



# ICOMOS EUROPE INITIATIVE

---

Sharing experience on  
Transnational Serial  
Nominations in Europe

---

ICOMOS



Title: ICOMOS EUROPE INITIATIVE: Sharing experience on Transnational Serial Nominations in Europe

ICOMOS International, issuing body.

Description: Includes bibliographical references.

Identifiers: ISBN 978-2-918086-43-7 (paperback)

Subjects: World Heritage | ICOMOS | ICOMOS National Committees | Europe | Serial Nominations | Transnational Nominations | Tentative List |

The designation of geographical entities in this document, and the presentation of the material, do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of ICOMOS or other participating organizations concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of ICOMOS or other participating organizations.

ICOMOS and other participating organizations disclaim any errors or omissions in the translation of this document from the original version in English, or from primary errors in any of the data interpreted within it.

Free non-profit use/reproduction of this document is encouraged, always quoting the original source.

Published in July 2020 by the International Council on Monuments and Sites

© ICOMOS, 2021

ISBN 978-2-918086-43-7

All rights reserved

#### Cover Photos - Credits and captions

From left to right – From top to bottom

##### Line 1

Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine © V. Slobodyan

Venetian Works of Defence between the 16th and 17th Centuries: Stato da Terra – western Stato da Mar (Croatia, Italy, Montenegro) - Orthophoto of City Fortress of Palmanova (Italy) © Municipality of Palmanova

Muskauer Park / Park Mużakowski (Germany, Poland) © Narodowy Instytut Dziedzictwa

Erzgebirge/Krusnohori Mining Region (Czechia, Germany) - Blatenský vodní příkop (Horní Blatná water ditch) © National Heritage Institute (NPU)

Struve Geodetic Arc (Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sweden, Ukraine) © UNESCO

##### Line 2

Erzgebirge/Krusnohori Mining Region (Czechia, Germany) - Example of the timbering in the Štola č. 1 (Adit no. 1) in Jáchymov © Jan Albrecht

Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine © V. Slobodyan

Belfries of Belgium and France © Ko Hon Chiu Vincent

The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement (Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan, Switzerland) - Chapelle notre-Dame du Haut, Vue de l'autel extérieur en Vue de l'autel extérieur © FLC/ADAGP

Belfries of Belgium and France © Editions Gelbart

##### Line 3

Heritage of Mercury. Almaden and Idrija (Slovenia, Spain) - Brus's Klača, water bar-rier on the Belca creek © Municipality of Idrija

Heritage of Mercury. Almaden and Idrija (Slovenia, Spain) - Puerta de Carlos IV © Joaquín García Rayo

Stecci Medieval Tombstone Graveyards (Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia) - Čengića Bara, Kalinovik © Adnan Šahbaz

The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement (Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan, Switzerland) - Detail east facade, UH, Marseille © FLC/ADAGP

Historic Centre of Rome, the Properties of the Holy See in that City Enjoying Extraterritorial Rights and San Paolo Fuori le Mura © Aneta Ribarska

##### Line 4

Historic Centre of Rome, the Properties of the Holy See in that City Enjoying Extraterritorial Rights and San Paolo Fuori le Mura © UNESCO

Prehistoric Pile dwellings around the Alps (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland) - Prehistoric villages were often protected by palisades (Fiaivé, IT-TN-02) © P. Pétrequin, Centre de la Recherches Archeologique de la Vallée de l'Ain

Prehistoric Rock Art Sites in the Côa Valley and Siega Verde (Portugal, Spain) © OUR PLACE The World Heritage Collection

Venetian Works of Defence between the 16th and 17th Centuries: Stato da Terra – western Stato da Mar (Croatia, Italy, Montenegro) - Side view of the Porta San Giacomo and the walls (Bergamo, Italy) © SiTI - Higher Institute on Territorial Systems for Innovation

# ICOMOS EUROPE INITIATIVE

---

Sharing experience on  
Transnational Serial  
Nominations in Europe

---

## **ICOMOS**

International Council on Monuments and Sites  
11, rue du Séminaire de Conflans  
94220 Charenton-le-Pont  
France

Tel: + 33 (0)1 41 94 17 59

E-mail: [secretariat@icomos.org](mailto:secretariat@icomos.org)

Web: <http://www.icomos.org>

# Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the many individuals and organizations who shared their expertise and experiences.

We are particularly grateful to all those who provided comments on various drafts of this document:

## List of Focal Points from ICOMOS National Committees who participated to this project:

**Albania:** Rudina Papavasili  
**Belarus:** Stsiapan Stureika  
**Belgium:** Thomas de Vos and Barbara Van der Wee  
**Bulgaria:** Gabriela Semova- Koleva  
**Czechia:** Martin Horáček  
**Finland:** Margaretha Ehrström  
**France:** Isabelle Longuet  
**Germany:** Jörg Haspel  
**Hungary:** Tamás Fejérdy  
**Ireland:** Gillian Lattimore  
**Israel:** Adi Sela Wiener and Oshrat Assa  
**Moldova:** Sergius Ciocanu  
**Netherlands:** Carol Westrik  
**Poland:** Bogusław Szmygin  
**Slovenia:** Sonja Ifko  
**Spain:** Celia Martínez Yáñez  
**Turkey:** Can Ş. Binan  
**United Kingdom:** Rebecca Jones

**European Heritage labels:** Bénédicte Selfslagh

## List of the members of the Task Force of this project:

Anaïs Andraud  
Gwenaëlle Bourdin  
Luisa De Marco  
Susan Denyer  
Tamás Fejérdy  
Martin Horáček  
Celia Martínez Yáñez  
Grellan Rourke  
Stsiapan Stureika  
Bogusław Szmygin  
Carol Westrik



## Executive summary

World Heritage transnational serial nominations embody the essence of the spirit of the World Heritage Convention: the principle of the universal value of heritage for humankind and the role of transnational cooperation in the recognition and conservation of the world's heritage.

However, increasing number and size of serial nominations along with issues emerged in their evaluation and in management practice have convinced the World Heritage Committee that additional reflection was necessary on serial properties. Between 2008 and 2010, meetings were held in Vilm (Germany) and then in Ittingen (Switzerland), which resulted in a modification to the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (2011)*.

After 10 years of implementation, the ICOMOS Europe Group, comprising the ICOMOS National Committees of the European region, considered that exchanging information within its network of professionals about preparing and managing cultural transnational serial nominations could prove worthwhile. Collecting inputs on positive outcomes, shortcomings, challenges and potential for an improved understanding of our heritage through the shared journeys undertaken by States Parties in dealing with transnational serial nominations seemed useful to improve the processes of identification, care for and transmission to future generations of these complex properties. Thanks to the financial support of the Walloon Region (Belgium) and the technical - logistical input of the ICOMOS International Secretariat, the initiative could be implemented.

The implementation of the World Heritage Convention is a primary responsibility of State Parties: this initiative simply intends to offer a contribution, by the ICOMOS network of professionals dedicated to the conservation of immovable cultural heritage, to strengthen understanding, protection, conservation and management of these heritage places in a sustainable manner.

A rapid survey of the World Heritage List shows that 147 out of 442 cultural or mixed properties in Europe are serial, as they include more than one component (around 33%). On the other hand, a very limited number of transnational serial nominations – 12 - are currently inscribed on the World Heritage List for the European sub-region and the Tentative Lists of States Parties altogether count 8 entries. The number might be slightly higher though, for some entries in the Tentative Lists concern sites that are planned as extensions of listed properties that, eventually, might become transnational series, and concepts for further transnational serial nominations are under development. These low numbers and the complex history of many serial nominations together indicate that, despite the potential interest, transnational serial nominations present several challenges to proponents.

The effort of this initiative has been to gather and compile lessons learned and suggestions that can be hopefully helpful within Europe, but also beyond this region, before deciding to embark on transnational serial nominations and, when such a decision is taken, to consider in advance their inherent complexities so as to achieve sound nominations that will be more likely effectively protected, conserved and managed in a spirit of transnational cooperation.

It is a general agreement that transnational serial nominations may offer rewarding outcomes with regard to professional and scientific collaboration, networking of grass-root associations and enhanced awareness among citizens of the significance and meaning of cultural heritage, when adequate resources are allocated to prepare and manage them.

The most successful transnational serial nominations have proved to be those which have a long history of collaboration and exchange established well before ideas for joining forces to prepare such project came up. From the survey, it has emerged that long-lasting professional collaboration and awareness-raising on the significance of complex heritage have been conducive to developing sound serial proposals, rather than the other way round, and that post-inscription collaboration is more likely to continue. However, they remain challenging for several reasons.

Gathering partners around a serial nomination project needs extra efforts in terms of time, funds, professional and human resources, compared with individual nominations, even when the proposal is confined to the territory of one State Party. Complexities increase when more than one State Party is involved, as legal and institutional frameworks and traditions may differ, pursued objectives and priorities may not coincide, professional and institutional capacities might be uneven and barriers, e.g., language, might limit the quality of the exchanges: all factors that ask for professional expertise and human dedication, diplomacy, inventiveness and long-term political support to establish a common ground on which to build the project.

Experience has shown that once initial ideas for a potential transnational serial nomination have emerged, preliminary formulations of the potential justification for Outstanding Universal Value are necessary at a rather early stage. A draft justification for Outstanding Universal Value is indispensable for considering the composition of a nomination and verifying the feasibility of a serial approach. Comparative frameworks and thematic studies offer opportunities to define relevant themes associated to, and facets of, the heritage phenomenon being considered and to elucidate the scope of the possible nomination project.

The internalisation by all key partners of the *Operational Guidelines* paragraphs dealing with the notion of Outstanding Universal Value has been underlined as an essential factor to understand whether the initial formulation of the potential nomination is feasible. A potential World Heritage series cannot be seen as a (potentially endless) catalogue of similar heritage resources, which have no functional links or cultural–historic relation, but it needs to demonstrate that its component parts exceptionally illustrate facets of a singular



phenomenon/ process. This remains a key conceptual challenge in many instances. Another key challenge, which might need some further clarifications from a procedural perspective, concerns to what extent serial nominations need to be fully conceived in advance even if the nomination might choose a phased approach.

The key parameters for inscription of any nominated site, including serial ones, is fulfilling at least one criterion, satisfying the conditions of integrity and authenticity and having adequate protection and management mechanisms in place. However, it has now become essential to have a clear picture of the whole potential serial nomination from the outset as this supports the credibility of the nomination and assists its assessment.

Those who have had experience of preparing serial nomination underline that the elaboration and refinement of the proposed justification for inscription is an iterative process which is closely intertwined with progressive elaboration of the comparative analysis and the refinement of the composition of the serial nomination.

When the scope of a transnational serial nomination has been tentatively outlined and the components and partners have been identified, it is paramount agreeing on a collaboration model between partners involved and clarifying their roles, responsibilities and tasks, on the basis of cooperation agreements. Setting up a viable process to define common principles for conservation, management and interpretation which are grounded on the potential Outstanding Universal Value of the candidate serial site with a view to harmonise their outcomes demands time and dialogue. This includes holding regular meetings, visiting the potential component sites, learning about partners' approaches, traditions and requirements in heritage conservation, discussing issues or challenges and possible solutions on site, and helps build relationship and trust, thus supporting the cooperation.

Involving local communities and applying rights-based approaches from the beginning of the nomination process is also essential as it gives them time to familiarise with the opportunities and responsibilities of World Heritage designations and may stimulate the growth of grass-root initiatives which can increase the sustainability of the transnational project. The involvement of local actors requires careful timing, particularly where the nomination has not emerged from local instances: creating unrealistic expectations among local communities can cause discontentment and bitterness with possible negative impacts on the self-image of the communities and their eventual resilience.

The work needed to document and set up the management system takes significant amounts of time and energy, because each partner needs to build a clear understanding of the situations in other component parts and relevant States Parties. Therefore, a well-supported suggestion is to start examining all aspects related to conservation, protection and management from the outset of the nomination development. Mapping needs and gaps helps delineate a credible roadmap for meeting the necessary requirements at the level of each component part and then of the overall series.

The planned reform of nomination process with the introduction of a two – phase process for the assessment – the Preliminary Assessment and the assessment of the full Nomination – will offer an opportunity to assess the feasibility of a serial approach in advance of preparing a fully -fledged nomination. In this way the investment of resources can be directed at only those nominations, including transnational serial ones, which exhibit a robust potential for demonstrating Outstanding Universal Value.

The Guidance on developing or revising Tentative Lists prepared jointly by ICOMOS, IUCN and ICCROM in 2020 includes suggestions that are useful for transnational serial nominations, although the document is more general.

Finally, the feed – back received underlines that transnational serial nominations are not the only way to develop cooperation among States Parties. Properties belonging to similar typologies or those which share common themes have several options for cooperation within the World Heritage system or through other programmes.

European programmes, such as the popular Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe or the European Heritage Label of the European Union, offer opportunities for collaboration among European States Parties to the World Heritage Convention and show complementarities with the World Heritage system. However, these programmes pursue different aims and objectives than those of the World Heritage Convention and these differences are important to be brought into focus so as to avoid confusion when transnational serial nominations are initiated.

The need for guidance on how to set up robust transnational serial nominations for World Heritage and long – lasting cooperation among partners has been underlined by a number of ICOMOS National Committees. The lessons learned and suggestions collected through the questionnaire and presented in this report can be seen as a first contribution to further stimulate the reflection on the opportunities and challenges inherent to this type of nominations and on the pre-conditions for achieving a sustainable project, able to further develop its vitality after inscription.

# Table of contents

1. Introduction .....	3
1.1. Background to the project .....	3
1.2. Objectives of the initiative.....	5
1.3. Working methods.....	5
2. Emerging themes for European transnational serial nominations.....	9
2.1. Transnational serial properties and sites in the World Heritage List and in the Tentative Lists .....	9
2.2. Emerging themes or common phenomena related to the European cultural history .....	14
2.3. Work in progress: transnational serial nomination projects under preparation .....	17
3. Lessons learned from preparing transnational serial nominations .....	19
3.1. Determining the potential Outstanding Universal Value .....	19
3.2. Harmonizing the rationale for selecting component sites .....	21
3.3. Establishing collaboration between States Parties in the nomination process and supporting the dialogue among relevant actors .....	23
3.4. Challenges of harmonizing designation and protection systems.....	24
3.5. Practicalities of establishing and maintaining transnational coordination committees. ....	25
4. Lessons learned from successfully managing inscribed properties .....	29
4.1. Maintaining meaningful dialogues between components sites after inscription .....	29
4.2. Ensuring consistent interpretation of the whole series at each component part .....	30
4.3. Using the serial property to promote dialogue and collaboration.....	31
4.4. Sharing information on development and potential threats.....	32
4.5. Harmonizing approaches to conservation and management.....	32
4.6. Ensuring centralized or coordinated data collection and documentation and necessary follow-up. ....	33
5. Synergies with and specificities of other European designations: the case of the European Cultural Routes and the European Heritage Label.....	35
5.1. European Cultural Routes Programme.....	35
5.2. European Heritage Label .....	37

5.3. Similarities and specificities of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and of the European Heritage Label with the World Heritage system.....	39
6. Suggestions for preparing and managing future European transnational serial nominations projects ...	43
7. Conclusions and follow up .....	47
8. List of Annexes .....	49

# 1. Introduction

The present initiative of the ICOMOS Europe Group, which comprises the ICOMOS National Committees of the European region, was undertaken with the operational support of the ICOMOS International Secretariat, and the financial contribution of the Walloon Region (Belgium).

Given the progressive popularity witnessed by transnational serial nominations for the World Heritage List, aware of the challenges and complexities faced by these projects and of the requirements stemming from the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, the ICOMOS Europe Group has discussed the opportunity of a cooperation and information exchange among European National Committees on preparing transnational serial nominations to the World Heritage List in Europe.

The coordinators of this initiative are fully aware that the implementation of the World Heritage Convention is primarily the responsibility of the governments of the State Parties which have adhered to the Convention. ICOMOS, as a worldwide non- governmental organisation of professionals from the cultural heritage sphere, and as one of the officially designated advisory bodies to the World Heritage Convention, is dedicated to the conservation and transmission to the future of the tangible heritage produced by our predecessors and of the values it has progressively accumulated.

Therefore, the primary aim of this initiative is to improve the conservation, understanding and transmission to the future generations of these complex heritage sites, by gathering lessons learned from the experience in the field and providing suggestions emerged from experience.

## 1.1. Background to the project

Transnational serial nominations were initially encouraged by the World Heritage Committee, as vehicles for international collaboration. By 2008, the Committee became concerned at the number, scale and complexity of transnational serial nominations (and other large national serial nominations), and, whilst recognising the benefits of international collaboration, considered there was a need for reflection.

A meeting was held in Vilm, Germany, in 2008 where concerns regarding serial nominations of natural heritage were discussed, then another meeting was held in Ittingen, Switzerland, 2010, to address the same concerns for cultural serial nominations. The Ittingen meeting analysed paragraph 137 of the Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention – at that time the valid version dated back to 2005<sup>1</sup> – and concluded that the text “may lead to a mere catalogue of sites without an adequate definition of the

---

<sup>1</sup> The 2005 *Operational Guidelines* read as follows: 137. *Serial properties will include component parts related because they belong to: a) the same historico-cultural group; b) the same type of property which is characteristic of the geographical zone; c) the same geological, geomorphological formation, the same biogeographic province, or the same ecosystem type and provided it is the series as a whole – and not necessarily the individual parts of it – which are of Outstanding Universal Value.*

functional links between the component parts, or an explanation as to how they contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property as a whole”.

The participants in the meeting suggested to clarify the requirements for the component parts of serial nominations. They also stressed that there should be clear links between the component parts of series and that each part should contribute substantially to the OUV of the whole series.

The Report of the meeting also addressed the potential unmanageability of some very large serial properties and encouraged State Parties to look at a range of options for nominating groups of properties instead of proposing them as a single serial property.

The report of the meeting was adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 2010. Changes to *the Operational Guidelines* for serial nominations were then proposed, reflecting the outcomes of the Ittingen meeting.

The revision of the Operational Guidelines that followed in 2011<sup>2</sup> led to the following text for paragraph 137:

§137. Serial properties will include two or more component parts related by clearly defined links:

- a) Component parts should reflect cultural, social or functional links over time
- b) Each component part should contribute to the OUV of the property as a whole in a substantial, scientific, readily defined and discernible way, and may include, inter alia, intangible attributes. The resulting OUV should be easily understood and communicated.
- c) (Consistently, and in order to avoid an excessive fragmentation of component parts, the process of nomination of the property, including the selection of the component parts, should take fully into account the overall manageability and coherence of the property (see paragraph 114). and provided the series as a whole – and not necessarily its individual component parts—is of Outstanding Universal Value.

These changes clearly demonstrate a shift of emphasis. Serial nominations should not be a catalogue of sites, but rather a collection or ensemble of sites linked specifically in some cultural, social, or functional ways over time and where each site contributes substantially to the OUV of the whole property, in a way that should be readily understood.

---

<sup>2</sup> Decision 34 COM 9B <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4249/>

## 1.2. Objectives of the initiative

The initiative has been launched **to collect information available** at ICOMOS national Committees **on transnational serial nominations, to learn from experiences** in their preparation and management, so as **to share lessons learned and suggestions** for improving the processes and the outcomes **of nominating and managing these complex sites**.

The initiative has also shown that, jointly, **ICOMOS National Committees**, a widespread network of heritage professionals, **can contribute to building a body of knowledge on this topic**. This knowledge could assist all involved parties in understanding and implementing protection and management requirements, including conservation and interpretation of these highly complex World Heritage properties, leading to more satisfactory results from these processes and the efforts deployed.

Another key objective of the initiative has been **also to learn more about other programmes for the identification and promotion of cultural heritage of Europe and to explore specificities and potential synergies between these programmes and World Heritage**.

## 1.3. Working methods

The implementation of the initiative has involved both online meetings and the elaboration and distribution of a questionnaire among National Committees of ICOMOS of the Europe Group.

Each National Committee was asked by the coordinating team to appoint a National Focal Point for the initiative, in order to ensure coordination and a clear channel of communication between the National Committees and the coordinating team itself.

A Task Force has been formed to coordinate and support the implementation of the initiative.

The initial meeting, which took place on *1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 via zoom*, helped clarify key concepts and requirements related to serial and transnational nominations and discuss methodological and practical aspects of the project. It was instrumental to discuss the draft questionnaire to gather information and experience on the topic.

The questionnaire has been articulated into six sections:

- **section one - gathers information on background material** on transnational nominations or projects,
- **section two - collects information on lessons learned** from previous transnational nominations, particularly on aspects related to Outstanding Universal Value, rationale for, and harmonisation of, the selection of the component parts, cooperation and dialogue in the nomination process among experts,

institutions, authorities and stakeholders, challenges in harmonising protection and management systems;

- **section three - focuses on lessons learned from managing transnational properties after inscription**, focusing particularly on the challenges of maintaining fruitful dialogue after the nomination, achieving a common approach to interpretation, sharing information on potential threats and harmonising conservation approaches and ensuring centralised /coordinated data collection and documentation;
- **section four - focuses** particularly on **advice that the ICOMOS National Committees find important to share** based on their experience in transnational nominations on identification of relevant themes or topics with regional or global breath, on nominations currently being prepared or conceptualised, on initiating potential transnational nominations, compiling the necessary research, thematic or comparative studies, organising collaboration and dialogue, framing the proposed Outstanding Universal Value and harmonising approaches to protection, management and interpretation;
- **section five - focuses on gathering information on European heritage programmes** and their position towards transnational serial heritage sites;
- **section six - seeks additional comments or advice** not covered in previous sections. The questionnaire format can be found in the annexes to the present report.

Responses were received from **18 National Committees**, namely from:

- ICOMOS Albania
- ICOMOS Belarus
- ICOMOS Belgium
- ICOMOS Bulgaria
- ICOMOS Czechia
- ICOMOS Finland
- ICOMOS France
- ICOMOS Germany
- ICOMOS Hungary
- ICOMOS Ireland
- ICOMOS Israel
- ICOMOS Moldova
- ICOMOS Netherlands
- ICOMOS Poland
- ICOMOS Slovenia
- ICOMOS Spain
- ICOMOS Turkey
- ICOMOS UK

The inputs provided by the above- mentioned National Committees form the basis of the present report. A wealth of bibliographic references and documentation has also been provided and it can be found in annex to the present report.

A number of transnational serial properties and nominations have been used throughout the report to illustrate experiences, examples and challenges although not all known transnational serial projects have been mentioned. Equally, concepts for possible future transnational serial nominations are also mentioned, as information has been provided by some ICOMOS National Committee on the matter.



Given the informative nature of the present report and the different mandate of ICOMOS National Committees<sup>3</sup> within ICOMOS' organisation, this report does not imply any assessment consideration on these sites; in case they will eventually be submitted as nominations, they will be assessed through the evaluation process as prescribed in the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*.

---

<sup>3</sup> The mandate of the ICOMOS National Committees is to promote the conservation, protection, rehabilitation and enhancement of monuments, groups of buildings, and sites, at the national and international levels and in accordance with definitions of the ICOMOS Statutes. National Committees are a channel through which individual specialists in each country take part in ICOMOS' international activities including, for example, specific missions entrusted to ICOMOS as one of the advisory bodies to the World Heritage Committee. However, National Committees are not responsible for, or directly involved in, the activities conducted by ICOMOS within the framework of the World Heritage Convention. These are coordinated and carried out by its two World Heritage units at the ICOMOS International Secretariat: the evaluation unit and the advisory and monitoring unit. To implement their tasks, the units rely on the vast professional network which include National Committees, International Scientific Committees and its individual members, chosen for their competence and experience.



## 2. Emerging themes for European transnational serial nominations

### 2.1. Transnational serial properties and sites in the World Heritage List and in the Tentative Lists

An analysis of the World Heritage List for Europe (on the World Heritage Centre website) has revealed that out of 442 cultural and mixed inscribed properties (464 for the entire Europe and North America region), 18 properties, include both transboundary (non-serial) properties and transnational serial properties, while transnational serial properties count 12 entries in the World Heritage List:

States	Title	Ref.	Inscription year	Criteria
<b>Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland</b>	Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1363">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1363</a>	1363	2011	(iv)(v)
<b>Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sweden, Ukraine</b>	Struve Geodetic Arc <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1187/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1187/</a>	1187	2005	(ii)(iv)(vi)
<b>Belgium, France</b>	Belfries of Belgium and France <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/943">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/943</a>	943bis	1999; Extension in 2005	(ii) (iv)
<b>Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan, Switzerland</b>	The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1321">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1321</a>	1321rev	2016	(i)(ii)(vi)
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia</b>	Stecci Medieval Tombstone Graveyards <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1504">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1504</a>	1504	2016	(iii)(vi)
<b>Croatia, Italy, Montenegro</b>	Venetian Works of Defence between the 16th and 17th Centuries: <i>Stato da Terra</i> – western <i>Stato da Mar</i> <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1533">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1533</a>	1533	2017	(iii)(iv)
<b>Czechia, Germany</b>	Erzgebirge/Krusnohori Mining Region <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1478">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1478</a>	1478	2019	(ii)(iii)(iv)
<b>Germany, UK of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b>	Frontiers of the Roman Empire <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/430">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/430</a>	430ter	1987; Extension 2005, 2008	(ii)(iii)(iv)
<b>Italy, Holy See</b>	Historic Centre of Rome, the Properties of the Holy See in that City Enjoying Extraterritorial Rights and San Paolo Fuori le Mura <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/91">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/91</a>	91ter	1980; Extension 1990	(i)(ii)(iii) (iv)(vi)
<b>Poland, Ukraine</b>	Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1424">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1424</a>	1424	2013	(iii)(iv)
<b>Portugal, Spain</b>	Prehistoric Rock Art Sites in the Côa Valley and Siega Verde <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/866">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/866</a>	866bis	1998; Extension 2010	(i)(iii)
<b>Slovenia, Spain</b>	Heritage of Mercury. Almaden and Idrija <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1313/">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1313/</a>	1313rev	2012	(ii)(iv)

Of these, six have been included in the World Heritage List after the modifications of the Operational Guidelines in 2011. However, a higher number of nominations has been proposed by State Parties and submitted to the Advisory Bodies' evaluation process and in some cases also examined by the World Heritage Committee.

Whilst the number of inscribed transnational serial properties is relatively low, a closer analysis of the basic data of inscribed properties reveals that 146 includes more than one component part, being 'de-facto' serial properties, comprised within the boundaries of one country. Of these, 123 national serial properties have been inscribed before 2012 and 23 since then. These figures show that the serial approach has been a common nomination strategy at the national level, while the transboundary or transnational cooperation remained rather limited until recently.

The search of the World Heritage Centre's database of Tentative Lists, applying the available research criteria reveals that the number of officially presented potential future transnational serial nominations is eight.

States	Title	Date of submission	Links
<b>Austria, Germany</b>	Frontiers of the Roman Empire	09/02/2015	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6004/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6004/</a>
<b>Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Germany, France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Italy</b>	Great Spas of Europe	11/07/2014	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5930/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5930/</a>
<b>Belgium, France</b>	Sites funéraires et mémoriels de la Première Guerre mondiale (Front Ouest)	14/04/2014	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5886/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5886/</a>
<b>Belgium, Netherlands</b>	Colonies of Benevolence (agricultural pauper colonies)	27/09/2013	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5841/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5841/</a>
<b>Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Serbia</b>	Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Danube Limes	31/01/2020	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6474/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6474/</a>
<b>Czechia, Slovakia</b>	Sites of Great Moravia: Slavonic Fortified Settlement at Mikulčice – Church of St. Margaret at Kopčany	06/07/2001	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/fr/listesindicatives/1559/">https://whc.unesco.org/fr/listesindicatives/1559/</a>
<b>Germany, Austria</b>	Frontiers of the Roman Empire – Danube Limes	04/02/2015	<a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6002/">http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6002/</a>
<b>Germany, Netherlands</b>	Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes	29/11/2018	<a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6365/">http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6365/</a>

Of these, four entries pertain to the same large- scale complex of remains of the Roman Limes.

The nomination history of what survives of this large-scale territorial defence infrastructure is long and complex and exemplifies the challenges to be faced and opportunities that can be harnessed, when embarking in highly complex transnational serial nominations.

The first milestone that triggered the process was the inscription of the Hadrian's Wall on the World Heritage List in 1987, on the basis of criteria (ii), (iii) and (iv). In 2005 an extension of the Hadrian's Wall was proposed by Germany. This extension implied a change in perspective: the Hadrian's Wall came to be seen as part of a much larger system of defensive infrastructure protecting the Frontier of the Roman Empire. Hence the name of the extended property changed into "The Frontiers of the Roman Empire: the Hadrian's Wall and the Upper German – Raetian Limes". This extension was the outcome of research, inventory activities and mobilisation which boosted further cooperation and studies. In 2008, the very year that the report of an EU funded project on the Roman Limes and its conservation challenges was issued, the transnational serial property was further extended to include the Antonine Wall in the UK. Since then, collaboration efforts have multiplied to define a common rationale to see further sections of the Roman Limes represented on the World Heritage List and, in 2017, a thematic study was completed, and a nomination strategy devised; the latter was taken note of by World Heritage Committee at its 41st Session in Krakow (41COM 8B.50). Between 2015 and 2020 further potential transnational serial sites have been included in the Tentative Lists of relevant State Parties. Taking into account the specificity of what survives of this complex Roman infrastructure, of the way it was built according to local terrain and conditions, and of the challenges related to protection and management of large serial properties, it became clear that seeking to achieve progressive extensions of the inscribed Frontiers of the Roman Empire did not reflect the specificities of the sections of the infrastructure and would have led to an excessively largescale and possibly unmanageable serial property. The thematic study has provided the framework for devising a nomination strategy for the remaining European frontiers articulated in three segments: the Lower German (i.e. Lower Rhine) frontier; the Danube frontier; the frontier of the Roman province of Dacia. Hence, the multiple entries in the Tentative Lists of respective State Parties, and particularly the latest inclusions, in 2020. All the segments are trans-national serial nominations and together can be seen to reflect the full extent of the Roman Frontier in Europe.

However, the Tentative Lists of State Parties include also individual entries related to the Roman Limes. Not all of these entries are the result of the thematic study or of the nomination strategy, as they have been considered before its conclusion: for instance, Slovakia entered the site "Limes Romanus – The Roman antique monuments on the Middle Danube" in its Tentative List in 2002; in 2009 Hungary included the site "Frontiers of the Roman Empire – Ripa Pannonica in Hungary" or, outside Europe, Tunisia included in 2012 the candidate site "Frontières de l'Empire romain: Limes du Sud tunisien". On the other hand, based on the outcomes of the thematic study, Romania included in its Tentative List also the independent serial candidate site "Frontiers of the Roman Empire – Dacia" in addition to participating in the transnational nomination of Bulgaria, Croatia and Serbia.

Although the Thematic Study cover the whole frontier, it only sets out a detailed strategy for Europe. More work needs to be undertaken to extend the strategy to the North African and the Arab region and there appears to be interest to achieve this, provided that resources can be identified.

The Great Spas of Europe is a transnational serial candidate site that entered the Tentative Lists of the relevant State Parties in 2014. However, also this serial proposal, which at the Tentative List stage comprises seven countries and 16 component parts, has some precedents. A nomination focusing only on the Spa of Luhačovice area (Czechia) with a collection of historic spa buildings and spa-related facilities was submitted in 2007. The property was deferred by the World Heritage Committee in 2008 in order to allow the State Party to conduct a more thorough study of the nominated property, particularly in the framework of a global thematic study on thermalism.

The serial nomination was preceded by exchanges and cooperation initiatives which have been supported by programmes of the Council of Europe and the European Union. In 2009 the European Historic Thermal Towns Association was created and in 2010 the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns was certified as a Cultural Route by the Council of Europe: it sees the participation of 18 countries and 51 spa destinations. Czechia was active in elaboration of a more thorough thematic study. Several spa towns, aware of the WHC decision regarding the Spa at Luhačovice, expressed their wish to collaborate on the wider nomination project. Several meetings and workshops have been organised since 2008 on the topic. The international group of experts was approved by participating States Parties and then specifically given mandate to develop the coordinated multiple entry in the Tentative Lists, with the collectively agreed OUV definition, through a process of progressive selection of the potential component parts. The starting site “the Spa at Luhačovice” was excluded from this series because the experts’ opinion on attributes conveying the essence of the series had revealed some difficulties with this site. Czechia, coordinating this project, agreed, although that result was very painful for representatives of the town supporting the process for a long time. Establishing the Mayors Steering Group of all nominated towns was a very helpful part of the whole process, as well as early meetings of site managers. In the Tentative List of Czechia two earlier entries are still included – “The Spa at Luhačovice” and “The West Bohemian Spa Triangle” – waiting for the result of the complex serial nomination.

A group of serial properties deserving a separate analysis are those that have their component parts all included within the boundaries of the same State Party but show close links with properties located in other State Parties, although they are not officially considered as ‘transnational properties’. In some cases, the same set of values and criteria have been chosen.

One example is the Routes of Santiago de Compostela in France: it has been inscribed in 1998 on the basis of the same criteria – (ii), (iv) and (vi) - as the property inscribed in Spain in 1993, originally under the name of “Route of Santiago de Compostela”. Further extended in Spain in 2015, the series was renamed “Route of Santiago de Compostela: French Route and Routes of Northern Spain”. When evaluating the French nomination in 1998, ICOMOS noted the different nomination strategy adopted by France, which selected essentially monuments related to the pilgrimage route, rather than stretches of the actual road. However, ICOMOS assessed positively the French nomination and confirmed the validity of the same three criteria as for the 1993 Spanish nomination. ICOMOS further expressed the wish that France and Spain could combine their nominations into one single serial property. On the other hand, the final destination of the route – the pilgrimage town of Santiago de Compostela – had also been listed separately and earlier, under criteria (i), (ii)

and (vi), in 1985. These properties are early inscriptions: apart from the extension in Spain, achieved in 2015, they have all been inscribed before 2000. Retrospectively one can note that the tangible reflections of the pilgrimage in the name of St. James has been the object of nominations with slightly different focuses and strategies and has not resulted in one transnational serial property or in a heritage route. The Tentative List of Portugal includes “the Routes of Santiago de Compostela: the Routes in Portugal” proposed under criteria (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi).

Some World Heritage properties, although limited to national boundaries, relate to themes that have a supranational breadth: the “Incense Route – Desert cities of Negev” in Israel, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2005, is one of the most evident cases.

A careful examination of the Tentative Lists of State Parties suggests that the panorama might be slightly more nuanced than what is reflected by the outcome of the research on the World Heritage website, and the number of potential transnational candidate sites might be higher. The reasons for this gap might be varied, for instance, for earlier Tentative List entries or, if candidate sites were added to the Tentative Lists at different moments, the fact that the site could be part of a transnational/ transboundary site was not necessarily annotated, or appropriate consultations between possible partners did not take place or simply such an idea did not occur in a proper time. It is the case, for instance, of the “System of Fortifications at the Confluence of the Rivers Danube and Váh in Komárno – Komárom” included in the Tentative Lists of Slovakia and Hungary in 2002 and 2007 respectively or of the “Trading Posts and Fortifications on Genoese Trade Routes from the Mediterranean to the Black Sea”, included first in the Tentative List of Ukraine in 2010 and in 2020 in that of Turkey. Finally, two entries in the Tentative Lists of Norway and of Iceland, despite the fact that they do not appear in the list of transnational candidate sites, are explicitly indicated as part of a transnational serial project: the “Viking Monuments and Sites / Vestfold Ship Burials and Hyllestad Quernstone Quarries” (Norway) and “Viking Monuments and Sites / Þingvellir National Park” (Iceland).

In a number of cases, candidate sites have been added to Tentative Lists as potential extensions of already inscribed properties. Examples include the “Moravian Church Settlements” in the United States of America, as a potential extension of the World Heritage property “Christiansfeld, a Moravian Church Settlement” (Denmark); “The Laponian Area - Tysfjord, the fjord of Hellemobotn and Rago”, a candidate site in Norway which is explicitly proposed as an extension of the mixed inscribed property “Laponian Area” in Sweden; the “Tokaj Wine Region” in Slovakia, candidate for the potential extension of the homonymous inscribed property in Hungary and the candidate site “The old villages of Hollókő and Rimetea and their surroundings” in Romania, which is proposed as a potential extension of the World heritage property “The old village of Hollókő and its surroundings”.

The responses to the questionnaire by ICOMOS National Committees highlight that some of the national serial Tentative List entries might be part of cultural phenomena or processes that found tangible expression in geo-cultural areas which stretch beyond current country boundaries. It is the case, for instance, of the “Crusader Fortresses” and “Mount Karkom”, in the Tentative List of Israel since 2000, “The Area of the Prespes Lakes:

Megali and Mikri Prespa which includes Byzantine and post-Byzantine monuments” included in the Tentative List of Greece in 2014, and the “Worship wooden architecture (17th-18th centuries) in Polesye”, included in the Tentative List of Belarus in 2004.

Some entries in the Tentative Lists of State Parties, although limited to the national level, show the ambition, at least from their title, to stimulate the interest of other State Parties and gather around them the necessary energies to become transnational projects. Examples include the “Route of Magellan. First around the world”, and the “Sites of Globalisation”, included in 2017 in Portugal’s Tentative List, or the “Galilee Journeys of Jesus and the Apostles” in the Tentative List of Israel since 2000.

The diversified spectrum of cases reflected by the World Heritage List and by the Tentative Lists of State Parties and the relatively low number of inscribed properties show that transnational serial nominations pose several challenges to proponents due to the multiple complexities and requirements they entail both in the elaboration and in the subsequent management phases.

## 2.2. Emerging themes or common phenomena related to the European cultural history

The analysis of the World Heritage List and of the Tentative Lists of State Parties shows that the themes that can inspire transnational serial nominations are innumerable, covering a variety of tangible cultural expressions spanning from Prehistory to recent events or movements. The increase in heritage programmes run at the European level, through the Council of Europe and the European Union has also stimulated and facilitated exchanges and cooperation among State Parties within the region. These programmes have been either supportive agents for new nominations – such as the case of the Great Spas of Europe - or vehicles of resources to support the cooperation and preparatory work necessary to achieve complex nominations, i.e., in the case of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire.

The responses received from ICOMOS National Committees reveal that continuous reflection and collaboration among scholars as well as heritage authorities have brought into focus themes and phenomena reflecting the history of Europe and of its multifaceted cultures and complex developments that can be tangibly reflected by heritage sites.

ICOMOS National Committees have underlined that the potential for transnational nominations is to be tested against the transnational/ transboundary essence of the historic – cultural phenomena that heritage sites reflect in the light of the comparative analysis. A robust and scientifically- grounded narrative is essential to understand, document and explain the global or regional breath of specific historical processes or events manifested in heritage sites. Furthermore, potentially relevant themes will need to be tangibly reflected by heritage sites, capable to meet the requirements of the Operational Guidelines for World Heritage: justify at least one selection criterion, satisfy the conditions of integrity and authenticity as well as fulfilling requirements



for protection and management. For serial nominations, additional requirements are to be satisfied, namely those indicated in paragraphs 114 and 134 – 139.

Indeed, a theme that is already reflected on the World Heritage List but that continues to be illustrated by new proposals is the diffusion in what is known as the Viking Age of the Norse people and of their culture throughout Europe and beyond, and of the outcomes of their contacts with other populations. The topic is complex and would benefit from a thematic study in order to bring into light key aspects of their emergence, expansion and of their culture as well as those sites that can tangibly reflect in an outstanding manner their legacy.

A theme that has begun to be recently explored through ad-hoc nominations is the tangible heritage of the Jewish presence in Europe, particularly their burial culture. Awareness-raising and inventory initiatives have been set up in Europe, including the creation and certification by the Council of Europe of the European Route of Jewish Heritage. With regard to World Heritage, this theme has been reflected essentially by the inclusion on the Tentative Lists of European States Parties of national individual or serial candidate sites. Potential for international cooperation among European countries and between them and countries from other regions exist, particularly on documentation of surviving sites<sup>4</sup> and studies on the ties among Jewish communities and how these ties are tangibly reflected in heritage sites.

The heritage of Astronomy and Aerospace heritage are two interlinked themes that have been explored over more than a decade through symposia, expert meetings or comparative studies.

The heritage of Astronomy has received much attention within the World Heritage framework since the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, when the Astronomy and World Heritage Initiative was launched. Since then, many activities have been carried out, including expert meetings and conferences in 2004, 2008, 2009, promotion activities, an implementation strategy for the initiative, partnership between UNESCO and the International Astronomical Union (IAU), the issuing of an ICOMOS – IAU Thematic Study in 2010, further updated in 2017, which outline sub-themes, conceptual issues and cover a variety of case studies<sup>5</sup>. A number of sites related to the history of astronomy are already inscribed on the World Heritage List and more have been included on the Tentative Lists of State Parties, although these are essentially national candidate sites.

Aerospace history and heritage has been the subject of several conferences and meetings since 2000. Initially focused on specific sites, the development of the above-mentioned heritage of astronomy initiative also boosted the investigation of the heritage of aerospace technological heritage. An initiative in that direction was launched by the World Heritage Centre in 2007 and in 2015 a side event was organised at the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the World Heritage Committee. Organised by the German National Committee of ICOMOS and the German National Commission for UNESCO, with the support of the German Aerospace Centre, an expert meeting took place in 2017 in Berlin on the heritage potential of sites related to the history of aerospace, with the aim to

---

<sup>4</sup> For instance, the Foundation for Jewish Heritage <https://www.foundationforjewishheritage.com>

<sup>5</sup> More information on UNESCO activities on astronomy and Archaeoastronomy heritage can be found at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/astronomy/>

promote informal exchanges among experts from different countries. A key theme emphasised by most participants was the importance of aerospace sites for connecting the globe and humankind, and therefore considered potentially interesting for possible transnational serial nominations. However, it was noted that the military use, the relation to war and forced labour that is interlinked with the history of aerospace technology would need to be documented and communicated transparently. Suggestions to explore separate individual typologies of sites of aerospace history - early airports aerodynamic test facilities, launch sites, early earth/ground stations - have been made. However, it was the general agreement that further research would be needed. Challenges faced by these sites in many countries include the failure to be recognised as heritage worth being protected and conserved. While recognising the value of transnational nominations, participating experts also recognised that these nominations require a long- term perspective.

The Iron Curtain and Green Belt European Border Landscape is another theme that has recently witnessed an increased attention and has had a long period of gestation. The Green Belt Initiative was initiated in 1989 already, as a project for preservation and development of this German landscape of memory symbolising the overcoming of Cold War and recognising the habitat developed along the Iron Curtain, crossing inner German borders, as a result of the closure of frontier zones due to the political division of Europe in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The project was initiated by the German Union for the Environment and Nature Conservation, who has ever since been advocating the preservation and development of the Green Belt and promoted the idea of a European Green Belt. In 2003 other existing initiatives throughout Europe merged into the “Green Belt Initiative Europe” and nowadays the initiative consists of some 150 governmental and non-governmental organisations, universities, spatial development planners and other participants from 24 countries. During the European Cultural Heritage Year, a summit on “Iron Curtain and Green Belt. Networks and opportunities for cooperation in a European Border Landscape” took place during which representatives of various disciplines examined the diverse facets of cultural and natural heritage left by the post-war history of a divided Europe along the Iron Curtain trail and discussed perspectives for a stabilised international cooperation between institutions operating in the field of natural and cultural heritage. A “Feasibility Study World Heritage Green Belt” funded by the German Federal Ministry of Environment is available and the prospects for its potential nomination have also been discussed.

The heritage of the 20<sup>th</sup> century covers the tangible legacy of the ‘recent past’ and, as such, spans across several themes of the Global Strategy Thematic Framework, as well as period- specific themes. The legacy of the century that has just expired, can be reflected by a variety of possible nominations, be they individual, serial, national or transnational, depending on the subject. However, nominations illustrating the 20<sup>th</sup> century can also pose challenges because of the lack of the adequate distance in time to ensure a comprehensive appraisal of the potential significance this heritage and of the parameters to define the relevant periodisation and the comparative framework. A number of properties have been inscribed on the World Heritage List related to this overarching theme, but “The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement” is the only transnational serial property inscribed on the World Heritage List. Responses submitted by ICOMOS National Committees consider the urban socialist heritage sites in Central and Eastern Europe as topics falling within this broad theme. An ICOMOS Europe Group Expert Meeting was held in 2013

in Warsaw on Socialist Realism and Socialist Modernism, to explore potential World Heritage proposals from Central and Eastern Europe. Subsequently, a series of seminars took place between 2015 and 2018 co-organised by Belarusian and German institutions to discuss the topic of urban and architectural legacy of Socialism and the possibilities to develop transnational serial nominations on this theme.

Prehistoric sites, particularly related to the diffusion of Neanderthals and of modern humans throughout Europe, are also themes brought to the fore thanks to recent discoveries.

A number of other topics have been put forward in the responses to the questionnaire by ICOMOS National Committees: they illustrate heritage typologies, rather than themes, and include 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century bridges – a study for a possible extension of Vizcaya Bridge in Spain has been mentioned by the Spanish ICOMOS National Committee - Garden cities, airports and wind tunnels, war cemeteries, cooperative housing estates, radio- and television-towers, Benedictine monasteries, wooden churches, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe.

Some proposals revolve around specific areas, such as the stone churches of Kiev' Rus, to be found in the territory of Belarus, Ukraine and Russian Federation or the castles of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, in today Belarus and Lithuania, or the farmstead settlements of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in Belarus, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Ukraine, specific vernacular structures called "Umgebinderhäuser" in the Upper Lusatia (Germany) and adjoining regions (Poland, Czechia).

It is evident from the spectrum of potential themes and typologies that the list risks to be endless. A good point of departure for Europe, the most represented Region on the World Heritage List, would be a strategic document structured around some fundamental questions: e.g., what heritage sites in Europe, reflecting its complex history and diverse cultures, would exhibit potential outstanding value for all humanity and would enrich the World Heritage List so as to present a more faceted and rich mosaic of Europe's inheritance?

### 2.3. Work in progress: transnational serial nomination projects under preparation

According to the information shared by the ICOMOS National Committees who responded to the questionnaire, a number of transnational serial nominations are being prepared, revised or have been already submitted for evaluation as part of the World Heritage nomination process.

These include the serial nominations of the "Great Spas of Europe", the "Colonies of Benevolence" and the nominations of different segments of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire, some of which already finalised and submitted to the evaluation process, i.e., the sections of the "Danube Limes (Western Segment)" and of "The Lower German Limes".

Belarus and Poland have been working on the transboundary nomination of the Augustów Canal, in the Tentative List of both State Parties since 2004 and 2006 respectively. In 2019 an international conference was organised on the topic and it was attended by diplomats and politicians from both States Parties.

Bilateral cooperation and consultations continue to define a nomination strategy for the Tentative List entry “Sites of Great Moravia: Slavonic Fortified Settlement at Mikulčice – Church of St. Margaret at Kopčany” (Czechia). The recent debate considers the possibility to add other component parts that might contribute to bring into focus the potential OUV for the whole series.

Dialogue seems to continue with a view to include the mining site of Huancavelica (Peru) in the transnational serial property “Heritage of Mercury. Almadén and Idríja” (Spain, Slovenia), as recommended by the World Heritage Committee with its decision 34COM 8B.40.

Some ICOMOS National Committees mentioned ongoing processes for including candidate serial transnational sites in the Tentative Lists. For instance, Ireland has been collaborating for some time with Canada to explore the potential of nominating the Valentia Transatlantic Cable Station and Hearts Content Cable Station as a transnational serial site and, given the positive outcome of the feasibility study completed in 2016, to include the components in their respective Tentative Lists<sup>6</sup>.

Other ICOMOS National Committees have gathered information on initial concepts of potential nominations, which however have not yet been considered for inclusion on the Tentative Lists of relevant State Parties. For instance, two candidate sites included as individual national proposals in the Tentative List of Czechia and Poland – the “Paper Mill at Velké Losiny” and the “Paper Mill in Duszniki-Zdrój” – have apparently been considered for a transnational serial proposal including sites also from Germany, France and possibly from Italy and the Netherlands. Reportedly, depending on the outcomes of the comparative study, the opportunity to expand the series to include further partner will be assessed.

The ICOMOS National Committee of Poland also mentioned other initial concepts for possible future transnational serial projects which, however, have not yet been included in the Tentative List of the State Parties. They focus on early modern mountain strongholds, fortified landscapes in Central and Eastern Europe and Northern Italy, and the urban heritage resulted from post-World War I reconstruction efforts.

It is interesting to note that several of the identified and above-mentioned themes and typologies overlap with Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. This is understandable because of the multiple levels of cooperation that State Parties to the World Heritage Convention belonging the European sub-region can harness. However, differences exist between the European programmes and the World Heritage Convention and also between programmes at the European level and they need to be recognised. This aspect is further discussed in chapter 6 of this report.

---

<sup>6</sup> Further information can be found at <https://valenticacable.com>

## 3. Lessons learned from preparing transnational serial nominations

### 3.1. Determining the potential Outstanding Universal Value

Determining the potential Outstanding Universal Value is a crucial step for the success of a World Heritage nomination. The reported experiences on this aspect seem to vary considerably. In some instances, the existence of properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List has been seen as beneficial for defining the justifications for inscription of subsequent extensions or related nominations. It is the case of the “Frontiers of the Roman Empire”, which also benefitted from a thematic study that contributed to clarify the specific way in which each section of the Limes reflects a specific aspect of the overall undertaking and highlights the significance of the whole infrastructure. Whilst the first extensions were carried out after the inscription of the Hadrian’s Wall, it has to be noted that joint research and common reflection had been carried out as part of the process nominating Hadrian’s Wall, thus facilitating the task of the subsequent nomination teams. Already in 2004, the international advisory body to the “Frontier of the Roman Empire” (FRE) known as Bratislava Group agreed to limit the time period relevant for the potential nomination of sections of the Roman Limes from Trajan to Septimius Severus (c. 100-200 AD). That position assisted in delimiting the time and territorial scope of the potential nominations that could fall under the FRE umbrella. The subsequent thematic study and nomination strategy have been instrumental to devise a nomination approach of coordinated, although independent, serial nominations and their phased extensions. Both the study and the framework have provided a reference for drafting the justification of inscription of the different stretches of the Roman Limes, making more straightforward the elaboration of the proposed justification for inscription of its sections.

In other cases, it has been noted that building the justification for inscription of additional components as an extension of a property already inscribed on the World Heritage List or to add extra components to complement an already defined tentative single site might be more difficult, as there is much less space to change perspective and to redefine the proposal. When a project for a nomination is based since the beginning upon a serial and transnational approach, building the justification results from a common work and the process is more fluid. However, experience demonstrates that the difficulty in developing a robust justification for inscription depends on the level of complexity of the historic–cultural phenomenon or process that the serial heritage site is meant to reflect and on the role each component part is expected to play in expressing that phenomenon or process. In some instances, transnational extensions of serial properties revealed to be very straightforward, such as in the case of the extension of the Rock Art sites of Côa Valley with the addition of sites in Siega Verde, in Spain. On the other hand, according to the respondents, defining from the outset the right combination of the components with their attributes and justifying their inclusion in the series for the transnational property “Heritage of Mercury. Almadén and Idrija” has been more challenging, as demonstrated by its complex nomination history.

