an HIA, undertaken in accordance with the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs, regarding the proposed restoration of the historic sewage system for review by the Advisory Bodies, prior to commencement of project works;
8. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## 21. Historic Centre of Prague (Czechia) (C 616bis)

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.21**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **36 COM 7B.73**, adopted at its 36th session (Saint- Petersburg, 2012),
3. Notes the information provided and progress made by the State Party in restoration works, on the North-South Trunk Road project modifications, as well as revision of the draft Management Plan following ICOMOS recommendations;
4. Urges the State Party to finalize the Management Plan of the property, including details of the protective measures and reference to decision making framework in regulatory regimes as well as to implement all relevant measures and plans, defining appropriate degrees of intervention for each element of the property, its buffer zone and its wider setting, to prevent any threats to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
5. Encourages the State Party to approve all relevant legal documents and amendments, such as an “Amendment of State Heritage Care Act”, to reinforce heritage protection and management, and invites the State Party to strengthen the authority of the national institution in charge of the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* to enable it to focus major decisions on the retention of the OUV of the property;
6. Expresses its great concern about the number of large-scale development projects proposed within buffer zone of the property and its wider setting, as well as the lack of specific regulations on high-rise developments, which may substantially impact on the OUV of the property;
7. Requests the State Party to prevent further misinterpretation of its previous decisions (particularly Decision **32 COM 7B.86**) on height limits and the extent of the area previously named as ‘Pankrác Plain’; and also invites the State Party to introduce a moratorium on major projects within the property, its buffer zone and its wider setting, which may substantially impact on the OUV of the property, until appropriate regulations are developed and implemented, including the high-rise limitations plan, with specific regulations to prevent exacerbating the damage already caused by the cluster of high-rise buildings;
8. Reminds the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, details and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of any proposed project which may affect the OUV of the property, together with a cumulative HIA of the projects within the property, its buffer zone and its wider setting focusing on their potential impact on the OUV of the property, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
9. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess its state of conservation, review all ongoing studies and proposals and assist with the identification of options regarding possible developments that are consistent with the OUV of the property, as well as to review whether the property is faced with threats, which could have deleterious effects on its inherent characteristics, such that the property meets the criteria for its inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, in line with Paragraph 179 of the *Operational Guidelines*;



10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **22. Champagne Hillsides, Houses and Cellars (France) (C 1465)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.22**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **39 COM 8B.24**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),
3. Welcomes the ongoing progress made by the State Party in strengthening the legal, planning and management framework of the property;
4. Encourages the State Party to continue its efforts in addressing the Committee recommendations, paying special attention to the following:
  - a) Finalize the “Aires de valeur de l’architecture et du patrimoine” (AVAP) for Saint-Nicaise Hill and the Secteur sauvegardé for Reims with the plans and regulations currently under elaboration,
  - b) Finalize the revision of the planning instruments so that their planning provisions are coherent with the regulations and plans for the newly-created protected zones,
  - c) Finalize the study on the underground system of caves in Reims and develop the envisaged Risk Management Plan according to the guide presented in annexe 11 of the state of conservation report submitted by the State Party in Novembre 2017,
  - d) Continue the study on the landscape influence area undertaken in the framework of the impact assessments of the windfarm of Pocancy and Champigneul;
5. Commending the State Party for the rigorous analysis of the negative impacts of the planned windfarm in Pocancy and Champigneul and its consistent decision-making, concurs with the conclusions of the assessment carried out by the French authorities regarding the negative impacts of this infrastructure on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed about the outcome of the appeal against the decision;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

### 23. The Climats, terroirs of Burgundy (France) (C 1425)

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.23**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **39 COM 8B.23**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),
3. Welcomes the ongoing progress made by the State Party in strengthening the legal, planning and management framework of the property;
4. Recommends the State Party to continue its efforts, giving particular attention to the following:
  - a) Finalize the approval procedure of the “sites classés” and of the Aires de Valeur de l’Architecture et du Patrimoine (AVAP) currently under elaboration,
  - b) Finalize the revision of the planning instruments so that their planning provisions are coherent with the safeguarding of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and its supporting attributes,
  - c) Initiate the process of designating Remarkable Heritage Sites according to the 7 July 2016 Law, particularly in those municipalities lacking adequate protection mechanisms for the attributes supporting the OUV of the property,
  - d) Continue and expedite the implementation of the Landscape Plan for the Quarry District of Comblanchien and ensure that the projects proposed in the Plan have no negative impacts on the property’s OUV,
  - e) Integrate the methodological approach suggested by the ICOMOS Guidelines on Heritage Impact Assessments for World Heritage cultural properties into the Impact Assessments developed for planned projects, and also use this approach for projects that may not be subject to Environmental Impact Assessments according to national law;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, an updated progress report on the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

### 24. Historical Monuments of Mtskheta (Georgia) (C 708bis)

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.24**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.44**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),

3. Acknowledges the efforts made by the State Party to implement the recommendations made with regard to the Mtskheta Urban Land Use Master Plan (ULUMP), and encourages the State Party to further enhance the participatory process and involvement of the municipality and civil society in the development of the ULUMP, and to improve coordinated inter-ministerial and institutional decision-making processes regarding the protection of the World Heritage property;
4. Endorses the recommendations of the final Activity Report of the UNESCO Advisory service to Georgia developed within the framework of the agreement signed between the State Party and UNESCO, and financially supported by the World Bank (UNESCO/Georgia Agreement), as well as the recommendations of the 2018 Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, and invites the State Party to implement these recommendations, and in particular concerning the Svetichkhoveli Cathedral, the Javary Monastery, Samtavro Nunnery and Samtavro Valley;
5. Requests the State Party to maintain the moratorium on Urban Development and Land Privatization in the Cultural Heritage Protection Zones of Mtskheta until the urban planning documentation has been adopted, and control and monitoring is fully in place;
6. Recalls its request to the State Party to submit, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, detailed information on any proposed development projects within the property, its buffer zone and setting for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies prior to any decisions being taken that could be difficult to reverse;
7. Strongly urges the State Party to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for developments within the property and its buffer zone as a timely and appropriate method of assessing the multiple and cumulative impacts of current and planned developments, taking into account potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties, prior to allowing any developments to take place and prior to the finalization and implementation of the ULUMP;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## 25. Curonian Spit (Lithuania, Russian Federation) (C 994)

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.25

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.53**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul, 2016),
3. Welcomes the two States Parties' efforts in addressing the property's current conservation issues;

4. Taking note of the commitment of the State Party of Lithuania concerning the completion of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the deepening of the navigation canal and a reconstruction of Klaipėda Port by the end of 2018;
5. Reminding the State Party of Lithuania that the Reactive Monitoring mission of January 2015 concluded that the proposed construction of a deep sea port has the potential to impact upon the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, considers that if the enlargement of the existing channel area does not exceed the current port borders, the project may be consistent with the OUV of the property; and requests the State Party to address all potential impacts through EIAs and Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs), in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage Properties and with IUCN World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, with a specific section focusing on the potential impact of the project on the OUV of the property, which should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before any decision is made;
6. Also requests the State Party of Lithuania to submit the General Plan of Klaipėda Port territory to the World Heritage Centre before it is adopted and any irreversible decisions are made regarding its implementation, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Further requests that HIAs are undertaken for a new construction of the Sea Therapy Centre, designing works for the small boats and yacht harbor in Juodkrantė, as well as a high-voltage line-cabling project before any decisions are taken, in order to clearly define potential impacts on the attributes of OUV;
8. Requests furthermore the two States Parties to address any remaining recommendations of the 2015 Reactive Monitoring mission, particularly, preparation of a capacity development strategy, a construction policy for the shores and fore dunes, improved processes for conflict resolution, consideration of appropriate buffer zones and development of an education and information strategy;
9. Notes with satisfaction that there is currently no proposal for the construction of a suspension bridge from Klaipėda across the lagoon to the Spit;
10. Although noting the two States Parties wish to prepare two separate Management Plans to reflect different management systems, nevertheless urges the States Parties to integrate these plans with agreed over-arching strategies, to undertake HIAs on the OUV of the whole property, not just national components, and to establish a system of inter-institutional and international (transboundary) cooperation in order to oversee the coordinated implementation of shared strategies;
11. Finally requests the States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, a joint updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

## 26. Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor (Montenegro) (C 125ter)

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.26

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.54**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the ongoing work by the State Party on legal, planning and management matters and acknowledges the work undertaken as part of the Kotor Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) to analyse in general the weakness of the current overall protection system, and the proposals for the development of a Spatial Urban Plan for the Municipality of Kotor;
4. Notes the proposal to centralize the production of HIAs as a means of mitigating negative impacts of development proposals that have been submitted, but considers that this measure cannot compensate for the lack of adequate legal and planning mechanisms for the overall landscape of the property;
5. Remains concerned that considerable further work is needed to analyze in detail the weaknesses of the current Spatial and Urban Plans in force for the property's territory and its buffer zone, as a prelude to developing means to strengthen them;
6. Considering ICOMOS' technical review of the HIA of the project, urges the State Party to abandon the Kotor-St John's Fortress cable car project to prevent any negative impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
7. Strongly requests the State Party to maintain the moratorium on any new construction and development until a complete suite of planning and protection measures are in force to satisfactorily accommodate possible sustainable developments within the sensitive landscape of the area and prevent any impact on the cultural and landscape values of the property ;
8. Also requests the State Party to complete all relevant actions in response to the Committee's previous decisions, in particular to carry out HIAs for all ongoing or planned development projects, including the transport connection at Verige and the tourist facility at Glavati – Prčanj, as well as to submit the results of the HIAs to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, prior to undertaking any further commitments;
9. Further requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess its state of conservation, as well as the various reports and legal amendments that have been produced and to advise on what further work is needed to strengthen the legal and planning protection of the property and its buffer zone and to coordinate its management;
10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated detailed report on the state of conservation of all components of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

**27. Auschwitz Birkenau  
German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945) (Poland) (C 31)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.27**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **33 COM 7B.115** and **40 COM 7B.55**, adopted respectively during its 33rd (Seville, 2009) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions,
3. Congratulates the State Party for the provision of the Conservation Strategy and implementation following the international standards and regulations for urgent conservation projects as requested by the Committee (Decision **40 COM 7B.55**);
4. Also congratulates the State Party for the decision taken regarding the environmental conditions limiting the visual, acoustic disturbance and archaeological impacts of the expressway S-1 and the south ring road of Oświęcim and the quality of the measures proposed, in particular concerning the possible human remains, and the general project planning integrating the HIA as requested by the Committee;
5. Recommends the State Party to continue the dialogue initiated with the authorities and the local communities to explain the historical value of the cultural context surrounding the inscribed property, notably through mediation methods and appropriate educative material to enable the establishment of a buffer zone for the property, guaranteeing the appropriate use of the property and its surroundings;
6. Requests the State Party to continue its efforts to complete the management plan and its adoption by all the stakeholders and also recommends in this respect to evoke the Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value recently adopted, and to reinforce and extend the governance mechanism to all the stakeholders, notably the authorities and local communities;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to invite a World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission to the property and further recommends the State Party to coincide the mission with an expert group meeting, notably to enable the development of an educative and social awareness-raising, explanatory and reconversion programme, on the historical structures of the protection zone;
8. Recommends furthermore the State Party to continue the implementation of the recommendations of the 2013 expert group;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

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

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.28

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.58**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Acknowledges the considerable progress made with the the restoration of fabric and interior of the Church of the Transfiguration, the high quality of workmanship and the satisfactory implementation of previous recommendations;
4. Welcomes the revisions made to the entrance zone project;
5. Takes note of the recommendations of the ICOMOS Advisory mission to the property made in relation to the restoration works of the Church of the Transfiguration and requests the State Party to implement them;
6. Notes that the restoration of the Church of the Intercession is being planned and recommends that the same principles for restoration should apply to this project as has been applicable for the project of the Church of the Transfiguration; further notes that the timber of the Church of the Intercession is in a very bad condition and that a robust methodology should be developed to minimize new interventions and also requests that details of alternative proposals should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before a decision is taken on the way forward;
7. Notes that the State Party has proceeded with a new Museum entrance project and, in order that acceptable accommodation be provided on the island, has planned a number of other developments such as the restoration and storage complex, the reconstruction of the warehouse building and the architectural and ethnographic sector “Northern Vepsians”, for which Heritage Impact Assessments have been submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Body ICOMOS;
8. Further requests the State Party not to permit any further new constructions in the future since the development plans for zones A and B of the new Museum entrance project will reach the maximum permissible level of development of administrative and other service buildings on the island;
9. Reiterates its request to the State Party to focus on the establishment of sufficient protection measures both within and outside the buffer zone, including land-use and non-constructive zones legislation, as well as to strictly apply fluvial regulation in order to prevent any impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
10. Notes with satisfaction the efforts made by the State Party to revise the Management Plan (2018-2026) and submit it for approval to the Coordination Council for the World Heritage property “Kizhi Pogost” management, stakeholders and the Regional Government of the Republic of Karelia and requests furthermore the State Party, and the Museum as managing administration of the property, to ensure that the provision of tourist services be combined with the development of traditional economy activities such as cultivation of land, development of traditional handicrafts, etc., in view to create the conditions for the long-term settlement of the inhabitants;

11. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

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

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.29**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.49**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Acknowledges the information provided by the State Party concerning the progress made with the development of the Master Plan and Management Plan;
4. Notes that the report of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission will be examined at the 43rd session of the Committee in 2019;
5. Also notes that the mission supported the revised plans for re-shaping the partly constructed existing museum building; and that the 2018 mission report will provide additional recommendations on the wider overall Museum Complex programme that involve a range of existing buildings;
6. Welcomes the decision by the State Party to create a Fund for the Conservation and Development of the Solovetsky Archipelago;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and on the recommendations of the 2018 Reactive Monitoring mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

**30. Archaeological Site of Ani (Turkey) (C 1518)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.30**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 8B.28**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Takes note of the progress undertaken by the State Party and requests it to continue to progress on the issues identified by the World Heritage Committee at the time of the inscription of the property, including:



- a) Documenting the natural landscape, urban development, architectural structures and underground spaces within the property and its buffer zone and ensuring their inclusion in the management system,
  - b) Submitting details about the implementation process of the Master Plan (2016-2021) and the archaeological and conservation works planning (2016-2040), including for the conservation works in particular the project documents and visualizations, to the World Heritage Centre, for analysis by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*,
  - c) Completing a comprehensive needs assessment of each listed monument and identifying the required interventions and priorities, and incorporating these into the Strategic Conservation Master Plan as a basis for the short and long-term conservation and monitoring of the property,
  - d) Developing longer-term monitoring of seismic activity,
  - e) Finding longer-term and sustainable solutions for the current inappropriate grazing within the 1st Degree Archaeological Conservation site;
4. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies.

### 31. Historic Areas of Istanbul (Turkey)

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.31**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.52**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Also recalling the long-standing concerns of the Committee on the property,
4. Welcomes the efforts made by the State Party of Turkey to streamline the reporting on the numerous projects in a coherent approach and for being engaged in a close dialogue with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
5. Also welcomes the initiation of a project to document Ottoman timber and stone houses and the associated planned stabilization work, requests the State Party to provide further details on the implementation of the project and how this relates to the long-term strategy requested by the Committee;
6. Deeply regrets that, in the past, details and information on development/conservation projects have been submitted after work has been completed and without Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA); consequently, further welcomes the inclusion of a cultural HIA process in the revised Management Plan;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to define the attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property in the Management Plan as a matter of priority and before the Plan is finalized and approved;

8. Notes the work proposed for the reconstruction of the Hagia Sophia medrese for which an HIA had been prepared, and the work undertaken on the Land Walls, the Bucoleon Palace, the Chora museum and the Molla Zeyrek mosque;
  9. Also notes the large number of proposed infrastructure and other projects, and recommends that the State Party develop a progress report on these, together with a road-map including short- and long-term strategies covering all types of projects (development/renovation/renewal) which may have an impact on the OUV of the property, and determine all required details and steps in close cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies before any irreversible decisions are taken; and submit this road map to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2019**;
  10. Encourages the State Party to invite an ICCROM/ICOMOS Advisory mission to review the restoration and conservation projects such as the Chora Museum and the Zeyrek Mosque in line with the recommendations of the 2016 Reactive Monitoring Mission report;
  11. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.
- 32. Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (C 373bis)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.32**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM.7B.56**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for inviting three Advisory missions to advise on the proposed upgrading of the main A303 road, (which currently bisects the property), as part of a major infrastructure project;
4. Notes the additional investigations undertaken by the State Party to consider the southern surface (F10) by-pass route and alternative alignment and longer tunnel options to remove dual carriageway cuttings from the property, and further detailed investigations regarding tunnel alignment and both east and west portal locations;
5. Also notes the findings and recommendations of the 2018 Advisory mission, particularly that, although the current 'Proposed Scheme' shows improvement compared with previous plans and would also improve the situation in the centre of the property, the rigorous investigation, evaluation, iterative design and assessment process has revealed that, if the current length of tunnel solution is pursued, the damage inflicted by the dual carriageway cuttings would impact adversely on integrity and the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and therefore the proposed A303 upgrade project should not proceed with the current length of the tunnel;
6. Notes with concern the impacts of the current design of the dual carriageway on the property, especially at the western end;

7. Urges the State Party to continue to explore further design refinement, with a view to avoiding impact on the OUV of the property, including longer tunnel options that do not require an open dual carriageway cutting within the property and to avoid impact due to noise, lighting and visibility; and urges furthermore, the State Party to minimize the length of the culvert part of the tunnel in order to reduce the impact on the cultural landscape and the archaeology;
8. Requests the State Party to address the findings and implement the recommendations of the March 2018 Advisory mission and encourages the State Party to continue to facilitate progress towards an optimal solution for the widening of the A303 with a view to avoiding adverse impact on the OUV of the property;
9. Further notes that the State Party has advised that it will manage the timing of the consent and other statutory processes for the A303 trunk road project to take into account Committee Decisions and to ensure that the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and the Committee can continue to contribute to the evaluation and decision-making processes at appropriate stages of the project;
10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

33. **Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System (Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru) (C 1459)**

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.33

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.1**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Commends the six States Parties on their cooperation and commitment in addressing the recommendations noted at the time of inscription, and for the important advances in the implementation of the UNESCO/Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the Preservation of the World Cultural Heritage (JFiT) project “Support to the reinforcement of the participative management structure of the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System”;
4. Strongly encourages the six State Parties to continue working in a coordinated and global manner to address the long-term conservation and management challenges of the property as a whole;
5. Notes with appreciation the progress made by the States Parties in the development of participatory management and conservation plans, including the participation of local

communities in their design and eventual implementation, which will be evaluated in due time by the Advisory Bodies;

6. Requests the remaining national and local management and conservation plans be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for evaluation by the Advisory Bodies once finalized and approved;
7. Takes note of the methodology and guiding documents developed to address risk preparedness and disaster management throughout the property, as well as the upcoming workshop in Cuzco in October 2018 on this topic, and also requests the States Parties to develop, adopt, and implement appropriate strategies for their respective risk factors identified as a matter of priority;
8. Also commends the States Parties for the development of a framework for the elaboration of Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs), and also encourages them to complete the important follow-up measures identified during the workshop held in Chile (August 2017) to implement a proper mechanism with the aim of preventing any negative impact to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) caused by potential developments in and around the property;
9. Further encourages the States Parties to continue their work towards developing and implementing the monitoring system for the property's state of conservation and intangible heritage elements;
10. Further requests the States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, an updated joint report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session in 2021.

#### **34. Tiwanaku: Spiritual and Political Centre of the Tiwanaku Culture (Bolivia, Plurinational State of) (C 567rev)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.34**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.2**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes with appreciation the efforts made by the State Party to maintain the key attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
4. Recognizes the contribution of the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust (JFIT) for the project "Preservation and conservation of Tiwanaku and the Akapana Pyramid" to improve the level of conservation and management of the property;
5. Acknowledging the submission of the Management Plan for the property, requests the State Party to incorporate ICOMOS' comments and to provide an electronic copy of the revised and officially approved Management Plan;

6. Regrets that the State Party did not submit the Integral Conservation Plan (ICP) requested in past Decisions and urges it to submit the finalized version by **1 December 2018**, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
7. Also requests the State Party to give priority to efforts to guarantee the optimal state of conservation of the identified attributes that convey the property's OUV prior to pursuing any new archaeological projects, and to ensure that this priority is clearly defined in the ICP;
8. Reiterates its request to formalize the buffer zone extension and regulations for the urban and rural zones, involving the relevant local and national authorities, to enable the integral protection of the entire property, and further requests that, following this approval, the State Party submits a formal Minor Boundary Modification request, as per Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
9. Recommends that the State Party continue and improve the awareness-raising campaigns, and its communication with and the participation of the local communities in the region in regard to the property's conservation and management objectives, especially with the communities in the buffer zone;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

### **35. Pampulha Modern Ensemble (Brazil) (C 1493)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.35**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 8B.33**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016);
3. Welcomes the response of the State Party to the recommendations made by the Committee at the time of the inscription of the property on the World Heritage List;
4. Notes that work is underway to restore the interior of the Yacht Club and its designed landscape and the entrance to the Ballroom, as detailed in the Intervention Plan, and requests the State Party to provide the World Heritage Centre with detailed documentation on these projects as soon as possible for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Also welcomes the detailed research that has been undertaken on the Dino Barbieri Square to promote a restoration that reflects Burle Marx's original designs, and recommends the State Party to finalize the project taking into account the recommendations made by ICOMOS in its Technical Review to that effect;
6. Also notes the improvements to the water quality of the Lake Pampulha as a result of phase 1 of the remediation project and also requests the State Party to provide details regarding how the water quality will be maintained beyond the second phase of the project and a revised timetable for connecting 98% of outlets to sewers;

7. Further notes progress with developing a Strategic Management Plan, including an Integrated Sustainable Tourism Development Plan, that will include measures to strengthen protection and planning controls in the Ensemble and its Buffer Zone, and encourages the State Party to consider the entire set of recommendations regarding the Management Plan adopted at the time of inscription;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, these finalized above-mentioned plans as soon as they become available;
9. Also encourages the State Party to continue the approach adopted for the development of the tourism strategy that recognizes the importance of local citizens' sense of belonging and the appropriate adaptation of the property's uses accordingly, as an essential condition for the sustainable conservation of the property;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

**36. Precolumbian Chiefdom Settlements with Stone Spheres of the Diquís (Costa Rica) (C 1453)**

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

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.3**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Commends the State Party on the progress made in the implementation of its recommendations with regard to the acquisition of land, staffing and educational activities;
4. Encourages the State Party to pursue its efforts to finalize cooperation agreements with local communities for management purposes, and to develop educational initiatives that highlight the property as a reference for cultural heritage potential in Costa Rica;
5. Notes with concern, however, delays in the implementation of actions that are essential for the proper management and conservation of the property, in particular the preparation of the Osa Canton Regulatory Plan, the Risk Preparedness and Disaster Management Plans, and management arrangements with the local and indigenous communities;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, a work plan and timetable for the implementation of its recommendations and to increase the human and financial resources necessary for these actions, and for the broader conservation and management objectives for the property;
7. Urges the State Party to conclude the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the international airport project and to provide it, including a section in the impact of the project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, as soon as it becomes available;

8. Notes with concern that the HIA for the El Diquis Hydroelectric Plant has taken a narrow focus and that technical details and visualisations show that, although the dam will be located outside of the Diquís delta, ancillary constructions in the wider setting of the Batambal site would have potentially negative impacts on the landscape context of the chiefdom settlements, and thus on the OUV of the property, and are at odds with the aims of the Management Plan, and therefore also urges the State Party to reconsider the project;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

### **37. Colonial City of Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) (C 526)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.37**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.4**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Takes note of the progress at the property to date, and in particular the reinforcement of the Dirección Nacional de Patrimonio Monumental (DNPM), reiterates its request to ensure that the DNPM is fully involved in decision-making and oversight in regard to the projects being planned and implemented as part of the Programme for Tourism Development in the Colonial City of Santo Domingo (PFTCCSD) and in a second Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)-financed programme that is awaiting approval by Congress, and requests the State Party to provide more detailed information about this second programme to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, by **1 December 2018**;
4. Notes the proposed action protocol, structural regulations, and geotechnical and topographical vulnerability studies being proposed in the aftermath of the collapse of the Hotel Francés, and also requests these documents be forwarded to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies as soon as they become available;
5. Acknowledges that the visitor's carrying capacity system is being implemented within the property and urges the State Party to define and implement actions to control interventions in historic buildings and to develop a sustainable tourism strategy that prioritizes heritage conservation;
6. Welcomes the indications by the State Party that the proposed project at the Convent of San Francisco has not moved forward, that no work has been carried out on the Sansouci project that impact the property or its buffer zone, and that the Subway Line 6 is not foreseen to be funded in the immediate term, and also reiterates its request to the State Party, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to inform and submit the necessary technical information to the World Heritage Centre in a timely manner so that they can be reviewed by the Advisory Bodies before final decisions are taken;
7. Expresses its concern for the number of threats identified during the 2014 Advisory mission and addressed in Decision **38 COM 7B.42**, many of which remain unresolved, and further

requests it to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, a strategic plan with the responsible authorities and timelines to address the following:

- a) Finalize the work on the extension of the buffer zone and its regulations followed by a Minor Boundary Modification request, as per Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*,
  - b) Finalize the process for approval of the Law for Protection, Safeguarding and Development of Cultural Heritage,
  - c) Review and improve the management structures with clearly defined responsibilities and authorities to allow adequate conservation, protection and management actions,
  - d) Finalize Strategic Plan for the Integral Revitalization of the Colonial City of Santo Domingo including detailed implementation timelines and funding,
  - e) To reassure that all projects within the property undertaken by any governmental, non-governmental and private entities must be consulted and approved by the DNPM;
8. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

### **38. City of Quito (Ecuador) (C 2)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.38**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.61**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Notes the legal and institutional arrangements for the conservation and management of cultural heritage provided by the State Party in its state of conservation report;
4. Acknowledges the progress made in the preparation of the Integral Plan and encourages the State Party to complete it in accordance with the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape and other management recommendations and, once available, to submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Also notes the actions implemented by the State Party in areas of monitoring and risk management, as well as the promotion of housing in historic buildings and requests the State Party to submit the Risk Management Plan to the World Heritage Centre, once available, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
6. Further notes that the construction of the metro station at the San Francisco Square has been concluded, but regrets that the requested consultation process with the Committee was not concluded, and that alternative locations were not sufficiently explored as repeatedly requested by the Committee;
7. Notes furthermore that the State Party submitted documentation regarding the protection of the OUV and monitoring of the property and its components during the metro works, for technical review by the Advisory Bodies, and also requests the State Party to ensure that



there is adequate time for such a review before commencement of tunnelling beneath the Historic Centre of Quito and that any matters raised in the technical review are addressed before these works proceed;

8. Urges the State Party to:
  - a) continue the programmes for the monitoring of vibrations and surface settlements of the construction of the tunnel proceeds as recommended by the 2016 ICOMOS Advisory mission,
  - b) submit the results of this monitoring to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies,
  - c) develop a programme to assess, once the metro line is in operation, the station's impact on pedestrian flows and the uses and functions of the square and its surrounding buildings;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.39**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **34 COM 7B.110**, **35 COM 7B.125**, **36 COM 99**, **37 COM 98**, **38 COM 7B.44** and **40 COM 7B.6** adopted respectively at its 34th (Brasilia, 2010), 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 36th (Saint Petersburg, 2012), 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions,
3. Recalling also the numerous reports of the Advisory and Reactive Monitoring missions and their recommendations to the State Party on the conservation and management of the property;
4. Takes note of the realization of a sustainable tourism plan and the Development, Conservation and Safeguarding Plan of the National History Park – Citadel, Sans Souci (HNP-CSSR) for the monumental part of the property;
5. Expresses, however, its deepest concern about the lack of significant progress in the implementation of the essential tools for good management and conservation of the property, such as the definition of the buffer zone, the finalization of the conservation and management plan and the establishment of a permanent management structure;
6. Notes with deep concern that the question of the deviation of Road RN003 is still not satisfactorily resolved and that the terms of reference for the study of Road RN003 seem to retain exclusively a crossing of the Park and not a bypass and;
  - a) Reiterates Decision **34 COM 7B.110**, that requested the State Party to "halt the construction of the RN003 within the limits of the property pending the development

of other alternatives to be evaluated, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*";

- b) Requests the State Party to confirm that the future route of the RN003 will not pass through the property because it would seriously affect its integrity, and to inform the Committee as soon as possible if and when the necessary studies for a deviation will be made;
  - c) Recalls Decision **40 COM 7B.6**, that requests the State Party "to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the technical project for the improvement of the existing road within the Park, including its route, the engineering work for the canalization of the river, the type of asphalt and the width of the road, for review by the Advisory Bodies before any works are undertaken";
  - d) Notes that the terms of reference indicate the possibility of transforming the road located in the property, from the RN003 road to the Choiseul parking area, and requests the State Party to ensure that this route will not affect the OUV of the property;
7. Notes with concern that the delays in the finalization of these actions and tools could ultimately constitute a potential danger to the OUV of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 179 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
  8. Urges the State Party to provide by **1 February 2019** an electronic version of the management and conservation plan, as well as a proposal for the establishment of a buffer zone for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
  9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **40. Historic Centre of Puebla (Mexico) (C 416)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.40**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.7**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Acknowledges that according to the information provided by the State Party and ICOMOS' Technical Review, the cable car project does not pose a threat to the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and reminds the State Party of its obligation in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to inform in advance and prior any irreversible decision taken, of major restorations and projects which may affect the OUV of the property;
4. Welcomes the adoption of the Partial Programme for the Sustainable Development of the Historical Centre of Puebla and its corresponding Management Plan and encourages the State Party to ensure the human and financial resources and institutional arrangements for its implementation;

5. Expresses its serious concern regarding the damages caused by the earthquake of September 2017, and commends the State Party for the actions taken in response;
6. Recognizes that the implementation of the recently-adopted planning documents, and actions in response to the earthquake, will require major efforts and financial and human resources from the State Party, and reiterates its solidarity and support within the framework of the *World Heritage Convention*;
7. Requests the State Party to submit, by **1 December 2019**, a report on the actions taken in response to the damages caused by the earthquake of September 2017, and the progress made in the implementation of the Management Plan.

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

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.41**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.8**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the adoption of the Metropolitan Development Plan 2016-2025 and the definition of the monumental zone as an area that requires special regulation, and notes that a Master Plan 2017-2027 has been prepared for this area and the historical centre;
4. Urges the State Party to complete the revision and approval process for the Master Plan 2017-2027 and to inform the World Heritage Centre accordingly, and to proceed with the submission of the revision of the boundaries of the property and buffer zone as a Minor Boundary Modification, according to Paragraphs 163-164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
5. Also notes that the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the Via Troncal has been completed and that there will be a minimal impact on the property and a medium impact on the proposed buffer zone, and that there will be positive effects on the traffic flow through the historical centre;
6. Notwithstanding the above, strongly recommends to the State Party to carefully monitor the impact of the Via Troncal in other areas than the World Heritage property, particularly the potential urbanization along the Via Troncal that may affect cultural landscapes, historical villages and expressions of intangible heritage that contribute to the contextual setting of the property, and to implement the relevant recommendations of the 2014 Reactive Monitoring mission in order to manage and mitigate these processes;
7. Requests the State Party to review all recommendations of the 2014 Reactive Monitoring mission in a systematic manner and to report back on their implementation;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## 42. Historic Inner City of Paramaribo (Suriname) (C 940rev)

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

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.9**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the approval and implementation of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)-funded Paramaribo Urban Rehabilitation Programme (PURP) that addresses key issues of the management and conservation of the property, and requests the State Party to provide a copy of the programme documentation and periodic progress reports on its implementation, including information on the community's participation, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
4. Urges the State Party again to withdraw the licence to the private company for the development project at the Waterfront, and to urgently proceed with the expansion of the property's boundaries to include a 50 metre strip of the river, and with the extension of the buffer zones as recommended in earlier Committee decisions by means of a formal Minor Boundary Modification in accordance with Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
5. Recommends that the State Party pay particular attention to the development of the whole Waterfront which is a key attribute of the property and to submit the Strategic Plan for the Waterfront, once it becomes available, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
6. Regretting that four historic buildings were either destroyed by fire or illegally demolished by their owners in 2017, also requests the State Party to provide further information on the most recent incidents in regard to their relevance for the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
7. Further requests the State Party to give high priority to fire prevention and awareness raising among private owners of historic buildings in the property and its buffer zone;
8. Commends the initiative of the State Party to re-build the former National Assembly buildings and requests furthermore the State Party to take into account the recommendations made by the ICOMOS technical review, and to engage in further consultations with ICOMOS on the elaboration of updated architectural designs;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## AFRICA

### 43. Aksum (Ethiopia) (C 15)

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.43**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.10**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Commends the State Party on the progress made in developing a Management Plan for the property, even though this is still in the process of development, and on the intention to instigate training officials involved in the management of the property and application of the principles contained in the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape;
4. Remains concerned about the management of the property and the impact of development on its setting, in the absence of:
  - a) A completed and approved Management Plan,
  - b) Defined property and buffer zone boundaries,
  - c) A review of the 2010 Thematic Master Plan;
5. Requests the State Party to submit, by **1 December 2018**, the revised Management Plan and the 2010 Thematic Master Plan to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies and to clearly clarify the relationship between these documents and the 2016 Structure Plan;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit, as a matter of urgency, the previously requested detailed boundary delineation maps of the property and its buffer zone to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre details of all current and potential developments within the property and the buffer zone, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, together with appropriate Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs), including for the developments commented upon by the 2016 mission;
8. Further requests the State Party to:
  - a) Amend the contract for the stabilization of Stele III to take account of the recommendations of the Advisory Bodies,
  - b) Continue with investigating solutions for the problems faced at the Tomb of the Brick Arches and the Mausoleum, in line with the recommendations of the Advisory Bodies, before executing this project,
  - c) Continue to keep the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies updated on this project, refrain from implementing procedures that have not been reviewed, and follow a cautious approach in this project by engaging expert advisors throughout,

- d) Submit the revised design for the façade modification of the Church Museum, and an archaeologist's report on the archaeological features that were reported as being discovered during the Church Museum building works, by **1 February 2019**, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
9. Encourages the State Party to develop its proposal for training relevant personnel on the *Convention*, the *Operational Guidelines*, and the Management Plan for Aksum, once the latter is finalized;
10. Urges the State Party to continue to implement the recommendations of the 2013 and 2016 missions,
11. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **44. Lower Valley of the Omo (Ethiopia) (C 17)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.44**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **36 COM 7B.3**, **39 COM 7B.4**, **40 COM 7B.80**, **41 COM 7B.68**, adopted at its 36th (Saint Petersburg, 2012), 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the updated information on the Kuraz Sugar Development project (KSDP) submitted by the State Party and notes that the project is well advanced and has been reduced in scale to four sugar factories with sugar cultivation of 100,000 ha, but that there has been an increase in access roads, drainage canals and secondary and tertiary canals;
4. Also notes that no details have been provided on ancillary development near the property linked to the main project, such as feeder roads, supplementary settlements or areas of extraction for construction materials; and requests the State Party to provide these;
5. Regrets that the adequate impact assessments have not yet been carried out in a timely manner, and requests the State Party to augment the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) carried out in June 2017 by including the full details of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the KSDP and its ancillary projects by taking into account ICOMOS' Technical Review of November 2017; and to update the existing HIA with the results of the proposed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA);
6. Further notes that the EIA scoping study reports that the project has received the full consent of the residents as a result of consultations held with the local communities about the project concerned in conjunction with the Ethiopian Sugar Corporation; and requests the State Party to submit the outcomes of the consultations held for the EIA on KSDP for review by the Advisory Bodies;

7. Considers that the EIA scoping study does not adequately address the full potential impacts of the KSDP on the property and its setting, and requests the State Party to strengthen the analysis of indirect impacts on cultural aspects, in particular from new ancillary projects associated with the main project, and to examine all potential impacts of the project on Lower Valley of the Omo and its setting, in line with the ICOMOS guidelines on impact assessments, and to submit this to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
8. Notes furthermore the progress with the EU-funded boundary project, but expresses concern that the boundary work has not been completed by the Ethiopian Mapping Agency, and requests moreover the State Party to give priority to progressing this work, which is needed to underpin the HIA, and the Management Plan of the property, and to submit draft boundary proposals to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before any decisions are made;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, a progress report and, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

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

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.45**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **39 COM 7B.40**, **40 COM 7B.12** and **41 COM 7B.69**, adopted at its 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Noting the recommendations of the Advisory mission carried out to Nairobi, Kenya from 24 to 26 January 2018,
4. Notes the efforts of the State Party to respond to the decision of the Committee with regards to the Lamu Port–South Sudan–Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor project;
5. Reiterates its concern that the scope of the LAPSSET project may continue to have significant impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
6. Requests the State Party to revise the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the entire LAPSSET project to include a chapter on the impacts and proposed mitigation measures for cultural and natural heritage, and specifically the impacts on the OUV of Lamu Old Town;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre drafts of the revised Master Plan for the Lamu Metropolis, the EU transportation infrastructure plan, the LAPSSET Planning and Investment Framework, and the revised chapter on LAPSSET of the Management Plan for the property, for review by the Advisory Bodies as soon as they are completed and before they are approved;

8. Takes note of the commitment of the State Party not to allow LAPSSET developments on the islands of the Lamu Archipelago, but considering that there could be a spillover effect from other development related to LAPSSET, further requests the State Party to:
  - a) Develop necessary planning measures and development controls (including restrictions on height, building materials, land use and use of HIAs) to ensure that any spillover developments in the setting of the property do not have a negative impact on its OUV,
  - b) As a matter of urgency, and as requested in a number of previous Committee decisions, submit a proposal for a Minor Boundary Modification to the World Heritage Centre which sets out the extent of a revised buffer zone around the property including at a minimum all of Lamu Island, the parts of Manda Island visible from the property, and the larger mangrove areas,
  - c) Carry out additional studies to ascertain any effects that the pollution resulting from the coal-fired power plant may have on the fragile coral stone buildings of the Old Town and any other impacts on other attributes that carry the OUV of the property;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to complete the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the LAPSSET Corridor Development Authority and the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) to include the NMK on the LAPSSET Board, as mentioned during the 2015 mission;
10. Recommends that the State Party set up a significant funding mechanism to deal with conservation issues, including training in traditional building technologies and the use of traditional building materials, within the Lamu Old Town World Heritage property as the LAPSSET project continues to develop;
11. Requests moreover the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, once the necessary security clearance has been obtained, in order to examine the state of advancement of the LAPSSET project as well as the state of conservation of the property, and to hold discussions with local stakeholder groups;
12. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

#### **46. Le Morne Cultural Landscape (Mauritius) (C 1259bis)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.46**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.14**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Commends the State Party for gaining access for visitors to Le Morne Brabant Mountain;
4. Noting the implementation of the revised Management Plans and sub plans including a plan of action, welcomes the elaboration of the Risk Management Plan and the Visitor



Management Plan and encourages the efforts made by the State Party to resolve the challenges in implementing these plans;

5. Also commends the signature of a twinning agreement between the property and Robben Island Museum (South Africa);
6. Notes that the legal challenge linked to the proposed development by Le Morne Brabant IRS Co Ltd still lacks resolution, and stresses the need for this case to be resolved in a definitive and harmonious manner;
7. Also notes the challenges the property is facing regarding invasive alien species, and also encourages the State Party to pursue its effort to maintain the biological diversity of the property;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.

