



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

7, place de Fontenoy  
75352 Paris 07 SP  
Tel. : + 33.(0) 1.45.68.15.71  
Fax : + 33 (0) 1.45.68.55.70

**04 AUG 2003**

Ref. CL/WHC.9/03

**To:** All States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention*

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

**Subject:** Comments on the revision of the *Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention*

Madam/Sir,

The World Heritage Committee, at its 27th session (Paris 30 June- 5 July 2003), adopted the following decision on the revision of the *Operational Guidelines*:

**27 COM 10** *The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Requests States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to provide final written comments on the revised *Operational Guidelines* presented in document WHC.03/27.COM/10 to the World Heritage Centre by 15 October 2003;
2. Further requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to review the written comments from States Parties, verifying that they comply with the decisions of the Committee, in particular Decision **6 EXT COM 5.1** and **Technical Annex**, and integrate them into the revised *Operational Guidelines* in English and French;
3. Requests the Chairperson of the 27th session of the World Heritage Committee to approve the final text of the revised *Operational Guidelines* on its behalf;
4. Decides that the revised *Operational Guidelines* will come into effect on 1 March 2004, at which time the World Heritage Centre will inform all States Parties and distribute the final text.

I would therefore be appreciative if you could send your written comments on the revised *Operational Guidelines* (enclosed as document WHC-03/27.COM/10), by 15 October 2003, to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre either by fax: (33 1 45685570, to the attention of Ms Sarah Titchen) or by email (s.titchen@unesco.org , cc to n.dhumal@unesco.org).

The revised *Operational Guidelines* (document WHC.03/27.COM/10) can also be found at the following web site:

<http://whc.unesco.org/2003.html>

Username: whc

Password: yangtze

Please accept, Madam/Sir, my gratitude for your collaboration on this matter and the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Bandarin'.

Francesco Bandarin  
Director  
UNESCO World Heritage Centre