It has been noted that framing the proposed justification for inscription and choosing component sites is very different for new proposals of serial sites than for extensions. Unfortunately, the Operational Guidelines treat extensions of other properties and serial nominations in the same framework, even if they entail conceptual and, to a certain extent, also procedural differences. Paragraph 136 of the Operational Guidelines refers to extensions that, if successful, will generate new transboundary sites; the paragraphs dealing with serial properties do not mention explicitly the case of extensions where individual properties may be turned into transnational series as a result of the extensions: the lack of explicit guidance on extensions of transnational series is perceived as a gap in the Operational Guidelines.

It is a shared view among respondents that the nomination process is always a long-term project from the initial idea to its progressive refinements and the official submission of the nomination, even for cases that were found relatively straightforward. Indeed, particularly for complex heritage sites, time for preparatory work, exchange and reflection is necessary before the appropriate formulation for a robust justification for the inscription is achieved.

Outlining the proposed justification for inscription requires a lot of exchanges, dialogue and negotiations among experts, national and local authorities' representatives, and communication with stakeholders and rightsholders. It is an iterative process as the outcomes of the comparative analysis may confirm the draft justification or indicate that further adjustments and refinement are needed. Experience has shown that the initial phase of drafting the justification for inscription is also a moment in which the serial approach is tested: working on the comparative analysis and on the rationale for the selection of component parts assists in responding to key questions, such as whether the serial approach is justified, whether the selected component parts are justified elements of the series, and whether a phased approach or a different nomination strategy might be more appropriate. A lesson learned is that this exercise achieves its most fruitful outcome if carried out well before the inclusion in the tentative list of the candidate serial site. It requires intellectual and methodological discipline as well as diplomacy to achieve a robust draft justification for inscription combined with a coherent list of components of the series. For instance, in the straightforward case of the extension of the Rock art sites of Côa Valley, although other sites exhibiting similar values and features existed in both countries, they did not reflect the same singularity as the sites in Siega Verde and it was mutually agreed not to include them in the proposed extension.

The inclusion of individual World Heritage properties into transnational series has also shown the substantial difference of the Outstanding Universal Value agreed for the individual property and for the serial property, bringing into light the multiple levels of significance that a heritage site is able to express.

### 3.2. Harmonizing the rationale for selecting component sites

The ICOMOS National Committees concur that harmonising the rationale for the selection of component parts represents a challenging phase of building transnational serial nominations.

Experience shows that a variety of interests intervene in the preliminary selection of components. Not necessarily all are directly linked with the capacity of these sites to contribute to illustrate the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the candidate series. There is a tendency to propose more components than those that are necessary. However, past serial nomination processes have also brought to light the difficulty to include sites that would be important to convey the potential outstanding significance of the series. While a 'less-is-more' approach is deemed beneficial, the focus of the rationale for the selection of the component sites should be the integrity of the series and the original contribution of each component to express the proposed justification of inscription. Notwithstanding substantial efforts to develop a harmonised approach, State Parties may still pursue a different rationale when selecting the components on their territory, which may weaken the nomination.

A careful and rigorous comparative exercise among the eligible component parts has proved to be a key step in building a robust series and also to contribute progressively to a refined draft justification for inscription. Each component part is expected to contribute in an original and specific manner to the Outstanding Universal Value of the series and experience shows that this may be challenging in many instances, though crucial.

Another issue encountered in defining a joint, harmonised rationale for the selection of the components might derive from the divergence in the approach adopted by each participating State Party in delineating the component parts, i.e., by defining generous boundaries for the components located in one state party and very tight ones for those in another country. The result may be an uneven series which pose conceptual problems, for instance if the serial nomination is presented as a cultural landscape, as well as management and interpretation challenges.

The reasons for the difficulties in setting out a coordinated approach to the selection of potential component sites include differing protection and management systems, ownership right legislation, specific national or local interests, national rather than international focus of the experts' views, pressures and resistances, and the uneven conditions of protection and conservation of potential component parts. Differences in approach are in most cases unavoidable and a great deal of discussions, negotiations and weighing of interests are indispensable for a viable and consistent approach to take shape.

The selection process of component parts has an influence on the justification for inscription. Therefore, it is beneficial to apply a multi-stage selection and iterative process and to test the outcomes repeatedly against the results of a continually refined comparative exercise and against the response to the question whether each selected component represents the best contributing element for the integrity of the proposed series.

In more than one case of transnational serial nominations, external advice or peer reviewing has been instrumental to raise questions on the adopted rationales and to refine the selection of the proposed component parts. The challenges of agreeing upon a common rationale for the selection of component parts of serial nominations, including transnational ones, has had an impact on their nomination history and where eventually component parts had to be excluded from the proposals, managing failed expectations was more difficult than when a careful and rigorous selection occurred early in the nomination process.

As a matter of fact, understanding as early as possible whether a series is robust and coherent enough to stand the technical evaluation process or not may generate less frustration and more positive outcomes.

For instance, the ICOMOS National Committee of Czechia shared the lessons learned from the experience of a transnational project focused on Jože Plečnik's work in Ljubljana and Prague – “The Timeless, Humanistic Architecture of Jože Plečnik in Ljubljana and Prague”. The project was eventually ended by mutual agreement between Slovenia and Czechia due to the difficulties encountered by the nomination team in defining a convincing justification for inscription reflected by a robust and balanced selection of component parts in both countries. Two different nomination strategies emerged for Plečnik's work: one, highlighting Plečnik's churches, would have justified the transnational serial approach and the retention in the series of the Church of the Most Sacred Heart of Our Lord in Prague, which was an initial site at the very beginning of the bilateral cooperation, and the later one, focussing on the architect's urban interventions in Ljubljana. The complexity of Plečnik's re-shaping of the Slovenian metropolis proved to be crucial for determining a more convincing justification for inscription and gradually overshadowed other “outstanding” aspects of the architect's work. External advice to the transnational team helped to clarify the approach and both State Parties decided to terminate the cooperation. The candidate series was modified accordingly and included in the Tentative List of Slovenia only. Albeit unfulfilled, the “World Heritage ambitions” for the church in Prague helped its public recognition including its designation as a national cultural landmark by the Government, increased the financial support from public resources, reinforced the conservation measures, enlarged the number of information materials including those in foreign languages, and supported the consensus of all relevant stakeholders aiming to the landmark's proper maintenance.

Overall, lessons learned from the experience of serial nominations highlight that external, international advice has proved to be crucial in moving forward the discussion. This essential critical reflection might be difficult to achieve within the nomination team alone. Equally, adhering to the scientific basis of the proposal has in many instances helped manage external pressures, internal tensions and expectations.



### 3.3. Establishing collaboration between States Parties in the nomination process and supporting the dialogue among relevant actors

The collaboration among State Parties can vary greatly and depends on many factors: first and foremost, the political will and professional dedication of the teams are key for a successful transnational nomination process. Continuity of engagement and involvement of the same partners and experts have been highlighted as conditions for fruitful collaboration. Even more important though is the clear definition of respective roles and an explicit acknowledgement of the shared responsibility for the nomination. For instance, the long-term cooperation established for the transnational serial nomination on the “Frontier of the Roman Empire” was built upon extensive exchanges among civil servants, expert advisors, scholars, who agreed upon strategies for designation, documentation, mapping, and facets of potential outstanding significance. It has progressively come to be governed by a multi- tiered management structure, which in turn has enabled the team to get access to European Union funding and to develop projects allowing the partners to come together and make progress work towards the various nominations.

When clear roles and responsibilities are not defined, unbalances and tensions may arise, for instance leading partners may be considered as the only responsible ones for running the process and cover collective costs, thereby impacting negatively on the collaboration. In such situations, partners might progressively reduce their transnational commitment and focus on national priorities, which are seen of greater importance or easier to be fulfilled. A transnational application is taken from the quota of one participating Member State. This may create tensions between Member States, in particular when all States involved do not have the same priorities for their World Heritage nominations. At the national level there may be competition between several nominations in the participating Member States and there may be political considerations. The need for diplomacy should not be underestimated.

A lesson learned from various experiences is that intergovernmental cooperation agreements, working methods, structures and instruments facilitating collaboration and joint work need to be conceived, agreed upon and set up at a relatively early stage of transnational nomination projects. These initial efforts may also help clarify differences in the administrative articulations, organisational culture and competences in participating State Parties and anticipate possible challenges and barriers to a straightforward cooperation in the nomination process but also in the management, conservation and interpretation of the serial nomination.

Early reciprocal understanding of legal, institutional and management systems in place at each State Party and for each participating partner of the transnational serial nomination may also help find solutions for overcoming obstacles or take into account the differences of the systems, while focusing on common principles and harmonised outcomes. When doing so, a common language for the cooperation is progressively developed. If the nomination process is harnessed also to achieve a better understanding of the different systems, the bases for a long- lasting collaboration may be laid down and cooperation is more likely to continue after the end of the nomination process, regardless of whether the serial site is inscribed on the World Heritage List or not.

A key requisite for successful collaboration is that the co-operation takes place on a professional basis as far as possible, and that the participating professionals are properly empowered at the scientific and decision – making level.

The involvement of the local population and communities has become increasingly important: if local attitudes, needs, willingness to participate differ significantly from state to state, collaboration among stakeholders representing local levels becomes a challenge. In order to be effective and sustainable, it is advisable to establish connections and preliminary elements of collaboration already in the early phases of the preparation of a nomination.

The level of dialogue among the different actors of a nomination process is in most cases a function of clear cooperation conditions. Mechanisms for decision–making process need to be established, explained to all actors, including local communities and representatives. The outcomes of experts’ work and assessment and the consequences in terms of potential composition of a series, the proposed inclusion or exclusion of component parts, actions required with regard to heritage protection and conservation, just to name a few, need to be clearly communicated to decision makers, stakeholders, civil society organisations and local populations. It might be useful to consider involving facilitators who can assist in establishing a meaningful dialogue among different parties. Creating ad-hoc groups to discuss specific topics at different levels, from scientific to governance and implementation proved to be a useful framework for collaboration. Clear channels of communication and exchanges between expert groups and decision–makers at the different relevant administrative levels of each State Party need also to be established at an early stage. Taking into account expectations, particularly of decision–makers and local populations, and giving adequate consideration to their management are crucial aspects. If these are carefully addressed, establishing a fruitful and trust-based dialogue among the various actors on the necessary steps to develop transnational nomination projects will be easier and the positive potential of the collaboration process can be more effectively harnessed.

Good dialogue requires generic human skills, such as the capacity to listen and appreciate the richness of diversity, seeking common grounds and what unites rather than what divides, being open to the unexpected and empathic.

### 3.4. Challenges of harmonizing designation and protection systems

Heritage designation and protection systems vary considerably across European countries as they refer to different juridical and administrative traditions and organisations. In some countries, heritage protection is regulated and implemented at the national level, in other ones, implementation is devolved to district or municipal level administrations. In federal states, the situation might be even more complex: heritage protection may be regulated at the federal level and /or state or regional level, whilst implementation may be devolved to authorities closer to the citizens. Protection mechanisms and instruments also differ significantly from one another, in some cases stemming from specialised legislation and in other being embedded in spatial planning

systems. These differences need to be discussed by partners as they may have significant impacts on key aspects of the nomination, from the selection of the component parts, the design of their boundaries and of those of the buffer zones and of their respective protection mechanisms, to the architecture of the joint management system. The level of participation in transboundary structures may also vary, depending on the distribution of mandates.

Differences in legal and institutional systems may seem very difficult to overcome but only in a very limited number of cases differing approaches to heritage protection lead to unsurmountable difficulties in developing transnational serial nominations. On the contrary, transnational cooperation can contribute to raising awareness and interest towards strengthening the legal and institutional system for heritage protection. Experience demonstrates that focusing on agreed common objectives and outcomes for protection and conservation through the most appropriate instruments in each country is a viable way to achieve effective coordination, even when systems are different, rather than aiming at harmonising the systems themselves.

Reciprocal knowledge of respective systems helps clarify to what extent harmonisation of the systems is feasible or useful and spot potential limitations, barriers and shortcomings in coordinating mechanisms and instruments. It may also assist to identify viable options to align principles, aims and objectives that can be supported by existing instruments or by tools and mechanisms compatible with the existing legal and institutional system. Given the varying levels of protection between countries, pursuing the strongest level of protection available in each country appears recommendable rather than the highest.

Establishing an overarching management system and ensuring regular meetings among representatives of State Parties at different management levels, at the stage of preparing the nomination, is necessary for coordination and communication. It contributes to increasing mutual acquaintance about the systems in place in each State Party and to devise strategies and mechanisms that can reduce shortcomings deriving from differing legal and institutional systems well in advance and before a transnational serial nomination is finalised.

### 3.5. Practicalities of establishing and maintaining transnational coordination committees.

Solutions in establishing transnational coordination committees for nominations and for the management after inscription on the World Heritage sites are diversified.

However, it is a shared opinion that establishing and maintaining a transnational coordinating committees needs time, funds and commitment to evolve in a way that all those representing the proposed components and their relationships at the different governance levels become fully understood. Language and translation costs may be a barrier from the beginning and solutions should be found to avoid that any component site or State Party is disadvantaged.

Achieving a functioning coordinating committee faces significant challenges, particularly when the involved State Parties have different organisational and legal background, when distribution of competences and responsibilities among the different administrative level and when the decisional autonomy is not the same among the representatives of all State Parties. The political and economic agenda of participating State Parties also has an influence on the effectiveness on the work of a transnational coordinating committee.

All these differences have an impact on decisions concerning financial and logistical support for joint work and on the distribution of responsibilities among partners: deciding who does what also depends on the scope of the mandate of the represented institutions within their own national systems, e.g., with regard to seeking, receiving and managing funds from international agencies.

Whilst rotating roles and responsibilities is a fair principle, e.g., in coordinating committees and working groups, its implementation might raise challenges where differences in mandates are significant among representatives from State Parties' institutions.

Lessons learned from transnational serial nominations suggest that a good cooperation is possible only when each State Party is aware of the political and operational issues for the others. Solutions to issues may vary considerably and so do timeframes for reaching decisions for individual States Parties, depending upon working conditions, which need to be factored into the wider collaborative planning. This is particularly the case for designation and protection systems as well as for the way in which factors affecting conservation are dealt with. Preparing for Periodic Reporting may require discussion and negotiation but offers a valuable opportunity to strengthen or revive partnerships and collaboration. A functional way to achieve involvement at multiple levels is organising coordination meetings at venues at, or near to, component parts. This contributes to building a sense of involvement and ownership and also enable the participation of the management staff, who otherwise may not have opportunity to participate, thus favouring to some degree involvement also at the component level, which is crucial to build good working relationships. Coupling meetings and technical visits favours discussing specific issues on site, get directly acquainted with projects and establish continuing effective professional relationship which might, in turn, resolve potential problems earlier.

Experience has demonstrated that a clear distinction between issues to be dealt with at the national and local levels and those that need being discussed and overseen at transnational level is fundamental to harness effectively international cooperation. Practice in transnational collaboration has identified the following key principles:

- a. Information: each State Party takes ownership and responsibility towards UNESCO for the issues that concern only their part of the series, whilst at the same time keeping other participating State Parties informed and giving them the opportunity to assist to address issues.
- b. Alignment: State Parties need to feel jointly responsible towards UNESCO for issues with transnational character and involve more than one component or State party.

- c. Ultimate responsibility: a multi-state structure is recommended with a mandate to remedy and decide when any conflicts occur between the Site holders at national level.

In order to ensure that intergovernmental governance works properly, balance in numbers and qualifications of State Parties' representatives is needed for the establishment of transnational committees. Equally, mechanisms to seek solutions and achieve decisions when overarching governance committees are unable to reach consensus need to be envisaged. Formulas might differ from case to case, depending on the level of autonomy of participating representatives. However, steps and procedures to reach the appropriate government level in each State Party is necessary to guarantee that decision-making does not get blocked.

Good chairing of decision-making transnational bodies, operating with open mind and independent from politics, is reportedly essential for effective good governance. Beyond the establishment of mandatory decision-making or governance bodies, supporting and stimulating expert exchange in an open-minded setting for high-level dialogue such as seminars, panel meetings also produces long – lasting effects and favour convergence and the ability to solve issues effectively and creatively.

Respondents to the questionnaire agreed that fruitful and effective transnational collaboration resulted from more than a decade of dialogue and partnership. The cooperation frequently started well before ideas of transboundary or transnational nomination proposals were launched. This suggests that robust transnational nomination projects are often the outcomes of much longer and wider collaboration and cooperation, rather than the other way round.



## 4. Lessons learned from successfully managing inscribed properties

### 4.1. Maintaining meaningful dialogues between components sites after inscription

Feed-back received from respondents to the questionnaire indicates that post-inscription exchanges and collaboration among component sites of serial inscribed property vary considerably. Components of transnational serial properties which were inscribed on the World Heritage List a long time ago seem to have less opportunities for meeting and exchanging with the other component sites. This may be related to specific circumstances under which the nomination process was developed at the time, the low or uneven engagement at the site level, the role and mandates of the managing entities, the unclarity about requirements and needs for transnational overarching management systems or structures.

It is a shared view that maintaining effective and useful dialogue among the components of a series is not easy and certainly not for transnational serial sites. This is particularly at the case when at the site and local level the World Heritage designation has not been made one's own at the site and local level and the nomination process has been conducted essentially by national or regional agencies, with limited proactive participation by municipalities and communities. Where the nomination process has been able to mobilise not only experts, heritage agencies or administrations, but also sectors of society and individual actors, especially locally, this large basis of engagement will favour the continuation of exchanges, dialogue and collaboration.

For more recent transnational serial nominations, the requirements for coordination, shared governance and for an overarching management approach have brought partners of transnational projects to invest time and energy in advance of and during the nomination process to establish and implement the systems, structures and mechanisms for coordinated governance. This joint work not only produces necessary instruments for cooperation but also enables dialogue and professional relationships which is an important factor to sustain collaboration over time, when the pressures of reaching the objective of the inscription are over. The overarching coordination and management system is helpful particularly when clear objectives and tasks are mentioned for all levels of the management structure and an action plan exists for the transnational collaboration, involving all component parts.

## 4.2. Ensuring consistent interpretation of the whole series at each component part

Coordinated interpretation lies at the very essence of the concept of serial nominations, as component parts of a series are to be understood by everybody, and not just by experts, as elements of a larger picture, which acquire their full meaning and significance in relation to all other component parts and to the whole they form together.

Experiences of serial inscribed properties in coordinating the interpretation approach show an uneven degree of success in implementation. In some cases, a specific interpretation programme has been carried out for the whole series, with explanations of the importance of the whole serial property and of the contribution of each component part to the series in guidebooks and texts for excursions made available at all component sites.

For other serial properties, one single ad-hoc webpage dedicated to the series presents its Outstanding Universal Value and component parts as well as projects, events and initiatives related to the series or to each component. In some cases, visitor – centres, museums or permanent exhibition have been established at specific component parts to present and communicate the significance of the whole series. In other instances, even editorial lines are being developed jointly for the serial property; this nurtures cultural exchanges, deepening of the knowledge of the property and its component parts, which in turn feeds into the interpretation programmes of each component. For larger series, such as the “Frontier of the Roman Empire”, European Union funded projects have contributed towards for the interpretation of the whole series and its sections and for assisting partners of the “Frontier of the Roman Empire” to align their presentation of information.

However, situations where the focus of the interpretation remains at the level of the individual component and of its specific heritage significance rather than presenting it also as an element of a larger series are not uncommon. Weaknesses in presentation and interpretation depend on many factors, such as the underlying motivations that triggered the nomination process, the insufficient collaboration on interpretation among managers of the component sites, pre-existing arrangements at each components for presentation and communication of the heritage values of the place, insufficient time dedicated to prepare the serial nomination in particular for its future management and interpretation, the challenges linked to presenting and interpreting a series the component of which may be diverse and scattered throughout a large area or region. Heritage interpretation and presentation are often given less attention and resources during the preparation of a nomination and so preparatory work for their conception and elaboration is postponed to a later stage but, after inscription, there is less motivation and pressure to push things forward.



### 4.3. Using the serial property to promote dialogue and collaboration

Reported experiences in harnessing serial properties to promote dialogue and collaboration among a variety of actors prove to be different from one property to another. In a number of cases, a wider range of activities on research, dissemination and education are implemented, via joint programmes, colloquia, seminars and conferences, as well as exhibitions, sectorial cooperation agreements, or even the preparation of promotional activities, such as joint ticketing systems and promotion packages.

In some cases, i.e., the “Archaeological sites of Côa Valley and Siega Verde”, such collaboration has extended beyond the components of the property itself and involve other related sites, thereby expanding and multiplying the level of collaboration and enriching further the understanding of the significance of the property in relation to similar ones.

In the case of the serial transboundary property “Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps”, the components which were not included in the final composition of the series still benefit from being included in the management of the WH inscribed property. Similarly, the components of “The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement” that have not been retained in the final series, maintain their participation in the network through the *Fondation le Corbusier*, thus building emulation and experience sharing for conservation issues.

Agreeing on objectives and on a set of actions to be pursued within a given timeframe has proved helpful, in most cases, to keep vital the collaboration and the dialogue, as there were planned activities to be implemented and objectives to be fulfilled.

For some serial properties, the inscription and subsequent presentation activities have facilitated relationships and exchanges between the populations at component sites, through exchange visits, targeted tourist promotions, thus stimulating emulation among associations, entrepreneurs and other local actors from different component sites. Elsewhere collaboration between local and regional administrations has taken the form of twinning programmes between cities; agreements among universities have activated joint research programmes and so did scientific meetings and symposia. As a result of the collaboration and efforts deployed to prepare the transnational nomination of the “Heritage of Mercury. Almadén and Idrija”, an international network of researchers on the ‘Intercontinental Royal Road’ was established: it is coordinated by the UNESCO-ICOMOS Chair of the Higher Technical School of Mining Engineers of the Polytechnic University of Madrid.

#### 4.4. Sharing information on development and potential threats

Information made available on this subject by the respondents was rather limited, suggesting that experience in information sharing on factors affecting one or more component parts remains a sensitive issue. Some transnational management systems include principles to be respected on this matter and envisage communication/reporting mechanisms among State Parties partners in serial properties on any emerging conservation or management issues. This is particularly important because a threat to one component part impacts on the whole series and not just on the affected component, therefore sharing information is essential.

Some respondents considered that the most effective way of sharing experience and exchanging information on potential issue remain the annual periodic meetings, which involves all parties concerned. Partners report on their initiatives, particular problems encountered, events, upcoming, ongoing or implemented projects. Combining meetings with visits at component sites is also seen as a viable occasion to combine multiple objectives, from enhancing involvement and sense of ownership to discussing potential problems or issues on the spot and exchanging on possible solutions. Accounts of these meetings remain crucial to keep record of the dialogue and exchanges.

Early reporting and Heritage Impact Assessment tools and mechanisms are central for a timely identification of potential problems and exchanges of good practices on the topic among partners in transnational nominations/ properties can contribute to the improvement of early detection of potential threats that need to be managed.

#### 4.5. Harmonizing approaches to conservation and management

Respondents share the view that this represents a considerable challenge, especially when managing entities of individual component parts are very different from one another and not necessarily related to the cultural heritage sector. Depending on the proposed OUV, the articulation of the series, the number and diversity of components and of the State Parties involved, difficulties or barriers may increase in agreeing and putting in place coherent approaches to the conservation of the component parts in order to ensure that its Outstanding Universal Value and its attributes are dealt with on the basis of agreed specific OUV- based conservation principles and guidelines.

Attention and efforts are focused in most cases on aligning and coordinating management planning, mechanisms and monitoring as these are seen as the relevant aspects at the transnational level, particularly in relation to Periodic or ad-hoc reporting. However, as much as interpretation, harmonised conservation, the way it is conceived, programmed and carried out at the different component parts and in each State Party, proves fundamental to ensure that the serial property is understood as a whole and not as a collection of individual sites. Achieving such harmonisation needs thoughtful appraisal of the existing situation, a joint vision and shared methodological principles inspired by the OUV of the serial property. These might take time to develop, as conservation is in most cases deeply rooted in national traditions and conceptions about the nature

of heritage, monuments and their transmission to the future and, to a certain extent, taken as a granted benchmark.

In case of complex serial properties, such as the “Frontier of the Roman Empire”, addressing this issue requires international, national, regional and local layers of management and significant amount of time for exchange among site managers and conservators. For instance, Management Plans are prepared for each component part of the inscribed Roman Limes-a situation which apply to many other serial properties-and management bodies are committed to international working, collaboration and partnerships. Wherever possible opportunities are sought to harmonise plans to achieve commonality of structure with a longer-term aim of synchronising the review process across the three inscribed sections. Partners actively look for ways to undertake joint, transnational work and projects. Respondents agree that achieving and maintaining collaboration, alignment of instruments and mechanisms require significant time, staff and financial investment. Focusing only on a limited number of impactful activities maximise outcomes and effectiveness.

#### 4.6. Ensuring centralized or coordinated data collection and documentation and necessary follow-up

Coordinated data collection and documentation is not an easy task for transnational serial properties, particularly where different approaches, mechanisms and instruments are in place. Coordination on the matter become even more difficult where there is no ad-hoc unit dedicated to this activity within the transnational management partnership and no consideration has been given to this aspect early in the process of developing the nomination and its management system. In the case of “The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement”, the le Corbusier Foundation which pre-existed the nomination project, played this role for coordinating and centralising the gathering of the information. This example shows the usefulness of structures already in place also to carry out tasks related to the World Heritage requirements.

In a number of cases, thanks to transnational collaboration, it has been possible to set up coordinated monitoring systems, indicators and data collection. In this regard, the common framework of the Periodic Reporting exercise has been instrumental to align approaches as well as dedicating joint work that is necessary to fill in the questionnaire. Including objectives and actions regarding data collection coordination and sharing in management documents and cooperation commitments assist management staff to exchange more easily information and further develop exchange platforms. For instance, in the case of the “Frontier of the Roman Empire”, the structures of databases holding information about the different sections of the property has been harmonised, although they are not yet accessible through a single research portal. For the “Frontier of the Roman Empire”, as in many other cases, the main difficulty resides in the fact that each States Party operates at different sets of timescales, with different institutions, under different challenges and pressures, and trying to align projects to fit these can be challenging. However, some respondents found that the obligations arising

from the Periodic Reporting exercise activated efforts to achieve coordination, harmonisation and interoperability of management data systems.

Documentation and data may vary significantly, from archival documentation, publications, studies, photographic and cartographic material, to inventories, thematic maps, reports, plans, programmes and ad-hoc documentation produced for the nomination and progressively augmented. Identifying the key documentation and data that need to be gathered to ensure comparability and accessibility among component parts at least for management purposes can help phase progressive harmonisation. Experience suggests that focussing first on the state of conservation, the documentation and the knowledge of the property is advisable. Periodic Reporting obligations may assist in prioritising this necessary activity.

## 5. Synergies with and specificities of other European designations: the case of the European Cultural Routes and the European Heritage Label

Two European programmes for cultural heritage are worth being examined in relation to the objectives of this Pilot Project: The European Cultural Routes established in 1987 by the Council of Europe and the European Heritage Label, established by the European Union in 2011.

Whilst both programmes include sites that have been inscribed on the World Heritage List, they pursue different objectives. It is therefore important to understand their scope and rationale and their selection or recognition criteria. Checking the processes and challenges encountered by applicants, as well as the synergies and complementarities between these European programmes and the World Heritage framework provides additional feedback for transitional serial World Heritage nominations.

### 5.1. European Cultural Routes Programme

The Cultural Routes Programme was initiated in 1987 by the Council of Europe, the Strasbourg-based organisation with 47 Member States<sup>7</sup>. As per 2020, there are 20 Cultural Routes covering all types of heritage, thus not only immovable cultural heritage. The objectives of the Cultural Routes Programme include co-operation in research and development, enhancement of memory, history and European heritage, cultural and educational exchanges for young Europeans, contemporary cultural and artistic practice, cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development.

In order to receive the certification “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe”, the theme of the route needs to meet six criteria<sup>8</sup>, which altogether reflect the objectives of the programme.

Project initiators have to form a multidisciplinary network that includes at least 3 Council of Europe Member States. Such networks must work according to a set of six requirements<sup>9</sup> designed to achieve the overall aim of the programme.

---

<sup>7</sup> The following description is based on the Cultural Routes Programme website and Resolution CM/Res (2013)67 revising the rules for the award of the “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification. More information about the Cultural Routes Programme and the Enlarged Partial Agreement on the Cultural Routes can be found at: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/cultural-routes/home>

<sup>8</sup> The criteria as set out in the Decision are the following: be representative of European values and common to at least three countries of Europe; be researched and developed by groups of multidisciplinary experts from different regions of Europe so as to ensure that the activities and projects which illustrate it are based on consensus; be illustrative of European memory, history and heritage and contribute to an interpretation of the diversity of present-day Europe; lend itself to cultural and educational exchanges for young people and hence be in line with the Council of Europe’s ideas and concerns in these fields; permit the development of initiatives and exemplary and innovative projects in the field of cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development; lend itself to the development of tourist products in partnership with tourist agencies and operators aimed at different publics, including school groups.

<sup>9</sup> The requirements for the network include the following: present a conceptual framework based on research carried out into the theme chosen and accepted by the different network partners; involve several Council of Europe Member States through all or part of their

The certification is awarded by a Governing Board composed of representatives of the Ministries of Culture and/or Tourism, in consultation with the relevant intergovernmental committee of the Council of Europe. If necessary, the Board seeks advice from one or more expert consultants as well as other pertinent committees or bodies of the Council of Europe. All Cultural Routes are subject to a 3-year evaluation.

An Institute of Cultural Routes has been created in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as the technical agency of the programme. It animates the network of itineraries, has a documentation centre, organises training courses and offers support to existing routes and those who wish to create a new cultural route.

The Programme has developed a methodology for the creation of the Cultural Routes, which consists of the following successive steps:

1. Defining a theme and creating a scientific council;
2. Identifying heritage elements;
3. Creating a European Network with legal status;
4. Coordinating common actions;
5. Creating common visibility.

Cultural Routes are thus per definition serial and transnational. Some World Heritage Sites are or have become Cultural Routes, or vice versa. The *Pilgrim routes of Santiago de Compostela* or the *Saint James way* was the very first route to be certified by the Council of Europe in 1987; the Spanish part was inscribed as a serial World Heritage site in 1993 (with an extension in 2015), whilst the Route of Santiago de Compostela in France was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1998. *The architectural world of Le Corbusier: an Outstanding contribution to the Modern Movement* was first inscribed on the World heritage List in 2016 as a transnational serial site with components in three regions of the world. Three years later, *Le Corbusier Destinations: Architectural Promenades* was recognised as a Cultural Route of the Council of Europe with the explicit aim to involve all works by Le Corbusier and not only the components of the World Heritage site.

---

project(s), without excluding activities of a bilateral nature (at least three States should be involved); plan to involve as large a number as possible of States Parties to the European Cultural Convention (ETS No. 18) as well as, where appropriate, other States; ensure that the projects proposed are financially and organisationally viable; have a legal status, either in the form of an association or a federation of associations; operate democratically.

## 5.2. European Heritage Label

The European Heritage Label was originally an intergovernmental initiative. When it was transformed into a European Union initiative in 2011, new selection and monitoring criteria and procedures were introduced <sup>10</sup>. European Union Member States can participate on a voluntary basis (to date 25 Member States). So far, 48 sites have already received the European Heritage Label.

Information on the sites awarded the European Heritage Label can be found at the following URLs: <https://ec.europa.eu/culture/cultural-heritage/initiatives-and-success-stories/european-heritage-label-sites> and <https://geo.osnabrueck.de/ehl/EN/map>.

The word 'sites' covers a much broader meaning than under the World Heritage Convention: The European Heritage Label can be awarded to any type of heritage - natural or cultural, immovable or movable, intangible or documentary. The main focus of the European Heritage Label is not on conservation, but on the promotion of the symbolic European values and the significant role these sites have played in the history and culture of Europe or the European integration, and on presenting the history and significance of these sites to the public.

The main goals of the initiative as spelled out in the Decision No 1194/2011/EU establishing the Label, are to contribute to:

- Strengthening European citizens' sense of belonging to the Union, on the ground of shared values and elements of European history and cultural heritage, as well as an appreciation of national and regional diversity;
- Strengthening intercultural dialogue.

Intermediate objectives to achieve the main aims are:

- Stressing the symbolic value and raising the profile of sites which have played a significant role in the history and culture of Europe and/or the building of the Union;
- Increasing European citizens' understanding of the history of Europe and the building of the Union, and of their common yet diverse cultural heritage, especially in relation to the democratic values and human rights that underpin the process of European integration.

---

<sup>10</sup> The following description is based on the text of Decision No 1194/2011/EU establishing a European Union action for the European Heritage Label. The Decision, the European Panel Reports and other information on the European Heritage Label can be found on the website of the European Commission: <https://ec.europa.eu/culture/cultural-heritage/initiatives-and-success-stories/european-heritage-label-sites>

The Decision lays down the following criteria:

- (a) Candidate sites for the label must have a symbolic European value and must have played a significant role in the history and culture of Europe and/or the building of the Union<sup>11</sup>;
- (b) Candidate sites for the label must submit a project (...) including six elements aiming at awareness- raising, sustaining education, multilingualism, networking, creative activities<sup>12</sup>;
- (c) Candidate sites for the label must submit a work plan which includes eight mandatory elements, to ensure sound management, the site preservation, widest access to visitors, quality of presentation and communication, respect of principles of sustainability<sup>13</sup>.

It is clear from these criteria that the European Heritage Label is not centred on the notion of "Outstanding European Value". The European Heritage Label does not seek the 'best of the best' or 'representatives of the best' but requires site managers to contextualise their heritage and to present it in a European perspective and to disseminate the European significance of the sites to the public.

The initiative is carried out under the responsibility of the European Commission. In contrast to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, the European Heritage Label does not have a secretariat to assist candidate sites, organise activities for labelled sites, provide support to the European Panel in charge of selection and monitoring or other activities. However, the Commission provides a toolbox to the sites for communication and funds a network of the European Heritage Label sites, which is run by one of them, the Imperial Palace (Vienna, Austria).

The selection procedure for the European Heritage Label takes place every two years and is carried out in two stages: a pre-selection at national level and a selection at European level by a Panel of experts. Each Member State is free to organise the pre-selection as it sees fit and may submit a maximum of two pre-selected sites

---

<sup>11</sup> The Decision lists specific sub-criteria for criterion (a). They are: (i) their cross-border or pan-European nature: how their past and present influence and attraction go beyond the national borders of a Member State; (ii) their place and role in European history and European integration, and their links with key European events, personalities or movements; (iii) their place and role in the development and promotion of the common values that underpin European integration.

<sup>12</sup> The Decision lists the following six mandatory elements for criterion (b): (i) raising awareness of the European significance of the site, in particular through appropriate information activities, signposting and staff training; (ii) organising educational activities, especially for young people, which increase the understanding of the common history of Europe and of its shared yet diverse heritage and which strengthen the sense of belonging to a common space; (iii) promoting multilingualism and facilitating access to the site by using several languages of the Union; (iv) taking part in the activities of networks of sites awarded the label in order to exchange experiences and initiate common projects; (v) raising the profile and attractiveness of the site on a European scale, inter alia by using the possibilities offered by new technologies and digital and interactive means and by seeking synergies with other European initiatives; (vi) The organisation of artistic and cultural activities which foster the mobility of European culture professionals, artists and collections, stimulate intercultural dialogue and encourage linkage between heritage and contemporary creation and creativity is to be welcomed whenever the specific nature of the site allows this.

<sup>13</sup> The Decision lists the following mandatory elements for criterion (c): (i) ensuring the sound management of the site, including defining objectives and indicators; (ii) ensuring the preservation of the site and its transmission to future generations in accordance with the relevant protection regimes; (iii) ensuring the quality of the reception facilities such as the historical presentation, visitors' information and signposting; (iv) ensuring access for the widest possible public, inter alia, through site adaptations or staff training; (v) according special attention to young people, in particular by granting them privileged access to the site; (vi) promoting the site as a sustainable tourism destination; (vii) developing a coherent and comprehensive communication strategy highlighting the European significance of the site; (viii) ensuring that the management of the site is as environmentally friendly as possible.



per selection year; the European Panel selects a maximum of one site per Member State per selection year. Tips on how to prepare robust nominations have been included in the Panel Reports<sup>14</sup>. Every four years, the European Heritage Label sites are monitored to check whether they still meet the criteria.

In addition to 'single sites', the European Heritage Label can be awarded to 'national thematic sites' and 'transnational sites'. Transnational sites are located in at least two Member States; they focus on a common theme, develop joint activities and submit a joint application under the coordination of a leading site. Out of a total of about 100 candidate sites since the first selection year in 2013, there have been 8 transnational applications. Among these, 3 transnational sites have been labelled. The *Werkbund Estates in Europe* was awarded the European Heritage Label in 2019 and involves 4 EU Member States (Germany, Poland, Czech Republic and Austria). The *Former Natzweiler concentration camp and its satellite camps* (France, Germany) labelled in 2017 and the *Colonies of Benevolence* (Belgium, Netherlands) labelled in 2019, each involve 2 countries and have many components parts.

Some European Heritage Label sites are preparing World Heritage nominations, but it happens also the other way round. E.g. *Bois du Cazier* in Marcinelle, one of the component parts of the *Major mining sites of Wallonia* (Belgium) inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2012, was awarded the European Heritage Label in 2017.

### 5.3. Similarities and specificities of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and of the European Heritage Label with the World Heritage system

The feedback received during this Pilot Initiative indicates that those who wish to develop a transnational application for the Cultural Routes or the European Heritage Label are faced with challenges that are quite similar to those who prepare transnational serial nominations for World Heritage. Challenges are encountered at several levels, from scientific preparation, to practicalities, to the requirements of sustainability of management and state support, as sites are nominated by States. Therefore, it is useful to compare experiences and practices, both in terms of preparing nominations and managing transnational serial sites. These aspects are considered in turn, after a comparison of the programmes.

With only five selection years so far, the European Heritage Label is a recent initiative in comparison with the 40 years of World Heritage listings and the 30 years of managing the Cultural Routes. The experience from the existing schemes was taken into account in the Decision to establish the European Heritage Label: the intention was to ensure that the Label had added value and was complimentary to existing initiatives, in particular to the World Heritage List, the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, and the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe<sup>15</sup>. The number of labelled sites is limited to maximum one per country every two years; the processes are light and the application forms are not complicated (25-30 pages for a 'single' application).

---

<sup>14</sup> How to prepare a robust European Heritage Label Application, last updated in the 2019 Selection Report, *ibid.*

<sup>15</sup> considerandum (8) and article 5 of the Decision to establish the European Heritage Label

The added value and complementarity of the European Heritage Label with the other programmes is demonstrated by the sites themselves: feedback received indicates that site managers carefully consider whether to apply for the European Heritage Label, the Cultural Routes Programme or for World Heritage listing. Some heritage sites seek only one recognition; others pursue several recognitions over time. They prepare tailor-made nomination files for each programme because the focus and criteria are different. As a result, the justifications, the perimeter of the site (in the case of immovable heritage) and the list of the component parts are not necessarily the same for World Heritage Listing as for the Cultural Route recognition or for the European Heritage Label.

As already mentioned, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe as well as the European Heritage Label of the European Union cover not only immovable cultural heritage but also movable and intangible heritage. The Cultural Routes programme has cooperation, enhancement of memory and of European history and values, and promotion of sustainable tourism as its main focus. It is oriented also to sustain contemporary cultural and artistic practice. The European Heritage Label does not focus on conservation of the labelled sites either but pursues a more political goal: strengthening a sense of belonging to the European Union and reinforcing intercultural dialogue through a better understanding and appreciation of the shared yet diverse heritage. Hence the request that sites are of European significance (criterion a), that they have a project to present this European significance to the public (criterion b), and that they have the operational capacity to carry out this project (criterion c).

The European Heritage Label Panel Reports highlights that the main difficulty encountered by most candidate sites, whether serial or not, lies in demonstrating their European significance: this may be due to the fact that the concept is still relatively new, at least in comparison with the notion of national significance or Outstanding Universal Value. However, when the European significance is well articulated, the project to present this significance follows quite naturally from it. This is similar to the World Heritage nomination process: a thorough understanding of the potential Outstanding Universal Value is needed to adequately protect and manage the site. In its various reports, the Panel of the European Heritage Label recommends that candidate sites call upon scientists and universities, and Cultural Routes are required to create a scientific committee. Serial transnational candidate sites for World Heritage also benefit from working from the outset with transdisciplinary and multinational scientific teams.

The European Panel noted that the current limitation to participate in the European Heritage Label to Member States of the European Union only is problematic from a scientific point of view, because sites with European significance may transcend its borders. The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe allows for participation of other States, as appropriate. The lesson for transnational World Heritage nominations is that one should not limit the reflection on serial transnational properties to the Europe region: some types of heritage that reflect cultural, social or functional links over time, such as industrial or scientific heritage, would benefit from serial nominations with component parts spread over several continents. An approach of this is the Le Corbusier transnational serial World Heritage site.

Preparing a serial application, especially with component parts in several countries or regions is always more complicated than preparing a single national application. Experience from the European Heritage Label confirms that applications are easier to prepare and are more robust when cooperation already existed beforehand. For instance, the 3 transnational sites that have been awarded the Label were already working together before the submission of their application: it was their cooperation that gave rise to the application and not the other way round.

The experience from the Cultural Routes and the transnational European Heritage Label sites corroborates the importance of a clear understanding of respective responsibilities and the need for each component part to play a specific role in the series. Both the Cultural Routes and the European Heritage Label require that the participating sites develop common activities, in addition to their own activities. Hence the need to ensure that the leading site and the component parts all have the capacity to coordinate and/or implement them.

The creation of a legal structure for the cooperation within the framework of the Cultural routes supports the sustainability of the cooperation and facilitates access to some types of (European) funding. The ease with which such a structure can be set up enables stakeholders and States to measure the real willingness of their partners to cooperate. Whilst it is not compulsory for the European Heritage Label to set up such a permanent structure, it was reported that the creation of a federation of the sites in one country of a transnational serial site, offered the same advantages; although the structure was asymmetrical, this seemed to be the appropriate way. Similar approaches may be beneficial for those wishing to develop a cooperation and prepare a serial transitional World Heritage nomination.

Differing operational capacity among State Parties and/or the partners involved in a Cultural Route, transnational European Heritage Label site or transnational serial World Heritage site, is not an exception. Some sites in the series will inevitably have a greater operational capacity than others. It seems that this is not necessarily a problem for the European Heritage Label and the Cultural Routes, because the strongest can help the others. The same may be valid for serial transnational World Heritage nominations and sites.

The existence of the cultural heritage programmes in Europe represents a strength for the Region: they offer different platforms for collaboration, cooperation and exchanges, thus making it easier for European countries and State Parties to the World Heritage Convention to establish partnerships. Additionally, the various supranational recognitions offer opportunities to harness the most appropriate designation depending on the characteristics of the heritage sites and the possibilities for meeting criteria and requirements. Some proposals for transboundary serial properties could be encouraged to apply for the European Heritage Label, to set up a Cultural Route, or to join an existing route rather than pursuing a World Heritage listing. Ultimately, finding the right balance is always a delicate exercise and concepts can evolve over time.



## 6. Suggestions for preparing and managing future European transnational serial nominations projects

Lessons learned from the experience in preparing transnational serial nominations in Europe concern all aspects and phases of the nomination life cycle as well as the protection, conservation and management of such sites once they are inscribed on the World Heritage List.

An overarching key suggestion is to get prepared for a long process of dialogue and joint work: time, professional expertise and human dedication of people involved, beyond the organisations they are part of, are key factors to achieve a mature nomination and a well – geared collaboration, based on reciprocal knowledge and understanding and good working relationships.

Robust nominations, straightforward inscriptions and soundly managed transnational serial properties have in common a long history of collaboration and exchange at the expert, decision-making and community levels, in most cases dating back to before the idea of a joint nomination emerged. This interest and search for transnational exchange around common inheritance before and beyond the nomination are key attitudes that support the preparation process and also continue to nurture the dialogue and the collaboration after the main goal of the inscription is obtained and the external pressures to perform are gone.

Preliminary concepts of potential serial nominations often develop on existing consolidated knowledge and individual or collective intuition. A verification of the potential for an initial idea to grow into a robust and scientifically-grounded project is necessary. Exchanges at this stage with potential partners are indispensable, particularly with the aim of gathering research, studies and existing documentation and possibly to prepare thematic studies and comparative frameworks. Identifying potential, relevant themes associated to, and facets of, the heritage phenomenon being considered may help outline the scope of the possible nomination: e.g., would a transnational serial approach be justified or add to individual proposals? Should the scope be national, regional or global? Would a nomination strategy be necessary? What components and how many are needed to reflect the proposed justification for inscription and to ensure that the serial nomination meets the conditions of integrity and authenticity?).

Preliminary formulations of the potential justification for outstanding significance are necessary to start considering the composition of a nomination. Therefore, it is advisable that this exercise begins rather early in the nomination process. However, experience has shown that the internalisation by all key partners, particularly heritage experts, scholars and managers, of the *Operational Guidelines* paragraphs dealing with the notion of Outstanding Universal Value, the wording of the criteria and those dedicated to serial properties is essential to understand whether the initial formulation of the potential nomination might be feasible. In particular, the changes made to the *Operational Guidelines* to incorporate the results of the Ittingen meeting imply that a serial approach cannot be simply based on similar values and on similar objects, but on their connectivity and ability to represent dual/multidimensional testimonies of a same heritage subject. In other

words, since 2011, a potential World Heritage series cannot be seen as a catalogue (potentially endless) of similar heritage resources, which have no functional links or cultural–historic relation/ connection but need to demonstrate that their component parts exceptionally illustrate facets of a singular phenomenon/ process.

Responsible agencies and staff of potential candidate components are recommended to be involved since the outset of the process: the knowledge and experience of site managers is strategic in setting up a viable process to ensure that the progressive development of the serial nomination and the selection of the components goes hand in hand with the verification and establishment of the necessary protection, conservation and management requirements of selected components.

The validity of preliminary proposals for the justification of the potential Outstanding Universal Value need to be verified against the outcomes of comparative analyses. These can be used both for understanding whether the combination of values and attributes expressed by the serial project is not already represented on the World Heritage List, the Tentative List or elsewhere and for identifying the most appropriate component parts that reflect at best the proposed Outstanding Universal Value. Those who have had experience of preparing serial nominations underline that the elaboration and refinement of the proposed justification for inscription is an iterative process which is closely intertwined with progressive elaboration of the comparative analysis and the refinement of the composition of the serial nomination. This means that the comparative analysis needs to be initiated at the very beginning of the process of preparing a nomination: this recommendation applies to all nominations, but it is even more relevant for transnational serial nominations, since defining the potential Outstanding Universal Value and the composition of the series are influenced by, and influence, the comparative analysis. Involving researchers and academics from the start is therefore important.

When the scope of a transnational serial nomination has been tentatively outlined, experience shows that it is beneficial to agree on a collaboration model between partners involved and to clarify their roles, responsibilities and tasks.

Holding regular meetings at the strategic and operational levels, visiting the candidate component sites, on-site learning about issues or challenges partners are faced with and discussing ways to overcome them help build good relationship and trust, thus supporting the cooperation. Involving local communities from the very beginning of the nomination process is also strategic: local populations need to know what the proposals for their territories are they need time to understand the implications, the opportunities, the limits and obligations that a World Heritage designation implies. This principle is valid for all types of nominations and is one of the requirements of the *Operational Guidelines*, together with right based approaches. For transnational serial nominations, the involvement of local actors at different components offers the opportunity to stimulate the growth of grass-root initiatives and of wider collaboration and increase the sustainability and resilience of the transnational project. The involvement of local actors requires careful timing, particularly where the nomination project has not emerged from local instances. Creating false expectations among local communities may make the whole process more difficult and, if the nomination is not successful, it can result in discontentment and bitterness with possible negative impacts on the self-image of the community.

The work on the management system and through it, the understanding of the various legal, institutional and management framework and how they work and are implemented, takes significant amount of time and energy, particularly because each partner needs to build a clear understanding of the situations. Therefore, the feedback received supports to start examining all aspects related to conservation, protection and management at the very beginning of the nomination process.

Mapping needs and gaps in this sphere is crucial to delineate a credible roadmap for meeting the necessary requirements at the level of each component part and then of the overall series.

Thinking ahead about the Periodic Reporting and planning to collect information and undertake evaluation in line with what will be required will help develop a common approach for gathering information and the data collection system while preparing the management and monitoring systems for the series.

The Guidance on developing or revising Tentative Lists, elaborated by ICOMOS with the assistance of IUCN, ICCROM and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre in 2020, also includes suggestions that are useful for transnational serial nominations, although the scope of the Guidance is more general.

The planned reform of the nomination process with the introduction of a two-phase process for the assessment– the Preliminary Assessment and the assessment of the full Nomination – will provide an opportunity to assess the feasibility of a serial approach before starting to prepare a fully-fledged nomination. This will help invest resources only on those nominations, including transnational serial ones, which exhibit a robust potential for demonstrating Outstanding Universal Value.





## 7. Conclusions and follow up

Transnational serial nominations have the potential to offer rewarding outcomes in terms of professional and scientific collaboration, networking of grassroots associations and enhanced awareness among citizens of the significance and meaning of cultural heritage where adequate resources are allocated to prepare and manage them. However, they remain challenging for several reasons.

Gathering partners around one transnational serial nomination project needs extra efforts in terms of time, funds, professional and human resources, compared to individual nominations, even when the proposal is confined to the territory of one State Party. Complexities increase when more than one State Party is involved, as legal and institutional frameworks and traditions may differ, pursued objectives and priorities may not coincide, professional and institutional capacities might be uneven and barriers, e.g., language, might limit the quality of the exchanges: all factors that ask for professional expertise and human dedication, diplomacy, inventiveness and long- term political support to establish a common ground on which to build the nomination.

The most successful transnational serial nominations have proved to be those which have a long history of collaboration and exchange established well before ideas for joining forces to prepare a World Heritage nomination were launched. From the survey, it has emerged that long-lasting professional collaboration and awareness- raising on the significance of complex heritage have been conducive to developing sound serial proposals, rather than the other way round, and that post- inscription collaboration is more likely to continue.

Approaching transnational serial nominations requires continue to deepen the theoretical and practical aspects of this very special category of World Heritage properties: how a serial nomination, through its component parts, can reflect the whole and the 'continuum' of a historic- cultural phenomenon or process? How and to what extent the rationale of a serial composition as well as individual components can convey the linkages among its parts and guarantee the capacity of the series to convey the proposed OUV? The Ittingen meeting helped clarify the definition and requirements for serial nominations, however, experience has shown that confusion and difficulties arise both conceptually and operationally. The modifications to the Operational Guidelines approved in 2011 have not yet been fully internalised – particularly the need for a solid and evident rationale for the serial approach based on clear functional links among component parts - and this is reflected in the complex nomination history of many of them. Furthermore, the Operational Guidelines might benefit from further clarifications with regard to the approach and requirements for extensions of serial properties for they entail conceptual and, to a certain extent, also procedural differences compared to the extensions of other properties, including transboundary ones.

One challenge that has been underlined lies in the uncertainty as to whether a serial approach might promise a higher chance of successful inscription in comparison to independently running nominations of properties with comparable or complementary potential Outstanding Universal Value. In this regard the Preliminary Assessment will offer the chance to assess in advance the feasibility of the approach and weigh options for a robust nomination strategy.