#### **47. Island of Mozambique (Mozambique) (C599)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.47**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.15**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Takes note of the findings and recommendations of the 2018 joint Reactive Monitoring mission to the property;
4. Welcomes the progress made in the completion of the Conservation and Management Plan, especially as regards the inclusive process undertaken and the application of the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape and of the Sustainable Development Goals;
5. Urges the State Party to complete this process promptly and to include within the Conservation and Management Plan provisions for Disaster risk management, Heritage Impact Assessments, as well as Conservation guidelines to steer renovation and restoration project;
6. Requests the State Party to complete with haste the proposed buffer zone modification to facilitate the submission of the buffer zone proposal as a Minor Boundary Modification to the World Heritage Centre, for evaluation by the Advisory Bodies and consideration by the World Heritage Committee, in accordance with Paragraph 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Also requests the State Party to undertake emergency conservation and consolidation work to safeguard the hospital building and expedite the resumption of the renovation project;
8. Notes the provision of a legislative framework for the identification categorisation of structures on the island, and the completion of an inventory for the stone and lime town

area of the property, and further requests the State Party to extend this to include the macuti area of the property;

9. Requests furthermore the State Party to:
  - a) Amend the regulations guiding the Conservation Office of the Island of Mozambique (GACIM), to give this body the appropriate authority to have the final approval of proposed developments in order to safeguard the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property,
  - b) Appoint suitably-qualified staff to strengthen GACIM appropriately and ensure that this organisation can fulfil its appointed tasks;
10. Requests moreover the State Party to develop strategies that:
  - a) Institute a regular maintenance regime for all publicly-owned buildings on the property,
  - b) Address the living conditions in the macuti town in a way that is appropriate regarding the OUV of the property,
  - c) Counter traffic increase in the property,
  - d) Further educate the property's inhabitants on their role as custodians of the OUV of the property,
  - e) Ensure appropriate maintenance and repair regimes for both the stone and lime town as well as for the macuti town,
  - f) Provide for capacity building at the national and local levels to ensure the proper management and conservation of the property,
  - g) Address the reported growing social inequality on the property;
11. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **48. Sukur Cultural Landscape (Nigeria) (C 938)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.48**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.17**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Commends the actions undertaken by the State Party to address the impacts of the insurgent attacks of 2014 on the Sukur Cultural Landscape, and notes with appreciation the elaboration of the new Conservation Management Plan (CMP) 2017-2021;
4. Noting that conservation works to address the damage caused by the 2014 attacks to the Hidi place, paved walkways and other structures still need to be undertaken, welcomes the assistance given to the State Party by the international community to address the impacts of those attacks on the property and its communities;

5. Encourages the State Party to pursue its efforts for continued conservation and requests it in particular to undertake detailed mapping of cultural features as soon as funds are available, including traditional structures and practices;
6. Notes that people displaced from other areas are settling in growing numbers in the property area, leading to a scarcity of resources and to the construction of buildings using inappropriate materials;
7. Requests the State Party to take appropriate measures to ensure sustainable use of local materials, and to ensure increased control of erosion on the site;
8. Takes note of the initiatives for the development of eco-tourism at the property, and also encourages the State Party to keep the World Heritage Committee informed of any future development project within the vicinity of the property, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before any irreversible decisions are made;
9. Also takes note that for security reasons, the planned Reactive Monitoring mission to the property was not feasible, but that a mission has been undertaken to meet national experts and property staff in Abuja (Nigeria) in May 2018;
10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, as well as on the recommendations of the May 2018 mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

#### **49. Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape (South Africa) (C 1099bis)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.49**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.19**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Commends the State Party on its efforts to ensure effective monitoring of the two existing mines, Vele Colliery and Venetia, in the vicinity of the property;
4. Welcomes the proposed development of a new integrated management plan, to be completed in 2018 and submitted to the World Heritage Centre;
5. Acknowledges the State Party's assurance that it has fully resolved the issues raised by the World Heritage Committee, that the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) is well maintained and monitored, and that the property faces no imminent threats, but notes that the State Party report included limited information on the monitoring and conservation of the property since the adoption of Decision **40 COM 7B.19** in 2016 to confirm its good state of conservation;
6. Also acknowledges the submission of the 2013 report on rehabilitation and stabilization work of the archaeological sites, and the 2016 report that mentions further work on K2, but notes that no details have been provided that set out follow-up activities to these reports,

and requests the State Party to provide a detailed report of archaeological conservation and monitoring work for all sites undertaken since the 2012 Reactive Monitoring mission, together with an illustrated assessment of the current state of conservation of the sites;

7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, including detailed up-to-date information on the monitoring and conservation of the property, including recent data on available conservation indicators and implementation of the property's management plan, and on the implementation of the above, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

## **50. Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara (United Republic of Tanzania) (C 144)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.50**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.20**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the completion of the Integrated Management Plan (2016–2019) and the beginning of its implementation, bearing in mind that the State Party might wish to consider a longer implementation timeframe for future planning exercises;
4. Requests the State Party to finalize work on the overall Land Use plan for the property and develop a separate, more detailed Sustainable Tourism Development Plan taking into account carrying capacity and other conservation factors in addition to improving visitor experience, for submission to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Also requests the State Party to continue with the implementation of the recommendations of the 2013 mission;
6. Encourages the State Party to continue work on the establishment of the boundaries and buffer zone of the property as well as accompanying regulatory framework, and if necessary, to submit a new International Assistance request as part of the 2019 cycle;
7. Also encourages the State Party to continue with work both on the conservation of monuments at the site and the work on strengthening the sea barriers with the aim of slowing erosion, and further requests that plans for this work, along with an update of work already carried out, be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
8. Notes the intention to build new visitor facilities and jetties and improve existing tourism infrastructure, and requests furthermore that any plans be submitted to the World Heritage Centre before plans are finalized and implementation begins, in accordance to Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;

9. Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.51**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **35 COM 7B.45, 36 COM 7B.49, 38 COM 7B.55, 39 COM 7B.45 and 40 COM 7B.21, adopted at its** 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 36th (Saint Petersburg, 2012), 38th (Doha, 2014), 39th (Bonn, 2015) and its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes with satisfaction the development of the Department of Urban and Rural Planning (DoURP) Ng'ambo Local Area Plan and Green Belt proposals, the successful restoration of the Chawl Building, and supports the proposed development of the Hifadhi Zanzibar Majestic Theatre;
4. Notes that the State Party has followed the ICOMOS recommendations regarding Beit el Ajaib (House of Wonders) and requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of all developments regarding the rehabilitation project;
5. Notes with concern that minimum mitigation measures for the Mambo Msiige project, identified by the 2016 mission as non-negotiable minimum, have not all been implemented, while the Tippu Tip House and the Palace Museum remain vulnerable unless urgent measures are taken;
6. Notes with great concern that the Advisory mission of October 2017 considered that none of the factors affecting the property, as listed in the state of conservation reports since 2014, has been addressed successfully and nearly all comments and recommendations made in the 2014 and 2016 mission reports still remain valid today, and moreover that the current Management System, including the 2010 Stone Town Conservation and Development Authority (STCDA) Act, is not being implemented fully, with resultant negative consequences for the property and its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
7. Also notes with satisfaction that the overall state of conservation of the general building stock remains vulnerable and that an overall detailed inventory of the building stock is still lacking whilst welcoming the categorization of some 300 buildings owned by the Zanzibar Housing Corporation (ZHC) and the restoration skills training undertaken;
8. Expresses its concern that major development projects have not been notified to the World Heritage Centre and reiterates its request to the State Party to submit details for the Malindi Container Port and Tippu Tip House projects before any implementation is undertaken, development rights granted or fundraising started, in the light of their high potential impact on the OUV of the property, and submit for review the World Monument Fund Report for the Palace Museum Restoration;

9. Also requests the State Party to:
  - a) Halt as a matter of urgency the extensive Bwawani Hotel Redevelopment Plan (including proposals for the sea front, Funguni Lagoon and Blue Mosque), in view of its highly negative and irreversible potential impact on OUV,
  - b) Clarify the current status of rights to development granted on the entire area and submit this, also as a matter of urgency, to the World Heritage Centre,
  - c) Protect the remains of the Bwawani Hotel, and its sea front and the Funguni Lagoon as public open spaces,
  - d) Further develop appropriate plans for the Bwawani Hotel complex for submission to the World Heritage Centre for review,
  - e) Halt the current Darajani Bazaar project as it will have an adverse effect on the OUV of the property, and to develop a new project, based on the principles contained in the DoURP Ng'ambo Local Area Plan and the Green Belt proposals;
10. Also expresses its concern at the failure to provide project proposals and final details for the Mizingani Sea Wall project as requested in 2010, 2011 and 2016;
11. Further expresses its concern that the overall weaknesses highlighted by the 2017 Advisory mission reflect the previous concerns of the Committee and could warrant consideration for inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger, under paragraphs 178 and 179 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
12. Urges the State Party to take the following actions to address these problems and, in light of their complexity and diversity and the range of stakeholders and actors involved, recommends that a cross-cutting Task Team be set up as recommended by the 2017 mission for a defined period of minimum five years with the mandate to:
  - a) Address the 'Procedures to Adequately Control Development and Promote Conservation',
  - b) Implement the outstanding recommendations of the 2014 and 2016 missions,
  - c) Guide the development of the new integrated Conservation Management Plan (CMP) and its coordination into all spatial local and regional plans,and invites the State Party to submit the terms of reference of the CMP for review;
13. Further requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to the property in 2019 to assess the overall state of conservation of the property and in particular, progress with the formation of a Task Team;
14. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020; with a view to maintaining the OUV of the property.

## ARAB STATES

### 52. Memphis and its Necropolis – the Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur (Egypt) (C 86)

#### Decision: 42 COM 7B.52

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.78**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for the significant archaeological discoveries and related research at the Pyramid of Khufu and for the advancement of the Step Pyramid and Southern Tomb Risk Mitigation and Restoration Project at Saqqara, and requests it to submit detailed information thereon to the World Heritage Centre;
4. Welcomes the ongoing engagement of the State Party with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in the development of proposals for a Cairo Ring Road tunnel across the Giza Plateau;
5. Takes note of the submission by the State Party of an initial 'archaeological assessment' for the Cairo Ring Road Tunnel project and reiterates its request to the State Party to complete a comprehensive archaeological assessment, in the manner previously requested, incorporating results from remote sensing using ground penetrating radar, magnetic survey and other techniques, and to ensure that, following review by the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, the final comprehensive 'archaeological assessment report' and the previous technical reports on traffic management and design details, inform the preparation of the engineering designs for the Ring Road Tunnel project, which should be subject to a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), following the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties; and also reiterate its request to the State Party to submit the detailed engineering designs and HIA to World Heritage Centre for review;
6. Also takes note of the previous Committee Decision that work for the construction of the tunnel should only be progressed once all requested technical reports and subsequent HIAs have been positively reviewed by the Advisory Bodies and appropriate mitigation measures and procedures for monitoring have been agreed;
7. Noting that the legacy from the abandoned planned Ring Road of 1995 impacts adversely on the landscape and that the abandoned road has facilitated dumping, waste incineration, and large-scale sand extraction, also requests the State Party to provide additional information about actions being taken to address this impact;
8. Expresses concern over the information provided by the State Party on the Giza Pyramids Plateau Development Project, the Lighting and Security Project of the Giza Pyramids and the Memphis Site and Community Development Project and urges the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, as soon as possible and in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, a detailed document providing comprehensive information about the Giza Pyramids Plateau Development Project;

9. Further requests the State Party to continue its efforts to strengthen the protection and management of the property by:
  - a) Reinforcing the overall co-ordination and management of the World Heritage property, and reinforcing the conservation of the property by the Ministry of Antiquities,
  - b) Investigating national legislation specific to World Heritage properties,
  - c) Defining a buffer zone and submitting a Minor Boundary Modification request;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to evaluate the property's state of conservation, the ongoing and planned projects and how they may affect the property's Outstanding Universal Value;
11. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

### **53. Erbil Citadel (Iraq) (C 1437)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.53**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **38 COM 8B.20 and 40 COM 7B.23**, adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,
3. Notes the positive results of the 'Erbil Citadel Revitalization Project' implemented by UNESCO in the framework of the Kurdistan Regional Government Funds-In-Trust;
4. Commends the State Party for continuing the actions undertaken in response to the World Heritage Committee's recommendations at the time of the property's inscription;
5. Encourages the State Party to continue with the implementation of the measures and activities already undertaken and to continue its fruitful engagement with national and international partners, so as to ensure the adequate conservation and management of the property, and prevent and limit the threats to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
6. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, concept schemes for the location and design of new constructions within the property and its buffer zone, in particular the proposed Kurdistan National Museum, before commitment is given with regards to their approval or construction,
  - b) Continue with the juridical review to strengthen the management of the property, its buffer zone and setting and thereby safeguarding its OUV,
  - c) Submit to the World Heritage Centre the results of the archaeological investigations for review by the Advisory Bodies in order to finalize the provisional Statement of OUV;



7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **54. Petra (Jordan) (C 326)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.54**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.80**, adopted at its 41th session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Highly commends the State Party for taking immediate and substantive measures to implement key recommendations of the November 2017 joint Reactive Monitoring mission, notably by:
  - a) Elaborating a high-quality Integrated Management Plan (IMP) for the property and foreseeing legal provisions and adequate policies for its implementation, in line with the *Operational Guidelines*,
  - b) Replacing the project to extend the Crowne Plaza Hotel with a low-environmental impact renovation one, and abandoning other high-impact tourism infrastructure projects,
  - c) Reinforcing institutional coordination to improve conservation and management efficiency, in particular with regards to the Department of Antiquities' role, and to the planned maintenance and restoration centre for the property;
4. Also commends the State Party for conducting a management and protection approach in line with Policy on the integration of a sustainable development perspective into the processes of the *World Heritage Convention*, notably through:
  - a) Environmental protection: its efforts to designate the Petra Archaeological Park as a Natural Protected area, to reduce the environmental footprints of ongoing construction projects in the property's setting, and to step-up animal welfare-related actions,
  - b) Sustainable social and economic development: its active involvement of local communities and civil society organisations in decision-making and local development actions, in addressing their needs in terms of economic and social development, in particular concerning child labour and school dropouts;
5. Urges the State Party to implement all of the recommendations of the November 2017 mission, including particularly:
  - a) Taking the necessary actions to protect the property from urban growth and urban encroachment by:
    - (i) Enforcing a permanent moratorium on new buildings or infrastructure that are visible from the site,
    - (ii) Devising an Integrated Territorial Master Plan (ITMP) that allows for sustainable economic, social and environmental development,

- (iii) Preventing densification of the property's setting and diverting urban growth towards the east of the property, beyond the boundaries of the Petra Development Tourism Authority,
    - (iv) Devising new regulations for the projected buffer zone and the property's larger setting, in line with the integrated territorial planning approach,
  - b) Preparation of an accurate GIS-based map of the property showing its precise boundaries, topography, location of all its component attributes and planned buffer zone,
  - c) Urgent attention to the Siq Stabilization Project through a holistic and scientific approach to water management and watershed planning, and the root causes of flash floods,
  - d) Establishing procedures for notification to, and consultation with, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS prior to the implementation of major works;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit a minor boundary modification proposal towards the adoption of the boundaries of the planned buffer zone and to clarify the protective urban regulations of the planned buffer zone including its zoning, in the context of the development of an ITMP;
  7. Encourages the State Party to pursue its ongoing dialogue and collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies towards the conservation, and management of the property;
  8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **55. Um er-Rasas (Kastrom Mefa'a) (Jordan) (C 1093)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.55**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.81**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Commends the State Party for the submission of the Management Plan for the property; and invites it to submit the requested complementary documentation: a comprehensive conservation plan and archaeological research policy, and a Public Use Plan;
4. Expresses concern over the lack of completion of urgent conservation work across the property, with particular attention given to the Stylite Tower and the Castrum Fortification and urges the State Party to undertake all needed temporary and reversible consolidation interventions of the fragile attributes in the property and submit the final conservation projects to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, and encourages the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission to support the finalization of such projects if deemed necessary;

5. Requests the State Party to update the definition of the property's boundaries and its buffer zone; and to submit it as a formal Minor Boundary Modification, in accordance with Paragraphs 163 and 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to the World Heritage Centre for evaluation by the Advisory Bodies and adoption by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020;
6. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

## **56. Byblos (Lebanon) (C 295)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.56**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Expresses concern that above-ground structures of reinforced concrete were built at the south of the property and that the State Party did not submit detailed information and design for the Diplomatic Club project, including the reburial (backfilling) of the archaeological remains to allow for the reversibility of the swimming pools;
3. Urges the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, as soon as possible and in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, a detailed document on the actions already undertaken and planned related to this project, including the architectural design documents;
4. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to evaluate the state of conservation of the property, to assess the Diplomatic Club project's potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, to identify any modifications to this project that may be necessary to sustain the property's OUV, authenticity and integrity, and to determine whether a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is advisable;
5. Also requests the State Party to suspend construction work on this project and not build any additional structures until the above-mentioned actions have been completed;
6. Further requests the State Party to work in close consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to elaborate and submit a Minor Boundary Modification, in line with Paragraphs 107 and 164 and Annex 11 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.57**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.26**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Commends the State Party for its efforts to ensure the sustainable management and conservation of the property, and welcomes the creation of a 'World Heritage Sites Department' within the Ministry of Heritage and Culture (MHC), and a site management office at Bahla;
4. Regrets that, despite previous requests, neither the finalized version of the Management Plan nor a request for a minor boundary modification have been submitted;
5. Urges the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre the finalized and updated version of the Management Plan, including the legal framework that will support its implementation;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, as soon as possible and based on Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, a detailed document summarizing the conservation and management actions already undertaken and planned at the property, (original fabric, interventions with the different earthen building techniques, interventions with other traditional materials, and new concrete construction), and showing the articulation between them and the finalized and updated version of the Management Plan;
7. Noting the recommendations of the 2017 Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, also requests the State Party to implement them, and in particular provisions for improved control and monitoring of new construction, and preparation of a conservation plan;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit, by **1 February 2019**, a minor boundary modification enlarging the buffer zone, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.

## 58. Historic Jeddah, the Gate to Makkah (Saudi Arabia) (C 1361)

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.58**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.27**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),

3. Commends the State Party for the significant achievements in finalizing a detailed database of the buildings in the property and encourages it to pursue its efforts to include all the attributes relating to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, including its urban fabric within this database;
4. Welcomes the engagement of the State Party in achieving a more comprehensive management approach for the property and the adoption of legal instruments and institutional measures that would allow for its improved protection, conservation and management, as well as initial steps toward application of the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) approach to management of the property;
5. Also encourages the State Party to further develop an integrated conservation strategy for the property including systematic Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) studies, prepared in accordance with the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties to be applied to significant projects within the property;
6. Notes the efforts undertaken by the State Party to prevent risk of fire and requests it to integrate those measures into a risk preparedness plan for the property;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies:
  - a) Detailed information on all plans, projects and strategies to be undertaken within the property, in particular on emblematic buildings and those at risk of collapse, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*,
  - b) The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) which has been prepared for the property,
  - c) The integrated conservation strategy for the property including the HIA framework for specific projects,
  - d) The risk management and prevention plan for the property;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, 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 45th session in 2021.

## **59. Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region (Sudan) (C 1073)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.59**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-16/40.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.28**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes the preventive conservation efforts and preservation actions so far implemented by the State Party in the framework of the Qatar-Sudan Archaeological Project;
4. Expresses its concern about the overall state of conservation of the property which, according to the information provided, appears to be in a perilous state, reflecting years of neglect, lack of maintenance and protection, and inadequate management and staff

capacity, which result in the deterioration of important attributes, threatening the property's integrity and having a direct negative impact on its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);

5. Regrets that, despite its previous request, no clear information has been provided on the overall strategy and status of project activities for each of the five component parts, nor have the urgent management and monitoring issues been addressed;
6. Also regrets that no information has been provided concerning the completion of the mapping to clearly identify boundaries of the five component parts in accordance with the standards identified in Annex 11 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Urges the State Party, in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to address the management issues and need for a monitoring system in order to adequately target long-term conservation needs, and to provide details on the tourism management plan, as well as detailed documentation on the actions carried out and planned in the five component parts;
8. Requests the State Party to provide detailed information and documentation on the proposal to construct a cover over the El Kurru funerary temple, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
9. Also requests the State Party to invite, as a matter of urgency, a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to: evaluate its state of conservation, identify precise threats to its OUV in collaboration with key national and international stakeholders, develop a plan of action to address the issues of management, monitoring and visitor management, and to determine whether the state of conservation of the attributes that sustain the OUV of the property, notably its authenticity and integrity, are subject to ascertained or potential danger; in line with Paragraph 179 of the *Operational Guidelines*.
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.60**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.29**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Warmly welcomes the progress achieved in the protection and conservation of the property, despite a relatively difficult global context;
4. Commends the State Party for the successful efforts towards recovering the Ganymède statue stolen from the site museum in 2013;

5. Takes note of the efforts undertaken by the State Party for land control of the area located in the classified zone and invites it to pursue and strengthen them;
6. Also takes note of the revision process for the property boundaries and the buffer zone and invites the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre the criteria for definition of the latter, as well as the regulations and measures that govern it;
7. Also requests the State Party:
  - a) To adopt and implement the Protection and Enhancement Plan (PPMV) of the property,
  - b) To prepare a presentation plan and tourism management plan that will prevent the informal proliferation of commerce within the property, notably at the “UNESCO Square” and around the Antonin Baths,
  - c) To conceive and implement an archaeological and conservation strategy for the property,
  - d) To coordinate the management and preservation structures of the property, as well as the roles of the different concerned stakeholders;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the study and enhancement projects for the Roman Circus and the Study and Archaeological Investigations and Conservation Strategy for the property, as well as the Heritage Impact Evaluations (HIE), before irreversible decisions are taken, for examination by the Advisory Bodies;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **MIXED PROPERTIES**

### **ASIA-PACIFIC**

#### **61. Tasmanian Wilderness (Australia) (C/N 181quinquies)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.61**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.66** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the ongoing implementation of the recommendations of the 2015 mission through the new 2016 Management Plan for the property, particularly the ban on commercial logging along with mineral exploration and extraction within the property and the recommendations related to fire research and management, and encourages the State Party to continue its efforts in this regard;

4. Also welcomes the specific inclusion in the Management Plan of additional assessment criteria for commercial tourism proposals and requirements to consider potential impacts on the wilderness values of the property,
5. Urges the State Party to expedite the development of the Tourism Master Plan in order to ensure a strategic approach to tourism development within the property, in line with the primary goal of protecting its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and to submit the draft Tourism Master Plan to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies prior to its finalization;
6. Requests the State Party to finalize, as a matter of priority, the on-going process to designate Permanent Timber Production Zone Land (PTPZL) and Future Potential Production Forest Land (FPPFL) within the property as reserves;
7. Commends the State Party for the progress made with assessing cultural heritage assets by documenting archaeological and other research undertaken over the past 40 years;
8. Also encourages the State Party to implement the Detailed Plan for a Comprehensive Cultural Assessment of the property, in order to fully define both living and archaeological heritage and to support co-management of these resources with the Aboriginal communities; and further encourages it to use these data to complete the drafting of a Retrospective Statement of OUV;
9. Reiterates its recommendation to the State Party to add cultural heritage specialists to the property staff, in order to ensure the effective protection and management of cultural sites within the property;
10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **62. Trang An Landscape Complex (Viet Nam) (C/N 1438bis)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.62**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **38 COM 8B.14** and **40 COM 7B.67**, adopted at its 38th (Doha 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in following up on earlier Committee concerns about management planning, including the review of the Management Plan and the elaboration and submission of Action Plans for visitation management and archaeological heritage management;
4. Notes that current visitation has already increased beyond the previously anticipated two million visitors per annum and is further anticipated to increase to 3.5 million visitors per annum by 2020, and urges the State Party to continue the necessary studies to enable a better understanding of impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) from



- high and rapidly increasing visitation, and to establish and enforce a strict limit to visitation to ensure it does not exceed the carrying capacity of the property, in order to conserve its OUV, as well as its biodiversity as a key part of its aesthetic value;
5. Also welcomes that the dismantling of the illegally built concrete walkway at Cai Ha Mountain has been completed;
  6. Requests the State Party to:
    - a) Further strengthen the regulations for tourism facilities,
    - b) Ensure the establishment of an appropriate consultation mechanism within the Management Board and among all stakeholders of the property, in order to:
      - (i) Ascertain that a balanced approach be made considering aspects relating to tourism, heritage management and nature conservation as a whole,
      - (ii) Apply a clearer reporting protocol concerning any new and major developments within the property and ensure the necessary prior consultation of the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*,
    - c) Ensure that current measures remain in place to limit overcrowding, including the maximum daily quota for peak and normal visitation days,
    - d) Undertake further assessment of the facilities and services required to adequately service current and future visitation, taking into account the substantial current numbers and the revised future estimates, including the extrapolated festival-day peaks of up to 50,000 visitors,
    - e) Further develop the sections within the Management Plan concerning archaeological heritage, in particular staff training and capacity building, so that the national human resources are continuously provided to ensure a long term and successful management of the archaeological heritage of the property;
  7. Also requests the State Party to continue to provide adequate financial and human resources for systematic environmental monitoring, as an integral part of management planning and operations;
  8. Notes that the temporary replica film set will be removed and further requests the State Party to ensure that any heritage promotion and marketing undertaken within the property is consistent with interpretation of its OUV;
  9. Requests furthermore the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to provide advice for the implementation and revision of the property Management Plan;
  10. Noting that the State Party has no intention to construct a new university in the Bai Dinh area, nevertheless reiterates its request to the State Party to submit, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, detailed information on any proposed development projects within the property, its buffer zone and setting for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies prior to any decisions being taken that could be difficult to reverse, including new parking infrastructure;
  11. Also urges the State Party to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for any major developments within the property and the buffer zone as a timely and appropriate method of assessing both individual and cumulative impacts of current and planned developments on this small and fragile property, taking into account potential impacts on the OUV of the property in line with the IUCN and

ICOMOS guidelines on impact assessments for the proposed projects, prior to allowing any such developments to take place;

12. Encourages the State Party to continue to work with the Advisory Bodies on further refining its efforts, including the integration of biodiversity conservation into management and decision making;
13. Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### **63. Ancient Maya City and Protected Tropical Forests of Calakmul, Campeche (Mexico) (C/N 1061bis)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.63**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **38 COM 8B.16**, and **40 COM 7B.63**, adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) session, respectively,
3. Acknowledges the progress made in the integration of the protection and management of the cultural and natural values of the mixed property, and welcomes particularly the formal agreement of cooperation between the National Commission for Natural Protected Areas (CONANP) and the National Institute for Anthropology and History (INAH);
4. Notes the development of a Special Project specifically for the property under the newly signed cooperation agreement between CONANP and INAH, and requests the State Party to provide more precision on what this Special Project will exactly undertake;
5. Reiterates however, its request to the State Party to:
  - a) Complete the updating and reinforcement of legal protection for the extended property as a mixed site, including through the ongoing revision of the zoning of the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve, in order to ensure that both the natural values and the cultural heritage and sites contained in the entire property are adequately protected,
  - b) Submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, the draft proposal for the revision of the zoning of the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve, including maps,
  - c) Complete and approve the Integrated Management Plan for the extended mixed property, which also includes a monitoring program for both cultural and natural attributes of the property, as well as risk management measures specifically addressing threats to these attributes, and submit its final draft to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;

6. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to consider, in the future revision of the boundaries of the property, the inclusion of additional and relevant cultural sites that enhance the property's Outstanding Universal Value and furthermore, to improve the configuration of the buffer zone to ensure it provides an effective layer of additional protection to the property;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## AFRICA

### 64. Ennedi Massif: Natural and Cultural Landscape (Chad) (C/N 1475)

#### Decision: 42 COM 7B.64

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 8B.15** and **41 COM 8B.52**, adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the proposal to upgrade the protection status and consolidate the management of the property, and the opportunities offered by the new partnership between the State Party and African Parks Network (APN), with financial support of the European Union, Dutch Postcode Lottery and other partners, and encourages the international community to continue to provide financial and technical support for the property;
4. Also welcomes the efforts undertaken by the State Party to document and mitigate the reported cases of vandalism of some of the rock art in the property since its inscription, and requests the State Party to provide a detailed report of the extent of the damage and measures taken to rehabilitate the affected sites;
5. Strongly encourages the State Party and its partners to systematically address all the outstanding requests and recommendations already expressed in Decision **40 COM 8B.15** through the new project to support Natural and Cultural Reserve of Ennedi (RNCE), in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
6. Recommends that the long-envisioned strengthening of the legal protected area status be accompanied by a review of the best possible configuration for the property, ensuring full harmonization between the national legal status, management approach, World Heritage status and buffer zone boundaries, and urges the State Party to consult with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies before finalizing the proposal for the boundaries of the RNCE so as to guarantee that all important areas are included and that an appropriate buffer zone is foreseen, and to submit a request for boundary modification for examination by the World Heritage Committee;

7. Recalls that the longstanding relationship between local communities, the archaeological remains and an extreme natural environment contributes to the authenticity and sustainable conservation of the property, and reiterates its request to the State Party to ensure full participation of local communities and their traditional authorities in the governance and management of the property, and also encourages traditional management systems be further documented;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **65. Cliffs of Bandiagara (Land of the Dogons) (Mali) (C/N 516)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.65**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.64**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Congratulates the State Party for the revision and updating of the 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan for the property, and notably for the important involvement of local communities, despite the persisting problems caused by the security situation;
4. Favourably welcomes the measures taken to involve communities in the conservation of the property and the different components of their heritage, and more particularly the community initiatives such as the Dogon Initiative Association (ADI) and the creation of village committees, enabling the restoration work in several villages, and encourages the State Party to continue and strengthen the information and awareness-raising campaigns by and with the communities, notably by including young people;
5. Appreciates the measures taken to combat illicit trafficking of cultural property at both local community levels as well as at the international level, and urges the State Party to increase support to the local communities and intensify cooperation, especially with neighbouring countries to reinforce the combat against illicit trafficking of cultural property;
6. Reiterates its appeal to all the States Parties who are also States Parties to the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property to support Mali in its fight against illicit trade;
7. Also launches an appeal to the international community to support the efforts of the State Party and contribute towards the implementation of the second phase of the Rehabilitation Programme for cultural heritage and safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali;
8. Also encourages the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to explore the possibility of establishing a short-term distance support programme to enable dialogue for capacity building and the strengthening of the sustainable management of the property;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of

the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

## ARAB STATES

### 66. The Ahwar of Southern Iraq: Refuge of Biodiversity and the Relict Landscape of the Mesopotamian Cities (Iraq) (C/N 1481)

#### Decision: 42 COM 7B.66

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 8B.16**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes establishment of an inter-ministerial committee for the management of the property, the completion of the Strategy for Water and Land Resources in Iraq (SWLRI) and the recognition of the Iraqi marshlands as a legitimate water user and, noting the competing demands for water between different users in Iraq, also welcomes the ongoing efforts for reform of water governance;
4. Urges the State Party to take appropriate measures for providing the property with the adequate amount of water within its national capacity;
5. Further welcomes the ongoing efforts towards the establishment of long-term water sharing agreements between the States Parties of Iraq, Iran and Turkey and strongly encourages all three States Parties to continue these efforts, so as to ensure the provision of adequate amounts of water for the property that can sustain its biodiversity, and considers that non-fulfilment of minimum water requirements could represent a potential danger to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines* ;
6. While acknowledging the prevailing conditions in Iraq, notes with significant concern the continued absence of adequate legal protection for the majority of the natural components in the property, as well as the State Party's statement that law enforcement remains a challenge, and also considers that this situation could represent a potential danger to the OUV of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Also notes with concern the significant challenges reported upon by the State Party, related to illegal bird hunting and overfishing, and further considers that in the continued absence of legal protection for most of the property and without sufficient management capacity, these issues are unlikely to be effectively controlled;
8. Reiterates its request to the State Party to:
  - a) Conduct further studies regarding minimum water flows needed to sustain the biodiversity and ecological processes of the property, and demonstrate that these water flows are being provided,

- b) Complete the designation of all of the natural components of the property as protected areas, as a matter of utmost urgency, and ensure effective legal protection to regulate oil and gas concessions, and other potentially impacting activities in the buffer zones of the property,
  - c) Provide support for the maintenance of the traditional ecological knowledge held by the men and women of the Ma'adan "Marsh Arabs" communities, and for rights-based approaches to management, recognising the customary use of the property;
9. Further notes with significant concern the continued vulnerability of the property to oil and gas developments and, recalling its established position that oil and gas exploration and exploitation are incompatible with World Heritage status, strongly urges the State Party to make a permanent commitment not to explore for or exploit oil and gas within the property, and to ensure that any such activities outside the property do not cause a negative impact on its OUV;
  10. Welcomes furthermore the re-instatement of international archaeological teams at Uruk, Ur and Eridu, and the decision to concentrate on conservation; notes progress with work on detailed maps and surveys; nevertheless, in the light of the dire state of conservation at the time of inscription and on-going losses of archaeological layers, also urges the State Party to accelerate work on surveys and maps in order, to develop baseline data for all future work, including monitoring;
  11. Requests the State Party to put in place a structured approach for overall conservation work through the development of conservation plans for each of the three archaeological sites, coupled with operational action plans;
  12. Takes note with concern of the increasing tourism interest in the property in light of the lack of adequate consolidation and maintenance of the excavated areas of Uruk, Ur and Eridu at the time of inscription, the on-going loss of the archaeological remains from erosion and collapse, and the sensitive ecosystem of the marshes, also requests the State Party to develop and implement an overall tourism plan for the whole property, to regulate visitation, ensure visitors' safety, and sustainable and adequate tourism practices, infrastructure and facilities;
  13. Recalls to the State Party its obligation to submit any planned construction projects to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before their commencement;
  14. Further requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, to assess its current state of conservation and the potential impact of water flow, oil and gas exploration and exploitation, illegal bird hunting, over-fishing, archaeological conservation needs, increased visitation and lack of adequate legal protection, on the property's OUV;
  15. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

## 67. Wadi Rum Protected Area (Jordan) (C/N 1377)

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.67

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.65**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes with appreciation progress made by the State Party in addressing the recommendations made by the 2014 Reactive Monitoring mission, despite facing financial and technical challenges;
4. Requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed about plans for the development of a wastewater treatment plant, and on the development of a land use plan for the buffer zone;
5. Encourages the State Party to continue pursuing collaboration with national and international institutions for achieving the highest standards in science- and evidence-based decision-making related to the management of the property;
6. Urges once again the State Party to address the issue of tourist camps and other camp-like installations within the property, to rehabilitate any areas that may have been degraded, and to establish procedures and regulations that will ensure a permanent resolution of the issue;
7. Notes that the State Party has initiated the integration of the cultural heritage database currently under development with the natural heritage database into one compatible GIS (Geographic Information System) database, to support and facilitate the integrated monitoring and management of the cultural and natural attributes of the property, and also encourages this work to be completed expeditiously;
8. Reiterates its request to the State Party to ensure that the revised Integrated Management Plan (IMP) provides references to legal measures and policies, backed by the necessary staff and financial resources, to enable effective management of the property and its buffer zone, and also requests the State Party to include in the revised IMP a cultural heritage management strategy to enable a consistent conservation approach for all cultural sites within the property;
9. Further requests the State Party to actively pursue the implementation of all recommendations of the 2014 mission, particularly with regards to carrying out assessment of tourism activities through Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in and around the property;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## NATURAL PROPERTIES

### ASIA-PACIFIC

#### 68. Keoladeo National Park (India) (N 340)

##### Decision: 42 COM 7B.68

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.87**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Reiterates its utmost concern that new data shows that, in 4 out of 7 recent years, water provision to the property has remained well below the 550 million cubic feet recommended by the 2008 mission as a minimum to sustain its wetland values, and strongly urges the State Party to identify and implement solutions to sustain adequate and reliable long-term water supply to the property and its satellite sites;
4. Welcomes the continued efforts to combat invasive species within the property but reiterates its request to develop an adaptive invasive species control and eradication strategy for the property and to integrate this strategy into the revised Management Plan;
5. Also welcomes the further progress accomplished towards the establishment and issuance of a final notification declaring a 500-metre strip of Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around the property, and also reiterates its request to the State Party to ensure full stakeholder consultation prior to finalizing the notification, and during the subsequent development of the Zonal Master Plan;
6. Further welcomes the survey data provided on bird species in the property and its satellite wetlands, and requests the State Party to engage in systematic monitoring of bird populations in the property based on a clearly identified long-term approach and methodology, which should be clearly documented in the pending revised Management Plan;
7. Also encourages the State Party to use the on-going revision of the Management Plan to assess the effectiveness of current management responses to the well-known challenges the property is facing as a basis for enhanced responses, and to obtain advice from the World Heritage Centre and IUCN as required, and further reiterates its request to the State Party to submit an electronic copy of the draft revised Management Plan to the World Heritage Centre, for review by IUCN;
8. Also requests the State Party to invite an IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess its state of conservation and progress made in addressing issues of water provision and invasive species;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, a written clarification of the current situation regarding the reported disposal of cattle carcasses near the property, including possible impacts on the property's OUV;



10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **69. Western Tien Shan (Kazakhstan / Kirgizstan / Uzbekistan) (N 1490)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.69**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 8B.9**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Regretting that the State Party of Kyrgyzstan did not submit a report on the state of conservation of the Kyrgyz components of the property, recalls that for transboundary properties, States Parties should submit a joint report, rather than individual reports on their national components, and strongly encourages all three States Parties involved in this serial transnational property to submit joint reports in the future;
4. Noting the elaboration of a trilateral Memorandum of Cooperation on protection and management of the property and the delay in signing it, urges all three States Parties to complete the signing of the Memorandum as soon as possible, and requests them to expedite the actions required for its operationalization, particularly with regards to the establishment of a joint steering committee which would assume coordinating functions;
5. Reiterates its request to the States Parties to work in consultation with IUCN to build capacity on transnational management of the property;
6. Notes the information provided by the State Party of Uzbekistan regarding the decrees adopted for the management of the Bashkizilsay and Maydantal areas of the Chatkal Biosphere Reserve component of the property, and requests the State Party to clarify the role of the Uzbekistan National Railway Company in the protection of the property, and to provide more detailed information regarding the changes in the management system resulting from these decrees, and their possible impacts on the conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
7. Also noting the information provided by the State Party of Kazakhstan regarding the revision of the boundaries on the Sayram-Ugam component of the property, expresses its concern that some of the proposed boundary changes would exclude a significant area of the property, to be instead included in its buffer zone, and also recalls that changes to the boundaries should only be proposed with the aim of enhancing representation and protection of the property's OUV;
8. Also reiterates its request to the States Parties to review and rationalize the boundaries of the components of the property and their buffer zones to ensure that they fully correspond to criterion (x), follow ecological principles and address connectivity, exclude areas originally included for their paleontological values and to develop, as a matter of priority, a joint proposal for a significant boundary modification in accordance with Paragraph 165 of the

*Operational Guidelines*, and encourages the States Parties to seek further advice from IUCN on the proposal before submitting it;

