



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture  
Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura

7, place de Fontenoy  
75352 Paris 07 SP

**The Director-General**

Tel. : + 33.(0) 1.45.68.10.00  
Fax : + 33 (0) 1.45.68.55.55

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Sir/Madam,

At the recent 27th session of the World Heritage Committee (Paris, June/July 2003), some delegates noted that the Committee had not been officially informed of the appointment of the Secretary to the Committee.

As you are aware, the *Rules of Procedure* of your Committee state that:

*43.4 The Director-General shall appoint an official of the Secretariat of UNESCO to act as Secretary to the Committee, and other officials who shall together constitute the Secretariat of the Committee.*

In this regard, I am pleased to confirm that at the time of the creation of the World Heritage Centre in 1992, the Director of the World Heritage Centre was designated as Secretary to the World Heritage Committee. The Director and staff of the Centre together constitute the Secretariat of the Committee.

To: Members of the World Heritage Committee

In addition, I take this opportunity to confirm that the Director of the World Heritage Centre also serves as the Secretary to the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention and that the Director and staff of the Centre constitute the Secretariat of the Assembly. This is in accordance with Rule 14.2 of the *Rules of Procedure* of the General Assembly which states that:

*14.2 The Director-General of UNESCO shall appoint an official of the Secretariat of UNESCO to act as Secretary to the Assembly, and other officials who shall together constitute the Secretariat of the Assembly.*

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Koichiro Matsuura

cc: All States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention*  
Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee (ICOMOS, ICCROM and IUCN)