Those who have experience in transnational serial nominations highlighted that serial projects are not the only way how to develop transnational cooperation among States Parties. Properties belonging to similar typologies or those which share common themes have several options for cooperation within the World Heritage system or through other programmes. In Europe opportunities are multiplied by European institutions and their programmes and initiatives for cultural and natural heritage. European programmes, such as the popular Cultural Route of the Council of Europe or the European Heritage Label, offer opportunities for collaboration among European States Parties to the World Heritage Convention and show complementarities with the World Heritage system. Nevertheless, these programmes have rather different aims and objectives than the World Heritage Convention and these differences are important to be brought into focus so as to avoid confusion when transnational serial nominations are initiated.

The need for guidance and clarifications on how to set up robust transnational serial nominations for World Heritage and long-lasting cooperation among partners has been underlined by a number of respondents. The lessons learned and suggestions collected through the questionnaire and presented in this report can contribute to continue the reflection on the opportunities and challenges posed by this type of nominations and on the pre-conditions for achieving a sustainable project, able to develop its vitality after inscription.

Exploring further the subject in other regions, harnessing the network of ICOMOS National Committees might offer additional insights on potentials for and challenges to transnational serial approaches and related strategies for nominations. Further study may also bring into light how and to what extent transnational serial nominations or thematic approaches could contribute to improve the understanding, the protection and conservation of the heritage of the regions.

## **8. List of Annexes**

Annex 1: Bibliographic references

Annex 2: Questionnaire for the survey in English and in French

Annex 3: Material shared during the meeting held on Wednesday 1 July 2020



## **Annex 1**

### **Bibliographical References**



# Annex 1 - Bibliographic references

## International Conventions

UNESCO (1972), *World Heritage Convention*  
<https://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/>

UNESCO (2019), *Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention*  
<https://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines/>

International Expert Meeting on World Heritage and Serial Properties and Nominations, *UNESCO World Heritage: Serial Properties and Nominations* (25–27 February 2010) Ittingen, Switzerland  
<https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1097/>

## European Union and European Council

European Commission website, *European Heritage Label sites*, available on:  
<https://ec.europa.eu/culture/cultural-heritage/initiatives-and-success-stories/european-heritage-label-sites>

European Union (2011), *Decision No 1194/2011/EU establishing the European Heritage Label*, available on:  
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32011D1194&from=EN>

European Union (20 December 2019), *Report of the European Panel to the European Commission*, “European Heritage Label - 2019 selection report”, available on:  
<https://ec.europa.eu/culture/document/european-heritage-label-2019-selection-report>

European Union (2020) *Report of the European Panel to the European Commission in application of Decision 1194/2011/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 November 2011 establishing a European Union action for the European Heritage Label*, available on:  
[https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/content/european-heritage-label-2019-selection-report\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/content/european-heritage-label-2019-selection-report_en)

Council of Europe, *Framework Convention on the Importance of Cultural Heritage for Society* (2005), *Faro Convention*, available on:  
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/199>

Council of Europe, *Chemins de l'art Rupestre Préhistorique / Prehistoric Rock Art Trails*, Brochure, available on:  
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/cultural-routes/prehistoric-rock-art-trails>

Council of Europe, *Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe* booklets, available on:  
<https://www.coe.int/fr/web/cultural%20routes/cultural-routes-branding>

Council of Europe, *Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme*, available on:  
[www.culture-routes.net](http://www.culture-routes.net)

Bold, J., Pickard, R. (2018) *Une approche intégrée du patrimoine culturel, Le Programme de coopération et d'assistance techniques du Conseil de l'Europe*, Strasbourg, Editions du Conseil de l'Europe

## ICOMOS Thematic studies

ICOMOS, *The World Heritage List: Filling the Gaps Study - An Action Plan for the Future*, available on: <http://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/433/>

ARC-WH and ICOMOS. (2017). **Cultural Heritages of Water: The Cultural Heritages of Water in the Middle East and Maghreb**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. Second edition. ICOMOS International. Charenton-le-Pont, France.

<http://openarchive.icomos.org/1846/1/Copie%20Finaleopt.pdf>

ARC-WH and ICOMOS. (2015). **Cultural Heritages of Water: The Cultural Heritages of Water in the Middle East and Maghreb**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. First edition. ICOMOS International. Charenton-le-Pont, France.

[https://www.icomos.org/images/DOCUMENTS/World\\_Heritage/CH%20of%20water\\_201507\\_opt.pdf](https://www.icomos.org/images/DOCUMENTS/World_Heritage/CH%20of%20water_201507_opt.pdf)

Bakalova, E., and Kretev, T., eds. (2003). **Les monastères orthodoxes dans les Balkans**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.

<https://www.icomos.org/studies/balkan.pdf>

Clottes, J., and Smith, B., eds. (2019). **Rock Art in East Asia: A Thematic Study**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.

[http://openarchive.icomos.org/2086/2/Final-version\\_e-book\\_21052019-opt.pdf](http://openarchive.icomos.org/2086/2/Final-version_e-book_21052019-opt.pdf)

Clottes, J., ed. (2011). **Rock art in Central Asia: A Thematic Study**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.

[https://www.icomos.org/world\\_heritage/TS\\_CentralAsia\\_20111220.pdf](https://www.icomos.org/world_heritage/TS_CentralAsia_20111220.pdf)

Clottes, J., ed. (2002). **L'art rupestre**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.

<https://www.icomos.org/studies/images/rupestre.pdf>

Cotte, M., and Ruggles, C., eds. (2010). **Heritage Sites of Astronomy and Archaeoastronomy in the Context of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention: A Thematic Study**. ICOMOS International and International Astronomical Union. Paris, France.

[http://openarchive.icomos.org/267/1/ICOMOS\\_IAU\\_Thematic\\_Study\\_Heritage\\_Sites\\_Astronomy\\_2010.pdf](http://openarchive.icomos.org/267/1/ICOMOS_IAU_Thematic_Study_Heritage_Sites_Astronomy_2010.pdf)

Coulls, A., et al. (1999). **Railways as World Heritage Sites**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.

<https://www.icomos.org/studies/railways.pdf>

Deacon, J. (2002). **Southern African Rock-Art Sites**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.

<https://www.icomos.org/en/about-the-centre/publicationsdoc/monographic-series-3/116-english-categories/resources/publications/227-southern-african-rock-art-sites>



DeLony, E. (1996). **Context for World Heritage Bridges**. ICOMOS International and The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage. [Paris, France.]  
<https://www.icomos.org/en/about-the-centre/publicationsdoc/monographic-series-3/116-english-categories/resources/publications/234-context-for-world-heritage-bridges>

Gamble, C., and Stringer, C. (1997). **Potential Fossil Hominid Sites for Inscription on the World Heritage List**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.  
<https://www.icomos.org/en/about-the-centre/publicationsdoc/monographic-series-3/116-english-categories/resources/publications/233-potential-fossil-hominid-sites-for-inscription-on-the-world-heritage-list>

Gutiérrez, R. (1998). **The Urban Architectural Heritage of Latin America**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.  
<https://www.icomos.org/en/about-the-centre/publicationsdoc/monographic-series-3/116-english-categories/resources/publications/232-the-urban-architectural-heritage-of-latin-america>

Hughes, S. (2003). **The International Collieries Study**. ICOMOS International and The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage. [Paris, France.]  
<https://www.icomos.org/en/about-the-centre/publicationsdoc/monographic-series-3/116-english-categories/resources/publications/226-the-international-colleries-study>

ICOMOS. (2007). **Rock Art of Sahara and North Africa**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.  
<https://www.icomos.org/studies/rockart-sahara-northafrica/rockart-sahara-northafrica.pdf>

ICOMOS. (2006). **Rock Art of Latin America and the Caribbean**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.  
<https://www.icomos.org/studies/rockart-latinamerica/fulltext.pdf>

ICOMOS. (2005). **Les paysages culturels viticoles**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.  
<https://www.icomos.org/studies/paysages-viticoles.pdf>

ICOMOS. (2001). **Les villages ouvriers comme éléments du patrimoine de l'industrie**. ICOMOS International and The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage. [Paris, France.]  
<https://www.icomos.org/en/about-the-centre/publicationsdoc/monographic-series-3/116-english-categories/resources/publications/229-les-villages-ouvriers-comme-elements-du-patrimoine-de-lindustrie>

ICOMOS. (1996). **International Canal Monuments List**. ICOMOS International and The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage. [Paris, France.]  
<https://www.icomos.org/studies/canals.pdf>

Jones, K., and Smith, A., eds. (2007). **Cultural Landscapes of the Pacific Islands**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.  
<https://www.icomos.org/studies/cultural-landscapes-pacific/cultural-landscapes-pacific.pdf>

Lilley, I., ed. (2010). **Early Human Expansion and Innovation in the Pacific**. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.  
[https://www.icomos.org/world\\_heritage/TS\\_Pacific\\_20101210\\_final.pdf](https://www.icomos.org/world_heritage/TS_Pacific_20101210_final.pdf)

Moret, J.-C. (1999). *Les théâtres et les amphithéâtres antiques*. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Paris, France.

<https://www.icomos.org/en/about-the-centre/publicationsdoc/monographic-series-3/116-english-categories/resources/publications/231-les-theatres-et-les-amphitheatres-antiques>

Ruggles, C., ed. (2017). *Heritage Sites of Astronomy and Archaeoastronomy in the Context of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention: Thematic Study No. 2*. ICOMOS and International Astronomical Union. Paris, France.

<http://openarchive.icomos.org/1856/1/Astronomy2%20Final%20low%20res.pdf>

Williams, T. (2014). *The Silk Roads: An ICOMOS Thematic Study*. ICOMOS Thematic Studies. ICOMOS International. Charenton-le-Pont, France.

[https://www.icomos.org/images/mediatheque/ICOMOS\\_WHThematicStudy\\_SilkRoads\\_final\\_lv\\_201406.pdf](https://www.icomos.org/images/mediatheque/ICOMOS_WHThematicStudy_SilkRoads_final_lv_201406.pdf)

ICOMOS and TICCIH, Heading for a Serial UNESCO World Heritage, Congress “Bridges in the World Heritage” (27-28 October 2017), Germany, brochure available on:

[https://www.solingen.de/C1257EBD00357318/files/broschuere\\_dokumentation\\_kongress\\_dina4\\_ebook\\_urheber\\_klingenstadt\\_solingen.pdf/\\$file/broschuere\\_dokumentation\\_kongress\\_dina4\\_ebook\\_urheber\\_klingenstadt\\_solingen.pdf?OpenElement](https://www.solingen.de/C1257EBD00357318/files/broschuere_dokumentation_kongress_dina4_ebook_urheber_klingenstadt_solingen.pdf/$file/broschuere_dokumentation_kongress_dina4_ebook_urheber_klingenstadt_solingen.pdf?OpenElement)

## National Committees

### Publications

#### Czechia

*Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region, UNESCO-World Heritage Over 800 years of mining, 22 component parts Germany/Czech Republic*, Wirtschaftsförderung Erzgebirge GmbH, available on:

<https://www.montanregion-erzgebirge.de/welterbe-aktuell/downloads.html>

*Mining Monuments, Montanregionu Ore Mountains / Erzgebirge*, (in Czech and German) Montanregion Krušné hory – Erzgebirge, 2014 o.p.s., available on:

[http://www.montanregion.cz/images/dokumenty/hornicke\\_pamatky\\_montanregionu.pdf](http://www.montanregion.cz/images/dokumenty/hornicke_pamatky_montanregionu.pdf)

#### Germany

ICOMOS Germany (1994) *Weltkulturdenkmäler in Deutschland*, ICOMOS – Hefte des Deutschen Nationalkomitees II, 2., erweiterte Aufl. München 1994, ISBN 3-87490-311-7, available on:

<https://www.icomos.de/admin/ckeditor/plugins/alphamanager/uploads/pdf/Heftell.pdf>

ICOMOS Germany (2013) *UNESCO-Welterbe in Deutschland und Mitteleuropa. Bilanz und Perspektiven*, ICOMOS – Hefte des Deutschen Nationalkomitees LVII, Berlin 2013, ISBN 978-3-930388-23-3; Internationale Fachtagung des Deutschen Nationalkomitees von ICOMOS in Zusammenarbeit mit der Bayerischen Verwaltung der staatlichen Schlösser, Gärten und Seen, München, 29.–30. November 2012, available on:

[https://www.icomos.de/admin/ckeditor/plugins/alphamanager/uploads/pdf/Heft\\_LVII.pdf](https://www.icomos.de/admin/ckeditor/plugins/alphamanager/uploads/pdf/Heft_LVII.pdf)

ICOMOS Germany (2013) *Socialist Realism and Socialist Modernism. World Heritage Proposals from Central and Eastern Europe. Documentation of the European expert meeting of ICOMOS on the feasibility of an international serial nomination of 20th century monuments and sites in post-socialist*

*countries for the UNESCO World Heritage List*, ICOMOS Journal of the German National Committee, vol. LVIII (based on the conference organized on 14–15 April 2013, Warsaw, Poland), available on: <https://journals.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/index.php/icomoshefte/issue/view/2110>

ICOMOS Germany and the Berlin Monument Authority (2017) *Rethinking Modernity Architecture and Urban Planning of the 20th Century – Between Avant-garde and Tradition*, ICOMOS, Journals Of The German National Committee, volume LXIX, (based on the conference organized in September 2017 by the Senate Department for Urban Development and Housing and the Berlin Monument Authority, in cooperation with the Akademie der Künste and ICOMOS Germany), available on: [https://www.icomos.de/icomos/pdf/icomosmoderne-neu-denken\\_web\\_5nov2019.pdf](https://www.icomos.de/icomos/pdf/icomosmoderne-neu-denken_web_5nov2019.pdf)

ICOMOS Germany (2020) *Iron Curtain and Green Belt. Networks and Opportunities for Cooperation in a European Border Landscape*, ICOMOS - Hefte des Deutschen Nationalkomitees LXXII, Münster 2020, ISBN 978-3-946154-54-9, available on: <https://www.icomos.de/icomos/pdf/eiserner-vorhang-und-gruenes-band-iron-curtainand-green-belt.pdf>

Brandt, S., Haspel, J. and Petzet, M. (2011) *Weltkulturerbe und Europäisches Kulturerbe-Siegel in Deutschland. Potentiale und Nominierungsvorschläge*, ICOMOS – Hefte des Deutschen Nationalkomitees LI, Berlin 2011, ISBN 978-3-930388-26-4; In Zusammenarbeit mit TICCIH Deutschland, available on: [https://www.icomos.de/admin/ckeditor/plugins/alphamanager/uploads/pdf/EHL\\_WHL\\_final.pdf](https://www.icomos.de/admin/ckeditor/plugins/alphamanager/uploads/pdf/EHL_WHL_final.pdf)

Denk, C., Ziesemer, J. (2007) *Urban Burial Culture from the Enlightenment to the Early 20th Century*, ICOMOS – Hefte des Deutschen Nationalkomitees XLIV, Regensburg 2007, available on: <https://www.icomos.de/admin/ckeditor/plugins/alphamanager/uploads/pdf/HefteXLIV.pdf>

Klein, R. (2018) *Metropolitan Jewish Cemeteries of the 19th and 20th Centuries in Central and Eastern Europe. A Comparative Study*, ICOMOS – Hefte des Deutschen Nationalkomitees LXVI, Petersberg 2018, ISBN 978-3-7319-0752-7

Smith, P., Toulhier, B. (2000) *Berlin-Tempelhof, Liverpool-Speke, Paris-Le Bourget. Années 30 Architecture des aéroports*, Éditions du patrimoine, Paris 2000, ISBN 2-85822-328-9

### **Israel**

Bratislava-group, (23 June 2004), *Summary of the Third Meeting including: Koblenz Declaration (July 2004), Roman Frontiers World Heritage Site Summary Nomination Statement (June 2004)*, Koblenz

Israel National Commission for UNESCO (June 2000), *World Heritage Sites – Tentative List of the State of Israel*

Israel National Commission for UNESCO (July 2000, updated July 2010), *The Tentative List and World Heritage Sites of the State of Israel*

(February 2016) *Work Plan for advancing the GRV Serial Transnational World Heritage Nomination The Frontiers of the Roman Empire – Palaeastina Tertia*

### **Netherlands**

Polak, M., de Bruin, J. (2016) *The Lower German Limes in the Netherlands Scientific Assessment of the Site Selection for the 'Frontiers of the Roman Empire, World Heritage Site, Nijmegen 2016*

### **Poland**

ICOMOS Poland (2015) Management of UNESCO World Heritage Properties in Poland: Selected Issues, available on:

<http://www.icomos-poland.org/en/publikacje-2.html>

ICOMOS Poland (2016) Heritage value assessment systems – the problems and the current state of research, available on:

<http://www.icomos-poland.org/en/publikacje-2.html>

ICOMOS Poland (2018), Assessing the Values of Heritage in SV System: the Method and Examples of Use, available on:

<http://www.icomos-poland.org/en/publikacje-2.html>

### **Slovenia**

ICOMOS Slovenia, Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia, the Office of the Slovenian National Commission for UNESCO (2016) *Heritage of Slovenia and UNESCO*, available on:

[http://www.icomos.si/files/2016/10/UNESCO\\_web.pdf](http://www.icomos.si/files/2016/10/UNESCO_web.pdf)

### **Spain**

Ayuntamiento de Almadén (2019) *Manual de uso del logotipo común "Heritage Of Mercury Almadén And Irija"*, available on:

<http://almaden.es/noticias/patrimonio/2250-manual-de-uso-del-logotipo-comun-heritage-of-mercury-almaden-and-idrija.html>

Rodríguez, A., Casalengua, C. (2014) *El Patrimonio Mundial Cultural, Natural e Inmaterial de España / World Cultural, Intangible and Natural Heritage in Spain*, Ediciones Alymar, available on:

<https://edicionesalymar.es/producto/patrimonio-mundial-cultural-natural-e-inmaterial-espana-cultural-and-natural-worls-heritage-in-spain/>

Rojas Ávalos, Á. (2013) *Resumen del expediente de nominación a la Lista del Patrimonio Mundial. Patrimonio del mercurio. Almadén e Idria*, available on :

[https://www.parqueminerodealmaden.es/hospital/publicaciones.php?pageNum\\_EXTRAEPUBLICACIONES=1&idioma=es](https://www.parqueminerodealmaden.es/hospital/publicaciones.php?pageNum_EXTRAEPUBLICACIONES=1&idioma=es)

España/Portugal (2009) *Protocolo entre la Junta de Castilla y León (España) y el Instituto de Gestão do Património Arquitectónico e Arqueológico I.P (Portugal) para promover acciones conjuntas en materia de estudio, conservación y difusión del Patrimonio Cultural*

### **Turkey**

Akçabozan Taşkiran, A., Ş Binan, C. (2020) "UNESCO World Heritage List and Transnational Serial Heritage Concept: The Potential of Turkey", MEGARON 2020;15 (1), p.67-83, available on:

[https://jag.journalagent.com/megaron/pdfs/MEGARON\\_15\\_1\\_67\\_83.pdf](https://jag.journalagent.com/megaron/pdfs/MEGARON_15_1_67_83.pdf)

### **United Kingdom**

Breeze, D. J., Jilek, S. (2019) *Frontiers of the Roman Empire the European dimension of a World Heritage Site*, Historic Scotland Edinburgh 2008, available on:

[https://www.univie.ac.at/limes/FRE\\_DOWNLOADS/FRE\\_book\\_final\\_00.pdf](https://www.univie.ac.at/limes/FRE_DOWNLOADS/FRE_book_final_00.pdf)

Ployer, R., Polak, M., and Schmidt, R. (2017) *The frontiers of the roman empire, a thematic study and proposed world heritage nomination strategy*, available on:

<https://www.limeswerelderfgoed.nl/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/frontiers-of-the-roman-empire-part-1.pdf#:~:text=the%20frontiers%20of%20the%20roman%20empire%20a%20thematic,group%20ren%C3%A9%20ployer%2C%20marinus%20polak%20and%20ricarda%20schmidt>

## Journal, magazine and newspapers articles

### **Bulgaria**

Atanasova, I. (2017) "The Septemvri - Dobrinishte narrow-gauge line - Cultural Route" (in Bulgarian), *THE CITY Infrastructure*, issue 6, 2017, available on:

[https://issuu.com/tcmgbg/docs/infra\\_br6/98](https://issuu.com/tcmgbg/docs/infra_br6/98)

Atanasova, I. (2018) "Methodology of research and assessment of a heritage railway as legally protected heritage" (in Bulgarian, English abstract), *Annual of the University of architecture, civil engineering and geodesy*, volume 50, Sofia, available on:

[https://uacg.bg/UserFiles/File/UACEG\\_Annual/2018/%D0%91%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%B9%208/11.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3FjUinxb2xgpk4BFuQE2JGMeemFK8SJAwofztlAa685NmHOzuTvyCMRtw](https://uacg.bg/UserFiles/File/UACEG_Annual/2018/%D0%91%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%B9%208/11.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3FjUinxb2xgpk4BFuQE2JGMeemFK8SJAwofztlAa685NmHOzuTvyCMRtw)

### **Israel**

Bareli, D. (2014) "The Tentative List of Israel for World Heritage", *Haifa University - The Department of Israel Studies. A semester paper in course: Nationality, Zionism and Israeli Archaeology*

### **Turkey**

World Heritage, *The Silk Roads: Safeguarding an Ancient Network*, No°91, October 2019

## Websites

### **Germany**

*The Jewish Cemetery of Altona Königstraße. Sephardic Sepulchral Culture of the 17th and 18th century between Europe and the Caribbean*, available on:

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5973/> and <https://jewish-heritage-europe.eu/cemeteries/>

### **Turkey**

*UNESCO's Silk road program for Turkey*, available on:

<https://en.unesco.org/silkroad/countries-alongside-silk-road-routes/turkey>

### **UK**

*North of England Civic Trust*, available on:

<https://www.nect.org.uk/news/frontiers-of-the-roman-empire>

*Advanced Limes Applications*, available on:

<http://alapp.eu/en/>

*Austrian Limes website, FRE project*, available on:

<https://www.univie.ac.at/limes/html/>

## Symposiums and events

### **Belarus**

International Conference on *Augustow Canal* (BY-PL), working meeting (15 October 2019) and event (5-6 November 2019), Awgustow (PL), Grodno (BY)

Ministry of Culture of Belarus, ICOMOS-Belarus and other Belarusian NGOs; the Institute of Heritage Management of the University of Cottbus-Brandenburg and University of Cottbus-Senftenberg (BTU CS, Germany), Series of Belarusian-German seminars on *Post-war Architectural Ensemble of the Independence Avenue in Minsk* (BY-RU-UA-PL-GER) (2015-2018), Minsk (BY)

### **Belgium**

World Heritage, *Beech Forests Conference* (23 July 2018), Vienna (AT)

### **Czechia**

ICOMOS Slovak National Committee, ICOMOS Czech National Committee, *Interpretation and Presentation of the Cultural Heritage of Great Moravia* (17-19 October 2018), Skalica (SK) Slovakia

Masaryk Museum, *The Slavonic Settlement in Mikulčice and the Church of St. Margaret at Kopčani: A Landmark with OUV on the road to the World Heritage List* (27-29 November 2011) Hodonín, Czechia

### **Germany**

2<sup>nd</sup> Conference on World Heritage – Steel bridges on long arch (2020), brochure available on: [https://www.solingen.de/C1257EBD00357318/files/dokumentation\\_zweiter\\_welterbekongress\\_portugal\\_verkleinert.pdf/\\$file/dokumentation\\_zweiter\\_welterbekongress\\_portugal\\_verkleinert.pdf?OpenElement](https://www.solingen.de/C1257EBD00357318/files/dokumentation_zweiter_welterbekongress_portugal_verkleinert.pdf/$file/dokumentation_zweiter_welterbekongress_portugal_verkleinert.pdf?OpenElement)

ICOMOS Germany and Berlin Monument Authority in cooperation with Jüdische Gemeinde zu Berlin, Stiftung Neue Synagoge Berlin – Centrum Judaicum, Arbeitsgemeinschaft Friedhof und Denkmal e. V. – Stiftung Zentralinstitut und Museum für Sepulkralkultur, Kassel (2011), International Conference, Jewish Cemeteries and Burial Culture in Europe, available on: [https://www.icomos.de/admin/ckeditor/plugins/alphamanager/uploads/pdf/Bd\\_LIII\\_juedische\\_friedhoefe.pdf](https://www.icomos.de/admin/ckeditor/plugins/alphamanager/uploads/pdf/Bd_LIII_juedische_friedhoefe.pdf)

ICOMOS Germany Documentation (2013) *Jewish cemeteries in Central and Eastern - World Heritage proposals*, International meeting of experts, April 17-19, 2013 in Berlin on the occasion of the International Monument Day of ICOMOS, April 18, 2013, Berlin Heritage Authority (ed.). 2014. 163 p., illus. (Eng), available on: [https://www.icomos.org/images/DOCUMENTS/18\\_April/2013/Germany\\_18April13\\_Expertmeeting\\_Programm.pdf](https://www.icomos.org/images/DOCUMENTS/18_April/2013/Germany_18April13_Expertmeeting_Programm.pdf)

Bäßler verlag, H. (2018), Conference Volume on *Border areas – encounter areas: Neighborhood conflicts and neighborhood co-operations in Europe*, Scientific symposium on the occasion of the annual meeting of the ICOMOS Europe Group (Berlin, 3–6 June 2017), Berlin 107p., available E-Book on: [http://openarchive.icomos.org/1906/1/ICOMOS\\_Borders\\_Scientific\\_symposium-Berlin-June2017.pdf](http://openarchive.icomos.org/1906/1/ICOMOS_Borders_Scientific_symposium-Berlin-June2017.pdf)

*Historic airports. Proceedings of the international "L'Europe de l'Air" conferences on Aviation Architecture* Liverpool (1999), Berlin (2000), Paris (2001). English Heritage, London 2005, ISBN 1-873592-83-3.

German Commission for UNESCO and German Aerospace Center (October 2014), Expert Consultation *Testimonials of Aviation and Space History and UNESCO World Heritage*

39<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee (5 July 2015), *International Side Event on “UNESCO World Heritage and Aerospace History*, Bonn available on:  
<https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1240/>

German Commission for UNESCO and German Aerospace Center (28-29 September 2015), Second Expert Consultation on *Aviation and Space History and UNESCO World Heritage*, Berlin Adlershof, WISTA Veranstaltungsgebäude, Rudower Chaussee 17

ICOMOS Germany and The German Commission for UNESCO in cooperation with partner organisations (6-8 April 2017), Expert panel *World Heritage Potentials of Monuments and Sites of Aerospace History*

### **Ireland**

ICOMOS Ireland, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, National Monuments Service (15 February 2020), *UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List Workshop*, Killarney (IE)

ICOMOS Ireland and The National Monuments Service (18 and 25 June 2020), *UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List Virtual Workshop*, (IE)

### **Israel**

UNEP (2007), *Scientific workshop*, Nairobi (KE)

### **Slovenia**

ICOMOS Slovenia (December 2019), Symposium ICOMOS Slovenia and World Heritage, and transnational serial nominations *Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps* and *The Heritage of Mercury. Almadén and Idrija*.

### **Spain**

Ayuntamiento de Almadén (2014), *Los jóvenes de Almadén e Idrija participan en videoconferencias para promocionar el patrimonio de sus respectivas ciudades*, available on:  
<http://almaden.es/noticias/patrimonio/25-los-jovenes-de-almaden-e-idrija-participan-en-videoconferencias-para-promocionar-el-patrimonio-de-sus-respectivas-ciudades.html>

Ayuntamiento de Almadén (2014), *Verbena popular para festejar el 2º aniversario de la declaración como ‘Patrimonio del Mercurio*, available on: <http://almaden.es/noticias/patrimonio/38-verbena-popular-para-festejar-el-2-aniversario-de-la-declaracion-como-patrimonio-del-mercurio.html>

Ayuntamiento de Almadén (2014), *Actos conmemorativos del II Aniversario de la declaración del bien ‘El Patrimonio del Mercurio. Almadén e Idrija’ como Patrimonio Mundial*, available on:  
<http://almaden.es/noticias/patrimonio.html?start=45>

Ayuntamiento de Almadén (2019), *Inauguración en Almadén de una exposición en colaboración con Idrija*, available on:  
<http://almaden.es/noticias/patrimonio/2425-inauguracion-en-almaden-de-una-exposicion-en-colaboracion-con-idrija.html>

Ayuntamiento de Almadén (2019), VII Aniversario de la declaración como patrimonio de la humanidad, Patrimonio del Mercurio: Almadén – Idria, available on:  
<http://almaden.es/noticias/patrimonio/2284-vii-aniversario-de-la-declaracion-como-patrimonio-de-la-humanidad-patrimonio-del-mercurio-almaden-idria.html>

International and university scientific meetings and seminars. Such as: University of Salamanca and the Meeting of Ciudad Rodrigo on *Management of sites with outdoor art*, information available on:  
<https://www.siegaverde.es/x-aniversario-patrimonio-mundial/>

Museo de Prehistoria y Arqueología de Cantabria (August 2020) and the Pôle d'Interprétation de la Préhistoire (Conseil départemental de Dordogne-Périgueux (July-October 2020), *The exhibition Siega Verde / Vale do Côa*, information available on:  
<https://www.siegaverde.es/x-aniversario-patrimonio-mundial/>

Museo del Côa (August-September 2020) *The Travelling photographic exhibition on "The Palaeolithic Art Sites Of Côa And Siega Verde in the context of the Douro Valley"*, information available on:  
<https://www.siegaverde.es/x-aniversario-patrimonio-mundial/>

Museum of Salamanca; Museum of Human Evolution, National Archaeological Museum of Portugal; Centre Lascaux 3; Les Eyzies de Tayac and Museum of Prehistory and Archaeology of Cantabria, *Exhibitions of the sites and cycles in museums*, information available on:  
<https://www.siegaverde.es/x-aniversario-patrimonio-mundial/>

### **United Kingdom**

Great Spas of Europe (GSE) Nomination Team meeting (2008) *European Historic Thermal Towns Association*

Great Spas of Europe (GSE) Nomination Team meeting (2008) *Baden-Baden UNESCO Germany workshop*

Great Spas of Europe (GSE) Nomination Team meeting (2009 and 2011) *Karlovy Vary Experts group meetings*

Great Spas of Europe (GSE) Nomination Team meeting, Baden-Baden conference 2010, available on:  
<https://lbz.rlp.de/fileadmin/lbz/Inhaltsverzeichnis/HT017377235.pdf>

Great Spas of Europe (GSE) Nomination Team meeting (2011) Mayors' meeting Paris

Great Spas of Europe (GSE) Nomination Team meeting (2013) International Steering Group Prague

International conference for the partners and potential future partners for the Advanced Limes Applications, (2019) Landshut (DE)

International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies (*Limes Congress*) (every three years), available on:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congress\\_of\\_Roman\\_Frontier\\_Studies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congress_of_Roman_Frontier_Studies)



## **Annex 2**

### **Questionnaire for the survey in English and in French**



## ICOMOS Pilot project

### Sharing experiences on Transnational Serial Nominations in Europe

#### Request for Information from National Committees

*Background:*

*The concept of serial nominations is a powerful tool of the World Heritage system: it allows the recognition of Outstanding Universal Value in a series of related sites and provides a mechanism to encourage coherence and cooperation in their protection and management. Where the serial sites lie in the territory of different countries, the serial transnational nomination can provide a catalyst for international cooperation, something that is at the heart of the World Heritage Convention.*

*This is now 10 years since the Ittingen report (Switzerland, February 2010) on serial nominations have been published and the Operational Guidelines have been amended to clarify, among other things, the links between component sites in a series. Hence, a good opportunity to give some reflection on how the recommendations made to promote and implement the concept of transnational serial nominations have been translated into actions and what are the challenges which remain.*

*The aim of the ICOMOS pilot project on transnational serial nominations in Europe is to collect information on experiences gained from properties which have been already inscribed on the World Heritage List and to get views on advice which could be formulated to help preparation of future nominations.*

*This questionnaire will assist gathering of information. All responses submitted will be analysed and a summary report will be elaborated on this basis.*

*The deadline to submit your completed questionnaire is **Wednesday 30 September 2020**.*

Name of the National Committee:

Date of submission of the report:

---

#### **1. Background material on the topic of Transnational Serial nominations**

Please share information on any reflections, such as colloquiums, meetings, workshops, on the topic of transnational serial nominations that have occurred in your country in the past years. Please provide references together with material, if possible.

## **2. Lessons learnt from previous transnational serial nominations**

It would be useful if your National Committee could provide feedback on previous experiences, successful or not, on preparation and submission of transnational serial nominations with other European countries.

In particular, feedback on the following would be useful:

- Determining potential Outstanding Universal Value;
- Harmonizing rationale for the selection of component sites;
- Collaboration between States Parties in the nomination process;
- Level of the dialogue – between experts, agencies, etc.;
- Challenges of harmonizing designation and protection systems;
- Practicalities of establishing transnational Coordinating Committees.

## **3. Lessons learnt from successfully managing inscribed properties**

It would be useful if your National Committee could provide feedback on experiences related to successfully managing inscribed transnational serial properties in terms of:

- Maintaining meaningful dialogues between components sites after inscription;
- Ensuring interpretation explains how each component site contributes to the whole;
- Using the serial property to promote dialogue and collaboration;
- Sharing information on development and potential threats;
- Harmonizing approaches to conservation;
- Ensuring centralized or coordinated data collection and documentation.

#### **4. Advice for future European transnational serial nominations projects**

Taking your past experiences into consideration, we would be pleased if your National Committee could identify what advice could be shared for future serial transnational nominations in terms of:

- Identifying themes, topics, or common phenomenon related to the European cultural history that could be said to be common to several European countries, and could therefore be worth to be explored;
- Identify, if your Committee is in position to do so, transnational serial nomination projects currently under preparation, and the themes that are related to them;
- Initiating a possible transnational serial nomination;
- Framing OUV and choosing component sites;
- Compiling the necessary research, thematic studies or comparative analysis;
- Organizing collaboration and dialogue;
- Harmonizing approaches to management, protection and interpretation.

#### **5. European cultural designations**

Beyond World Heritage designation, several cultural designations exist for the recognition of Cultural heritage in Europe, such as the European Label for example. According to your knowledge, how European cultural labels consider the issue of serial transnational sites?

6. Please provide any additional advice or comments you would like to share



# Projet pilote de l'ICOMOS

## Partage d'expérience sur les propositions d'inscription en série transnationales en Europe

### Demande d'information auprès des Comités nationaux

#### *Antécédents*

*Le concept de proposition d'inscription en série est un outil puissant du système du patrimoine mondial : il permet la reconnaissance de la valeur universelle exceptionnelle d'une série de biens connexes, et fournit un mécanisme pour encourager la cohérence et la coopération pour leur protection et leur gestion. Lorsque les biens en série s'étendent sur le territoire de différents pays, la proposition d'inscription en série transnationale peut servir de catalyseur pour une coopération internationale, ce qui est au cœur de la Convention du patrimoine mondial.*

*Cela fait maintenant 10 ans que le rapport Ittingen (Suisse, février 2010) sur les propositions d'inscription en série a été publié, et que les Orientations ont été modifiées pour clarifier, entre autres, les liens entre les sites qui composent une série. C'est donc une bonne occasion de réfléchir à la manière dont les recommandations faites pour promouvoir et mettre en œuvre le concept de propositions d'inscription en série transnationales ont été traduites en actions et quels sont les défis qui restent à relever.*

*L'objectif de ce projet pilote de l'ICOMOS sur les propositions d'inscription en série transnationales en Europe est de recueillir des informations sur les expériences acquises au travers des biens qui ont déjà été inscrits sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial et d'obtenir des avis sur les conseils qui pourraient être donnés afin d'aider à la préparation de futures propositions d'inscription.*

*Ce questionnaire permettra de recueillir ces informations. Toutes les réponses soumises seront analysées et un rapport de synthèse sera élaboré sur cette base.*

*Le questionnaire devra être envoyé complété au plus tard le **mercredi 30 septembre 2020**.*

Nom du Comité national :

Date de soumission du rapport :

---

#### **1. Documentation de référence sur le sujet des propositions d'inscription en série transnationales**

Veuillez fournir des informations ayant trait à des réflexions, telles que des colloques, des réunions, des ateliers, sur le sujet des propositions d'inscription en série transnationales, qui se seraient déroulées dans votre pays ces dernières années. Des références précises, ainsi que de la documentation, seraient utiles.

## **2. Retour d'expérience sur de précédentes propositions d'inscription en série transnationales**

Il serait utile que votre Comité national puisse fournir un retour sur des expériences passées, réussies ou non, sur la préparation et la soumission de propositions d'inscription en série transnationales, avec d'autres pays européens.

En particulier, un retour sur les éléments suivants serait utile :

- Déterminer la potentielle valeur universelle exceptionnelle ;
- Harmoniser la logique de sélection des sites composant la série ;
- La collaboration entre les États parties pour le processus de candidature ;
- Le niveau du dialogue – entre les experts, les agences, etc. ;
- Les défis pour harmoniser les systèmes de désignation et de protection ;
- Les aspects pratiques pour établir des comités de coordination transnationaux.

## **3. Retour d'expérience sur la gestion réussie de biens inscrits**

Il serait utile que votre Comité national puisse fournir un retour d'expérience lié à la gestion réussie de biens en série transnationaux inscrits, en termes de :

- Maintenir des dialogues constructifs entre les sites composant la série, après l'inscription ;
- Assurer que l'interprétation explique la manière dont chaque site composant la série contribue à l'ensemble de la série ;
- Utiliser le bien en série pour promouvoir le dialogue et la collaboration ;
- Partager de l'information sur le développement et les potentielles menaces ;
- Harmoniser les approches de conservation ;
- Assurer la collecte centralisée et coordonnée des données et de la documentation.



#### **4. Conseils pour de futurs projets de propositions d'inscription de séries européennes transnationales**

Compte-tenu de vos expériences passées, votre Comité national pourrait-il suggérer des conseils qui pourraient être partagés pour de futures propositions d'inscription en série transnationales, en termes de :

- Identifier des thèmes, sujets, ou phénomènes liés à l'histoire culturelle européenne qui pourraient être considérés comme communs à plusieurs pays européens, et mériteraient d'être explorés ;
- Identifier, si votre Comité est en mesure de le faire, des projets de propositions d'inscription en cours de préparation et leur thématique associée ;
- Initier une possible proposition d'inscription en série transnationale ;
- Formuler la valeur universelle exceptionnelle et choisir les sites qui composent la série ;
- Compiler les recherches nécessaires, les études thématiques ou analyses comparatives ;
- Organiser la collaboration et le dialogue ;
- Harmoniser les approches de gestion, de protection et d'interprétation.

#### **5. Désignations culturelles européennes**

Au-delà de la désignation au patrimoine mondial, plusieurs désignations culturelles existent pour la reconnaissance du patrimoine culturel en Europe, comme le label européen par exemple. Selon vos connaissances, comment les labels culturels européens considèrent-ils la question des propositions d'inscription transnationales en série ?

**6. Veuillez fournir tout conseil additionnel, ou commentaires que vous souhaiteriez partager**



## **Annex 3**

**Material shared during the meeting held on  
Wednesday 1 July 2020**



# UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE: SERIAL PROPERTIES AND NOMINATIONS PATRIMOINE MONDIAL DE L'UNESCO: BIENS ET PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTIONS SÉRIELS



**UNESCO WORLD  
HERITAGE:  
SERIAL  
PROPERTIES AND  
NOMINATIONS**

PATRIMOINE MON-  
DIAL DE L'UNESCO:  
BIENS ET  
PROPOSITIONS  
D'INSCRIPTIONS  
SÉRIELS

**INTERNATIONAL EXPERT  
MEETING ON WORLD HERITAGE  
AND SERIAL PROPERTIES AND  
NOMINATIONS**

**ITTINGEN, SWITZERLAND,  
25 – 27 FEBRUARY 2010**

RÉUNION INTERNATIONALE D'EXPERTS  
SUR LE PATRIMOINE MONDIAL  
ET LES BIENS ET PROPOSITIONS  
D'INSCRIPTIONS SÉRIELS  
ITTINGEN, SUISSE,  
DU 25 – 27 FÉVRIER 2010

TABLE OF  
CONTENTS  
TABLE DES  
MATIÈRES



**P.06****INTRODUCTIONS**

INTRODUCTIONS

**P.12****REFERENCE****PAPERS**DOCUMENTS DE  
RÉFÉRENCE**P.34****CASE STUDIES  
PRESENTED BY  
PARTICIPATING  
EXPERTS**ÉTUDES DE CAS  
PRÉSENTÉES  
PAR LES EXPERTS  
PARTICIPANTS**P.68****PRESENTATION  
OF THE RESULTS  
OF THE EXPERT  
MEETING  
AT THE 34<sup>TH</sup>  
SESSION**OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE,  
BRASILIA, BRAZIL (2010)PRÉSENTATION  
DES RÉSULTATS  
DE LA RÉUNION  
D'EXPERTS À LA  
34<sup>ÈME</sup> SESSIONDU COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL,  
BRASILIA, BRÉSIL (2010)**P.84****DECISION  
34 COM 9B  
DÉCISION  
34 COM 9B**

# 1. INTRODUCTIONS

## INTRODUCTIONS

**P.08**

**SWISS FEDERAL  
OFFICE**

**OF CULTURE**

OFFICE FÉDÉRAL  
DE LA CULTURE

**P.08**

**UNESCO WORLD  
HERITAGE  
CENTRE**

CENTRE DU  
PATRIMOINE  
MONDIAL  
DE L'UNESCO

**P.09**

**INTERNATIONAL  
COUNCIL ON  
MONUMENTS  
AND SITES  
ICOMOS**

CONSEIL  
INTERNATIONAL  
DES MONUMENTS  
ET DES SITES  
ICOMOS

**P.10**

**INTERNATIONAL  
CENTRE FOR THE  
STUDY OF THE  
PRESERVATION  
AND  
RESTORATION  
OF CULTURAL  
PROPERTY  
ICCROM**

CENTRE  
INTERNATIONAL  
D'ÉTUDES  
POUR LA  
CONSERVATION  
ET LA  
RESTAURATION  
DES BIENS  
CULTURELS  
ICCROM

**P.10**

**INTERNATIONAL  
UNION FOR  
CONSERVATION  
OF NATURE IUCN**

UNION INTERNA-  
TIONALE POUR  
LA CONSERVATION  
DE LA NATURE  
UICN

# SWISS FEDERAL OFFICE OF CULTURE OFFICE FÉDÉRAL DE LA CULTURE

The Outstanding Universal Value of the site and the credibility of the World Heritage List. These are two important parameters in the World Heritage system in general and in relation to serial properties in particular. Switzerland, along with other participant States Parties, has in recent years submitted two nominations for serial transnational properties: the architectural work of Le Corbusier, under the lead management of France and together with Argentina, Belgium, Germany and Japan, and the Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps, along with France, Germany, Austria, Slovenia and Italy. Both nominations are currently in the evaluation phase. At national level and in international cooperation, the experience gained from these two nominations – regardless of whether the properties are successfully inscribed – has been extremely positive and instructive. Serial transnational nominations are especially in keeping with the spirit of the World Heritage Convention, which aims through joint efforts to preserve and maintain cultural and natural heritage of Outstanding Universal Value. Here the expression «joint effort» must be taken literally. Serial transnational nominations place high demands on the participant states. This begins right from the apparently banal requirement of mutual linguistic understanding. More important, there comes a variety of administrative structures, customs and regulations on responsibilities. However, these efforts are more than compensated for by gaining inscriptions that go beyond national boundaries, and the organisation of international cooperation for the management of the properties, which also creates incentives at national level and is beneficial not only to the properties selected. And lastly, working on these nominations creates a permanent and amicable network between the experts and between the authorities in the participant States Parties.

How are serial nominations and inscriptions dealt with? There is a need for guidance and support not only in relation to the format to be used for serial nominations, but also and in particular in connection with the definition of a series, the relation of its

parts to the whole, and requirement of efficient joint management. As is the case with all excellent things, even when dealing with serial properties, an excess can have a negative effect: if the Outstanding Universal Value of the series is not assessed strictly enough, the notion of World Heritage risks to be diluted and the credibility of the World Heritage List will be challenged. The enormous enthusiasm for serial properties must therefore not distract us from alternative ways of achieving transnational cooperation in the field of World Heritage.

The World Heritage Committee discussed the opportunities and risks of serial nominations and properties in 2008 in Quebec and in 2009 in Seville and decided that a revision of the Operational Guidelines was necessary. Experts met in Vilm, Germany in 2008 and 2009 to consider this issue, concentrating primarily on natural monuments. Switzerland organised an international expert meeting in Ittingen in spring 2010 in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies ICOMOS, IUCN und ICCROM, the findings of which were approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 34<sup>th</sup> session in Brasilia in summer 2010. At the same time in Brasilia, the World Heritage Committee decided to establish a task force to revise the Operational Guidelines, the work of which should be approved at the 35<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee in Bahrain in 2011 and which will also cover the points requiring revision relating to serial transnational nominations and properties.

The aim of this publication is to communicate the results of the expert meeting in Ittingen, together with the related discussions and decisions. It should assist experts, authorities and other interested parties in the organisation of, preparation for and management of serial nominations and properties.

**Johann Mürner**  
**Head of Section**

# UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE CENTRE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL DE L'UNESCO

The efforts of the Swiss authorities to organize an international expert meeting in Ittingen, Switzerland, have made a major contribution to moving ahead with the concept and practice of serial transnational nominations and have provided a thorough review of existing transnational properties inscribed on UNESCO' World Heritage List.

This meeting held in February 2010 has been crucial to advance collaborative action between States, Advisory Bodies and UNESCO based on expert advice for different regions of the world.

The idea of this expert meeting has its origin at the 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee, held in July 2008, in Quebec City, Canada. Prior to that meeting, the Committee, noticing the increase of projects for serial transnational nominations, decided to create a specific discussion item on this subject. The working document (WHC-08/32 COM/10B) which was prepared to serve as a base for the Committee's debate has also served to structure this meeting. The debate that took place in Quebec was lively and clearly showed the interest of many countries on this matter; however, because of the usual constraints of time that affect the sessions of the Committee, the discussion had to be closed rather hastily. The frustration for the lack of time, as well as the perception of the amount of discussion that a theme like issues concerning serial nominations requires, gave the input to organize an expert meeting specially dedicated to the subject.

Serial transnational nominations have become a phenomenon during the last years, clearly demonstrating the interest of countries in the conservation of the shared heritage among nations.

The efforts of our ancestors, our experts and communities in all parts of the world have

cared for these sites and landscapes for future generations in a spirit of cooperation and exchange that illustrates the key feature of the 1972 World Heritage Convention.

The 1972 Convention is a powerful tool for development that combines a standard framework with the development of operational projects and concrete collaboration. The conservation and enhancement of sites through the process of identifying the values and attributes to work with local stakeholders and encourages all to care for the heritage in an integrated and multidisciplinary way. The challenge is to develop overall policies that incorporate this approach.

The International Year of Biodiversity in 2010 and the International Year of Rapprochement of Cultures 2010 was also a great opportunity to highlight the theme of nominations and serial properties, links between sites and cultures in different environments, between cultural and biological diversity. The relationship between nature and culture is especially evident in the World Heritage Convention since it combines the protection of cultural heritage and biodiversity, together in a single international legal instrument.

My special thanks go to all the Swiss authorities involved in the organization of this successful meeting. Switzerland has always been a major UNESCO partner in terms of heritage and particularly as a member of the World Heritage Committee elected for the term 2009-2013, a key period with the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Convention in 2012. I also thank all the experts for contributing to this important reflection for the future of the World Heritage Convention, a Convention for the conservation of our past and future heritage.

This publication is a testimony to the work of site managers on the ground, national authorities and experts who shared their experiences at the meeting co-organized with UNESCO, the house of dialogue that is also yours. Finally I would like to thank my colleagues from the World Heritage Centre who contributed to the success of this event in close collaboration with Oliver Martin and Samuel Gendre.

I trust that these deliberations be shared around the world to improve the conservation of the diverse and complex heritage demonstrated in serial transnational nominations and properties.

**Francesco Bandarin**  
**Director**

# INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES ICOMOS CONSEIL INTER- NATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES ICOMOS

The concept of serial nominations is a significant innovation of the World Heritage system: it allows the recognition of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) in a series of related sites and provides a mechanism to encourage coherence and cooperation in their protection and management. Where the serial sites lie in the territory of different States Parties, the serial, transboundary nomination can provide a catalyst for international cooperation – something that is at the heart of the World Heritage Convention.

In recent years, there has been a notable increase in the number and complexity of serial, transnational nominations being developed, some involving large numbers of properties and States Parties. These include the multiplicity of sites along the Silk Roads from East Asia to the Mediterranean, the extensive network of main Incan Roads in South America, and the natural and cultural sites along the Great Rift Valley in Africa associated with migratory birds and early man. All of these initiatives demonstrate the desire by some States Parties to engage in protecting properties across boundaries. What they have also brought into focus is the considerable challenges for the serial nomination process, related not only to the identification of OUV for such extensive collections of sites, but also to the practical management of large numbers of component parts, spread over many countries.

ICOMOS welcomed the offer by the Government of Switzerland to host a workshop in Ittingen, in response to the request of the World Heritage Committee to consider these challenges, as part of the

overall reflection on the Future of the World Heritage Convention. The workshop provided the opportunity for delegates to consider how the emergence of extensive serial nominations might be seen as a positive development for the World Heritage Convention, as well as how to avoid circumstances where serial nominations might become so large that they could simply become unworkable in terms of delivering effective protection and management and meeting the requirements of integrity, or, in extreme cases, might challenge the credibility of the Convention. The workshop also provided the opportunity to consider whether in some instances extensive collections of properties could be better nominated as smaller elements linked by some sort of thematic framework, or be recognised by other means than those offered by the World Heritage Convention.

The fundamental issues that emerged during the workshop discussions related to how OUV is identified for serial nominations, how individual components sites contribute to the whole serial property, how such properties might be identified in Tentative Lists, how they should be presented to the World Heritage Committee and how ultimately they might be managed.

What is clear is that large, complex serial properties may take many years to prepare for nomination, have high costs and can thus be seen as presenting high risks for States Parties. In order to optimise their resources and to minimise these risks, there is clearly a need for impartial guidance to be available from the Advisory Body on work in progress for such aspects as the viability of the serial approach, the overall OUV, the choice of components and the comparative analysis.

Although serial transnational nominations can be seen to create opportunities for the identification and recognition of OUV for ensembles of sites spread around a region or even around the world, if they are to be seen as a positive contribution to international collaboration, and to good conservation and management, there is a need to find ways to evaluate the benefits they deliver against the resources needed to nominate, evaluate and manage them, in order to ensure that they are contributing in a positive way to the Global Strategy and to enhancing the credibility of the Convention.

The workshop provided a very timely opportunity for participants to debate these issues and ICOMOS welcomes the publication of

the workshop papers as a contribution to the development of a strategy that could allow serial, transnational nominations to become a positive force for global conservation.

**Susan Denyer**  
World Heritage Adviser

# INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY ICCROM

CENTRE  
INTERNATIONAL  
D'ÉTUDES  
POUR LA  
CONSERVATION  
ET LA  
RESTAURATION  
DES BIENS  
CULTURELS  
ICCROM

It is often said that the one of the main purpose of the World Heritage Convention is to promote cooperation and collaboration amongst the States Parties towards the protection and safeguarding of the cultural and natural heritage of Outstanding Universal Value. In a certain sense, one could not imagine a more perfect instrument to foster such collaboration than the preparation of a nomination for a trans-boundary serial property, and its eventual inscription on the World Heritage List. From the outset, this instrument encourages countries to develop common ways to identify the heritage, document it, and describe its OUV. Further, it calls for the development of a common management framework; one that ensures that over the years, there will be a continued cooperation on all aspects of the overall management of the property.