9. Encourages the States Parties to consider as part of the boundary modification process, the potential of the property to also meet criterion (ix), in addition to criterion (x);
10. Further requests the States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, a joint updated report on the state of conservation of the entire property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.70**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.89**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the completion and on-going implementation of the 2016-2020 Management Plan for the property and its nationally designated buffer zone, and urges the State Party to pay particular attention to the recommendations of the 2016 Advisory mission, including but not limited to firewood collection, tourism management, management of solid and liquid waste, and unregulated and poorly controlled helicopter use resulting in noise pollution, visual impacts and disturbance of wildlife;
4. Welcoming the information that the Supreme Court has reached a verdict regarding the Kongde View Resort, requests the State Party to submit this verdict upon its completion to the World Heritage Centre;
5. Notes with appreciation the reported close coordination between the National Park authorities and the UNDP-funded “Community Based Flood and Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction” project, and also requests the State Party to continue monitoring of compliance with environmental measures and to fully involve local communities to ensure respect of their cultural and spiritual values and practices throughout the project cycle;
6. Also notes with appreciation the submission of an improved map displaying the property and its nationally designated buffer zone, as well as the proposal in the Management Plan to consider introducing zonation as a management instrument within the property, and further requests the State Party to develop such a zonation system, including as a means to ensure appropriate provisions for enclave villages located within the property;
7. Noting that consultations with local communities suggest no current support for the formalization of the nationally designated buffer zone to the national park as a buffer zone to the property, nevertheless reiterates its encouragement to the State Party to submit a minor boundary modification, consistent with the *Operational Guidelines*, to establish a buffer zone as such formalization will neither increase the size of the property nor impose any limitations on the local communities beyond the existing legal provisions at the national level;

8. Requests furthermore the State Party to ensure that the Social and Environmental Impact Assessments for the proposed optical fibre and ropeway projects include a specific assessment of potential impacts on Outstanding Universal Value, in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and to submit the assessments to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN prior to making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

### 71. **Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe (Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Ukraine) (N 1133ter)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.71**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **41 COM 7B.4** and **41 COM 8B.7**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Welcomes the two specific government resolutions adopted by the State Party of Slovakia aimed at addressing the Committee's requests and recommendations regarding the protection and management of the Slovak components of the property;
4. Notes the confirmation provided by the State Party of Slovakia that logging remains suspended within the Slovak components of the property, but notes with utmost concern the continued absence of adequate legal protection for part of the property and the continued reports of logging within the buffer zone and within the property;
5. Considers that the additional measures proposed by the State Party of Slovakia to provide legal protection of parts of the property which currently do not benefit from a non-intervention regime, including through designation of new nature reserves, are therefore of utmost urgency, and requests the State Party of Slovakia to expedite this process, ensuring legal protection from logging while continuing to involve and consult relevant stakeholders;
6. Noting continued efforts of the State Party of Slovakia to elaborate a proposal for boundary modifications for the Slovak components of the property, including through consultation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, considers that given its potential impact on the OUV of the property, the boundary modification should be submitted as a significant modification in line with paragraph 165 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and also requests the State Party of Slovakia to finalize the proposal as a matter of priority, in consultation with the other States Parties of this transnational property, ensuring that:

- a) the proposed boundary modification results in better protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and the new delineation includes all important areas for the expression of this OUV,
  - b) all areas within the property are provided with an adequate legal protection regime,
  - c) consultations have been held with relevant stakeholders through a participatory process,
  - d) proposed buffer zones are adequate in size and are subject to a management regime which ensures the protection of the property's OUV;
7. Reiterates its position that due to the continued lack of adequate legal protection of the Slovak components of the property, their protection from logging and other potential threats cannot be guaranteed in the long term, which would clearly constitute a potential danger to the OUV of this serial transnational property as a whole, in line with Paragraphs 137 and 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and also considers that this needs to be urgently addressed by adequate legal provisions and an appropriate management regime of its buffer zones;
8. Also recalling Decision **41 COM 8B.7**, which requested the States Parties of this property to emphasize buffer zone management supporting undisturbed natural processes, further requests the States Parties of Romania and Slovakia to ensure that logging is, and remains, strictly prohibited within the property, and that no logging operations are allowed in the buffer zones of the property, if they could have negative impact on natural processes and the property's OUV;
9. Requests furthermore the States Parties of this property to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated joint report on the state of conservation of the property, including on the transnational management of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

## **72. Pirin National Park (Bulgaria) (N 225bis)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.72**

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
- 2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.93**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
- 3. Notes that the new Management Plan for the property could not yet be finalized due to Court proceedings regarding the procedures for the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA);
- 4. Noting the amendments to the current Management Plan for Pirin National Park adopted in December 2017 which now do not prohibit the construction of water catchment facilities within the property, requests the State Party to provide more detailed information on their potential extent, impacts and their relation to potential developments in the property's buffer zone;
- 5. Notes the amendments to the current Management Plan which now do not prohibit for replacement and increase in capacity of skiing infrastructure in the buffer zone of the

property and requests the State Party to ensure that such developments will not impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;

6. Reiterates that any future developments within the buffer zone of the property need to be guided through strategic planning, and also requests the State Party to:
  - a) Implement the Supreme Administrative Court's Final Decision regarding the SEA procedure for the new Management Plan of the property when it becomes available,
  - b) Ensure that an SEA will be undertaken for the spatial planning based on the December 2017 amendments to the current Management Plan as a matter of priority; this SEA will include a specific assessment of potential impacts on the OUV of the property, including from potential development in areas located within the property and its buffer zone, and submit a copy of the results from the SEA to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, once they become available,
  - c) Refrain from introducing any new amendments, until the procedure for SEA of the draft new Management Plan has been completed,
  - d) Once the results of the decision of the Supreme Administrative Court, concerning the SEA for the new Management Plan become available, ensure that the new Management Plan comprehensively addresses all potential threats to the OUV of the property and clearly outlines how the management objectives, zoning and land use within Pirin National Park will contribute to enhancing the OUV of the property and preventing any degradation of its integrity, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of the IUCN 2018 Advisory mission in the above process;
7. Strongly encourages the State Party to develop a clear and comprehensive long-term vision for socio-economic development in the buffer zone of the property and the broader region, which would be in line with the goal of long-term protection of the property's OUV, ensuring that all relevant stakeholders are appropriately involved in the process, facilitated by external mediation, if necessary;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, a progress report with an update on the Supreme Administrative Court's ruling and by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

### **73. Gros Morne National Park (Canada) (N 419)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.73**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.94**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the clarification provided by the State Party that industrial resource extraction inside the boundaries of the property, both on and below the surface, is not permitted;

4. Requests the State Party to ensure that long-term, substantive measures are introduced to prevent future oil and gas licences being awarded in the vicinity of the property as a matter of priority, and before the “pause” on hydraulic fracturing outside the property is lifted;
5. Noting that the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydraulic Review Panel’s recommendations were presented in May 2016, also requests the State Party to clarify when a full assessment of the recommendations will be completed, and submit the final analyses to the World Heritage Centre;
6. Also noting the potential negative impact on the property from hydrocarbon exploration in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, further requests the State Party to ensure that any potential exploration licenses located in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence are subject to adequate safeguards and rigorous Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), in conformity with IUCN’s World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, with a specific section focusing on the potential impact of the project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and submit a copy to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN;
7. Notes with appreciation that the State Party is developing measures towards formalizing protocols for interagency collaboration on resource extraction and land use management in areas adjacent to the property, and is also establishing a land-use advisory committee, but considers that the establishment of a buffer zone remains a key tool to ensure that the property will not be impacted by adverse developments such as future onshore and offshore oil and gas developments, and therefore requests furthermore to the State Party to establish an appropriate buffer zone as part of wider protection measures through transparent consultations with local communities and civil society;
8. Strongly encourages the State Party to provide input to the interim review of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the western portion of the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Area to consider the OUV of the property, particularly to review the threats of extractive industry;
9. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess the risks to the property’s OUV of petroleum exploration in its vicinity, in case the “pause” on acceptance of such applications is discontinued without putting in place other appropriate measures for maintaining the OUV of the property;
10. Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **74. Plitvice Lakes National Park (Croatia) (N 98bis)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.74**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.3**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),

3. Commends the State Party for progress made to respond to the Committee's decisions and to the 2017 mission recommendations, and urges the State Party to continue these efforts to fully implement all recommendations of the mission;
4. Welcomes the State Party's decision to amend the Spatial Plan for Plitvice Lakes National Park which would include preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), in line with IUCN's Advice Note on Environmental Assessment and Decisions **40 COM 7B.95** and **41 COM 7B.3**, and requests the State Party to provide the results of the SEA to the World Heritage Centre, once available;
5. Takes note of the additional guidelines on the implementation of the current Spatial Plan developed and provided to the relevant regional authorities responsible for issuance of construction permits, and the amendments to the Nature Protection Act which ensure participation of the Public Institution Plitvice Lakes National Park (PIPLNP) in decision-making processes regarding issuance of permits, and also requests the State Party to continue its efforts to strictly regulate and monitor both issuance of new permits and compliance of existing buildings with the relevant regulations;
6. Also welcomes the preparation of a new management plan for the property, including a visitor management plan, and further requests the State Party to ensure that this process is fully harmonized with the procedures foreseen for the SEA and for amending the Spatial Plan, in order to ensure that the overall management framework is fully consistent with the protection of the OUV of the property;
7. While noting information provided by the State Party regarding the existing plans to improve wastewater and water supply management within the property, considers that the inadequate water supply and drainage system, water pollution risks and continued exponential growth of visitation at the property continue to represent a potential danger to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines* and therefore also urges the State Party to address all pending issues related to water and visitor management as a matter of priority;
8. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, a progress report, and by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.75**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.5**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Regrets that the State Party report provides little information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the 2012 mission and that most of the information provided is related to one component of the property only, the Katunsky State Nature Reserve;

4. Urges the State Party to implement all the recommendations of the 2012 mission, as adopted in Decision **36 COM 7B.25**, across all components of the property and to provide information of progress achieved to the World Heritage Centre;
5. Commends the States Parties of the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan for their ongoing transboundary cooperation resulting in the official approval by the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Programme of the transboundary Biosphere Reserve “Great Altai”, which includes the component of the property Katunsky State Nature Reserve and Katon-Karagaiskiy National Park in Kazakhstan, welcomes enhanced transboundary cooperation with the State Party of Mongolia and encourages again all States Parties in the Altai region to consolidate existing transboundary conservation efforts, including under the *World Heritage Convention*;
6. Also welcomes the efforts undertaken by the State Party aimed at involving local communities and other stakeholders in the management of the property, including activities supporting local communities and promoting sustainable livelihoods as well as outreach, promotion and education, and encourages the State Party to continue these efforts, including in other parts of the property;
7. Noting the information provided by the State Party that the route for the Altai gas pipeline has not yet been determined and that no construction works have been undertaken, but reiterates its concern about legal changes introduced in 2012, which grant the legal basis for construction of linear infrastructure within the Ukok plateau component of the property, also reiterates its position that any decision to go forward with the Altai gas pipeline through the property would represent an ascertained danger to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and therefore a clear case for inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger; and therefore reiterates its request to the State Party to take an unequivocal decision to abandon the plans for the construction of the Altai gas pipeline through the property as a matter of urgency, and to consider alternative routes and to revoke Decree N202 of the Republic of Altai dated 2 August 2012;
8. Also noting the information provided by the State Party that the Kalgutinskoye deposit of tungsten-molybdenum ores located on the territory of the Ukok Quiet Zone Nature Park is not being developed, however, notes with serious concern that, according to third-party information received by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, a licence would have recently been granted for gold exploration and extraction from a deposit located within the property in close proximity to Lake Teletskoye, reiterates its established position that mining is incompatible with World Heritage status, and requests the State Party to urgently respond and to provide detailed clarifications regarding any existing or proposed mining licences or concessions that overlap with the property and to revoke any mining licences or concessions that overlap with the property and to ensure that mining outside the property is not permitted if it is likely to have negative impacts on the property’s OUV;
9. Also requests the State Party to clarify third party information raising concerns about planned and ongoing tourism infrastructure development within the property;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the entire property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019, **with a view to considering, in case of the confirmation of ascertained or potential danger to the property’s OUV, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**



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

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.76

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.6**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Noting with serious concern the resolution extending the use of increased limits on the fluctuation between the maximum and minimum water levels of Lake Baikal for 2018-2020, urges the State Party to stop introducing further changes of the limits on fluctuation until the impacts of all existing water use and management regulations on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property are fully understood through a complete and comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), undertaken in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and requests the State Party to submit this EIA to the World Heritage Centre, for review by IUCN, by **1 December 2019**;
4. Welcomes the information, publically available on the official website of the federal agency responsible for issuing licenses for mineral resources extraction, that the mining license for Kholodninskoe deposit has been revoked and also requests the State Party to confirm this information;
5. Also welcomes the environmental monitoring activities undertaken at the property, but notes with significant concern the reported algal blooms and decreases in fish stocks, and reiterates its request to the State Party to develop a property-wide ecological monitoring system in order to identify the scale and causes of such changes and the responses required to preserve the ecological integrity of the property;
6. Also notes with serious concern the reported reduction in area of the water protection zone of Lake Baikal, and also urges the State Party to provide detailed information on these changes and their potential to impact on the OUV of the property;
7. Also requests the State Party to provide an update on:
  - a) Planned forest management and forest fire control measures,
  - b) Assessed impacts from past fires on the lake ecosystem, and
  - c) Preparation of guidelines for the future development of management plans for all protected areas around Lake Baikal, with a view to develop an Integrated Management Plan for the whole property, including a fire management and prevention plan;
8. Regrets that the State Party did not submit either the results of the EIAs for each Special Economic Zone (SEZ) located within or overlapping with the property or a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for all SEZs regarding existing and future developments and their cumulative impacts on the OUV of the property, and further urges the State Party to complete these assessments as a matter of priority and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre, for review by IUCN, as soon as they are available;
9. Appreciates the development of an Action Plan for the remediation of the former Baikal pulp and paper mill site as well as the consultations for an EIA, and further requests the State Party to submit this EIA, including an assessment of possible options for the future uses of

the site and their potential impacts on the OUV of the property, to the World Heritage Centre, for review by IUCN, by **1 December 2019**;

10. Takes note of the intention of the State Party of Mongolia to undertake an additional study on the impacts of the Egiin Gol hydropower plant project (EGHPP), including impacts on the biodiversity of the property, and requests furthermore the State Party of Mongolia to take into account the findings and recommendations of the 2015 mission, especially regarding assessing impacts on the habitats of endangered migratory freshwater species of the Selenga/Lake Baikal complex, and to submit this study to the World Heritage Centre, for review by IUCN, as soon as it is available;
11. Also welcomes the establishment of a joint Mongolian-Russian working group on the planned hydro-technical facilities in the Selenga River basin, also reiterates its request to the States Parties of the Mongolia and Russian Federation to implement the recommendations of the 2015 mission as well as the requests in Decisions **39 COM 7B.22**, **40 COM 7B.97** and **41 COM 7B.6**, and to jointly develop a transboundary SEA for any existing and planned hydropower and water management projects ensuring that its results guide the elaboration of EIAs of any such projects, including the planned Shuren hydropower and Orkhon River projects, and requests moreover the States Parties of the Russian Federation and Mongolia to also include an assessment of alternative solutions in the SEA;
12. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **77. Natural System of Wrangel Island Reserve (Russian Federation) (N 1023rev)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.77**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **39 COM 7B.25**, **40 COM 7B.98**, and **41 COM 7B.7**, adopted at its 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Taking note of the conclusions of the 2017 joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission, expresses its serious concern on the reported threats to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and requests the State Party to fully implement all the recommendations of the mission;
4. Welcomes the continued efforts for the removal of garbage from Wrangel Island, but regrets that many thousands of tons of garbage remain on the island 13 years following its inscription and also requests the State Party to provide a timetabled programme to strengthen these efforts in order to complete the removal of garbage and clean-up of associated contaminants within the targeted deadline of five years, and to regularly report on progress made in implementing these activities, and to submit, by **1 February 2023**, a final report to confirm whether the island is free of garbage and associated contaminants;

5. Also regrets that the State Party has not provided information regarding military facilities and associated activities within the property as repeatedly requested by the Committee, therefore not enabling an assessment of their impacts on the property, and strongly urges the State Party to:
  - a) Provide more detailed information on current and potential impacts of military facilities and associated activities on the property's OUV,
  - b) Immediately halt any activities that may negatively affect the OUV,
  - c) Implement appropriate measures to avoid and minimize impacts and mitigate any residual impacts of military facilities and activities on the OUV of the property, as recommended by the mission,
  - d) Submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, a report on the impacts from military facilities and activities and the effectiveness of mitigation measures;
  
6. Also welcomes the confirmation of the State Party that no hydrocarbon exploration or exploitation activities are allowed within the property, but expresses its utmost concern that potential future hydrocarbon exploitation could still take place in the waters near the property, and also urges the State Party to conduct a detailed EIA that assesses the possible impacts on the OUV of the property before permitting any hydrocarbon drilling activities in the Yuzhno-Chukotski, Severo-Vrangelski-1 and -2 blocks, and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN;
  
7. Also takes note of the missions' conclusion that the property's inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger could be justified in case of:
  - a) Absence of proof that the military presence within the boundaries of the property does not constitute an ascertained danger to its OUV,
 or in the case that
  - b) hydrocarbon exploitation is pursued without prior EIA in line with International Finance Corporation (IFC) 2012 performance standards and a rigorous assessment of the impacts on the property, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment;
  
8. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the implementation of the above, including on the implementation of the mission recommendations, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

## **78. Virgin Komi Forest (Russian Federation) (N 719)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.78**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.99**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),

3. Regrets that the State Party report only includes information on one component of the property, Yugid Va National Park (YVNP) but that no information on the Pechoro-Ilychskiy Nature Reserve component is provided;
4. Welcomes enhanced capacity for the prevention of forest fires and protection of permafrost in YVNP as well as the development of the property's Integrated Management Plan for the 2017-2031 period, and requests the State Party to address the total budget deficit for the implementation of the plan at all components of the property;
5. Reiterating its established position that mining exploration and exploitation are incompatible with World Heritage status, notes with concern that, according to official information, the license granted to the ZAO "Gold Minerals" company for exploration and extraction at the Chudnoe gold deposit has been extended, and therefore urges the State Party to:
  - a) Clarify the status of the license of the Chudnoe gold deposit,
  - b) Unequivocally revoke the mining exploration and exploitation licenses granted for the Chudnoe gold deposit, as requested in previous Committee decisions
  - c) Ensure that the removal of the ZAO "Gold Minerals" company's equipment from the property is completed by September 2018 as imposed by the Arbitration Court of the Republic of Komi,
  - d) Restore the areas damaged by the mining-related activities, which were undertaken in 2011 and 2012;
6. Recalling previous concerns regarding tourism impacts on Pechoro-Ilychskiy Nature Reserve, also requests the State Party to ensure that tourism is effectively managed across all components of the property in order to minimize negative impacts on its Outstanding Universal Value;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the entire property, including the Pechoro-Ilychskiy Nature Reserve and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.79**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.100** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes the clarifications provided by the State Party regarding the total area of the nature parks components of the property and the discrepancies with previously reported figures and requests the State Party to submit the information on the boundaries of all components to the World Heritage Centre in order to formally clarify them by submitting high-resolution maps and shapefiles for each of the property's components;

4. Welcoming the additional measures undertaken by the State Party to combat poaching, but noting with concern the information that the property continues to be threatened by poaching, including as a result from increasing pressures on game stocks outside the property, urges the State Party to continue its efforts to address this issue;
5. Also requests the State Party to submit the reports of the monitoring and surveys of wildlife populations, including on the salmon populations, in particular in light of the reported increasing poaching pressure;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to fully implement the recommendations of the 2007 Reactive Monitoring mission, especially to:
  - a) submit to the World Heritage Centre, as a matter of urgency, detailed information on the current zoning regime of each nature park and on the activities permitted in each zone,
  - b) consider strengthening the protection regime of the four regional nature parks of the property,
  - c) develop and implement an integrated management plan and coordination structure for the entire property in order to harmonize management across all components, and further requests the State Party to provide an update on any potential mining, gas pipeline, and mineral or geothermal exploration activities close to the boundaries of the property;
7. Noting with utmost concern the potential resumption of the plans for hydropower development at Kronotsky Strict Nature Reserve, also urges the State Party to unequivocally abandon these plans and to consider alternative sources for electricity provision in the region in line with the confirmation it had previously expressed in its report presented to the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee;
8. Requests furthermore the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to evaluate the status of implementation of the 2007 mission recommendations and to assess the current conservation status of the property;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **80. Western Caucasus (Russian Federation) (N 900)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.80**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41COM 7B.8**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Welcomes the State Party's statement that the recent legislative changes do not impact on the obligations of the State Party under the *Convention* to preserve and transfer the heritage

object to future generations in an unchanged state, but regrets that no detailed information about these changes has been provided and therefore reiterates its request to the State Party to provide detailed information about all recently adopted legislative changes and measures taken to avoid negative impacts on the property;

4. Also recalling that the Committee has on several occasions reiterated its position that the installation of construction of large-scale infrastructure on the Lagonaki Plateau, or in any other area inside the property would 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*, also welcomes the statement of the State Party in its August 2017 letter addressed to the World Heritage Centre that no plans exist for construction of large-scale infrastructure on Lagonaki Plateau, nor any intentions to develop the territory of the property for recreational, tourism or sport purposes;
5. Reiterates its concern expressed in Decision **40 COM 7B.101** on legislative changes providing for expansion of recreational zones and construction of large-scale tourism infrastructure in the protected areas adjoining the property, which could have negative impacts on its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), including on efforts to reintroduce the Persian leopard to the property, by disrupting the connectivity of its natural habitat;
6. Expresses serious concern regarding the reported lease of land plots for the development of large-scale investment projects related to sports and recreational activities directly bordering the property and located on the territory of Sochi Federal Wildlife Refuge and Sochi National Park, and requests the State Party not to permit any construction of large-scale infrastructure in areas immediately adjacent to the property, particularly if located on the territory of other protected areas, if such construction could have negative impact on the property's OUV, which should be assessed as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for each proposed project, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment;
7. Also regrets that the State Party did not provide information regarding the current status of any existing plans for large-scale tourism and sport infrastructure on the territory of Sochi Federal Wildlife Refuge and Sochi National Park property and also requests the State Party to urgently provide this information;
8. Notes with utmost concern that part of the Colchic Boxwood forests in the property have been destroyed by the invasive box tree moth, and further requests the State Party to:
  - a) Assess the extent of the damage and its impact on the OUV of the property,
  - b) Develop in cooperation with relevant specialists, including IUCN's Invasive Species Specialist Group a set of urgent measures for the restoration of Colchic Boxwood within the property and its surroundings, and to control the box tree moth invasion,
  - c) Assess risks posed to the OUV of the property by other potential invasive alien species, which may have also been introduced to the property or the broader region;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019, **with a view to considering, in the case of infrastructure projects proceeding to implementation in proximity of the property without prior assessment of impacts on OUV, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**81. Gough and Inaccessible Islands (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (N 740bis)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.81**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.103**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the planned implementation of the house mice (*Mus musculus*) eradication programme on Gough Island in 2019, and requests the State Party to ensure adequate funding to fully implement the programme as a matter of urgency;
4. Appreciates that a feasibility study for the eradication of house mice has been undertaken and that the captive management of two endemic land bird species is being planned to mitigate risk of poisoning of these species, and also requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed on the results of the mice eradication programme and on progress to avoid collateral impact on any non-target species, particularly those that are components of the property's Outstanding Universal Value;
5. Further requests the State Party to submit the review of the effectiveness of the eradication programme for the invasive plant species, procumbent pearlwort (*Sagina procumbens*) to the World Heritage Centre as soon as it is available;
6. Encourages the State Party to share its experience on invasive alien species eradication programmes to promote knowledge exchange with other States Parties facing similar challenges;
7. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, a progress report to confirm that funding has been secured for the eradication programme and its implementation has started on schedule, and by **1 December 2020**, 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 45th session in 2021.

**82. Grand Canyon National Park (United States of America) (N 75)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.82**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.104**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Reiterates its significant concern that there are uranium mines proposed in the area surrounding the property and requests the State Party to ensure Environmental and Social Impact Assessments, including a specific assessment of impacts on the Outstanding

Universal Value (OUV) of the property, are completed and copies submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN before any decisions are made;

4. Also requests the State Party to ensure that potential impacts from the Canyon Mine on the OUV of the property are closely monitored, and take an adaptive approach to management through the implementation of mitigation measures, and keep the World Heritage Centre informed of monitoring results;
5. Welcomes that the Grand Canyon Escalade project was voted down by the Navajo Nation;
6. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.83**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.69**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the finalization and submission of the updated Management Plan for the property and requests the State Party to ensure its formal adoption and begin its implementation as soon as possible;
4. Takes note that the Management Plan defines a buffer zone for the property, and encourages the State Party to develop and submit a Minor Boundary Modification, as per Paragraphs 163 and 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to the World Centre for evaluation by the Advisory Bodies and adoption by the World Heritage Committee, in order to officially establish a buffer zone for the property as considered appropriate;
5. Also welcomes the increased collaboration between the States Parties of Argentina and Brazil in the management of the adjacent properties Iguazú National Park and Iguazu National Park, and also requests both States Parties to continue these efforts and to clarify whether additional actions are planned in order to further formalize transboundary cooperation, following the signing of a letter of intent between the Administración de Parques Nacionales de Argentina, Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMbio), the Iguazú National Park in Argentina and the Iguazu National Park in Brazil in 2016;
6. Also takes note of the information provided by the State Party regarding National Route 101 (RN101) and the confirmation that no plans exist for paving or modifying the stretch of the road within the property, and further requests the State Party to clarify whether any plans



exist for extension or further paving of the road outside the property, which might potentially affect its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);

7. Further takes note that the State Party foresees to develop, in consultation with the National Roads Department, a long-term Management Plan for RN101, and requests furthermore the State Party to ensure that conservation of the property's OUV is fully taken into account in the development of such a plan;
8. Takes note furthermore that the construction of the Baixo hydroelectric dam project in the vicinity of the neighbouring property of Iguazu National Park in Brazil is currently underway, and therefore requests moreover the State Party of Argentina to cooperate with the State Party of Brazil on the development of a comprehensive overall monitoring system both for aquatic fauna and water flow, which would allow oversight of the implementation of requirements and action plans developed for the hydropower project, and assess their effectiveness with regards to mitigation of possible negative impacts on the OUV of the two properties;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **84. Iguazu National Park (Brazil) (N 355)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.84**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.70**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes the information provided by the State Party regarding the Baixo Iguazu dam and the affirmation that specific impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) have been taken into account in the authorization process for this project, regrets that no specific assessment of the impacts on the OUV of the property has been submitted to the World Heritage Centre prior to proceeding with the project, and reiterates its request to the State Party to urgently submit this assessment to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, and to ensure that the construction of the dam complies with all recommendations of the 2015 IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission;
4. Also notes the development of specific operational requirements which would ensure that impacts from existing dams on the Iguazu River on the water flow would be mitigated by the operation of the new dam, and the development of monitoring programmes and action plans for conservation of aquatic fauna, however, requests the State Party to ensure, in cooperation with the State Party of Argentina, that an overall comprehensive monitoring system is in place, both for aquatic fauna and water flow, which would allow oversight of the implementation of requirements and action plans and assess their effectiveness with regards to mitigation of possible negative impacts on the OUV of the two properties, and to submit a preliminary analysis of the effectiveness of these measures with its next report to the World Heritage Committee;

5. Notes with appreciation the confirmation that the Colono Road remains closed, that currently the proposed Bill that would provide a legal basis for its reopening is not scheduled for discussion in the Senate, reiterates its position that the situation where Bill 61/2013 remains pending continues to represent a potential threat to the property, and also requests the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre as soon as the proposed Bill is scheduled for discussion in Senate, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
6. Welcomes the increased collaboration between the States Parties of Argentina and Brazil in the management of the adjacent properties Iguazú National Park and Iguazu National Park, and further requests both States Parties to continue their efforts in this field and to clarify whether additional actions are planned in order to further formalize this transboundary cooperation, following the signing of a letter of intent between Administración de Parques Nacionales de Argentina, Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMbio), the Iguazú National Park in Argentina and the Iguazu National Park in Brazil in 2016;
7. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.85**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.74**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Commends the State Party for progress achieved with the further consolidation of governance and institutional arrangements related to the management of the property and with addressing the longstanding issues facing the property;
4. Notes with concern that, despite this progress, some of the requests made during its 34th session in 2010 when the property was removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger remain unresolved, and urges the State Party to implement all pending requests, particularly those related to tourism management and biosecurity, and requests the State Party to fully implement the recommendations made by the 2017 IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission;
5. Takes note of the various measures implemented by the State Party to discourage rapid and uncontrolled tourism growth in the property, and its commitment to a zero growth tourism model, and reiterates its requests to the State Party to develop and implement a clear tourism strategy that ensures that suitable measures are sustained in the long term as permanent regulations, including maintaining the moratorium on construction of new tourism projects and the limits on the number of flights;
6. Welcomes the establishment of a new zoning system within the property, including a new marine sanctuary and designation of other marine no-take zones, and also requests the

State Party to provide adequate resources to enable the enforcement of the restrictions that apply to these areas and ensure the preservation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);

7. Also notes with concern that illegal fishing by foreign vessels in and outside the property continues to represent a threat to its OUV and further requests the State Party to continue its efforts to address this threat, including by:
  - a) Building on existing collaboration between the States Parties of Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Panama to address international illegal fishing within the framework of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Corridor cooperation and other appropriate regional mechanisms, concentrating around the four natural marine World Heritage properties located in this region,
  - b) Strengthening collaboration with other States Parties whose fishing vessels are found to be operating illegally within the property, or are illegally targeting migratory species that are part of the property's OUV;
8. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **86. Islands and Protected Areas of the Gulf of California (Mexico) (N 1182ter)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.86**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.15**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Reiterates its utmost concern about the critical status of the vaquita population, specifically recognized as part of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and endemic to the Gulf of California;
4. Welcomes the important efforts by the State Party to implement the recommendations of the 2017 mission, in particular the significant progress made in strengthening surveillance efforts in the Upper Gulf of California, the enactment of the permanent gillnet ban, the increased net retrieval operations, progress made in coordinating the different law enforcement agencies and in streamlining the enforcement of regulations, as well as the efforts made to address the illegal international trade in totoaba through bilateral channels and the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and appreciates the unprecedented level of financial and operational resources made available by the State Party for these efforts;
5. Expresses its concern that insufficient progress has been made on the development and introduction of multiple and viable alternative fishing gears that do not endanger vaquita and other non-target marine mammals, sharks and turtles;

6. Regrets that the Vaquita Conservation, Protection and Recovery programme (CPR), set-up to establish a small captive population in order to avoid extinction of the species, had to be abandoned after one of the captured animals died, and takes note of the conclusion that removing vaquita to a temporary sanctuary is not a viable option and that the only way to safeguard the species from extinction is therefore the cessation of illegal fishing activities within its habitat;
7. Notes the conclusion of the 2018 mission that it is too early to determine if the efforts undertaken by the State Party have averted the risk of extinction of the vaquita and postpones its decision on the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger to its 43rd session in 2019, when more data from the 2018-2019 season when illegal totoaba fishing occurs are available and once the CITES study on the current status of totoaba and vaquita, and information on illegal trade and markets in totoaba, is completed;
8. Requests the State Party to urgently address the following recommendations of the 2018 mission in order to prevent the extinction of the vaquita and thus prevent iconic attributes of the OUV of the property from becoming irreversibly lost:
  - a) Maintain a high level of surveillance and monitoring activities, particularly during the season when illegal totoaba fishing occurs, in the Upper Gulf of California and increase resources, either by area or by type of personnel, to better pursue and subsequently prosecute the most determined fishermen who continue to evade the law,
  - b) Expedite the development, testing and application of multiple alternative fishing gears, in close cooperation with local fishermen and based on the recommendations by the Expert Committee on Fishing Technologies (ECOFT) and review and transform the current economic compensation programme for fishermen into an initiative to incentivize them to develop and use alternative fishing gear,
  - c) Ensure that the Decree that bans all commercial fishing using gillnet and/or longline fishing in the northern Gulf of California, decided between the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources and the Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food, is formalized via a legislative branch of government, by a Presidential Decree or by jurisprudence created by the federal court,
  - d) Strengthen efforts to investigate the national and international networks involved in the illegal fishing operations and the illegal trafficking of totoaba swim bladders, making full use of the new provisions for wildlife trafficking under Mexican Federal Law;
9. Considers that the results of the study requested by the CITES Standing Committee on the current status of totoaba and vaquita, and on the illegal trade and markets will be key in mapping trafficking routes and in identifying appropriate strategies to combat illegal trade in totoaba products, which will require a concerted effort between the States Parties of Mexico, China and the United States of America;
10. Also requests the State Party to address the following recommendations of the 2018 mission in order to guarantee the long-term protection of the OUV of the property, further improve the conservation of the property and strengthen its management:
  - a) Continue to develop a programme of transition from unregulated fisheries into regulated practices, that adhere to clear guidelines for sustainable catch, throughout the property, with defined timelines and regular assessment of programme targets,

- b) Continue to support the highly successful community programmes that aim to strengthen the involvement of local communities into the protection of the property and their transition into sustainable livelihoods, as well as climate change adaptation programmes,
  - c) Develop an integrated management framework for the property in its entirety including a formal coordination structure;
11. Further requests the State Party to implement the other recommendations of the 2018 mission on providing clarifications regarding the new General Law on Biodiversity, the report on the status of the totoaba in the Gulf of California and the publication of the results of the enforcement activities;
12. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019, **with a view to considering, in the case of the absence of significant progress in the implementation of the above, the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

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

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.87**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.17**, adopted at its 41st session (Kraków, 2017),
3. Welcomes the continued progress made by the State Party in removing feral livestock from Coiba Island, and requests the State Party to establish a follow-up monitoring programme to confirm the successful removal of feral livestock from the island in the long term;
4. Notes with serious concern that the Public Use Plan (PUP) foresees expansion of existing infrastructure and that potential negative impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property have not been properly considered when developing the plan, and therefore urges the State Party to:
  - a) suspend the implementation of the PUP until an assessment of the potential negative impacts of its provisions on the OUV of the property, based on rigorous scientific data, is completed and submitted by **1 December 2019** to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN,
  - b) ensure that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the airport infrastructure project is elaborated, in line with the IUCN World Heritage advice note on Environmental Assessments, and submitted by **1 December 2019** to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN prior to beginning works on the project,
  - c) establish a comprehensive programme to monitor tourism impacts on the property in order to inform the elaboration of any future tourism-related plans and programmes;

5. Also takes note of the revised fisheries regulations for the Special Zone of Marine Protection (SZMP) of the property, but also notes with serious concern that it remains unclear how these regulations would guarantee the long-term preservation of the OUV of the property, and also urges the State Party to:
  - a) further revise the regulations for the SZMP in line with previous Committee requests to establish unequivocal no-take zones and seasonal closures of critical areas, in order to ensure that they are aligned with the existing regulations in place for Coiba National Park and guarantee the preservation of the property's OUV,
  - b) ensure the provision of adequate resources for the efficient enforcement of fisheries regulations throughout the property,
  - c) establish a monitoring system to assess progress with the establishment and enforcement of regulations within the marine component of the property, as recommended by the 2014 and 2016 Reactive Monitoring missions;
6. Recalls the conclusion of the 2016 mission that if issues related to fisheries management within the property cannot be resolved by the end of 2018 in a manner that will ensure the long-term preservation of the OUV in the marine portion of the property, consideration should be given to the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger during its 43rd session in 2019;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019, **with a view to considering, in the absence of substantial progress in protecting the property from unsustainable fisheries, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## 88. Pitons Management Area (Saint-Lucia) (N 1161)

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.88

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B;
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.77**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016);
3. Takes note of the initiation of the integration of the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) study into the legal and regulatory frameworks of Saint Lucia, urges the State Party to ensure that the LAC Regulations are developed as a matter of priority and requests the State Party to submit the completed LAC Regulations to the World Heritage Centre as soon as they are available;
4. Notes the ongoing dialogue between the developers of the Freedom Bay project and the Department of Physical Development regarding the compatibility of the development within the parameters of the LAC study and also requests the State Party to provide detailed information on this and any other projects being considered for implementation, including the Sugar Beach development project, and ensure that they are fully compliant with the provisions of the LAC study;

5. Reiterates its request to fully reflect the conclusions of the LAC study in the planned revision of the Management Plan, and to submit the revised Management Plan to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, once available;
6. Welcomes the State Party's decision not to consider any proposed geothermal drilling areas within the boundaries of the property and further requests the State Party to ensure that the property remains off-limits for any future geothermal development activities, including exploration and exploitation, and that a new Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) is completed, in line with the IUCN World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, in the event that the project proceeds to the exploitation phase;
7. Requests furthermore the State Party to:
  - a) Accelerate the demarcation of the policy area boundaries defined by the LAC study to protect the integrity of the property from visual impacts,
  - b) Formalize the status of the buffer zone of the property as a formal World Heritage buffer zone through a Minor Boundary Modification, in conformity with Paragraphs 163 and 164 of the *Operational Guidelines*,
  - c) Clearly define the types of activities permitted in this buffer zone, ensuring their compatibility with the conservation of the property's OUV;
8. Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## AFRICA

### 89. Okavango Delta (Botswana) (N 1432)

#### Decision: 42 COM 7B.89

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **38 COM 8B.5** and **40 COM 7B.78**, adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions, respectively,
3. Welcomes the cancellation of all petroleum and metals prospecting licenses in the buffer zone and the State Party's commitment to continue monitoring the activities, but noting the location of the alternative licensing zones close to the buffer zone and the property, requests the State Party to ensure that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including an assessment of potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, is undertaken before any exploration activity is initiated, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN;
4. Appreciates the collaboration between the States Parties of Botswana, Angola and Namibia through the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM) to ensure any proposed major development within the Okavango watershed is subject to an EIA, and

that there is a coordinated mechanism to notify each State Party of activities that can have transnational impacts;

5. Taking into account the potential impact on the property's OUV of any development leading to water abstraction within the watershed and the complexity and the extent of the basin, urges the States Parties of Botswana, Angola and Namibia to assess impacts of any development at the strategic level and at the landscape scale through a comprehensive Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment;
6. Notes with appreciation the initiation of the review of the Okavango Delta Management Plan in order to reflect the property's World Heritage status, to improve the effectiveness of the institutional arrangements and to address outstanding conservation and management issues, and reiterates its request to the State Party to continue its efforts to:
  - a) Expand and strengthen programmes, which accommodate traditional resource use for livelihoods, user access rights, cultural rights and access to opportunities to participate in the tourism sector, in keeping with the property's OUV,
  - b) Address a range of other protection and management issues including governance, stakeholder empowerment, management planning, management capacity, and control of invasive alien species;
7. Notes with concern that an EIA for the veterinary cordon fences and aerial wildlife surveys could not be undertaken due to financial constraints, and also requests the State Party to provide further financial support to the conservation of the property;
8. Further noting that the construction of a cable-stayed bridge across the panhandle area of the property and hardening of the associated approach road has begun at Mohembo based on a 2009 EIA, considers that the measures identified in the EIA are insufficient as they do not take into account the property's World Heritage status, and further requests the State Party to revise the EIA, in line with the IUCN Advice Note, prior to continuing the work, in order to include an assessment of the potential impacts of the construction and use of the bridge and the road on the property's OUV, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **90. Dja Wildlife Reserve (Cameroon) (N 407)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.90**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7B.18**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),



