



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

adresse postale : 7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP
téléphone : + 33 (0)1.45.68.15.72
fax : + 33 (0)1.45.68.55.70
e-mail: venice2002@unesco.org

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Paris, 24 February 2003

**To: Permanent Delegations and Observer Missions of all States Parties to the World Heritage Convention
National Commissions for UNESCO of all States Parties to the World Heritage Convention**

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

Subject: Information about events to mark the 30th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention in 2002

Dear Madam/Sir,

It is my pleasure to provide further information about the availability of documents relating to the various events organised by UNESCO to mark the 30th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention.

A report on the proceedings of the International Congress "**World Heritage 2002: Shared Legacy, Common Responsibility**", held at the Giorgio Cini Foundation on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice, from 14 to 16 November 2002 is currently under preparation. This will include reports on the thematic sessions, keynote speeches, summary reports of the nine associated workshops and a list of participants in the workshops and plenary meeting. Following approval of the report by the Director-General of UNESCO, it will be published in English and in French and be available for the World Heritage Committee at its 27th session in July 2003.

A draft list of the participants at the plenary meeting and nine associated workshops is available for consultation at the following Internet address: http://whc.unesco.org/venice2002/participant_list.htm Should you not be able to access this information from the Internet, please contact the World Heritage Centre to arrange for a copy to be faxed to you. The list contains the names and addresses of those who participated in the meetings. Any modifications should be sent by email to the following address:

venice2002@unesco.org or by fax for the attention of Ms Lynne Patchett at: +33 (0)1 45 68 55 70 by 10 April 2003.

The Congress website <http://whc.unesco.org/venice2002> contains the final programme and synthesis reports of the daily proceedings along with a selection of the keynote speeches.

Summary reports of the nine technical **workshops** held prior to the Congress are also available on line at <http://whc.unesco.org/venice2002/workshops>. The final reports of the proceedings of each workshop are currently under preparation and will be available for the World Heritage Committee at its 27th session in July 2003.

The final report of the **Virtual Congress on “World Heritage in the Digital Age”**, a series of meetings on applications of New Information and Communication Technologies to support World Heritage management, held in Paris (France), Beijing (China), Dakar (Senegal), Alexandria (Egypt), Tours (France), Strasbourg (France) and Mexico City (Mexico) is also being prepared. It will consist of a hardcopy publication on a selection of the best papers presented in the Virtual Congress and it will be complemented by a CD-Rom including an exhaustive presentation of all papers, also available on the internet on the following web site: <http://www.virtualworldheritage.org>

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

Yours faithfully,

Francesco Bandarin
Director
UNESCO World Heritage Centre