Unfortunately, this instrument also presents some profound challenges to State Parties.

Differences in political systems, administrative and legal frameworks, professional capacity, and even language often present obstacles both at the stage of nomination, and even more deeply in the long-term management of the property.

Such problems are also true for serial sites within a single country, although they are often easier to overcome. In federal states, some of the same problems related to legal and administrative frameworks may exist, but even in states with unified systems, the development of a common management framework over a number of sites, sometimes hundreds of kilometers apart, may present enormous difficulties.

It is for this reason that ICCROM is pleased that the Government of Switzerland hosted a meeting in Ittingen, Switzerland on the topic of Serial Nominations. State Parties have been using this instrument, more and more, often without taking account of the possible difficulties that they may encounter in the nomination process, or after the property is inscribed on the World Heritage List. It is hoped that this publication, the results of that meeting, will provide useful guidance for all States Parties in considering the various aspects of serial sites to ensure that this important tool is used in the most effective way possible towards the protection and safeguarding of the World's Cultural and Natural Heritage of Outstanding Universal Value.

**Joseph King**  
Unit Director, Sites Unit

# INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE IUCN UNION INTER- NATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE UICN

As we face up to the challenges to nature in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, it is clear that success in conservation is going to rely on ever greater international efforts. The World Heritage Convention has been a means to recognize the international responsibility for the protection of the most special places on our planet for almost forty years. For natural heritage, the properties that are listed under the World Heritage Convention account for over 8% of protected areas globally. Serial World Heritage Sites are a special type of World Heritage property, which bring together under one nomination a series of related places that together demonstrate Outstanding Universal Value. Such areas have been recognised over the years in many of the natural properties that have been included on the World Heritage List.

Serial World Heritage Sites provide an interesting and positive opportunity to link the conservation efforts of a group of important protected areas, under a common plan for protection and management. IUCN increasingly recognizes the importance of connectivity conservation, linking protected areas to better assure their protection. This is increasingly seen as essential as nature faces continued pressure from human use of land and sea, and new threats such as biome shifts caused by climate change. Connectivity conservation areas and the recognition of the place of nature in wider landscapes will be essential to conserve migratory species, and to allow wildlife to move and adapt in the face of growing pressures. Connectivity conservation is also an important way to link protection with sustainable development and to increase the connections between nature and people. The special option of transnational serial World Heritage Sites can provide an important means to formalize international

cooperation and coordinate management efforts between States and potentially as part of much larger (continental scale) connectivity conservation corridor initiatives.

IUCN also notes that there are challenges to the World Heritage system from serial nominations, and a growing need for advice. Serial sites need greater thought, greater preparation and extended commitments to be made during the nomination process, and they also bring heightened commitments in terms of successful implementation. Simply, they are more complicated, challenging and more costly than single nominations. Without greater reflection and guidance, serial sites could transform from being opportunities for World Heritage innovation, to a threat to the credibility of the World Heritage Convention. For these reasons, IUCN welcomed the initiative of the World Heritage Committee, supported by the State Party of Switzerland, to consider these issues and make recommendations for the future at the workshop held in Ittingen, Switzerland that is reported in this report. This meeting allowed a rich and full discussion of the opportunities and challenges of serial sites. It also built on previous commitments by the German Nature Conservation Agency, BfN, who held two workshops on natural serial sites with IUCN at their Academy on the Isle of Vilm. IUCN welcomes the publication of this workshop report, and hopes that the papers presented and findings reached will lead to a successful strategy to encourage credible, realistic and effective serial nominations as a contribution to the future of the World Heritage Convention.

**Tim Badman**  
**Head, World Heritage Programme**

# 2. REFERENCE PAPERS

DOCUMENTS DE  
RÉFÉRENCE



## **P.14**

WHC-08/32.COM/10B

# **POINT OF INFORMATION ON THE PREPARATION OF SERIAL TRANSNATIONAL NOMINATIONS**

32<sup>ND</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE, QUÉBEC CITY, CANADA (2008)

## **P.18**

# **DECISION 32 COM 10B**

## **P.19**

WHC-08/32.COM/10B

# **POINT D'INFORMATION SUR LA PRÉ- PARATION DES PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION TRANSNATIO- NALES EN SÉRIE**

32<sup>ÈME</sup> SESSION DU COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL  
QUÉBEC-CITY, CANADA (2008)

## **P.24**

# **DÉCISION 32 COM 10B**

## **P.26**

WHC-09/33.COM/10A

# **SERIAL TRANS- NATIONAL PROPERTIES**

33<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE, SEVILLE, SPAIN (2009)

## **P.27**

# **DECISION 33 COM 10A**

## **P.28**

WHC-09/33.COM/10A

# **PROPOSITION D'INSCRIPTIONS TRANSNATIONALES EN SÉRIE**

33<sup>ÈME</sup> SESSION DU COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL  
SÉVILLE, ESPAGNE (2009)

## **P.29**

# **DÉCISION 33 COM 10A**

## **P.30**

# **SUMMARY REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL EXPERT MEETINGS IN VILM, GERMANY 2008/2009**

WHC-08/32.COM/10B

# POINT OF INFORMATION ON THE PREPARATION OF SERIAL TRANSNATIONAL NOMINATIONS

32<sup>ND</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE, QUÉBEC-CITY, CANADA (2008)

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. Serial nominations are an appropriate mechanism for the development of World Heritage nominations where heritage of Outstanding Universal Value is revealed at the scale of more than a single property. According to paragraph 138 of the *Operational Guidelines*, a serial nominated property may occur:

- a) on the territory of a single State Party (serial national property); or
- b) within the territory of different States Parties, which need not be contiguous and is nominated with the consent of all States Parties concerned (serial transnational property)

2. According to the paragraph 137 the serial properties (national and transnational) «include component parts related because they belong to:

- a) the same historico – cultural group;
- b) the same type of property which is characteristic of the geographical zone;
- c) the same geological, geomorphological formation, the same biogeographic province, or the same ecosystem type; and provided it is the series as a *whole* – and not necessarily the individual parts of it – which are of Outstanding Universal Value».

3. Special mention is made of potential phased nominations. States Parties planning serial nominations phased over several nomination cycles are encouraged to inform the Committee of their intention in order to ensure better planning and to work cooperatively when more than one State Party is involved.

4. Serial transnational nominations, as defined in paragraph 138b, are encouraged by the World Heritage Committee and Decision 29 COM 18A adopted at its 29th session

(Durban, 2005) states that: «the States Parties co-authors of a transboundary or transnational serial nomination can choose, amongst themselves and with a common understanding, the State Party which will be bearing this nomination; and this nomination can be registered exclusively within the ceiling of the bearing State Party». This decision has had an impact as evidenced by the growing number of transnational serial nominations in preparation, some of which involve large numbers of properties and States Parties.

5. The full implications of the current increase in serial nominations have not yet been assessed. However a number of issues are emerging, including:

- a) Large complex serial nominations demand large resources from many States Parties sometimes over a considerable number of years. At what point should the Committee consider these nominations?
- b) How can the necessary extra resources be found to evaluate large, complex, serial nominations?
- c) If serial nominations are submitted over several cycles, to what extent should the criteria for the whole series be agreed upon when the first property or properties are inscribed?
- d) Is it acceptable for extensive serial nominations that only the first property and not subsequent additions demonstrate Outstanding Universal Value (i.e. what should be the level of value expected for additional sites in a series to ensure that the overall series remains coherent and of Outstanding Universal Value?
- e) At the time of the first inscription in a series, to what extent should the Committee be aware of likely future nominations?
- f) What should be the process for submitting elements of serial nominations as part of Tentative Lists?

6. Although transboundary serial nominations are seen as very desirable in fostering international cooperation, which is at the heart of the *World Heritage Convention*, there is a need to evaluate the benefits they deliver against the resources needed to research, nominate, evaluate and manage the properties.

## II. TOWARDS GUIDANCE FOR STATES PARTIES PREPARING A SERIAL NOMINATION

7. During its 29<sup>th</sup> session, the World Heritage Committee considered that there was «the

need to specify the submission modalities for the nomination of transboundary or transnational serial properties on the World Heritage List» (Decision 29 COM 18A).

8. This can be considered in relation to format, procedures and management systems. It is noted that the Advisory Bodies are currently working on the development of resource manuals on World Heritage nominations and this initiative provides an opportunity to incorporate specific guidance to States Parties on good practice in a way that is complementary to the information provided in the *Operational Guidelines*.

### A. FORMAT

9. The format for serial nominations should always follow the standard format for nominations; however there is a need for further guidance in relation to the identification of serial transnational properties, as explanatory notes on the format for nominations set out in Annex 5 of the current *Operational Guidelines* is primarily addressed to single property nominations.

### B. PROCEDURES CONCERNING SERIAL NOMINATIONS

Two main procedural issues are raised:

#### A) EXTENSION OF SERIAL NOMINATIONS

10. This concerns the extension to a serial property already inscribed on the List or where a single property is proposed to become a serial one through nomination of additional separate areas. It concerns both transnational serial properties and national properties.

11. Because of the increasing number of serial nominations under preparation (see Annex), the *Operational Guidelines* could usefully provide additional guidance to the States Parties on the documentation to be provided. Paragraph 139 of the *Operational Guidelines*, specifies that «the first nominated property is of Outstanding Universal Value in its own right». Nevertheless, the State Party should clearly demonstrate in a nomination for an extension how the proposed extension contributes to the overall Outstanding Universal Value, including integrity and/or authenticity aspects of the existing property and explain how it is protected and managed. Although individual properties within serial nominations might not on their own demonstrate Outstanding Universal Value, the overall serial property must do so.

12. It should be noted that there is a potential issue that poorly designed serial

nominations may include sites that make little additional contribution to the overall value of a series as a whole, or which may fail to meet the conditions of integrity, or be unworkably complex in relation to the requirements for protection and management. It is therefore important that sites added as part of a serial extension add significantly to the values of the property, even if the sites might not be of Outstanding Universal Value in their own right. In this connection it should be noted the Committee can and has decided to put an end to possible extensions of inscribed properties that might otherwise become open-ended, as was done for the Belfries of Belgium and France (see Decision 29 COM 8B.45). Guidance along these lines might be considered as a possible explanatory note to paragraph 139 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

#### **B) INSCRIPTION ON AND REMOVAL FROM THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST IN DANGER**

13. An important principle in relation to serial nominations is that they are evaluated against the same set of criteria, requirements for integrity, authenticity and management as are all other nominations, and carry the same requirements for global comparative analysis. Therefore all of the normal requirements apply to the Advisory Bodies in carrying out their rigorous evaluation of all nominations as required in paragraph 148 of the *Operational Guidelines*. It may be noted that IUCN has taken a consistent approach to advising the Committee for many years in relation to serial nominations using the following three standard questions:

- a) What is the justification for the serial approach?
- b) Are the separate components of the property functionally linked?
- c) Is there an overall management framework for all the components?

14. An important further principle is that any serial nomination represents a single nomination to the World Heritage List. Thus the serial sites are inscribed as a single property, and are treated accordingly. Thus if the values of one part of a serial transnational property are threatened such that it is proposed to be placed on the List of World Heritage in Danger, the entire property is inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. The same principles would also apply in relation to possible deletion of a serial property from the World Heritage List.

15. Similarly to the collaborative preparation and coordinated management of a serial transnational property, action to achieve the removal of a transnational serial property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

should also be a collective effort by all States Parties whose territory is represented within the series, in cooperation with the international community.

#### **C. GUIDANCE ON FORMAT AND PROCEDURES FOR SERIAL TRANSNATIONAL PROPERTIES COULD COVER THE FOLLOWING POINTS:**

- a) How serial nominations should be presented on Tentative Lists;
- b) How the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value should be identified;
- c) The need to determine overall criteria, common to all elements;
- d) Shared approaches to documentation;
- e) Demonstrating functional links across serial properties;
- f) Effective collaboration between participating State Parties for nominations of large complex serial transnational nominations.

#### **D. THE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

16. Paragraph 114 of the *Operational Guidelines* states that «in the case of serial properties, a management system or mechanisms for ensuring the coordinated management of the separate components are essential and should be documented in the nomination». A number of difficulties can occur in the establishment of a coordinated management system:

- a) Different political, economic, legal and social characteristics of the different States Parties participating in the nomination;
- b) Different characteristics of the specific communities and the stakeholders involved in the management of the components forming the serial transnational nomination;
- c) Substantial differences in the components put forward regarding dimensions, territorial relations, etc.;
- d) Logistical issues in relation to communication and joint management arrangements.

17. A reflection on management objectives for Serial Properties should be based on the experience gained by already inscribed serial properties. These may range from relatively simple bilateral management arrangements to more ambitious management partnerships.

#### **E. GUIDANCE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR SERIAL TRANSNATIONAL PROPERTIES COULD COVER THE FOLLOWING POINTS:**

- a) Acknowledgement by the participating States Parties of the common thematic framework and the common understanding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
- b) An agreed concept of management as a coordinated system based on common principles and management objectives (e.g. to share common vision and practices of conservation, development of tourism with a similar approach, share the same environmental management approach, the same idea of sustainable development etc.);
- c) Effective arrangements for bilateral and multilateral collaboration for the joint control, protection, management and monitoring of the state of conservation of the components forming the serial property, scientific development and knowledge management via the institutions that are linked to the proposed properties (e.g. cooperation of educational and research entities, interpretation centres and museums linked to the properties).

### **III. CURRENT ACTIVITY IN RELATION TO SERIAL TRANSNATIONAL PROPERTIES NOMINATIONS**

18. A number of projects potential serial transnational nominations are currently under consideration, including those listed in the Annex to this document. These represent a valuable series of projects based on transnational cooperation.

19. It may be noted that a number of initiatives are coordinated by the World Heritage Centre (e.g. Astronomy, Qhapaq Ñan). There is a danger of a conflict of interest with this practice. It is therefore important to note that the role of the Centre in coordinating the efforts within these initiatives does not affect the need for any individual nomination to be put forward through the normal processes and be evaluated in full by IUCN and/or ICOMOS to the same standards as that for all nominations. In particular it does not prejudice the final outcomes of any nomination. The noting of prior and current work by the World Heritage Committee should also not be taken in any way as «prior approval» for serial transnational nominations.

20. A further important issue to note is that the costs of serial transnational nominations are significantly higher than those for individual nominations, and an assessment of the costs and benefits of such nominations could be valuable to assist framing priorities for further work. These potential costs also include large and time consuming evaluation missions, and the additional costs in terms of both logistics and time related to the ongoing monitoring of the State of Conservation of large, multi-country properties that may be widely dispersed.

#### IV. STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT SERIAL TRANSNATIONAL WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATIONS

21. Considering some of the constraints mentioned under paragraph II.C above, there could be a need for guidance to avoid the development of nominations that, due to the complexity of either the concept or necessary partnerships, are unlikely to be workable in practice in delivering effective protection and management, or meeting the necessary requirements of integrity.

22. It could be useful to explore alternative approaches to identifying and designating serial transnational properties. One approach could be the development of thematic studies by the Advisory Bodies, which could set out a thematic frameworks that might be recognized through transnational serial approaches within a region.

23. In principle such an approach could enable the emergence of nominations that are more workable in achieving effective protection and management, and exist within well defined transnational cooperative frameworks and partnerships. Such approaches might also more effectively promote the use of the *World Heritage Convention* within regions alongside mechanisms for conservation at international, regional and national levels. This might create the potential for an increased level of influence for the *Convention* in achieving its objectives.

24. Such an approach needs careful reflection and consideration, and should be considered within the framework of an evaluation of the successes, problems, costs and benefits of the current experience of transnational serial nominations. This could be an appropriate topic for an expert meeting. Such a meeting could consider the means by which appropriate and effective transnational serial nominations could be supported,

priorities for further work, and amendments that might be required to explain the requirements for serial nominations within the *Operational Guidelines*.

#### V. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision: 32 COM 10B

*The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Having examined *Document* WHC-08/32.COM/10B;

2. Recalling *Decision* 29 COM 18A adopted at its 29<sup>th</sup> session (*Durban, 2005*);

3. Notes *the developing range of discussions on the nomination of serial transnational properties as a positive expression of international cooperation in line with the aims and objectives of the World Heritage Convention;*

4. Reminds *States Parties, and organizations involved in coordinating serial nominations, of the importance of all nominations meeting the standards of Outstanding Universal Value as set out in the Operational Guidelines, including in relation to integrity and authenticity, and in relation to the requirements for protection and management;*

5. Requests *the World Heritage Centre, in close cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, to take into account the debate of its 32<sup>nd</sup> session and, on this basis, to propose amendments to the Operational Guidelines and to draft detailed guidelines for the nomination of serial properties;*

6. Acknowledges *the need to enhance the guidance to States Parties on the procedures linked to the nomination and management of serial transnational properties, and requests the Advisory Bodies to develop the advice within the resource manuals on World Heritage nominations currently in preparation;*

7. Requests *the World Heritage Centre, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, to give priority to seeking partners to enable an expert meeting to be held to reflect on current and future practice and strategies for serial transnational World Heritage nominations, and to update the Committee on progress with this discussion at its 33<sup>rd</sup> Session in 2009.*

## ANNEX

### Current serial transnational nomination projects

#### STATES PARTIES

**Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru**

#### **Main Andean Road – Qhapaq Ñan**

In April 2004, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru requested the UNESCO World Heritage Centre/LAC Unit to be the general coordinator of the international process to put forward an ambitious nomination for the inscription of the Main Andean Road, or *Qhapaq Ñan (QN)*, the most complex and extensive pre-Hispanic communication network in the Americas, on the World Heritage List. The Main Andean Road connected a well-developed network of paths and infrastructure constructed over a period of more than 2000 years by pre-Inca Andean cultures. Many of these sites are already featured on the World Heritage List. This system of longitudinal and latitudinal routes, which spanned over 23,000 kilometres, connected various productive, administrative and ceremonial centres and provided links between the centres of power and the warm valley zones as well as the deserts and the jungles at the furthestmost points of the Empire. This road network provided a rich fabric for all kinds of relationships throughout the territory and was an integral part of the power system, which unified the Empire both physically and organically. This system of continental communication grew as a response to a political programme dating back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The Incas extended the routes to the far ends of the Empire in order to ensure the flow of ideas, power, goods and cosmologies to facilitate the development of all areas of the vast Inca Empire – some four million square kilometres of land from the Pacific coastline to 5000 metres above sea level.

**China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan**

#### **The Silk Roads**

In spite of its remarkable historical background and numerous historic and cultural sites, Central Asia and western China remain one of the most underrepresented regions on the World Heritage List, with no cultural or natural heritage properties from Kyrgyzstan or Tajikistan inscribed on the List.

With financial support from the Netherlands Funds-In-Trust and the Italian Funds-In-Trust, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS have been assisting the States Parties in identifying new types of properties for World Heritage nomination, such as the Silk Roads

for serial and/or transnational World Heritage nomination. Spanning a quarter of the globe, the Silk Roads include several routes of integration, exchange and dialogue between East and West that have contributed greatly to the common prosperity of human civilizations over more than two millennia. Their location across so many countries with different legal and administrative systems, however, makes it very difficult to ensure their conservation for future generations.

A series of consultation meetings were organized by UNESCO and the concerned States Parties in Turpan (August 2006, China), Samarkand (October 2006, Uzbekistan) and Dushanbe (April 2007, Tajikistan). In particular, the «Concept Document for the Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in Central Asia and China» was adopted at Dushanbe, Tajikistan in April 2007. The full text of the Concept Document (English) has been made available at the World Heritage Centre's web page at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/391>.

Another consultation workshop has been organized from 2 to 5 June 2008 in Xi'an, China to bring together relevant authorities of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and China to further develop the preparation of Tentative Lists for cultural heritage sites along the Silk Roads. The workshop also invited participants from other countries such as Afghanistan, Iran, Italy, Japan and Mongolia to review potential cooperation on the serial World Heritage nomination of the Silk Roads. Within the framework of the UNESCO/Norway Trust Fund cooperation, a project entitled «World Heritage Serial Nominations: Central Asian Petroglyph Sites and Central Asian Silk Roads» was approved for the period of 2008-2010 with a total contribution of US\$ 483,414. The project aims to provide support for the coordination of the serial World Heritage nomination initiatives in Central Asia.

**Kenya, Ethiopia, United Republic of Tanzania, Israel + others**  
**Great Rift Valley**

Several initiatives have been taken to improve the representation of African heritage on the World Heritage List, including encouraging the nomination of serial transnational properties. A scientific workshop was convened on 26–29 March 2007 at the UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya to discuss the possibilities of nominating the Great Rift Valley in Africa (GRV) for World Heritage status. The workshop recognised the Outstanding Universal Value of the GRV,

the cradle of humankind, with its cultural and natural heritage, its cultural landscapes, its biodiversity and its importance as a flyway for migratory birds.

Subsequently, several meetings focusing on cooperation and communication were also organised. It was concluded that the approach developed for the serial nomination of the Silk Roads in Central Asia and China could provide useful guidance for the GRV initiative in Africa.

This GRV initiative aims to encourage the African States Parties to nominate sites under the «framework» of the Great Rift Valley and also to strengthen the conservation and integrity of properties in this area which are already inscribed on the World Heritage List. Countries are expected to prepare or revise their Tentative Lists and harmonise them with reference to developing nominations which would fit within the overall framework of the GRV. As the key underlying concept of the proposed Great Rift Valley nominations is not to nominate one single serial property but to link together all the identified cultural and natural heritage elements through the GRV framework, it is essential that the development of nominations accounts for the opinions of individual States Parties and is undertaken in a spirit of regional cooperation.

The meeting of March 2007 established a Steering Committee comprising Kenya, Malawi, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The National Museums of Kenya was designated as the Chair of the Steering Committee. It is expected that the Steering Committee will meet during the year in one of the countries involved, to define the project strategy, the timeframe and the activities to be implemented as a part of the Great Rift Valley Conservation Initiative.

**Norway, Iceland, Portugal, Spain, Brazil, Cape Verde**  
**Mid Atlantic Ridge**

In the context of the «Earth Heritage – World Heritage» conference at the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site (September 2004, United Kingdom) on geological conservation, representatives from Norway, Iceland, Portugal/Azores, the United Kingdom, IUCN-WCPA, IUGS and UNESCO met to review the geological and biological heritage of the Mid Atlantic Ridge (MAR), a phenomenon of 16'000km. The meeting identified the need for a more detailed review of the potential heritage values of the MAR through an expert meeting and development of a strategy for international cooperation in

respect to a possible serial transboundary nomination for the MAR. The «1st Mid-Atlantic Ridge Expert Workshop» in Reykjavik (Iceland) on 16 January 2007 gathered specialists from Norway, Iceland and UNESCO's World Heritage Centre and Nordic World Heritage Foundation to discuss such a large scale joint nomination and how to define the limits of the phenomenon of the MAR. The participants of the workshop agreed to encourage cooperation with other conventions in order to better protect the biological, cultural and geological heritage of the ridge. A side meeting took place during the 31st session of the World Heritage Committee in Christchurch (New Zealand, July 2007), where the Portuguese authorities confirmed their intention to organize a second expert workshop in the Azores, Portugal. This workshop took place from 27–28 March 2008 and gathered representatives from Iceland, Portugal and Cape Verde as well as experts from the United Kingdom, and representatives of IUCN-WCPA and the World Heritage Centre. The participants decided to call upon potentially interested and concerned States Parties along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge to join the initiative by designating an official representative for the Steering Committee which is to be set up in autumn 2008 to start working towards a serial transnational nomination framework. This information has been circulated to all potentially concerned States Parties by letter in April 2008. For further information see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/504/>.

**Iceland, Germany, Denmark + others**  
**Viking Culture**

A transnational serial nomination project started on Viking Heritage. A first presentation on the project entitled «Phenomena and monuments of Viking Culture» took place on 4 February 2008 in Kiel, Germany, organized by the Minister for Education, Science and Culture of Iceland and the Prime Minister of the Land Schleswig Holstein (Germany). Currently the States Parties of Denmark, Germany and Iceland work jointly on the project.

**Denmark, Canada, United Kingdom, USA, Germany, South Africa + others**  
**Moravian Heritage**

The Moravian Heritage Network (MHN) was founded in Christiansfeld, 15–17 March 2003 at the Founding Conference as the institutional framework for the Initiative. The Moravian Church developed a unique, consistent town planning concept in the 18th century, following their world view and social organisation. This concept has been cohesively applied across all continents,

anchoring it into the local building tradition with extraordinary planning and building skills. Being decisively convinced that Moravian Heritage and Moravian Settlements have made a paramount impact on the development of humanity worldwide, the Moravian Heritage Network is initiating a nomination of Moravian Settlements to the World Heritage List.

The Moravian Heritage Network held a Second Conference of the Christiansfeld Initiative in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, 6 to 10 November 2004, with representatives from the National Park Service of the United States of America, and representatives from Christiansfeld in Denmark, Gnadau in Germany, Zeist in the Netherlands, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and Old Salem, North Carolina in United States of America, Elim in Western Cape province of South Africa taking part. The Third Conference – in Agulhas, Western Cape Province, South Africa, 5–8 February 2006, included representatives from Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, United States of America, South Africa and United Kingdom. A Fourth Conference took place in Ballymena, Northern Ireland, in October 2007.

This Network functions according to a «Statement of Mutual Undertakings of the Moravian Heritage Network» which can be found at the Moravian Heritage Network website at [www.moravianheritage.org](http://www.moravianheritage.org).

**France, Italy, Switzerland,  
Austria, Germany, Slovenia, Monaco  
[and Lichtenstein]  
Alpine Arc**

Following the international expert meetings held in Hallstatt, Austria (2000) and Turin, Italy, July 2001 (see *WHC-01/CONF.208/INF.6*) concerning potential serial transnational nominations from the Alpine region, national Tentative Lists were revised and draft nominations prepared. The initiative took a new approach with the collaboration with the Alpine Convention. A first Working Group meeting «UNESCO World Heritage» of the Alpine Convention took place in Saltrio, Italy 8–9 November 2007 and another meeting is scheduled for 7–8 April 2008, Forte di Bard, Italy, to enhance collaboration among the States Parties and discuss the framework and criteria.

**Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan  
West Tien-Shan in Central Asia**

A sub-regional meeting on the «Transboundary Natural Heritage Nomination of West Tien-shan in Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan)» was held on 18–19 July

2007 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, organized by the UNESCO Almaty Cluster Office and the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan, with the support of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre Regular Budget and UNESCO/Italian Trust Fund. This sub-regional meeting was attended by 23 participants – representatives of governmental agencies, scientific and public organizations from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan and experts from Central Asia. After this meeting, Uzbekistan revised its national Tentative Lists by including this transboundary nomination in January 2008. As per the resolution and workplan adopted during the meeting, two sub-regional experts have been contracted by UNESCO Almaty Cluster Office in early 2008 to work with national focal points identified in each country to prepare the draft nomination. The work is now on-going and will be reviewed and harmonised in October 2008 during a coordination meeting to be held in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Furthermore, the World Bank has announced its intention to earmark USD 46,000 in the framework of the second phase of the World Bank «Tien-Shan Ecosystems development Project phase II (2009-2013)» to support the nomination preparation in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

**France, Germany, Italy,  
Slovenia and Switzerland  
Pile Dwellings**

A first expert meeting for the preparation of a transnational serial nomination of the «Pile Dwellings», took place in Berne, Switzerland on 7 December 2007. Representatives from France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia and Switzerland were present and discussed the existing inventory covering 700 sites registered under a common framework. A working group was considered to review potential criteria for the selection of sites for a nomination as well as management aspects. A paper will be prepared on a comprehensive scientific approach and framework for such a nomination. The next meeting will take place in 2008.

**Austria, Croatia, Germany, Hungary,  
Slovakia and United Kingdom  
Frontiers of the Roman Empire**

In 1987 Hadrian's Wall (United Kingdom) was inscribed on the World Heritage List and nearly 20 years later a project was launched to establish a serial truly multinational World Heritage nomination encompassing countries in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. The site is currently a transnational serial property between two countries: Germany and the United Kingdom. Further extensions

are envisaged.

This project is a truly challenging concept involving the cooperation of archaeologists and cultural resource managers in many countries and international agencies. Coordinators of those countries which have already declared their intention to nominate their stretches of the Roman frontier as a World Heritage property have formed themselves into a group. Named the Bratislava Group after the location of their first meeting in March 2003, it includes delegates from Austria, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia and the United Kingdom. The Bratislava Group maintains close links with UNESCO, which asked it to define the «Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site». The following definition was proposed:

«The Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage site should consist of the line(s) of the frontier at the height of the empire from Trajan to Septimius Severus (about AD 100 to 200), and military installations of different periods which are on that line. The installations include fortresses, forts, towers, the limes road, artificial barriers and immediately associated civil structures».

For further information see: [http://www.deutsche-limeskommission.de/en/home/world\\_heritage\\_site/borders\\_of\\_the\\_roman\\_empire.html?0=](http://www.deutsche-limeskommission.de/en/home/world_heritage_site/borders_of_the_roman_empire.html?0=)

**Global**

**Astronomy** (see document *WHC-08/32.COM/INF.5C*)

During an information meeting on the thematic initiative on «Astronomy and World Heritage» for Permanent Delegations at UNESCO in June 2004, it was discussed that one of the activities of this initiative would be the development of a project proposal for the nomination of serial transnational properties (e.g. «The World's Astronomical Monuments»). Following the Decision by the World Heritage Committee at its 29th session (Durban, 2005) to further explore the Thematic Initiative «Astronomy and World Heritage» to promote, in particular, nominations which recognize and celebrate achievements in science, the Egyptian authorities proposed to organise and host the First International Seminar on Serial Nominations of Specific Types of Properties connected with Astronomy. The goal of the Seminar is to establish an international network and to designate the International Scientific Committee in charge to assist in the preparation of nominations of serial properties connected with astronomy. The resolutions of this Seminar will be transmitted to the World Heritage Committee for review. The workshop is scheduled to take place in Egypt in September 2008 (to be confirmed). For further information see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/19/>

# DECISION

## 32 COM 10B

ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE AT ITS 32<sup>ND</sup> SESSION, QUÉBEC-CITY, CANADA (2008)

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined* Document *WHC-08/32.COM/10B*;

2. *Recalling* Decision 29 COM 18A adopted at its 29<sup>th</sup> session (Durban, 2005);

3. *Notes* the developing range of discussions on the nomination of serial transnational properties as a positive expression of international cooperation in line with the aims and objectives of the *World Heritage Convention*;

4. *Acknowledges* the need to enhance the guidance to States Parties, Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre on the policies and procedures linked to the nomination and management of serial national and transnational properties;

5. *Requests* the Director of the World Heritage Centre to consult States Parties further on the issues raised in *Document WHC-08/32.COM/10B*, particularly the need to revise paragraph 137 of the *Operational Guidelines* and the challenges and benefits of serial national and transnational nominations, through a Circular Letter;

6. *Requests* the World Heritage Centre, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, to organize an expert meeting to reflect on current and future practice and strategies for serial national and transnational nominations, taking account of the debate at the 32<sup>nd</sup> session and the input received through the Circular Letter. The meeting that takes place should address the following subjects, among others:

- a) Revision of paragraph 137 of the *Operational Guidelines*, which states that «the series as a whole – and not necessarily the individual parts of it – [must be] of Outstanding Universal Value»;
- b) The risk of damaging the credibility of the World Heritage List by including properties on it, within serial national and transnational nominations, that would not merit inscription by themselves;
- c) The role of the World Heritage Centre in promoting and coordinating serial national and transnational nominations, and potential conflict of interest;

d) Clarification of the ultimate objectives of promoting serial national and transnational nominations as an approach under the Convention;

e) Strategies for funding the evaluation of complex serial national and transnational nominations;

f) Issues associated with losing the identity of individual World Heritage properties when they are subsumed by a larger, serial national or transnational nomination.

7. *Requests* the World Heritage Centre in consultation with the Advisory Bodies, to prepare an information document for consideration at the 33<sup>rd</sup> session of the Committee in 2009, providing a list of all existing or potential serial nominations on the World Heritage List and of all the known potential future serial nominations;

8. *Requests* the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to propose amendments to the *Operational Guidelines* and more detailed guidelines, if necessary, for the nomination of serial national and transnational properties, for consideration at the 33<sup>rd</sup> session of the Committee in 2009;

9. *Takes note* that an expert workshop is proposed for November 2008 in Vilm (Germany), which will reflect on current and future practice and strategies for nomination and management of serial transnational natural World Heritage properties, and will update the Committee on progress with this discussion at its 33<sup>rd</sup> Session in 2009;

10. *Requests* the World Heritage Centre to seek extrabudgetary funding to support the expert meeting referred in paragraph 6 above.

WHC-08/32.COM/10B

# POINT D'INFORMATION SUR LA PRÉ- PARATION DES PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION TRANSNATIO- NALES EN SÉRIE

32<sup>ÈME</sup> SESSION DU COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE  
MONDIAL, QUÉBEC-CITY, CANADA (2008)

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. Les propositions d'inscription en série sont un mécanisme approprié pour le développement de propositions d'inscription du patrimoine dont la valeur universelle exceptionnelle se manifeste à l'échelle de plusieurs biens. Conformément au paragraphe 138 des *Orientations*, un bien en série proposé pour inscription peut se situer:

- a) sur le territoire d'un seul État partie (bien en série national); ou
- b) sur le territoire d'États parties différents n'ayant pas nécessairement de frontières contiguës et doit être proposé avec le consentement de tous les États parties concernés (bien en série transnational).

2. Conformément au paragraphe 137, les biens en série (nationaux et transnationaux) «peuvent inclure des éléments constitutifs reliés entre eux parce qu'ils appartiennent:

- a) au même groupe historico-culturel;
- b) au même type de bien caractéristique de la zone géographique;
- c) à la même formation géologique ou géomorphologique, à la même province biogéographique ou au même type d'écosystème; et à condition que la série *dans son ensemble* – et non nécessairement ses différentes parties – ait une valeur universelle exceptionnelle».

3. Mention spéciale est faite des propositions d'inscription qui peuvent être présentées sur plusieurs cycles de proposition d'inscription. Les États parties qui prévoient des propositions d'inscription en série sur plusieurs cycles de proposition d'inscription sont encouragés à en informer le Comité, afin de permettre une meilleure planification et de travailler en

coopération quand plusieurs États parties sont concernés.

4. Les propositions d'inscription transnationales en série, telles que définies au paragraphe 138b, sont encouragées par le Comité du patrimoine mondial et la décision 29 COM 18A adoptée à sa 29<sup>ème</sup> session (Durban, 2005) indique que: «les États parties co-auteurs d'une proposition d'inscription transfrontalière ou transnationale en série peuvent désigner, parmi eux et d'un commun accord, l'État partie qui se fait le porteur de cette proposition d'inscription»; et «ladite proposition d'inscription peut être enregistrée exclusivement sous le quota de l'État partie qui en est le porteur». Cette décision a eu un impact, comme l'atteste le nombre croissant de propositions d'inscription transnationales en série en cours de préparation, dont certaines associent un grand nombre de biens et d'États parties.

5. Toutes les implications de l'augmentation actuelle du nombre de propositions d'inscription en série n'ont pas encore été évaluées. Mais un certain nombre de questions commentent à se dégager, notamment:

- a) Les propositions d'inscription en série complexes et de grande envergure exigent de nombreux États parties des ressources considérables, parfois sur de nombreuses d'années. À quel moment le Comité devrait-il considérer ces propositions d'inscription?
- b) Comment trouver les ressources supplémentaires nécessaires pour évaluer les propositions d'inscription en série complexes et de grande envergure?
- c) Si des propositions d'inscription en série sont soumises sur plusieurs cycles, dans quelle mesure les critères pour l'ensemble de la série devraient-ils être approuvés au moment où le ou les premier(s) bien(s) sont inscrit(s)?
- d) Est-il acceptable, dans le cas de propositions d'inscription en série de grande envergure, que seul le premier bien, et non les ajouts ultérieurs, apporte la preuve de sa valeur universelle exceptionnelle (autrement dit: quel devrait être le niveau de valeur attendu des sites supplémentaires de la série pour garantir que l'ensemble de la série reste cohérent et de valeur universelle exceptionnelle)?
- e) Au moment de la première inscription d'une série, dans quelle mesure le Comité devrait-il être averti de la possibilité d'autres propositions d'inscription à venir?
- f) Quel devrait être la procédure pour soumettre les éléments des propositions d'inscription en série dans le cadre des Listes indicatives?

6. Bien que les propositions d'inscription transfrontalières en série soient considérées comme hautement souhaitables pour renforcer la coopération internationale qui est au cœur même de la *Convention du patrimoine mondial*, il est nécessaire d'évaluer leurs avantages par rapport aux ressources requises pour faire des recherches sur les biens, les proposer pour inscription, les évaluer et les gérer.

## II. VERS DES INDICATIONS À L'INTENTION DES ÉTATS PARTIES PRÉPARANT UNE PROPOSITION D'INSCRIPTION EN SÉRIE

7. À sa 29<sup>e</sup> session, le Comité du patrimoine mondial a reconnu la «nécessité de préciser les modalités de soumission de bien transfrontaliers ou transnationaux pour inscription sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial» (décision 29 COM 18A).

8. Ceci peut être considéré en relation avec le format, les procédures et les systèmes de gestion. Il est à noter que les Organisations consultatives travaillent actuellement sur l'élaboration de manuels de référence sur les propositions d'inscription sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial et que cette initiative offre l'occasion d'incorporer des indications spécifiques aux États parties concernant les bonnes pratiques, en complément aux informations données dans les *Orientations*.

### A. FORMAT

9. Le format des propositions d'inscription en série devrait toujours suivre le format standard des propositions d'inscription; néanmoins, de plus amples indications pour l'identification des biens transnationaux en série seraient nécessaires, car les notes explicatives sur le format des propositions d'inscription qui figurent à l'Annexe 5 de l'actuelle version des *Orientations* concernent essentiellement les propositions d'inscription portant sur un seul bien.

### B. PROCÉDURES CONCERNANT LES PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION EN SÉRIE

Deux questions majeures de procédure sont soulevées:

#### A) EXTENSION DES PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION EN SÉRIE

10. Cette question concerne l'extension d'un bien en série déjà inscrit sur la Liste ou les cas où il est proposé qu'un bien unique devienne un bien en série par l'inscription de zones séparées supplémentaires. Sont

concernés les biens en série transnationaux et les biens nationaux.

11. En raison du nombre croissant de propositions d'inscription en série en cours de préparation (voir l'Annexe), les *Orientations* pourraient utilement fournir de plus amples indications aux États parties sur la documentation à fournir. Le paragraphe 139 des *Orientations* précise que «le premier bien proposé pour inscription est de valeur universelle exceptionnelle en tant que tel». Néanmoins, l'État partie doit clairement démontrer dans toute proposition d'extension en quoi l'extension proposée contribue à la valeur universelle exceptionnelle globale, y compris les aspects relatifs à l'intégrité et/ou l'authenticité du bien existant, et expliquer comment elle est protégée et gérée. Bien que certains biens d'une proposition d'inscription en série puissent ne pas avoir une valeur universelle exceptionnelle en tant que tels, le bien en série considéré dans sa totalité doit présenter cette valeur universelle exceptionnelle.

12. Il convient de noter un problème potentiel, à savoir le risque que des propositions d'inscription en série mal conçues incluent des sites qui apportent une très faible contribution à la valeur globale de la série tout entière ou qui ne répondent pas aux conditions d'intégrité ou qui sont d'une complexité telle que leur protection et leur gestion posent des problèmes insurmontables. Il est par conséquent important que les sites ajoutés dans le cadre d'une extension en série apportent une contribution significative aux valeurs du bien, même s'ils ne sont peut-être pas de valeur universelle exceptionnelle en tant que tels. À cet égard, il convient de noter que le Comité peut et a décidé de mettre fin aux possibilités d'extension de bien inscrits qui risqueraient autrement de devenir illimités, comme ce fut le cas pour les beffrois de Belgique et de France (voir la décision 29 COM 8B.45). Des indications dans ce sens pourraient être envisagées sous forme de note explicative possible du paragraphe 139 des *Orientations*.

#### B) INSCRIPTION SUR ET RETRAIT DE LA LISTE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL EN PÉRIL

13. Un principe important, s'agissant des propositions d'inscription en série, est qu'elles sont évaluées par rapport au même ensemble de critères, conditions d'intégrité, d'authenticité et de gestion que toutes les autres propositions d'inscription, et soumises aux mêmes exigences d'analyse comparative globale. Par conséquent, toutes les exigences normales s'appliquent aux Organisations consultatives pour effectuer



l'évaluation rigoureuse de toutes les propositions d'inscription comme demandé dans le paragraphe 148 des *Orientations*. Il peut être noté que l'UICN applique depuis de nombreuses années une approche cohérente pour formuler des avis à l'intention du Comité sur les propositions d'inscription en série, en s'appuyant sur les trois questions standard suivantes:

- a) Quelle est la justification de la démarche d'inscription en série?
- b) Existe-t-il un lien fonctionnel entre les différents éléments du bien?
- c) Y a-t-il un cadre de gestion général pour tous les éléments?

14. Un autre principe important est que les propositions d'inscription en série représentent une seule et unique proposition d'inscription sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial. Les sites en série sont donc inscrits comme un seul bien et sont traités en conséquence. Ainsi, si les valeurs d'une partie d'un bien transnational en série sont menacées au point qu'il est proposé de l'inscrire sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial en péril, c'est la totalité du bien qui est inscrit sur cette Liste. Les mêmes principes s'appliqueront pour l'éventuel retrait d'un bien en série de la Liste du patrimoine mondial.

15. À l'instar des exigences de collaboration pour préparer et de coordination pour gérer un bien transnational en série, toute mesure pour obtenir le retrait d'un bien transnational en série de la Liste du patrimoine mondial en péril doit également être un effort collectif de tous les États parties dont le territoire est représenté dans la série, en coopération avec la communauté internationale.

### C. INDICATIONS RELATIVES AU FORMAT ET AUX PROCÉDURES À APPLIQUER POUR LES BIENS EN SÉRIE TRANSNATIONAUX POURRAIENT COUVRIR LES POINTS SUIVANTS:

- a) La manière dont les propositions d'inscription en série devraient être présentées dans les Listes indicatives;
- b) La manière dont les attributs de valeur universelle exceptionnelle devraient être identifiés;
- c) La nécessité de déterminer des critères généraux, communs à tous les éléments;
- d) Les approches communes de la documentation;
- e) La démonstration de l'existence de liens fonctionnels entre les biens en série;
- f) La collaboration effective entre les États parties participants pour les propositions d'inscription transnationales en série complexes et de grande envergure.

### D. LE SYSTÈME DE GESTION

16. Le paragraphe 114 des *Orientations* indique que «Dans le cas de biens en série, un système de gestion ou des mécanismes permettant d'assurer la gestion coordonnée des différents éléments sont essentiels et devront être documentés dans la proposition d'inscription». Un certain nombre de difficultés peuvent survenir lors de l'établissement d'un système de gestion coordonné:

- a) Caractéristiques politiques, économiques, juridiques et sociales différentes des divers États parties participant à la proposition d'inscription;
- b) Caractéristiques différentes des communautés spécifiques et des parties prenantes impliquées dans la gestion des éléments qui composent la proposition d'inscription transnationale en série;
- c) Différences substantielles entre les éléments proposés en termes de dimensions, relations territoriales, etc.;
- d) Problèmes de logistique liés à la communication et aux modalités de gestion conjointe.

17. La réflexion sur les objectifs de la gestion des biens en série devrait s'appuyer sur l'expérience acquise avec les biens en série déjà inscrits. Les modalités peuvent varier, des accords bilatéraux de gestion relativement simples à des partenariats de gestion plus ambitieux.

### E. INDICATIONS POUR L'ÉTABLISSEMENT D'UN SYSTÈME DE GESTION POUR LES BIENS EN SÉRIE TRANSNATIONAUX POURRAIENT COUVRIR LES POINTS SUIVANTS:

- a) Reconnaissance par les États parties participants du cadre thématique commun et de la compréhension commune de la valeur universelle exceptionnelle du bien;
- b) Conception de la gestion admise par tous comme étant un système coordonné basé sur des principes et des objectifs de gestion communs (par ex. partager une vision et des pratiques de conservation communes, développement du tourisme selon une approche similaire, partager la même approche de la gestion de l'environnement, la même idée du développement durable, etc.);
- c) Mécanismes efficaces de collaboration bilatérale et multilatérale pour le contrôle, la protection, la gestion et le suivi conjoints de l'état de conservation des éléments qui composent le bien en série, le développement scientifique et la gestion des connaissances via les institutions qui sont liées aux biens proposés

(par ex. coopération des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche, centres d'interprétation et musées liés aux biens).

### III. ACTIVITÉS EN COURS CONCERNANT DES PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION DE BIENS TRANSNATIONAUX EN SÉRIE

18. Plusieurs projets concernant des propositions d'inscription transnationales en série potentielles sont en cours d'étude, notamment ceux énumérés dans l'Annexe au présent document. Il s'agit d'une série intéressante de projets basés sur une coopération transnationale.

19. On peut noter que plusieurs initiatives sont coordonnées par le Centre du patrimoine mondial (par ex. Astronomie, Qhapaq Ñan). Cette pratique présente un risque de conflit d'intérêt. Il est par conséquent important de noter que le rôle du Centre dans la coordination des efforts au titre de ces initiatives ne remet pas en cause la nécessité de soumettre toute proposition d'inscription individuelle selon la voie normale et de la faire évaluer intégralement par l'UICN et/ou l'ICOMOS en utilisant les mêmes normes que pour toutes les propositions d'inscription. En particulier, elle ne préjuge pas du résultat final de toute proposition d'inscription. En outre, le fait de prendre note du travail antérieur et actuel du Comité du patrimoine mondial ne doit en aucune façon être considéré comme une «approbation préalable» des propositions d'inscription transnationales en série.

20. Un autre point important à noter est que le coût des propositions d'inscription transnationales en série est nettement plus élevé que celui des propositions d'inscription individuelles; une évaluation des coûts et des avantages de ces propositions d'inscription pourrait être intéressante pour déterminer les priorités du travail futur. Ces coûts éventuels incluent également des missions d'évaluation longues et de grande ampleur, ainsi que les coûts supplémentaires en termes de logistique et de temps associés au suivi permanent de l'état de conservation de biens de grande envergure appartenant à plusieurs pays et potentiellement très dispersés.

#### IV. STRATÉGIES POUR SOUTENIR LES PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION TRANSNATIONALES EN SÉRIE AU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

21. Compte tenu de certaines des contraintes mentionnées au paragraphe II.C ci-dessus, des indications pourraient être nécessaires pour éviter la préparation de propositions d'inscription qui, en raison de la complexité soit du concept soit des partenariats nécessaires, ont peu de chance de se prêter en pratique à une protection et à une gestion efficaces, ou de répondre aux exigences incontournables d'intégrité.

22. Il pourrait être utile d'explorer d'autres approches possibles de l'identification et de la désignation des biens transnationaux en série. L'une de ces approches pourrait être la réalisation par les Organisations consultatives d'études thématiques présentant des cadres thématiques qui pourraient être reconnus grâce à des approches transnationales en série à l'intérieur d'une région.

23. En théorie, une telle approche pourrait permettre l'émergence de propositions d'inscription se prêtant davantage à une protection et une gestion efficaces et élaborées à l'intérieur de cadres et de partenariats de coopération transnationaux bien définis. Ces approches pourraient également encourager plus efficacement l'application de la *Convention du patrimoine mondial* dans les régions, à côté des mécanismes de conservation mis en œuvre aux niveaux international, régional et national. Cela pourrait créer une possibilité d'influence plus grande de la *Convention* pour atteindre ses objectifs.

24. Une approche de ce type exige une réflexion et un examen attentifs et devrait être envisagée dans le cadre d'une évaluation des succès, problèmes, coûts et bénéfices de l'expérience actuelle en matière de propositions d'inscription transnationales en série. Cela pourrait être le thème d'une réunion d'experts. Cette réunion pourrait examiner les moyens de soutenir des propositions d'inscription transnationales en série adéquates et efficaces, les priorités du travail futur et les modifications qu'il pourrait être nécessaire d'apporter dans les *Orientations* à l'explication des exigences relatives aux propositions d'inscription en série.

#### V. PROJET DE DÉCISION

Projet de décision: 32 COM 10B

Le Comité du patrimoine mondial,

1. Ayant examiné *le document* WHC-08/32.COM/10B;
2. Rappelant *la décision* 29 COM 18A adoptée à sa 29<sup>ème</sup> session (Durban, 2005);
3. Prend note *du nombre croissant de discussions sur les propositions d'inscription de biens transnationaux en série comme d'une expression positive de la coopération internationale en accord avec les buts et les objectifs de la Convention du patrimoine mondial;*
4. Rappelle *aux États parties et aux organisations qui participent à la coordination des propositions d'inscription en série, qu'il est important que toutes les propositions d'inscription répondent aux exigences de valeur universelle exceptionnelle telles qu'elles sont exposées dans les Orientations, y compris en ce qui concerne l'intégrité et l'authenticité, ainsi qu'aux exigences de protection et de gestion;*
5. Demande *au Centre du patrimoine mondial, en coopération étroite avec les Organisations consultatives, de prendre en considération les débats de sa 32<sup>e</sup> session et, sur cette base, de proposer des amendements aux Orientations et de rédiger un projet d'indications détaillées pour les propositions d'inscription de biens en série;*
6. Reconnaît *la nécessité d'améliorer les indications données aux États parties concernant les procédures applicables aux propositions d'inscription et à la gestion des biens transnationaux en série, et demande aux Organisations consultatives de développer ces indications dans les manuels de référence concernant les propositions d'inscription sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial qui sont en cours de préparation;*
7. Demande *au Centre du patrimoine mondial, en coopération avec les Organisations consultatives, de donner la priorité à la recherche de partenaires, afin de pouvoir organiser la tenue d'une réunion d'experts pour réfléchir sur les pratiques et stratégies actuelles et futures concernant les propositions d'inscription transnationales en série au patrimoine mondial, et d'informer le Comité des progrès de cette réflexion à sa 33<sup>e</sup> session en 2009.*

#### ANNEXE

**Projets de propositions d'inscription en série transnationales en cours**

##### ÉTATS PARTIES

**Argentine, Bolivie, Chili, Colombie, Équateur, Pérou**

##### **Route principale des Andes – Qhapaq ñan**

En avril 2004, l'Argentine, la Bolivie, le Chili, la Colombie, l'Équateur et le Pérou ont demandé au Centre du patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO/Unité Amérique latine et Caraïbes d'être le coordinateur général du processus international de présentation de l'ambitieuse proposition d'inscription sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial de la Grande route des Andes ou *Qhapaq Ñan (QÑ)* – le plus complexe et le plus vaste réseau préhispanique de communication des Amériques. La Grande route des Andes relié un réseau bien développé de chemins et d'infrastructures construits sur une période de plus de 2000 ans par des cultures pré-Incas. Ce système de routes longitudinales et latitudinales de plus de 23 000 km, reliait divers centres productifs, administratifs et cérémoniels et assurait des liens entre les centres de pouvoir et les zones plus tempérées des vallées, ainsi qu'avec les déserts et les jungles aux confins de l'Empire. Ce réseau routier constituait un riche tissu pour toutes sortes de relations à travers le territoire et constituait une partie intégrante du système de pouvoir qui unifiait l'Empire matériellement et organiquement. Ce système de communication continental s'est développé en réponse à un programme politique datant du XV<sup>ème</sup> siècle. Les Incas ont étendu les routes jusqu'aux confins de l'Empire afin d'assurer le flux des idées, du pouvoir, des marchandises et des cosmologies pour faciliter le développement de toutes les territoires du vaste empire inca – quelques quatre millions de kilomètres carrés de terres de la côte Pacifique à 5000 mètres au-dessus du niveau de la mer.