3. Congratulates the State Party for its efforts in strengthening surveillance and technical capacities and equipment for the guards, as well as the increased patrol efforts, appreciates the support of donors and technical partners for their support in the conservation of the property, and requests the State Party to continue these efforts to reinforce the number of guards;
4. Notes with satisfaction the seizure of 216 ivory tusks in December 2017, one of the most important in recent years in Central Africa, and also congratulates the State Party for the rigorous enforcement of the law as concerns wildlife crime;
5. Takes note of the indications that confirm the presence of large wildlife in the property, and also requests the State Party to transmit to the World Heritage Centre the data of the 2017 inventory, as soon as it is available, to enable an evaluation of the state of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
6. Also takes note of the extension of the rubber agro-industrial project, and requests the State Party to submit the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) to the World Heritage Centre using the international standards applied to the World Heritage properties;
7. Further takes note of the efforts of the State Party in view of limiting the negative impacts on the local communities, their plantations and associated forestry ecosystems due to the partial impoundment of the Mékin dam, and requests the State Party to continue to implement the Environmental and Social Management Plan (PGES) and to pursue the relocation plan of local communities affected by the impoundment;
8. Reminds the State Party of the importance of avoiding acceptance of any new project that could aggravate the existing threats and compromise the progress achieved in the management of the property, and reiterates that all projects must be the subject of an ESIA prior to approval, including a specific evaluation of potential impacts on the OUV of the property, in conformity with the IUCN World Heritage Advice Note: Environmental Assessment;
9. Also takes note of the willingness of the State Party to welcome an advisory mission to assess the impacts of the agro-industrial projects on the property and to continue to closely collaborate with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN in the implementation of the recommendations enabling the State Party to undertake the necessary corrective measures to limit the impacts on its OUV;
10. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.91**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,

2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 7A.43** and **41 COM 7A.13**, adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Commends the State Party for organizing a major event to mark the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and the 50th anniversary of Simien Mountains National Park, thereby demonstrating its strong political commitment to conserving the property, and requests the State Party to continue its efforts to secure effective management and conservation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
4. Appreciates the renewed interest on the part of donors and non-governmental partners to support the property and its surroundings, and encourages the State Party to share the related project documents and operational plans with the World Heritage Centre;
5. Welcomes the follow-up to previous Committee decisions and to the 2017 mission recommendations, and also requests the State Party to implement the outstanding decisions and recommendations, in particular to:
  - a) Finalize the new General Management Plan (GMP), to be applied to the enlarged national park and its buffer zone, and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review,
  - b) Give management priority to realistic, fundable and socially acceptable responses to overgrazing, the promotion of alternative livelihoods and enhanced tourism management, and integrate related objectives and plans as part of the GMP,
  - c) Agree upon clear, systematic and long-term monitoring protocols for the populations of Walia ibex, Ethiopian wolf and gelada as soon as possible and integrate them in the GMP,
  - d) Strengthen the participation of local communities in the management and governance of the property;
6. Also welcomes the ongoing support to the livelihoods and well-being of the relocated Gich community with funding from the German Government, and further requests the State Party to continue these efforts in application of the highest standards, especially in support of vulnerable households and individuals;
7. Reiterates its longstanding request to the State Party to finalize and submit a proposal for a Significant Boundary Modification for the entire Simien Mountains National Park and its buffer zone, as legally defined today, and requests furthermore the State Party to simultaneously formalize the buffer zone and harmonize the currently differing names of the National Park and the property, and also encourages the State Party to request technical advice from the World Heritage Centre and IUCN as needed;
8. Noting that the alternative road aiming at reducing disturbance of the existing main road in important afro-alpine habitats has been almost completed, urges the State Party to complete this overdue project, and to submit the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the part of the new road crossing the National Park to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, as per Decision **41 COM 7A.13**;
9. Appreciates the State Party's commitment to re-align the power transmission line, which currently affects the property's exceptional natural beauty and conditions of integrity, upon completion of the alternative road;
10. Also noting that four new lodges are being considered along the border of the Simien Mountains National Park, requests moreover the State Party to ensure that all new lodge developments are located outside the boundary of the national park and to submit the EIAs

for any new lodge projects to the World Heritage Centre for review, as per Decision **41 COM 7A.13**, as soon as they become available;

11. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

## **92. Lake Turkana National Park (Kenya) (N 801bis)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.92**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **39 COM 7B.4** and **40 COM 7B.80** adopted at its 39th (Bonn, 2015) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,
3. Notes the collaboration between the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia towards establishing the Joint Ethiopia-Kenya Technical Experts Panel to oversee the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to assess the cumulative impacts of development projects in the Lake Turkana Basin;
4. Deeply regrets that the SEA, which should have been completed by 1 February 2018, has still not been commissioned;
5. Notes with utmost concern that the preliminary hydrological data for the Gibe III dam show that the seasonal fluctuation patterns of Lake Turkana have already been heavily disrupted, and urges the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia to undertake the long- overdue SEA without further delay in order to assess the cumulative impacts of the multiple developments in the Lake Turkana Basin on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the affected properties, and to identify urgently needed mitigation measures;
6. Also notes with utmost concern that the Kuraz Sugar Development Project is operational, and also urges the State Party of Ethiopia to halt all activities in relation to the project until an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including a comprehensive assessment of potential downstream impacts on the OUV of the property, has been completed, and reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
7. In light of the transpiring impacts on water flow and the lake ecosystem, and continuation of works on the Gibe III dam and the Kuraz project in Ethiopia, without respecting the Committee's request to undertake the necessary impact assessments prior to the works, including an SEA and implementation of mitigation measures, considers that the property's OUV is increasingly subject to potential danger in conformity with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
8. Notes with concern that the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor Project may have potential impacts on the property's OUV, and requests the State Party of Kenya to conduct Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Studies on specific projects of the LAPSSET clarifying how mitigation measures are implemented and monitored;

9. Appreciates the progress made with the draft Management Plan 2018-2028 for the property, which includes a wildlife monitoring programme, feasibility assessment for the reintroduction of Grevy's zebra and the involvement of local communities to address livestock grazing inside the property, and also requests the State Party of Kenya to finalize and implement the Management Plan without delay;
10. **Decides to inscribe Lake Turkana National Parks (Kenya) on the List of World Heritage in Danger;**
11. Also regrets that a comprehensive update on the implementation of the outstanding 2012 and 2015 mission recommendations has not been provided, and reiterates its request to the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia to provide a consolidated response as well as an update on the current status of the impounding of the Gibe III reservoir, and any mitigation measures being implemented;
12. Further requests the State Party of Kenya to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess the property's state of conservation, and review the impacts of the development projects in Ethiopia and Kenya on the property and the progress made to implement the past mission recommendations, and to develop, in consultation with the States Parties of Kenya and Ethiopia, a proposed set of corrective measures and a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), for examination by the Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
13. Requests furthermore the State Party of Kenya to ensure that all the mitigation measures proposed in the EIA for the Turkana Wind Farm project are implemented, and to provide a report on progress made to mitigate impacts on the property;
14. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019.

### **93. Lake Malawi National Park (Malawi) (N 289)**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.93**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **38 COM 7B.92** and **40 COM 7B.81**, adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,
3. While welcoming the State Party's efforts for the property's conservation and the implementation of the 2014 mission recommendations and acknowledging the State Party's assurance that the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) is maintained and that the policy framework for protection is strong, requests the State Party to provide up-to-date monitoring data and detailed information on management activities and any recent and planned constructions, including clarification regarding whether or not the overhead power line is a new construction, in order to enable an informed assessment of the property's current state of conservation;

4. Welcomes the progress to update the property's management plan and to establish a fish monitoring protocol with support from the World Heritage Fund, and also requests the State Party to take this opportunity to identify and reinforce the required management responses to the various threats faced by the property, including the growing population pressure inside the property, and to ensure continued close cooperation between the park, communities, and the competent research and government institutions;
5. Further requests the State Party to examine, in consultation with the States Parties of Mozambique and the United Republic of Tanzania, the feasibility of establishing a buffer zone and extending the boundaries of the property to strengthen its integrity;
6. Reiterating its position that oil, gas and mineral exploration and exploitation are incompatible with World Heritage status, reiterates its utmost concern over oil exploration activities in the lake, which pose a potentially severe risk to the OUV of the property including its conditions of integrity, and urges the State Party to confirm by **1 February 2019** the status of any oil exploration permits and activities, and reiterates its call on the companies Surestream and RAKGAS, which have been granted oil exploration concessions on the lake, to make a commitment to neither exploit nor explore for oil or gas in World Heritage properties;
7. Reiterates its request to undertake Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) in conformity with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, on all development projects, including for oil exploration outside the property's boundaries and any infrastructure and tourism developments that may impact on the property's OUV, and submit them to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN as soon as available, and prior to making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, in accordance with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
8. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **94. Cape Floral Region Protected Areas (South Africa) (N 1007bis)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.94**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **39 COM 8B.2**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),
3. Welcomes that the governance arrangements have been strengthened through the participation of the Chief Executive Officers of all three management authorities since 2016, to improve the coordination of the Joint Management Committee;
4. Noting that the current budget allocations for the management of the property are reported to be sufficient, requests the State Party to ensure that sufficient funding will continue to be secured for the effective management of the property;

5. Notes with appreciation that some progress has been made towards developing an Environmental Management Framework, which will assess the effectiveness and possible additions to the buffer zone and inform the development of the Spatial Development Framework (SDF);
6. Also noting that protected area Management Plans for all 13 clusters of the property will be completed by 31 December 2019, but considering that a property-wide management structure was identified to be an urgent requirement in 2015, urges the State Party to accelerate the process to develop an Integrated Management Plan for the property to the extent possible;
7. Notes that through stakeholder engagement, the State Party is working to identify land to address housing needs necessitated by a fire outbreak, that affected communities in close proximity to the site; and urges the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre of any major developments planned in the area in accordance with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
8. Notes with concern the reported emergency plans for water extraction from the Table Mountain Group Aquifer, due to drought conditions in the Western Cape Province, and further notes that the Province is no longer a National Disaster Area; also further notes that the reported emergency plans for water extraction, may have potential impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). In the event that such plans are developed, urges the State Party to assess the potential impacts on the OUV of the property; and in all proposed areas adjacent to the property before deciding to go ahead with these plans; and inform the World Heritage Centre of any major developments planned in accordance with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.95**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.82** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Appreciates the signing of the Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration Treaty on Wildlife Conservation and Tourism Development (GVTCT) by the States Parties of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda and Uganda, in order to coordinate biodiversity conservation and tourism development in the Greater Virunga Landscape, and encourages the States Parties of DRC and Uganda to continue to strengthen their collaboration in organizing coordinated patrols along the international border between the property and Virunga National Park World Heritage property in DRC;
4. Notes that the State Party cancelled the license that had been awarded to Tibet Hima Limited to reopen the Kilembe copper mine with potential impact on the property and

Virunga National Park in DRC, downstream from the mine's proposed location, and requests the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre of any new developments with regards to the mine;

5. Appreciates the finalization of the 2016-2026 General Management Plan and overall investments made by the State Party with its partners in improving the management and conservation of the property;
6. Also welcomes the State Party's efforts to undertake the 2016 chimpanzee census, but also notes that the 2016 data are not comparable with the previous 2011 data due to the use of different methodologies, and therefore urges the State Party to ensure that all future chimpanzee censuses adopt the standard line transect methodology using nest counts;
7. Expresses its concern on the proposed cable car project inside the property, which could impact its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and also urges the State Party to submit the cable car pre-feasibility report to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN before any decision is taken, and to ensure that an Environmental Impact Assessment is undertaken in line with the IUCN World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, including a specific assessment of impacts on the OUV of the property;
8. Further notes the two run-of-river hydropower projects (Sindila and Nyamwamba) located outside of the property, which are at advanced stages of construction, and also requests the State Party to closely monitor potential impacts on the property and keep the World Heritage Centre updated on these developments;
9. Also encourages the State Party to secure the necessary funding to undertake the elephant census anticipated in 2019/2020, and to assess the population trends for other key large mammal species in the property;
10. Further requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess the state of conservation of the property, including the threat arising from the various tourism-related and other development projects on the OUV of the property, and to provide recommendations for its effective conservation and management;
11. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

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

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.96**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **35 COM 7B.7**, **38 COM 7B.94** and **40 COM 7B.83** adopted at its 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 38th (Doha, 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), respectively,

3. Commends the State Party on its anti-poaching efforts, contributing to further reduced elephant poaching and maintaining zero poaching of rhinos in the property;
4. Notes with utmost concern that a series of dams have been proposed upstream of the property in Kenya, which could have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Serengeti National Park and Kenya Lake System in the Great Rift Valley World Heritage properties, and requests the State Party of Kenya to submit to the World Heritage Centre, without delay, all available preliminary and full Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) to the World Heritage Centre for review;
5. Reiterates its request to the States Parties of Tanzania and Kenya to develop and implement a joint management plan for the Mara River basin to sustainably manage water resources, and also requests the State Party of Tanzania to inform the World Heritage Centre on the status of updating the 2006-2016 General Management Plan;
6. Appreciates that the State Party is undertaking a feasibility study and a preliminary design for two options for the Serengeti Southern Bypass route, and further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre for review as soon as available:
  - a) The Route Option Selection Report and the feasibility study and preliminary design, including a map of the proposed alignments, upon completion by the end of September 2018,
  - b) The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the Comprehensive Transport and Trade System Development Master Plan;
7. Requests furthermore the State Party to reaffirm its commitments to maintain the northern road traversing the property as a gravel road under Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) management and reserved mainly for tourism and administrative purposes (Decision **35 COM 7B.7**) and to abandon the construction of the proposed northern highway (Decision **38 COM 7B.94**);
8. Considers that the Belabela Lodge proposed within the 'low-use zone' of the property close to a wildebeest migration route could pose a potential threat to the property's OUV, and requests moreover the State Party to undertake an EIA of the proposed lodge, including a specific assessment of potential impacts on OUV in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review;
9. Welcomes the proposal to include the ecologically important Speke Gulf into the property, which would require a request for boundary modification in line with the appropriate provisions in the *Operational Guidelines*, and encourages the State Party to ensure compensation for affected communities that were legally residing in the proposed area, and to keep the World Heritage Centre informed;
10. Notes that based on the submitted EIA the proposed upgrade of the Mugumu airport has been significantly downsized from the initial plans to construct an international airport, also considers that it will no longer pose a significant threat to the property's OUV, but requests in addition the State Party to monitor and mitigate any potential indirect impacts should the project move forward;
11. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, which should also meet with representatives of the State Party of Kenya, to assess threats posed by the dams proposed upstream of the property in Kenya, and any other developments that may impact the property's OUV;



12. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, a progress report and, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

#### **97. Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Areas (Zimbabwe) (N 302)**

##### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.97**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decisions **38 COM 7B.97** and **40 COM 7B.84**, adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,
3. Commends the State Party for its substantial efforts to enhance the property's conservation with several initiatives underway, notably to strengthen anti-poaching efforts, and requests the State Party to continue these efforts, in particular to:
  - a) Implement the Anti-Poaching Strategy and the Elephant Management Plan, and continue to report on progress made,
  - b) Complete the review of the General Management Plan, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre once it is available,
  - c) Report on the outcomes of habitat surveys and the elephant collaring project, as well as provide data on poaching and other available conservation indicators;
4. Appreciates the support by an increasing number of partners to the conservation of the property, including the CITES programme on Minimizing the Illegal Killing of Elephants and other Endangered Species (MIKES) in line with Decision **41 COM 7**, and support from UNDP funded by the Global Environment Facility;
5. Takes note of the decision to suspend commercial sport hunting in Sapi Safari Area, the northern part of Chewore Safari Area and the buffer zone to promote the recovery of wildlife species, and also requests the State Party to clarify the status and extent of the areas referred to by the State Party as the buffer zone, which have not yet been formally adopted by the Committee;
6. Welcomes the collaboration between the States Parties of Zimbabwe and Zambia to strengthen transboundary conservation, including through regular joint border patrols, and to consider nominating Lower Zambezi National Park as an extension of the property, with a view to creating a transboundary property, as recommended by the Committee, and encourages again the two States Parties to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding for the Lower Zambezi-Mana Pools National Parks Trans-Frontier Conservation Area, and to request technical advice from the World Heritage Centre and IUCN as needed;
7. Reiterates its request to the State Party of Zambia to keep the World Heritage Centre informed on the status of the decision regarding the proposed Kangaluwi and Chisawa opencast mine in Lower Zambezi National Park which could have serious impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);

8. Also appreciates the State Party's confirmation that new tourism developments will be located away from the Zambezi River and that they will be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), in line with its previous commitment, and further requests the State Party to provide a map indicating the exact locations of the proposed tourism developments;
9. Further appreciates the State Party's commitment to ensure regular monitoring of the effectiveness of the environmental management and monitoring plans of the Vine Camp lodge, adopting an adaptive approach to its management as the lodge moves into full operation, and requests furthermore the State Party to continue to report on monitoring and mitigation activities;
10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, a progress report, and by **1 December 2020** 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 45th session in 2021.

## ARAB STATES

### 98. Banc d'Arguin National Park (Mauritania) (N 506)

#### Decision: 42 COM 7B.98

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.85**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Warmly welcomes the efforts made by the State Party to implement the decisions of the Committee and the recommendations of the 2014 Reactive Monitoring mission and requests the State Party to continue these efforts;
4. Also warmly welcomes the establishment and strengthening of a permanent concertation committee that includes the administrative and municipal, and regional and communal authorities, as well as the measures undertaken to protect the threatened species, notably the commitment of the State Party to set up by 2020, the strict interdiction of shark and ray fishing and requests the State Party to continue monitoring pressure on fishing, both inside and outside the property, to ensure the sustainability and conservation of its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
5. Equally welcomes the organization of the PSSA national stakeholder working meeting, thanks the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for its support, and encourages the State Party to pursue, in cooperation with IMO, the finalization of the technical feasibility study of a potential PSSA designation before submitting a final application dossier;
6. Takes note of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) on the oil exploitation project (seismic study) of Block C7 adjacent to the property and its conclusion that no direct impact has been detected within the property and also requests the State Party:

- a) to ensure the enforcement of mitigation measures to avoid all indirect impact on the OUV of the property during the exploration phase of the project,
  - b) to undertake a new EIA in the event that the State Party progresses to the exploitation phase, and this before the potential work, taking into account the ocean currents that tend to pull the deep offshore waters back into the Gulf d'Arguin,
  - c) to submit the said EIA to the World Heritage Centre as soon as it is available for examination by IUCN;
7. Takes into account the location of the pumping fields for the Tasiast mine less than 5 km from the boundary of the property and the fact that the EIA for the mine extension project did not include any evaluation of the impacts on the OUV of the property, further requests the State Party to revise this EIA to evaluate the impacts of the projects on the OUV of the property, prior to any possibly irreversible decisions taken, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* and with the IUCN World Heritage Advice Notice and Environmental Evaluation;
  8. Also takes note of the launching, foreseen during 2018, of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the town of Chami, and reiterates its request to the State Party to ensure that, in addition to the SEA, prior to any development in the town of Chami, a rigorous EIA be carried out and submitted for approval to the Banc d'Arguin National Park (PNBA);
  9. Expresses its concern as to the relocation project for the villages threatened by the effects of climate change, the implementation of which is foreseen in 2018, in the framework of the Mauritanian Coastal Area Management and Development Plan (PDALM), and also urges the State Party to provide detailed information concerning this project;
  10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.
- 99. Sanganeb Marine National Park and Dungonab Bay – Mukkawar Island Marine National Park (Sudan) (N 262rev)**

**Decision: 42 COM 7B.99**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 8B.6**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the progress achieved with the development of high quality maps and a draft Integrated Management Plan (IMP), the recruitment of additional staff, and the increase in resources;
4. Requests the State Party to finalize, adopt and start implementing the IMP as soon as possible, and encourages it to provide further resources for the management of the property;

5. Noting with appreciation the activities undertaken to identify additional areas of potential Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and the State Party's intention to propose such areas for inclusion as part of the property, recalls that any proposed extensions should follow the appropriate procedures for boundary modification and/or re-nomination as laid out in the *Operational Guidelines*, and also encourages the State Party to continue this work and to seek technical advice from IUCN if required;
6. Notes with concern the reported activities of foreign dive operators who cause damage to coral reefs, disturbance to wildlife, and negative impacts on visitor experience, and also requests the State Party to establish, in close consultation with local dive operators and other stakeholders, a code of conduct including formal rules and regulations for all dive operators and to ensure compliance, including by:
  - a) Reaching out to dive operators, both national and foreign, to raise awareness about these rules and regulations and encourage best practice in line with international standards,
  - b) Establishing appropriate mechanisms, such as, fines and a licensing system, to avoid violations,
  - c) Ensuring regular patrolling to monitor any vessels operating within either component of the property;
7. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2020**, 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 45th session in 2021.

## 100. Socotra Archipelago (Yemen) (N 1263)

### **Decision: 42 COM 7B.100**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 7B.86** and **41 COM 7B.23**, adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the State Party's repeated invitations for the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property requested at its 40th and 41st sessions, but regrets that the mission could not be undertaken due to the security situation in Yemen;
4. Expresses concern about the casualties and flash flooding caused by Cyclone Mekunu that hit the property at the end of May 2018 and calls on all UNESCO Member States to support emergency safeguarding measures at the property, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
5. Expresses its utmost concern about the multiple reported threats to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, resulting from uncontrolled developments, unsustainable use of natural resources, and the absence of adequate biosecurity measures to avoid the introduction of invasive alien species (IAS), and considers that all these factors represent a potential danger to the OUV of the property;

6. Urges the State Party to halt any activity that may have a potential impact on the property's OUV and to refrain from allowing any further development at the property, until planned activities and projects in the property and its buffer zone have been submitted to the World Heritage Centre, for review by IUCN, prior to taking any decisions regarding their implementation that would be difficult to reverse, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
7. Reiterates the need for the invited joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to take place as a matter of urgency, in order to assess its current state of conservation, in particular in relation to the above-mentioned threats, and to review whether the property meets the conditions for inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger and requests the State Party to assure satisfactory security measures are in place;
8. Also requests the World Heritage Centre to urgently facilitate a technical meeting with the Yemeni authorities, IUCN and concerned parties on how to ensure the protection of the property's OUV while also promoting appropriate sustainable development for the people of Socotra;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, 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 43rd session in 2019, **with a view to considering, in case of the confirmation of potential or ascertained danger to its Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

## Omnibus

### Decision: 42 COM 7B.101

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add,
2. Takes note with satisfaction of the measures taken by the States Parties concerned to address its previous requests to mitigate the threats on the Outstanding Universal Value of the following World Heritage properties:
  - **The Grand Canal (China) (C 1443bis)**
  - **Carolingian Westwork and Civitas Corvey (Germany) (C 1447)**
  - **Historic Centre of the City of Yaroslavl (Russian Federation) (C 1170)**
3. Encourages the States Parties concerned to pursue their efforts to ensure the conservation of World Heritage properties;
4. Recalling the benefits to States Parties of systematically utilizing Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) in the review of development projects, encourages States Parties to integrate the EIA/HIA processes into legislation, planning mechanisms and management plans, and reiterates its recommendation to States Parties to use these tools in assessing projects, including assessment of cumulative impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of properties, as early as possible and before any final decision is taken;

5. Reminds the States Parties concerned to inform the World Heritage Centre in due course about any major development project that may negatively impact the Outstanding Universal Value of a property, before any irreversible decisions are made, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

## **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 2018, in conformity with the *Operational Guidelines***

#### **Decision: 42 COM 8A**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/8A,
2. Stressing the importance of the process of revision and updating of Tentative Lists, as a tool for regional harmonisation of the World Heritage List and long-term planning of its development;
3. Encourages States Parties to seek as early as possible upstream advice from the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies during the development or revision of their Tentative Lists as appropriate;
4. 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: 42 COM 8B.1**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/8B,
2. Does not approve the name change to Jelling Mounds, Runic Stones and Church as proposed by the Danish authorities.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.2**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/8B,
2. Approves the name change to The par force hunting landscape in North Zealand as proposed by the Danish authorities. The name of the property in French becomes **Paysage de chasse à courre de Zélande du Nord**.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.3**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/8B,
2. Approves the name change to Asmara: A Modernist City of Africa as proposed by the Eritrean authorities. The name of the property becomes **Asmara: A Modernist African City** in English and **Asmara : une ville africaine moderniste** in French.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.4**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/8B,
2. Approves the name change to Archaeological Site of Nalanda Mahavihara (Nalanda University) at Nalanda, Bihar as proposed by the Indian authorities. The name of the property becomes **Archaeological Site of Nalanda Mahavihara at Nalanda, Bihar** in English and **Site archéologique Nalanda Mahavihara à Nalanda, Bihar** in French.

**EXAMINATION OF NOMINATIONS OF NATURAL, MIXED AND CULTURAL SITES TO THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

**NATURAL SITES**

**AFRICA**

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.5**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B2,

2. Inscribes **Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains, South Africa**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (viii)**;
3. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

### **Brief Synthesis**

The Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains contain the best-preserved, oldest and most diverse sequence of volcanic and sedimentary rocks on Earth. These well researched outcrops provide a globally unique source of information about the earliest measurable conditions of the Earth's gradually solidifying oceanic crust, from 3.5 billion years ago. From these rocks, more has been learned than from anywhere else about the surface processes at work as the Earth cooled from a molten body, to the creation of the primitive biosphere. This is a field repository for the genesis of life.

Protected from beneath by rising plutons of granite, and later buried by a thick layer of Transvaal sediments, this 340 million year sequence of Archaean lavas and sediments has escaped both subduction and erosion for all of that time. The geosites provide earliest evidence of the chemical nature of our oceans and atmosphere and of the way continents are formed – all unique attributes of our planet. The outstanding universal value lies in both the remarkable state of preservation of the geosites and their variety grouped together. That they occur in attractive surroundings with a comfortable climate, easy to access by researchers and the visiting public, extends their remarkable geological heritage value. Combined, the geosites form a growing outdoor education facility at all levels and for many aspects of our present and past environments. There are literally hundreds of geosites of interest which, when their information is combined, allow the Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains to tell a richly consistent and as yet only partly explored story of how life on Earth began.

**Criterion (viii):** The Property contains the best, most diverse and outstanding examples of rock outcrops from the Archaean stage of Earth's history. Its rocks have revealed the earliest record of single-celled life forms as well as the earliest and most significant geomorphic features, including detailed evidence of the processes involved in the evolution of the originally oxygen-free oceans and atmosphere, and creation of the first continental landforms.

The property is a truly unique remnant of the ancient Earth's crust, containing among the oldest, and undoubtedly the best-preserved sequence of volcanic and sedimentary rocks on Earth. These highly accessible ancient exposures present a continuous 340 million year sequence of rocks, starting 3 600 million years ago. Their physical and chemical characteristics provide an unparalleled source of scientific information about the early Earth. The outstanding value of these rocks lies in the large number of sites and features that, when combined, provide a unique, and as yet only partially explored, scientific resource.

### **Integrity**

The entire 113,137 ha property lies within the BGB and covers some 40% of that geological formation. The Property's boundary encloses a fully representative sample of 154 registered rock outcrops (n= 300, i.e. 51% of geosites). The distribution of all geosites and the information they convey define a landscape of the highest scientific value in terms of Earth's earliest discernable history. The variety of geological processes, evident both as chemical signatures and as more visible physical structures within the rocks are also unmatched in any comparable area.

Of the many outstanding geological features of the BGB, the following have contributed most prominently to scientific knowledge and understanding of the evolution of the early earth: Evidence of the Earth's earliest life forms, including microfossils, stromatolites, biomats and other biologically derived material;



Evidence of the earliest continent-forming processes showing how land masses emerged from the hot and murky Archaean oceans that dominated the planet's surface, with only scattered volcanic peaks aligned as island arcs in an otherwise endless sea; Evidence of the earliest large meteorite impact events occurring as spherule beds of molten rock droplets from a period of intense meteorite bombardment; Chemical and physical evidence of the nature of the Archaean atmosphere and oceans, the oxygen-free chemical soup that supported abundant single-celled life and created vast ocean-floor deposits of chemical sediments such as banded iron formations and coastal sand deposits showing tidal intervals and the earliest moon-Earth interactions; The 'type-locality' of the distinctive komatiite volcanic rocks, and pillow lavas, the komatiites being the hottest lavas by far to have ever emerged on the Earth's surface; Volcanic lapilli embedded in chert, appearing as pea-sized 'hailstones' of accreted volcanic ash and vaporised rock, that have settled into chert sediments on the Archaean sea floor.

These extensive deposits signify the presence of airborne volcanism as comprised to the more common under water lava flows occurring at this time.

Oldest migmatites at the Greenstone Belt margins, abundant exposures occur in the contact zones between the dark basaltic Archaean lavas and the plutons of lighter silica-rich granite rising beneath them. Spectacular patterns show evidence of melting and recrystallization due to intense pressures and extreme temperatures generated around the contact area (see cover photo).

Most Archaean lavas and sediments elsewhere in the world have been reheated or otherwise deformed (metamorphosed) in the slow but incessant movements of the Earth's outer shell. Such altered rocks no longer relate closely to the conditions at their site of origin at the Earth's surface. They therefore have substantially less value as sources of evolutionary information.

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

The applicable legislative Acts include the World Heritage Convention Act, 1999 (Act No. 49 of 1999), the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999), National Environmental Management Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003), Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency Act, 2005 (No. 5 of 2005), Mpumalanga Nature Conservation Act, 1998 (No. 10 of 1998) and related regulations. The Integrated Management Plan provides a sound framework for management, protection and decision making. The South African World Heritage Convention Committee (SAWHCC) oversees the implementation of the *Convention*.

4. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Ensure that all the proposed additional financial commitments to the property are expedited, and that ongoing additional resources are provided to assure adequate staffing, including specific geological expertise, in the management bodies for the property,
  - b) Maintain and enhance vigilance regarding threats to the property, and ensure that the property as a whole, and all of the individual geosites, are effectively protected, conserved and presented,
  - c) Evaluate the opportunities to further strengthen the buffer zone arrangements for the property, and to give consideration to the specific creation of a World Heritage buffer zone, in collaboration with the relevant stakeholders,
  - d) Expedite the implementation of the proposed Integrated Management Plan as an agreed joint management framework for the property;
5. Invites the States Parties of South Africa and Swaziland to continue their collaboration regarding protection, management and research on the key geosites in the greenstone belt

that extends into Swaziland, and to evaluate further the possibility to include additional sites in Swaziland in a transboundary extension of the property, should further research indicate this potential;

6. Commends the State Party, and the local stakeholders, for the participative process that has led to the creation of this nomination, and also requests the State Party to ensure that this strong community collaboration remains at the heart of management of the property in the future.

## ASIA - PACIFIC

### Decision: 42 COM 8B.6

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Inscribes **Fanjingshan, China**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (x)**;
3. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

Fanjingshan world natural heritage is located in South-West China, covering a total area of 40,275 ha, fully surrounded by a proposed buffer zone of 37,239 ha. The climate is monsoonal, with mean annual temperature of 12°C, annual precipitation of 1506 mm and a mean annual relative humidity of more than 80%. The property is an important source of water for the surrounding landscapes and beyond, with some 20 rivers and streams and feeding the Wujiang and Yuanjiang river systems, both of which ultimately drain into the Yangtze River.

The property consists of two parts, namely the Jian Nan subtropical evergreen forests ecoregion (64%) and the Guizhou Plateau broadleaf and mixed forests ecoregion (36%). The highest peak, Mt Fenghuangshan, has an elevation of 2,570 m above sea level (masl). With the lowest point at 500 masl, this gives the property an altitudinal range of more than 2,000 m. The resulting vertical stratification of vegetation is special, including three major altitudinal vegetation zones: evergreen broadleaf forest (<1,300 masl), mixed evergreen and deciduous broadleaf forest (1,300-2,200 masl) and mixed deciduous broadleaf and conifer and scrub forest (>2,200 masl).

The property's isolation and changing climatic conditions have led to a high degree of endemism, with a total of 46 locally endemic plant species, 4 endemic vertebrate species and 245 endemic invertebrate species. The most prominent endemic species are Fanjingshan Fir (*Abies fanjingshanensis* - EN1) and Guizhou Snub-nosed Monkey (*Rhinopithecus brelichi* - EN), both of which are entirely restricted to the property. Three species of *Fagus* (*F. longipetiolata*, *F. lucida*, and *F. engleriana*) are the dominant species of the largest primary beech forest in the subtropical region.

A total of 3,724 plant species have been recorded in the property, an impressive 13% of China's total flora. The property is characterized by an exceptionally high richness in bryophytes with 791 species as well as one of the distribution center of gymnosperms in China. The diversity of invertebrates is also very high with 2,317 species. A total of 450 vertebrate species are found inside the property. Fanjingshan being the only habitat in the world for Fanjingshan Fir and Guizhou Snub-nosed Monkey, as well as 64 plant and 38 animal species that are listed as Vulnerable (VU), Endangered (EN) or Critically

Endangered (CR) on the IUCN Red List are also found here, including the tree *Bretschneidera sinensis* (EN), Chinese Giant Salamander (*Andrias davidianus* - CR), Forest Musk Deer (*Moschus berezovskii* - EN), Reeves's Pheasant (*Syrmaticus reevesii* - VU), and Asiatic Black Bear (*Ursus thibetanus* - VU).

**Criterion (x):** Fanjingshan is characterized by an exceptional richness in bryophytes, with 791 species, of which 74 are endemic to China. The property also has one of the richest concentrations of gymnosperms in the world, with 36 species. A significant number of endemic species is distributed inside the property, including 46 local endemic and 1,010 Chinese endemic plant species, as well as 4 locally endemic vertebrate species. The most notable of these is the endangered Guizhou Snub-nosed Monkey, for which Fanjingshan constitutes its only distribution area in the world. Another prominent endemic species is Fanjingshan Fir, which has a very restricted distribution within the property.

The property contains 64 plant and 38 animal species that are listed as Vulnerable (VU), Endangered (EN) or Critically Endangered (CR) on the IUCN Red List, most notably Guizhou Snub-nosed Monkey, Chinese Giant Salamander, Forest Musk Deer, Reeves's Pheasant, Asiatic Black Bear, and *Bretschneidera sinensis*. Compared with other properties in the same biogeographic region already on the World Heritage List, or included in Tentative Lists, the property stands out in terms of its diversity of amphibian species.

### **Integrity**

The property is of adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes which convey the property's significance. The boundaries of the property and its buffer zone are clearly designated. The property covers all important local floristic elements, and is of sufficient size to encompass the entire known home range of Guizhou Snub-nosed Monkey. The inclusion of the Chayuan area of the Yinjiang Yangxi Provincial Nature Reserve into the property improves its ecological integrity, by extending the amount of suitable habitat for the Guizhou Snub-nosed Monkey to occupy.

Overall, the property includes all key components required to express the claimed OUV and is of adequate, if minimal size to ensure the complete representation of the features which convey its significance.

### **Protection and management requirements**

All land in the property is owned by China, who governs and regulates the use of natural resources. The property is protected by a comprehensive range of national and provincial legislation as it consists of national, provincial nature reserves, and a small area of National Non-Commercial Forest. Furthermore, much of the buffer zone and the wider landscape enjoy various levels of legal protection, as they are part of provincial parks. In addition, the villages within the property and its buffer zone each have their own village regulations, which prescribe certain behaviours that respect the natural environment of the mountain.

There are three main management agencies responsible for the property, i.e. the Administration of Fanjingshan National Nature Reserve, the Administration of Yinjiang Yangxi Provincial Nature Reserve, and the Forest Department. In March 2018, the Ministry of Natural Resources was formally established in China. All the protected areas of China are now implemented under a unified management by the State Forestry and Grassland Administration under the Ministry. In August 2017, the Institutional Committee of the People's Government of Guizhou Province approved the establishment of Protection and Management Bureau of Fanjingshan Natural Heritage, and the property and the buffer zone of Fanjingshan have been conducted unified management.

Current staffing levels, although relatively small, appear adequate, in part thanks to the collaboration with local police, the small portion of the property that is open to the public. A systematic monitoring system is in the process of being developed, which will involve monitoring of OUV, visitors, environmental quality, natural disasters, human activity, and

villages. Monitoring indicators are still being developed and should in the future enable the adoption of an adaptive management approach.

Other relevant plans exist for the management of each of the component protected areas of the property (except for the National Non-commercial Forest), for ecotourism development of Guizhou Fanjingshan National Nature Reserve, and for the conservation of Guizhou Snub-nosed Monkey. To a certain extent, these plans also address threats outside the boundaries of the property, where the component protected areas extend beyond these boundaries.

4. Requests the State Party to undertake and document significant further work taking into account the need to:
  - a) Clarify the process and measures taken concerning the relocation of residents living within the boundaries of the property to ensure that this process is fully voluntary and in line with the policies of the *Convention* and relevant international norms, including principles related to free, prior and informed consent, effective consultation, fair compensation, access to social benefits and skills training, and the preservation of cultural rights,
  - b) Clarify measures taken to manage increasing visitation in relation to the inscription on the World Heritage List, and include adequate provisions to this effect in a revised management plan for the property, and provide clear assurances that no expansion of tourism infrastructure and visitor numbers will be permitted inside the property,
  - c) Clarify fully whether there are any plans for the future development of the western access to the property, which is currently relatively free from visitation and associated human impact, and undertake a full assessment of any such plans, prior to any decision to proceed with their implementation;
  - d) Regulate and monitor the reported taming of wild animals, and which species are included or excluded from this permitted activity, including any applicable quotas,
  - e) Manage potential impacts on wild Giant Chinese Salamander populations that could result from the presence of salamander farms in close proximity to the property, including measures taken to avoid and mitigate the risk of transmission of diseases, including the risks of the devastating disease chytridiomycosis;
5. Also requests the State Party to clarify how the boundaries of the property relate to those of the Fanjingshan Biosphere Reserve, with the aim of ensuring that any developments permitted in the experimental zone of the Biosphere Reserve do not cause any negative impact on the property, and further requests the State Party to rationalise, where feasible, the zones of the Biosphere Reserve to correspond with the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone;
6. Commends the State Party for its efforts to protect Fanjingshan through highly sophisticated visitor and ecological monitoring systems, including CCTV, camera traps, drones, and a GPS-based patrol system, and encourages the State Party to continue these efforts and to adopt an adaptive management system.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.7**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B2,

2. Defers the examination of the nomination of **Arasbaran Protected Area, Islamic Republic of Iran**, to the World Heritage List in order to allow the State Party to:
  - a) Provide clear technical justification for Outstanding Universal Value and integrity,
  - b) Provide sufficient information concerning the process of relocation of farmlands within the boundaries of the nominated property,
  - c) Provide information with regards to the occurrence of the Persian leopard population and other threatened plant and animal species,
  - d) Develop and adopt a management plan which integrates conservation and sustainable development objectives, with the participation of all stakeholders and in consultation with the Advisory Bodies;
3. Urges the State Party to monitor the transformation of the abandoned and reallocated farmlands back into naturally functioning ecosystems and the foreseen positive impacts on the area's biodiversity;
4. Commends the State Party for the efforts made to protect and enhance the natural values of Arasbaran Protected Area;
5. Considers that any revised nomination would need to be considered by an expert mission to the site.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.8**

The nomination of **Amami-Oshima Island, Tokunoshima Island, the northern part of Okinawa Island, and Iriomote Island, Japan**, has been withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**EUROPE - NORTH AMERICA**

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.9**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Approves the significant boundary modification of **Central Sikhote-Alin, Russian Federation**, to include **Bikin River Valley**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (x)**;
3. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief Synthesis**

The extension extends from 200 to 1900 masl and is the most important intact and effectively protected forest on the western slope of the Sikhote-Alin, which is distinct from the slopes exposed to the Sea of Japan in terms of relief, climate, vegetation and landscape, and known to be more biodiverse than the eastern slope. It includes a vast area of practically undisturbed mountain taiga landscapes almost completely forested (more than 95%), with traces of ancient glaciations and volcanism, and a greatly partitioned relief of numerous deep ravines, scree steeps, rocky ridges, insular mountains, and greatly indented plateaus. The area includes valleys, mountain taiga, and forests. In particular, it contains one of the

largest and best preserved broadleaf and pinebroadleaf far-eastern forests, the Ussuriyskaya Taiga.

