



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
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Ref.: WHC/74/400.1/CL/APA/01

22 February 2001

**To: Permanent Delegations and National Commissions
of Member States to UNESCO in the Asia-Pacific Region**

Madam/Sir,

Subject: Periodic Reporting on the application of the World Heritage Convention and on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties in the Asia-Pacific Region

I have the honour to draw your attention to Article 29 of the 1972 UNESCO *World Heritage Convention* which requests “*States Parties to submit to the General Conference of UNESCO a report providing information on the legislative and administrative provisions which they have adopted and other actions which they have taken for the application of the Convention, including the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties located on their territories*”.

The twenty-ninth General Conference of UNESCO held in October/November 1997, requested the World Heritage Committee to define the periodicity, form, nature and extent of the periodic reporting on the application of the World Heritage Convention and on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties and to examine and respond to these reports.

The World Heritage Committee, at its twenty-second session in December 1998, decided to invite States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to submit the periodic reports every six years in accordance with the Format for periodic reports as adopted by the Committee. The Committee also decided that it would examine the reports from the **Asia-Pacific Region** at its ordinary session in **2002**.

The Committee clearly noted that it is the prime responsibility of the States Parties to prepare the above-mentioned reports and to put in place on-site monitoring arrangements as an integral component of day-to-day conservation and management of the World Heritage Sites. The UNESCO World Heritage Centre, as Secretariat to the World Heritage Committee, is prepared to assist the States Parties in the preparation of the reports and will synthesize the national periodic reports from a regional perspective for submission to the World Heritage Committee. I had the pleasure together with my colleagues responsible for the Asia-Pacific Region to attend an Information Meeting of the Permanent Delegates of the Asia-Pacific Region on 14 November 2000 to make a presentation on the approach to be taken in setting up a workplan and timeframe for the periodic reporting in the region.

In view of the Asia-Pacific Region's rich ethno-cultural and bio-geographical diversities, the Committee approved, at its twenty-fourth session in Cairns, Australia (November-December 2000), the approach proposed by the Centre which would begin with the initial phase of information collection and preparation of national reports for five sub-regions: Central Asia, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia and the Pacific. This first phase will be initiated by sub-regional information meetings in the first half of 2001. The States Parties are requested to prepare their national reports during 2001 for which assistance can be provided upon request. A regional Workshop on the World Cultural Heritage Monitoring System for the preparation of the Periodic Reports in the Asia-Pacific Region will be held at Kochang and Seoul, the Republic of Korea in July 2001 to which the representative of the competent national authorities of your government will be invited. The objective of this Workshop is to facilitate the preparation of draft reports by the States Parties and exchange information necessary for the finalization of the periodic reports of the region scheduled for submission in 2002.

If funding can be made available from the World Heritage Fund or other extrabudgetary sources, another regional meeting could be held in the first quarter of 2002, during which the conclusions and recommendations could be formulated for presentation to the World Heritage Committee at its session in June 2002. During this process, we encourage your government to make full use of the expertise of the Advisory Bodies, States Parties, UNESCO Field Offices, competent institutions and expertise available within the region.

To facilitate the World Heritage Centre to transmit the technical document and background papers to all the management authorities of World Heritage sites in your country, we would be grateful if your government would appoint one national coordinator for the reporting on all World Heritage cultural properties, and a second coordinator for all natural properties. I would appreciate your providing me with names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses of the two national coordinators *by 30 March 2001*.

Please find enclosed for your information and review the documentation for the periodic reporting on the application of the World Heritage Convention, a list of World Heritage sites in the Asia-Pacific Region and a list of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List before 1995 for which a state of conservation report of the site should be prepared.

Should your government require any additional information or assistance in the preparation of the national state of conservation report, please do not hesitate to contact the members of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre responsible for the Asia-Pacific Region, whose name and address are indicated in the Annex 4 of this letter.

I thank you in advance for your kind co-operation in supporting the World Heritage Centre in the preparation of the Asia-Pacific Regional Synthesis Report on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties which will depend on the timely submission to us of the national reports.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Francesco Bandarin
Director
UNESCO World Heritage Centre

Cc: ICOMOS, ICCROM, IUCN
UNESCO Field Offices in Almaty, Apia, Bangkok, Beijing, Hanoi, Islamabad, Jakarta,
Kathmandu, New Delhi, Phnom Penh and Tashkent.

Encl: Annex 1. Background information including the Format and Explanatory Notes
Annex 2 List of 88 Properties inscribed on the World Heritage List before 1995
Annex 3 List of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and UNESCO Regional
Office Staff responsible for World Cultural & Natural Heritage in the
Asia-Pacific Region