**Chine, Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan, Ouzbékistan, Tadjikistan, Turkménistan**  
**Les Routes de la soie**

Malgré leur contexte historique remarquable et leurs nombreux sites historiques et culturels, l'Asie centrale et la Chine occidentale restent l'une des régions les plus sous-représentées sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial, le Kirghizstan et le Tadjikistan n'ayant aucun bien ni culturel ni naturel inscrit sur la Liste.

Avec le soutien financier du fonds-en-dépôt néerlandais et du fonds-en-dépôt italien, le Centre du patrimoine mondial et l'ICOMOS ont aidé les États parties à identifier de nouveaux types de biens à proposer pour

inscription au patrimoine mondial, comme les Routes de la soie en tant que proposition d'inscription en série et/ou transnationale. Les Routes de la soie, qui s'étendent sur un quart du globe, comprennent plusieurs routes d'intégration, d'échange et de dialogue entre l'Est et l'Ouest qui ont largement contribué à la prospérité commune des civilisations humaines pendant plus de deux millénaires. Mais leur localisation dans un grand nombre de pays avec des systèmes juridiques et administratifs différents rend très difficile leur conservation pour les générations futures.

Une série de réunions de consultation a été organisée par l'UNESCO et les États parties concernés à Turpan (août 2006, Chine), Samarkand (octobre 2006, Ouzbékistan) et Douchanbe (avril 2007, Tadjikistan). En particulier, le « Document conceptuel pour la proposition d'inscription en série des Routes de la soie en Asie centrale et en Chine » a été adopté à Douchanbe, Tadjikistan, en avril 2007. Le texte intégral du document (en anglais) peut être consulté sur le site Internet du Centre du patrimoine mondial: <http://whc.unesco.org/fr/evenements/391>. Un autre atelier de consultation organisé du 2 au 5 juin 2008 à Xi'an, Chine, a réuni les autorités compétentes du Kazakhstan, du Kirghizstan, du Tadjikistan, du Turkménistan, de l'Ouzbékistan et de la Chine afin de poursuivre la préparation de Listes indicatives des sites du patrimoine culturel situés le long des Routes de la soie. L'atelier a également invité des participants d'autres pays comme l'Afghanistan, l'Iran, l'Italie, le Japon et la Mongolie à étudier la possibilité d'une coopération pour la proposition d'inscription en série des Routes de la soie sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial.

Dans le cadre de la coopération UNESCO/fonds-en-dépôt norvégien, un projet intitulé « Propositions d'inscription en série au patrimoine mondial: sites de pétroglyphes d'Asie centrale et Routes de la soie d'Asie centrale » a été approuvé pour la période 2008-2010 avec une contribution totale de 483 414 dollars EU. Ce projet a pour but de soutenir la coordination des initiatives de propositions d'inscription en série en Asie centrale.

#### **Kenya, Éthiopie, République unie de Tanzanie, Israël + autres Vallée du Grand Rift**

Plusieurs initiatives ont été prises pour améliorer la représentation du patrimoine africain sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial, notamment en encourageant la proposition d'inscription de bien transnationaux en série. Un atelier scientifique a été organisé du 26 au

29 mars 2007 au siège du PNUÉ à Nairobi, Kenya, pour étudier les possibilités de proposer l'inscription de la Vallée du Grand Rift en Afrique sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial. L'atelier a reconnu la valeur universelle exceptionnelle de la Vallée du Grand Rift, berceau de l'humanité, avec son patrimoine culturel et naturel, ses paysages culturels, sa biodiversité et son importance en tant que voie de migration pour les oiseaux migrateurs.

Par la suite, plusieurs réunions consacrées à la coopération et à la communication ont été également organisées. Il a été conclu que l'approche élaborée pour la proposition en série des Routes de la soie en Asie centrale et en Chine pourrait fournir des indications utiles pour l'initiative relative à la Vallée du Grand Rift en Afrique.

Cette initiative vise à encourager les États parties d'Afrique à proposer l'inscription de sites dans le « cadre » de la Vallée du Grand Rift et à renforcer la conservation et l'intégrité des biens de cette région qui sont déjà inscrits sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial. Les pays sont censés préparer ou réviser leurs listes indicatives et les harmoniser dans le but de préparer des propositions d'inscription susceptibles de s'insérer dans le cadre général de la Vallée du Grand Rift. Le concept de base principal des propositions d'inscription de la Vallée du Grand Rift envisagées n'étant pas de proposer un seul bien en série mais de relier entre eux tous les éléments du patrimoine culturel et naturel identifiés grâce au cadre général de la Vallée du Grand Rift, il est essentiel que la préparation des propositions d'inscription prenne en compte l'opinion des différents États parties et soit entreprise dans un esprit de coopération régionale.

La réunion de mars 2007 a mis en place un Comité directeur composé du Kenya, du Malawi, de l'Ouganda et de la République démocratique du Congo. Les Musées nationaux du Kenya ont été nommés à la présidence du Comité directeur. Ce Comité devrait se réunir au cours de l'année dans l'un des pays concernés afin de définir la stratégie du projet, les délais et les activités à mettre en œuvre dans le cadre de l'Initiative pour la conservation de la Vallée du Grand Rift.

#### **Norvège, Islande, Portugal, Espagne, Brésil, Cap Vert Dorsale médio-atlantique**

Dans le cadre de la conférence « Earth Heritage – World Heritage » sur le site du patrimoine mondial du Littoral du Dorset et de l'est du Devon (septembre 2004,

Royaume-Uni) consacré à la conservation du patrimoine géologique, des représentants de la Norvège, de l'Islande, du Portugal/Açores, du Royaume-Uni, de l'UICN-CMAP, de l'IUGS et de l'UNESCO se sont réunis pour étudier le patrimoine géologique et biologique de la Dorsale médio-atlantique, phénomène long de 16000 km. Cette réunion a reconnu la nécessité d'étudier plus en détails les valeurs de patrimoine potentielles de la Dorsale médio-atlantique dans le cadre d'une réunion d'experts et de l'élaboration d'une stratégie de coopération internationale en vue d'une possible proposition d'inscription transfrontalière en série de la Dorsale. Le « 1<sup>er</sup> atelier d'experts sur la Dorsale médio-atlantique » organisé à Reykjavik (Islande), le 16 janvier 2007, a réuni des spécialistes de la Norvège, de l'Islande, du Centre du patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO et de la Fondation nordique du patrimoine mondial pour étudier la possibilité d'une proposition d'inscription conjointe de cette ampleur et les moyens de définir les limites du phénomène de la Dorsale médio-atlantique. Les participants ont décidé d'encourager la coopération avec d'autres conventions afin de mieux protéger le patrimoine biologique, culturel et géologique de la dorsale. Une réunion s'est tenue en marge de la 31<sup>ème</sup> session du Comité du patrimoine mondial à Christchurch (Nouvelle-Zélande, juillet 2007), au cours de laquelle les autorités portugaises ont confirmé leur intention d'organiser un 2<sup>ème</sup> atelier d'experts aux Açores (Portugal). Cet atelier a eu lieu du 27–28 mars 2008 et a réuni des représentants de l'Islande, du Portugal et du Cap Vert, ainsi que des experts du Royaume-Uni et des représentants de l'UICN – CMAP et du Centre du patrimoine mondial. Les participants ont décidé d'inviter les États parties potentiellement intéressés et concernés, situés le long de la Dorsale médio-atlantique, à se joindre à l'initiative en désignant un représentant officiel au Comité directeur qui devrait être constitué à l'automne 2008 afin de commencer à travailler à l'élaboration d'un cadre pour une proposition d'inscription transnationale en série. Cette information a été diffusée auprès de tous les États parties potentiellement concernés dans un courrier daté d'avril 2008. Pour tout renseignement complémentaire, voir: <http://whc.unesco.org/fr/activites/504/>.

#### **Islande, Allemagne, Danemark + autres Culture viking**

Un projet de proposition d'inscription transnationale en série a été engagé concernant le patrimoine viking. Une première présentation du projet sous le titre « Phénomènes et monuments de la culture viking » a été faite le 4 février 2008 à Kiel, Allemagne,

sur l'initiative du ministre de l'Éducation, des Sciences et de la Culture de l'Islande et du Premier ministre du Schleswig-Holstein (Allemagne). Actuellement, les États parties du Danemark, de l'Allemagne et de l'Islande travaillent ensemble sur le projet.

**Danemark, Canada, Royaume-Uni, États-Unis, Allemagne, Afrique du Sud + autres**

**Patrimoine morave**

Le Réseau du patrimoine morave (RPM) a été créé à Christiansfeld, du 15 au 17 mars 2003, lors de la Conférence fondatrice, en tant que cadre institutionnel de l'Initiative. L'Église morave a élaboré au XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle un concept d'urbanisme cohérent unique, en accord avec sa vision du monde et son organisation sociale. Ce concept a été appliqué de façon homogène sur tous les continents où il s'est ancré dans la tradition locale de construction avec une maîtrise extraordinaire de l'urbanisme et de la construction. Fermement convaincu que le patrimoine morave et les établissements moraves ont eu un impact considérable sur l'évolution de l'humanité partout dans le monde, le Réseau du patrimoine morave a entrepris de soumettre une proposition d'inscription des établissements moraves sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial.

Le Réseau du patrimoine morave a tenu une deuxième Conférence de l'Initiative de Christiansfeld à Bethlehem, Pennsylvanie, du 6 au 10 novembre 2004, avec la participation de représentants du Service des parcs nationaux des États-Unis et des représentants de Christiansfeld au Danemark, de Gnadau en Allemagne, de Zeist aux Pays-Bas, de Bethlehem (Pennsylvanie) et d'Old Salem (Caroline du Nord) aux États-Unis d'Amérique, d'Elim dans la province du Cap-Occidental en Afrique du Sud. La troisième conférence – à Agulhas, province du Cap-Occidental, Afrique du Sud, du 5 au 8 février 2006, a réuni des représentants du Danemark, de l'Allemagne, des Pays-Bas, des États-Unis d'Amérique, de l'Afrique du Sud et du Royaume-Uni. Une quatrième conférence s'est tenue à Ballymena, Irlande du Nord, en octobre 2007.

Ce réseau travaille conformément à une «Déclaration d'engagement mutuel du Réseau du patrimoine morave» que l'on peut consulter sur le site Internet du Réseau du patrimoine morave: [www.moravianheritage.org](http://www.moravianheritage.org).

**France, Italie, Suisse, Autriche, Allemagne, Slovénie, Monaco [et Lichtenstein]**

**Arc alpin**

À la suite des réunions internationales d'experts organisées à Hallstatt, Autriche (2000)

et à Turin, Italie, en juillet 2001 (voir *WHC-01/CONF.208/INF.6*) concernant de potentielles propositions d'inscription transnationales en série de la région des Alpes, les listes indicatives nationales ont été révisées et des projets de proposition d'inscription préparés. L'initiative a adopté une nouvelle approche en engageant une collaboration avec la Convention alpine. Une première réunion du Groupe de travail «Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO» de la Convention alpine a eu lieu à Saltrio, Italie, du 8–9 novembre 2007 et une autre réunion est prévue les 7-8 avril 2008, à Forte di Bard, Italie, pour renforcer la collaboration entre les États parties et étudier le cadre et les critères.

**Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan, Ouzbékistan  
Tian Shan occidental en Asie centrale**

Une réunion sous-régionale sur le thème «Proposition d'inscription transfrontalière du patrimoine naturel du Tien-shan occidental en Asie centrale (Kazakhstan, Kirghizstan et Ouzbékistan)» s'est tenue du 18 au 19 juillet 2007 à Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan; elle était organisée par le Bureau multipays de l'UNESCO à Alma-Ata et l'Association pour la conservation de la biodiversité au Kazakhstan, avec le soutien du budget ordinaire du Centre du patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO et du fonds-en-dépôt UNESCO/Italie. Cette réunion sous-régionale a réuni 23 participants qui représentaient des agences gouvernementales, des organisations scientifiques et publiques du Kazakhstan, du Kirghizstan et de l'Ouzbékistan ainsi que des experts d'Asie centrale. À la suite de cette réunion, l'Ouzbékistan a révisé ses listes indicatives nationales pour inclure cette proposition d'inscription transfrontalière en janvier 2008. Conformément à la résolution et au programme de travail adopté pendant la réunion, deux experts sous-régionaux ont été engagés par le Bureau multipays de l'UNESCO à Alma-Ata début 2008 pour travailler avec les correspondants nationaux désignés dans chaque pays sur le projet de proposition d'inscription. Le travail, qui est déjà en cours, sera revu et harmonisé en octobre 2008 lors d'une réunion de coordination prévue à Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan. De plus, la Banque mondiale a annoncé son intention d'attribuer 46000 dollars EU dans le cadre de la seconde phase de son projet de mise en valeur des écosystèmes de Tien-Shan (2009–2013), afin de soutenir la préparation de la proposition d'inscription au Kazakhstan et au Kirghizstan.

**France, Allemagne, Italie, Slovénie et Suisse**

**Les Lacustres**

Une première réunion d'experts pour la préparation d'une proposition d'inscription

transnationale en série des Lacustres, a eu lieu à Berne, Suisse, le 7 décembre 2007. Des représentants de la France, de l'Allemagne, de l'Italie, de Slovénie et de Suisse étaient présents et ont examiné l'inventaire existant qui compte 700 sites enregistrés dans un cadre commun. Un groupe de travail a été envisagé pour étudier les critères potentiels de sélection des sites en vue d'une proposition d'inscription, ainsi que les aspects relatifs à la gestion. Un rapport sur une approche scientifique et un cadre global sera préparé pour cette proposition d'inscription. La prochaine réunion aura lieu en 2008.

**Autriche, Croatie, Allemagne, Hongrie, Slovaquie et Royaume-Uni**

**Les frontières de l'Empire romain**

Le Mur d'Hadrien (Royaume-Uni) a été inscrit sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial en 1987 et près de 20 ans plus tard un projet a été lancé en vue de soumettre une proposition d'inscription en série véritablement multinationale, associant des pays d'Europe, du Moyen-Orient et de l'Afrique du Nord. Le site est désormais un bien transnational en série entre deux pays, l'Allemagne et le Royaume-Uni. Des extensions sont envisagées.

Ce projet est un concept véritablement ambitieux qui repose sur la coopération d'archéologues et de responsables des ressources culturelles de nombreux pays et organismes internationaux. Les coordinateurs des pays qui ont déjà déclaré leur intention de proposer l'inscription de leurs portions de frontières de l'Empire romain en tant que bien du patrimoine mondial, ont constitué un groupe. Appelé Groupe de Bratislava, d'après le lieu de leur première réunion en mars 2003, il est composé de représentants de l'Autriche, de la Croatie, de l'Allemagne, de la Hongrie, de la Slovaquie et du Royaume-Uni. Le Groupe de Bratislava entretient des liens étroits avec l'UNESCO qui lui a demandé de définir le «Site du patrimoine mondial des Frontières de l'Empire romain». La définition suivante a été proposée:

«Le site du patrimoine mondial des Frontières de l'Empire romain doit comprendre la ou les ligne(s) de frontière à l'apogée de l'empire, de Trajan à Septime Sévère (environ entre 100 et 200 ap. J.-C.), et les installations militaires de différentes périodes qui se trouvent sur cette ligne. Ces installations sont notamment des forteresses, des forts, des tours, des routes à revêtement en chaux, des barrières artificielles et les structures civiles directement associées».

Pour tout renseignement complémentaire: <http://www.deutsche-limeskommission.de/>

en/home/world\_heritage\_site/borders\_of\_the\_roman\_empire.html?O=

Tous les pays du monde

Astronomie (voir le document *WHC-08/32.COM/INF.5C*)

Lors d'une réunion d'information sur l'initiative thématique «Astronomie et patrimoine mondial» à l'intention des délégations permanentes auprès de l'UNESCO, en juin 2004, il a été suggéré que l'une des activités de cette initiative soit l'élaboration d'une proposition de projet en vue de proposer l'inscription de biens transnationaux en série (ex. «Les monuments astronomiques du monde»). À la suite de la décision prise par le Comité du patrimoine mondial à sa 29<sup>ème</sup> session (Durban, 2005) d'étudier plus avant l'initiative thématique «Astronomie et patrimoine mondial» afin d'encourager, en particulier, les propositions d'inscription qui reconnaissent et célèbrent les avancées scientifiques, les autorités égyptiennes ont proposé d'organiser et d'accueillir le premier séminaire international sur les propositions d'inscription en série de types spécifiques de biens liés à l'astronomie. Le but de ce séminaire est de créer un réseau international et de désigner le Comité scientifique international chargé d'aider à préparer les propositions d'inscription de biens en série en rapport avec l'astronomie. Les résolutions de ce séminaire seront transmises au Comité du patrimoine mondial pour examen. L'atelier devrait se dérouler en Égypte, en septembre 2008 (à confirmer). Pour tout renseignement complémentaire: <http://whc.unesco.org/fr/activites/19/>

## DÉCISION 32 COM 10B

ADOPTÉE LORS DE LA 32<sup>ème</sup> SESSION DU COMITÉ  
DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL,  
QUÉBEC-CITY, CANADA (2008)

Le Comité du patrimoine mondial;

1. *Ayant examiné* le document *WHC-08/32.COM/10B*;

2. *Rappelant* la décision 29 COM 18A adoptée à sa 29<sup>e</sup> session (Durban, 2005);

3. *Prend note* du nombre croissant de discussions sur les propositions d'inscription de biens transnationaux en série comme d'une expression positive de la coopération internationale en accord avec les buts et les objectifs de la *Convention du patrimoine mondial*;

4. *Reconnaît* la nécessité d'améliorer les indications données aux États parties, aux Organisations consultatives et au Centre du patrimoine mondial concernant les politiques générales et les procédures applicables aux propositions d'inscription et à la gestion des biens en série nationaux et transnationaux en série;

5. *Demande* au Directeur du Centre du patrimoine mondial de continuer à consulter les États parties sur les questions soulevées dans le document *WHC-08/32COM/10B*, en particulier la nécessité de réviser le paragraphe 137 des *Orientations* et les enjeux et les avantages des propositions d'inscription nationales et transnationales en série par le biais d'une Lettre circulaire;

6. *Demande* au Centre du patrimoine mondial, en coopération avec les Organisations consultatives, d'organiser une réunion d'experts pour réfléchir aux pratiques et stratégies actuelles et futures concernant les propositions d'inscription nationales et transnationales en série, en tenant compte du débat de la 32<sup>ème</sup> session et de l'information reçue dans la Lettre circulaire. La réunion qui aura lieu devra traiter entre autres les sujets suivants:

- a) Révision du paragraphe 137 des *Orientations*, qui précise que «la série dans son ensemble – et non nécessairement ses différentes parties – [ait] une valeur universelle exceptionnelle»;
- b) Le risque de compromettre la crédibilité de la Liste du patrimoine mondial en y inscrivant des biens, dans les

propositions d'inscription nationales et transnationales en série, qui en soi ne mériteraient pas d'être inscrits;

- c) Le rôle du Centre du patrimoine mondial dans la promotion et la coordination des propositions d'inscription nationales et transnationales en série et les conflits d'intérêt potentiels;
- d) La clarification des objectifs fondamentaux de promotion des propositions d'inscription nationales et transnationales en série en tant qu'approche au titre de la Convention;
- e) Les stratégies de financement de l'évaluation des propositions d'inscription nationales et transnationales en série complexes;
- f) Le problème lié à la perte d'identité de biens du patrimoine mondial lorsqu'ils sont subsumés une proposition d'inscription plus large, nationale et transnationale en série.

7. *Demande* au Centre du patrimoine mondial, en concertation avec les Organisations consultatives, de préparer un document d'information pour examen à la 33<sup>ème</sup> session du Comité en 2009 en donnant une liste de tous les biens en série sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial et de toutes les futures propositions d'inscription en série potentielles connues;

8. *Demande* au Centre du patrimoine mondial et aux Organisations consultatives de proposer des amendements aux *Orientations* et des directives plus détaillées, si besoin est, pour les propositions d'inscription de biens nationaux et transnationaux en série, pour examen à la 33<sup>ème</sup> session du Comité en 2009;

9. *Prend acte* du fait qu'un atelier d'experts est proposé en novembre 2008 à Vilm (Allemagne), pour réfléchir aux stratégies et aux pratiques actuelles et futures concernant la proposition d'inscription et le traitement des biens naturels transnationaux en série inscrits au patrimoine mondial, et informera le Comité de l'avancement de cette discussion à sa 33<sup>ème</sup> session en 2009;

10. *Demande* au Centre du patrimoine mondial de solliciter un financement extrabudgétaire pour financer la réunion d'experts indiquée au paragraphe 6 susmentionné.

WHC-09/33.COM/10A

# SERIAL TRANS-NATIONAL NOMINATIONS

33<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE, SEVILLE, SPAIN (2009)

## I. BACKGROUND

1. Taking into account the fruitful debate at its the 32<sup>nd</sup> session (Quebec City, 2008), the Committee requested (Decision 32 COM 10B, point 6) the World Heritage Centre, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, to organize an expert meeting to reflect on current and future practice and strategies for serial national and transnational nominations, and noted (point 9 of the same decision) that a meeting was going to be held in November 2008 in Vilm (Germany). The meeting of Vilm took place and dealt with current and future practice and strategies for nomination and management of serial transnational *natural* World Heritage properties.

2. Earlier in September 2008, the World Heritage Centre sent out a Circular Letter to consult States Parties to the *Convention* on serial national and transnational nominations in response to which six written contributions were received. The issues raised in these contributions were discussed in the Vilm meeting and will be considered again during the next expert meeting, which will have to deal with *both cultural and natural* serial World Heritage properties.

3. The expert meeting which the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies were asked to organize to deal with the six issues identified in Decision 32 COM 10B, point 6 could not take place before the 33<sup>rd</sup> session of the Committee because of the unavailability of funds. Currently, the World Heritage Centre is actively seeking extra budgetary funding to organize the meeting before the 34<sup>th</sup> session.

4. The Vilm workshop was held following the proposal by Germany at the 32<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee. The workshop brought together 27 representatives of serial natural World Heritage Properties from different UNESCO regions, natural and cultural heritage experts, experts involved in IUCN evaluations of natural properties as well as representatives of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, UNESCO regional offices and IUCN.

## II. MAIN CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKSHOP ON NATURAL SERIAL PROPERTIES HELD IN VILM, GERMANY, 26 – 30 NOVEMBER 2008

5. The workshop was aimed at developing draft guidance and recommendations for nomination and management of serial natural properties, and discussing the issues specifically outlined in paragraph 6 of the Decision 32 COM 10B, as well other topics related to serial World Heritage properties in general.

6. The workshop outputs include a report published in the BfN-Skripten series, and an analysis of the present situation of «Serial natural World Heritage Properties» prepared by IUCN and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, for publication as Number 6 in IUCN's series of World Heritage Studies<sup>1</sup>.

7. The workshop recommended that standard and consistent terminology and language should be adopted and used consistently by all the main actors of the *1972 Convention*. The key concept is that «*a serial property is made up of two or more component parts*» while normal (non-serial properties) should be termed as «single properties» to distinguish them clearly. Therefore, a serial property may be defined as a «*property where two or more component parts are required to express the Outstanding Universal Value*».

8. In addition the workshop discussed other terms that are currently being used, such as *cluster* or *network*, and concluded that these could be used in relation to specific nominations where component parts have been grouped, but always refer to them as «component parts» e.g. a cluster of component parts or network of component parts. Furthermore, it was noted that for serial properties involving more than one country the phrase «*transnational serial World Heritage Property*» should be used while the term «*transboundary World Heritage Property*» should be retained as a term for a single property that crosses one or more national boundaries.

9. The workshop concluded that serial properties have an important role in the future of the *World Heritage Convention*, especially in recognizing significant properties united within a single theme of Outstanding Universal Value. It noted that serial properties have the

function of recognizing Outstanding Universal Value where the key values are not able to be displayed in only a single property.

10. The meeting recognised that serial nominations are generally more complex and challenging than the nomination of single properties. There may also be concerns about the practicability and advisability of some serial approaches. Serial nominations may have significant resource implications in relation to evaluation, the preparation of additional strategic and thematic guidance, for preparation of nomination dossier, as well as the management and coordination of a serial property. The workshop therefore concluded that a more cautious approach is needed to the encouragement of serial properties. This is especially the case for those that are complex, e.g. regarding the number of criteria (especially when mixed sites are proposed), the number of component parts, the number of States Parties and the distance separating the different component parts. It was also recognised that serial properties could inflate the World Heritage List because of the number of component parts they may include.

11. The background analysis carried out for the meeting revealed that many inscribed serial natural properties do not have overall management systems that correspond to the requirements of the *Operational Guidelines*. Therefore, the workshop recommended that a management system for a serial property should at least ensure:

- the harmonisation of management of all the component parts to meet a set of shared objectives of preserving Outstanding Universal Value;
- the identification of and response to threats to the property; and
- the coordination of monitoring and reporting.

12. The workshop concluded that, it would be valuable for the Committee to have the opportunity to discuss transnational and other complex serial nominations prior to their formal submission. The workshop recommended that the Committee should consider adopting a screening process to identify possible concerns and issues within complex serial nominations and provide guidance on their further evaluation, such as:

- a) The minimum timeframe expected for work on the nomination to be completed;
- b) The need to carry out the comparative analysis and at the earliest stage (noting that this should be preferably before including the potential property on the Tentative List);

1. This report is available at the following Web address: [http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/wcpa\\_puball/wcpa\\_pubsubject/wcpa\\_whoheritagepub/](http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/wcpa_puball/wcpa_pubsubject/wcpa_whoheritagepub/)

c) The identification of the likely costs of evaluation, and how these will be met, noting that the costs of evaluation for complex serial properties can be much greater than for normal nominations and that the Committee currently has insufficient budget to cover these costs.

### III. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

13. Following the conclusions from the expert workshop, it is recommended to adapt the existing format for the nomination of properties for inscription on the World Heritage List (Annex 5 of the OG) as well as the format for submission to the Tentative Lists (Annex 2 of the OG) in order to fully cover the specific situation of serial properties. The nomination format currently does not allow sufficiently for description of Outstanding Universal Value and the management system of individual component parts, or provide sufficient guidance on how to present these aspects.

14. The recommendations and conclusions of the Vilm workshop, together with the written contributions of States Parties, may be included in the background document to be prepared for the expert meeting requested at the 32<sup>nd</sup> session, and whose conclusions and recommendations would in turn be presented to the Committee at its 34<sup>th</sup> session.

### IV. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision: 33 COM 10A

*The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Having examined *Document WHC-09/33.COM/10A*;
2. Recalling *Decision 32 COM 10B adopted at its 32<sup>nd</sup> session (Quebec City, 2008)*;
3. Thanking *the Government of Germany for having hosted the Workshop on natural serial properties in Vilm, (Germany, 26–30 November 2008) as well as all the experts who contributed to it*;
4. Takes note of *the outcomes and conclusions of the Workshop published in the BfN-Skripten series, as well as the analysis of the present situation of «Serial natural World Heritage Properties» prepared for publication by IUCN and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation as Number 6 in IUCN's series of World Heritage Studies*;

5. Welcomes *proposals from States Parties to host the expert meeting on cultural and natural serial World Heritage properties before its next session in 2010*;

6. Requests *the World Heritage Centre to present the conclusions and recommendations of the above-mentioned expert meeting at its 34<sup>th</sup> session in 2010*.

## DECISION 33 COM 10A

**ADOPTED AT THE 33<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE, SEVILLE, SPAIN (2009)**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC-09/33.COM/10A*;
2. *Recalling Decision 32 COM 10B adopted at its 32<sup>nd</sup> session (Quebec City, 2008)*;
3. *Thanking the Government of Germany for having hosted the Workshop on natural serial properties in Vilm, (Germany, 26–30 November 2008) as well as all the experts who contributed to it*;
4. *Takes note of the outcomes and conclusions of the Workshop published in the BfN-Skripten series, as well as the analysis of the present situation of «Serial natural World Heritage Properties» prepared for publication by IUCN and the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation as Number 6 in IUCN's series of World Heritage Studies*;
5. *Welcomes the offer of the government of Switzerland to host an expert meeting on natural and cultural serial World Heritage properties in the first half of 2010, which will take into account the results of the 2008 workshop on natural serial properties in Vilm (Germany)*;
6. *Requests the World Heritage Centre to present the conclusions and recommendations of the above-mentioned expert meeting at its 34<sup>th</sup> session in 2010*.

WHC-09/33.COM/10A

# PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION TRANSNATIONALES EN SÉRIE

33<sup>ÈME</sup> SESSION DU COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE  
MONDIAL, SÉVILLE, ESPAGNE (2009)

## I. ANTÉCÉDENTS

1. Prenant en considération son débat fructueux lors de sa 32<sup>ÈME</sup> session (Québec, 2008), le Comité a demandé (Décision 32 COM 10B, paragraphe 6) au Centre du patrimoine mondial, en coopération avec les organisations consultatives, d'organiser une réunion d'experts pour réfléchir à la pratique et aux stratégies actuelles et futures sur les propositions d'inscription nationales et transnationales en série, et noté (paragraphe 9 de la même décision) qu'une réunion se tiendrait en novembre 2008 à Vilm (Allemagne). La réunion de Vilm a eu lieu et a traité des pratiques et stratégies actuelles et futures pour la proposition d'inscription et la gestion des biens du patrimoine mondial *naturels* transnationaux en série.

2. Plus tôt, en septembre 2008, le Centre du patrimoine mondial avait envoyé une lettre circulaire destinée à consulter les Etats parties à la *Convention* sur les propositions d'inscription en série nationales et transnationales à laquelle six contributions écrites ont été reçues en réponse. Les questions soulevées dans ces contributions ont été discutées à la réunion de Vilm et seront considérées à nouveau durant la prochaine réunion d'experts qui devra traiter des biens du patrimoine mondial en série à la fois *naturels* et *culturels*.

3. La réunion d'experts que l'on avait demandé au Centre du patrimoine mondial et aux organisations consultatives d'organiser pour traiter des six questions identifiées dans la décision 32 COM 10B, paragraphe 6, n'a pu se tenir avant la 33<sup>ÈME</sup> session du Comité, en raison de l'indisponibilité des fonds. Actuellement, le Centre du patrimoine mondial recherche activement des fonds extrabudgétaires pour organiser la réunion avant la 34<sup>ÈME</sup> session.

4. L'atelier de Vilm s'est tenu à la suite de la proposition de l'Allemagne lors de la 32<sup>ÈME</sup> session du Comité du patrimoine mondial. L'atelier a réuni 27 représentants de biens du patrimoine mondial naturels en série, de différentes régions UNESCO, des experts en patrimoine naturel et culturel, des experts impliqués dans les évaluations des biens naturels par l'IUCN, de même que des représentants du Comité du patrimoine mondial, des bureaux régionaux de l'UNESCO et de l'IUCN.

## II. CONCLUSIONS PRINCIPALES DE L'ATELIER SUR LES BIENS NATURELS INSCRITS EN SÉRIE, VILM, ALLEMAGNE, 26 – 30 NOVEMBRE 2008

5. L'atelier avait pour objectif de développer un projet de principes et recommandations pour la proposition d'inscription et la gestion de biens naturels en série, et de discuter à propos des questions soulevées spécifiquement dans le paragraphe 6 de la Décision 32 COM 10B, ainsi que d'autres sujets généraux liés aux biens du patrimoine mondial inscrits en série.

6. Les résultats de l'atelier incluent un rapport publié dans la collection BfN-Skripten, ainsi qu'une analyse de la situation actuelle des «Biens du patrimoine mondial en série» préparée par l'IUCN et l'agence allemande pour la conservation de la nature, pour publication sous le numéro 6 dans la collection des Etudes du patrimoine mondial de l'IUCN<sup>1</sup>.

7. L'atelier a recommandé qu'une terminologie et une langue standards et cohérentes soient adoptées et utilisées avec logique par les principaux acteurs de la *Convention de 1972*. Le concept-clé indique qu'«un bien en série est composé de deux ou plusieurs éléments constitutifs» alors que normalement (pour les biens simples), on devrait parler de «biens uniques» pour les distinguer clairement. Pour cette raison, un bien inscrit en série peut être défini comme «un bien dans lequel deux ou plusieurs éléments constitutifs doivent illustrer la Valeur universelle exceptionnelle».

8. De plus, l'atelier a discuté d'autres termes actuellement utilisés, tels que *groupe* ou *réseau* et a conclu que ces termes pourraient être utilisés à propos de propositions d'inscription spécifiques dans lesquelles les

éléments constitutifs ont été regroupées, mais toujours en se référant à eux comme des «éléments constitutifs», par exemple un groupe de éléments constitutifs ou un réseau d'éléments constitutifs. D'autre part, on a noté que pour les biens inscrits en série impliquant plus d'un pays, la phrase «Bien du patrimoine mondial transnational en série» devrait être utilisée tandis que le terme «Bien du patrimoine mondial transfrontalier» devrait être retenu comme un terme désignant un bien unique qui traverse une ou plusieurs frontières nationales.

9. L'atelier a conclu que les biens en série ont un rôle important pour l'avenir de la Convention du patrimoine mondial, surtout en ce qui concerne la reconnaissance de biens importants de valeur universelle exceptionnelle unis à travers un même thème. Il a noté que les biens en série ont pour fonction de reconnaître la valeur universelle exceptionnelle à travers des valeurs-clé qui ne peuvent pas être démontrées seulement à travers un bien unique.

10. La réunion a reconnu que les propositions d'inscription pour inscription en série sont généralement plus complexes et stimulantes que celles des biens uniques. On peut aussi se poser des questions à propos de la praticité et de la recommandation de quelques approches portant sur les propositions d'inscription de biens pour inscription en série. Les propositions d'inscription de biens pour inscription en série peuvent avoir des implications importantes en termes de ressources, pour l'évaluation, la préparation supplémentaire de principes stratégiques et thématiques, la préparation du dossier de proposition d'inscription, de même que pour la gestion et la coordination. L'atelier a donc conclu qu'une approche plus prudente est nécessaire pour encourager l'inscription de biens en série. C'est notamment le cas pour les propositions d'inscription complexes, comme par exemple en ce qui concerne le nombre de critères (surtout quand des sites mixtes sont proposés), le nombre d'éléments constitutifs, le nombre d'Etats parties et la distance séparant les différents éléments constitutifs. Il a aussi été reconnu que les biens en série pourraient causer une inflation de la Liste du patrimoine mondial en raison du nombre d'éléments constitutifs qu'ils pourraient comprendre.

11. L'analyse des antécédents effectuée en vue de la réunion a révélé que beaucoup de biens naturels en série ne possèdent pas de systèmes de gestion globale correspondant aux exigences des *Orientations*. De ce fait, l'atelier a recommandé qu'un système

1. Ce rapport est disponible à l'adresse Internet suivante: [http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/wcpa\\_puball/wcpa\\_pubsubject/wcpa\\_wheritagepub/](http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/wcpa_puball/wcpa_pubsubject/wcpa_wheritagepub/)



de gestion d'un bien en série doit au moins assurer:

- l'harmonisation de la gestion de tous les éléments constitutifs pour rassembler un ensemble d'objectifs visant à la préservation de la valeur universelle exceptionnelle;
- l'identification des menaces pesant sur le bien et comment réagir contre elles; et
- la coordination du suivi et des rapports.

12. L'atelier a conclu qu'il serait précieux pour le Comité d'avoir l'occasion de discuter à propos des propositions d'inscription pour inscription transnationales et autres aussi complexes avant leur soumission effective. L'atelier a recommandé que le Comité devrait prendre en compte l'adoption d'un système de filtrage pour identifier les difficultés et questions éventuelles des propositions d'inscription en série complexes et fournir des principes sur leur évaluation future, tels que:

- a) Le cadre temporel minimum exigé pour que le travail sur la proposition d'inscription d'un bien soit complet;
- b) La nécessité de mener à bien l'analyse comparative au stade le plus précoce (en notant que ceci devrait être fait de préférence avant d'inclure le bien potentiel sur la Liste indicative);
- c) L'identification des coûts probables de l'évaluation, et comment ces coûts pourraient être assumés, en notant que les coûts d'évaluation des biens complexes pour inscription en série peuvent être bien plus importants que pour ceux des propositions d'inscription normales et que le Comité dispose actuellement d'un budget insuffisant pour couvrir ces coûts.

### III. RECOMMANDATIONS POUR L'AVENIR

13. Pour faire suite aux conclusions de l'atelier d'experts, il est recommandé d'adapter le format actuel des propositions d'inscription sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial (Annexe 5 des *Orientations*) ainsi que le format pour la soumission pour les Listes indicatives (Annexe 2 des *Orientations*) pour pouvoir couvrir la situation spécifique des biens inscrits en série. Le format de proposition d'inscription actuel ne permet pas suffisamment la description de la valeur universelle exceptionnelle et du système de gestion des éléments constitutifs individuels, ni ne fournit suffisamment de principes sur la manière avec laquelle ces aspects devraient être présentés.

14. Les recommandations et conclusions de l'atelier de Vilm, ainsi que les contributions écrites des Etats parties, pourraient être incluses dans le document de référence qui devra être préparé pour la réunion d'experts demandé à la 32<sup>ème</sup> session, dont les conclusions et recommandations pourraient, à leur tour, être présentées au Comité à sa 34<sup>ème</sup> session.

### IV PROJET DE DÉCISION

Projet de décision: 33 COM 10A

*Le Comité du patrimoine mondial;*

1. *Ayant examiné le document WHC-09/33.COM/10A;*
2. *Rappelant la décision 32 COM 10B adoptée à sa 32<sup>ème</sup> session (Québec, 2008);*
3. *Remerciant le Gouvernement de l'Allemagne d'avoir accueilli l'atelier sur les propositions d'inscription de biens naturels en série à Vilm (Allemagne, 26–30 novembre 2008), et tous les experts qui y ont contribué;*
4. *Prend note des résultats et conclusions de l'atelier publié dans la collection BfN-Skripten, ainsi que l'analyse de la situation actuelle des «Biens du patrimoine mondial naturel en série» préparée par l'UICN et l'Agence fédérale allemande pour la conservation de la nature pour publication en tant que numéro 6 de la collection de l'UICN des Etudes sur le patrimoine mondial;*
5. *Accueille avec satisfaction les propositions des Etats parties pour organiser la réunion d'experts sur les biens du patrimoine mondial culturels et naturels en série avant sa prochaine session en 2010;*
6. *Demande au Centre du patrimoine mondial de présenter les conclusions et recommandations de la réunion d'experts susmentionnée à sa 34<sup>ème</sup> session en 2010.*

## DÉCISION 33 COM 10A

ADOPTÉE LORS DE LA 33<sup>ÈME</sup>

SESSION DU COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL,  
SÉVILLE, ESPAGNE (2009)

Le Comité du patrimoine mondial,

1. *Ayant examiné* le document WHC-09/33.COM/10A;
2. *Rappelant* la décision 32 COM 10B adoptée à sa 32<sup>ème</sup> session (Québec, 2008);
3. *Remerciant* le gouvernement de l'Allemagne d'avoir accueilli l'atelier sur les propositions d'inscription de biens naturels en série à Vilm (Allemagne, 26–30 novembre 2008), et tous les experts qui y ont contribué;
4. *Prend note* des résultats et conclusions de l'atelier publié dans la collection BfN-Skripten, ainsi que l'analyse de la situation actuelle des «Biens du patrimoine mondial naturel en série» préparée par l'UICN et l'Agence fédérale allemande pour la conservation de la nature pour publication en tant que numéro 6 de la collection de l'UICN des Etudes sur le patrimoine mondial;
5. *Accueille* en outre avec satisfaction la proposition du gouvernement de la Suisse d'accueillir une réunion d'experts sur des biens naturels et culturels en série du patrimoine mondial au cours du premier semestre 2010, qui tiendra compte des résultats de l'atelier de 2008 sur les biens naturels et culturels en série qui s'est tenu à Vilm (Allemagne);
6. *Demande* au Centre du patrimoine mondial de présenter les conclusions et recommandations de la réunion d'experts susmentionnée à sa 34<sup>ème</sup> session en 2010.

# INTERNATIONAL EXPERT MEETINGS IN VILM, GERMANY 2008/2009

The German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) in cooperation with IUCN has organised two international expert meetings on natural serial World Heritage properties in order to discuss the challenges and opportunities linked to serial natural World Heritage. Criteria for the participation were expertise in nominating, managing and evaluating World Heritage properties. Participants at the workshops included representatives of Serial Natural World Heritage Properties from different UNESCO regions, natural heritage experts (e.g. members of IUCN WCPA and others) and cultural heritage experts (including expertise on cultural landscapes), experts involved in IUCN evaluations of natural properties as well as representatives of the UNESCO WH Centre and the IUCN.

## 1. THE ANALYSIS

In preparation for the workshops an initial analysis «Status and trends of serial Natural World Heritage Properties» has been done as an in-depth knowledge on inscribed serial properties is needed for a well-based discussion. The analysis aimed at giving an overview on the present situation of serial natural WH properties in order to provide input to the 2008 expert meeting as well as to the WH Committee. It covers the number and scope of Serial Natural properties, transnational aspects, criteria and ecosystems, component parts and management. The analysis is available in the IUCN WH series.

## 2. THE 2008 WORKSHOP

The workshop held in 2008 at the International Academy for Nature Conservation, Isle of Vilm, Germany aimed at developing draft guidance and recommendations for the nominations and management of serial natural World Heritage properties. It discussed the issues specifically outlined in the World Heritage Committee's decision 32 COM 10B with regard to natural World Heritage.

The main outcomes cover

- language and definitions;
- Outstanding Universal Value and serial properties;
- management requirements of Serial World Heritage Properties;
- Committee processes;
- the roles of the World Heritage Centre, Advisory Bodies and UNESCO in relation to serial properties.

The workshop concluded that there is a need for further a discussion process in the World Heritage Committee seeking for an enhanced understanding of the role and functioning of serial properties. As the *Operational Guidelines* contain provisions re-lated to nominations and management of serial properties which do not fully take into account the specific needs and challenges, amendments are urgently needed. The workshop noted that new concepts and ideas for future nominations for serial World Heritage properties include transcontinental ideas (international flyways), large multi-state approaches (such as the Great Rift Valley) or the phasing of nominations. And given the high complexity in terms of concepts for establishing the Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity as well as in terms of management systems, serial World Heritage nominations merit further analysis and discussion.

## 3. THE 2009 WORKSHOP

The workshop held in November 2009 at the International Academy for Nature Conservation, Isle of Vilm, Germany based its work on the 2008 results. The aims were to:

- refine the concept of serial properties based on examples for serial properties' «stories» illustrating how OUV can be displayed;
- compile further advice on applying OUV to serial properties;
- provide further guidance on the questions of functional linkages and connectivity based on an analysis on IUCN current practise of evaluation of serial nominations;
- provide advice on preparing nominations (comparative analysis, choice of component parts);
- discuss the management, monitoring and reporting of serial properties.

The workshop applied the following methodological approach

- recapitulation of the outcomes of the 2008 expert workshop;

- review of the outcomes in order to refine identified questions, topics and conclusions;
- presentation and discussion of the IUCN «Analysis of natural World Heritage Evaluations» as recommended by the 2008 workshop;
- presentations of different serial natural World Heritage Properties from different UNESCO regions (including transnational properties and examples from the cultural sector) as a basis to identify case studies and best practices.

## 3.1 GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

The workshop concluded that serial World Heritage properties present a strategy to reduce and avoid duplication of properties with similar values on the List and serial nominations support national or transnational cooperation in heritage protection. However, the complexity of some serial nominations raises the workload of the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre in relation to both evaluation and monitoring, Serial properties also might be used to bypass the wish of the Committee to limit the number of nominations promoted by State Parties each year. Therefore the workshop stressed that serial properties and single properties should be regarded and treated in a consistent way. General conclusions included also:

### COMMUNICATION OF SERIAL PROPERTIES

Beyond a convincing technical justification participants noted the need for and communication of a «common-sense» rationale enabling the broader public to understand and appreciate the linkages and coherence of several components as different chapters of one book.

### CONSISTENT APPROACH TO SERIAL PROPERTIES

The workshop concluded that serial properties may have negative impacts on the credibility of the World Heritage List and noted that the requested overall management framework is a critical element for credibility. Therefore the workshop reinforced the 2008 conclusion to regard and treat serial properties and single properties in a consistent way.

The participants noted that the Committee might wish to limit serial nominations. They therefore concluded that an explicit encouragement of States Parties to nominate serial properties might be contra productive. However, the workshop concluded that the

best advice and guidance should be made available for States Parties to elaborate on serial nominations.

### EVALUATION FRAMEWORK AS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE PROCESSES

The workshop considered that the Advisory Body evaluation is a fundamental step in the Convention's processes to increase credibility. The workshop participants therefore agreed that the application of a consistent and comprehensive evaluation framework to serial properties is indispensable. The participants welcomed the analysis that IUCN had undertaken to review its existent evaluation approach.

### PROCESSES LEADING TO SERIAL NOMINATIONS

Based on the presented analysis the workshop participants acknowledged that often the submission of a single nomination and its subsequent evaluation leads to a serial nomination (as these nominations as single properties do not reach the threshold for OUV). In various cases the Advisory Body IUCN has even suggested a nomination as a serial property (e.g. Cape Floral region, Lena Pillars). This confirms the important role of the evaluation process in providing advice to States Parties.

The workshop participants noted that further investigation and selection of case studies for further guidance would be useful.

### 3.2 OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE OF SERIAL PROPERTIES – JUSTIFICATION OF THE SERIAL APPROACH

The workshop participants

- reaffirmed the definition given at the 2008 meeting the a serial property is «a property where two or more component parts are required to express the Outstanding Universal Value»;
- concluded that the application of OUV for serial properties does not differ from single properties and that the same strict application of OUV and integrity is needed to ensure credibility of the WH list. This should be underlined by the *Operational Guidelines*;
- pointed out the essential question to ask is «What is the story to be told – do you need more than one component part to convey the story»;
- concluded that the choice of criteria is important for serial properties as it determines the status of protection to be met by all components and is relevant

for the choice and number of component parts (an internal analysis comparing the potential component parts is seen as a suitable instrument). Therefore, the identification of joint criteria is seen as an important step in the nomination process. During the discussion it became clear that the individual component parts have different sets of values (which would fit more than one criterion) but are finally part of one World Heritage property united under one OUV;

- recognised that different thresholds to justify OUV for natural and cultural properties might be applicable and that best practice examples are useful to illustrate the differences.

### 3.3 LINKAGES BETWEEN COMPONENT PARTS

Based on the analysis presented on IUCN's evaluation practice the notion of «functional linkages» between component parts was discussed. It was recognised that the following linkages need to be considered: landscape links, ecological links, geomorphic or geological links, biological links and institutional links. The workshop participants concluded that functional links should be required when necessary for the effective protection of a serial property. These links should be considered as links that provide landscape, ecological, evolutionary or habitat connectivity as required depending on the values of the nominated property or Institutional linkages (e.g. by a protected area administration).

### 3.4 SELECTION AND NUMBER OF COMPONENT PARTS

The workshop participants reaffirmed the 2008 conclusion that each component part should be a significant contribution to OUV by a) adding distinct features for fulfilling the criteria and b) enhancing integrity. All component parts are required to have agreed/established management principles/objectives. The number of component parts should be the minimum number that are adequate to establish OUV and ensure integrity. It was noted that the «internal comparative analysis» is an important step for determining the number of component parts.

The workshop participants concluded that there is no single right number. The adequate number of component parts strongly depends on criteria:

- In general, an «all-inclusive approach» can be distinguished from the approach

of «representativeness» (making a site representative);

- for properties under criterion vii and viii «representativeness» is regarded as the most relevant approach;
- replication (of values) might be important in the context of climate change;
- for properties nominated under criterion ix the ecosystem perspective is essential and the question of functional (ecological) linkages is relevant;
- the number of component parts for properties under criteria ix and x may also be influenced by the minimum critical size of the individual area which is needed for protection and the distance between isolated fragmented patches of ecosystems;
- the question «how much is needed» is most relevant for fragmented eco-systems/habitats and more guidance on the criterion x is urgently needed;
- for properties under criterion x the duplication of values/features might be accepted (redundancy), when adding to integrity (Example: Cape Floral region) as the inclusion of similar values can be necessary to ensure integrity/ protection whilst properties under criterion viii might need components parts which contribute to representativeness.

In addition the workshop participants noted that in nomination practice the following might impact on the choice of and the number of component parts:

- Scientific findings and conclusions may differ from political interests;
- existing protected areas and their boundary design play an important role in the selection.

The 2008 workshop called for the identification of best practice case studies for each criterion to illustrate the type and number of component parts required. It would be valuable to compile the lessons from such successful examples of serial nominations in a specific compendium (e.g: criterion vii: The Monarch Butterfly Reserve, Mexico; criterion viii: Australian Fossil Site, Australia; criterion ix: Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians, Slovak Republic/Ukraine; criterion x: Cape Floral Region, South Africa).

### 3.5 MANAGEMENT

The workshop endorsed the outcomes on management of serial properties of the 2008 meeting and stressed the crucial importance of a «functioning management». This should include the management at the component

part level and the coordination between the component parts.

The workshop participants recommended the following requirements for the management of serial properties:

To achieve joint management, the OUV has to be translated into a shared set of overall goals and subsequently into tangible and measurable objectives for the component parts. A joint approach to define the objectives is advisable, but not all objectives need to be similar for all component parts that make up the serial site. Based on the objectives, a set of indicators can be defined that can be used to measure the management performance and determine whether or not the objectives are being met.

The workshop participants concluded that serial property management needs adequate resources for all parts of the management process (e.g., research and analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, adaptation) both in terms of funding and personal capacity.

With regard to the evaluation process, the workshop participants pointed out the difficulty for both Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Committee to judge that adequate management is implemented versus good intentions that are announced. The workshop concluded that guidance for the Advisory Bodies' evaluators is needed.

### 3.6 DANGER LISTING AND DELISTING

The workshop participants reaffirmed the 2008 workshop conclusions that in principle, the loss of values in one component part of a serial property can threaten the status of the whole series as such a loss may result in the overall threat to or even loss of Outstanding Universal Value of the series. The workshop participants concluded that the challenge is to define the limits when the state of conservation of one component part threatens the OUV of the whole series. This needs careful evaluation and should be measured against the Statement of OUV.

The workshop participants noted that the judgement might be difficult for properties which have been extended (e.g. when the added component loses its values) and pointed out that the single properties where the size/area had been reduced might be used as reference cases.

The workshop participants recognised that among the serial natural properties only

one case of danger listing exist (Belize Barrier Reef) and this case study could be further investigated.