**Criterion (x):** The property holds globally significant biodiversity values. The vegetation of the Bikin River basin belongs to two botanical-geographical regions: the South-Okhotsk dark coniferous forests and the East-Asian coniferous broadleaf forests. There is a well-developed altitudinal zoning of the vegetative cover within the property, with a mountain tundra belt, a forest belt of dwarf Siberian Pines, a forest belt of Erman's Birch, a fir-spruce forest belt, a spruce-pine forest belt, and a pine-broadleaf forest belt. The fauna of the nominated extension combines species from the taiga, found among the Okhotsk-Kamchatka flora, with representatives of southern Manchurian species. It comprises 52 mammal, 241 bird, 7 amphibian, 10 reptile and 48 inland water fish species. It hosts a number of notable and charismatic mammal species, including the Amur Tiger, Elk, Siberian Musk Deer, Wild Boar, Roedeer, Himalayan Black Bear and Brown Bear, Lynx, Wolverine, Sable, American Mink, Otter and Badger. In addition, the national park has a very uncommon bird species composition and ecologic structure, with 241 bird species, belonging to 17 families, including 171 nesting species. It includes notable nesting areas of the Scaly-sided Merganser and Blakiston's Fish-owl, as well as other rare bird species found in flood plain forests.

### **Integrity**

The extension is large and coincides with the boundaries of Bikin National Park. It covers substantial areas of intact forests, and represents a significant increase in both the scale and ecological representativeness of protected lands, in addition to the already inscribed property. The large scale, remoteness, high degree of naturalness, and inclusion of the entire middle and upper watershed of a major river ensure that the conditions of integrity are high. The spatial configuration of BNP follows the watershed boundaries of the middle and upper Bikin River. The nominated area is located entirely within the administrative boundaries of the Pozharsky District, an administrative unit of the Primorsky Krai. The national park borders with Khabarovsk Krai to the north, and the Terneysky and Krasnoarmeysky Districts to the east and southeast, respectively (both within Primorsky Krai). The national park covers 51% of the Pozharsky District. This is a positive aspect in terms of governance and management, as only one local counterpart is involved in the federally managed lands, although it is also substantively influenced by the local district as half of its territories are allocated to federal land use. Overall, the coincidence of the national park boundaries with the watershed and administrative boundaries is advantageous for communication, decision-making, and management effectiveness. Nevertheless, assuring the conservation of its values relies not only on the management of the area, but also the maintaining and strengthening of meaningful connectivity with the existing components of the World Heritage property, and other important neighbouring protected areas, and effective buffer zone arrangements for the extension.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The extension enjoys a high level of protection, through the creation of Bikin National Park, in accordance with the Russian Federal Protected Area Legislation. The federal protected area category corresponds to an IUCN Category II protected area. BNP was formally created by federal Decree No. 1187 dated 03 November 2015. The regulations for BNP were approved by Order No. 429 of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation dated 12 August 2016. The Charter of Bikin National Park was likewise adopted in 2016.

The legislative framework includes strong and explicit provisions on the protection of rights of the indigenous peoples to use natural resources within substantial zones of the national park. However, these provisions are not derived directly from the federal law, but are legalized through a decree, which in principle could be changed or altered in the future. The territory of the nominated property is federally owned in its entirety under the authority of

the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation and constitutes a “Federal State Budgetary Establishment”. In 674,184 ha (58.1%) of the national park, indigenous peoples are permitted to use natural resources for traditional economic activities, as a way of life and for subsistence, in line with the federal decree that established Bikin National Park, and subsequently established regulations. A good example of the strength and adequacy of the protection system for the property is demonstrated by the strong federal protection status, which has brought an end to the possibility of industrial-scale logging for the foreseeable future, arguably addressing the most tangible threat to the integrity of the middle and upper reaches of the Bikin River watershed in the past.

4. Strongly recommends the State Party to:
  - a) Complete the process of configuration and designation of the property’s buffer zone in conformity with Clause 10 of Article 2 of Russian Federal Law and consistent with the requirements of Paragraph 104 of the *Operational Guidelines*, with the aim of providing the necessary protective measures to safeguard the property against current and foreseen anthropogenic impacts,
  - b) Finalize the preparation of the Integrated Management Plan for the extension, to provide a single and cohesive framework for the management of Bikin National Park and the existing World Heritage property Central Sikhote-Alin as a whole;
5. Commends and encourages the continuation of the State Party’s efforts to strengthen the involvement of local indigenous people in governance, planning and management of the extension through, inter alia, the establishment of the Council of Indigenous Minority Groups, and to build on the achievements of the Consultative Working Group;
6. Also encourages the State Party to develop and adopt a long-term vision in order to ensure connectivity of Amur Tiger habitat at the landscape level, through a range of strategies, including building enhanced connectivity with other protected areas, and investigating conservation connectivity strategies outside the formal protected area system. The State Party may also wish to consider the possibility of nominating further such areas as extensions to the property in the future;
7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, the Integrated Management Plan, including the necessary documentation regarding the configuration and designation of the buffer zone of the property;
8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, 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 44th session in 2020.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.10**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B2.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **38 COM 8B.11** and **40 COM 8B.13** adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,
3. Inscribes the **Chaîne des Puys - Limagne fault tectonic arena, France**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (viii)**;

4. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

The Chaîne des Puys - Limagne fault tectonic arena, situated in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region in the centre of France, is an emblematic segment of the West European Rift, created in the aftermath of the formation of the Alps 35 million years ago. The property comprises 24,223 ha with a 16,307 ha buffer zone configured to provide strategic protection in key areas. The boundaries of the property were drawn up to include geological features and landscapes which characterise the tectono-volcanic assemblage and include the long Limagne fault, the scenic alignment of the Chaîne des Puys volcanoes, and the inverted relief of the Montagne de la Serre. Together these demonstrate how the continental crust cracks, then collapses, allowing deep magma to rise, causing widespread uplift at the surface.

The property is an exceptional illustration of the processes and characteristic features of continental break-up, a fundamental phenomenon in the Earth's history. It is globally significant in terms of its completeness, density and clarity of topographic expression, providing distinctive evidence of the genetic and chronological links between the rifting features. Densely grouped and clearly interconnected, these features provide focused access to a planetary scale geological phenomenon and its overall understanding.

**Criterion (viii):** Continental drift, manifested through plate tectonics, is an essential paradigm for the history of the Earth as it explains the current make-up of oceans and continents and their past and future movements. The property is an exceptional illustration of the phenomenon of continental break-up, or rifting, which is one of the five major stages of plate tectonics. The Chaîne des Puys - Limagne fault tectonic arena presents a coincident view of all the representative processes of continental break-up and reveals their intrinsic links. The geological formations of the property, and their specific layout, illustrate with clarity this planet-wide process and its effects on a large and small scale on the landscape. This concentration has a demonstrated global significance in terms of its completeness, density and expression and has contributed to the site's prominence since the 18th century for the study of classical geological processes.

**Integrity**

Due to its size, continental break-up creates rift systems several thousands of kilometres long. The property's boundary incorporates all the elements necessary for a full presentation of this process. All the most impressive and best preserved examples are included in relatively close proximity.

The property includes the most impressive section of the fault, which forms a marked border between the flattened continental basement and the wide adjoining graben. It also contains a young volcanic field, relatively unaffected by erosion, exhibiting the complete spectrum of typical magmas in rift zones. Lastly, the long lava flow of the Montagne de la Serre, from an earlier phase of volcanism, straddles the basement and the sedimentary basin, which it overlooks. This inverted topography is a characteristic indicator of the wide-spread uplift which affects rift zones.

The landscape setting for the property's geological attributes has a long history of conservation measures; it is sparsely inhabited, with the main population being concentrated on the adjacent Limagne Plain. The geological features encompassed by the property's boundary are fundamentally intact: they are preserved from urbanisation; the erosion is very superficial and has not altered the structures; and past quarrying activity has affected only a minor part of the property. Overall, human impact remains limited and does not compromise the geological value of the Chaîne des Puys - Limagne fault tectonic arena concerning the integrity of the property in relation to criterion (viii).



### **Protection and management requirements**

The property has been subject to management and preservation measures for nearly one hundred years, under the impetus of local actors and supported by the State. Critical to protecting the property's Outstanding Universal Value is preventing any degradation to the geological features and maintaining, even accentuating, their visibility in the landscape. The main potential threats are thus the quarries, urbanisation, encroachment of forest masking the geological features, and erosion of soils linked to human action. All of these threats are managed via a combination of regulatory measures, an integrated management plan, and the availability of dedicated human and financial means.

The property is part of the Auvergne Volcanos Regional Natural Park (IUCN Cat.V protected area) which provides a management framework legally subject to review and renewal every 12 years. The property is subject to strong national legislature which applies to both public and private land and prohibits in particular the opening of any new quarries, mandates State authorization for any changes to the site, and prohibits or strictly limits construction. In addition there are local regulations which reinforce and add greater precision to these environmental, landscape and urban protection measures. Continued efforts should be directed toward engaging with private landholders to raise awareness, ensure compliance with regulations and incentivize good stewardship practice.

Proactive management measures are also applied to the property through a tailored management plan which is focused towards the preservation of the geological features and their clarity of outline, management of visitor numbers, enabling traditional local activities, and interpreting the property's Outstanding Universal Value to the public.

Care is needed to manage the balance between forest cover and pasture when seeking to optimize the exposure of the property's geological features. It is important to ensure the property is protected against erosion and visitor impact.

5. Requests the State Party to:
- a) Continue its efforts to strengthen engagement with private landholders to raise awareness, ensure compliance with regulations and incentivize good stewardship practice, in particular to secure formal agreements with the Department of the Puy-de-Dôme and the Regional Auvergne Volcanoes Natural Park to ensure enforcement,
  - b) Adhere to the proposed schedule for closure of the two active pouzzolane quarries which were formerly inside the nominated area, ensure quarrying operations are conducted at the highest technical and ecological standard to safeguard the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and furthermore to develop and implement clear rehabilitation plans and submit these plans to the World Heritage Centre and IUCN for review,
  - c) Strengthen the level of protection applying to the Montagne de Serre area of the property.

## MIXED SITES

### EUROPE - NORTH AMERICA

#### Decision: 42 COM 8B.11

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B, WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1 and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Recalling Decisions **37 COM 8B.19** and **40 COM 8B.18** adopted at its 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,
3. Inscribes **Pimachiowin Aki, Canada**, on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape on the basis of **criteria (iii), (vi) and (ix)**;
4. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

Pimachiowin Aki, part of the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg people at the headwaters of the Berens, Bloodvein, Pigeon and Poplar rivers, is an exceptional example of cultural tradition of Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan (Keeping the Land) that involves honouring the Creator's gifts, observing respectful interaction with aki (the land and all its life), and maintaining harmonious relations with other people. The forest landscape, dissected by free-flowing rivers, lakes and wetlands, includes portions of the lands of four Anishinaabe First Nations: Bloodvein River, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, and Poplar River First Nations and extends to 2,904,000 hectares. It encompasses slightly less than a quarter of the lands occupied by Anishinaabeg peoples.

The Anishinaabe world view of a symbiotic relationship between people and nature attributes animacy to objects in the natural world giving meaning to peoples' existence in this environment over time and through the seasons. Today, within Pimachiowin Aki, Anishinaabeg are based in four small permanent Anishinaabe communities, and they are highly mobile and make use of waterways and a complex network of often impermanent interlinked sites, routes and areas in this extensive natural landscape of multi-layered forest, to harvest animals, plants and fish, consistent with their traditional practices.

Ancient and contemporary livelihood sites, habitations and processing sites, travel routes, named places, trap lines, widely dispersed across the landscape, while being sacred and ceremonial sites, reflect the way they, and their Indigenous ancestors, have made use of this and adjacent landscapes for over 7,000 years. Pimachiowin Aki thus expresses an outstanding testimony to the beliefs, values, knowledge, and practices of the Anishinaabeg that constitute Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan; the persistence of Anishinaabe customary governance ensures continuity of these cultural traditions across the generations.

Through the cultural tradition of Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan, Anishinaabeg have for millennia lived intimately with this special place in the heart of the North American boreal shield. Pimachiowin Aki is a vast area of healthy boreal forest, wetlands, lakes, and free-flowing rivers. Waterways provide ecological connectivity across the entire landscape. Wildfire, nutrient flow, species movements, and predator-prey relationships are key, naturally functioning ecological processes that maintain an impressive mosaic of ecosystems. These ecosystems support an outstanding community of boreal plants and

animals, including iconic species such as Woodland Caribou, Moose, Wolf, Wolverine, and Loon.

**Criterion (iii):** Pimachiowin Aki provides an exceptional testimony to the continuing Anishinaabe cultural tradition of Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan (Keeping the Land). Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan guides relations between Anishinaabeg and the land; it is the framework through which the cultural landscape of Pimachiowin Aki is perceived, given meaning, used and sustained across the generations. Widely dispersed across the landscape are ancient and contemporary livelihood sites, sacred sites and named places, most linked by waterways that are tangible reflections of Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan.

**Criterion (vi):** Pimachiowin Aki is directly and tangibly associated with the living tradition and beliefs of the Anishinaabeg, who understand they were placed on the land by the Creator and given all they need to survive. They are bound to the land and to caring for it through a sacred responsibility to maintain their cultural tradition of Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan (Keeping the Land). This involves ceremonies at specific sites to communicate with other beings, and respect for sacred places such as pictograph sites, Thunderbird nests, and places where memegwesiwag (little rock people) dwell, in order to ensure harmonious relations with the other spirit beings with whom Anishinaabeg share the land, and to maintain a productive life on the land.

The beliefs and values that make up Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan are sustained by systems of customary governance based on family structures and respect for elders, and through vibrant oral traditions that are tangibly associated with intimate knowledge of the land through named places that serve as mnemonic prompts, including locations of resources, travel routes, and the history of Anishinaabe occupation and use.

The size of Pimachiowin Aki and the strength of these traditions make it an exceptional example of a belief that can be seen to be of universal significance.

**Criterion (ix):** Pimachiowin Aki is the most complete and largest example of the North American boreal shield, including its characteristic biodiversity and ecological processes. Pimachiowin Aki contains an exceptional diversity of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems and fully supports wildfire, nutrient flow, species movements, and predator-prey relationships, which are essential ecological processes in the boreal forest. Pimachiowin Aki's remarkable size, intactness, and ecosystem diversity support characteristic boreal species such as Woodland Caribou, Moose, Wolf, Wolverine, Lake Sturgeon, Leopard Frog, Loon and Canada Warbler. Notable predator-prey relationships are sustained among species such as Wolf and Moose and Woodland Caribou, and Lynx and Snowshoe Hare. Traditional use by Anishinaabeg, including sustainable fishing, hunting and trapping, is also an integral part of the boreal ecosystems in Pimachiowin Aki.

### **Integrity**

Pimachiowin Aki is of sufficient size to encompass all aspects of Anishinaabe traditional livelihood activities, customary waterways, traditional knowledge of the landscape and seasonal rounds of travel, for hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering, and sacred sites, (although some of these extend beyond the boundaries), and includes sufficient attributes necessary to convey its value. The key attributes are considered to be highly intact. Patterns of traditional use (fishing, gathering, hunting and trapping) and veneration of specific sites by the Anishinaabe First Nations have developed over millennia through adaptation to the dynamic ecological processes of the boreal forest, and appear to be ecologically sustainable.

Pimachiowin Aki also contains all the elements necessary to ensure continuity of the key ecological processes of the boreal shield. The robust combination of First Nation and provincial protected areas forms the largest network of contiguous protected areas in the North American boreal shield. The vast size of the property provides for ecological

resilience, especially in the context of climate change, and extensive buffer zones further contribute to integrity. These provide as well a sufficiently large area to enable the continuity of the living cultural tradition of Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan.

The cultural and natural values of Pimachiowin Aki are free from the adverse effects of development and neglect. The very limited infrastructure includes a few power lines, seasonally functional winter roads, and the all-season East Side Road (under construction). All of these are subject to numerous protections concerning development. The whole property is protected from commercial logging, mining, and hydroelectric development, and all its waterways are free of dams and diversions.

Pimachiowin Aki exemplifies the indissoluble bonds between culture and nature. It is therefore vital that the integrity of customary governance and oral traditions be maintained in order to ensure continuity of the cultural tradition across generations and a continuation of the current high levels of stewardship which are evident within the property. With the free engagement and willing agreement of neighbouring First Nations, ecological integrity could be further enhanced by progressive addition of areas of high conservation value adjacent to the inscribed property.

### **Authenticity**

The ability of the landscape to reflect its value relates to the robustness of the cultural traditions that underpin spiritual, social and economic interactions and their ability to function fully in relation to the adequacy of natural resources, as well as to the necessary freedom of movement needed for communities to respond to changing seasons and environmental conditions. Sites in the landscape (such as archaeological sites, sacred sites, waterways and hunting and harvesting sites) remain in use to a degree that the landscape reflects adequate interactions over time, and relates to the ability of the Anishinaabe communities to maintain their traditions across their vast landscape. In order to maintain authenticity, sustaining the resilience of these traditions will need to be an overt part of the management of the property.

### **Protection and management requirements**

First Nations have played the leading role in defining the approach to protection and management of Pimachiowin Aki. The four First Nation communities have strong traditional mechanisms of protection that draw from the cultural tradition of Keeping the Land as articulated in the First Nations Accord, 2002. Protection and management of the property are achieved through Anishinaabe customary governance grounded in Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan, contemporary provincial government law and policy, and cooperation among the four First Nations and two provincial government partners. A memorandum of agreement between the provincial governments provides assurances about protection and management of the property. The Pimachiowin Aki partners share a commitment to work together to safeguard the Outstanding Universal Value of Pimachiowin Aki for present and future generations.

The vast majority (c. 99.98 %) of the property is protected under provincial legislation that recognizes the designated protected areas identified in the First Nation land use plans and provincial parks legislation (provincial parks legislation applies to three provincial protected areas). There is supportive “enabling legislation” at federal and provincial levels relating to protecting species at risk, regulating resources and development, as well as to public consultation on proposed land-uses. The four First Nation settlements make up the remainder of the World Heritage area (c. 0.02 %) and are covered by Canada’s Indian Act. Additional national and provincial legislation applies, for example, to Lake Winnipeg, several rivers and with regards to specific terrestrial and aquatic species. In most cases the protection is primarily for nature conservation but the provincial park legislation allows cultural heritage to be taken into account. The entire World Heritage area is protected from all commercial logging, mining, peat extraction, and the development of hydroelectric

power, oil and natural gas. Similar protections cover the management areas of the buffer zone.

First Nations and provincial partners have created the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation and developed a consensual, participatory governance structure, financial capacity, and management framework for the property. The Pimachiowin Aki Corporation acts as a coordinating management body and enables the partners to work in an integrated manner across the property to ensure the protection and conservation of all natural values. The property has an overall management plan that brings together key elements of the four First Nation land use plans and the park management plans of the provincial protected areas. The management plan and series of legal protections uphold the practices associated with the traditional land management system embedded in Ji-ganawendamang Gidakiiminaan. The management plan is a high level plan and it relates to more detailed management plans and land use strategies that are in place for the four First Nations' areas.

The management framework is designed to meet potential challenges in the protection and conservation of the property, such as monitoring and mitigating the potential impacts of the construction of an all-season road [East Side Road] over the next 20 to 40 years. Climate change is also a challenge that requires adaptive management. A conservation trust fund has been set up to secure long-term sustainable financing for the management of the property.

The management plan could be made more proactive and strengthened to address socio-economic issues by promoting diversification and support for local economies, and through the development of action plans for specific aspects such as visitor management, to ensure it is sustainable in terms of the landscape and its spiritual associations, is under the control of the communities, and offers benefits to them. The effectiveness of the complex and integrated management system should be carefully monitored over time.

5. Requests the State Party, through collaboration with the agreed governance body for the property, and with the consent of the First Nations to:
  - a) Encourage neighbouring First Nations to freely partner with the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation, and together with provincial authorities consider the possibility of further extensions of the property over time, in order to further improve the integrity of the property,
  - b) Ensure the continued protection of the property, which is founded in an enduring tradition of First Nation stewardship, including protection from future developments associated with hydroelectric power,
  - c) Continue to strengthen the overall management plan, and make it more proactive by:
    - (i) Addressing specific over-arching themes such as socio-economic development, diversification and support for local economies,
    - (ii) Developing action plans for specific aspects such as visitor management, to ensure it is sustainable in terms of the landscape and its spiritual associations, is under the control of the communities, and offers benefits to them,
    - (iii) Harmonising zoning principles for land-use in the various plans,
  - d) Ensure regular monitoring of the effectiveness of the management plan as a proactive tool for the benefit of communities,
  - e) Ensure that the construction of the new all-season road does not have adverse effects on the property, notably by carrying out full environmental impact assessments at each phase of the road construction and through effective monitoring of any ongoing impacts;

6. Expresses its deep appreciation for the combined efforts of the First Nations, working with provincial governments and the State Party, and for the joint dialogue undertaken with IUCN and ICOMOS, in deepening the understanding of nature-culture connections in the context of the *World Heritage Convention*, and for presenting a revised nomination which is a landmark for properties nominated to the World Heritage List through the commitment of indigenous peoples.

## LATIN AMERICA - CARIBBEAN

### Decision: 42 COM 8B.12

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B, WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1 and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B2,
2. Recalling Decision **29 COM 8B.3** adopted at its 29th session (Durban, 2005),
3. Inscribes **Chiribiquete National Park – “The Maloca of the Jaguar”, Colombia**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii), (ix) and (x)**;
4. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

Chiribiquete National Park – “The Maloca of the Jaguar” is in the Amazon rainforest in south central Colombia. Following its extension in 2013, the park is now the largest national park in Colombia at 2,782,354 hectares and is very large by global standards for protected areas. It is located at the western-most edge of the Guiana Shield and contains one of only three uplifted areas of the Shield called the Chiribiquete Plateau. One of the most impressive defining features of Chiribiquete is the presence of many tepuis which are table-top mountains, found only in the Guiana Shield, notable for their high levels of endemism. The tepuis found in Chiribiquete, whilst smaller when compared to others in the Guiana Shield, result nonetheless in dramatic scenery that is reinforced by their remoteness and inaccessibility. A particularly significant value of the property is its high degree of naturalness which makes it one of the most important wilderness areas in the world.

Some 75,000 rock pictographs have been listed on the walls of 60 rock shelters at the foot of tepuis. The portrayals are interpreted as scenes of hunting, battles, dances and ceremonies, all of which are linked to a purported cult of the jaguar, seen as a symbol of power and fertility. Such practices are thought to reflect a coherent system of thousand-year-old sacred beliefs, organizing and explaining the relations between the cosmos, nature and man. The archaeological sites are believed to be accessed even today by indigenous uncontacted groups.

Chiribiquete is home to many iconic species including Jaguar, Puma, Lowland Tapir, Giant Otter, Howler Monkey, Brown Woolly Monkey. A high level of endemism occurs in the property and the number of endemic species is likely to rise substantially once new research programmes are implemented.

The global significance of the property to biodiversity conservation is reflected by the fact that it is considered a Centre of Plant Diversity, an Important Bird Area, an Endemic Bird Area, a Key Biodiversity Area and it is the only site protecting one of the terrestrial ecoregions of flooded forests called “Purus Varze”, considered Critical/Endangered by WWF International. The biodiversity values of the property are inextricably linked to its

significant cultural and archaeological values that are strongly associated to the beliefs and spiritual values of the indigenous peoples living in the property.

**Criterion (iii):** The rock art sites of Chiribiquete hold an exceptional testimony, by the large number of painted rock shelters around the foot of rare tepui rock formations, by the diversity of motifs, which are often realistic, and by the chronological depth and persistence up to the present-day of the purported frequentation of the sites by isolated communities. The first inhabitants of Amazonia practised their art on the rock walls of Chiribiquete, and these paintings constitute an exceptional testimony of their vision of the world. Chiribiquete is even today considered to be of mythical importance by several groups and is designated the “Great Home of the Animals”.

**Criterion (ix):** The property, due to its unique location in the middle of two Pleistocene refuges (Napo and Imeri) and its function as a corridor between three biogeographic provinces (Orinoquia, Guyana, and Amazonia), hosts unique species with distinctive adaptations that are thought to have resulted from its geographical isolation. It is located in the Chiribiquete-Araracuara-Cahuinari Region Centre for Plant Diversity and has been identified as a gap. The property overlaps entirely with Serrania de Chiribiquete, which is listed amongst the most irreplaceable protected areas in the world for the conservation of mammal, bird and amphibian species. The property is located in a unique biogeographical context where evolutionary processes have shaped the high floral and faunal diversity. It presents a mosaic of mainly Guyanese and Amazonian landscapes that provide a great variety of unique habitats that are critical for the survival of the property’s characteristic plants and animals.

**Criterion (x):** Despite the fact that limited scientific research has been undertaken in the property, data available shows that 2,939 species have been recorded. These include 1,801 species of vascular plants, 82 species of mammals (including 58 bat species and a bat species new to science) as well as a number of globally threatened species such as the Giant Otter, Giant Anteater, Lowland Tapir, Common Woolly Monkey and Jaguar, 60 species of reptiles, 57 species of amphibians, 492 species and subspecies of birds (including a new endemic species, the Chiribiquete Emerald Hummingbird), 238 fish species and 209 species of butterflies (including to date at least 6 potentially new species). The number of species, including of endemic species (21 endemics reported) would most certainly rise as more scientific expeditions are undertaken in the future.

### **Integrity**

Chiribiquete National Park contains all the elements necessary for the expression of its Outstanding Universal Value, and is of an appropriate size for the satisfactory preservation of the conditions of integrity. The isolated location of these sites, which are hard to access, and the cultural restrictions on access and the making of paintings ensure the comprehensive representation of the characteristics and processes that express the importance of the property.

The property overlaps with Serrania de Chiribiquete Natural National Park, which includes 13 geomorphologically distinct types of tepuis as well as arches, labyrinths, caverns and structural cracks more than 10 meters wide, all of which contribute to the biodiversity richness of the property. All of these landform features are intact as well as the surrounding forests and river systems.

The property is exceptionally large and adequately provides refuge for the many species and habits present. The boundaries of the property have been drawn to include the vast majority of the tepuis and other significant landforms. The national park was expanded in 2013 to include areas to the north that provide additional connectivity with the Andes and to the east providing additional connectivity with the Orinoco.

The property is remarkably well-preserved and is in excellent condition. No infrastructure has been built and none is planned. There are two main threats: those related to ensuring

respect of rights for the uncontacted tribes living in voluntary isolation, and those related to the loss of habitats, biodiversity and connectivity. Tourism and scientific expeditions are a potential threat to the rights to self-determination, territory and culture of the uncontacted tribes. Threats potentially affecting the natural values of the property are habitat loss due to agricultural encroachment; however, these threats are mainly affecting the buffer zone and are subject to active management programmes. A temporary suspension of mining licenses in the buffer zone has been issued and should be maintained in the long-term to avoid this indirect threat. Small areas within the property have been occasionally used for illegal farming but this has been fully eradicated. At present, there is no tourism allowed inside the property and it is important to strictly control any tourism access.

### **Authenticity**

The rock art sites are authentic in terms of situation and setting, intangible culture, spirit and impression, materials, form and conception. The chronological attribution of the paintings, and the assertion of a continuous sequence of rock art will need to be confirmed, but this does not mean that the rock art itself lacks authenticity, but merely that there are questions about its interpretation.

### **Protection and management requirements**

Chiribiquete National Park is legally protected by the Colombian government, as a national park that was listed in 1989. The property is administered by the System of National Natural Parks (SPNN). The authority responsible for the management of the archaeological sites is the Colombian Institute of Anthropology and History (ICANH). The buffer zone is made up entirely of reserves for indigenous groups and the Amazonia Forest Reserve. The zones surrounding the protected area are Type A Forest Reserve Zones inside which mining is prohibited. While there are no direct threats to the property itself, there are considerable threats to the buffer zone as agriculture and road building move closer to the buffer zone boundary.

The local communities whose territories lie in the buffer zone are still based on the traditional forms of organisation that have ensured the protection and conservation of the property over a long period of time. To guarantee the conservation of the archaeological sites, their monitoring is based on minimum intervention parameters and the safeguarding of the transmission of ancestral knowledge. Major legal measures have been taken to protect the isolated indigenous communities in the region. The management of the property includes respect for customary practices with regards to access to the property, as defined by the Amazon Area Directorate in the management scenarios for protected areas in national natural parks.

A management plan, drawn up by Colombia's System of National Natural Parks, is in place for the period 2016-2020. It includes provisions on management activities required for the different land use zones as well as expected biodiversity conservation outputs derived from these actions. The zones in the park are enabled through Decree 622 of 1977 that establishes six distinct zones for all National Natural Parks. Two aspects are prioritised: the first is the overlapping of Chiribiquete National Park with territories that are not recognised reserves; the second is overlapping with uncontacted territories or territories in a situation of voluntary isolation. Given that there are no direct pressures inside the property, a significant proportion of the management is implemented in the buffer zone by the SPNN and by the ICANH.

Overall, the management of the property is well-organized with good capacity for planning and operations. Patrolling and protection activities are actively supported by the army that has played a key role for many years in assisting with the location and eradication of illegal coca plantations inside the property and in the buffer zone. Efforts should be directed at maintaining the good cooperation established with the army or anticipating the need to replicate this level of protection through other means should the military presence change. Funding to support the management of the property results from a combination of financial



and human resources provided by the State Party and also supported by international projects, thus the current level of financial resources is considered sufficient to implement key provisions of the management plan related to nature conservation, and should be maintained. However, available financial and human resources dedicated to management activities and for the development of infrastructure and the acquisition of equipment for patrolling and other management actions should be increased following inscription. New challenges, for example linked to tourism development, may arise from the inscription of the property which will require continued attention and further investment.

5. Commends the State Party for its commitment towards the conservation of this property and for its efforts in revising earlier proposals to submit a more comprehensive and compelling nomination;
6. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Increase the financial support required for the effective management of the property,
  - b) Continue the archaeological investigations, the inventorying and the documentation of the rock art sites inside the boundaries of the property and the buffer zone, and using the “Strategic Priorities and Guidelines for archaeological and ethnographic research” drawn up by the Columbian Institute of Anthropology and History as the basis for the monitoring and conservation of the property, particularly in preparing a more detailed inventory of the archaeological sites,
  - c) Maintain and enhance existing regulations and management activities to control agriculture development, deforestation and road construction in the buffer zone that could, if not properly managed, result in serious threats to the integrity of the property,
  - d) Support the development of projects to enhance the natural and cultural heritage in the buffer zone, as proposed in the management plan,
  - e) Undertake a basic socio-economic study to assess the needs of local communities situated in the buffer zone,
  - f) Strictly apply the preventive measures in place so as to prevent possible contact between non-indigenous local communities or other external agents and the members of isolated uncontacted communities;
7. Welcomes the support provided by donors and international development agencies to the protection and management of the property and encourages them to maintain, and if feasible, strengthen this support to contribute to the effective management and governance of this property.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.13**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add, WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B2.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 8B.9** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017);
3. Inscribes **Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley: originary habitat of Mesoamerica, Mexico**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (iv) and (x)**;
4. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

## **Brief synthesis**

The Tehuacán-Cuicatlán: originary habitat of Mesoamerica is located in central-southern Mexico, at the southeast of the State of Puebla and north of the State of Oaxaca. The property is a serial site of some 145,255 ha composed of three components: Zapotitlán-Cuicatlán, San Juan Raya and Purrón. All these share the same buffer zone of some 344,932 ha. The entire property is located within the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Biosphere Reserve. The property coincides with a global biodiversity hotspot and lies within an arid or semiarid zone with one of the highest levels of biological diversity in North America, giving rise to human adaptations crucial to the emergence of Mesoamerica, one of the cradles of civilisation in the world.

Of the 36 plant communities, 15 different xeric shrublands are exclusive to the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley. The valley includes representatives of a remarkable 70% of worldwide flora families and includes over 3,000 species of vascular plants of which 10% are endemic to the Valley. It is also a global centre of agrobiodiversity and diversification for numerous groups of plants, in which the cacti stand out, with 28 genera and 86 species of which 21 are endemic. Large “cacti-forests” shape some landscapes of the Valley making it one of the most unique areas in the world.

The property exhibits the impressively high levels of faunal diversity known in this region including very high levels of endemism among mammals, birds, amphibians and fish. It also hosts an unusually high number of threatened species with some 38 listed under the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. The property is one of the richest protected areas in Mexico in terms of terrestrial mammals (134 species registered, two of them endemic to the Valley). The Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley is part of the Balsas Region and Interior Oaxaca Endemic Bird Area (EBA). There are 353 bird species recorded, of which nine are endemic to Mexico. The property has eight known roosting areas of the threatened Green Macaw including a breeding colony.

The vast biodiversity of the Valley, combined with the adverse conditions of a desert, gave rise to one of the largest and best documented cultural sequences in the Americas. The archaeological evidence reveals the long sequence of human adaptations that took place in the area for over 14,000 years. The Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley is an exceptional example of a long process of adaptations and ancient technological evolution that defined the cultural region known today as Mesoamerica.

The arid conditions of the Valley triggered innovation and creativity, originating two of the major technological advances of human history: 1) plant domestication, which in the Valley is one of the most ancient worldwide, dating back to 9500 to 7000 B.C., and 2) development of water management technologies resulting in a wide array of water management elements, such as canals, wells, terraces, aqueducts and dams which make it the most diversified ancient irrigation complex of the continent. Consequently, water management technological features were the ruling guide for the civilisational process that was developed in the Valley throughout thousands of years. Furthermore, these technological advances had a multiplying effect and fostered the discovery of other innovations like salt industry and pottery, which were essential to the organisation and complexity of the first civilisations.

The Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley: originary habitat of Mesoamerica is an invaluable and irreplaceable heritage of humanity and of all living things.

**Criterion (iv):** The technological ensemble of water management of the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley, along with other archaeological evidences such as the remains found in caves, plant domestication sites and agriculture, use of wild species, salt ponds and pottery, mark a stage of the utmost importance for the Mesoamerican region: the appearance and development of one of the oldest civilisations in the world. Located throughout the Valley, these technologies bear unique evidence of the constant adaptation of humans to the environment and reflect their innovative capacity to face the adverse environmental conditions in the area.

**Criterion (x):** The Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley demonstrates exceptional levels of biological diversity in an arid and semiarid zone in North America. A remarkable 70% of worldwide floral families are represented in the Valley, by at least one species, and the area is one of the main centres of diversification for the cacti family, which is highly threatened worldwide. A remarkable diversity of cacti exists within the property often in exceptional densities of up to 1,800 columnar cacti per hectare. The property exhibits particularly high diversity among other plant types, namely the agaves, yuccas, bromeliads, bursera and oaks. Worldwide, it hosts one of the highest animal biodiversity levels in a dryland, at least with regard to taxa such as amphibians, reptiles and birds. The property coincides with one of the most important protected areas worldwide for the conservation of threatened species encompassing over 10% of the global distribution range of four amphibian species, and is ranked as the one of the two most important protected areas in the world for the conservation of seven amphibian and three bird species. The biodiversity of this region has a long history of sustaining human development and today a third of the total diversity of the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley, some 1,000 species, are used by local people.

### **Integrity**

The property is of sufficient overall size and contains the key representative habitats and plant communities of the floristic province Tehuacán-Cuicatlán and all the relevant cultural elements that convey its Outstanding Universal Value. The three components include relatively undisturbed areas of high conservation value and the 22 selected archaeological sites, and are embedded within a larger buffer zone all of which coincides with the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Biosphere Reserve. Further protection is afforded by the biosphere reserve's larger transitional zone. The management systems in place address the various threats to the area and establish objectives, strategies and specific actions in coordination with key local, national and international stakeholders to address these threats including any adverse effects of development.

### **Authenticity**

The component sites still maintain their original condition, with the obvious weathering effects of time over millennia, but without any major disturbance in their main attributes. Investigations by renowned national and international academics have been based mainly in carbon and sediment dating, as well as the study and dating of clay remains considered relevant to determine the time limits of the sites. Thanks to the investigation methods used, the sites are still unaltered and so the spiritual character inherent to each one of them and to the system of sites as a whole has been preserved.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The property Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley: originary habitat of Mesoamerica has effective legal protection to ensure the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value. At the time of inscription the property has a recently updated Strategic Management Plan which aims to integrate the management of natural heritage with archaeological features through a series of interrelated objectives. The plan provides a description of natural and cultural assets within the framework of a mixed World Heritage property and prescribes additional measures for the conservation and management of intangible cultural heritage, such as linguistic diversity and communities' sustainable development.

The institutions in charge of implementing protective measures are the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection and the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH). For monitoring of biodiversity the National Commission for Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity and the National Forestry Commission coordinate with CONANP. All these institutions work together with the Administration Office of the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Biosphere Reserve. Ongoing efforts are needed to ensure full integration and institutional coordination across issues related to natural and cultural heritage in accordance with the respective mandates of CONANP and INAH. Both

managing institutions are committed to actively working with local communities and efforts to strengthen these approaches are ongoing.

In comparison to other regions, current and potential threats are considered quite low, and the population density is low. Tourism use at time of inscription is relatively minimal, however, has the potential to rapidly grow. A Nature Tourism Strategy for the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Biosphere Reserve (2018-2023) seeks to balance the protection of the property's Outstanding Universal Value with fostering responsible visitation that empowers local communities. Priority needs to be given to the adaptive implementation of this strategy based on monitoring the impacts.

5. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Conduct a more systematic inventory of fauna and flora within the property and the wider biosphere reserve and Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley to guide opportunities for further extension of the property,
  - b) Continue to strengthen participatory governance arrangements which work with local communities in harnessing tangible benefits from the World Heritage property;
6. Welcomes the improved integration of natural aspects with archaeological features within the updated Strategic Management Plan for the Cultural Sites within the property which complements the actions set forth in the Management Programme of the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Biosphere Reserve and encourages continued harmonization between natural and cultural heritage management;
7. Also welcomes the updated Nature Tourism Strategy for the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Biosphere Reserve (2018-2023) which seeks to balance the protection of the property's Outstanding Universal Value while fostering responsible visitation that empowers local communities and also encourages the State Party to implement the strategy including the envisaged infrastructure, long-term impact monitoring, and tourism-related capacity building for local communities;
8. Further encourages the State Party to:
  - a) Continue to undertake further surveys, research and documentation of cultural heritage sites in the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley, including in areas currently located outside the property boundaries, related to irrigation systems and settlements to further clarify the attributes that contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and to identify whether these are in the property. If these are located out of the property, to consider a minor boundary modification to include these,
  - b) Complete the legal protection of the relevant cultural heritage resources to be recognized at highest levels appropriate, including the full recognition at national level of the sites presently proposed,
  - c) Further detail the envisaged implementation of management, research and monitoring activities for cultural heritage within the strategic management plan, integrating also conservation and maintenance as well as visitor management provisions,
  - d) Strengthen the overall human and financial resources for management of cultural assets within the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley.

