



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
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**To :** All Delegations and National Commissions of States Parties and Observers to the World Heritage Convention

**Cc:** Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee (ICCROM, ICOMOS and IUCN)

**Subject:** Dates of an Information Meeting and World Heritage Statutory Meetings in 2003

Dear Madam/Sir,

Following Decisions 26COM 26 and 26COM 27 of the 26th session of the World Heritage Committee (Budapest, 24-29 June 2002), please be informed of the dates of the two sessions of the World Heritage Committee which will take place during the year 2003.

**17 to 22 March 2003** (UNESCO Headquarters, Paris)  
**6th Extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee**

**29 June to 5 July 2003** (Suzhou, China)  
**27th session of the World Heritage Committee**

Please note that after consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee and the host country for the 27th session, one day has been added to the usual working period of the Committee, due to the need for extra time for the discussion and reporting.

Prior to the two Committee sessions, there will be an Information Meeting of the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, where brief reports from the 26th session of the Committee (Budapest, 24-29 June 2002) and from the Congress "*World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility*" (Venice, 14-16 November 2002) will be presented.

**22 January 2003**  
**Information Meeting of the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention**  
10:00-13:00 (Room IV, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris)

**Meeting of the States Parties in the Europe and North America region**  
**on World Heritage Periodic Reporting**  
14:30-16:30 (Room IV, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris)

**Meeting of the States Parties in the Asia and Pacific region**  
**on World Heritage Periodic Reporting**  
16:30-18:00 (Room IV, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris)

Please also note that the 14th General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention will take place during the period of the 32nd General Conference of UNESCO (29 September to 18 October 2003). When the exact dates of the General Assembly are confirmed, we will communicate them to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Bandarin', with a period at the end. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Francesco Bandarin  
Director  
UNESCO World Heritage Centre