### 3.7 EXTENSIONS

The workshop participants concluded that extensions to serial properties should enhance the total values of the property or improve integrity. It was noted that for extensions management would be a factor limiting the number of extended component parts. It was noted that extensions could include the addition of new criteria but this would mean a new nomination. During workshop discussions the question was raised how inscribed properties can be combined to a new serial property telling a "different" story (case of the «Viking sites») and what the motivation and benefits of the partners would be to join in such a series.

### 3.8 TRANSNATIONAL SERIAL PROPERTIES

The workshop participants noted that transnational natural serial properties are still exceptions (only 5 of 36 serial properties are transnational) and that the overall discussions (especially at Committee level) often focus on these properties.

The workshop participants recognised that transnational serial properties may have specific political implications in the case of dangerlisting and delisting.

The workshop participants concluded that for large transnational serial properties an additional umbrella framework is seen as a good alternative and should be further developed as an alternative approach.

The workshop recognised the need for transnational properties to take into account different policies (this being especially important for management questions).

The workshop participants identified the following case studies which might be used to illustrate nomination processes (including the selection of criteria) and management in transnational serial properties:

- High Coast/Kvarken Archipelago, Sweden/Finland;
- Belovezhskaya Pushcha/Białowieża Forest, Belarus/Poland: for management; even if this a single property;
- The Wadden Sea, Germany/The Netherlands: example where long-term cooperation was the basis for the nomination.

## 3.9 RECOMMENDATIONS

The workshop participants agreed on the following preliminary recommendations differentiated by targeted audience. These should be discussed and further refined at the workshop to be hosted by Switzerland.

World Heritage Committee:

- to consider that the difficulties (need for technical expertise and financial implications) of serial nominations might lead to a further imbalance of the World Heritage List;
- to consider the possibility of limiting the number of serial nominations per year;
- to amend paragraph 137 of the *Operational Guidelines* in order to better reflect the current practice in nominating and evaluating serial natural properties (e.g. reflecting the component relationship for natural properties by including clear requirements for the consideration and evaluation of functional linkages by criterion);
- to amend the formats for nominations and Tentative Lists to integrate the specific requirements for serial properties (details see WS report 2008)
- to consider the option of elaborating a specific section on serial properties in Annex 3 of the *Operational Guidelines* which deals with «specific types of properties»;
- to consider a request for the elaboration of a «Compendium» on serial World Heritage properties including case studies (on establishment of OUV, selection of component parts, management, extensions, transnational properties);
- to explore in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies options for an alternative approach to large, complex transnational serial nominations;
- to take into account possible conflicts of interest between different protection requirements when serial properties are nominated both under natural and cultural criteria (mixed sites);
- the lack of clarity on the exact thresholds for management requirements is particularly obvious when it comes to serial sites. However, the reflect and epitomize a broader need to reflect on the definition of management standards and corresponding criteria and indicators as an orientation for nomination, evaluation and monitoring to recommend to the Advisory Bodies to elaborate on the «resurrection of the discussion on principles».

## States Parties to the Convention:

- To carefully consider the additional costs, workload and complexity of serial nominations;
- to use the Periodic Reporting processes to enhance harmonisation of Tentative Lists;
- to use thematic studies when identifying potential (serial) WH properties.

## World Heritage Centre:

- To review the inscribed properties and identify all that are considered as serial properties and make sure that these can readily be found in databases, websites etc. Likewise, errors can be corrected, as the workshop discussions suggest that some properties might incorrectly be considered as serial sites whereas some serial sites may not be recognized as such (reasoning: some properties in database are considered to have several component parts but are contiguous and only the management is of serial character, e.g. Laponian area/Sweden);
- to elaborate/propose in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies revised formats for nomination and Tentative Lists to integrate the specific needs of serial properties

## Advisory Bodies (especially IUCN):

- To consistently apply its evaluation framework (three questions) and in this context to provide further guidance on the aspect of «functional linkages». This includes detailed guidance for its evaluators/reviewers (according to the amended format and *Operational Guidelines*);
- to specifically train their evaluators (in order to achieve a most consistent approach to the evaluation of serial nominations);
- to develop a Compendium on serial World Heritage including answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ) and selected case studies (topics as well as case studies for this Compendium have been identified by this expert workshop); to identify open questions on serial World Heritage;
- to add to the existing «Management Planning for Natural World Heritage Properties» a section on serial properties and make them easily available for World Heritage managers;
- to provide early advice to States Parties (also in order to limit the number of new serial nominations) and to facilitate the contact between States Parties and experts to advise on serial nominations;
- to evaluate the (additional) costs and workload of the evaluation of serial properties compared to single properties.

For the follow-up the workshop suggested that the recommendations and conclusions from this workshop should be presented and discussed in light of the cultural heritage perspective. The workshop in Switzerland in February 2010 offers an ideal opportunity to do this. Therefore the workshop participants recommend to the colleagues convening in Switzerland in February 2010 to take into account these recommendations from the cultural perspective.

## FURTHER READING:

Engels, B. (2009): Serial Natural World Heritage Properties – Challenges for Nomination and Management. Proceedings of a workshop organised by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) in cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), November 7<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Engels, B., Koch, P. and Badman, T. (2009): Serial natural World Heritage properties - An initial analysis of the serial natural properties on the World Heritage List. IUCN World Heritage Studies, No.6. IUCN. Gland.

Engels, B., Ohnesorge, B. and Burmester, A. (2008): Nominations and management of serial natural world heritage properties - Present situation, challenges and opportunities; Proceedings of a workshop organised by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) in cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and IUCN, November 26<sup>th</sup>–30<sup>th</sup>, 2008. BfN-Skripten 248. Bundesamt für Naturschutz. Bonn

Both workshop reports can be obtained from: Barbara.Engels@bfn.de

3. CASE STUDIES  
PRESENTED  
BY PARTICIPATING  
EXPERTS

ÉTUDES DE CAS  
PRÉSENTÉES  
PAR LES EXPERTS  
PARTICIPANTS

**P.36**  
**JAMES ISLAND  
AND RELATED  
SITES  
STONE CIRCLES  
OF THE  
SENEGAMBIA**  
BABA CEESAY,  
GAMBIA

**P.38**  
**ROCK  
DRAWINGS IN  
VALCAMONICA**  
ADELE CESI

**P.40**  
**THE HIGH COAST  
- KVARKEN  
ARCHIPELAGO**  
ROLF LÖFGREN

**P.42**  
**CAPE FLORAL  
REGION  
PROTECTED  
AREAS**  
GUY PALMER

**P.43**  
**LES FORÊTS  
HUMIDES DE  
L'ATSINANANA**  
GUY SUZON  
RAMANGASON

**P.45**  
**FRONTIERS OF  
THE ROMAN  
EMPIRE**  
ANDREAS THIEL

**P.47**  
**LES ITINÉRAIRES  
CULTURELS  
SAHARIENS**  
NAMY OULD  
MOHAMED KABER

**P.52**  
**MORAVIAN  
SETTLEMENTS**  
PAULIUS  
KULIKAUSKAS

**P.53**  
**THE MATA  
ATLÂNTICA  
BIOSPHERE  
RESERVE**  
JOÃO L. RUEGGER

**P.56**  
**PHENOMENA  
AND  
MONUMENTS OF  
VIKING CULTURE**  
RAGNHEIDUR H.  
THORARISNDOTTIR

**P.57**  
**TAPUTAPUĀTEA/  
TE PÔ, VALLÉE  
DE ÖPOA**  
RICHARD ARIIHAU  
TUHEIAVA

**P.61**  
**THE KENYA  
LAKES SYSTEM**  
HOSEAH  
WANDERI

**P.63**  
**SILK ROAD(S)**  
GUO ZHAN

**P.65**  
**QHAPAQ ÑAN**  
NURIA SANZ

# JAMES ISLAND AND RELATED SITES STONE CIRCLES OF THE SENEGAMBIA BABA CEESAY, GAMBIA

Gambia is a very small country located in the extreme west of West Africa. The country is completely surrounded by Senegal except for the opening of the river which bisects the country into the Atlantic.

I have been fortunate to work on two successful World Heritage Nominations, with the collaboration of others, particularly the Africa 2009 Programme. Both nominations were cultural sites and serial nominations. One of them, the Stone Circles, was a trans-border property and therefore required collaboration with another country Senegal. The other, James Island and Related Sites, was a series of sites relevant to the early European occupation of the continent, the slave trade and its abolition.

In 1994 Gambia hastily prepared a nomination dossier for both sites with the assistance of a consultant. The nomination was 'deferred' for reasons relating to:

- Lack of human resource capacity to conserve the sites;
- inadequate comparative study.



The country therefore had to re-strategize to address these shortcomings and submit a new dossier. Because of the volume of work involved in developing a fully-fledged nomination dossier, the first resolve was to tackle one site at a time.

## JAMES ISLAND AND RELATED SITES

Year of inscription: 2003

Criteria: (iii), (vi)

**James Island and Related Sites present a testimony to the main periods and facets of the encounter between Africa and Europe along the River Gambia, a continuum stretching from pre-colonial and pre-slavery times to independence. The site is particularly significant for its relation to the beginning of the slave trade and its abolition. It also documents early access to the interior of Africa.**

To address the human resource capacity problems an in-situ training programme was developed and executed between 1997 and 2000. The training programme had two main objectives: 1. To train technicians in basic theory and practice of conservation of historic buildings. 2. To make tangible improvements on the state of conservation of the site. More than 50 people participated in the training exercise, including staff of the National Centre for Arts and Culture and technicians of the building trade living in the locality. Within the period NCAC staff also benefited from the Africa 2009 training course hosted in Mombasa whose main focus was on the management planning process.

With this experience a new approach was developed in submitting a new nomination for James Island, i.e. link James Island to other sites of relevance to the European occupation as a serial nomination.

In essence the new nomination dossier argued that Gambia's navigable river was one of the earliest corridors for European exploration into the interior of the African continent. The country abounds with material evidence of the period prior to the advent of the Europeans (the villages of Albreda and Juffureh), the period of European occupation (the slave trade and its abolition). In fact, the country has the only structures known to have been built purposely to thwart the trade in slaves in the sub-region (Fort Bullen and Six-Gun Battery). Fort Bullen also has evidence of use in World War II, and the founding of Bathurst (now the capital city, Banjul), manifests the effective start of colonialism and indirect rule by the British.

James Island is also associated with a major publication – 'Roots' – by the African American author Alex Haley, whose pioneering work traced his ancestry back to the village of Juffureh opposite the Island.

The submission met the fulfillment of criteria (iv) & (vi). Inscription was gained in 2003 under criteria (iii) & (vi).

## THE STONE CIRCLES OF THE SENEGAMBIA

Year of inscription: 2006

Criteria: (i), (iii)

**The site consists of four large groups of stone circles that represent an extraordinary concentration of over 1'000 monuments in a band 100 km wide along some 350 km of the River Gambia. The four groups, Sine Ngayène, Wanar, Wassu and Kerbatch, cover 93 stone circles and numerous tumuli, burial mounds, some of which have been excavated to reveal material that suggest dates between 3rd century BC and 16th century AD. Together the stone circles of laterite pillars and their associated burial mounds present a vast sacred landscape created over more than 1'500 years. It reflects a prosperous, highly organized and lasting society.**

With regard to the Stone Circles, it will be recalled that Gambia first made an unsuccessful nomination submission in 1994. A submission made by Senegal in 2003 was also considered incomplete and deferred (required substantial revision) partly because the circles were already recognized as trans-boundary property, existing both in Gambia and Senegal. Whereas Senegal had some of the largest sites, Gambia had the biggest stones, weighing up to 7 tons, and dwarfing a human being in size. Gambia also had some impressive quarry sites very close to the major site; and in addition had developed site museums cum interpretation centres.

With preparatory assistance from the WHF joint workshops were held in Banjul and Dakar between 2004 and 2005 with the objective of preparing the nomination dossier and developing management plans.

Despite the English and French backgrounds of the two countries, language was no barrier because of the shared local language – wolof.

During the bilateral meetings, four of the best sites which are most representative of the phenomena were selected for pursuing the nomination. These were Wassu and Kerbatch in The Gambia; Sine Ngayen and Wanar in Senegal.



The justification for inscription argued criteria (i), (iii) and (iv), as follows:

- Stone circles are found in many parts of the world, but nowhere are they found in such density as between the River Gambia and the River Senegal. In this limited space more than 1987 sites have been identified, including 1053 stone circles;
- the sites denote an early knowledge of the local geology to identify the best outcrops with minimal structural weaknesses to withstand the arduous task of transportation and erection in precise circles. This suggests a highly organized society able to marshal large human resources needed to achieve such a huge task;
- the circle builders certainly had knowledge of iron working and could be associated with the advent of the Iron Age in West Africa, a very significant stage in human history.

Inscription was gained in 2006 and recognised the fulfillment of criteria (i) and (iii).

## MANAGEMENT

The sites concerned are all national monuments proclaimed under the relevant national laws.

Once a site is proclaimed a National Monument, its management and protection is vested in the national heritage institution – the National Centre for Arts and Culture (Gambia) and the Department of Cultural Patrimony in Senegal.

Nevertheless, in developing the management plan for the sites, cognizance was taken of the people who live around the sites. The occasion for preparing the dossier made provision for consultations at the local level in the form of stakeholder meetings which were held in both Senegal and Gambia. The management plan also observes the principles and ethics advocated by the Africa 2009 Programme as summarized below:

- To involve local communities in planning for and protecting heritage resources within their territory;
- to give priority to local knowledge systems, human resources, skills, and materials;



- to ensure capacity building;
- to create a stable base on which further sustainable developments can be made;
- to give priority to simple, incremental solutions to problems, that can easily be implemented within an existing framework;
- to focus on prevention and maintenance as a cost effective and sustainable strategy for management and conservation;
- to ensure tangible benefits to local communities;
- to create awareness and respect for international conservation norms.

SWOT Analyses were conducted to build on the strengths and opportunities and mitigate weaknesses and threats.

The management plans which were evolved at the level of individual sites and at the national level established four basic objectives:

- Conserve and protect the sites;
- enhance site presentation and promotion;
- improve management of the sites;
- conduct more in-depth research.

The plans also adopted time-bound actions/activities to be taken at the level of individual sites, predicated on the state of the site and its peculiar needs. They also set out key performance indicators and identified agencies and individuals responsible for the actions.

The plans also call for occasional bilateral meetings between Gambia and Senegal to review progress and constraints and build on each other's strengths and weaknesses.

## LESSONS

- The whole process of getting the two Gambian sites inscribed on the List took almost a decade to achieve. If at first you do not succeed, adapt and try again;
- consultation with diverse stakeholders and participatory management is essential for success. Those living with the sites and those benefiting from the sites are a vital part of the nomination process;
- serial inscriptions could be dispersed in time and space, and may have typological differences.

## RÉSUMÉ

La Gambie eut l'occasion d'inscrire deux biens sur la Liste du Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO: le bien sériel «L'île James et les sites associés» et le bien sériel transfrontalier «Les cercles monolithiques de Sénégal».

La Gambie avait d'abord préparé une candidature pour ces deux sites en 1994. La

nomination fut cependant différée et il fut décidé de présenter les sites l'un après l'autre.

### L'ÎLE JAMES ET LES SITES ASSOCIÉS

**L'île James et les sites associés témoignent des principales époques et aspects de la rencontre entre l'Afrique et l'Europe le long du fleuve Gambie, un continuum qui s'étend de la période pré-coloniale et pré-esclavagiste à l'indépendance. Ce site est d'une importance toute particulière pour son association tant avec les débuts du commerce d'esclaves qu'avec son abolition. Il témoigne aussi des premières voies ouvertes vers l'intérieur de l'Afrique.**

### LES CERCLES MÉGALITHIQUES DE SÉNÉGAMBIE

**Ces quatre grands groupes de cercles mégalithiques constituent une concentration extraordinaire – plus de 1'000 monuments – sur une bande de 100 km de large qui longe sur 350 km le fleuve Gambie. Les quatre groupes, Sine Ngayène, Wanar, Wassu et Kerbatch rassemblent 93 cercles et de nombreux tumuli, monticules funéraires. Certains ont été fouillés et ont révélé un matériel archéologique que l'on peut dater entre le III<sup>e</sup> siècle av. J.-C et le XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle de notre ère. Les cercles de pierres de latérite soigneusement taillées et leurs tumuli associés présentent un vaste paysage sacré qui s'est constitué sur plus de 1'500 ans et rendent compte d'une société prospère, pérenne et hautement organisée.**

Après le report du dossier gambien en 1994, la candidature des cercles monolithiques de Sénégal fut une nouvelle fois différée en 2003 lorsque le Sénégal présenta un dossier jugé incomplet. Les cercles monolithiques étaient alors déjà considérés comme un bien transnational réparti entre la Gambie et le Sénégal. Les deux pays travaillèrent dès lors conjointement sur la préparation d'un seul dossier qui retint quatre des sites les plus représentatifs du phénomène. Les cercles monolithiques de Sénégal furent finalement inscrits à la Liste du Patrimoine mondial en 2006 conformément aux critères (i) et (iii).

Tous ces sites sont classés en tant que monuments nationaux et sont soumis aux lois nationales compétentes. Une fois classé monument national, chaque site est géré et protégé par le Centre National pour les Arts et la Culture en Gambie et le Département du Patrimoine Culturel du Sénégal. Néanmoins, lorsqu'il fallut établir le plan de gestion pour ces sites, le savoir des populations locales fut pris en considération. Ce plan de gestion respecta les principes du programme Afrique 2009.

Les plans de gestion établis pour chaque élément constitutif de la série ainsi qu'au niveau

national fixent quatre objectifs de base:

- conserver et protéger les sites;
- encourager la présentation et la promotion des sites;
- améliorer la gestion des sites;
- stimuler les recherches.

Ce bien sériel transnational amène les autorités compétentes du Sénégal et de Gambie à se rencontrer occasionnellement afin de faire le point sur les progrès et les contraintes pour coordonner le tout avec les forces et faiblesses de chacun.

## ROCK DRAWINGS IN VALCAMONICA ADELE CESI, ITALY

Year of inscription: 1979

Criteria: (iii), (vi)

**Valcamonica's rock art, which consists of over 140'000 engravings on about 2'400 rocks distributed on both sides of an entire valley, constitutes an exceptional example of this kind of manifestation of human thought.**

**The number, duration and variety of the engravings, representing for example navigation, dance, war and ploughing and their relationship with contemporary archaeological sites, contribute to the exceptional value of this assemblage. Furthermore, the apparent continuation of the practice of engraving for a period of more than 8'000 years, from the Epipaleolithic until the Roman and Mediaeval periods, and in some cases until modern times, links this extraordinary expression of human creativity to present day communities.**

There are serial sites in which individual elements would not be easily recognised as an expression of Outstanding Universal Value, since the site itself is the expression of a phenomenon which is, by nature, «dif-fused». This is the case with the rock drawings in Valcamonica. This is a rather singular case which can help take a small step forward. The serial, technically speaking, is made of six vast areas which in turn comprise 182 rock drawings sites (rather than individual paintings). Basically, we are looking at a serial property in which the component parts are grouped into clusters. The site description presents Valcamonica as one of the world's greatest collections of prehistoric petroglyphs – more than 140'000 symbols and figures carved in the rock over a period of 8'000 years. Here, Outstanding Universal Value is expressed through the ensemble of the phenomenon, rather than in terms of an individual rock painting. This despite the great beauty of the drawings



and even though there are cases in which an individual piece, an exceptional work of art, may express Outstanding Universal Value, such as Leonardo Da Vinci's fresco of The Last Supper. Therefore, in the case of Valcamonica, the Outstanding Universal Value does not lie within the individual component parts of the serial but rather in its overall and broad representation. How many elements are required to constitute Outstanding Universal Value? It is not easy to put a number to it, and only the careful and painstaking evaluation of documentation submitted, carried out by the Advisory Bodies, is in a position to say.

First of all, we can say that the danger, for an inscribed property, of losing the Outstanding Universal Value of a site (serial or otherwise) leads to its subscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger. In such a case, for a serial property, it is a question of establishing whether, how and when, the loss of value of a component part may lead to the loss of value of the entire property. In the event, further examination of the relationship between the serial property and its Outstanding Universal Value is needed. In order to accomplish this, one first needs to refer to the indications stated in the work documents. Amongst these, some of the conclusions drawn from previous meetings and set down in the final reports appear to be essential, in particular the Vilm meeting in 2008 and the follow-up in 2009 provide a definition of the relationship between serial sites and Outstanding Universal Value. The selected conclusions have also been taken from World Heritage Committee documents from the 2008 and 2009 Committees.

The main conclusions on the subject are provided below:

1. The serial as a whole – and not necessarily the individual part of it – [must be] of Outstanding Universal Value (*Operational Guidelines* 2008 – Par. 137);
2. Serial nominations, whether from one State Party or multiple States, may be submitted for evaluation over several nomination cycles, provided that the first property nominated is of Outstanding Universal Value in its own right (*Operational Guidelines* 2008 – Par. 139);
3. A serial property may be defined as a property where two or more component parts are required to express the Outstanding Universal Value (World Heritage Committee-09/33.COM/10A background);

4. Any serial nomination represents a single nomination to the World Heritage List. Thus, if the values of only one part of a serial transnational property are threatened, then the entire property is inscribed on the List of World Heritage in danger. The same principles also apply in relation to possible deletion of a serial property from the World Heritage List (World Heritage Committee-08/32.COM/10B).

The first statement, The series as a whole – and not necessarily the individual part of it – [must be] of Outstanding Universal Value, enables us to say that also a component part of a series may express Outstanding Universal Value. This is further reinforced in the second statement, which states that a serial nomination may be submitted for evaluation over several nomination cycles, provided that the first property nominated is of Outstanding Universal Value in its own right. Yet the conclusions drawn above do not coincide with what stated in the third statement, namely that a serial property may be defined as a property where two or more component parts are required to express the Outstanding Universal Value, which is akin to stating that, within a serial site, only one component may never express Outstanding Universal Value. As a consequence, a serial property may not consist of component parts of Outstanding Universal Value. Are we sure to agree with such a statement? Let's tackle the question from a different point of view: is it better to have ten individual Romanesque cathedrals on the World Heritage List or a single site representing the historical, architectural and artistic phenomenon as a whole (Romanesque architecture and art from a particular period or within a certain area), and which also offers the added value of the inevitable relations existing between them?

Of course, if we agree with this second supposition we admit to the existence of serial sites in which also the individual elements of the series may, potentially, express the Outstanding Universal Value (the thesis expressed by points 1 and 2 taken from the official documents). In this case, the Outstanding Universal Value of a serial site may be seen to embrace the values of the individual elements (comparative analyses within the series). It goes without saying that the values of the individual elements must «tell a story» and must be presented in an organic fashion (as in the case of the serial site, the City of Vicenza and the Palladian Villas of the Veneto).

Having said that, it is clear how the evaluation process resulting in a serial property

being inscribed, or not, on the List of World Heritage in Danger must give due consideration to the diversity of site types. Indeed, in the first instance, one might suppose that the loss of one element in a series may affect the entire heritage site, especially if the component part represents one of the most significant and important elements. Whilst in the second instance, it is clear that the loss of one element, or in other words one out of 182 rock paintings, will not result in the loss of value of the entire property but merely, so to speak, scratch the surface.

## CONCLUSIONS

There are various types of serial properties (here we have considered two, but it would be useful to consider this issue further). Once the type has been ascertained, it will then be possible to apply different criteria to each one in order to evaluate them, as dictated by the main characteristic of the serial site in question. The evaluation conducted by the Advisory Bodies represents, therefore, the most important step in the decision.

In relation to this specific matter but also in a broader sense, we should not forget to mention new approaches, for example the one outlined by Kishore Rao. This approach offers a wide range of interesting solutions for currently arising problems. In fact, serial properties undoubtedly present a more coordinated and organic approach to the implementation of the World Heritage List. The problems that may arise from new proposals of serial sites nominations must absolutely not lead to a return to an obsolete view of heritage.

Nonetheless, it is deemed opportune that, as part of this new approach, the possibility of identifying autonomous elements within a series should be applied solely in connection with transnational serial sites, where problems concerning the joint management of heritage sites are frequently insurmountable. Of course, this is a result of structural differences between the States Parties. We should also avoid the

identification of autonomous elements within individual State Parties in order to prevent excessive subdivisions.

## RÉSUMÉ

**L'art rupestre du Valcamonica, comprenant plus de 140000 gravures sur 2400 roches environ, disséminées sur les deux flancs d'une seule et même vallée, constitue un exemple exceptionnel de cette forme de manifestation de la pensée humaine.**

**Le nombre, l'âge et la variété de gravures illustrant, par exemple, des scènes de navigation, de danse, de guerre, de labours, de même que leur relation avec des sites archéologiques contemporains contribuent à la valeur exceptionnelle de cet ensemble. De surcroît, la pérennité apparente de la pratique de la gravure, qui se poursuit sur plus de 8000 ans, de l'Épipaléolithique jusqu'aux périodes romaine et médiévale, et parfois même jusqu'à l'époque moderne, relie cette expression extraordinaire de la créativité humaine aux communautés d'aujourd'hui.**

L'art rupestre du Valcamonica constitue un cas assez singulier dont l'analyse peut contribuer au développement du questionnement relatif à l'attribution de la valeur universelle exceptionnelle à une inscription en série. En effet, celle-ci y trouve son expression à travers les 140000 gravures considérées comme un ensemble, comme un tout, et non individuellement, malgré la beauté des dessins singuliers. Par conséquent, dans le cas du Valcamonica, la question est de savoir combien d'éléments constitutifs sont nécessaires à la série pour lui attribuer la Valeur Universelle Exceptionnelle. Il n'est pas facile d'avancer un chiffre et seule une évaluation attentive et minutieuse de la documentation présentée par les Organisations Consultatives, dont le rôle est déterminant, peut le permettre.



# THE HIGH COAST – KVARKEN ARCHIPELAGO

## ROLF LÖFGREN, SWEDEN

Year of inscription: 2000 (2006)

Criterion: (viii)

**The Kvarken Archipelago (Finland) and the High Coast (Sweden) are situated in the Gulf of Bothnia, a northern extension of the Baltic Sea. The 5'600 islands of the Kvarken Archipelago feature unusual ridged washboard moraines, 'De Geer moraines', formed by the melting of the continental ice sheet, 10'000 to 24'000 years ago. The Archipelago is continuously rising from the sea in a process of rapid glacio-isostatic uplift, whereby the land, previously weighed down under the weight of a glacier, lifts at rates that are among the highest in the world. As a consequence islands appear and unite, peninsulas expand, and lakes evolve from bays and develop into marshes and peat fens. About 100 ha of new land is born every year. The High Coast has also been largely shaped by the combined processes of glaciations, glacial retreat and the emergence of new land from the sea. Since the last retreat of the ice from the High Coast 9'600 years ago, the uplift has been in the order of 285m which is the highest known «rebound». The site affords outstanding opportunities for the understanding of the important processes that formed the glaciated and land uplift areas of the Earth's surface.**

## WORLD HERITAGE HISTORY

The High Coast was nominated for World Heritage inscription in 1998 according to criteria (vii), (viii) and (ix). The nomination was



deferred by the World Heritage Committee. The major reason was lack of comparative analysis with other land uplift areas. The relationship with the Kvarken Archipelago should also be evaluated. Comprehensive new documentation was then worked out and after renomination the area was inscribed in 2000 according to criteria (viii).

The work to nominate the Kvarken Archipelago as a World Heritage Site started on a regional level almost at the same time as the one on the High Coast. The basic idea was then to have a transnational site across the narrowest part of the Baltic (north of the High Coast) including flat islands and main land areas on the Swedish side. The Swedish central environmental and geological authorities could not agree on this. In fact, the Swedish part was regarded as one of national value but not as one of Outstanding Universal Value. According to Outstanding Universal Value the High Coast, showing 10'000 year of geological history, was considered as the only suitable site on the Swedish side.

The nomination work on the Kvarken Archipelago in Finland restarted in 2001. The concept for the nomination was changed to an extension of the High Coast. After comprehensive documentation, the area was nominated and inscribed by the World Heritage Committee in 2006.

*The High Coast – Kvarken Archipelago* is one of four existing transnational serial natural World Heritage properties. The three others are Caves of Aggtelek Karst and Slovak Karst in Hungary / Slovakia, Uvs Nuur Basin in Mongolia / Russian Federation and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians in Slovakia / Ukraine.

## JUSTIFICATION OF THE SERIAL APPROACH

- The areas in Sweden and Finland represent different and completing aspects of post-glacial uplifted landscapes in the Baltic;
- the landrise gives different effects on the biota in the areas;
- the extension of The High Coast with the Kvarken Archipelago enhances the total value of the World Heritage Site.

Functional linkage between the sites consists mainly by the geological evolution that demonstrates distinctive and different features created by the same process; land uplift after the last ice age. A functional link also exist through the cooperation

between the two management bodies; the County Administrative Board in Härnösand (Sweden) and the Forest and Park Service in Vaasa (Finland).

## MANAGEMENT

A management and development plan for the Kvarken Archipelago has recently been published by the Forest and Park Service in Finland. The objective of the plan is to coordinate and describe various activities in the area and to promote its natural assets. It also describes the transnational cooperation, the responsibilities of different parties concerning management and control of the site. Visions for the future development regarding education, information, monitoring, tourism etc are also demonstrated. The plan is a complement to other planning and management tools, which also controls the land use in different nature reserves. A similar new management plan is under preparation for the High Coast.

## LESSONS LEARNT

Several central, regional and local parties in both Sweden and Finland were engaged in the nomination work, which took a long time and had coordination problems. To have a successful process it is important that all parties involved are well aware of:

- The basic World Heritage standards (Operational Guidelines);
- the culture and working process of the World Heritage Committee and the Advisory Bodies;
- the global approach of the World Heritage Committee: the need to realise Outstanding Universal Value and to think in terms of global comparison;
- the need of time and finance for the nomination process.

These aspects are fundamental in all World Heritage nominations, but in serial ones (national, transnational), there is a need for



special consideration. One has to realise that at least local and regional parties are very seldom involved in more than one nomination at a time and therefore will never be experienced in these matters. In serial sites the need for information and training increases with the number of sites and involved groups. Basic information at the start of a project is therefore of crucial importance. A good way for responsible people to gain experience is to take part in a World Heritage Committee meeting. Consultation by the Advisory Bodies prior to start of an extensive nomination work is also highly recommended.

Other experiences are:

- The same values have to be protected equally in a serial site. Therefore protection-measures (legislation, rules for protected areas) have to be comparable and well understood between countries working with a transnational serial site;
- the same values / criteria have to be valid in different parts of a transnational, natural serial property in order to define «the same type of property, geological formation, ecosystem type» etc. Strong additional values in one site / country can not be valid and inscribed under a new criteria for the whole serial site;
- enhanced and broadened values (as in the *High Coast – Kvarken Archipelago* case) seem to be meaningful reason for the extension of an existing single World Heritage property to a serial property.

## RÉSUMÉ

**L'archipel de Kvarken (Finlande) et la Haute côte (Suède) sont situés dans le golfe de Botnie, qui prolonge la mer Baltique vers le nord. Les 5'600 îles et îlots se singularisent principalement par les**

**curieuses moraines à crête bosselées, ou moraines de Geer, formées par la fonte de la nappe de glace continentale entre 10 000 et 24 000 ans auparavant. L'archipel de Kvarken s'élève de manière continue du niveau de la mer du fait d'un relèvement glacio-isostatique rapide, lorsqu'une terre précédemment comprimée par le poids d'un glacier se relève après la disparition de ce dernier, fait de ce taux de relèvement dans la région l'un des plus élevés au monde. Du fait de l'avancée du littoral, des îles apparaissent et s'unissent, des péninsules grandissent, des lacs se forment depuis les baies et deviennent des marais et des fagnes tourbeuses. Environ 100 ha de nouvelles terres apparaissent chaque année. La Haute côte a aussi été largement façonnée par l'association de processus de glaciation, de recul des glaciers et d'émergence de nouvelles terres. Depuis le retrait final des glaces de la Haute côte, il y a 9'600 ans, le relèvement est de l'ordre de 285 m, ce qui correspond au «rebond» manifeste le plus important jamais observé. La Haute côte est un site exceptionnel pour la compréhension des processus importants qui ont formé les glaciers et les zones de relèvement de la surface de la Terre.**

La Haute côte fut inscrite en 2000 conformément au critère de sélection (viii) et l'archipel de Kvarken vint s'ajouter à ses côtés sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial en 2006 pour former une inscription sérielle transnationale après un long processus qui connut des problèmes de coordination.

Un plan de gestion et de développement pour l'archipel de Kvarken a récemment été publié par le Service des parcs et forêts de Finlande. Il coordonne et décrit diverses activités dans la zone concernée et met en valeur ses qualités naturelles. Ce plan définit aussi la coopération transnationale et les responsabilités des différents acteurs sur les sites. Il aborde aussi des visions quant au développement futur, notamment en matière

d'éducation, d'information, de surveillance et de tourisme. Un plan similaire pour la Haute côte est en cours de préparation.



# CAPE FLORAL REGION PROTECTED AREAS

## GUY PALMER, SOUTH AFRICA

Year of inscription: 2004

Criteria: (ix), (x)

**The Cape Floral Region Protected Areas is a serial World Heritage Site in the Western and Eastern Cape Provinces of South Africa and is made up of eight protected areas, covering 553'000 ha. The Cape Floral Region is one of the richest areas for plants in the world. It represents less than 0.5% of the area of Africa but is home to nearly 20% of the continent's flora. The site displays outstanding ecological and biological processes associated with the Fynbos vegetation, which is unique to the Cape Floral Region. The outstanding diversity, density and endemism of the flora are among the highest worldwide. Unique plant reproductive strategies, adaptive to fire, patterns of seed dispersal by insects, as well as patterns of endemism and adaptive radiation found in the flora, are of outstanding value to science.**

Currently this property consists of eight protected areas with a combined area of 553'000 ha and has a buffer zone of 1'315'000 ha. It was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2004 at the 28<sup>th</sup> World Heritage Committee meeting in Suzhou, China. The inscription was based on Criteria (ix) and (x).

The Cape Floral Region (CFR) is adjacent to and enmeshed with two other biodiversity hotspots, the Succulent Karoo and the



Albany Thicket Biome's. The Succulent Karoo is on South Africa's Tentative List as a potential transnational serial nomination and is listed in the IUCN «Gap Analysis» as the most biodiverse arid area in the world. Plans have also been initiated to put together a nomination for Marine Protected Areas. Most of these MPA's are adjacent to current or proposed properties of the CFRPA and, as currently envisaged, will represent not only the Benguela Current, as identified by IUCN in its «Gap Analysis», but also the very biodiverse interface with the Agulhas Current. In the future the Albany Thicket will be added to the South African tentative list. This will potentially result in having four natural serial properties that are intertwined with one another. This would provide an ideal opportunity to develop an integrated management authority for these internationally recognised biogeographic units. There is currently an initiative by the national Department of Environmental Affairs to «rationalize» protected area management authorities and this possibility will be put on the table as an opportunity.

The buffer zone connects almost all the eight protected areas and is comprised of other formally protected areas, and «Declared Private Mountain Catchment Areas». The buffer is augmented by initiatives of the Stewardship Programme which involves various levels of protection negotiated with landowners. These areas are selected primarily on their degree of threat and contribution to the maintenance of biodiversity through either «pattern» or «process», or both.

An extension nomination is in the process of being compiled to increase the representativeness of the property and will be submitted by January 2011. A rigorous selection process has identified several Protected Areas that meet the selection criteria. These Protected Areas have been arranged into 14 clusters according to their biogeographic relatedness. This proposed extension will double the size of the property to over 1.1 million hectares. Virtually all the additional protected areas are part of the current Buffer Zone. There are 130 vegetation types making up the Cape Floral Region, many of which are not currently represented in the *Cape Floral Region Protected Areas*. The objectives of this extension are to increase the representivity, strengthen connectivity through consolidation and expansion of the protected areas as well as the extension and rationalization of the buffer zone using information that has recently become available through the C.A.P.E. Fine Scale Planning Initiative. All this contributes to the mitigation of the effects of global climate change.

The management of this property will not be any more complex than it is at present as the same three management authorities are involved and all Protected Areas that are being evaluated for this extension have management plans and are managed as an entity with the existing *Cape Floral Region Protected Areas*. In fact reporting and collaboration will be simplified as the majority of Protected Areas will then be included under the guidance of the Joint Management Authority which ensures that there is collaboration and support between the three management authorities.

## RÉSUMÉ

**Les Aires protégées de la Région florale du Cap constituent un site sériel du patrimoine mondial situé dans les Provinces du Cap-Occidental et du Cap-Oriental en Afrique du Sud. Composé de huit aires protégées couvrant un total de 553 000 ha. La région florale du Cap est l'une des zones les plus riches de la planète du point de vue végétal. Bien que représentant moins de 0,5% de la superficie de l'Afrique, elle abrite presque 20% de la flore du continent. Le site présente des processus écologiques et biologiques extraordinaires associés à la végétation du fynbos (brousse fine), végétation propre à la région florale du Cap. La densité et l'endémisme de la flore, ainsi que sa remarquable diversité, sont parmi les plus élevés de la planète. Des phénomènes uniques au monde notamment en matière de stratégie de reproduction végétale, de réaction des plantes au feu, de pollinisation des plantes par les insectes, ainsi que des structures intéressantes d'endémisme et de rayonnement adaptatif confèrent à la région une valeur exceptionnelle pour la science.**

Les Aires protégées de la Région florale du Cap, se référant aux critères de sélection (ix) et (x), furent inscrites sur la Liste du Patrimoine mondial en 2004. La série est, de plus, adjacente à deux autres zones d'une grande biodiversité, l'Albany Thicket et la Succulent Karoo. La première pourrait dans le futur être inscrite sur la Liste Indicative de l'Afrique du Sud, tandis que la seconde y figure déjà et pourrait s'ajouter aux huit Aires protégées déjà inscrites; ce qui aboutirait à



une inscription transnationale sérielle, étant donné qu'elle s'étend en Afrique du Sud et en Namibie.

Un projet d'extension de la nomination est en cours dans le but d'accroître la représentativité de la série et de renforcer la connectivité par la consolidation et l'extension des Aires protégées et des zones tampons.

## LES FORÊTS HUMIDES DE L'ATSINANANA GUY SUZON RAMANGASON, MADAGASCAR

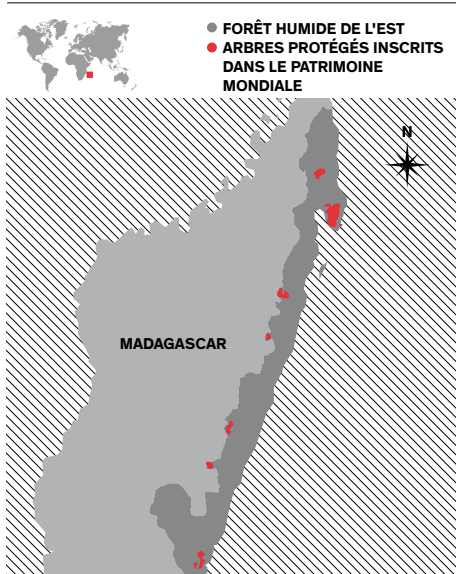
Année d'inscription: 2007

Critères: (ix), (x)

**Les forêts humides de l'Atsinanana comprennent six parcs nationaux répartis le long des marges orientales de l'île. Ces forêts anciennes sont très importantes pour le maintien des processus écologiques nécessaires à la survie de la biodiversité unique de Madagascar. Celle-ci reflète l'histoire géologique de l'île: en raison de sa séparation des autres masses terrestres il y a plus de 60 millions d'années, Madagascar abrite une flore et une faune qui ont évolué isolément. Insrites pour leur importance tant pour les processus écologiques que biologiques, les forêts humides le sont également pour leur biodiversité et les espèces menacées qu'elles hébergent, notamment pour les primates et les lémuriers.**

Plusieurs parcs nationaux composant ce bien comprennent une part importante de vestiges de la forêt régionale (Marojejy, Masoala, Andohahela), d'autres sont noyés dans des parcelles plus vastes de forêts pluviales ou intimement liés à ces parcelles (Zahamena, Ranomafana, Andringitra).

Sur le plan géographique, les six parcs du bien sont largement séparés. Quoiqu'il en soit, il reste d'importantes parcelles de forêts pluviales en dehors du bien proposé, y compris dans des corridors d'habitats majeurs



qui unissent des couples de parcs composant le bien:

- au Nord: Le Parc de Marojejy, le Parc de Masoala;
- au Centre: le Parc de Zahamena, au Parc national de Mantadia (une petite aire protégée dans les forêts pluviales de l'Est de Madagascar);
- au Sud: le Parc de Ranomafana, le Parc d'Andringitra;
- à l'Extrême Sud: le Parc national de Midongy (en instance de proposition ou ajout au bien), au Parc d'Andohahela.

La discontinuité dans l'habitat est très marquée entre les groupes du Nord et ceux du Sud, à tel point que, généralement, la connectivité est définitivement perdue; toutefois, il existe encore une connectivité au sein des groupes du Nord et du Sud bien qu'elle ne soit pas encore protégée de manière permanente.

Ensemble, les six aires protégées offrent des exemples exceptionnels et représentatifs du biote de forêt pluviale distinctif de Madagascar et qu'ensemble elles comprennent un habitat d'importance critique en particulier pour les primates uniques.

En résumé, les caractéristiques du bien qui le distinguent au plan régional et mondial, du point de vue de la biodiversité, des autres biens du Patrimoine mondial sont:

- une diversité biologique très élevée, tant pour les plantes que pour les animaux, mais en particulier pour les primates;
- un taux d'endémisme exceptionnellement élevé, tant pour les plantes que pour les animaux;
- des habitats d'importance critique pour de nombreuses espèces rares et menacées de la faune (par exemple, sur les 123 espèces de mammifères non volants de Madagascar, dont 72 sont sur la liste rouge de l'IUCN des espèces menacées, 78 sont présentes dans le bien);
- un refuge climatique d'importance critique pour un biote de forêts humides uniques.

### POUR L'APPLICATION DES CRITÈRES / ATTESTATION DE VALEUR UNIVERSELLE EXCEPTIONNELLE

La justification de l'approche sérielle est la suivante:

En effet, lorsque l'IUCN évalue une proposition (un groupe) elle se pose les questions suivantes:

## COMMENT L'APPROCHE SÉRIELLE SE JUSTIFIE-T-ELLE ?

La protection et la gestion des forêts pluviales de Madagascar sont en révision complète, l'accent étant mis sur le renforcement de la protection et sur des changements profonds, y compris des plans de gestion de nouvelles aires protégées importantes. Le processus découle de la déclaration du président malgache, prononcée à Durban, en Afrique du Sud en 2003, au congrès mondial sur les Parcs de l'IUCN, et accompagnée d'un engagement fort louable à agrandir le réseau d'aires protégées.

Cette situation a toutefois compliqué la proposition et le processus d'évaluation de ce bien et a conduit à se poser la question fondamentale suivante: «A quel point les aires protégées de ce bien sont-elles vraiment la crème de la crème de ces forêts pluviales, ou ne sont-elles qu'un effet parasite de l'histoire – les seules zones déjà protégées et prêtes pour la proposition?»

D'après le document de la proposition et les discussions qui ont eu lieu durant la mission d'évaluation des experts de l'IUCN, le choix du groupe des sites composant ce bien semble être le résultat de deux processus: certains sites sont clairement reconnaissables comme la crème de la crème du point de vue biologique et les autres sont plutôt des effets parasites de l'histoire. En outre, la mesure dans laquelle les aires proposées de ce bien représentent réellement un «tout intégré» justifiant la proposition sérielle qui s'est révélée difficile à établir à partir du document de proposition.

La principale justification de l'approche sérielle semble être limitée au fait que les six parcs nationaux composant ce bien sont simplement généralement représentatifs d'un (seul) biome de valeur universelle exceptionnelle. Il ne fait aucun doute que ce bien fournit une étendue géographique largement représentative sur presque tout le gradient latitudinal des forêts pluviales de Madagascar. Il a cependant été plus difficile d'établir si chacun des éléments est réellement exceptionnel ou si son intérêt dépend de son intégration dans le groupe, car la proposition ne présente pas d'arguments solides sur la nature complémentaire des éléments.

En outre, aucun lien fonctionnel n'est établi entre chacun des sites bien que la proposition souligne l'existence de corridors pour la faune sauvage entre des couples des aires du bien.

Ces corridors importants entre les parcs nationaux, certains d'entre eux étant beaucoup plus vastes que les parcs eux-mêmes, sont en partie mal connus et actuellement temporairement protégés seulement. En conséquence, leur protection permanente pour la conservation de la diversité biologique et/ou en vue de leur ajout aux parcs nationaux est vivement recommandée.

## LES ÉLÉMENTS SÉPARÉS DU SITE SONT-ILS LIÉS SUR LE PLAN FONCTIONNEL ?

Les six éléments séparés de la proposition ne sont liés sur le plan fonctionnel que dans une mesure limitée. Aucune preuve substantielle n'est présentée concernant la migration saisonnière de la faune sauvage (par exemple les oiseaux) entre les éléments. La connectivité actuelle de l'habitat entre des couples de zones proposées maintient la possibilité de mouvement pour les espèces sauvages mais seulement entre les éléments de couples. Une bonne partie de l'habitat de connexion est aujourd'hui protégée temporairement et sa protection permanente est à l'étude mais pas son ajout aux parcs eux-mêmes. Par exemple, des mesures sont en train d'être prises pour protéger le corridor d'habitat qui relie le Parc national de Marojejy avec la Réserve d'Anjanaharibe-Sud. La vaste parcelle de forêt pluviale qui se trouve entre la réserve spéciale d'Anjanaharibe-Sud et le Parc national de Masoala a atteint, quant à elle, le stade de la protection temporaire.

Le bien a été proposé au titre des critères (ix) et (x). L'IUCN a considéré que le bien proposé remplit ces critères et a proposé la justification de valeur universelle exceptionnelle suivante:

*Les forêts humides de l'Atsinanana* sont un bien sériel qui comprend six éléments. On y trouve une diversité biologique exceptionnelle au niveau mondial et une quantité extraordinaire d'espèces végétales et animales endémiques. Dans le bien, le taux d'endémisme avoisine 80 à 90% pour cent pour tous les groupes, et les familles et genres endémiques sont communs. Le bien sériel comprend une sélection représentative des habitats les plus importants du biote unique de forêts pluviales de Madagascar, y compris de nombreuses espèces animales et végétales menacées et endémiques.

## CRITÈRE (IX): PROCESSUS ÉCOLOGIQUES ET BIOLOGIQUES

*Les forêts humides de l'Atsinanana* sont des forêts reliques, essentiellement associées à des terrains abrupts le long de l'escarpement et des montagnes de l'Est de Madagascar.

Les zones protégées comprises dans ce bien sériel ont acquis une importance critique pour le maintien de processus écologiques en cours nécessaires à la survie de la biodiversité unique de Madagascar.

Cette biodiversité est le reflet de l'histoire géologique et de la situation géographique de l'île. Madagascar est la 4<sup>e</sup> plus grande île du monde; elle est séparée de toute autre masse terrestre depuis au moins 60 à 80 millions d'années de sorte que la majorité de ses plantes et de ses animaux ont évolué dans l'isolement.

Ces forêts ont également été un important refuge pour des espèces durant les périodes passées de changements climatiques et joueront un rôle essentiel pour l'adaptation et la survie des espèces à la lumière des futurs changements climatiques.

## CRITÈRE (X): DIVERSITÉ BIOLOGIQUE ET ESPÈCES MENACÉES

A l'intérieur du bien, le taux d'endémisme est d'environ 80 à 90% pour tous les groupes, et les familles et genres endémiques sont communs. Madagascar est un des pays les plus «megadivers» du monde et possède un nombre extraordinairement grand (environ 12 000) d'espèces de plantes endémiques. Le bien revêt aussi une importance mondiale pour la faune, en particulier les primates: les 5 familles de primates malagasy, toutes les familles de lémurien endémiques, 7 genres endémiques de rongeurs, 6 genres endémiques de carnivores et plusieurs espèces de chiroptères y sont représentés. Sur les 123 espèces de mammifères non volants de Madagascar (dont 72 sont sur la liste rouge de l'IUCN des espèces menacées) 78 sont présentes à l'intérieur du bien.

L'importance critique du bien est encore renforcée par le fait que la déforestation n'a laissé, dans l'Est de Madagascar que 8,5% des forêts d'origine et le bien protège des zones clé de cet habitat.

## SUMMARY

**The Rainforests of the Atsinanana comprise six national parks distributed along the eastern part of the island. These relict forests are critically important for maintaining ongoing ecological processes necessary for the survival of Madagascar's unique biodiversity, which reflects the island's geological history. Having completed its separation from all other land masses more than 60 million years ago, Madagascar's plant and animal life evolved in isolation. The rainforests are inscribed for their**



importance to both ecological and biological processes as well as their biodiversity and the threatened species they support. Many species are rare and threatened especially primates and lemurs.

The *Rainforests of the Atsinanana* are a serial property comprising six components inscribed on the World Heritage List according to criteria (ix) and (x) in 2007. They contain globally outstanding biodiversity and have an exceptional proportion of endemic plant and animal species. The level of endemism within the property is approximately 80 to 90 percent for all groups, and endemic families and genera are common. The serial property comprises a representative selection of the most important habitats of the unique rainforest biota of Madagascar, including many threatened and endemic plant and animal species.

All components of the serial property are formally protected as national parks and have management plans in place. Key management issues include effective control of agricultural encroachment and resource exploitation from logging, hunting, and gem mining. These issues require the implementation of clear and coordinated management strategies to manage the components of this serial property as a single entity. Also, coordinated planning and management of this serial property with adjacent protected areas and forest corridors is required, for which additional financial and human resources need to be obtained. There is potential for further extension of the property to include adjacent protected areas and forest corridors once they meet the conditions of integrity.

## FRONTIERS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE

### ANDREAS THIEL, GERMANY

Year of inscription: 1987 (2005, 2008)

Criteria: (i), (iii), (iv)

**The 'Roman Limes' represents the border line of the Roman Empire at its greatest extent in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. It stretched over 5'000 km from the Atlantic coast of northern Britain, through Europe to the Black Sea, and from there to the Red Sea and across North Africa to the Atlantic coast. The remains of the Limes today consist of vestiges of built walls, ditches, forts, fortresses, watchtowers and civilian settlements. Certain elements of the line have been excavated, some reconstructed and a few destroyed. The two sections of the Limes in Germany cover a length of 550 km from the north-west of the country to the Danube in the south-east. The 118-km-long Hadrian's Wall (UK) was built on the orders of the Emperor Hadrian c. AD 122 at the northernmost limits of the Roman province of Britannia. It is a striking example of the organization of a military zone and illustrates the defensive techniques and geopolitical strategies of ancient Rome. The Antonine Wall, a 60 km long fortification in Scotland was started by Emperor Antonius Pius in 142 AD as a defense against the «barbarians» of the north. It constitutes the northwestern-most portion of the Roman Limes.**

The frontiers of the Roman empire stretched from the Atlantic coast of Scotland, along the Rhine and Danube rivers, with a salient out into Transylvania – modern Romania – using the Carpathian Mountains as the boundary, to the Black Sea; from Trabzon on the southern

shore of the Black Sea to the Red Sea; and thence across north Africa, along the northern edge of the Sahara Desert, to the Atlantic coast of Morocco. These frontiers, over 5'000 km long, defined the Roman Empire, one of the greatest states the world has seen, and a concept and ideal which still inspires us today.