## CULTURAL SITES

### AFRICA

#### **Decision: 42 COM 8B.14**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Inscribes **Thimlich Ohinga Archaeological Site, Kenya**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii), (iv) and (v)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

Located 46 km northwest of Migori Town in the Lake Victoria region, Thimlich Ohinga archaeological site is a dry-stone walled settlement, based on a complex organization system of communal occupation, craft industries and livestock that reflects a cultural tradition developed by pastoral communities in the Nyanza region of the Lake Victoria basin that persisted from 16th to mid-20th centuries.

Thimlich Ohinga is the largest and best preserved of these massive dry-stone walled enclosures. The Ohinga appear to have served primarily as security for communities and livestock, but they also defined social units and relationships linked to lineage based systems.

The property comprises four larger Ohingni, all of which have extensions. The main Ohinga is referred to as Kochieng, while the others are Kakuku, Koketch and Koluoch. The dry stone wall enclosures are constructed in a three-phase design with separately built up outer and inner phases, held together by the middle phase. Stones were placed in an interlocking system that enhanced overall stability without use of any mortar or cement. The walls are built of neatly arranged stones of various sizes and without mortar, ranging from 1.5 m to 4.5 m in height, with an average thickness of 1 m.

Thimlich Ohinga is an exceptional testimony of settlement patterns and spatial community relations in the Lake Victoria Basin, which documents the successive occupation by different people from various linguistic origins during an important episode in the migration and settlement of the Lake Victoria Basin between the 16th and 17th centuries. It also gives reference to habitation patterns, livestock cultivation and craft practices prevalent in communal settlements at this time.

**Criterion (iii):** Thimlich Ohinga provides an exceptional testimony to settlement traditions in the Lake Victoria Basin. It illustrates shared communal settlement, livestock cultivation and craft industry patterns, utilized and practiced by several successive inhabitant groups of different linguistic origin. The archaeological evidence testified not only to the communities' spatial organization but also to an elaborate system of interrelations between the different Ohingni within proximity to each other. It therefore allows to understand and further research community interaction patterns between the 16th and the mid-20th century in the region.

**Criterion (iv):** The settlements of Thimlich Ohinga provide an impressive reference to spatial planning and settlement types in the wider Lake Victoria Basin, at a period in history characterized by increased human mobility as a result of social, economic and environmental pressures that affected human populations in the region. The massive stone

walled enclosures at Thimlich Ohinga mark an important episode in the migration and settlement of the Lake Victoria Basin and sub-Saharan Africa as a whole. Thimlich Ohinga also illustrates an outstanding example of undressed dry-stone construction typology characterized by a three-phase building technology using stones of irregular shapes in two phases joined together by a third middle phase.

**Criterion (v):** Thimlich Ohinga, as the best preserved example of Ohingni constitutes a representative and outstanding example of Ohingni, a distinctive form of pastoral settlement that persisted in the Lake Victoria Basin from the 16th to the mid-20th centuries.

### **Integrity**

The property includes the Ohingni with their stone walls and low entrances, the structural support features known as buttresses, low water/sludge drainage vents from the inner livestock enclosures (kraals), the three-phase wall design, the inner and outer enclosures, industrial site and house pits.

To ensure the full protection of the archaeological remains, the entire property area, including the suggested extension toward a yet private land in the south, will need to be considered in an integrated management approach. This also applies to the property's immediate setting, where visual integrity depends on the conservation of the surrounding vegetation to retain the traditional atmosphere of the jungle-protected settlement.

### **Authenticity**

Maintenance work of the structures was carried out over the centuries using traditional materials and techniques. Several subsequent periods of occupation and repair did not interfere with the design or workmanship of the structures. After their abandonment, the Ohingni became ruins. In the past decades, these ruins have now been largely restored, and selected walls have been added to demarcate the boundary between the archaeological site and the forest. This new work is not always easily distinguishable from the historic stone structures. Future conservation measures should be undertaken based on minimum intervention approaches and should continue to train younger apprentices in traditional maintenance techniques.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The property is protected by the National Museums and Heritage Act, Cap 216 of 2006 and is managed by the National Museums of Kenya. The legal protection is further strengthened by traditional rules and taboos maintained by community elders, which assist in the protection of the property and its surrounding flora and fauna. The archaeological potential of features located on the south side of the property requires the extension of the property boundary towards this direction, in line with the recommendation by the World Heritage Committee in its Decision 39 COM 8B.8. Likewise, the buffer zone, though adequately extended in southern direction needs to be further adjusted in all other directions.

A new management plan for the property has been adopted in 2017 and guides site management until 2027. The management authorities plan to develop controlled tourism while conserving cultural and environmental values. Plans are underway to develop a picnic site, a camping site and an eco-lodge as additional visitor infrastructure. While at a theoretical levels the aims of this emphasize sustainability, it will need to be observed in practice how the anticipated new infrastructure and significant visitor increase will affect the property. It will be essential that any tourism or infrastructure project in the boundaries or the wider setting of the property will be evaluated by a comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessment before permissions are granted.

The property serves as a meeting venue for the community and remains a location for community rituals, in particular in times of crisis. These as well as the community-based maintenance strategies need to be continued to retain the strong involvement and attachment of the local communities.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Expanding the property boundary at the south-eastern end of the property near the entrance of Koketch in line with Decision **39 COM 8B.8**,
  - b) Defining and legally approving the exact demarcation of the extended buffer zone,
  - c) Establishing a single database to compile documentation regarding archaeological excavation results, conservation activities and associated oral traditions,
  - d) Establishing a monitoring system based on further detailed, precise indicators, assessment methods and responsibilities and define how the monitoring exercise results can also feed into the above database,
  - e) Undertaking comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessments for any infrastructure developed in and around the property, before permissions for these are granted;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 December 2019** a report on the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

## ARAB STATES

### Decision: 42 COM 8B.15

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Ancient City of Qalhat, Oman**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii) and (iii)**;
3. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief Synthesis**

The Ancient City of Qalhat is located on the eastern coast of the Sultanate of Oman, approximately 20 kilometres north of the city of Sur. The property includes the entire Ancient City of Qalhat, demarcated by its inner and outer walls, which extends over 35 hectares, as well as areas outside the walls where the necropolises are situated.

The city was an important port on the sea of Oman along the East Arabian Coast, which allowed for trade in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean and hence functioned as a trade centre between India and through it East and South East Asia and the Arabian Peninsula. Qalhat flourished in the 11th to 15th century CE under the ruling of the Princes of Hormuz, who coordinated vital exports of horses, dates, incense and pearls. Following Portuguese attacks, the Ancient city of Qalhat was abandoned in the 16th century and has remained as an archaeological site. The remains and monuments on site comprehensively represent a port city of the Kingdom of Hormuz and reflect its legacy, architecture and urban design.

**Criterion (ii):** Qalhat exhibits the cultural and commercial interchange of values within the trading range of the Kingdom of Hormuz, which extended to India and as far as China and South East Asia. The archaeological site of Qalhat provides physical evidence of these interchanges, documenting the architectural features which indicate its own produce, dates, Arabian horses as well as spices and pearls but also integrating the multi-cultural features of a medieval cosmopolitan city, with houses influenced by the needs of their various owners

and inhabitants of foreign cultural origin. The Ancient city also includes a number of highly representative buildings which were references in narratives authored by historic travellers.

**Criterion (iii):** The Ancient city of Qalhat presents a unique testimony to the Kingdom of Hormuz, as it prospered from the 11th to 16th century CE. Ancient Qalhat presents exceptional evidence of a major trade hub, which came under the rule of the Princes of Hormuz and profited from its geo-political position in the region. It was a seasonal residence and refuge to the Princes of Hormuz, which has given it the title of a secondary capital of the larger kingdom. The urban plan and the excavated buildings of Qalhat show features and characteristics specific to the Kingdom of Hormuz and the archaeological remains are its most complete representation and provide further potential for a more detailed understanding of its ways of life and trade.

### **Integrity**

All key components of the historic city of Qalhat lie within the property boundaries, which include the entirety of the intra-muros city and the structures immediately outside the city wall. The remains of the walls and street fabric provide a representative testimony to the Kingdom of Hormuz, with the archaeological finds adding to our understanding of how it functioned.

The Ancient city of Qalhat is free of major threats, with the highway along the western side of the property being an unfortunate past intervention which has negatively affected the visual and atmospheric integrity of the property. It is important that future infrastructure and other developments in the vicinity of the property avoid further negative impacts to the larger landscape qualities of the site. In case of future increased visitor numbers as result of the new visitation concepts, Qalhat might face added risks of visitor pressure and behaviour.

### **Authenticity**

The Ancient city of Qalhat is an abandoned archaeological site. Its architectural and urban fabric and form remain authentic, almost untouched, as does its setting. The abandonment of the Ancient city of Qalhat plays a positive role in the conservation of its authenticity. The site has not been occupied since the 16th century and, therefore, it preserves all characteristics of organization, function and particular architectural techniques corresponding to the Islamic Period in general and the period of the Hormuz Kingdom in particular. Conservation, visitor management and site presentation plans aim at preserving this state to the largest extent possible.

Likewise, archaeological excavations have been well planned, thorough and minimal, an approach that should be commended and continued. Conservation works undertaken post-excavation will likewise be guided by minimum intervention approaches. The location of the Ancient City of Qalhat between the mountains, deep valleys and the sea is essential to its largely retained authenticity in setting. Authenticity in meaning is related both to the authenticated history of the site and to stories and myths associated with it, which will be respected within the overall management approach.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The Ancient City of Qalhat is designated as a national cultural heritage site of Oman and is therefore under the highest legal level of protection of national heritage according to Royal Decree No. 6/80. The same Royal Decree also assures the protection of a buffer zone around the heritage sites concerned. The legal protection is effectively implemented by means of fencing and human guards patrolling the archaeological site. Before the property was closed to the public for conservation, the section of the site around Bibi Maryam was protected by the residents of the neighbouring village which was disrupted when the site was closed and visitation was discontinued. This guardianship tradition will be re-activated as part of the future visitor concept.

The administrative organization responsible for the protection and management is the Ministry of Heritage and Culture. The Directorate General of Archaeology as a part of the



Ministry's Administrative structure looks after the day to day management of the site. A management plan was finalized and officially adopted in June 2018, which will guide the establishment of a strengthened management unit and system on site. In light of the possible risks by earthquakes or other natural disasters this management system should integrate risk preparedness and disaster management strategies.

The property is currently closed to visitors for the purpose of continued excavation and conservation measures and no visitor infrastructure exists. While a reopening and with it a need for visitor infrastructure is envisaged, concrete plans for visitor infrastructure and services are yet to be developed. In light of this, Heritage Impact Assessments should be undertaken before any visitor infrastructure is approved within or around the property to prevent potential negative impacts to the Outstanding Universal Value.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Strengthens the human resources capacity of the office responsible for the day to day management of the site,
  - b) Undertaking Heritage Impact Assessments according to ICOMOS' Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties for any site infrastructure.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.16**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Al-Ahsa Oasis, an Evolving Cultural Landscape, Saudi Arabia**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii), (iv) and (v)**;
3. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Al-Ahsa Oasis is located in the eastern part of the Arabian Peninsula, bordered on the North by Abqaiq province, on the east by the Persian Gulf, on the west by the desert of Ad-Dahna and on the south by the desert of Ar-Rub' Al-Khali (the Empty Quarter). Al-Ahsa is nominated as an "evolving cultural landscape" representing a landscape that evolved over millennia and continues to evolve, and presents as well a way of life in the Gulf region of the Arabian Peninsula.

This evolving landscape consists of gardens, canals, springs, wells, an agricultural drainage lake, as well as historic buildings. Consisting of twelve component parts forming the largest oasis in the world with more than 2.5 million palm trees. Urban fabric and archaeological sites that are seen to represent the evolution of an ancient cultural tradition and the traces of sedentary human occupation of the Gulf region of the Arabian Peninsula from the Neolithic Period up to the present. The landscape of Al-Ahsa in the past and now represents the different phases of the oasis's evolution and the interaction of natural and cultural heritage.

**Criterion (iii):** The continuity of the oasis agricultural tradition is represented by a permanent and evolving landscape with an agricultural organization based upon the distribution of the spring water through a network of open-air canals. The Oasis of Al-Ahsa cultural landscape materializes the vivacity and modernity of this specific land-use tradition and shows its continuing relevance at the local and regional scale.

**Criterion (iv):** This large cultural landscape is composed of different zones covering the oasis' gardens, mountains caves, villages, mosques and springs, but also archaeological sites and a small section of the historic center of Al-Hofuf with the main monuments embodying the political control over the area and its commercial role throughout the past centuries. The vestiges of the villages, fortresses, mosques, markets and houses, though often in a ruinous shape, preserve a complete catalogue of the architectural elements composing the urban settlement of al-Ahsa from the early Islamic period to the Saudi Kingdom.

**Criterion (v):** The oasis is an outstanding example of traditional human settlement developed in a desert environment exemplifying the intimate link between landscape, natural resources and the human efforts to settle the land. The rich water table close to the surface permitted the growth of a large oasis settlement. Water was originating from surface springs and drawn from wells reaching the shallow water table. Some of these springs and wells are still visible in the site, living memory of the traditional farming techniques.

### **Integrity**

The nominated property shows the sustainable evolution of the oasis and of its associated human settlements, where the physical and functional relations between the natural landscape, the water springs, the water canalization system, the villages, and the cities create a continuously evolving human-created oasis environment. Al-Ahsa Oasis, an Evolving Cultural Landscape remains today the largest agricultural area in the Arabian Peninsula, and a working and living environment that has developed in direct continuity with its origins and its past.

The components of the nominated property possess an evident topographical integrity presenting the ensemble of the elements that characterize and make an oasis possible: water springs, caves, mountains, flatlands, modern and historic canals and water lifting mechanisms, human settlements and natural drainage areas. The continuing use of the oasis as major agricultural zone where high-quality dates are produced and exported throughout the world, and the persistence of traditions and built elements from the past eras, are authentic in use preserving both the agricultural and the settlement/commercial integrity of the oasis functions.

Throughout the millennia, while constantly evolving, the integrity of relationships between the palm groves, the water sources and canals, the human settlements and the natural landscape has remained constant adapting to the needs of the human societies that developed in the area. Water distribution and water abduction modifications in the past 40 years have aimed to maintain the very agricultural function of the oasis.

The extraordinary integrity of this urban/natural landscape can still be fully appreciated when observing from an elevated point the "sea" of palm trees and gardens that extends in every direction almost endlessly. The sheer size of the property permits to ensure the complete representation of all tangible attributes of the cultural landscape and of the social processes conveying its Outstanding Universal Value. The oasis constituting elements are contained within the boundaries of the property and clearly manifest their significance and exceptionality. The unique scale of Al-Ahsa Oasis, the largest oasis in the world, is mirrored by the very size of the nominated property, while its historic depth, and the complexity of traditional oasis agricultural methods, are represented by the major archaeological zones included in the nominated property covering thousands of years of human settlement, and by the persistence of traditional oasis agricultural crops beside the dominant date palm, including the red rice variety typical of Al-Ahsa. The integrity of the property is reinforced by the continuity of human presence in the oasis villages and by the existence of both traditional historic souks (like al-Qaysariyah in Al-Hofuf) and modern markets for the exchange of the agricultural products of the oasis.

Landscape views and intangible attributes relating, for example, to food traditions, work songs and clothes contribute to expressing the property's OUV. All the integrity aspects

(composition, relationships and functionality of attributes) necessary to sustain the OUV are represented, and the serial site as a whole, with its components, allows the expression of the significance of the property to the highest degree.

### **Authenticity**

The oasis, in the past, was (and remains) a major source of agricultural crops, the most important of which is palm dates. The oasis of al-Ahsa, with its different and interconnected sectors, was even before the 1960s and the introduction of “mass production” industrial proportions. Palm dates are the main agricultural staple of Al-Ahsa oasis, local communities are involved in packaging and making use of modern technologies to assure the wide spread marketing and distribution of their product. As the State party is in favor of grassroots organic farmers, the Saudi Government then graciously donates the surplus of palm dates from Al-Ahsa to the World Food Program.

Strict Regulations for farms permit developments on the edges of roads and highways, as well as up to 15% of the agricultural parcel set in private farms for agricultural services or rural housing under the controls of the municipal building code. Moreover, a royal decree issued preventing the conversion of agricultural parcels into urban uses. In addition, development of the surrounding areas in Al-Asfar Lake is still under evaluation and has not been adopted nor developed.

### **Protection and management requirements**

Al-Ahsa Oasis is protected under the Saudi Law of Antiquities, Museums and Urban Heritage, Royal Decree No. 9/M (dated, 09/01/1436 AH corresponding to 01/11/2014). A revised law for Antiquities, Museums and Urban Heritage amended by the Royal Decree M/3 in 2015 based on the Saudi Antiquity Law issued by the Royal Decree No. 26/M. Amended in 1972.

The new Antiquity Law, introduced and details the concept of Urban Heritage protection, paving the way for effective protection of historic monuments and districts inside the Oasis.

The Agricultural parcels protected by the Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 119 dated in Jan 26, 2016.

After reviewing the petition received from Royal Court No. 39543 dated September 3, 2013 and the telegram from the Ministry of Interior No. 107682 dated July 24, 2013, and the minutes by the Ministerial Committee, formed by the royal decree No. 4627/M.B dated May 18, 2009, regarding the cessation of segmenting of agricultural parcels across all Saudi Regions.

4. Recommends that the State Party gives consideration to the following:
  - a) State Party is to consider that the monitoring regime, once in place, could be considered valid in a general sense, but could be improved by more precise periodicity,
  - b) The need for the management of the oasis to include a specific component of studying, understanding, monitoring and conserving the biodiversity of the oasis as an integral part of its heritage protection and sustainability.

### **Decision: 42 COM 8B.17**

The nomination of **Khor Dubai, a Traditional Merchant’s Harbour, United Arab Emirates**, has been withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

## ASIA-PACIFIC

### **Decision: 42 COM 8B.18**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Refers the nomination of the **Historic Monuments and Sites of Ancient Quanzhou (Zayton), China**, back to the State Party, taking note of the high potential to meet criteria (ii), (iii) and (vi), in order to:
  - a) Further refine and focus the justification for criteria (ii), (iii) and (vi),
  - b) Better describe the boundaries and buffer zones of each of the nominated property components in relation to their ability to enclose and protect the nominated serial property,
  - c) Strengthen the coordination of management between the components of the serial property,
  - d) Consider a stronger engagement of maritime and port organizations within the management system;
3. Recommends that the State Party consider further integrating the significance of the Minnan Culture, of which Quanzhou is considered to be the birthplace and centre, in the attributes that convey the values of the property;
4. Also recommends that the State Party continue its important support and contribution to the Thematic Study on Maritime Silk Routes, and further recommends that the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, give special attention towards the preparation of a comprehensive Thematic Study on the Maritime Silk Routes, and encourages the development of a transnational dialogue on this theme.

### **Decision: 42 COM 8B.19**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Victorian and Art Deco Ensemble of Mumbai, India**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii) and (iv)**;
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

Two waves of urban development of Mumbai in the 19th and 20th centuries transformed the city from a fortified trading outpost to the first city of India. The first expansion included the construction in the 1880s of a group of Victorian Gothic public buildings and the creation of the Oval Maidan.

The second expansion was the Backbay Reclamation Scheme in the early 20th century, which offered a new opportunity for Bombay to expand to the west with Art Deco residential, commercial and entertainment buildings and the creation of the Marine Drive sea front.

Today the Oval Maidan offers a spectacular ensemble of Victorian Gothic buildings on its eastern side, and another impressive ensemble of Art Deco buildings on its western side as a testimony to the modernization phases that Mumbai went through leading to a modern independent India in 1947.

**Criterion (ii):** Both the Victorian Gothic and the Art Deco ensembles exhibit an important exchange of European and Indian human values over a span of time. The Victorian assemblage of grand public buildings created an Indo-Gothic style by blending Gothic revival elements with Indian elements, with adaptations in response to the local climate by introducing balconies and verandas. Mumbai's Art Deco buildings of iconic cinema halls and apartment buildings blended Indian design with Art Deco imagery and created a unique style that became known as Indo-Deco. Its influence spread through the Indian sub-continent.

**Criterion (iv):** The Victorian Gothic and Art Deco ensembles reflect the developments in architecture and urban planning over two centuries. The two ensembles represent architectural styles, phases in the advancements of construction materials and techniques, urban planning philosophies, and historical phases which are distinctive and facing each other across the Oval Maidan. Both ensembles are the creation of the two major urban expansions of Bombay, which led to the development of the city to become the internationally important mercantile city of the twentieth century and up to the present.

### **Integrity**

The assemblage of Victorian Gothic and Art Deco buildings retains a high degree of integrity in visual, spatial and planning terms with the Rajabai Clock tower as the visual high point and the Oval Maidan, which is a unifying element and a centrepiece offering to view both the Victorian and the Art Deco groups of buildings. It retains its integrity as a planned urban development. The wider settings of the property are vulnerable to urban development pressures.

### **Authenticity**

The assemblage of Victorian Gothic and Art Deco buildings meets the conditions of authenticity in terms of architectural form, decorative motifs, design, scale and material. They also retain their original use. The Oval Maidan retains its authenticity as an urban open space and Marine Drive retains its setting as a sea-facing Art Deco development.

Even if individual buildings may have experienced modifications, their living nature, form and design are still authentic in general; in particular the use and function of each building remains almost unchanged in both the Victorian district and the Art Deco district.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The legal protection of the property and buffer zone is based on the statute of the Government of Maharashtra, most importantly by the Heritage Regulations for Greater Bombay 1995, Regulation No. 67 (DCR 67). Under this regulation, buildings of the property are listed as Grade I, IIA, IIB or III. The property and its buffer zone fall within the two heritage precincts: Fort Precinct and Marine Drive Precinct.

The property is managed according to Section 52 of the Greater Mumbai Development Plan by the Heritage Conservation Committee, which was created by DCR 67. The Site Management Plan identifies nine objectives and presents an action plan consisting of 13 actions, with an indication of the stakeholders or agencies involved for each action, and whether it is an ongoing, short-, medium- or long-term action. It should be strengthened to include an organizational chart, the legal provisions of the management of the property, an implementation mechanism for the management action plan and a management tourism strategy.

4. Recommends that the State Party gives consideration to the following:

- a) Complete the 2013 inventory to include necessary documentation at architectural level, including conservation state and conservation history for each building, which will be necessary for effective management of the property,
  - b) Ensure the protection of the property from development pressures, paying special attention to its wider settings and maintaining the visual dominance of the skyline by the Rajabai Clock tower,
  - c) Undertake urgent conservation of the grade IIA building, the former Watson's Hotel (known at present as Esplanade Mansions),
  - d) Ensure revitalization of the Art Deco Eros Cinema, which is in a fair state of conservation but no longer functions as a cinema,
  - e) Back the actions of the Heritage Conservation Committee by documentation of the relevant buildings, the proposals and the implemented interventions,
  - f) Extend the site management plan to include an organizational chart showing responsibilities and decision-making processes, the legal provisions of the management of the property, an implementation mechanism for the management action plan, including resources, staffing and training, and a management tourism strategy;
5. Decides that the name of the property be changed to: **Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai**.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.20**

The nomination of **Age of Trade: Old Town of Jakarta (formerly Old Batavia) and 4 Outlying Islands (Onrust, Kelor, Cipir and Bidadari), Indonesia**, has been withdrawn at the request of the State Party.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.21**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region, Islamic Republic of Iran**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii), (iii) and (v)**;
3. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value;

**Brief Synthesis**

This serial nomination proposes 8 selected archaeological site components in three geographical area contexts at Firuzabad, Bishapur and Sarvestan, all located in the southern Fars Province of Iran. These fortification structures, palaces, reliefs and city plans date back to the earliest and latest moments of the Sassanian Empire, which stretched across the region from 224 to 651 CE. The sites include the founder of the dynasty, Ardashir Papakan's military headquarters and first capital, a city and architectural structures of his successor, the ruler Shapur I, as well as a monument testifying to the transition from the Sassanid to the Islamic era constructed around the end of the dynasty in the 7th and 8th centuries.

**Criterion (ii):** The Sassanid archaeological landscape was influenced by the Achaemenid and Parthian cultural and ritual traditions, and their architectural and artistic approaches. It was also influenced by the cultural interchanges with the Roman art and architecture, contemporaneous with it. Subsequently, it had a significant impact on urban planning, architecture and artistic approaches in the Islamic era. The Achaemenid and Parthian cultural traditions affected the Sassanid archaeological landscape in the following ways: the continuance of the tradition of carving rock reliefs of the king and Ahura Mazda, developing cut-stone buildings, palaces with three porticos, and three-part façades with decoration. Likewise, some influences of Roman art and urban planning are visible in Bishapur. Yet another characteristic quality of the landscape is the continuance of some of the innovative architectural methods during the middle and late Sassanid periods, as well as into the Islamic era. General standards of using stone and gypsum construction materials, setting up eyvâns with barrel vaults, domed rooms, utilizing and enhancing squinches, and interior decoration of buildings were employed for the buildings, such as Sarvestan monument until the first centuries of the Islamic rule.

**Criterion (iii):** The Sassanid archaeological landscape bears exceptional testimony to creating and innovating architectural styles and techniques. These include investiture reliefs, religious and royal buildings, as well as the symbolic city of Ardashir Khurreh. Therefore, the Sassanid archaeological landscape provides evidence of cultural traditions in architectural and urban planning, the legitimization and hierarchy of power, and ritual ceremonies. Among these, the most important is the construction of religious chahar-taqs, literally “four arches”, which has a direct correlation with the expansion and stabilization of Zoroastrianism under the Sassanid rule. The religious value of this type of plan which reached its technical and architectural evolution in Bishapur continued during the Islamic era thanks to its usage in religious and holy buildings such as some mosques and tombs. Sassanids monuments and remains are indeed exceptional testimony to Sassanid culture and civilization that has disappeared. SALF illustrates the Zoroastrian monumental architecture from its very beginning at Firuzabad (Takht-e Neshin), its consolidation at Bishapur (Fire-temple formerly interpreted as Shapur’s Palace) and its development during the Early Islamic period at Sarvestan, which was built in a period before new Islamic regulations provoked the main decay of Zoroastrianism.

**Criterion (v):** The Sassanid archaeological landscape represents a perfect example of an efficient system of land use and utilization of natural topography as well as creation of a cultural landscape in the Sassanid civilization. Using indigenous construction materials and based on optimal exploitation of earth topography such as mountains, plains and rivers, a diverse set of urban structures, castles, buildings, bas-reliefs and other relevant monuments took shape within the landscape. Overall the Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region is an outstanding example of the traditional land-use of Fars region where water management plays a fundamental role, and in which the Sassanian foundation of inhabited settlements and monumental architectures integrates itself in the landscape with a strong imprint.

### **Integrity**

The monuments of the Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region, Islamic Republic of Iran, retain a high degree of integrity in visual and spatial terms. The distance of Sassanid archaeological sites, monuments and buildings from urban spaces as well as existence of natural expanses such as straits, rivers and plains around them has resulted in their visual integrity remaining intact. Based on archaeological researches and conservation activities done over a long span of time within the above mentioned region regarding its historical, natural and biological environment, all ancient towns, mounds,

remnants of monuments, reliefs, palaces, castles and other major Sassanid relics in Fars have largely been preserved.

### **Authenticity**

The long previous experience of ICHHTO in scientific conservation and restoration of monuments, reliefs and historical cities of the Sassanid landscape of Fars has resulted in the prevention of any intervention in the plan or any change in historical construction materials and/or any relocation and transformation in the setting and natural environment surrounding the monuments in accordance with pertinent legal regulations. Participation of traditional master workers familiar with the workmanship of Sassanid buildings has led to the preservation of authenticity thanks to the usage of traditional methods and production of indigenous construction materials.

### **Protection and management requirements**

At present the existence of Sassanid archaeological remnants, urban planning and historical architectural elements in their natural background has been the focal point of interdisciplinary researches and sciences. A brief review of the history of archaeological research, conservation and restoration in Iran shows that the Sassanid sites of Fars area were among the first investigated sites that went under conservation and restoration in Iran with collaboration of the international expeditions.

Due to the significance of preserving authenticity and integrity, all the necessary elements indicating the outstanding universal values have been included in the nominated property. Beside the conservation laws and regulations of ICHHTO, the nominated property is under legal and popular tools for their protection including deployment of the Unit for Conservation of Cultural Heritage whose members are regarded as bailiffs as well as local associations of the cultural heritage which are consisted of representatives of the local community and the public.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Refocus the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value to reflect the criteria for which the property has been inscribed on the World Heritage List,
  - b) Adjust the boundaries of the remaining components, aimed at combining the five serial components of Firuzabad and the two serial components of Bishapur into one site component boundary for each, encompassing the previously separated archaeological features and the topographic landscape features between them, which constitute essential attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value,
  - c) Finalize an integrated conservation and management plan for the property, including strategies on risk preparedness and disaster response,
  - d) As part of the overall conservation and management plan, prioritize immediate conservation activities at all serial components which are at risk of collapse or in a condition of serious deterioration;
5. Also recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Prioritizing the geophysical surveys envisaged for the site component of Ardashir Khurreh to restrict the permissibility of agricultural practices to areas which are ascertained to be free of archaeological remains,
  - b) Establishing a monitoring system based on assigned responsibilities and defined means of assessment and verification;
6. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2019** a report on the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.



## **Decision: 42 COM 8B.22**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Hidden Christian Sites in the Nagasaki Region, Japan**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of criterion (iii);
3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

### **Brief synthesis**

Located in the Nagasaki and Kumamoto prefectures in the northwestern part of Kyushu Island of the Japanese Archipelago, the 'Hidden Christian Sites in the Nagasaki Region' is a serial property comprising 12 components, made up of ten villages, one castle remains, and one cathedral dating from between the 17th and 19th centuries. They reflect the era of prohibition of the Christian faith, as well as the revitalization of Christian communities after the official lifting of the prohibition in 1873. Hidden Christians survived as communities that formed small villages sited along the seacoast or on remote islands to which Hidden Christians migrated during the ban on Christianity. Hidden Christians gave rise to a distinctive religious tradition that was seemingly vernacular yet which maintained the essence of Christianity, and they survived continuing their faith over the ensuing two centuries.

**Criterion (iii):** The Hidden Christian Sites in the Nagasaki Region bear unique testimony to a distinctive religious tradition nurtured by Hidden Christians who secretly transmitted their faith in Christianity during the time of prohibition spanning more than two centuries in Japan, from the 17th to the 19th century.

### **Integrity**

The 12 components not only include all of the elements necessary to express the Outstanding Universal Value of the property but are also of an adequate size and in a good state of conservation. Thorough and complete protection measures have been taken for each of the components in accordance with all relevant national laws and regulations – including the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties. Within the buffer zones of the property, appropriate protection is provided not only by the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties but also by the Landscape Act and other relevant laws and regulations. Therefore, the property does not suffer from any adverse effects of development or neglect, and it has been effectively conserved together with its surrounding landscape.

### **Authenticity**

Each component of the property maintains a high degree of authenticity based on the attributes selected according to its nature. The villages possess a high degree of authenticity based on their attributes of 'form and design', 'use and function', 'traditions, techniques and management systems', 'location and setting', and 'spirit and feeling'. The component, 'Remains of Hara Castle', has lost its authenticity related to 'use and function', as it is an archaeological site, but it retains a high degree of authenticity in regard to the other attributes. Oura Cathedral and the Egami Church in Egami Village on Naru Island possess a high degree of authenticity in terms of 'materials and substance' in addition to the other attributes as they are architectural works.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The property and its buffer zones are properly conserved under various laws and regulations including the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties. Furthermore, Nagasaki Prefecture, Kumamoto Prefecture and relevant municipalities have formulated a robust Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan from the perspective of

safeguarding the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as a whole. The framework for implementing this plan comprises a World Heritage Preservation and Utilisation Council which works in cooperation with the owners of the components and other stakeholders. The Council is operated for the appropriate protection, enhancement and utilisation of the property. The Council receives guidance from, and consults with, experts comprising an academic committee (the Nagasaki World Heritage Academic Committee), as well as the Agency for Cultural Affairs, which is the principal agency in charge of protection of Japan's cultural properties.

4. **Recommends** that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Recording and archiving the fabric of abandoned villages, churches and cemeteries (such as those on Hisaka and Nozaki Islands) within the property using photogrammetry, Lidar and/or other similar techniques,
  - b) Developing a communication strategy to inform local community groups and individual owners about the financial assistance which is available for conservation projects from local, prefectural and national government,
  - c) Undertaking a study on the 'carrying capacity' and management of potential tourism having particular regard to the physical and social circumstances constraints of each component,
  - d) Assessing new developments within the property in accordance with the ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties (2011).

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.23**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. **Having examined** Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. **Inscribes Sansa, Buddhist Mountain Monasteries in Korea, Republic of Korea**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii)**;
3. **Takes note** of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Sansa are Buddhist mountain monasteries located throughout the Korean Peninsula. Seven temples – Tongdosa, Buseoksa, Bongjeonsa, Beopjusa, Magoksa, Seonamsa and Daeheungsa – established in the 7th to 9th centuries represent these ancient and continuing centres of spiritual practice. The seven temples have historical associations with different schools of Buddhist thought and contain many individually notable historic structures, objects and documents, shrines and halls. The specific intangible and historical aspects of Korean Buddhism are based on the time-depth and continuity of the mountain monasteries, and the traditions of temple managements, education of monks, Seon meditative practices and doctrinal study. The spatial arrangement within the monasteries reflect these characteristics, as well as the requirements for the self-reliance of monastic communities. They commonly include one or more 'madang' (open yard), flanked on four sides by structures (Buddha Hall, pavilion, lecture hall and dormitory), and natural mountain settings. The mountain monasteries have survived to the present as living centres of faith and daily practice despite centuries of suppression during the Joseon Dynasty, and the impacts of Japanese invasion in the late 16th century.

**Criterion (iii):** Buddhism has a long history that has traversed a number of historical eras in the Korean Peninsula. The seven mountain monasteries – Tongdosa, Buseoksa, Bongjeongsa, Beopjusa, Magoksa, Seonamsa and Daeheungsa – offer a distinctively Korean instantiation of Buddhist monastic culture from the 7th century to the present day. These mountain monasteries are sacred places and provide an exceptional testimony to their long and continuing traditions of Buddhist spiritual practice.

### **Integrity**

Together the seven temples contain the elements necessary to express the Outstanding Universal Value of Korean Buddhist mountain monasteries, including their mountain settings, well-preserved buildings for religious practice and daily living, worship halls and shrines, meditation areas, monastic academy spaces and dormitories for monks. Few pressures threaten the components and they are intact, free of major losses and alterations during the modern period, and retain their original functions, despite changes through history.

### **Authenticity**

The authenticity of the serial property is based on the long and continuing uses of the components for Buddhist spiritual practices and rituals, and is based on their location and setting; traditions, techniques and management skills; and intangible heritage. The architectural elements have been carefully maintained according to principles of repair and restoration, using traditional construction techniques, although the function of some buildings have changed to support the operations of the temples. The religious traditions and functions of the Buddhist temples maintain a high degree of authenticity.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The seven temples are all being protected and managed as State or City/Province designated Cultural Heritage under the Cultural Heritage Protection Act;. Modern constructions to facilitate continuing use and developments around the temples are strictly controlled. Each of the seven components is also protected by the Korean Traditional Temples Preservation and Support Act.

Cultural Heritage Zones and Historical and Cultural Environment Protection Zones established by the Cultural Heritage Protection Act are in place for each of the components and their buffer zones. The Cultural Heritage Protection Act applies within areas of 500-metres of the outer boundary of each Cultural Heritage Zone. Heritage Impact Assessments are prepared within the provisions of the Cultural Heritage Protection Act. Each temple has various designated elements (including artworks, relics and architecture) at the national or provincial level.

The 'Conservation and Management Plan for Sansa, Buddhist Monasteries in Korea' is in place, and the management system and conservation strategy will be overseen by 'Sansa Conservation and Management', with representation from religious and government authorities. Staff are provided for administration, conservation management, monitoring, research and promotion, as well as the monks, temple management staff, cultural heritage management staff and cultural tourism guides.

Each temple is under the responsibility of a chief abbot. The Cultural Affairs Department of the Administrative Headquarters of the Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism is responsible for the management of cultural heritage, and the development and implementation of related projects. The Laity Association of each temple participates in volunteer work to support Buddhist practices, maintaining the temple landscapes and cleaning the temples. Visitor infrastructure is provided at each temple.

The Cultural Heritage Administration formulates comprehensive 5-year plans for the conservation and management of the temples in consultation with provincial governments. There is a Cultural Heritage Maintenance Plan for Buseoksa and Seonamsa temples, and plans for the remaining components will be established in 2018-2020.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Developing planning measure for the existing 'non-cultural heritage elements' within the temples, providing guidance about new construction, renovation and renewal, and specifying approval procedures,
  - b) Establishing Cultural Heritage Maintenance Plans for Tongdosa, Bongjeongsa, Beopjusa, Magoksa and Daeheungsa temples,
  - c) Developing measures to mitigate future visitor pressures (particularly in peak periods) in order to maintain an appropriate atmosphere within the temples,
  - d) Ensuring that all new construction projects within the temple complexes (including those mentioned in the evaluation report) that could impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the series are communicated to the World Heritage Centre in line with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

## EUROPE - NORTH AMERICA

### Decision: 42 COM 8B.24

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Recalling the reservations it has expressed concerning the inscription of sites related to negative memories,
3. Recognizes that the evaluation undertaken by ICOMOS may be considered effective until its 45th session in 2021;
4. Decides to adjourn consideration of the nomination of the **Funerary and Memorial sites of the First World War (Western Front), Belgium and France**, until a comprehensive reflection has taken place and the Committee at its 44th session has discussed and decided whether and how sites associated with recent conflicts and other negative and divisive memories might relate to the purpose and scope of the *World Heritage Convention* and its *Operational Guidelines*;
5. Encourages States Parties to provide support to the undertaking of the comprehensive reflection, including through contributions or hosting an expert meeting;
6. Notes that the nomination of the **Funerary and Memorial sites of the First World War (Western Front), Belgium and France**, could only be considered by the Committee upon further review by the Advisory Bodies in light of Committee decision referred to above and upon receipt of additional information to be provided by the States Parties concerned.