**Periodic Reporting on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
in the Asia-Pacific Region**

Annex 2

88 Properties inscribed on the World Heritage List on and before 1994

COUNTRY	NAME OF PROPERTY	CULTURAL	NATURAL	YEAR
Australia	Kakadu National Park	Yes	Yes	1981
Australia	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes	1981
Australia	Willandra Lakes Region	Yes	Yes	1981
Australia	Australian Fossil Mammal Sites (Riversleigh/	No	Yes	1994
Australia	Tasmanian Wilderness	Yes	Yes	1982
Australia	Lord Howe Island Group	No	Yes	1982
Australia	Central Eastern Rainforest Reserves	No	Yes	1986
Australia	Wet Tropics of Queensland	No	Yes	1988
Australia	Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park	Yes	Yes	1987
Australia	Shark Bay, Western Australia	No	Yes	1991
Australia	Fraser Island	No	Yes	1992
Bangladesh	Historic Mosque City of Bagerhat	Yes	No	1985
Bangladesh	Ruins of the Buddhist Vihara at Paharpur	Yes	No	1985
Cambodia	Angkor	Yes	No	1992
China	Mount Huangshan	Yes	Yes	1990
China	Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian	Yes	No	1987
China	Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor	Yes	No	1987
China	Mogao Caves	Yes	No	1987
China	Imperial Palace of the Ming and Qing	Yes	No	1987
China	Mount Taishan	Yes	Yes	1987
China	The Great Wall	Yes	No	1987
China	The Potala Palace and the Jokhang Temple	Yes	No	1994
China	Jiuzhaigou Valley Scenic and Historic Interest	No	Yes	1992
China	Ancient Building Complex in the Wudang	Yes	No	1994
China	Temple and Cemetery of Confucius and the	Yes	No	1994
China	Mountain Resort and its Outlying Temples,	Yes	No	1994
China	Wulingyuan Scenic and Historic Interest Area	No	Yes	1992
China	Huanglong Scenic and Historic Interest Area	No	Yes	1992
India	Manas Wildlife Sanctuary	No	Yes	1985
India	Nanda Devi National Park	No	Yes	1988
India	Fatehpur Sikri	Yes	No	1986
India	Taj Mahal	Yes	No	1983
India	Agra Fort	Yes	No	1983
India	Brihadisvara Temple, Thanjavur	Yes	No	1987
India	Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram	Yes	No	1984
India	Sun Temple, Konarak	Yes	No	1984
India	Keoladeo National Park	No	Yes	1985
India	Ellora Caves	Yes	No	1983

**Periodic Reporting on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
in the Asia-Pacific Region**

India	Kaziranga National Park	No	Yes	1985
India	Ajanta Caves	Yes	No	1983
India	Group of Monuments at Hampi	Yes	No	1986
India	Khajuraho Group of Monuments	Yes	No	1986
India	Group of Monuments at Pattadakal	Yes	No	1987
India	Churches and Convents of Goa	Yes	No	1986
India	Qutb Minar and its Monuments, Delhi	Yes	No	1993
India	Humayun's Tomb, Delhi	Yes	No	1993
India	Elephanta Caves	Yes	No	1987
India	Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi	Yes	No	1989
India	Sundarbans National Park	No	Yes	1987
Indonesia	Komodo National Park	No	Yes	1991
Indonesia	Borobudur Temple Compounds	Yes	No	1991
Indonesia	Ujung Kulon National Park	No	Yes	1991
Indonesia	Prambanan Temple Compounds	Yes	No	1991
Iran	Tchogha Zanbil	Yes	No	1979
Iran	Persepolis	Yes	No	1979
Iran	Meidan Emam, Esfahan	Yes	No	1979
Japan	Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area	Yes	No	1993
Japan	Yakushima	No	Yes	1993
Japan	Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto (Kyoto,	Yes	No	1994
Japan	Shirakami-Sanchi	No	Yes	1993
Japan	Himeji-jo	Yes	No	1993
Nepal	Sagarmatha National Park	No	Yes	1979
Nepal	Royal Chitwan National Park	No	Yes	1984
Nepal	Kathmandu Valley	Yes	No	1979
New Zealand	Te Wahipounamu - South West New Zealand	No	Yes	1990
New Zealand	Tongariro National Park	Yes	Yes	1990
Pakistan	Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore	Yes	No	1981
Pakistan	Taxila	Yes	No	1980
Pakistan	Buddhist Ruins of Takht-i-Bahi and	Yes	No	1980
Pakistan	Archaeological Ruins at Moenjodaro	Yes	No	1980
Pakistan	Historical Monuments of Thatta	Yes	No	1981
Philippines	Tubbataha Reef Marine Park	No	Yes	1993
Philippines	Baroque Churches of the Philippines	Yes	No	1993
Sri Lanka	Sacred City of Anuradhapura	Yes	No	1982
Sri Lanka	Ancient City of Polonnaruwa	Yes	No	1982
Sri Lanka	Ancient City of Sigiriya	Yes	No	1982
Sri Lanka	Golden Temple of Dambulla	Yes	No	1991
Sri Lanka	Sacred City of Kandy	Yes	No	1988

**Periodic Reporting on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
in the Asia-Pacific Region**

Sri Lanka	Sinharaja Forest Reserve	No	Yes	1988
Sri Lanka	Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications	Yes	No	1988
Thailand	Historic City of Ayutthaya and Associated	Yes	No	1991
Thailand	Ban Chiang Archaeological Site	Yes	No	1992
Thailand	Historic Town of Sukhotai and Associated	Yes	No	1991
Thailand	Thungyai - Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife	No	Yes	1991
Uzbekistan	Historic Centre of Bukhara	Yes	No	1993
Uzbekistan	Itchan Kala	Yes	No	1990
Viet Nam	Complex of Hué Monuments	Yes	No	1993
Viet Nam	Ha Long Bay	No	Yes	1994

Annex 3

List of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Headquarters and Regional Offices Staff responsible for World Cultural & Natural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region

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