The Roman Empire reached its largest extension under the Emperors Hadrian and Trajan at the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century A.D. when it included the whole of the Mediterranean, large parts of North Africa, Asia and Europe. At the same time the necessity to secure the boundaries of this huge empire appeared. Over the next generations, almost everywhere at the edges of the empire military installations like forts, watchtowers or walls were built to control the frontiers of the empire.

One important part of these frontiers, Hadrian's Wall in the United Kingdom, was inscribed as a single World Heritage site in 1987. About ten years later, after first ideas among cultural resource managers, the governments of several federal states in Germany included the former Roman frontiers system in Germany 1998 in the tentative list for nomination in 2004. This part of the Roman frontier is known as the Upper German-Raetian Limes. Like Hadrian's Wall it formed a totally artificial frontier-line running on land between the main European rivers Rhine in the North-East and Danube in the South-West.

However, Hadrian's Wall and the German Limes represent only a small part of the ancient frontier. Realizing that the ancient border once formed a continuous line and that even today academic study on Roman frontiers is a matter of international congresses, the idea of handling the frontiers of the Roman Empire as a «single monument» was born. Following an initial idea of my Hungarian colleague Zsolt Visy, the outline of what later became the definition (now accepted by UNESCO) of the *Frontiers of the Roman Empire*, was formulated in a meeting at the 2001 Gathering of the European



Association of Archaeologist.. Nonetheless, it was not before UNESCO deferred the original German application for the Limes as a national German World Heritage Site. In fact, with requests for extensions and additions in spring of 2003, the process got momentum:

- A Summary Nomination Statement was drawn up together with my British colleagues and signed by the British and German States Parties;
- In London, the Department for Culture, Media, and Sports agreed to «expand» respectively «rename» the existing site Hadrian's Wall World Heritage site into Frontiers of the Roman Empire;
- Last but not least, the World Heritage Centre in Paris supported the idea and proposed a new terminology and a different way of listing transnational World Heritage Sites;

In January 2004 a revised application for the Limes was presented and in July 2005 the World Heritage Committee at its 29<sup>th</sup> meeting in Durban, South Africa decided to level Hadrian's Wall with the German Limes. It declared both monuments as the first two modules of a new transnational serial World Heritage site *Frontiers of the Roman Empire*.

Meanwhile, Antonine's Wall in Scotland was accepted as the third module at the 32<sup>nd</sup> World Heritage Committee session in Quebec, Canada, in July 2008. Austria, Slovakia, Croatia, and Hungary, too, have declared their interest in proposing their parts of the frontiers of the Roman Empire in 2012. States Parties like Syria and Jordan have put parts or single sites of the frontiers of the Roman Empire on their tentative lists. The long-term aim is to bring together, under the same label, all appropriately preserved elements of

the frontiers of the Roman Empire in Europe, the Near East and North Africa. This will create a truly unusual World Heritage Site as it will encompass archaeological remains in three continents.

However, the extension of the World Heritage Site further East and into North Africa still creates challenges. At present, the most problematic thing is probably the fact that for several countries there are few institutions who may act as partners in the project. We therefore offer our support and seek for additional ways of cooperation here. One was the quadrilingual booklet in Arabic, English, French and German about the *Frontiers of the Roman Empire*.

An «Inter-Governmental Committee» is responsible for the management of the World Heritage site. It consists of one administrative and one archaeological/heritage manager for each inscribed national module.

The purpose of this organization is to handle all problems which might become relevant between a single or even all States Parties and UNESCO.

Actually, discussing the German and Scottish applications at their early stages was even the background to form our Inter-Governmental Committee. There is another purpose for the Inter-Governmental Committee: as only representatives of the three parts of the *Frontiers of the Roman Empire* already inscribed on the World Heritage List are members of this Committee, representatives from other States Parties could participate as guests only. This is important insofar, as all States Parties of inscribed modules have to give their approval of new applications. Every

new application has to be accepted and officially signed by the Inter-Governmental Committee first, before being handed to the World Heritage Committee. In the long term even more important is the fact that all members/guests are bound together because although being a serial nomination, all modules are part of just one World Heritage Site.

As membership in this group is limited to States Parties which participate in the World Heritage Site already (these are the United Kingdom and Germany at the moment), we thought it necessary to have also some kind of international organization acting as a specialized advisory body for the site. So the «Bratislava Group», named after its first meeting place in March 2003, was created with members of all the countries that so far have declared interest in the participation in the *Frontiers of the Roman Empire* World Heritage site. It was proposed to UNESCO as the international expert group in respect to the serial transnational World Heritage nomination, and was accepted as such. It is supposed «to provide professional and technical advice in relation to the proposed World Heritage Site *Frontiers of the Roman Empire* including in relation to the definition of the site, its mapping and management as well as dissemination of information about Roman frontiers. The focus of advice is UNESCO and the State Parties containing part of the World Heritage Site or intending to propose their own sections of the frontier as part of the site».

The notable thing about the *Frontiers of the Roman Empire* is that it started as a completely apolitical process. Archaeologists were the initiators and the engines of the process. An important factor was, as David Breeze, the head of the international Limes-studies, once wrote, that we all knew each other fairly well. Since 1949 there has been the Congress of Roman Frontier Studies, meeting every three to four years somewhere in the Roman world (in the last decade in Amman, Jordan; Zalău, Romania; Pécs, Hungary; Léon, Spain and last year in Newcastle, United Kingdom). The idea was further discussed at meetings of the European Association of Archaeologists, especially with questions about the scientific approach. In order to receive financial resources, heritage and research organizations from Scotland, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia set up a successful application for funding of the European Union (Culture 2000 programme) and worked in collaboration with organizations from Spain, Slovenia, Poland and initially Romania for 3 years on the *Frontiers of the Roman Empire*.



To conclude: we believe that we shall be able to proceed in the *Frontiers of the Roman Empire* and that the story will be one of success, especially because the international aspect offers so much additional value in terms of common effort and mutual exchange

## RÉSUMÉ

**Le « limes romain » représente la ligne frontière de l'Empire romain à son apogée au II<sup>e</sup> siècle apr. J.-C. Le limes s'étendait sur 5000 km depuis la côte atlantique au nord de la Grande-Bretagne, traversant l'Europe jusqu'à la mer Noire et, de là, jusqu'à la mer Rouge et l'Afrique du Nord, pour revenir à la côte atlantique. Il s'agit de vestiges de murs bâtis, de fossés, de forts, de forteresses, de tours de guet et d'habitations civiles. Certains éléments de la ligne ont été découverts lors de fouilles, d'autres reconstruits et quelques-uns détruits. Les deux tronçons du limes en Allemagne couvrent une distance de 550 km depuis le nord-ouest de l'Allemagne jusqu'au Danube au sud-est du pays. Le mur d'Hadrien (Royaume Uni), long de 118 km, a été construit sous les ordres de l'empereur Hadrien en l'an 122 de notre ère, à l'extrémité nord des frontières de la province romaine Britannia. C'est un exemple remarquable d'organisation d'une zone militaire qui illustre les techniques défensives et les stratégies géopolitiques de la Rome ancienne. Le mur d'Antonin, une fortification de 60 km de long située en Ecosse, fut commencé sous l'empereur Antonius Pius en 142 apr. J.-C. comme une défense contre les «barbares» venus du Nord. Il représente le tronçon situé le plus au nord-ouest du «limes romain».**

Le mur d'Hadrien fut inscrit au Patrimoine mondial en tant que site national en 1987, suivi en 2005 par le limes de Germanie et en 2008 par le mur d'Antonin, l'ensemble forme une inscription sérielle transnationale à laquelle l'Autriche, la Hongrie, la Slovaquie et la Croatie envisagent de se joindre à leur tour. Le but est de pouvoir, à terme, réunir les éléments conservés des frontières de l'Empire romain en Europe, au Proche-Orient et en Afrique du Nord, au sein d'une même série qui s'étendrait alors sur trois continents différents.

Un comité intergouvernemental regroupant

les Etats Parties (à savoir le Royaume-Uni et l'Allemagne à l'heure actuelle) est responsable de la gestion du bien et est chargé de régler tous les problèmes qui peuvent apparaître entre l'un des Etats Parties (ou même les deux) et l'UNESCO. Parallèlement, étant donné que seuls les États Parties peuvent adhérer à ce comité, il a été jugé nécessaire de mettre sur pied un groupe international œuvrant en tant qu'organisation consultative pour le bien. Le «Groupe de Bratislava» fut donc formé en 2003 avec tous les pays manifestant leur intérêt à participer à l'inscription sérielle Frontières de l'Empire romain afin de remplir ce rôle.

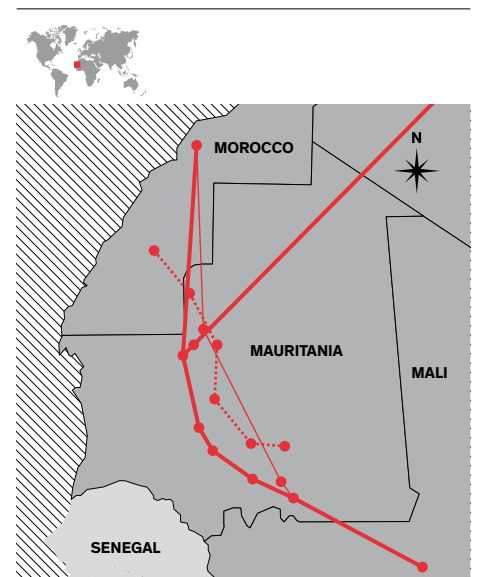
# LES ITINÉRAIRES CULTURELS SAHARIENS

## NAMY OULD MOHAMED KABER, MAURITANIE

Les échanges culturels entre le Nord et l'Ouest de l'Afrique ont connu plusieurs phases dès l'aube de l'histoire et ont acquis, au cours de milliers d'années, une multitude d'aspects marqués par de longues périodes de flux dont la portée restait liée à des facteurs humains et naturels. Ces aspects se sont ainsi enracinés et se sont répandus pour embrasser plusieurs domaines.

Ces mouvements humains ont contribué à la consolidation des relations spirituelles, culturelles et économiques des peuples de ces régions; il s'agissait donc d'un véritable échange culturel et, non d'une simple route commerciale.

La distinction du critère, étape de l'itinéraire commercial, nous semble peu valorisante pour des sites symboles de symbiose, à travers les âges, des cultures du Nord et de l'Ouest de l'Afrique. Le terme itinéraire culturel nous semble le mieux indiqué pour exprimer la richesse culturelle de nos cités «caravanières».



## LES GRANDES PHASES DES MOUVEMENTS TRANSSAHARIENS

### LA PÉRIODE PRÉHISTORIQUE

Les chercheurs en Préhistoire qui ont travaillé sur la région affirment tous que les terres mauritaniennes ont connu, au cours de la période préhistorique, deux vagues humaines venues de l'Afrique du Nord et une avancée humaine depuis les zones septentrionales des terres maliennes (R. Mauny, N. Petit-Maire, M.C. Chamla, etc). Ces vagues humaines ont affecté les provinces nord du pays pendant le II<sup>e</sup> millénaire av. J.-C. et se sont brassées avec des populations venues de l'Est; M. Claude Chamla (1986) distingue ces «Soudanais occidentaux» par leurs caractères héréditaires présentant un métissage éloquent.

La seconde vague, appelée par les spécialistes «vague protoberbère», a atteint les terres mauritaniennes à partir du II<sup>e</sup> millénaire pour ensuite occuper la majorité des régions montagneuses de l'Adrar, le Tagant et le Dhar Tichitt-Oualata-Néma ainsi que les plaines avoisinantes.

Ces flux humains sont les plus importants au cours de la Préhistoire de la région; toutefois nous notons que des outils découverts sur les sites de l'Azrag, Tourine et Boulenoir témoignent des échanges culturels transsahariens depuis le paléolithique inférieur.

Au cours de la période protohistorique, on assiste à la formation de véritables communautés et à l'édification de cités. R. Mauny affirme qu'il existait au cours de cette période une route reliant les deux rives du Sahara et qu'elle était empruntée par des chars. Des gravures rupestres de ces équipements sont localisées le long d'un axe qui traverse la Mauritanie avec la présence de stations particulières telles que Aghouiyitt, El Ghallaouiya, Amogjar et Tinchmart; c'est là vraisemblablement la première véritable route reliant le Nord et l'Ouest africain.

### LA PÉRIODE HISTORIQUE

Des groupes sociaux, appartenant à des races et à des origines diverses dont la plupart descend des communautés néolithiques et de l'âge des métaux, occupent les terres mauritaniennes au début de l'histoire.

Les habitants des terres côtières et des montagnes de l'Adrar et du Tagant sont des Sanhaja voilés (Sanhajatt Ellitham) qui se composent de trois tribus puissantes: Lamtouna, G'dala et Massoufa.

Le sud-est est occupé par des groupes venus des collines de Tichitt-Oualata; ceux-ci désignés au début de l'histoire par le nom Soninko (B.S. Diallo et J. Devisse, 1992) formeront ultérieurement le plus grand royaume de l'Ouest africain.

Le royaume du Ghana est apparu à partir du IV<sup>e</sup> siècle. C'est le plus puissant royaume du Soudan occidental et son histoire est étroitement liée à la ville de Koumbi Saleh qu'il a hissée au rang de capitale.

Pendant cette période, les Lamtouna demeurent l'une des tribus les plus puissantes des Sanhaja. Ils occupaient les montagnes de l'Adrar (Djebel Lamtouna) et du Tagant et contrôlaient l'imposante principauté de Tegdaoust et la ville d'Azougui, en même temps que les deux salines d'Idjil et d'Awlil.

Ces villes constitueront avec Koumbi Saleh les principales étapes de la première route historique du commerce transsaharien du sel, de l'or et de produits manufacturés. Elles seront, vu leur importance, au centre des conflits qui ont eu lieu entre le royaume du Ghana et les Lamtouna, mais aussi l'objet des premières conquêtes Almoravides.

Le mouvement Almoravide a su installer une dynamique culturelle et un échange intellectuel entre le Nord et l'Ouest de l'Afrique, qui verra son élan avec le rayonnement des villes de Ouadane, Chinguetti, Tichitt et Oualata et, ces dernières définiront un nouvel itinéraire culturel mais aussi commercial, dont la destination sera La Mecque, avec deux principaux axes: le premier est l'axe dit de la Savane qui traverse le Mali, le Niger, le Tchad, le Soudan et l'Egypte. Le second emprunte les pistes nord-africaines et passe par des villes marocaines, algériennes, libyennes et égyptiennes.

A partir de la fin du XV<sup>ème</sup> siècle, les terres mauritaniennes verront, suite à l'explosion démographique de Chinguetti et Ouadane, plusieurs cités prospérer grâce à l'apport culturel et commercial caravanier transsaharien: Atar, Aoujeft, Rachid, Tidjikja, Ksar El Barka, Ksar Essalam et Togba sont, en ce moment, les principales étapes de cette phase de «la route du sel».

A la fin de cette phase, les villes caravanières verront le déclin de leur suprématie et elles seront liées à l'un ou l'autre des Emirats fondés en Mauritanie à la fin du XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle par les tribus arabes de Beni Hassann, Beni Maaquil et Beni Souleim tous descendants des Beni Hilal dont les origines se trouvent dans la péninsule arabe. Ainsi chacun de

ces Emirats contrôlera son propre axe routier et s'efforcera de contrôler les marchés saisonniers, mougars organisés périodiquement par les Ksour sahariens de Mauritanie, d'Algérie et du Maroc.

A cela s'ajoute enfin l'axe fluvial et maritime inauguré par les commerçants portugais en 1444 dans le Fort d'Arguin. Ils seront suivis par les Brandebourgeois et les Français. C'est un véritable axe routier transportant cette fois la gomme arabique et l'ambre, et qui verra ses propres étapes «fenêtres» à l'emplacement des villes actuelles de Gouraye et Rosso sur le fleuve Sénégal, Nouakchott, île d'Arguin et Nouadhibou sur l'océan atlantique.

## QUELQUES PRINCIPAUX ENSEMBLES DES ITINÉRAIRES SUSCEPTIBLES D'ÊTRE INSCRITS SUR LA LISTE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

Outre les cités de Chinguetti, Ouadane, Tichitt et Oualata, inscrites sur la liste du Patrimoine mondial et le paysage culturel d'Azougui en cours de classement, les principaux ensembles culturels sont les suivants:

### AIRE CULTURELLE D'EL GHALLAOUIYA ELBEYYED-GUELB RICHAT

C'est une zone, passage obligé de presque tous les axes routiers qui ont traversé la Mauritanie, qui illustre parfaitement les premières stations préhistoriques que le territoire mauritanien a connu, mais aussi pour sa richesse de sites culturels et naturels exceptionnels directement liés aux mouvements humains entre le Nord et l'Ouest de l'Afrique.

Sur le plan culturel, cette aire renferme deux sites majeurs directement liés aux mouvements des cultures humaines dans le Sahara:

- Le site d'Elbeyyed: c'est en fait un ensemble de sites d'habitats préhistoriques datant du paléolithique inférieur se situant entre 700 000 et 100 000 ans av. J.-C. Ces sites ont livré les plus anciennes industries lithiques du Sahara occidental: galets aménagés, bifaces et hachereaux, en plus d'une faune composée d'éléphants, rhinocéros, hippopotames, etc. La récente découverte sur ces sites d'ossements humains datant de la même période permettrait de marquer le pas vers un rapprochement entre celles du Nord de l'Afrique (Tirnife, Jbel Irhoud, Sidi Abderrahman) et celles

Ouest-africaines (l'Homme du Tchad en particulier);

- la station rupestre d'El Ghallaouiya: c'est un ensemble d'abris sous roches qui ont servi d'habitats pendant le Néolithique et la protohistoire pour des groupes humains venant du Nord. Ces groupes ont marqué leur passage par un grand nombre de gravures et de peintures rupestres illustrant leurs modes de vie et les équipements qu'ils utilisaient en particulier les chars et leur environnement plus particulièrement le gibier dont ils ont gravé les seines de chasse.

Sur le plan naturel, cette zone renferme un phénomène géologique exceptionnel et elle est considérée comme un des derniers refuges des antilopes sahariennes:

- le Guelb Richat: c'est un site géologique exceptionnel qui a fait l'objet de nombreux travaux scientifiques dont ceux de T. Monod. Cette formation géologique circulaire, d'une trentaine de kilomètres de diamètre est, selon Monod, la résultante d'un volcan avorté; elle concentre en un même lieu une grande variété de roches et d'organismes fossiles, des phénomènes magmatiques et tectoniques qui en font une sorte de musée géologique unique au monde;
- les antilopes sahariennes: cette zone renferme des niches écologiques caractéristiques des écosystèmes sahariens et plusieurs espèces d'antilopes y étaient présentes mais elles sont disparues à cause de l'action humaine. Seules des gazelles dorcas et des mouflons à manchettes y vivent encore dans des endroits difficiles. Ces deux espèces sont classées comme vulnérables et en effectifs décroissants sur la liste rouge des espèces menacées de l'UICN.

## LES KSOUR DE L'ADRAR: ATAR ET AOUJEFT

Sur le plan culturel, la naissance des villes d'Atar et d'Aoujeft, en plus de plusieurs autres ksour mauritaniens, est liée à l'explosion démographique de la ville de Chinguetti. La tradition orale explique ce phénomène par une guerre intertribale dont le déclencheur fut la rivalité lors de la nomination de l'Imam de la mosquée. Ainsi sont fondés dans l'Adrar les ksour d'Atar et d'Aoujeft.

- Le Ksar d'Atar: L'actuelle ville d'Atar renferme un quartier historique Guarn El Gasba; c'est le vieux Ksar d'Atar, fondé par une tribu originaire de Chinguetti, qui abrite la tombe de leur ancêtre Chemsdine. La ville d'Atar a rapidement prospéré grâce au développement du commerce avec les villes marocaines. On

assiste alors à un développement extraordinaire de l'architecture et de l'urbanisme ksouriens: concessions fermées avec cours et puits à l'intérieur, ruelles étroites et petites places publiques («rahbas»). La ville d'Atar a connu un développement culturel notable grâce au nombre important de ces bibliothèques et elle l'école de l'Imam El Mejdoub, auteur du Kitab Al Minna qu'elle a abrité;

- le Ksar d'Aoujeft: c'est la cité sœur du Ksar d'Atar; elles ont été fondées en même temps par deux communautés appartenant au même ensemble tribal. Ce Ksar est différent des autres par son architecture exceptionnelle: tout en gardant les principaux caractères ksouriens, Aoujeft a ajouté une réelle retouche esthétique avec l'utilisation de la pierre taillée d'une roche locale. Les murs et l'aménagement de l'espace à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur des concessions témoignent d'une nette amélioration du savoir faire ksourien.

Sur le plan naturel, les ksour de l'Adrar sont localisés dans des oueds saisonniers entourés de part et d'autre par les falaises de l'Adrar. La pluviométrie dans cette zone est trop faible et il est rare que les oueds coulent tous les ans. Le couvert végétal est réduit à des acacias et quelques arbustes de plus en plus rares. Hormis les chacals, la faune sauvage est peu représentée et les populations élèvent ici essentiellement les dromadaires et les caprins. La principale source de vie dans cette zone reste la culture oasisienne pratiquée depuis plusieurs siècles dans l'Adrar: plusieurs oasis se maintiennent encore à Atar et Aoujeft et on pratique encore les cultures sous palmier avec des systèmes hydrauliques traditionnels.

## LES KSOURS DU TAGANT: TIDJIKJA, RACHID, KSAR EL BARKA ET KSAR ESSALAM

Du point de vue culturel, le Tagant fut depuis la préhistoire récente le lieu de rencontre et de brassage de toutes les cultures mauritaniennes. Plusieurs dizaines de villages et d'habitats perchés appartenant aux Gangara, cousins et alliés des rois du Ghana sont localisés ici contiguës avec un très grand nombre de structures d'habitats et de gravures et peintures rupestres et d'inscriptions Tifinagh représentant les communautés sanhajas qui s'y installaient.

Au début de la période Almoravide, le Tagant constituait une zone de haute tension avec les rois du Ghana, à cause de sa situation stratégique par rapport aux routes commerciales, ses richesses agropastorales et la

métallurgie du fer très développée dans ses villages. L'émir Aboubakr Ben Oumar, cofondateur de mouvement Almoravide et fondateur de la Marrakech est mort dans le Tagant et sa tombe s'y trouve actuellement.

L'histoire de la fondation des ksour du Tagant est liée, nous l'avons évoqué, à la division des deux principales tribus savantes et commerçantes de Chinguetti: Idaouali et Laghlal. Une grande majorité de ces deux tribus a fondé respectivement les deux ksour de Tidjikja et Essalam et, au sein du ksar de Tidjikja s'est formée la communauté fondatrice des ksour de Rachid et de El Barka.

- Ksar Tidjikja: c'est le principal «héritier» de la ville de Chinguetti, le rayonnement culturel et commercial de cette dernière a été transféré pour sa grande partie à Tidjikja grâce au grand nombre de savants et de commerçants chinguittois qui s'y sont installés. Sur le plan commercial le Ksar de Tidjikja est devenu le lieu de rencontre des caravanes de Tichitt, Ouadane et Chinguetti, le fleuve Sénégal (Tekrou) et Toumbouktou. Les caravanes du sel d'Idjill, mais aussi celles de la région de Tichitt et du Baten, ont fait de Tidjikja leur destination préférée. ainsi prospère le ksar de Tidjikja qui développe une architecture et un mode de vie plus raffinés. L'urbanisme du ksar est comparable à celui des autres ksour, mais avec une rigueur notoire exprimée jusqu'à nos jours par des polémiques effervescentes dans la jurisprudence du secteur foncier de cette ville. Le ksar abrite actuellement les meilleures bibliothèques traditionnelles de Mauritanie, certains manuscrits de cette ville étant uniques par leur forme sur peaux de gazelles, et leur contenu innovateur dans la sphère musulmane: les Nawazils de l'éminent Moujtahid de Tidjikja Sidi Abdullah Ould El Haj Ibrahim constituent une référence dans les hauts lieux de l'Islam sunnite: Fès, Tunis, le Caire et la Mecque. Le Ksar de Tidjikja a vu son apogée pendant plusieurs siècles et dès la fin du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle, il devient le chef lieu de l'administration française en Mauritanie; l'administrateur Xavier Cappolani y a été enterré en 1905.

- Ksar Essalam: comme son nom l'indique, Ksar Essalam a été fondé par une communauté de savants, chercheurs de paix à l'extérieur de Chinguetti. L'histoire de cette cité, en ruines actuellement, se trouvant au flanc sud des massifs du Tagant est celle d'un très grand centre d'études arabomusulmanes, où était formée la majorité des érudits du sud de la Mauritanie: Taleb Ahmed, Sidi Yahya,

Lembrabott Sidi Mahmoud, Nouh, etc. La mémoire collective évoque les deux savants: Taleb Moustaphe et Mohamed Bouksa, qui ont refusé la guerre de Chinguetti et ils se sont installés dans cet endroit propice par sa situation non loin de la passe naturelle qu'empruntent les caravanes commerciales. Plusieurs poèmes immortalisent l'histoire du ksar Essalam, son rayonnement, ses relations commerciales et ses érudits;

- Ksar de Rachid: le ksar de Rachid de situe à 40km de Tidjikja, lieu choisi par son fondateur Meinnouh Al Kounty, savant originaire de cette région, qui après un séjour à Tidjikja a décidé de fonder une cité propre à sa communauté sur le passage de la route qui relie Ouadane-Chinguetti à Tidjikja et au sud. Hormis sa splendide architecture, Rachid est un des hauts lieux de la musique et de la poésie en Mauritanie. La composition de l'essentiel des notes musicales maures revient à des artistes originaires de Rachid et de ksar El Barka;
- Ksar El Barka: cette cité, en ruines actuellement, est de loin le plus beau ksar du Tagant. Fondé par une communauté de grands commerçants et propriétaires du bétail, Aoulad Sidi Haiballah, le ksar El Barka est conçu pour répondre aux exigences de ces maîtres du Tamourt Naaj, mais aussi pour concurrencer les autres ksour du Tagant. Les concessions de ksar El Barka sont minutieusement construites à l'aide d'une pierre sélectionnée, les cours sont très vastes et les ruelles nettement tracées. La mosquée de ksar El Barka constitue une œuvre monumentale maîtrisée.

Sur le plan naturel, le Tagant est divisé en deux grands secteurs: le plateau et le Baten (sinn Taganett). Ces deux secteurs sont traversés par des oueds qui reçoivent toutes les eaux coulant depuis les hauteurs des massifs. Ces eaux sont tantôt reçues dans des cuvettes fermées (gueltas) ou alors elles coulent le long des oueds en passant par plusieurs cuvettes et dépressions.

Les deux oueds du plateau, oued Tidjikja et Tamourt Naaj constituent les deux grandes vallées habitées sur le plateau. L'oued de Tidjikja est une vaste oasis longue de plus de 60km, liée à l'oued qui traverse le ksar et la palmeraie de Rachid.

Au niveau de Tamourt Naaj, le réseau est très dégradé: formation de plusieurs mares dont toutes les eaux convergent vers le lac Gabbou. Le système hydrographique de Tamourt Naaj est constitué de quatre

éléments: la dépression de la Tamourt proprement dite; la plaine de N'beika; la zone principale Fjeiha et la dépression du lac Gabbou.

La Tamourt Naaj est un lieu propice pour différentes espèces végétales et animales: dans cet endroit sahélo-saharien, des crocodiles vivent encore dans les mares de Matmata, Fjeiha et El Ghouddia, où ils hibernent pendant qu'elles sont asséchées une espèce de poisson y est également pêchée et plusieurs espèces végétales résiduelles se sont adaptées à ces conditions assez particulières.

### MASSIF DE R'KIZ: TEGDAOUST ET TOGBA

La région du massif de R'kiz comprend deux sites archéologiques et une mare assez exceptionnelle:

Sur le plan culturel: les sites culturels de Tegdaoust et Togba sont localisés respectivement sur les sud ouest et sud est du massif.

- Le site de Tegdaoust ( Aoudaghost): plusieurs chroniqueurs arabes ont évoqué l'histoire d'Aoudaghost: c'est une ville riche et un carrefour obligé des caravanes commerciales. Al-Yaqoubi au IX<sup>e</sup> rapporte que cette ville florissante est habitée par un émir de Sanhaja. Au X<sup>e</sup> siècle la cité est signalée par al-Mouhallabi et par Ibn Hawqal. Ce dernier précise que la distance la séparant de Sijilmassa est de deux mois. Al-Bakri rapporte l'histoire d'Aoudaghost et en développe les événements. Il écrit qu'elle était une ville peuplée, entourée de jardins et de palmeraies. Elle exportait l'or en poudre et importait des costumes et des produits façonnés. Une importante communauté d'Afrique du Nord, composée de commerçants zenéto-ibadites, y habitait. Toutefois, la cité est gouvernée par une famille sanhajo-lamtounienne. Au début du XI<sup>e</sup> siècle, Aoudaghost est envahie par le royaume puissant du Ghana et devient, une possession ghanéenne. A la fin du XI<sup>e</sup> siècle, les Almoravides se rendent maîtres de la ville et du Ghana. Ils s'emparent ainsi des sources du commerce de l'or et se lancent en direction de Sijilmassa afin de contrôler les routes du commerce occidental et s'octroyer les apports économiques, nécessaires à la réalisation des réformes religieuses qui ont entraîné la création de leur mouvement. Des fouilles archéologiques menées sur le site durant deux décennies ont permis aux chercheurs de dévoiler des quartiers complets, des niveaux d'occupation multiples

et du mobilier archéologique éloquent et très significatif. Celui-ci recèle plusieurs pièces archéologiques, des ustensiles en céramique, des verreries et des objets métalliques importés d'Afrique du Nord, et témoignent du rôle qu'a joué Aoudaghost dans le commerce saharien. Les quartiers d'Aoudaghost se caractérisaient par une spécialisation des commerces. Ceux-ci, renforcés par un quartier industriel où furent découverts des objets utilisés dans la fonte des métaux, la fabrication de la céramique et l'industrie de l'or, démontrent que la ville fut, pendant des siècles, une capitale économique pour le Sahara;

- le site de Togba: cette cité en ruines actuellement a été évoquée dans plusieurs récits de commerçants et pèlerins maures comme un haut lieu de culture et un passage obligé de tous les savants chercheurs traversant le désert mauritanien et empruntant la route dite de la savane qui traverse les pays du Sahel. Cette ville a été fondée par une communauté originaire de Ouadane et son architecture, dont plusieurs traces sont encore conservées, illustre un développement notable de cette ville.

Sur le plan naturel: le massif de Rkiz se situe dans une zone presque désertique, avec une action éolienne importante et des précipitations de plus en plus rares. Ce milieu assez aride est perturbé par une dépression qui ramasse les eaux de l'afollé depuis plusieurs kilomètres. Cette réserve naturelle exceptionnelle: Taghtafett, renferme plusieurs espèces végétales et des crocodiles y vivent en bon nombre.

### KOUMBI SALEH

Sur le plan culturel: la zone de Koumbi Saleh est riche en vestiges archéologiques datant du début de l'ère chrétienne et de la période médiévale. Le site proprement dit de Koumbi Saleh est l'un des principaux centres du commerce transsaharien.

D'après les écrits de R. Mauny sur l'histoire de l'empire de Ghana, la ville de Koumbi Saleh est mentionnée dans les sources arabes à partir du VIII<sup>e</sup> siècle ap. J.-C.. Entre 734 et 750, les Umayyades ont envoyé une armée en direction de Ghana. Le géographe Al-Fizazi l'appelle vers 800 «le pays de l'or» Bilad-dahab. En 872, Al-Yaqoubi écrit que le roi de Ghana était fort et dans ses terres se trouvent des mines d'or et plusieurs royaumes étaient placés sous son autorité. Al-bakri rapporte en 1068 que le Ghana se préparait à son époque pour attaquer les Almoravides et précise que Ghana

signifie le roi et que le nom du royaume est Aoukar.

Toutefois, le Ghana perd de son influence et n'apparaît qu'au début du XX<sup>ème</sup> siècle lors de la découverte de la cité de Koumbi Saleh, considérée par les chercheurs comme la capitale du royaume déchu.

Des fouilles entreprises sur le site ont mis au jour une architecture riche et diversifiée. Celle-ci confirme les indications d'Al-Bakri qui notait que la ville fut divisée en deux agglomérations: la première, entourée d'arbres, est réservée au roi païen et sa famille; la seconde est destinée aux commerçants musulmans. On y recensait, précise-t-il, douze mosquées dans lesquelles résidaient des savants et faqih arabes.

Les ruines de Koumbi-Saleh se situent entre les amonts du fleuve Sénégal et Niger, au Sud-est de la Mauritanie. La ville a joué un rôle primordial en tant qu'intermédiaire entre les régions aurifères au Soudan occidental et les ports sahariens du commerce caravanier au Nord fournisseur, du sel et des produits fabriqués comme la céramique et les ustensiles. Les fouilles démontrent que les conquêtes almoravides ont ébranlé l'influence politique du Ghana mais sans en réduire le rôle commercial: l'architecture se développe et s'étend à d'autres secteurs et les niveaux archéologiques sont nombreux et correspondent à une stratigraphie comprise entre le IX<sup>ème</sup> et le XV<sup>ème</sup> siècles (S. Berthier, 1997).

Sur le plan naturel: le site de Koumbi Saleh est localisé dans la zone dite sahelosoudanienne, avec une pluviométrie suffisante pour le développement d'une végétation steppe sur les plaines anciennement inondées par les affluents des fleuves du sud. Le site proprement dit est entouré pendant plusieurs mois de l'année de deux mares. Autour de cette zone se développe l'élevage des ovins, caprins, dromadaires et chevaux.

## CRITÈRES PROPOSÉS

### CRITÈRE (II)

L'itinéraire Culturel Saharien est l'exemple exceptionnel d'un itinéraire qui, de la préhistoire à l'époque plus récente, a eu un rôle fondamental dans l'édification de la voie transsaharienne occidentale.

### CRITÈRE (III)

Les gravures rupestres des pasteurs boviniens témoignent du rôle géographique stratégique de la palmeraie le long des voies de parcours de transhumance lors

des anciennes périodes du Sahara humide. Après l'installation du désert, les ksour ont constitué les premières oasis plantées dans le Sahara mauritanien. D'ici, la culture du palmier dattier, fondamentale pour la construction de l'oasis, s'est diffusée dans toute la région.

### CRITÈRE (IV)

A partir de ces sites, l'Empire du Ghana et le mouvement almoravide, ont réalisé l'extraordinaire entreprise d'unifier en une seule organisation étatique, la voie commerciale de la transsaharienne occidentale du Sénégal jusqu'en Andalousie.

### CRITÈRE (V)

La ferveur spirituelle, l'idée de l'Etat, l'ordonnement juridique des Almoravides sont les prémices de la structure de la société mauritanienne et ont eu une influence considérable sur toute l'histoire ultérieure du Sahara. Les règles et pratiques hydriques des cultures agraires, les normes architecturales basées sur la parfaite intégration dans l'environnement – sobriété et modularité constructives – l'installation des zaouïa définies par le mouvement maraboutique se sont diffusées dans tout le Sahara. Les itinéraires et les étapes se sont créés en structurant le paysage culturel des oasis et des pistes caravaniers, symbiose d'espaces nomades et sédentaires.

## PAYSAGE CULTUREL

Aujourd'hui, chacun de ces ksour forme un exemple vivant d'organisation du paysage dans lequel les activités (habiter, cultiver, produire) ont des structures souples, légères et déplaçables en rapport avec le rythme saisonnier et le grand cycle environnemental. La palmeraie, l'eau, les lieux chargés de signification spirituelle et symbolique sont les points fixes de ce paysage oasien nomade. Tout le reste s'organise et tourne autour selon des rythmes précis perpétués par la tradition, indispensables au maintien des possibilités de vie et de l'écosystème de l'oasis.

## GARANTIES D'AUTHENTICITÉ OU D'INTÉGRITÉ

L'itinéraire Culturel Saharien est authentique, intact dans ses composantes: les sites préhistoriques, ksour, sites archéologiques. Les vestiges de tous les âges sont également authentiques et bien conservés. Les traditions culturelles sont encore vivantes et organisent encore aujourd'hui la vie du

village basée sur une structure communautaire et solidaire.

## COMPARAISON AVEC D'AUTRES BIENS SIMILAIRES

Cet itinéraire, doit être comparé avec les autres étapes du Sahara en général. En particulier aux autres itinéraires sahariens d'importance exceptionnelle comme l'itinéraire du Maroc, de l'Algérie, du Mali, de la Libye et du Niger. Il forme avec ces derniers l'itinéraire culturel le plus important en Afrique et bien plus complet que la route de la soie ou encore la route des esclaves.

## SUMMARY

The cultural exchanges between the North and the West of Africa have known several phases since the dawn of history and have acquired, throughout thousands of years, a multitude of aspects marked by long periods of flow which scope was linked to human and natural factors. These aspects have since been rooted and have spread to embrace several domains.

These human movements have contributed to the consolidation of spiritual, cultural and economical relations between the people of these areas. It was therefore a matter not only of a simple commercial route but also, and most importantly, of a real cultural exchange.

The name of «stopover of the commercial itinerary» doesn't seem to give value to sites which have been a symbiosis symbol of the northern and western African cultures. The term of «cultural itinerary» seems to be the best to express the cultural wealth of our caravan cities.

The importance of this itinerary is such as to put forward a serial inscription on the World Heritage List.

Among the sites present on this specific itinerary there are the cities of Chinguetti, Ouadane, Tichitt and Oualata which were inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1996. The cultural landscape of Azougui is on the waiting list.

The cultural itinerary includes sites of enormous enriching value. These sites have been witnesses of human movements in exceptional natural surroundings which vary a lot along the whole road. Ksour are the heart of a vast interaction between Man, who

has adapted to seasonal conditions, and his environment.

Thanks to its authenticity and its intact elements, the Saharan cultural itinerary could easily match criteria (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v).

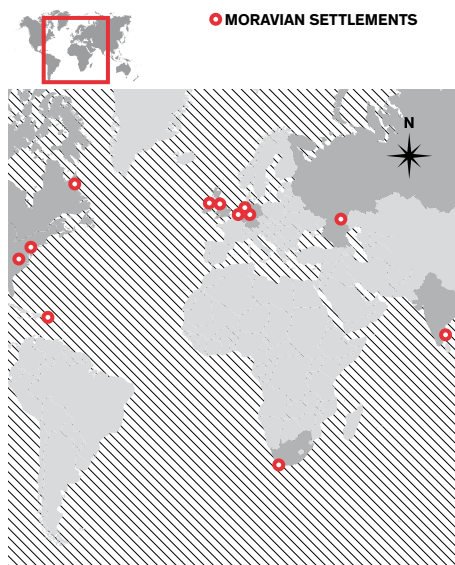
## MORAVIAN SETTLEMENTS PAULIUS KULIKAUSKAS, MALTA

In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Moravian Church (a.k.a. *Unitas Fratrum*, *Herrnhuter Brüdergemeine*, and *The Bohemian Brethren*), a main-line Protestant denomination, developed a unique, consistent town planning concept. This notion was born thanks to the distinctive world view and the unique social organization of the Moravian Church. This concept has been cohesively applied across all continents, anchoring it into the local building tradition with extraordinary planning and building skills. The towns form the backdrop for a distinctive spiritual self-realization; and specifications, at times unstated, were developed with regard to both urban planning and architecture. The layout of the towns as well as their architecture was subject to approval from the centre of the Church in Herrnhut. The similarities between the towns are so great that we can speak of a style rooted in simplified, pure German Baroque, giving the houses and their interiors a special, placid beauty. The crafts present a very high technical and aesthetic levels, and the building details are immediately identifiable as Moravian in all settlements. There is, thus, a global recognizability. In spite of this global recognizability, there are differences due to local variation in building materials, architectural styles, climate and so on. Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, is thus a stone city, Christiansfeld, Denmark is built of bricks

and wood and the South African cities are either cob-built with thatched roofs or with white, plastered and whitewashed walls. All the towns were equipped with schools and educational establishments and a manufacturing facility or other type of industry that could serve as a basis for the existence of the town itself. In Bethlehem it was a brewery, in Wuppertal in South Africa a shoe factory and in Christiansfeld – a honey-cake factory. This robust and still alive movement, with its architecture and its towns, tells us a story which can surely be defined as global and definitely unique.

### CHRISTIANSFELD INITIATIVE – MORAVIAN HERITAGE NETWORK

The Kingdom of Denmark included the Moravian town of Christiansfeld in Slesvig (Southern Jutland) on the tentative list in 1993. Subsequently, the town council commissioned investigation on what investment was needed to restore the Moravian buildings. The costs were prohibitive to the municipal coffers, and Freddy Avnby, Development Director of the Urban Renewal Company Denmark, got the idea to join forces and internationalize the effort. Thus, Christiansfeld Partnership was initiated, embracing the Moravian Congregation, the civil authorities, and local businesses. The Partnership decided to use the World Heritage ambitions to promote fund raising, and therefore the international aspect of Moravian Towns came into play. In 1999, the Christiansfeld Initiative – Moravian Heritage Network was born, and the first meeting took place in 2000 in Christiansfeld, with members of the Moravian Brethren of Christiansfeld, Christiansfeld community, Christiansfeld partnership, Danish government authorities, UNESCO and the World Heritage Bureau, ICCROM and the Centre for Urban Development Studies of Harvard University. The Moravian Church, while proud of its own heritage, focuses more on community and missionary work rather than on supporting heritage conservation. Moreover the Congregations are often rather discrete and this meant using more energy and making major efforts in order to break through and gain their confidence. Soon Danish Royal Patronage was granted to the Initiative. The fund raising was extremely successful and different foundations granted more than 12 millions euro to regenerate Christiansfeld. The next meeting in 2003 included representatives of German, British, Dutch and South African Moravian Towns and civil authorities. A number of these meetings followed:





Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, 2004, Cape Agulhas, Western Cape, South Africa, in 2006, and in Gracehill, Ballymena, Northern Ireland, in 2007.

## THE LESSONS OF MORAVIAN HERITAGE NETWORK

The last meeting in Gracehill presented all old and new problems of the Moravian Heritage Network:

- The local civil authorities of Moravian Heritage towns support the initiative at different degrees. The support of Christiansfeld Mayor Joergen From has been unwavering from the start, but since Christiansfeld was included into a larger municipality with a different council and mayor, the support has dwindled. Other major Moravian towns have not prioritized Moravian Heritage high on their list of action and expenditure;
- as World Heritage Convention is an inter-governmental tool, there is little that the towns can do if Governments doors remain closed. Some of them use this as an excuse to do little to support the whole idea. The Government's agencies of the States Parties concerned have never discussed this issue together. Some Governments may feel that it is difficult to support heritage of one religious denomination, despite its international history and special character. UNESCO and ICCROM have always been supportive to the Moravian Heritage Network, but there is little that can be done if the States Parties do not move or do not wish to include the non-governmental actors in their work;
- funding to support international networking on religious heritage is extremely difficult to find. The Network has been generously supported at the start by the Danish Government and some private businesses, large and small. The towns have contributed to a different degree, mainly as hosts to meetings and supporting activists' travel to other meetings. Yet few stakeholders want to contribute to funding the coordination of effort.

The Moravian Heritage Network has been founded and run on the enthusiasm of many people in the Moravian Congregations, civil society, conservation NGOs and public administration. Now, the effort is directed to achieving appropriate national status for each of the Moravian sites concerned. The nomination file is said to be prepared by the Danish Government. It remains to be

seen if it succeeds on its own, or will other State Parties support it with including their Moravian towns on the tentative lists for successive nominations, thus opening the way for a serial nomination of Moravian Towns onto the World Heritage List.

## RÉSUMÉ

L'Église morave est une église dérivée du protestantisme. Elle développa un concept d'urbanisme unique durant le XVIII<sup>ème</sup> siècle, conformément à sa vision du monde et à son organisation sociale particulière. Ce concept fut ensuite appliqué à travers tous les continents, et chaque projet dut dans un premier temps être approuvé par le centre de l'église à Herrnhut, d'où une grande homogénéité dans les villes moraves, du point de vue de l'urbanisme ou de l'expression architecturale. Les similitudes sont importantes, malgré des différences notables dues aux matériaux de constructions, aux styles architecturaux et aux climats locaux.

Malheureusement, le patrimoine morave ne reçoit pas le soutien escompté. Malgré plusieurs rencontres impliquant des représentants de villes moraves du Danemark, d'Allemagne, de Grande-Bretagne, des Pays-Bas et d'Afrique du Sud, les autorités locales n'accordent pas toutes la même priorité à la préservation du patrimoine morave. Certains gouvernements semblent indifférents à la question et les États Parties n'ont jamais discuté du problème ensemble. Pourtant, le projet a soulevé l'engouement de nombreuses personnes parmi les congrégations moraves, la société civile, des ONG actives dans la conservation et l'administration publique. Leur effort vise à obtenir un statut national pour chacun des sites moraves concernés, espérant pouvoir aboutir à une proposition de nomination sérielle des villes moraves, dont le dossier serait préparé par le gouvernement danois.

# THE MATA ATLÂNTICA BIOSPHERE RESERVE, THE WORLD HERITAGES SITES IN BRAZIL AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

JOAO L. RUEGGER, BRAZIL

## MATA ATLÂNTICA

The Mata Atlântica currently has just 7.6% of 1'366'700 km square it occupied at the time the Portuguese arrived in Brazil in 1500. It is one of the most threatened ecosystems on the planet and has one of the highest levels of biodiversity in the world. The Atlantic Forest biome is distributed in 17 Brazilian states and some 3'400 municipalities.

Due to its great size and the significant climate variation existing from the Northeastern region until the Southern region of Brazil, in particular regarding temperature variations and precipitation, the Mata Atlântica is directly related to climate characteristics, and its floristic composition is extremely varied, thus showing that climate changes affect not only biome boundaries, but also the distribution of species among them.

The Mata Atlântica is also the place where about 80% of the Brazilian animal species of threatened by extinction are to be found. From the already known species of primates of the Atlantic Forest, 9 out of 17 are endemic. Its fauna presents 261 registered species of mammals from which 73 are endemic, 23 species of marsupials, and 57 species of rodents. There can also be found 160 known species of endemic birds, among the 620 registered ones, 260 species of amphibious, from which 128 are endemic, and 143 registered species of reptiles (Brazil 1998; Lino, 1998).

More than 450 species/ha that can be found in some areas of the Atlantic Forest indicate that the population diversity of woody-plants in the region is larger than that in the Amazon Rain Forest.

The Brazilian National Report for the Biological Diversity Convention (Brazil, 1998) poses that the Atlantic Forest has several specific centers of endemism. Nevertheless, another research identified only three main focuses where the flora and fauna have a distinct origin and composition (Prance, 1982 and 1987; Withmore & Prance 1987);

## THE MATA ATLÂNTICA BIOSPHERE RESERVE

The Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve was the first biosphere reserve in Brazil, established after 1991 and revised and expanded into six phases, the last one passed in 2008 and is currently the largest biosphere reserve forest on the planet and considered by UNESCO one of the best examples of a Biosphere Reserve

Of the total area of the Mata Atlântica Domain, 78'465'476 ha (about 60% of the biome) have been proposed and recognized as a Biosphere Reserve of the Atlantic in its Phase VI (2008/2009). The Reserve was first declared in 1991.

- The Mata Atlântica Biome encompasses an area of about 136'670'000 ha., embracing 17 of the Brazilian states and about 3'400 municipalities;
- Of this area, 78'465'476 ha. (About 57% of the Biome) was approved to be Biosphere Reserve in this Phase VI (228/2009) of the Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve;
- This area embraces 2385 municipalities, in 16 states, 700 of them completely included and 1'685 partially included in the RBMA;
- There are 623 Legally Protected Areas included in the Reserve, 481 of them of Full Protection Conservation Area and 142 of Sustainable Conservation Area;
- The whole population of the municipalities in the influence zone of the RBMA is of about 114'000'000 inhabitants, principally concentrated in metropolitan and urban areas (including 16 capitals as Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Recife, etc.) that are not part of the Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve;
- Given the dimensions and the population dynamics of the region, the inhabitants' information should be considered as estimates and subject to significant

error even when supported by official demographic census. Data were calculated based on the Brazilian Census of 2007 from the Brazilian Statistical and Geographical Institute – IBGE, and available information of the Management Bodies of Protected Areas, gathered by the State Committees and Council of RBMA during the drafting process of the Phase VI of the Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve;

- Thus has to be estimated population of the RBMA: TOTAL = 60'896'097 inhabitants in the three zones of the Reserve which results in a low population density of less than one inhabitant per hectare. Regarding the distribution of population in the zoning of the Reserve estimates are: Core Zone approximately 150'000 inhabitants representing traditional communities and residents of properties located in full protected area without land regularization; Buffer and Connectivity Zonea approximately 20'150'000 inhabitants; Transition and Cooperation Zone approximately 40'600'000 inhabitants.

The Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve is administered by a de-centralized collaborative and participative system of management involving the equal participation of various governmental institutions (federal, state and local) and civil entities including NGOs, universities, local communities and private enterprises.

The Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve is composed by:

- The Atlantic Forest Biosphere Reserve Council: The Council is the main institution of the Reserve. It has the function of providing the guidelines for the management of the Reserve. 36 members constitute it, with parity between the government and the civil society. The council has an Executive Secretariat to implement its decisions;
- The Council's «Bureau»: 16 members elected by the Council to help on decision-making compose it;
- State Committees: They are the States' management instance, subordinated to the Council, with the function of implementing the Reserve in the States. Its constitution involves representatives of the government and the civil society in parity; however, there is no need to be a Council member to take part on it;
- Reserve's Outpost: Outposts are diffusion centers of the ideas, concepts programs and projects developed in the Reserve. To be an Outpost it is necessary to be able to develop, at least, one out of the basic actions of the Reserve:

conservation, sustainable development and scientific knowledge.

This Management System clarifies the principles and the strategies of the Reserve's administration. Its Main lines are:

- Articulation/ Cooperation/ Partnerships;
- Public policies;
- National approach;
- International cooperation;
- The Mata Atlântica's preservation, restoration, conservation and sustainable development;
- Communication and Environmental Education;
- Participation and decentralization.

So, the Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve contributes to the conservation, preservation and sustainable development of the forest and the natural heritage as the landscape and the water resources and the cultural and ethnic heritage besides promoting the economic development in a cultural and sustainable way by means of its programs and projects with governmental – either the Brazilian or the foreign governments – and non-governmental funds, such as:

- Sustainable Tourism;
- Mosaics and Corridors of protected Areas;
- Mata Atlântica Managers' Capacitation;
- Culture and Mata Atlântica;
- Sustainable Forest Resources – Mata Atlântica Market.

## WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN BRAZIL

Of the seven sites declared Natural Heritage Site in Brazil by UNESCO since 1980, four of them are located in the Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve:

- The Brazilian Atlantic Islands (2001), which covers the Archipelago Fernando de Noronha and Atol das Rocas, is located in the marine part of the Reserve;
- The National Park of Iguazu (1986), on the border with Argentina, which also has a National Park Natural Heritage Site, forming a continuous area of forest;
- The region of the Discovery Coast – Mata Atlântica Reserves (1999), in northeastern Brazil in the region where Portuguese arrived in the year of 1500;
- The Mata Atlântica of Southeast (1999), which occupies parts of the Southeast Region and Southern Region of the country and has the most significant extracts the biome.