### Decision: 42 COM 8B.25

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,

2. Refers the nomination of the **Colonies of Benevolence, Belgium and Netherlands**, back to the States Parties, in order to:
  - a) Adapt the nomination by focusing on the well-preserved cultural landscapes of the free and unfree Colonies, both understood to reflect the ideals relating to a single utopian model of poverty reduction that guided their foundation and evolution,
  - b) Ensure that the nominated free and unfree Colonies reflect the scope and careful planning of the agricultural settlements and their ordered buildings and how these were integrated as a whole and offered an approach to the idea of improvement of individual over 150 years,
  - c) Adapt the Management Plan so that it aims to evoke, through adequate protection and through careful management and presentation, both the positive and the negative approaches of these colonies, their overall organisation, and the lives of their inhabitants;
3. Recommends the States Parties to consider inviting an ICOMOS advisory mission to the component sites, if needed;
4. Also recommends that the States Parties give consideration to the following:
  - a) Provide a better rationale for the delineation of buffer zones,
  - b) Provide detailed information on how the whole landscape of the colonies is protected,
  - c) Complete the monitoring system to include indicators related to the attributes of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.26**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Defers the examination of the nomination of **Žatec – the Town of Hops, Czechia**, 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 deepen the research on the theme of hop growing and processing, as well as on the proposed property and its wider setting to bring into focus areas of potential significance and areas where traditional hop farming and processing and its impacts on the landscape can be identified and, if a robust case can be made, then reconsider the scope of the nomination;
3. Considers that any revised nomination would need to be considered by an expert mission to the site.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.27**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes **Aasivissuit – Nipisat. Inuit Hunting Ground between Ice and Sea, Denmark**, on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape on the basis of **criterion (v)**;

3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Climate and topography in West Greenland along a vast west-to-east transect from the ocean and fjords to the ice sheet contains evidence of 4200 years of human history. Fisher-hunter-gatherer cultures have created an organically evolved and continuing cultural landscape based on hunting of land and sea animals, seasonal migrations and settlement patterns, and a rich and well-preserved material and intangible cultural heritage. Large communal winter houses and evidence of communal hunting of caribou via hides and drive systems are distinctive characteristics, along with archaeological sites from the Saqqaq (2500-700 BC), Dorset (800 BC-1 AD), Thule Inuit (from the 13th century) and colonial periods (from the 18th century). The cultural landscape is presented through the histories and landscapes of seven key localities from Nipisat in the west, to Aasivissuit, near the ice cap, in the east. The attributes of the property include buildings, structures, archaeological sites and artefacts associated with the history of the human occupation of the landscape; the landforms and ecosystems of the ice cap, fjords, lakes; natural resources, such as caribou, and other plant and animal species that support the hunting and fishing cultural practices; and the Inuit intangible cultural heritage and traditional knowledge of the environment, weather, navigation, shelter, foods and medicines.

**Criterion (v):** Aasivissuit-Nipisat and the transect of environments it contains demonstrates the resilience of the human cultures of this region and their traditions of seasonal migration. The abundant evidence of culture-nature interactions over several millennia, intact and dynamic natural landscape, intangible cultural heritage and continuing hunting and seasonal movements by Inuit people and other attributes combine in this distinctive cultural landscape. This is demonstrated through the continuing uses of the west/east routes, the rich archaeological record of Palaeo-Inuit and Inuit cultures, and the camps and hunting elements that enabled hunting-fishing-gathering peoples to live in the Arctic region.

**Integrity**

The integrity of the cultural landscape is based on the inclusion of areas of ocean, fjords, islands, inland and ice cap that can demonstrate the historical and present-day migrations and seasonal patterns of hunting and fishing. The property contains a sufficient sequence of environments, archaeological sites and settlements to demonstrate the cultural histories and significant intangible cultural heritage of this part of Greenland, including the settlements and the seasonal hunting, fishing and gathering activities of the present-day communities. Seven key localities have been specifically described, although attributes of Outstanding Universal Value occur throughout the property, and are potentially vulnerable due to pressures from climate change.

**Authenticity**

The authenticity of the cultural landscape is based on the inclusion of a complete landscape and seascape, the interdependence of the fishing-hunting-gathering lifeways with the natural processes and resources, and the tangible evidence of the hunting and settlement practices and patterns for 4200 years. The transect of environments from the sea, fjords, interior and the ice cap has been used by each phase of human culture for fishing and hunting of marine animals and caribou, according to seasonal movements. Archaeological sites and artefacts demonstrating a good state of preservation, and the ruins of historical structures bear witness to the history and traditions of land and sea uses in the Arctic. The continuity of some of the seasonal hunting and migration practices, and the associated Inuit intangible cultural heritage and traditional knowledge contribute to the authenticity of the cultural landscape.

**Protection and management requirements**

The government of Greenland is responsible for decisions about land and sea use, and protection of the cultural landscape is subject to an Executive Order of the Government of Greenland (Naalakkersuisut) which came into force on 1 February 2018. This provides the

basis of the legal protection for the property, including the formal establishment of the boundary, and provisions for access, protection, management, monitoring and uses. The regulations to the Executive Order and the Mineral Resources Act prevent the granting of licenses for mining prospecting or exploration. Further legal protection of the cultural landscape is provided by Greenland's Heritage Protection Act, Museum Act, and the Planning Act. The Greenland National Museum and Archives is responsible for decisions within the Heritage Protection Act. The Municipal Plan for the Qeqqata Municipality covers relevant planning regulations for the property, such as for local tourism, infrastructures, zoning for wilderness, summer houses, recreation and trophy hunting and matters concerning the settlement at Sarfannguit.

Protection of the landscape and natural attributes is provided by the Act on Environmental Protection and the Ramsar Executive Order (2016). There are regulations for catch quotas for fish, sea mammals and inland hunting species (such as caribou). There is a need to integrate the Ramsar criteria for the Eqaalummiut Nunaat and Nassuttuup Nunaa area into the overall management plan for the property.

Because there is no buffer zone for this property, there are continuing needs to strengthen mechanisms for assessment and protection of the property from off-site activities, including the potential hydrological and geological impacts of future mining proposals, transportation infrastructure and wind turbine installations. Greater attention and detailed planning is needed for the area's future tourism management, including monitoring of the social and physical impacts of tourism.

The Management Plan (January 2017) provides a sound framework for decision-making, together with the operation of the 10-member World Heritage Steering Committee. The Management Plan outlines responsibilities of the Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces, the Government of Greenland, and the Qeqqata Municipality. The availability of the resources for implementation of the management system should be confirmed, including the timeline, expertise and financial resources to engage appropriately skilled site manager and rangers, and to develop the tourism and interpretation plans. Continuing documentation of cultural practices and intangible culture heritage, and regular and cyclical monitoring and maintenance are needed as a priority.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Establishing the proposed Park Ranger service and ensure that sufficient annual funding is available to fully implement the management system,
  - b) Minimising the impacts of the new ATV track on the property, and ensuring as far as practicable the separation between the new ATV track and the Arctic Circle Trail,
  - c) Further developing and implementing the monitoring system with an explicit focus on the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value, including introduction of regular, proactive and cyclical monitoring and maintenance; and indicators and processes to monitor the social and physical impacts of tourism,
  - d) Developing policies that clarify the conservation aims for the decaying buildings and other features from the historic period at Saqqarliit into the management system, and conclude the processes of the designation of historic buildings in Sarfannguit,
  - e) Continuing to actively engage with the cruise ship tourism sector regarding future plans as part of the tourism strategies for the property,
  - f) Working with the Qeqqata Municipality and local communities to enhance the benefits for Inuit people arising from World Heritage inscription, including capacity building programs for local people to take a strong role in future tourism and interpretation initiatives,

- g) Ensuring that all major projects (including any planned future wind energy installations located outside the property boundary) that could impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are communicated to the World Heritage Centre in line with paragraph 172 of *Operational Guidelines*.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.28**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Defers the examination of the nomination of the **Historic Urban Ensemble of Nîmes, France**, 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 develop a thorough comparative analysis on the Roman buildings of the city of Nîmes to bring into focus whether potential significance can be identified and, if a robust case can be made, reconsider the scope of the nomination on this basis;
3. Considers that any revised nomination would need to be considered by an expert mission to the site;
4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Reconsidering the location of the Palais des Congrès and implementing a Heritage Impact Assessment before any development project into the historic core of the city,
  - b) Giving pre-eminence to archaeological considerations in any new development proposal. The approval process should be rearranged for projects that will impact potential archaeological remains, archaeological investigations should be executed early in the planning process so that their findings can inform any decision to approve a development,
  - c) Undertaking an active conservation programme to improve the condition and setting of the Porte d'Auguste and the Porte de France while reducing the factors that can affect them negatively, especially vehicular traffic,
  - d) Preparing a tourism management plan to actively manage tourism and address the potential deleterious effects of tourism upon the proposed property,
  - e) Improving the monitoring program in order to focus on preservation of the built heritage.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.29**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Archaeological Border Landscape of Hedeby and the Danevirke, Germany**, 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 trading centre of Hedeby and the defensive system of the Danevirke consist of a spatially linked complex of earthworks, walls and ditches, a settlement, cemeteries and a harbour located on the Schleswig Isthmus of the Jutland Peninsula during the 1st and early 2nd millennia CE. This singular geographic situation created a strategic link between Scandinavia, the European mainland, the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. A Baltic Sea inlet, rivers and extensive boggy lowlands constricted the north-south passage to the peninsula while, at the same time, providing the shortest and safest route between the seas across a narrow land bridge.

Because of its unique situation in the borderland between the Frankish Empire in the South and the Danish kingdom in the North, Hedeby became the essential trading hub between continental Europe and Scandinavia as well as between the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. For more than three centuries – throughout the entire Viking era – Hedeby was among the largest and most important among the emporia – the new trading towns that developed in Western and Northern Europe. In the 10th century, Hedeby became embedded in the defensive earthworks of the Danevirke which controlled the borderland and the portage.

The importance of the border and portage situation is showcased by large quantities of imports from distant places among the rich assemblages in Hedeby. The archaeological evidence, including large amounts of organic finds, provides an outstanding insight into the expansion of trading networks and cross-cultural exchange as well as into the development of northern European towns and the Scandinavian elites from the 8th to 11th centuries.

Attributes of the property include the archaeological remains of Hedeby including traces of roads, structures and cemeteries. In the harbour adjacent to the town are the archaeological deposits related to jetties that extended over the water and four known shipwrecks. Hedeby is surrounded by a semi-circular rampart and overlooked by a hill fort. Three runestones have been found nearby. Attributes related to the Danevirke include sections of the Crooked Wall, the Main Wall, the North Wall, the Connection Wall, the Kovirke, the offshore works, and the East Wall with either above ground vestiges or archaeological remains below the ground or underwater.

**Criterion (iii):** Hedeby in conjunction with the Danevirke were at the centre of the networks of mainly maritime trade and exchange between Western and Northern Europe as well as at the core of the borderland between the Danish kingdom and the Frankish empire over several centuries. They bear outstanding witness to exchange and trade between people of various cultural traditions in Europe in the 8th to 11th centuries. Because of their rich and extremely well preserved archaeological material they have become key scientific sites for the interpretation of a broad variety of economic, social and historic developments in Viking Age Europe.

**Criterion (iv):** Hedeby facilitated exchange between trading networks spanning the European continent, and – in conjunction with the Danevirke – controlled trading routes, the economy and the territory at the crossroads between the emerging Danish kingdom and the kingdoms and peoples of mainland Europe. The archaeological evidence highlights the significance of Hedeby and the Danevirke as an example of an urban trading centre connected with a large-scale defensive system in a borderland at the core of major trading routes over sea and land from the 8th to 11th centuries.

## **Integrity**

Hedeby and the Danevirke encompass archaeological sites and structures of the 6th to 12th centuries which represent a trading town and an associated defensive wall complex. The area includes all elements that represent the values of the property – the monuments and ramparts, locations of significance, and all the archaeological remains that embody the long history of the Hedeby-Danevirke complex. The components representing the Danevirke reflect the stages of construction and the evolution of the defensive works, as sections were reconstructed and new portions of walls were built. The buffer zone is a protective and

managerial entity that preserves important viewsheds and ensures that the core elements of the area will be maintained for the future.

### **Authenticity**

The conditions of authenticity of the property regarding the form, design, materials and substance of the monuments has been met. Hedeby has not been inhabited or otherwise built upon since it was abandoned, ensuring the authenticity of its archaeological deposits. Some 95% of the town remains unexcavated and the other 5% has been studied using established archaeological methods and analyses. The Danevirke has also been thoroughly documented and has only seen rebuilding at the 19th century bastions, the remains of which are clearly distinguishable from the older sections of the wall.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The property, its buffer zone and its wider setting are protected by the legal systems in place (e.g. listed monuments, nature protection areas, landscape protection areas). In addition, the majority of sites are owned by public bodies. The values of the sites are also considered and respected in public planning processes. The various protection and planning mechanisms and acts which apply directly to the landscape are sufficient to guarantee the protection and preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. Funding for the site management of the property is provided by the Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein and other public owners.

A site management plan was implemented in 2014. All the important stakeholders have committed to the aim of protecting, preserving, monitoring and promoting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. The values, attributes, integrity and authenticity of the property are safeguarded and managed within the plan. In the long run, the core management issues are to increase awareness of the value of Hedeby and the Danevirke as an archaeological landscape and to retain that value by all important stakeholders participating in its management. The management plan aims at further integrating Hedeby and the Danevirke into their cultural, social, ecological and economic settings and to increase their social value to promote sustainable development in the region. Future threats to the landscape, such as wind turbines, land use, housing developments and visitor impact, as well as natural agents such as plants and animal activities, need to be tackled collaboratively. Some specific threats such as damage to Valdemar's Wall due to exposure or damage require monitoring and mitigation at regular intervals.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Keeping the World Heritage Centre informed of the result of the appeal of the refusal of permission to build houses near the Danevirke,
  - b) Continuing current management efforts to discourage urban development in the buffer zone, reduce the effect of agricultural practices upon the property, and to mitigate the effects of proposed wind turbines in the wider area,
  - c) Completing the planned conservation work at Valdemar's Wall and undertaking follow up monitoring and mitigation at regular intervals to reduce the future effects of frost damage and vegetation growth,
  - d) Closely monitoring tourism levels and potential impacts;
5. Decides that the name of the property be changed to: **Archaeological Border complex of Hedeby and the Danevirke.**

## **Decision: 42 COM 8B.30**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes **Ivrea, industrial city of the 20th century, Italy**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (iv)**;
3. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

### **Brief synthesis**

Founded in 1908 by Camillo Olivetti, the Industrial City of Ivrea is an industrial and socio-cultural project of the 20th century. The Olivetti Company manufactured typewriters, mechanical calculators and desktop computers. Ivrea represents a model of the modern industrial city and a response to the challenges posed by rapid industrial change. It is therefore able to exhibit a response and a contribution to 20th century theories of urbanism and industrialisation. Ivrea's urban form and buildings were designed by some of the best-known Italian architects and town-planners of the period from the 1930s to the 1960s, under the direction of Adriano Olivetti. The city is comprised of buildings for manufacturing, administration, social services and residential uses, reflecting the ideas of the Movimento Comunità (Community Movement) which was founded in Ivrea in 1947 based on Adriano Olivetti's 1945 book *l'Ordine politico delle Comunità* (The Political Order of Communities). The industrial city of Ivrea therefore represents a significant example of 20th century theories of urban development and architecture in response to industrial and social transformations, including the transition from mechanical to digital industries.

**Criterion (iv):** The industrial city of Ivrea is an ensemble of outstanding architectural quality that represents the work of Italian modernist designers and architects and demonstrates an exceptional example of 20th century developments in the design of production, taking into account changing industrial and social needs. Ivrea represents one of the first and highest expressions of a modern vision in relation to production, architectural design and social aspects at a global scale in relation to the history of industrial construction, and the transition from mechanical to digitalised industrial technologies.

The attributes of the property are: the spatial plan of the industrial city, the public buildings and spaces, and residential buildings developed by Olivetti (including their extant interior elements). The influences of the Community Movement on the provision of buildings for residential and social purposes is an important intangible element, although the functions of most non-residential buildings have ceased.

### **Integrity**

The integrity of this urban area is based on the inclusion of the buildings, spaces and urban form required to convey the significance of Ivrea's 20th century development. The state of conservation of the city's components is variable. Many of the residential buildings exhibit a good/adequate state of conservation. However, the integrity of the property is considered to be vulnerable due many factors and pressures including the encroachment of new urban developments, the deteriorating condition of some key industrial buildings and building interiors, the existence of some visually intrusive new constructions inside the property boundary and its buffer zone, and loss of the original activities and purposes due to the decline in manufacturing. The high number of vacant buildings and the need to find new uses also contribute to Ivrea's vulnerable integrity.

### **Authenticity**

The authenticity of Ivrea is based on the high number and quality of urban and architectural projects that date to the primary period of Ivrea's development as an industrial city. A detailed analysis of the individual components in terms of their form, design and materials,

and their location and immediate environment has been undertaken, and many elements have maintained their original characteristics in spite of the changes to production that affected the city during the last two decades. While many residential, administrative and services buildings are intact, other have been renovated; and a large number of the buildings are currently vacant, with an uncertain future. There is a risk of gradual loss of the authenticity of the property due to large-scale refurbishment proposals, decay of the exterior finishing of the facades and deterioration of the interior decoration and detailing. Efforts have been made to develop new uses that are similar in type to their original uses (such as telecommunications, production or cultural activities).

### **Protection and management requirements**

Ivrea is protected according to legislative regimes at the national, regional and local levels. These include the national Cultural Heritage and Landscape Code (revised in 2004); the Regional Landscape and Cultural Heritage Code and the Regional Landscape Plan (2015); and the Ivrea Land Use Plan (2006). National protection for Ivrea is in place only for some buildings, and is still to be completed. The system of legal protection is complex and multi-tiered, with a heavy reliance on the commitment, resources and expertise of both national and municipal authorities. Improved streamlining and coordination between the local, regional and national institutions is needed. The protection of the visual integrity of the property and its buffer zone will be strengthened by the adoption by Ivrea Council of the regulation of the regional landscape plan, integrating the guidelines and prescriptions directly relating to the protection, safeguard and enhancement of the property into the municipal regulations by October 2019. The municipal technical service department directly responds to proposed projects and grants authorisations, taking account of national, regional and local designations for buildings and landscape (for the buffer zone).

Challenges to the long-term conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of Ivrea arise in relation to the resourcing of conservation and the need for new uses throughout the city's elements. 44% of the former industrial and corporate buildings of the property are vacant or underused, and there are short-term needs for maintenance strategies. Engagement with residents and other users is an ongoing priority. Currently visitor levels are low, and there are plans to increase tourism capacity.

The Management Plan was updated in September 2017, and outlines a number of short and longer-term Action Plans for protection, conservation and documentation; capacity building; communication and education; and presentation. The management system includes a Steering Committee chaired by the Mayor; Technical Advisory Boards appointed by the Steering Committee; and the Site Coordinator. The General Secretary of the Municipality of Ivrea is the operating representative who coordinates all the municipal departments involved in the delivery of the actions in the management plan. The Municipality of Banchette has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to implement the Management Plan in relation to the small area occurring within its boundaries.

4. Requests the State Party to:
  - a) Finalise the adoption by Ivrea Council of the regulation of the regional landscape plan, integrating the guidelines and prescriptions directly relating to the protection, safeguarding and enhancement of the property into the municipal regulations by December 2019,
  - b) Ensure effective coordination between national, regional and local levels of protection,
  - c) Revise the property boundary to exclude the site of the recent housing project facing the 'Red Brick building' (Fabbrica di Mattoni Rossi), and include it in the buffer zone,
  - d) Provide a strategic conservation plan for the property, including the planned conservation outcomes for each building, strategies for new uses of vacant buildings, and resources for maintenance and send it by December 2019;

5. **Recommends** that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Fully implementing and clearly setting out the monitoring system (including the frequency of measurement of indicators) in order to monitor the state of conservation of the attributes, and the mitigation of identified pressures,
  - b) Ensuring that all new construction projects (including adaptive reuse) that could impact the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are the subject of Heritage Impact Assessment and are communicated to the World Heritage Centre in line with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.31**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. **Having examined** Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B, WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1 and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B4,
2. **Refers** the nomination of **Le Colline del Prosecco di Conegliano e Valdobbiadene, Italy**, back to the State Party, taking note of a potential of the proposed property to meet criteria (iv) and (v) to:
  - a) Redefine the nomination refocusing the potential Outstanding Universal Value on criteria (iv) and (v),
  - b) Redefine the boundaries and buffer zones of the nominated property,
  - c) Completing the adoption process by the 28 concerned municipalities of the tool “Technical rule – Articolo Unico”, which was already approved by the Veneto Region in January 2018;
3. **Takes note** that the general state of conservation of the site is adequate and that the adopted measures of conservation are generally effective, its monitoring and management systems are well-conceived and structured, and the funding commitments by the relevant local authorities are to be saluted;
4. **Commends** the State Party for the structured governance process to ensure cooperation among all public and private actors involved in the site management as well as for the commitment expressed by the territorial authorities to increase cooperation for the valorization, protection and preservation of the nominated property;
5. **Recommends** the State Party, in dialogue with ICOMOS, to implement the above-mentioned recommendations.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.32**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. **Having examined** Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. **Taking note** of the Advisory Body’s evaluation whereby the nominated property justifies Outstanding Universal Value on the basis of criteria (ii) and (iv), and meets the conditions of integrity and authenticity;

3. Acknowledges the official request for referral made by the submitting State Party due to ongoing international arbitration;
4. In compliance with paragraph 159 of the *Operational Guidelines*, refers the nomination of **Roşia Montană Mining Landscape, Romania**, back to the State Party, due to the ongoing international arbitration, and to implement the measures required to ensure the protection and management of the potential OUV of the property as identified by ICOMOS and encourages the State Party to work in close cooperation with the Advisory Bodies to this end.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.33**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes the **Caliphate City of Medina Azahara, Spain**, 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 Caliphate City of Medina Azahara is an archaeological site of a newly-founded city built in the mid-10th century CE by the western Umayyad dynasty as the seat of the Caliphate of Cordoba. The city was destroyed shortly afterwards, and from that time remained hidden until its rediscovery in the early 20th century CE.

The site is a complete urban complex including infrastructure, buildings, decoration and objects of daily use, and provides in-depth knowledge about the material culture of the Islamic civilization of Al-Andalus at the zenith of its splendour but which has now disappeared. In addition, the landscape features which influenced the city's location are conserved.

The hidden character of the site over a long period has contributed to its preservation and it has not been rebuilt or altered in that time. The rediscovery has led to excavation, protection and conservation which has continued for a century, promoted by public institutions.

**Criterion (iii):** The abandoned Caliphate City of Medina Azahara, being a new city planned and built as a state initiative, attests in an exceptional way to the Umayyad cultural and architectural civilization, and more generally to the development of the western Islamic civilization of Al-Andalus.

**Criterion (iv):** The Caliphate City of Medina Azahara is an outstanding example of urban planning combining architectural and landscape approaches, the technology of urban infrastructure, architecture, decoration and landscape adaptation, illustrating the significant period of the 10th century CE when the Umayyad caliphate of Cordoba was proclaimed in the Islamic West.

**Integrity**

The site includes the entire Caliphate city, and its buffer zone preserves the context of the city in its natural environment, as well as the remains of the main infrastructure of roads and canals that radiated from it. The quarries where the building material for the city was extracted and the major country villas (munya) have also survived in the buffer zone.

Because the city remained hidden from the time of its destruction in the early 11th century CE to its rediscovery in the early 20th century CE, and since the area was used for grazing

livestock, the remains are very well preserved. Only 10% of the site has been excavated and the remainder offers an exceptional opportunity for future research. As for the excavated part of the Qasr or fortified palace, continued excavation and conservation work has brought to light a set of well conserved buildings whose original walls reach a height of several meters.

### **Authenticity**

The site meets the conditions of authenticity in relation to materials, design and location. As regards the authenticity of the materials, as noted most of the site has remained unchanged and hidden below ground. As for the excavated areas, the work of consolidation, made necessary by the fragility of the materials, has been progressing under the philosophy of minimal intervention, in order to ensure the stability of structures, protect them against the elements and conserve the information produced during the excavation process.

This policy of minimal intervention has ensured that any new additions clearly differ from, but also blend in with, the original. Identifying the original position of the different materials used in building the city has made this work possible.

The authenticity of the site is also guaranteed by the conservation of its natural environment, where little has changed since the destruction of the city, except for a few small recent alterations. In addition, the descriptions of the buildings in a wide range of historical sources, the epigraphic evidence and the quality of research work carried out for over a century reinforce the authenticity of the site.

### **Protection and management requirements**

The Caliphate City of Medina Azahara and its buffer zone have been protected almost continuously by the Administration since 1911, and the site has had its own management body since 1985. Accordingly, the site has a general framework of protection and management that guarantees the future maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value.

Protection is assisted by the site being mostly in public ownership. The legal protection of Medina Azahara and its surroundings is also at the maximum level afforded by the Law of Spanish Historical Heritage, as a Property of Cultural Interest, under the category Archaeological Site.

The Special Plan for the Protection of Medina Azahara was approved in 1998, providing an urban planning law that regulated the boundaries of the protected area and established possible land uses for each defined category.

Various government and legal departments ensure strict compliance with this law, and thus avoid any potential threats.

The institutional framework for management is provided, since 1985, by a specific institution that manages the property and the buffer zone: the Archaeological Ensemble of Medina Azahara (CAMA). This institution has an organizational structure including areas of Administration, Conservation and Research/Publicity.

There are two planning instruments which have been developed and implemented to different degrees (the programmes of the Special Protection Plan and the Master Plan), which provide a solid basis for strategic guidelines to guarantee that Medina Azahara continues to be protected and appreciated.

The expected long-term results for management are to consolidate and increase human and budgetary resources for management, consolidating the public institution with its technical expertise as the main instrument for managing the site, providing it with greater functional autonomy and encouraging greater participation and coordination with other agencies and interested parties.

Another essential aim to ensure the preservation of the site is to update and have approved the Operational Plan for Medina Azahara.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Securing the appropriate and timely funding for the property,
  - b) Clarifying the timeframe for the implementation of the mitigation of the edges of the illegal settlements with hard and soft landscaping,
  - c) Carrying out special monitoring on the portion of Las Pitas beyond the Guadalquivir River Canal, where urban plots are still empty, with a view to avoiding development or at least ensuring development has minimal impact,
  - d) Improving the monitoring by developing indicators which directly measure the state of conservation,
  - e) Elaborating in detail the evidence of the evolution of conservation doctrine and criteria in the baseline documentation about the site,
  - f) Updating and approving the Operational Plan for Medina Azahara in order to ensure the preservation of the property.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.34**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Inscribes **Göbekli Tepe, Turkey**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (i), (ii) and (iv)**;
3. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Göbekli Tepe is located in Upper Mesopotamia, a region which saw the emergence of the most ancient farming communities in the world. Monumental structures, interpreted as enclosures, were erected by groups of hunter-gatherers in the Pre-Pottery Neolithic period (10th-9th millennia BC). The monuments were probably used in connection with public rituals, probably of a funerary nature. Distinctive T-shaped pillars are carved with a rich array of images, mainly of wild animals. Recent excavations works have also enabled the identification of a nearby built structure of lesser architectural complexity of what might be termed domestic structures.

**Criterion (i):** The communities that built the monumental megalithic structures of Göbekli Tepe lived at the time of one of the most momentous transitions in human history, from the way of life of hunter-gatherer subsistence to that of the first farmers. These architectural feats bear witness to the creative human genius of Pre-Pottery Neolithic societies.

**Criterion (ii):** Göbekli Tepe is one of the first manifestations of human-made the monumental architecture of humankind, and its building techniques (semi-subterranean architecture with pillars) and its imagery were disseminated and replicated at other sites in the Middle East from the earliest Neolithic periods, Pre-Pottery Neolithic A and Pre-Pottery Neolithic B, onwards.

**Criterion (iv):** Göbekli Tepe is an outstanding example of a monumental ensemble of monumental megalithic structures illustrating a significant period of human history. The monolithic T-shaped pillars were carved from the adjacent limestone plateau and attest to new levels of architectural and engineering technology. They are believed to bear witness to the presence of specialised craftsmen, and possibly the emergence of more hierarchical forms of human society.



## **Integrity**

Göbekli Tepe contains all the elements necessary for the expression of its Outstanding Universal Value and is of adequate size to ensure the complete presentation of the features and processes which convey its significance.

The property and its wider setting is protected by a strict regime of maintenance and control, derived from extensive statutory protection and state ownership. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism, through the Şanlıurfa Museum and German Archaeological Institute, has in place an effective system of monitoring all the assets and their condition which includes an ongoing maintenance programme.

The physical fabric of the property is in good condition and the processes of deterioration are monitored and carefully controlled.

## **Authenticity**

The megalithic structures have largely retained the original form and design of their architectural elements, together with numerous decorative elements and craft works that provide an insight into the way of life of the societies that occupied the site. The results of more than twenty years of research and archaeological excavations on the site testify to its authenticity. Excavations and research under way since the mid-1990s also provide a more balanced and detailed view of the relationship between the various aspects of usage and the prehistoric importance of the property.

## **Protection and management requirements**

Göbekli Tepe is legally protected by Law 2863/1983 on the Protection of the Cultural and Natural Properties, amended in 1987 and 2004. In 2005, the tell and the limestone plateau were inscribed as a 1st Degree Conservation Area by the decision of the Diyarbakır Council for Conservation of Cultural and Natural Properties. In 2016, the buffer zone was registered as a 3rd Degree Conservation Area, by the decision of the Şanlıurfa Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties.

The institutional framework for the implementation of the protection measures consists at national level of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, at regional level of the Şanlıurfa Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties, and at local level of Şanlıurfa Museum. Since 2014 the Ministry of Culture and Tourism has granted an excavation permit to Şanlıurfa Museum in collaboration with the German Archaeological Institute (DAI).

The management plan was drawn up in 2014, revised in 2016 and finalised in 2017. Because of the property's status as an archaeological site and its recent transformation into a heritage site, the Director of Şanlıurfa Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties has been appointed as the manager of the property. An Advisory Board, set up in 2016, examines the management plan and submits proposals for decision-making and the implementation of the plan. A Coordination and Audit Board, also set up in 2016, examines and approves the draft master plan.

4. Recommends that the State Party give urgent consideration to the following:
  - a) Closely monitor developments around the property that may have an effect on the landscape and visual integrity, and the archaeological potential of the property. This includes monitoring the visual impact of possible "compulsory infrastructure" and measures to protect the agricultural land in the plain of Harran,
  - b) Carry out a study of the impact on the property of the proposed railway line at the site and of its development before its construction, and communicate the study to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*,
  - c) Take measures to ensure that the landscape treatment of the irrigation channel, in the management zone and in the south-east of the property, is implemented so as to

- reduce its visual impact. Options should also be explored to reduce the visual impact of the quarry in the west,
- d) Strengthen the protection measures for the buffer zone by re-assessment of its degree of statutory designation based on field research in the following years,
  - e) Develop the management plan so as to:
    - (i) include a full conservation plan (including an associated action plan and dedicated resources),
    - (ii) include a maintenance work plan,
    - (iii) appoint a manager based at the property all year round,
    - (iv) include a long-term approach for the management of infrastructure development. Infrastructure must be adapted to allow for the future development of sustainable tourism, without damaging the property's Outstanding Universal Value,
    - (v) finalise the detailed tourism management plan as an important and integral part of the property management system, with a schedule for its implementation,
    - (vi) include a risk preparedness plan;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by **1 December 2019** a report on the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.35**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **39 COM 8B.26** and **41 COM 8B.29** adopted at its 39th (Bonn, 2015) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Inscribes **Naumburg Cathedral, Germany**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (i) and (ii)**;
4. Takes note of the following provisional Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief Synthesis**

Naumburg Cathedral, located in the heart of Germany in the south of the State of Saxony-Anhalt, is a unique testimony to medieval art and architecture. Most of the church building dates back to the 13th century. It is composed of a basilical Romanesque nave flanked by two Gothic choirs in the east and in the west. The west choir with the famous portrait statues of the twelve cathedral founders and the west rood screen are the masterpieces of pan-European workshop accordingly named the "Naumburg Master", who conceptualized all parts of the western choir as a whole, and carried out the western choir from the bottom to the roof within six years only. The polychrome reliefs and sculptures of the choir and the rood screen count among the most significant sculptures of the Middle Ages. The overall iconographic concept and the harmonious combination of architecture, sculpture and glass paintings reflect in a unique way the profound changes in the religious practice and the visual arts of the 13th century. These changes resulted in a hitherto unknown realism and observation of nature, as well as in the recourse to ancient sources.

**Criterion (i):** The episcopal church of Naumburg is unique among the medieval cathedrals due to the west choir conceptualized and designed by a brilliant sculptor – the “Naumburg Master” – and his workshop. The organic combination of architecture, sculpture and glass paintings created an extraordinary synthesis of the arts. The twelve life-sized, coloured founder figures in the west choir, the passion reliefs of the west rood screen, the crucifixion group on its portal and the numerous capitals are outstanding examples of the architectural sculpture of the Middle Ages. One of the founder figures – Uta of Ballenstedt – is considered as one of the icons of Gothic sculpture. They are sculpted from the same blocks of stone as the pillar strips, and the various media are integrated in the fabric of the architecture and its manner of construction. A single intelligence stood behind the integrated conception of the architecture, sculpture, and stained glass and merged them into one integral piece of work.

**Criterion (ii):** The workshop organization of sculptors and stonemasons was established in the early 13th century and is known under the name Naumburg Master. It constitutes one of the decisive conveyors and pioneers of the ground-breaking innovations in architecture and sculpture in the second half of the 13th century. The migration of the workshop of the Naumburg Master, from northeastern France through the Middle Rhine areas to the eastern boundaries of the Holy Roman Empire and further to southwestern Europe, gives testimony to the extensive European cultural exchange during the High Middle Ages.

### **Integrity**

In its unchanged original layout of the mid-13th century, the property is of an adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes which convey the property’s significance. It includes all elements necessary to express and to contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value. The structural elements of the 13th century are intact and do not suffer from adverse effects of development or neglect. The visual qualities and functional relations to the surrounding urban and cultural landscape are undisturbed.

### **Authenticity**

The form and the design of the mid-13th century are preserved. All of the materials and substance of Naumburg Cathedral date from the High Middle Ages. No altering restorations were made in the age of historicism. Moreover, original materials for necessary repairs have continuously been obtained from the original local quarries for centuries. The building has maintained its original sacral function, services are still celebrated regularly. Both use and substance perfectly convey the spirit and feeling of a medieval cathedral. The location of the cathedral in the centre of the old town of Naumburg is unchanged. Its silhouette is still dominating the setting of the surrounding landscape at the conflux of the Saale and Unstrut rivers.

### **Protection and management requirements**

Naumburg Cathedral is protected under § 2 para. 2 no. 1 of the Act for the Protection of Historic Monuments and Buildings of the State of Saxony-Anhalt (DenkmSchG LSA). The property is thus subject to the highest possible level of legal protection available. Moreover, the legal regulations for town and country planning and for conservation of landscape and nature in Germany, in conjunction with the Building Law of Saxony-Anhalt ensure appropriate and effective protection.

The cathedral itself as well as the adjacent buildings are owned by the Combined Cathedral Chapters (Combined Chapters of the Cathedrals of Merseburg and Naumburg and the Collegiate Church of Zeitz). This public foundation is in charge of the protection and preservation of the cultural monuments entrusted to its care. The foundation ranks among the oldest institutions in all of Germany. It has continuously preserved this monument since its original conception, having commissioned the workshop of the Naumburg Master. The restoration and renovation works on the building and the general management of the property are carried out by the owner in close cooperation with the competent authorities, in particular with the State Ministry of Culture of Saxony-Anhalt and the City of Naumburg

as the responsible administrative and authorizing bodies for monument and landscape protection. Building activities in the buffer zone are restricted by land development plans, building development plans, and municipal statutes concerned with renovation and preservation. The town development plans of the city of Naumburg are basic instruments for sustainable renewal and sustainable tourism regarding the property.

The long-term maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value is granted by the management system in accordance with the Act for the Protection of Historic Monuments and Buildings of the State of Saxony-Anhalt.

5. Recommends that the State Party:
  - a) Strengthen the management plan for Naumburg Cathedral,
  - b) Enhance its monitoring efforts regarding the effects of climate, air, pollution and tourism on the substance of the cathedral,
  - c) Seek ICOMOS' guidance in this process.

## **EXAMINATION OF MINOR BOUNDARY MODIFICATIONS OF NATURAL, MIXED AND CULTURAL PROPERTIES ALREADY INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

### **NATURAL PROPERTIES**

#### **ASIA - PACIFIC**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 8B.36**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B2.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **31 COM 8B.12** adopted at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007),
3. Approves the proposed minor boundary modification for the **Jeju Volcanic Island and Lava Tubes, Republic of Korea**, namely to add the new Upper Geomunoreum Lava Tube System component parts to the property;
4. Does not approve the addition of the other three proposed component parts as a minor boundary modification to the **Jeju Volcanic Island and Lava Tubes, Republic of Korea**, namely Suwolbong Tuff Ring, Chagwido Tuff Cone Complex and Socheongul Lava Tube, and recommends the State Party to resubmit a significant boundary modification for these three component parts, with revisions to clarify the boundaries of the nominated components and their buffer zones, in order that a full evaluation of these proposals can be undertaken by IUCN;
5. Requests the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, a new large scale map of the whole of the Geomunoreum component as modified, including all of the relevant component parts, and the buffer zone, and also to provide separate measurements for the area of each of the component parts, as well as their buffer zone.

## CULTURAL PROPERTIES

### EUROPE - NORTH AMERICA

#### **Decision: 42 COM 8B.37**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed buffer zone for the **Old City of Dubrovnik, Croatia**;
3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Taking into account the fact that development outside the buffer zone may still have an adverse impact on the property, including development on the Srđ plateau and within Bosanka, consistent with paragraph 112 of the *Operational Guidelines*,
  - b) Finalising, approving and implementing the Management Plan for the property to ensure that the buffer zone is able to provide effective protection for the Outstanding Universal Value of the property,
  - c) Introducing legislation which limits, or prohibits, the passage and mooring of boats, ships and yachts (except for the passage of small boats transporting visitors to the island of Lokrum) in the coastal area between the old city and Lokrum island, in accordance with the proposed revision of the boundaries of the buffer zone,
  - d) Submit the Management Plan, tourism strategy and maritime navigation regulations, when available, to the World Heritage Centre for consideration.

#### **Decision: 42 COM 8B.38**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Does not approve the proposed minor modification to the boundary of the Fortified City of Kotor, Montenegro, component part of the serial property of the **Venetian Works of Defence between 16th and 17th Centuries: Stato da Terra – Western Stato da Mar, Croatia, Italy and Montenegro**.

#### **Decision: 42 COM 8B.39**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed minor modification to the boundaries and the proposed buffer zone of the **Jewish Quarter and St Procopius' Basilica in Třebíč, Czechia**;

3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Completing the draft memorandum to provide a formal framework for cooperation between the administrators of the three components of the property,
  - b) Include the entire former monastery in the management plan when next updated.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.40**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed minor modification to the boundaries and the proposed buffer zone of **Jelling Mounds, Runic Stones and Church, Denmark**.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.41**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed buffer zone for **Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay, France**;
3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Completing the designation of relevant municipal territories as remarkable heritage resources,
  - b) Submitting the Management Plan, when available, to the World Heritage Centre for consideration.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.42**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add,
2. Approves the proposed buffer zone for the **Archaeological Area and Patriarchal Basilica of Aquileia, Italy**.

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.43**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1.Add,

2. Refers the proposed minor modification to the buffer zone of **Kiev: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kiev-Pechersk Lavra, Ukraine**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Consider creating a single buffer zone for the property surrounding all components,
  - b) In the case of the Saint-Sophia Cathedral component, amend the proposed buffer zone in order to:
    - (i) ensure that the boundary is running behind the first row of buildings on the other side of the road,
    - (ii) reduce or eliminate the large indented section of the buffer zone on the north-west side,
  - c) In the case of the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra component, amend the proposed buffer zone in order to extend it:
    - (i) north along the river edge to a point adjacent to the northern tip of the current buffer zone,
    - (ii) on the western side one more block and including territory bounded by Moskovska Street, Tsydalena Street and back to Leiptsyzka Street,
  - d) Implement the recommendations of the 2017 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission and Decision **41 COM 7B.53** relevant to the legal protection and management mechanisms of the buffer zone;
3. Recommends that the State Party notes possible impacts on the property, which might arise outside the buffer zones, consistent with paragraph 112 of the *Operational Guidelines* and ensures that legal protection and management mechanisms are available to regulate changes and development outside the buffer zone to ensure no adverse impact on the visual integrity of the property.

## **STATEMENTS OF OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED AT PREVIOUS SESSIONS AND NOT ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

### **Decision: 42 COM 8B.44**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add,
2. Adopts the Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for the following World Heritage properties inscribed at previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee:
  - Denmark, Kujataa Greenland: Norse and Inuit Farming at the Edge of the Ice Cap;
  - India, Archaeological Site of Nalanda Mahavihara (Nalanda University) at Nalanda, Bihar;
  - India, Historic City of Ahmadabad;
  - Iran (Islamic Republic of), Historic City of Yazd;
  - Japan, Sacred Island of Okinoshima and Associated Sites in the Munakata Region;

- Poland, Tarnowskie Góry Lead-Silver-Zinc Mine and its Underground Water Management System;
- South Africa, #Khomani Cultural Landscape.

## **8C. Update of the List of World Heritage in Danger**

### **Decision: 42 COM 8C.1**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined the state of conservation reports of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List (WHC/18/42.COM/7B, WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/7B.Add.2) and the proposals for inscription of properties on the World Heritage List (WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/8B.Add),
2. Decides to **inscribe** the following property on the List of World Heritage in Danger:
  - Kenya, Lake Turkana National Park (Decision **42 COM 7B.92**)

### **Decision: 42 COM 8C.2**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined the state of conservation reports of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger (WHC/18/42.COM/7A, WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add.2),
2. Decides to **retain** the following properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger:
  - Afghanistan, Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Decision **42 COM 7A.1**)
  - Afghanistan, Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Decision **42 COM 7A.2**)
  - Austria, Historic Centre of Vienna (Decision **42 COM 7A.5**)
  - Bolivia (Plurinational State of), City of Potosí (Decision **42 COM 7A.8**)
  - Central African Republic, Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park (Decision **42 COM 7A.45**)
  - Chile, Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Decision **42 COM 7A.9**)
  - Côte d'Ivoire / Guinea, Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve (Decision **42 COM 7A.46**)
  - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Garamba National Park (Decision **42 COM 7A.47**)
  - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Decision **42 COM 7A.48**)
  - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Okapi Wildlife Reserve (Decision **42 COM 7A.49**)
  - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Salonga National Park (Decision **42 COM 7A.50**)
  - Democratic Republic of the Congo, Virunga National Park (Decision **42 COM 7A.51**)



- Egypt, Abu Mena (Decision **42 COM 7A.17**)
- Honduras, Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve (Decision **42 COM 7A.44**)
- Indonesia, Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Decision **42 COM 7A.40**)
- Iraq, Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Decision **42 COM 7A.18**)
- Iraq, Hatra (Decision **42 COM 7A.19**)
- Iraq, Samarra Archaeological City (Decision **42 COM 7A.20**)
- Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls (site proposed by Jordan) (Decision **42 COM 7A.21**)
- Libya, Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Decision **42 COM 7A.22**)
- Libya, Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna (Decision **42 COM 7A.23**)
- Libya, Archaeological Site of Sabratha (Decision **42 COM 7A.24**)
- Libya, Old Town of Ghadamès (Decision **42 COM 7A.25**)
- Libya, Rock-Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus (Decision **42 COM 7A.26**)
- Madagascar, Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Decision **42 COM 7A.53**)
- Mali, Old Towns of Djenné (Decision **42 COM 7A.13**)
- Mali, Timbuktu (Decision **42 COM 7A.14**)
- Mali, Tomb of Askia (Decision **42 COM 7A.15**)
- Micronesia (Federated States of), Nan Madol: Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia (Decision **42 COM 7A.3**)
- Niger, Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Decision **42 COM 7A.54**)
- Palestine, Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Decision **42 COM 7A.27**)
- Palestine, Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir (Decision **42 COM 7A.29**)
- Palestine, Hebron/Al-Khalil Old Town (Decision **42 COM 7A.28**)
- Panama, Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo (Decision **42 COM 7A.10**)
- Peru, Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Decision **42 COM 7A.11**)
- Senegal, Niokolo-Koba National Park (Decision **42 COM 7A.55**)
- Serbia, Medieval Monuments in Kosovo (Decision **42 COM 7A.6**)
- Solomon Islands, East Rennell (Decision **42 COM 7A.41**)
- Syrian Arab Republic, Ancient City of Aleppo (Decision **42 COM 7A.30**)
- Syrian Arab Republic, Ancient City of Bosra (Decision **42 COM 7A.31**)
- Syrian Arab Republic, Ancient City of Damascus (Decision **42 COM 7A.32**)
- Syrian Arab Republic, Ancient Villages of Northern Syria (Decision **42 COM 7A.33**)
- Syrian Arab Republic, Crac des Chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din (Decision **42 COM 7A.34**)
- Syrian Arab Republic, Site of Palmyra (Decision **42 COM 7A.35**)

- Uganda, Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Decision **42 COM 7A.16**)
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (Decision **42 COM 7A.7**)
- United Republic of Tanzania, Selous Game Reserve (Decision **42 COM 7A.56**)
- United States of America, Everglades National Park (Decision **42 COM 7A.42**)
- Uzbekistan, Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz (Decision **42 COM 7A.4**)
- Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Coro and its Port (Decision **42 COM 7A.12**)
- Yemen, Historic Town of Zabid (Decision **42 COM 7A.37**)
- Yemen, Old City of Sana'a (Decision **42 COM 7A.38**)
- Yemen, Old Walled City of Shibam (Decision **42 COM 7A.39**)

**Decision: 42 COM 8C.3**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined the state of conservation reports of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger (WHC/18/42.COM/7A, WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add and WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add.2),
2. Decides to remove the following property from the List of World Heritage in Danger:
  - Belize, Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (Decision **42 COM 7A.43**)

**8D. Clarifications of property boundaries and areas by States Parties**

**Decision: 42 COM 8D**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/8D,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 8D**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Acknowledges the excellent work accomplished by States Parties in the clarification of the boundaries of their World Heritage properties and commends them for their efforts to improve the credibility of the World Heritage List;
4. Recalls that the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies are not able to examine proposals for minor or significant modifications to boundaries of World Heritage properties whenever the delimitations of such properties as inscribed remain unclear;
5. Takes note of the clarifications of property boundaries and areas provided by the States Parties as presented in the Annex of Document WHC/18/42.COM/8D:

#### ARAB STATES

- Libya, Archaeological Site of Cyrene
- Libya, Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna
- Libya, Archaeological Site of Sabratha
- Libya, Old Town of Ghadamès
- Libya, Rock-Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus

#### EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

- Netherlands, Defence Line of Amsterdam
- Spain, Ibiza, Biodiversity and Culture

#### LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

- Haiti, National History Park – Citadel, Sans Souci, Ramiers
- Mexico, Pre-Hispanic Town of Uxmal;

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 2018** at the latest, for their subsequent examination, if the technical requirements are met, by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

### **8E. Adoption of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value**

#### **Decision: 42 COM 8E**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8E and WHC/18/42.COM/8E.Add,
2. Commends the States Parties for the work accomplished in the elaboration of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage properties located within their territories;
3. Adopts the retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, as presented in the Annexes of Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8E and WHC/18/42.COM/8E.Add, for the following World Heritage properties:

#### ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

- Sri Lanka, Golden Temple of Dambulla

#### EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

- Canada, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump
- Canada, Nahanni National Park
- France, Abbey Church of Saint-Savin sur Gartempe
- France, Amiens Cathedral

- France, Le Havre, the City Rebuilt by Auguste Perret
  - France, Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay
  - France, Palace and Park of Versailles
  - France, Prehistoric Sites and Decorated Caves of the Vézère Valley
  - France, The Loire Valley between Sully-sur-Loire and Chalonnes
  - Italy, Piazza del Duomo, Pisa
  - Italy, Residences of the Royal House of Savoy
  - Italy, Villa Adriana (Tivoli)
  - Italy, Villa d'Este, Tivoli
  - Portugal, Alto Douro Wine Region
  - United States of America, Great Smoky Mountains National Park
  - United States of America, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park
  - United States of America, Mammoth Cave National Park
  - United States of America, Olympic National Park
  - United States of America, Yellowstone National Park
  - United States of America, Yosemite National Park;
4. Decides that retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger will be reviewed in priority by the Advisory Bodies;
5. Requests the States Parties to provide support to the World Heritage Centre for translation of the adopted Statements of Outstanding Universal Value into English or French respectively, and further requests the World Heritage Centre to upload the two language versions on its website.

## Nominations - General Discussion

### Decision: 42 COM 8

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B.3,
2. Recalling Decisions **42 COM 8B.24**, **42 COM 8B.35** and **42 COM 5A** (Manama, 2018),
3. Considering that, in compliance with the *Convention* and the *Operational Guidelines*, Outstanding Universal Value is recognised at the time of inscription of a property on the World Heritage List and that no recognition of Outstanding Universal Value is foreseen prior to this stage, decides to include the review of the referral procedure and its application for examination in the framework of the next revision of the *Operational Guidelines* at its 43rd session in 2019;

4. Also decides that the evaluation of “sites associated with recent conflicts” shall be undertaken once a comprehensive reflection has taken place and the Committee at its 44th session has discussed and decided how these sites might relate to the purpose and scope of the *World Heritage Convention* and its *Operational Guidelines*;
5. Further decides to convene an Expert Meeting on the World Heritage and integrated art to allow for reflection and to develop guidance on whether and how works of art as integral components of nominated properties may be proposed as basis for conveying Outstanding Universal Value, provided that extra-budgetary funding is available and invites the States Parties to contribute to this end;
6. Finally decides to include in the draft agenda of its 43rd session a general item 8 to allow discussion on the nomination process.

## 9. GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR A REPRESENTATIVE, BALANCED AND CREDIBLE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

### 9A. Progress Report on the reflection concerning the Upstream Process

#### Decision: 42 COM 9A

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/12A and WHC/18/42.COM/9A,
2. Recalling Decisions **34 COM 13.III**, **35 COM 12C**, **36 COM 12C**, **37 COM 9**, **38 COM 9A**, **39 COM 11**, **40 COM 9A** and **41 COM 9A**, adopted at its 34th (Brasilia, 2010), 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012), 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014), 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Also recalling the integration of the Upstream Process in Paragraphs 71 and 122 of the *Operational Guidelines*,
4. Welcomes the actions undertaken to improve the processes and practices prior to the consideration of nominations by the World Heritage Committee, and commends the States Parties, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for the pilot projects that registered progress;
5. Also takes note of the Upstream Process requests received by the deadline of 31 March 2018 and also commends States Parties, in particular those without any property inscribed on the World Heritage List, having submitted these requests;
6. Recognizing the limited available capacity of the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, and on the basis of the experience acquired so far in providing Upstream advice, and of their willingness to process all requests received in the best timely manner possible and, given that the number of requests received exceeds the set up cap of ten new Upstream Process requests per year decides to set the next deadline for receiving upstream requests at 31 March 2019 ;

7. Expresses its appreciation to the ad-hoc Working Group for its work and recommendation with regard to the definition of Upstream Process;
8. Approves the revised definition of the Upstream Process presented in document WHC/18/42.COM/12A for inclusion in the footnote of Paragraph 122 of the *Operational Guidelines* and requests the World Heritage Centre to integrate it in the *Operational Guidelines*, in the framework of the revision of the *Operational Guidelines* at its 43rd session in 2019;
9. Requests the World Heritage Centre, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, to present a progress report on the ongoing pilot projects as well as on the implementation of Upstream Process requests received, for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

## 10. PERIODIC REPORTS

### 10A. Progress Report on the Preparation of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting

#### Decision: 42 COM 10A

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/10A,
2. Takes note with appreciation of the World Heritage Centre's efforts to implement the **Decision 41 COM 10A**, and in particular of the set of training and guidance materials which have been developed to ensure a holistic approach to the Periodic Reporting Exercise in the Third Cycle and to facilitate a State-Party driven exercise;
3. Requests that the World Heritage Centre make these resources available to a broad range of World Heritage stakeholders and ensure that they are widely disseminated to foster effective preparation in the regions, in particular for the Arab States Region as the first region to report in the period 2018–2019;
4. Also takes note of the ongoing work on the Analytical Framework for the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting, and encourages the World Heritage Centre to continue to develop new methods of analysis and technical improvements for the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting;
5. Reconfirms that, as per previous practice, the Periodic Reporting questionnaire will be accessible electronically to the relevant region from September of each reporting year, and that completed questionnaires should be submitted by July of the following year;
6. Requests the World Heritage Centre to submit to the Committee a progress report on the overall conduct and coordination of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting at its 43rd session in 2019;
7. Welcomes the offer of the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) to assist in facilitating the Periodic Reporting exercise in the Arab States region, organize regional meetings and provide targeted technical support to States Parties, in close collaboration with the World Heritage Centre.

## 11. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE DRAFT POLICY COMPENDIUM

### **Decision: 42 COM 11**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/11,
2. Recalling Decisions **35 COM 12B**, **37 COM 13**, **39 COM 12** and **40 COM 12** adopted at its 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 39th (Bonn, 2015) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively;
3. Thanks the Government of Australia for their commitment and financial contribution in view of the development of a Policy document for a better implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*;
4. Commends the Working Group of experts and the World Heritage Centre for the preparation of the draft Policy Compendium;
5. Also commends the World Heritage Centre for successfully carrying out an inclusive online consultation with World Heritage stakeholders and welcomes the positive feedback received;
6. Takes note with appreciation of the first draft Policy Compendium and requests the World Heritage Centre and the Working Group of experts to continue the work of Phase 2 of elaborating the Policy Compendium, and organize inclusive consultations with key stakeholders as appropriate;
7. Reiterates that Phase 2 is to be organized in line with the brief provided by the Scoping Study and also requests that the World Heritage Centre and the expert Working Group, in the course of their work, explore possible gaps where policy may need to be developed or refined; considering the broad target audience and the need for a user-friendly and easily accessible tool, further requests that introductory presentations under each major topic be included; and requests furthermore that the final Policy Compendium be submitted for examination and approval to the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
8. Also takes note of the recommendation for the development of the Policy Compendium as an online tool and furthermore requests that the World Heritage Centre continue to explore the feasibility of this option and calls upon States Parties to provide extra-budgetary funds to finance this initiative.

## 12. FOLLOW-UP TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF EVALUATIONS AND AUDITS ON WORKING METHODS AND OUTCOMES OF THE AD-HOC WORKING GROUP

### 12A. Follow-up to Recommendations of Evaluations and Audits on Working Methods: outcomes of the ad-hoc working group

### **Decision: 42 COM 12A**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document WHC/18/42.COM/12A,
2. Expresses its appreciation to the ad-hoc Working Group for its work and recommendations;
3. Takes note of the recommendations related to upstream, International Assistance and sustainability of the World Heritage Fund which have been included accordingly in the related Decisions (**42 COM 9A**, **42 COM 13** and **42 COM 14**);
4. In relation to Recommendation n°3 of the IOS study, notes with concern the number of deviations of the decisions of the World Heritage Committee from the recommendations of the Advisory Bodies and considers that, in order to address them, it is necessary to review the nomination process, tentative lists and upstream process, bearing in mind the Global Strategy, and to consider other possible measures, such as a Code of conduct of the World Heritage Committee;
5. Decides to extend the mandate of the adhoc Working Group, to be composed of members of the Committee and up to two non-members per Electoral Group, to:
  - Examine different possibilities of reforming the nomination process and propose recommendations in view of increasing the balance and credibility of the World Heritage List;
  - Discuss the modalities for the possible use of advisory services of other entities with suitable experience and knowledge, in line with UNESCO's rules and regulations, and in addition to the current three Advisory Bodies;
6. Noting that the ad-hoc Working Group identified the need for reform of the nomination and evaluation process, considers that this would benefit from further reflection from a representative panel of experts drawn from the ad-hoc Working Group, the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and other experts, to feed into the work of the ad-hoc Working Group;
7. Requests in this regard, the World Heritage Centre to organize, by March 2019, a reflection meeting to examine different possibilities for reforming the nomination and evaluation process and to propose recommendations for consideration by the World Heritage Committee in view of increasing the balance and credibility of the World Heritage List, as outlined in document WHC/18/42.COM/12A;
8. Calls upon interested States Parties to contribute extrabudgetary funds towards the organisation of the reflection meeting;
9. Requests the Secretariat to consult with States Parties and other relevant stakeholders of the *Convention* on the matters that should be addressed at the reflection meeting;
10. Further requests the ad-hoc Working Group to review the reflection meeting report and recommendations and to submit these together with the advice of the ad-hoc Working Group, to the 43rd session of the Committee with a view to revising the *Operational Guidelines*.



## **12B. Follow up and implementation of the recommendations of the Working Group on Governance as endorsed by the General Conference**

### **Decision: 42 COM 12B**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/12B,
2. Takes note of Resolution **39C/87**, of the recommendations of the open-ended working group established by the General Conference on governance endorsed, as amended, by the General Conference in Document **39 C/70** and of the invitation to the governing bodies of the different organs to implement, as appropriate, the above-mentioned recommendations;
3. Further takes note of the status of implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations as presented in Document WHC/18/42.COM/12B;
4. Recalls the work already undertaken with a view to assess, improve and streamline the working methods of the governing bodies of the *World Heritage Convention*, and notably the related Resolutions of the General Assembly **20 GA 11** and **21 GA 8** as well as Decisions **40 COM 13B** and **41 COM 12B** on this matter;
5. Notes with satisfaction that Sub-Group 2 of the open-ended working group of the General Conference recognized good practices and appropriate methods of work of the Secretariat of the *World Heritage Convention*, and that the work of the intersessional ad-hoc working group of the Committee was also recognized as a good practice;
6. Further recalls that reflection on issues related to working methods by the ad-hoc working group established at its 38th session (Doha, 2014) is ongoing;
7. Decides to pursue the reflection and efforts towards implementation of relevant recommendations for the governing bodies of the *World Heritage Convention* and recalls its commitment to work jointly with other concerned governing bodies towards implementation of general recommendations addressed to all international and intergovernmental bodies;
8. Requests the World Heritage Centre to transmit Document WHC/18/42.COM/12B and relevant outcomes of its ad-hoc working group as well as the present decision to the the General Conference open-ended working group on governance and to the 22nd session of the General Assembly of States Parties to be held in 2019.

## **13. EXAMINATION OF INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS**

### **Decision: 42 COM 13**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/12A and WHC/18/42.COM/13,
2. Decides to approve the following International Assistance requests:

- “Preparation of a management plan for the Forts and Castles of Ghana” (Ghana), for an amount of US\$ 85,086 under the Conservation & Management-Culture budget;
  - “Development of an integrated management plan of Gjirokastra and Berat” (Albania), for an amount of US\$ 30,460 under the Conservation & Management-Culture budget;
3. Decides not to approve the International Assistance request from Ukraine entitled “Purchase of the trailing lift (hoist) with a telescopic boom Dinolift 150T”;
  4. Recalling Decision **41 COM 13**, paragraph 4, strongly appeals to all States Parties to contribute to International Assistance by choosing among the options described in Resolution **19 GA 8**;
  5. Expresses its appreciation to the ad-hoc Working Group for its work and recommendation with regard to International Assistance;
  6. Takes note of Recommendation n°4 of the IOS study with regard to the International Assistance process, and requests the Secretariat, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies, to propose a possible revision of the International Assistance process, for examination by the World Heritage Committee in the framework of the revision of the *Operational Guidelines*, at its 43rd session in 2019.
- 14. PRESENTATION OF THE FINAL ACCOUNTS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND FOR 2016–2017, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE FUND UNDER THE BIENNIUM 2018–2019 AND FOLLOW-UP TO DECISION 41 COM 14**

**Decision: 42 COM 14**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/12A and WHC/18/42.COM/14,
2. Recalling Decisions **39 COM 15**, **40 COM 15** and **41 COM 14**, which highlight the priority that should be given to conservation and management of World Heritage properties, takes note of the efforts made and progress achieved in this regard by increasing the proportion of the World Heritage Fund dedicated to conservation for the latest biennia and encourages further increase of this proportion, as appropriate;

**Part I: Presentation of the final accounts of the World Heritage Fund for 2016-2017, implementation of the World Heritage Fund under the biennium 2018-2019**

3. Also takes note of the financial report for the biennium, which ended 31 December 2017;

**Arrears and contributions**

4. Recalls that the payment of compulsory and assessed voluntary contributions is, as per Article 16 of the *World Heritage Convention*, an obligation incumbent on all States Parties which have ratified the *Convention* and calls upon all States Parties, which have not yet paid the totality of their assessed contributions for 2018, including voluntary contributions in

accordance with Article 16.2 of the *Convention*, to ensure that their contributions are paid at their earliest convenience;

5. Thanks those States Parties which have already made supplementary voluntary contributions in 2018 and also calls upon all other States Parties to commit to consider allocating supplementary voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund in line with the Roadmap for the Sustainability of the World Heritage Fund with the target of 10 or more States Parties doubling their annual contributions;
6. Notes with appreciation the supplementary costs covered by the Bahraini authorities as host of the 42nd session of the World Heritage Committee in addition to those listed in the Statement of Requirements;
7. Further takes note of the follow-up to the online consultation survey concerning the annual fee for World Heritage listed properties on a voluntary basis presented in Part III.C, regrets the low response rate from States Parties and invites States Parties that have responded positively to make such supplementary voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund and States Parties which have not responded, to continue consultations with their respective local administrations;

#### **Flexibility in the management of the World Heritage Fund for a more efficient implementation of the *Convention***

8. Taking into account the risk level of exchange rate fluctuation, authorises the Director of the World Heritage Centre to proceed, in consultation with the relevant UNESCO services, with all necessary budgetary adjustments in the second year of each biennium, with a maximum additional amount of US\$ 100,000 to the provision for exchange rate fluctuation from the operating reserve, if the initial amount approved will not be sufficient;
9. Noting the management constraints of the World Heritage Fund, also authorises the Director of the World Heritage Centre to make budgetary adjustments, when necessary, between approved headings and reserves, without exceeding a maximum of 15% of the approved World Heritage Fund Expenditure Plan, during the second year of each biennium and in conformity with the priorities and decisions of the Committee giving priority to the budget lines related to capacity-building and regional programmes, and requests the Secretariat to report accordingly to the Committee at its following sessions;
10. Takes note furthermore of the Executive Board Document 204 EX/5 Part II.E on “Cost recovery policy: Revised Proposal for a differential rate policy for Management Cost Rates”;
11. Also recalls the on-going concern about the sustainability of the Fund and the establishment of a Roadmap for the Sustainability of the Fund adopted by it at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017) that includes short-, mid- and long- term measures to address the constraints that the World Heritage Fund faces in view of the growing number of properties on the World Heritage List and the increasing need for support to States Parties;
12. Recommends strongly that the current Management Cost rate of 0% continues to apply to the special account of the World Heritage Fund, thus avoiding a disruption of the current level of support provided through the Fund to States Parties to the *Convention* for the identification, protection and conservation of the World Heritage properties;

#### **Part II: Follow-up to Decision 41 COM 14**

13. Also recalling its Decision **41 COM 14** on the sustainability of the World Heritage Fund,

14. Further recalling the Roadmap for Sustainability of the World Heritage Fund approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
15. Expresses its appreciation to the ad-hoc Working Group for its work and recommendations with regard to the follow-up of Decision **41 COM 14**;

### **Resource mobilization**

16. Endorses the “Resource mobilization and communication strategy” Framework document contained in Annex to this Decision and also requests the Secretariat, with the support of the Advisory Bodies as appropriate and of those States Parties wishing to assist in this regard, to develop a two-year Resource Mobilization and Communication (RMC) Plan and to provide a report thereof to the 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee in 2019;
17. Welcomes the efforts made by the World Heritage Centre with regard to extrabudgetary resource mobilization opportunities and innovative fund-raising possibilities, including the Marketplace, also invites all States Parties to support these initiatives and other fund-raising events dedicated to the implementation of the *Convention*, also encourages all States Parties to assist the World Heritage Centre in fund-raising activities, and commends the Republic of Korea for its contribution of extrabudgetary funds to support fund-raising activities and partnership initiatives by the Centre;
18. Takes note with appreciation of the proposal of a cost-sharing model for the evaluation of nominations, which was recommended for approval by the ad-hoc working group of 2017-2018 and described in Annex E of document WHC/18/42.COM/12A, and decides to further examine this matter, including possible modalities as well as legal basis or implications, at its 43rd session in 2019, with a view to referring it for examination by the General Assembly at its 22nd session in 2019;

### **Recommendations of the Internal Oversight Service (IOS) Comparative Mapping Study**

19. In relation to Recommendation n°1 of the IOS study, also decides to keep the current practice of overhead costs in the contracts of the Advisory Bodies;
20. In relation to Recommendation n°2 of the IOS study, takes note moreover of the summary of the legal opinion contained in Annex C of document WHC/18/42.COM/12A, also decides to continue to use the services of the current three Advisory Bodies and to further discuss through the ad-hoc working group the modalities for the possible use of services of other entities with suitable experience and knowledge, in line with UNESCO’s rules and regulations;
21. In relation to Recommendation n°4 of the IOS study, further encourages the States Parties, Secretariat and the Advisory Bodies to continue exploring options for improvements to advisory services, taking into consideration maintaining and possibly improving quality, and achieving greater efficiency and potential cost savings;
22. In relation to Recommendation n°4 of the IOS study with regard to reactive monitoring, furthermore encourages the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to expand the use of regional experts on reactive monitoring missions, if it would substantially reduce the travel costs and not decrease the quality of the expertise;
23. Further requests the World Heritage Centre to report on the implementation of this Decision at its 43rd session in 2019.

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## ANNEX

### STRATEGY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT

#### Resource Mobilization and communication strategy: an Outline

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#### *Fund-raising is FRIEND raising*

#### **Background**

This Strategy is developed further to the Roadmap for the sustainability of the World Heritage Fund adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session in 2017 and the Committee's Decision **41 COM 14** paragraph 23 which recommended the development of a "long-term vision and strategy for effective resource mobilization and communication, taking into account all streams of funding". The Strategy was developed by the Ad-hoc group 2017-2018, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42<sup>nd</sup> session (Bahrain, 2018). The Strategy is established for the period 2018-2025 (8 years). It sets a target and timeline for the first 4-year period. After review of the results in 4 years, targets may be adjusted for the second quadrennial period. The Secretariat will provide a synthetic progress report to the Committee at its 44<sup>th</sup> session in 2020.

#### **Situational analysis**

***Sustainability of the World Heritage Fund:*** this is a constant concern of the World Heritage Committee for the past 7 years, due to the increasing gap between the resources available through assessed contributions, which are stable, and the growing number of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List, which represent an average of 23 new sites inscribed per year.

***New and increased threats for World Heritage:*** the impact of large-scale development projects and of conflicts and natural disasters at World Heritage sites generate new demands for support from States Parties and for engagement with partners.

***Context of substantially reduced regular budget combined with a general trend of constrained Official Development Assistance (ODA) and diminishing extrabudgetary mobilisation:*** while some new donors have emerged in the recent past, especially from the private sector, the Convention still depends on a limited number of donors, mostly bilateral government funding partners, which exposes to financial vulnerability.

***Trend of strongly earmarked contributions for specific operational projects:*** often tied to thematic or geographic priorities and bringing immediate results and visibility to the donors, they are more appealing than the core statutory functions or reinforcement of the World Heritage Centre's staff. Resource mobilization for statutory Funds, financed by Member States' assessed and non-earmarked contributions, is a very challenging task, as the interest expressed by external donors in such mechanisms varies between very little to none (as proven by experience of other conventions and funds).

***Focus of the Strategy:*** ensuring the **necessary critical mass of resources** to sustain the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, both at the **statutory and operational levels**.

## **Vision statement**

Protect and transmit World Heritage to future generations

### **Goals:**

- Conservation and maintaining the OUV of World Heritage properties, with a particular focus on LCDs, developing countries, SIDS and Africa
- Help rehabilitate and reconstruct heritage affected by conflicts
- Provide assistance to States Parties in the implementation of the Convention, through enhanced support regarding normative and policy-related activities and statutory processes and operational activities
- Train heritage professionals in the sustainable management of World Heritage and work towards mainstreaming of sustainable development goals in heritage-related conservation and management activities
- Promote the involvement of local communities in the conservation and management of World Heritage.

### **Timeline: 2018-2021 (two biennia)**

The proposed timeline corresponds to the medium term period set in the Roadmap for the Sustainability of the World Heritage Fund. This should allow a reasonable timeframe for implementation and achieving more tangible results.

### **Resource mobilization targets**

As indicated in the situational analysis, there is a very low probability that fund-raising for the World Heritage Fund itself, from external donors, can bring spectacular results. It is therefore considered that if efforts, staff time and financial means are invested in resource mobilization, the target should be dual, in line with the vision statement and objectives above:

Target 1: World Heritage Fund (with a resource mobilization focus on Parties to the Convention as it is more reasonable to expect an increase from this group of stakeholders).

Target 2: extrabudgetary funding for statutory activities and operational activities (with a resource mobilization focus on all groups of stakeholders)

### **Target 1 (World Heritage Fund):**

Overall: **US\$ 1,000,000 (US\$ 250,000 per calendar year)**

*Rationale:* The long-term target for the Fund, set by the Roadmap, is US\$ 6,900 per site inscribed and per year, as it was in 1996. In mathematical terms, this would mean that the Fund should amount to US\$ 7,403,700 per calendar year (2018 being taken as a basis for calculation). However, the actual approved Expenditure plan for 2018 amounts to US\$ 2,658,438. This leaves a gap of US\$ **4,745,000** per calendar year, between the current situation and the target set by the Roadmap. Keeping in mind the considerations in the situational analysis, and the fact that the amount of additional voluntary contributions by States Parties to the Fund has been an average of US\$ 70, 000 per calendar year, it is considered that a more modest, realistic and achievable target should be set for 2018-2021. The amount per calendar year proposed as target for the Fund by this Strategy will represent an increase of more than 250% of the current level of additional voluntary contributions.

## **Target 2 (extrabudgetary funding, including additional appropriation to Regular Programme):**

Overall: **US\$ 10,000,000 (US\$ 2,500,000 per calendar year)**

*Rationale:* This proposed target is in line with the “funding gap” identified for World Heritage-related Expected Result in the 39 C/5 (US\$ 5,000,000 for the biennium 2018-2019).

### **Coherence with relevant UNESCO strategies, frameworks, documents and principles**

The Strategy builds on the new UNESCO Resource Mobilization strategy adopted by the 204<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board of UNESCO, the Structured Financing Dialogue (SFD) principles as well the Culture Sector overall resource mobilization approach. To ensure efficiency and avoid repetition, it is understood that the implementation of the Strategy will be fully aligned with the priorities, principles and methodology outlined in the above documents, without integrating them specifically in this strategy. It is also understood that the Partnership for conservation (PACT) strategy adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 2013, which concerns resource mobilization with the private sector, will remain fully valid and will continue to be implemented accordingly, in conjunction with this Strategy and the above mentioned UNESCO strategy and frameworks.

### **Achieving the 5Cs (of World Heritage) through applying the 3Cs (for fund-raising)**

For a prospective stakeholder to become a (good) donor, there must be:

- ✓ **Connection:** identify which person is best placed to approach the prospective stakeholder;
- ✓ **Capability:** make sure the prospective stakeholder can afford to donate or support otherwise;
- ✓ **Concern:** make sure the prospective stakeholder is genuinely interested in the cause, what are his/her favourite causes, whom has he/she supported in the past.

### **Identifying and broadening the stakeholder group to ensure sustainability and continuity**

- **Looking beyond the usual resources:** broaden the base of support beyond the usual sources of funding; in addition to the traditional stakeholders groups such as bilateral ones, other sectors should be further explored, such as private sector, high-net-worth individuals, not-for-profit, NGOs, philanthropy and charity sectors, global and regional bank institutions, development fund, UN funding programmes, media outlets.
- **Scoping what stakeholders can provide:** e.g. money, volunteer time, secondments, assets, equipment, technical assistance, sponsorships, joint promotions /marketing;
- **Developing a stakeholder map:** visualize the environment and setting, identify if a right mix of supporters is achieved, identify the stakeholders that should be targeted and brought closer, as well as supporters for which the level of involvement can be deepened.

### **Prospecting potential donors and building relationship**

- **Identifying the right potential donor to approach, and matching the appropriate resource mobilization approach to him/her:** key element for the implementation of the Strategy;
- **Financial support comes as a result of relationship,** related to a cause, rather than as a result of the cause in itself.
- **Fund-raising is FRIEND-raising:** remember that people do not give money to causes, they give to PEOPLE with causes.

## Engaging stakeholders support for Resource mobilization / Shared responsibilities

- **Forging further partnerships with various sectors:** apply a multi-stakeholder approach where suitable and feasible, so that some stakeholders can assist in attracting resources from other stakeholders groups, e.g. government services, NGOs, private sector etc.
- **Sharing responsibilities:** there is much States Parties can do to support the resource mobilization, beyond the provision of financial resources: e.g. advocating for UNESCO and the World Heritage Centre as a privileged implementation partner to potential donors, assisting in building multi-stakeholder partnerships, working on visibility etc. Very importantly, under article 17 of the World Heritage Convention, “The States Parties [...] shall consider or encourage the establishment of national public and private foundations or associations whose purpose is to invite donations for the protection of the cultural and natural heritage as defined in Articles 1 and 2 of this Convention.”

## Communicating

- **Make the cause known by developing a set of strategic key communication messages:** these should focus on the target right audience and media channels.
- **Anchor the overall communication around the key message/s:** make sure these are present, in appropriate forms, in the internal and external communications materials, such as brochures, newsletters, websites etc.
- **Use the most suitable channels to target donors:** depending on their profile.
- **Make sure the key messages have an IMPACT:**
  - Inspiring,
  - Memorable,
  - Positive,
  - Attention-grabbing,
  - Clear,
  - Taken from experience

## Selecting the right mix of Resource Mobilization vehicles

- Funding proposals/Extrabudgetary projects (e.g. Market place)
- Special events (e.g. galas and other fund-raising events)
- Earned income (e.g. proceeds, royalties, licensing, merchandising, membership schemes)
- Major gifts (e.g. legacy fundraising)

## Gearing up for Resource mobilization

- **Ensuring people and systems are in place:** this is the most serious challenge given the limited human resources of the Secretariat and the heavy workload which do not allow absorbing much additional work. Therefore, the Secretariat can be asked to organize the implementation of the Strategy, by applying its best efforts, to the extent possible, by assigning roles and responsibilities. Keeping in mind these constraints, the States Parties should, to the extent possible, strongly support the Secretariat in its Resource Mobilization efforts, including through providing financial resources or suitable expertise in the form of loan or secondment.

## Monitoring Resource Mobilization activities

- **Keeping the Focus on the Goals:** regular monitoring of financial-and non-financial indicators; number of donors, type and structure of donor base, expenditure related to



implementation of strategy etc. would alert to problems or other issue and allow adjusting the focus.

## 15. OTHER BUSINESS

No decision

## 16. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSONS AND RAPPORTEUR OF THE 43RD SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (2019)

### Decision: 42 COM 16

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Recalling its Decision **41 COM 16**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017), which elected its Bureau whose mandate will be until the end of its 42nd session (Manama, 2018),
2. Recalls that the hosting of a World Heritage Committee session by a Committee member is subject to the host country signing a host country agreement in conformity with UNESCO's rules and regulations and that host country agreements for category II meetings must be signed eight months in advance of the meeting;
3. Also recalls that, pursuant to Rule 44.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee, arrangements by the host country to provide interpretation in another language than the working language of the Committee (English and French), or another official working languages recognized by the United Nations, should be in compliance with UNESCO's rules, regulations and procedures;
4. Decides that its 43rd session will take place in **Baku, Azerbaijan**, from 30 June to 10 July 2019;
5. Also 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. Abulfaz Garayev (Azerbaijan)** as Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandate will begin at the end of the 42nd session of the Committee (Manama, 2018) until the end of the 43rd session of the Committee (2019),
  - b) **Norway**,  
**Brazil**,  
**Indonesia**,  
**Burkina Faso** and  
**Tunisia**

as Vice-Chairpersons of the World Heritage Committee, whose mandates will begin at the end of the 42nd session of the Committee (Manama, 2018) until the end of the 43rd session of the Committee (2019),

- c) **Ms. Mahani Taylor (Australia)** as the Rapporteur of the World Heritage Committee whose mandates will begin at the end of the 42nd session of the Committee (Manama, 2018) until the end of the 43rd session of the Committee (2019);
6. Further decides that the Bureau of the 44th session (2020) will be elected at the end of the 43rd session of the Committee (2019) in accordance with Rule 13.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Heritage Committee.

## **17. PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE 43RD SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (2019)**

### **Decision: 42 COM 17**

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/17,
- 2. Requests the World Heritage Centre to consult with the Chairperson regarding the Provisional Agenda and a detailed timetable;
- 3. Adopts the following Provisional Agenda for its 43rd session in 2019:

### **PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE 43rd SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (2019)**

#### **OPENING SESSION**

- 1. Opening session
- 2. Admission of Observers
- 3. Adoption of the Agenda and the Timetable
  - 3A. Adoption of the Agenda
  - 3B. Adoption of the Timetable

#### **REPORTS**

- 4. Report of the Rapporteur of the 42nd session of the World Heritage Committee (Manama, 2018)
- 5. Reports of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies
  - 5A. Report of the World Heritage Centre on its activities and the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's decisions
  - 5B. Reports of the Advisory Bodies

- 5C. World Heritage *Convention* and Sustainable Development
  - 5D. Priority Africa, sustainable development and World Heritage
  - 5E. Report on strengthening of dialogue between the Advisory Bodies and States Parties
6. Follow-up to the World Heritage Capacity-Building Strategy and Progress report on the World Heritage-related category 2 centres

#### **EXAMINATION OF THE STATE OF CONSERVATION**

7. State of conservation of World Heritage properties
- 7A. State of conservation of World Heritage properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger
  - 7B. State of conservation of World Heritage properties inscribed on the World Heritage List

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

8. Nomination process
- 8A. Tentative Lists submitted by States Parties as of 15 April 2019
  - 8B. Nominations to the World Heritage List
  - 8C. Update of the World Heritage List and the List of World Heritage in Danger
  - 8D. Clarifications of property boundaries and areas by States Parties
  - 8E. Review and approval of retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value

#### **GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR A REPRESENTATIVE, BALANCED AND CREDIBLE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

9. Global Strategy for a representative, balanced and credible World Heritage List
- 9A. Upstream Process

#### **PERIODIC REPORTS**

10. Periodic Reports
- 10A. Progress report on the follow-up to the Second cycle of Periodic Reporting
  - 10B. Progress report on the Third cycle of Periodic Reporting

#### **WORKING METHODS AND TOOLS**

11. Policy Compendium

12. Follow-up to Recommendations of Evaluations and Audits on Working Methods and outcomes of the ad-hoc working group

12A. Follow-up to Recommendations of Evaluations and Audits on Working Methods: outcomes of the ad-hoc working group

### **FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES**

13. International Assistance

14. Report on the execution of the budget for the biennium 2018-2019, budget proposal of the World Heritage Fund for the biennium 2020-2021 and follow-up to Decision 42 COM 14

15. Other business

### **CLOSING SESSION**

16. Election of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur of the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee (2020)

17. Provisional Agenda of the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee (2020)

18. Adoption of Decisions

19. Closing session

## **18. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS**

## **19. CLOSING SESSION**