Natural and Cultural Heritage are to promote regional planning and sustainable use

of natural resources and ensure the desired improvement of quality of life. In Brazil this is a big challenge for World Heritage sites and biosphere reserves, but it certainly becomes more feasible as they become consolidated in the country.

Brazil ratified the Convention of World Heritage Sites in 1977, five years after its creation. Besides the seven Natural Heritage Sites, Brazil has nine Heritage Cultural Sites that include historic cities, historic centers, Jesuit ruins, monuments and the city of Brasilia that is the capital of Brazil.

The Brazilian great challenge regarding to its World Heritage Sites is to establish a system of coordinated and participatory management, integrating responsibilities and actions both within government (Federal, State and Municipal) and with civil society, focusing mainly environmental conservation, cultural appreciation, the welfare of local populations and promote sustainable development.

In Brazil, even having some inter-institutional effort, such as the Program for Biodiversity Conservation in Heritage Sites, which involved the founding of the United Nations, the Federal Government and international NGOs, policy support for these sites is still incipient and few effective actions have been effectively planned and executed.

In this sense the Biosphere Reserve of the Atlantic, through its lines of action, its programs and especially its system of decentralized and participatory management can contribute significantly to the effective implementation of the Natural Heritage Sites, especially those located in its areas. Some of these sites are in urgent need of a review process since the surrounding areas where they are located have been rather radical altered historical, social and economic. These review processes would be able, for example, promoting integration between Sites of Cultural and Natural Heritage, which would be much more appropriate to the conservation of them.

So it urges that the Mata Atlântica Biosphere Reserve and the World Heritage Sites should strengthen their main actions and programs in order to win their great challenges. For this it is necessary to have public policies to:

**STRENGTHENING THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE SITES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROMOTING:**

- Interaction between the Site and local people;

- participatory process of nomination and management;
- permanent publicity, communication and information;
- tourism/arts and crafts and restauration programs;
- cultural and social services / Education and training.

**INTEGRATING THE SITES AND VALUING THE BUFFER ZONES OF THE BIOSPHERE RESERVE TO TRANSFORM WORLD HERITAGE SITES AS MODEL AREAS FOR BEST PRACTICES ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTING:**

- Territorial planning;
- serial World Heritage Sites;
- landscape and ecosystem approach;
- sustainable development projects;
- good practices for the use of energy, waste, water and biodiversity.

**INCREASING THE INTERACTION OF THE WORD HERITAGE SITES WITH MAB PROGRAM / BIOSPHERE RESERVES AND RAMSAR CONVENTION:**

- Sharing limits and zoning;
- sharing participatory management system;
- exchanging experiences.

Synergy between international programs and optimization of resources and management systems.

## RÉSUMÉ

La forêt atlantique ne couvre actuellement que 7.6% des 1 366 700 km<sup>2</sup> sur lesquels elle s'étendait lorsque les Portugais découvrirent le Brésil en 1500. Elle est l'un des écosystèmes les plus menacés de la planète et présente en même temps un des niveaux de biodiversité les plus élevés au monde. Par sa grande taille, elle connaît de nombreuses variations climatiques selon les régions. Il en découle une flore très variée qui accueille environ 80% des espèces animales menacées d'extinction au Brésil. Il a de plus été établi que la forêt compte plusieurs zones d'endémisme, c'est-à-dire que les espèces végétales et animales que l'on y trouve sont vraiment spécifiques à ces périmètres.

Environ 60% de la surface totale de la forêt atlantique, soit 78 465 476 ha, ont été reconnus en plusieurs étapes comme réserve de biosphère depuis 1991 pour former la Réserve de Biosphère de Mata Atlântica, qui dénombre 623 aires protégées. Il s'agit de la première réserve de biosphère au Brésil et c'est actuellement la plus grande du monde. Elle est administrée par diverses institutions

gouvernementales aux niveaux fédéral, régional et local, et par plusieurs entités civiles comme des ONG, des universités, des communautés locales et des entreprises privées. Un système de gestion établit les principes et stratégies de l'administration de la réserve. La Réserve de Biosphère de Mata Atlântica contribue ainsi à la conservation, à la préservation et au développement durable de la forêt et de son héritage naturel, culturel et ethnique.

Parmi les sept sites naturels du Brésil inscrits au Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO depuis 1980, quatre se situent dans la Réserve de Biosphère de Mata Atlântica: le Parc National d'Iguazu (1986), les Réserves du Sud-Est de la forêt atlantique (1999), la Côte de la découverte Réserves de la forêt atlantique (1999) et les Îles atlantiques brésiliennes les Réserves de Fernando de Noronha et de l'atol das Rocas (2001).

Le grand défi du Brésil, est d'établir pour ses sites inscrits sur la Liste du Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO un système de gestion coordonnée et participative, intégrant les responsabilités et activités à la fois auprès du gouvernement et auprès de la société en se concentrant sur la conservation environnementale, l'appréciation culturelle, le bien-être des populations locales et la promotion du développement durable. Dans cette optique, la réserve de Biosphère de Mata Atlântica peut jouer un rôle significatif, par le biais de ses lignes d'action, de ses programmes et de son système de gestion décentralisée et participative, spécialement en ce qui concerne les sites naturels situés à l'intérieur de son périmètre.

# PHENOMENA AND MONUMENTS OF VIKING CULTURE RAGNHEIDUR H. THORARINS- DOTTIR, ICELAND

The Viking Age from the late 8<sup>th</sup>–late 11<sup>th</sup> centuries is an outstanding example of human dynamism and innovation during which:

- extraordinary monuments were built;
- mobility and communication were developed;
- society mastered for the first time the sea and the rivers to maintain contacts across vast distances without the trappings of a single empire in Europe;
- the culture was able to live in diverse landscapes and environments and yet maintain common characteristics;
- less tangibly visible aspects of culture such as language, poetry, sagas, and mythology were developed;
- the balancing between traditional religious beliefs in the old gods and the influences of Christianity were witnessed. This constitutes an example of religious transition in which complex issues were resolved without overall disruptions;
- the names of places as a sign for the development of the landscape were attributed.

The goal of the project is to achieve successful inscription of a series of Viking related heritage sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List by 2013. This will be done by submitting a nomination dossier by 1st February 2012, thus stressing the importance of the Viking heritage for the world.



The organization of the nomination is based on the individual effort of each participating State Party regarding the description and management of their nominated sites, with coordination and editorial functions provided by Iceland. The project has a steering group (officials responsible for World Heritage matters in the participating States) and an advisory board of experts.

The Advisory Board is preparing the narrative of the project where the Outstanding Universal Value will be discussed and described. Some of the results arising from their discussion are mentioned below:

## TIME FRAME OF THE SUBJECT

Late 8<sup>th</sup>–late 11<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Core area lies in Scandinavia and the North Atlantic which is characterized by a common culture with a certain degree of multi-ethnicity.

## THE NARRATIVE

- Scandinavian populations and their technological developments made their exhaustive mobility possible and they were thus able to bring back to their homelands all different kinds of information;
- A dynamic and innovative culture on the Northern periphery of Europe which was capable of interaction with other communities and cultures in a vast area from North America to Central Asia;
- They were able to absorb new ideas and to further develop all kinds of different influences and vice-versa they successfully influenced their contemporaries and they were capable of governmental and legal adaptation leading to the enhancement of their own culture;
- They harnessed the technology of the ship and they used the sea for expansion and exploration;



- They possessed a high ability to maintain contacts over vast areas and to transfer this knowledge to succeeding generations.

## SPECIAL FEATURES TO BE INCLUDED AND USED FOR COMPARISON IN THE SERIAL NOMINATION

- Aspects of technical innovations;
- The development of legal and political innovations;
- The opening of the northern hemisphere from North America to the Near East.

## SELECTION OF ESSENTIAL VIKING AGE SITES

- Birka is an entry point to the East, whereas Hedeby is an entry point to central Europe. Both are meeting points of cultures;
- Transition and state formation: Jelling, Thingvellir, Birka, Hedeby, Danevirke;
- Social and military organisation: Danevirke and Trelleborg fortresses.

This serial nomination allows us to touch different aspects of this extensive and evolving culture at different points in time and at different places. It is the first culture in European – or perhaps World – history to have mastered the possibilities of maritime travel whether on the ocean or on rivers to maintain a cohesive culture over vast distances from the North American continent to Asian, Arab and Mediterranean lands. It is not clear on the World scale and in this case we will have to look into the Polynesian expansion etc. However this is surely unique in a European context. This is something the comparative analyses will deal with.

This culture developed from different regional conditions while maintaining a common language and basic cultural traditions. Elements of this rich heritage have come down to us through different media such as carvings, runic inscriptions and literature.

The series is rather special in that it is not a (viking) series created through an extension of an existing (viking) property, but a new series with new characteristics, created out of a mix of listed and unlisted sites, where the listed sites were not labelled Viking Culture heritage specifically. This is different from e.g. the *Frontiers of the Roman Empire*.

## OPEN QUESTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED

- Could the specific features of this project (the viking serial nomination) open up for a new combination of criteria that were not applied to the already listed single sites? Or do we have to stick with those criteria that are common to the already listed sites although they were not listed specifically as heritage of viking culture at the time?
- How do we prepare the description on the Tentative List for a serial nomination? Is there a different procedure for a national serial nomination and a transnational serial nomination? Do we put the already listed sites on the Tentative List anew, since the overall concept is new?
- As far as the Outstanding Universal Value of the component parts is concerned: do the component parts each and every one have to fulfill the standards for the Outstanding Universal Value or is it the serial property as a whole with all properties fulfilling the demands for Outstanding Universal Value only in combination?
- Is it possible to make some guidelines for the making of a management plan for transnational serial world heritage properties?
- What happens if one site is not properly taken care of and is in danger, does the whole series then go on the danger list?
- Can we include new knowledge and scientific findings about the already listed sites in the nomination dossier, knowledge that might add to the value of the site or change the combination of criteria? When will we have to renominate an already listed site?
- Are there some special requirements for the nomination dossier of a serial



- nomination of this structure? How is the dossier of the overall serial property related to the dossier of its components, World Heritage properties and new ones?
- What are the requirements for addition/adaptation of the text of the original nomination documents when we include those sites in a series with new qualities? Can we just attach the original document or do we have to add something? If yes, what?

It is important to update the Operational Guidelines and take into consideration many questions that arise when preparing a transnational serial nomination.

## RÉSUMÉ

L'Âge des Vikings est un exemple exceptionnel du dynamisme et de l'innovation de l'Homme. Cette période, qui s'étend de la fin du VIII<sup>e</sup> siècle à la fin du XI<sup>e</sup> siècle, se caractérise notamment par la construction d'extraordinaires monuments et un développement de la mobilité et de la communication. Il s'agit de la première culture dans l'histoire européenne – ou peut-être même mondiale – à avoir contrôlé les possibilités du voyage maritime soit sur l'océan, soit sur les cours d'eau, ce qui permet d'entretenir une cohésion culturelle sur de grandes distances, de l'Amérique du Nord à l'Asie en passant par l'Arabie et le monde méditerranéen. La culture viking sut se développer dans des environnements différents tout en maintenant un langage et des traditions culturelles basiques communs.

L'objectif est de pouvoir soumettre une candidature de l'héritage viking au Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO en 2012. L'organisation du projet sur les efforts individuels de chaque Etat Partie concernant la description et la gestion de leurs sites proposés. L'Islande joue un rôle de coordination et d'éditeur, tandis qu'un groupe de pilotage et un organisme consultatif ont été formés pour mener à bien ce projet.

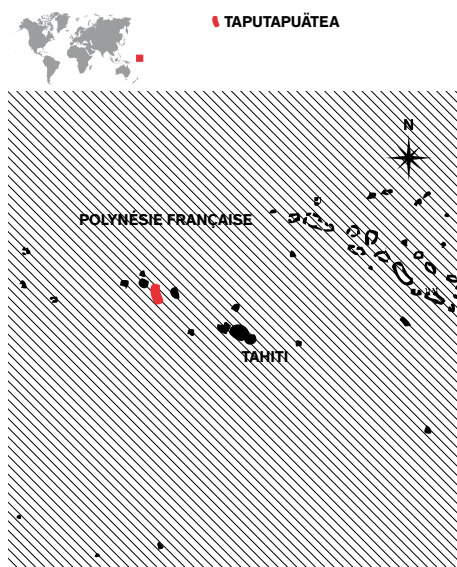
# TAPUTAPUĀTEA/ TE PÔ, VALLÉE DE ŌPOA

## RICHARD ARIIHAU TUHEIAVA, POLYNÉSIE FRANÇAISE

«E mou'a tei ni'a, o Tea'etapu i Ōpoa,  
E tahua tei raro, o Matatiitahuaroa,  
E 'outu, o Matahiraitera'i,  
E vai, o Vaitiare,  
E marae, o Taputapuātea,  
E motu, o lihiāriri,  
E ava i tai, o Te Ava Mo'a,  
E 'aito, o Tamatoa,  
E fare Arioi, o Nānuu, o Fare'ofe e o  
Faremei'a,  
E raatira Arioi o Terāmanini, e o 'Airia»

(«Cette montagne qui (nous) surplombe, il s'agit de Tea'etapu,  
Son complexe domanial attenat: Matati'itahuaroa,  
Sa pointe littorale: Matahiraitera'i,  
Son cours d'eau principal: Vaitiare,  
Son marae principal: Taputapuātea,  
Son îlot adjacent: l'ihiariri,  
Sa passe: Teavamo'a la sacrée,  
Son chef coutumier, le roi Tamatoa,  
Ses maisons Arioi: Nanuu, Fare'ofe et  
Faremei'a,  
Ses chefs Arioi: Teramanini et 'Airia»)

Le site sacré de *Taputapuātea/Te Pô, vallée de Ōpoa* est le plus grand ensemble de *marae*



du monde polynésien (*Ao Mā'ohi*) s'étendant sur toute la Polynésie de l'Est, dont le grand *marae* international *Taputapuātea* constitue l'origine voire la « mère » de tous les autres *marae* liés à l'histoire du peuplement polynésien.

Les *marae* sont des lieux *tapu* ou sacrés, temples de pierres à ciel ouvert, que l'on retrouve sous des formes diverses à travers le triangle polynésien, de *Rapa Nui* (l'île de Pâques) à *Aotearoa* (Nouvelle-Zélande) ainsi qu'à *Hawai'i*.

Le complexe cérémoniel *Te Pō*, son grand *marae* international *Taputapuātea* ainsi que la vallée de *Ōpoa* adjacente étaient au cœur de l'art ancestral de la navigation traditionnelle océanique à travers toute la Polynésie, ils constituent aujourd'hui une référence géographique majeure et reconnue en la matière.

*Taputapuātea* est l'un des deux « *marae internationaux* » de toute la Polynésie française et celui qui atteste et de l'ultime séquence de l'histoire des peuplements polynésiens au niveau mondial, plus particulièrement en Polynésie orientale, juste avant le contact européen dans le Pacifique (Bougainville, Cook, De Bovis).

Ces échanges océaniques, établis au cours des siècles, couvrent des milliers de kilomètres et attestent des extraordinaires qualités de navigateurs, de la hardiesse des marins polynésiens, de leur connaissance des étoiles, des océans et des conditions météorologiques à travers le plus grand océan de la planète.

Le grand *marae Taputapuātea* est au cœur d'un ensemble complexe de structures cérémonielles en pierre édifiées en un lieu nommé « *Te Pō* », royaume *tapu* ou sacré où les dieux sont présents, par opposition à la partie dite « *Te Ao* » constituée du reste de l'île sacrée de *Raiatea* (anciennement *Hawai'i Nui*), dans l'archipel de la Société en Polynésie française.

Il est situé sur la Pointe *Matahiraitera'i*, en face de la passe sacrée, *Te Ava Mo'a*, que



franchissaient jadis les pirogues océaniques pour de lointains périple et qu'empruntent celles d'aujourd'hui qui leur rendent hommage lors de cérémonies, rituels et manifestations qui se déroulent sur le grand *marae Taputapuātea*.

C'est en effet par cette passe que les grandes pirogues entreprirent de longues traversées pour atteindre des îles aussi lointaines que *Aotearoa* (Nouvelle-Zélande) et *Hawai'i*. Le site s'inscrit également dans la vallée de *Ōpoa*, qui jouxte le domaine *Te Pō* et qui comprend un ensemble très important de *maraes* surplombés de deux pics montagneux *Te A'e Tapu* et *Teurufa'atiu*, directement associés au site selon les traditions locales.

Ce site cultuel consacré au dieu polynésien *'Oro*, dieu de la guerre a été dédié dès le XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle à la religion, aux cérémonies et à la navigation de la Polynésie orientale. En outre la tradition dit que *Ta'aroa*, père des dieux et créateur de toutes choses, entra d'abord sur la terre par la vallée de *Ōpoa* pour créer *Hava'i*, patrie polynésienne ancestrale. C'est ainsi que l'on nommait *Ra'iātea*, patrie spirituelle reconnue des communautés polynésiennes de *Hawai'i* à *Aotearoa* en Nouvelle-Zélande, lieu de retour de l'esprit des Polynésiens avant son ascension vers le paradis traditionnel appelé *Rohotu No'ano'a*.

## CRITÈRES PROPOSÉS POUR L'INSCRIPTION

Critères UNESCO (iii), (v), (vi):

- porte un témoignage unique ou du moins exceptionnel d'une tradition culturelle ou d'une civilisation vivante ou qui a disparu;
- un exemple remarquable de peuplement traditionnel, d'utilisation de la terre ou de la mer qui sont représentatifs d'une culture (ou de plusieurs cultures), ou d'interaction humaine avec l'environnement alors que celui-ci, notamment, est devenu vulnérable sous l'influence de changements irréversibles;
- être directement ou effectivement associé aux événements ou traditions vivantes, à des idées ou des croyances, à des œuvres artistiques et littéraires d'une portée universelle incomparable;
- le site sacré de *Taputapuātea/Te Pō*, vallée de *Ōpoa*, site d'origine de la dernière séquence du peuplement du triangle polynésien, porte un témoignage véritablement unique de la tradition culturelle polynésienne;
- ce site constitue un exemple de site et de paysage culturel polynésien

remarquables d'un peuplement traditionnel lié à l'utilisation de la terre et de la mer, tant sur l'ensemble du triangle polynésien que sur l'île de *Ra'iātea*;

- il est enfin directement associé et porteur d'événements et traditions vivantes, de croyances et d'œuvre artistiques, d'une portée universelle incomparable.

## ÉLÉMENTS D'ANALYSE COMPARATIVE

Il subsiste des *marae* en pierre par centaines en Polynésie française, aux Iles Cook, mais également à *Hawai'i*, en Nouvelle Zélande et jusqu' à l'île de Pâques, dont certains ont été restaurés tandis que d'autres constituent aujourd'hui des sites archéologiques.

*Taputapuātea* a le statut reconnu de '*marae international*' qui reflète son importance dès le XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle en tant que centre d'un réseau de voyages lointains entrepris par les polynésiens.

En effet, dès le XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle, l'île sacrée de *Ra'iātea* (anciennement *Hawai'i nui*) était devenu un puissant centre politico-religieux consacré au culte de *'Oro*, dieu de la guerre, de la fertilité et fils de *Ta'aroa* et de *Hinatu-a-uta*. Et c'est au cœur de ce centre, qu'à la même époque, la puissante dynastie royale *Tamatoa*, grands Chefs de *Ra'iātea*, avait édifié le *marae Taputapuātea* (trad. « Sacrifices venus de loin »).

Si les échanges interinsulaires ne se font plus par pirogues océaniques, l'importance des manifestations culturelles qui s'y déroulent encore aujourd'hui atteste du maintien et de la vitalité de sa fonction de centre cultuel et culturel majeur de la Polynésie.

(NB: Seul un autre *marae « international »* existe en Polynésie française, il s'agit du *marae national Vaiahu à Maupiti (Iles sous le Vent, Archipel de la Société)*, qui témoigne lui d'un fait historique ponctuel encore méconnu, à savoir l'intronisation collective en 1823–1824 de neufs rois du Pacifique à l'initiative du jeune roi *Hawaiien Kamehameha II*)

Le site sacré de *Taputapuātea/Te Pō*, vallée de *Ōpoa*, était aussi le centre rituel de la secte *Arioi* adoratrice du dieu *'Oro*, communautés d'adorateurs, composés de prêtres, guerriers, artistes, danseurs, musiciens et de jeunes gens qui se déplaçaient en flottes de pirogues pour divertir les habitants et prendre part à des cérémonies religieuses fastes. Les *Arioi* portaient ainsi les images du dieu et des pierres provenant du *marae Taputapuātea*, propageant le culte de *'Oro*

d'île en île à travers toute la Polynésie orientale et établissant de nouveaux *marae* dédiés à ce dieu dans tout le «triangle polynésien».

C'est ainsi qu'à Hawaï'i, on trouve également des lieux nommés respectivement *Taputapuātea* et *Kapukapuākea*. Réciproquement, des prêtres, venus de nombreuses îles, firent la traversée jusqu'à Ra'iātea afin de s'associer aux rituels et cérémonies reliant *Taputapuātea* matériellement et spirituellement aux *marae* de toute la Polynésie orientale.

Et c'est ainsi que le site sacré de *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, vallée de 'Ōpoa* se trouve aujourd'hui au centre d'un «triangle polynésien» qui garde des traces de l'histoire de son peuplement.

## ÉLÉMENTS DE GESTION-AUTHENTICITÉ-INTÉGRITÉ

Le site de *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, vallée de 'Ōpoa* est actuellement sous la responsabilité directe du gouvernement de Polynésie pour les lieux cérémoniels, les ensembles de *marae* sur la partie sacrée *Te Pō* comme dans la vallée de *Opoa* ainsi que les parties maritimes.

Une association culturelle locale, *Nā Papa e Va'u*, composée en quasi-majorité de la population locale de *Ōpoa*, voire de l'île de *Raiatea*, a porté le projet d'inscription depuis 2006.

Grâce à son dynamisme local, régional et national, l'association a su crédibiliser la démarche et ce projet jusqu'à obtenir, en complémentarité avec l'autre dossier UNESCO polynésien des îles Marquises, l'inscription du site de *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, Vallée de Ōpoa* sur la liste indicative française le 25 mai 2009.

De son côté, le gouvernement polynésien a pris un arrêté en conseil des ministres en août 2009 tendant à acter officiellement la volonté politique locale de porter les deux dossiers UNESCO polynésiens précités, en créant notamment un «Comité de Pilotage» commun aux deux sites.

Un «Comité de Gestion» par site a également été créé par deux autres arrêtés gouvernementaux subséquents: ils sont présidés par les Maires respectifs des communes de chaque site, et le volet secrétariat et financier est laissé entre les mains des deux associations culturelles référentes (*Na Papa e Va'u*, pour le site sacré *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, Vallée*

*de Opoa*). Un plan de gestion concernant la totalité du bien, et notamment de la *vallée de 'Ōpoa*, devra être établi en liaison avec les habitants.

L'authenticité des manifestations polynésiennes est aujourd'hui manifeste et l'intégrité du site garantie par une reconnaissance déjà acquise de valeurs identitaires communes aux polynésiens à travers sa reconnaissance comme *marae international* lié à l'histoire des peuplements de la Polynésie orientale.

## MÉTHODOLOGIE DE MONTAGE DU DOSSIER

Compte tenu de sa nature éminemment culturelle et dans le respect de la sacralité du site, une première proposition de méthodologie de conception du dossier a été soumise par l'association *Na Papa e Va'u* et la communauté locale de *Opoa*.

Il s'agit donc de baser la conception du dossier et de l'articuler à partir d'une vision strictement polynésienne du site, et donc de s'inspirer:

- soit d'une déclinaison oratoire (*orero, paripari fenua*) au site reprise à partir de la tradition orale recueillie et transmise;
- soit d'une déclinaison oratoire nouvelle mais spécifiquement composée à partir des composantes culturelles et spirituelles intrinsèques au site que sont: le mana polynésien, la symbolique de la grande Pieuvre polynésienne, la navigation traditionnelle et la symbolique de la pirogue océanique, l'orientation solaire du 'ahu principal du grand *marae international*, l'identité polynésienne, les échanges interinsulaire et la Grande Alliance amicale, le triangle polynésien, la dynastie royale *Tamatoa* et la ceinture de souveraineté à plumes rouges *Maro 'Ura*, Hiro le navigateur, les 8 pierres de fondation du complexe culturel, etc.

La rédaction du plan de gestion et plus généralement du dossier d'inscription serait ainsi conditionnée par l'adoption souhaitée de cette méthodologie spécifique.

## ÉLÉMENTS DE NOMINATION TRANSNATIONALE

Le site de *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, vallée de Ōpoa* a pour vocation d'être inscrit en tant que bien culturel transnational. C'est sa raison d'être et son essence même.

Il peut entrer dans la catégorie spécifique

des «paysages culturels associés», tant l'interaction entre l'homme et son environnement naturel/marin est mise en évidence à travers la description paysagère du site et le montage du dossier de nomination.

A ce jour, son inscription sur la liste indicative française obtenue, le dossier du site *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, vallée de Ōpoa* est en cours de conception et de rédaction, de même que les outils nécessaires à la gestion et à la conservation du site sont en cours de élaboration: plan de gestion et de conservation, etc

Ce site est potentiellement inscriptible, d'un point de vue transnational, avec les sites Pacifique suivants, sans ordre de priorité ni d'importance particulière:

- le Parc National *Tongariro*, près du Lac Taupo (Aotearoa-NZ): site inscrit sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'UNESCO par la NZ;
- le Parc National des Volcans de Hawaï'i (Hawaï'i, U.S.A.): site inscrit sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'UNESCO par les USA;
- le Parc National de Rapa Nui (Rapa Nui, Îles de Pâques, Chili): site inscrit sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'UNESCO par le Chili;
- le Parc National de *Pu'ukohola Heiau* (Kona, Big Island-Hawaï'i, U.S.A.): Site classé Parc National par les autorités USA;
- le sanctuaire marin national *Papa-hānaumokuākea* (Kupuna Islands-Hawaï'i, E.U.A.): site en cours de candidature sur la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'UNESCO (session 2010);
- le *marae royal Taputapuātea* de Avarua (Rarotonga, Îles Cook): site en cours d'inscription sur la Liste indicative rarotongienne;
- le site d'envol des âmes maories du Cap *Renga* à l'extrême Nord de la Pointe de l'île du Nord (Aotearoa-NZ): site en cours d'inscription sur la Liste indicative NZ;
- la *Passe Avana* (Rarotonga, Îles Cook): site en cours d'inscription sur la Liste indicative rarotongienne.

## ENJEUX LIÉS À L'INSCRIPTION TRANSNATIONALE DU SITE

Le site polynésien de *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, vallée de Ōpoa*, situé géographiquement au centre de ces autres sites du Pacifique et culturellement relié à eux que ce soit sous le prisme de la navigation traditionnelle, celui du chemin des âmes polynésiennes dans le Pacifique, ou encore celui de l'ancienne

Alliance amicale interinsulaire de Polynésie orientale (pour mémoire, alliance dénommée «*Hau faatau aroha*»), permettra d'établir une cohérence d'ensemble à ces biens du patrimoine mondial dans le Pacifique.

Cela étant, une telle inscription sérielle transnationale, sachant qu'elle porte sur des biens du patrimoine mondial qui se trouvent également dans la région Pacifique, n'est pas sans poser des difficultés sérieuses dans sa mise en place:

- la distinction culture/nature: fondamentalement, cette distinction nature/culture n'existe pas dans la représentation du patrimoine dominante dans l'aire géographique du Pacifique, et ceci vaut d'ailleurs pour beaucoup d'autres aires géographiques du monde. Ceci renvoie d'ailleurs la question vers les notions de patrimoine matériel et immatériel;
- la disparité des niveaux de connaissance, compétences et de mise en œuvre du concept de patrimoine mondial dans la zone Pacifique: alors que certains Pays ou territoires ont ratifiés la Convention du Patrimoine Mondial de 1972 depuis plus de 20 ou 30 années, d'autres – concernés par l'inscription sérielle – ne l'ont fait que (très) récemment (ex: Cook Islands);
- la difficulté à trouver des référents officiels dans les Etats parties ou territoires sous souverainetés hors-zone (Hawai'i, Rapa Nui) qui soient coutumièrement ou traditionnellement «légitimes», si l'on considère l'impérieuse nécessité d'inclure l'approche «communautaire» (5<sup>e</sup> «C»), et les défis de l'héritage colonial;
- certains sites patrimoniaux du Pacifique susceptibles d'être inscrits en série à titre transnational se trouvent dans des pays ou territoires sous souveraineté extérieure à la zone (France, USA, Chili, NZ): ceci rend les aspects décisionnels et opérationnels du dossier d'inscription plus ardu, car ces pays ou territoires du Pacifique sous souverainetés hors-zone ne sont donc pas directement parties à la Convention UNESCO de 1972 et ne disposent donc pas de Commissions nationales propres. Un travail diplomatique supplémentaire

peut s'avérer nécessaire, ce qui peut toutefois représenter un fort enjeu en terme de coopération régionale;

- la similarité fondamentale des caractéristiques matérielles et/ou immatérielles (concepts, valeurs locales, etc.) de chaque site patrimonial du Pacifique concerné par une inscription sérielle (vestiges archéologiques, valeurs locales, etc.) rend parfois difficile l'approche commune entre Pays ou territoires du Pacifique et nécessite une phase préalable d'harmonisation plus ou moins longue des connaissances plus ou moins longue (généalogies, parcours migratoires, traditions orales, significations, protocoles culturels, etc.) qui est impactée par le phénomène d'instabilité politique récurrent dans le Pacifique;
- les coûts extrêmement prohibitifs liés à la coopération régionale (phase exploratoire, études thématiques, missions d'évaluation, missions de suivi, etc.), dans une zone océanique peu desservie par voie aérienne qui représente un tiers du globe terrestre (rien que la Polynésie française a une ZEE de 5,5 millions de kilomètres carrés et a une superficie aussi grande que toute l'Europe réunie), et la difficulté à mettre en œuvre le Fonds du Pacifique dans la sphère du Patrimoine Mondial;
- la question de l'intégrité, de la protection et de la cogestion des sites sériels transnationaux, et la thématique croissante et internationale du changement climatique.

## SUMMARY

The sacred site of *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, valley of Ōpoa* is the biggest ensemble of *marae* in the Polynesian world (Ao Mā'ohi). It spreads over the East of Polynesia, where the international *marae* of Taputapuātea is the origin or the «cradle» of all the other *marae* linked to the history of the Polynesian population. The *marae* are *tapu* or sacred places, open-air stone temples, which we discover under various shapes throughout the Polynesian triangle: from Rapa Nui (Easter Island) to Aotearoa (New Zealand), as well as to Hawai'i.

The complex ritual Te Pō, its big international *marae* Taputapuātea and the nearby Ōpoa valley were the core of the ancestral art of traditional marine navigation throughout the whole of Polynesia. Today, they constitute a major and recognized geographical reference.

Taputapuātea is one of the two «international *marae*» of French Polynesia and the one

which attests the last cycle of Polynesian populations' history on a worldwide level. In particular, it is a witness of the life in western Polynesia just before the first European contacts in the Pacific Ocean (Bougainville, Cook, De Bovis).

These marine exchanges, established along the centuries, cover thousands of kilometers and confirm the extraordinary skills of the navigators as well as the boldness of Polynesian sailors. The exchanges also prove the sailors' knowledge of stars, oceans and weather conditions on the largest ocean on the planet.

The site of *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, valley of Ōpoa* aims to be inscribed as transnational cultural property in a series which could include several sites scattered over a very large area of the Pacific Ocean: New Zealand, the USA, and Chili Islands as well as the Cooks Islands and French Polynesia. The site could enter the specific category of «associated cultural landscapes». In fact the nomination file and the scenery description emphasize the great interaction between Man and its natural-marine environment.

The criteria met for the inscription are (iii), (v) and (vi). The site is clearly a unique witness of the Polynesian cultural tradition and it also gives a remarkable example of traditional population and its use of the land and sea. The site remains linked to the events, the living traditions, the beliefs and artistic works of the area.

The site of *Taputapuātea/Te Pō, valley of Ōpoa* is under the responsibility of the Polynesian government. A local cultural association has run the inscription project since 2006. Thanks to its dynamism, the association succeeded in having the site inscribed on the French Tentative List in 2009, together with the site of the Marquis Islands. The Polynesian government took legal measures in order to show its support to these two nominations. In particular, it created a common steering committee and a management group for each site. The committees work in close collaboration with the local population.

Nevertheless, a transnational serial inscription based on objects placed on the Pacific may encounter some difficulties. For instance, in this region, there is no distinction between cultural and natural goods. Moreover, the countries concerned by the inscription do not have the same experience and the same understanding of the concept of World Heritage.





To conclude, the project also presents problems on the diplomatic and financial levels, especially concerning the integrity, the protection and the co-management of these serial sites.

# THE KENYA LAKES SYSTEM HOSEAH WANDERI, KENYA

## INTRODUCTION

The Kenya Lakes System nomination for inscription on the World Heritage List is a series of the three Kenyan Lakes Elementaita, Nakuru and Bogoria which are all located in the Great Rift Valley. The three lakes were for the purpose of the nomination collectively referred to as Kenya Lakes System in the Great Rift Valley. The dossier was the first phase of a serial national and transnational nomination of sites within the Great Rift Valley. It was submitted to UNESCO in January 2010.

The Great Rift Valley is a geological feature of global magnitude that is 7,000 kilometers long and extends from Syria in the Middle East to Mozambique in southern Africa, cutting across two continents and twenty two countries. This geological phenomenon splits into two arms within Africa, the western arm commonly known as the Albertine Rift and the eastern arm, the Gregory Rift.

## LINKAGE ASPECTS OF THE KENYA LAKES SYSTEM

### GEOLOGICAL AND HYDROLOGICAL CONNECTION

The geological features of the East African Rift System present today have been forming since rifting and volcanism, uplifting and

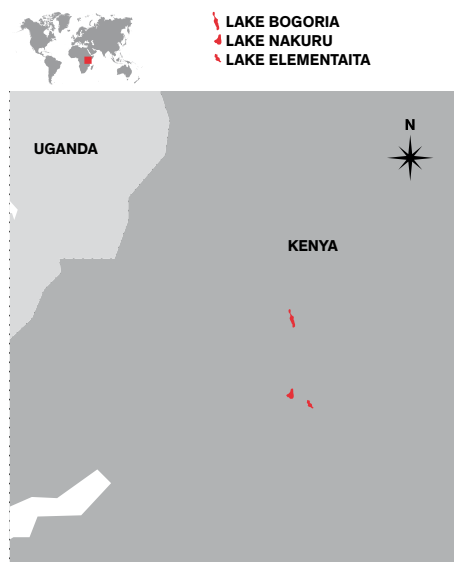
downwarping, began 45 Million years ago (Ma). All this culminates in the present topographical configuration of the still tectonically active rift. The resulting features (lakes, mountains, rivers, cliffs, deserts and plains) have facilitated in the evolution of diverse habitats for important floral and faunal species.

In terms of hydrology, the waters of the three Lakes are of the Na-HCO<sub>3</sub>-Cl type, with the lakes containing the highest level of minerals and alkaline. On the contrary, the rivers present the least level of mineralized and alkaline elements. The largest variability in chemical profile is seen in the rivers some with dominant Magnesium rather than Sodium (Olago *et al.*, 2009). The hydrochemical facies that are exhibited are a function of: Palaeocene/Eocene (P/E), solution kinetics, groundwater flow patterns, and lithology. The Na/Cl ratios indicate that the river and lake waters resemble each other in terms of water source, and that the evolution of lake waters occurs principally by evaporation.

### AVIFAUNA HABITAT

The Kenya Lakes System share similar ecological zones. It is an international bird area and is a key area of waterfowl of global importance. The system is part of a network of birds' habitat and is a migratory flyway of global significance.

The geology of the Kenya Lakes System is beneficial to the avifaunal habitat and flyway. The Great Rift Valley provides ideal conditions for soaring birds due to its geomorphological structure and close proximity to large water bodies (including the Mediterranean and Red Sea). The Great Rift Valley and the adjacent land features provide a steep rising gradient, with a range between 1000 m to over 5000 m at Mount Kilimanjaro. This steep rising gradient creates adiabatic warming of the air and combines with the sea breeze that is displaced upward as it hits the bordering mountain ranges. The rising air currents aid the soaring birds in gliding over long distances using minimum wing beats, hence conserving energy while flying. This has made the flyway the most important route of the Africa-Eurasia flyway system. It represents in fact the largest bird



migration route on earth, a phenomenon of un-matched proportion.

### CONGREGATIONS

The Kenya Lakes System property sustains 75% of the globally significant threatened population of the Near-threatened Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*). This exceeds the 1% global threshold for congregations. This makes the Kenya Lakes System an essential site for the conservation of Lesser Flamingos in the world. The lakes also host globally significant populations of 11 congregatory waterbird species that meet or exceed the 1% of the global thresholds. These globally significant congregations of birds constitute a world heritage and therefore require international cooperation in conservation. Lake Elementaita, one of the sites within the Kenya Lakes System, supports one of the major breeding colonies of the Great White Pelicans (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) in the world.

### AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY FLYWAY

The network of sites serves as stop-over, wintering and summering place for millions of over 100 species of migratory water birds, soaring birds and other terrestrial bird species that use the Great Rift Valley flyway. The migratory birds originate from Europe and northern Asia as well as other parts of Africa.

### TERRESTRIAL SPECIES HABITAT

The terrestrial reserves of the property are areas of intense conservation of globally threatened mammal species. These are the Critically Endangered Black Rhino *Diceros bicornis*, the Near-threatened White Rhino *Ceratotherium simum*, the Endangered African Wild dog, *Lycaon pictus*, the Vulnerable Lion *Panthera leo*, the Vulnerable Cheetah, *Acinonyx jubatus* and the Near-threatened Leopard, *Panthera pardus*.



## PROPOSALS FOR MET CRITERIA

### CRITERION (VII)

The Kenya Lakes System combines geological and biological processes of exceptional natural beauty that is un-matched anywhere else. The birds that congregate in millions on the shores of the lakes with their pink flamingo colour and with the backdrop of faulted scarps, the hot springs and the geysers are a combination of what can only be described as phenomenal. The famous ornithologist Sir Peter Scott used these words: «A sight of incredible beauty and interest and there can be no more remarkable ornithological spectacle in the world». Moreover, the abundant terrestrial plants and animal species intertwining with the animals roaming the adjacent grounds provide a natural setting of superlative natural phenomenon.

### CRITERION (IX)

The three lakes are outstanding examples representing ongoing ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of saline lake ecosystems and communities of plants and animals. The bird migration phenomenon is a historical, biological and ecological process that represents the adaptation of birds to seasonal changes in the environment as well as the breeding cycles. The systematic annual and seasonal migration processes provide us with an extraordinary window to understand the evolution of adaptations by species for survival under extreme and variable conditions. Within the Rift valley lakes in Kenya and Tanzania, the East African flamingo populations have been observed flying, breeding and foraging. Breeding attempts by the Lesser Flamingos have been recorded in the three lakes area although they are usually known to breed in Lake Natron in Tanzania. There is frequent movement of flamingos between the Kenya Lakes System.

The lakes are rich in birdlife with 373, 400 and 450 species recorded for lakes Bogoria, Elementaita and Nakuru respectively.

### CRITERION (X)

From the point of view of science and conservation, the Kenya Lakes System constitute the most important and significant natural habitat for in-situ conservation of biological diversity including globally and regionally threatened species of Outstanding Universal Value. The proposed Kenya Lakes System Property is a key feeding ground for the itinerant Rift Valley congregations of the Near-threatened Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*). It sustains 75% of the globally threatened Lesser Flamingo population.

Spectacular congregations estimated at between 1.5 and 2 million Lesser Flamingos occur at times, together with several hundred thousand of other congregatory waterbird species. The sites also support a great number of large congregations of Palaearctic migrants that winter or stop over in Kenya. Over 100 migratory species use the lakes system during their annual complex pattern of movement between Europe, northern Asia and Africa. The property is a key habitat in the Eastern Rift Valley migratory flyway and in recognition of this key role, the respective lakes have been designated as «Important Bird Areas» by BirdLife International.

Globally threatened bird species found within the Kenya Lakes System include, the Lesser flamingo (Near-threatened), Lesser Kestrel, *Falco naumanni* (Vulnerable), Pallid Harrier, *Circus macrourus* (Near-Threatened), Maccoa Duck *Oxyura maccoa* (Near-Threatened), White-headed Vulture *Trigonoceps occipitalis* (Vulnerable), and Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus* (Near-Threatened). Over 450 species of birds have been recorded at the proposed Kenya Lakes System Property.

The presence of diverse aquatic communities of microflora including *Spirulina platensis* and *Arthrospira fusiformis* provide a stable food base for the Lesser Flamingo population. These are an important component of the food chain and the overall ecology of the East African alkaline lakes system. The extremophile bacteria found within the Kenya Lakes System has immense potential for the development of pharmaceutical products among other products needed for socio-economic development.

The terrestrial zone supports significant populations of threatened mammal species. These include the Black Rhino *Diceros bicornis* (Critically Endangered), and White Rhino *Ceratotherium simum* (Near-threatened).

## CONCLUSION

The globally important concentrations of residents and migratory bird species as well as the presence of globally threatened and endemic species are a clear indication of the international significance of the proposed Kenya Lakes System property. The life in and around this property contributes to the scenic beauty of the landscape one un-matched anywhere else.

## RÉSUMÉ

Le Système des lacs au Kenya est une série composée des trois lacs Elementaita, Nakuru et Bogoria, et située dans la Vallée du Grand Rift. Une candidature visant à inscrire cette série au Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO a été déposée en janvier 2010.

La Vallée du Grand Rift est une particularité géologique s'étendant sur 7000 kilomètres, de la Syrie au Mozambique, et qui présente une fissure encore active tectoniquement de nos jours. Les particularités résultantes (lacs, montagnes, rivières, falaises, déserts et plaines) favorisèrent l'évolution d'habitats divers pour d'importantes espèces animales et végétales.

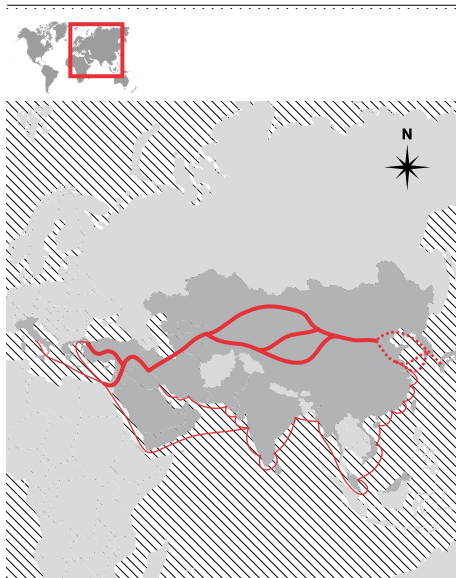
Le Système des lacs au Kenya partage des zones écologiques similaires accueillant notamment une multitude d'espèces d'oiseaux, tels les flamants nains et les pélicans blancs, et faisant partie de la plus grande route migratoire au monde. Ces zones servent également de refuge à des espèces de mammifères terrestres plus ou moins fortement menacées, comme le rhinocéros noir, le rhinocéros blanc, le lycaon, le lion, le guépard ou encore le léopard.

La forte concentration d'espèces d'oiseaux résidents et migrants ainsi que la présence d'espèces endémiques globalement menacées illustrent clairement l'importance internationale de la candidature. La candidature de la série a été justifiée par les critères de sélection (vii), (ix) et (x).

## SILK ROAD(S) GUO ZHAN, CHINA

China has had successful experience in serial inscriptions. At present, what we care most about is the serial transnational nomination of the Silk Road(s). This project is jointly launched by China and the five Central Asian countries, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. So far, many other countries along the Silk Road(s) have shown their interest or participated in the nomination.

The Silk Road(s) was formally acknowledged to originate in 138 BC when the Western Han Dynasty of China sent an official delegation led by Zhang Qian from the then capital Chang'an (today's Xi'an) to Central Asia and Persia. Since then, the cultural route has gradually developed into a road witnessing the friendly and frequent exchanges and fusion in terms of trade, science and technology, religion, tradition and culture between Eastern and Western countries in ancient times. As time passed by, it was extended to East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Europe and Africa, exerting an irreplaceable and indelible influence on the progress of human civilization, leaving tangible remains and playing its role till today. It was named after China's silk, the dominant and most famous commodity for the connection, exchange and trade along the road(s) at the very beginning, by German scholar Richthofen. In view of its long and continuous history, rich connotation, and diversified natural environment and cultural traditions, it is of unparalleled value as a cultural route.



For a serial nomination of a cultural route, what deserves our attention at first is its combination of attributes and age. The Silk Road witnessed the comprehensive commercial, scientific, religious and cultural dissemination, communication and integration represented by silk, and has pushed the mutual influence on traditional lifestyles, customs and art. Road transportation, taking special geographic environment, climate and political and historical change as the background, is the precondition for the combination of the Silk Road(s). In addition to this supporting facilities and defenses, thriving cities, towns, temples, and a large amount of moveable cultural products as well as the intangible cultural heritage are also indispensable. Seen from a general point of view and from the inner coherence and logic of the serial nomination, elements which constitute or support the route, or prospered with its formation and development and proved the exchange and progress of civilizations, can all be regarded as the components of the cultural route, and the possibility, necessity and opportunity for them to be included in the nomination will be decided according to authenticity, integrity and state of conservation and management.

The historical transportation routes must be those most convenient under the conditions that nature prescribes, and the impossible choice for later generations to abandon it. Therefore, it is difficult for a historical road in the pure sense to be kept till today integrally and authentically and without any change. As a result, only by reliable historical and archaeological research and field investigation, and combining those surviving sites selected pursuant to the principle of authenticity, can we identify and nominate this route as a World Heritage. The principle to be followed is that the selected sites shall be directly related to the attributes, functions and effects of the Silk Road(s), rather than merely located along the Silk Road. So far the sites acknowledged by international counterparts and related State Parties include historical roads, ferries, bridges, castles, towns, temples, grottoes, statues, posthouses, camps of camel convoys and other caravan sites, tombs of important historical figures, specific terrains and landforms, etc. According to the above principle, China initially selected 48 sites.

The age of the Silk Road should not have been a problem for it has clear historical records and has been definitely acknowledged. However, some colleagues think that the formation of this important route of ancient humanity should have experienced a

much longer process of evolution. Such view is somewhat reasonable. Nonetheless, most colleagues hold that the explicit name of the Silk Road(s) relates to specific content, attributes and historical periods, thus a certain justified place and age shall be defined. Undoubtedly the famous city Xi'an (the previous capital Chang'an) of Shaanxi Province, China, and the year 138 BC become two key space-time concepts. There are disputes over the ending time of the Silk Road, because to some extent, it continues to be used till today. Major view is to set the ending time in the 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> century, while some insist that it can be much later. Such disputes will influence the selection of the representative elements for combination, but not the justification of the overall value. For the spatial extension of the Silk Road(s), there are no major disputes among the colleagues.

The value of the Silk Road(s) should be seen as a whole. Its Outstanding Universal Value could lie in the fact that it is a comprehensive tangible and intangible route for the communication and fusion of Eastern and Western civilizations, unparalleled in history, and it has played a prominent and vital role in transportation and promotion as a culture bearer for 2000 years of joint development and prosperity of humanity. Therefore, the important basis for selecting sites to be nominated is to consider whether they are irreplaceable components of the route. Moreover their significance in representativeness, authenticity, integrity, state of conservation and management shall be taken into consideration. Another important aspect related to the special attributes of the serial nomination and deserving our attention is how moveable cultural relics and intangible cultural heritage play the role of testimony. We should also take into account what the inner relationship between them represents and what relevant criteria of tangible cultural heritage are.

Colleagues who participate in the project reached a consensus that criteria (ii) and (vi) should be taken as the basic and fundamental criteria. The reason is that historical achievements of the Silk Road(s) can be justified through the following: the trading of goods, the spreading and development of religions, the dissemination of science and technology, the mutual influence of ideologies, customs and traditional lifestyles, the building and planning of towns and defenses, the popularization and development of temples, grottoes, statues and paintings, the construction and opening of roads, the evolution of production modes and accomplishments, the formation of monuments, as well as the catering, clothing, song and dance,

art, etc. They embody the mutual influence and promotion among the humanity through the cultural route, and testify the existence and role of the ideologies, science and technologies with significant value.

Some colleagues argue that the Silk Road(s) meets criterion (iii) because there are rich, diversified and wonderful lifestyles and cultural traditions which influence and communicate with each other intangibly along the Silk Road(s). Other colleagues propose that the Silk Road(s) meets criterion (v) because they acknowledge and admire ancient people's intelligent selection and construction of the vital road(s) under the unique natural and geographic conditions, and the cultural landscape formed through the delicate, continuous and painstaking utilization and management of the special natural conditions and landscapes.

Besides, some colleagues argue that the Silk Road(s) meets criteria (i) and (iv). The reason is that the Silk Road(s) represents a masterpiece in human history, and many of its components are the outstanding examples of human creative genius and of a type of plan or building.

As for the specific value criteria of such an unparalleled large cultural route, the justification depends on further research and powerful argument carried out by related States Parties with the support of international counterparts.

As a transnational nomination, we shall pay attention to the consistency of related academic research and field investigation result. Otherwise, embarrassment will arise. For example the borders of the route in different States Parties may be separated.

What is even more important is that the inscription is not the final objective of the World Heritage nomination instead, the essential objective is to preserve and utilize the heritage in a sustainable manner. It is necessary for the nominated property to have joint and efficient protection, management and monitoring mechanisms. For this reason, China and the five Central Asian countries set up an intergovernmental coordination committee for the nomination of the Silk Road(s). At present its task and responsibility is to organize necessary intergovernmental coordination meetings, academic activities and nomination-related work. Moreover, after the nomination gains initial achievement, we expect relevant governments to pay attention to and arrange the joint protection, management and monitoring mechanisms in order to

allow a permanent and sustainable protection of the site.

Undoubtedly, some sites – as important components of the Silk Road(s) – have already been inscribed on the World Heritage List. For example, Mogao Caves in Dunhuang and Longmen Grottoes in Luoyang, China, and the historic town of Samarkand, Uzbekistan. In particular, Mogao Caves has been justified to meet the six criteria from (i) to (vi). There's an interesting phenomenon in the development process of the World Heritage cause. For the sites which have already been inscribed on the World Heritage List but also belong to a certain serial nomination, when related serial properties are inscribed on the List later than their own inscription, there are three possibilities:

1. Some will abandon the independent World Heritage status and be included in the later serial inscription,
2. Some will both be included in the later inscription and keep the independent status,
3. Others may not be included in the later inscription and they only keep the independent status.

At the initial launching and promotion stage, the serial nomination of the Silk Road(s) has had essential support, coordination and organization provided by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre. The World Heritage Committee has defined, and won professional guidance from ICOMOS which was invited by the World Heritage Centre. Such participation in the early period has been proved efficient to the organization of the transnational serial nomination and has explored a more active and efficient way to implement the World Heritage Convention. The international professional advisory bodies and the World Heritage Centre usually get involved in the initial period of the nomination to provide an overall and principled consultation and guidance as well as transnational cooperation and organization. At the same time related States Parties carry out specific research, investigation and nomination preparation, they mutually organise the specific cooperation modes, procedures and methods, and are responsible for the nomination result. Such mode of transnational joint review deserves our appreciation and has a potential for the development of the «upstream processes» for the preparation of nominations.

## RÉSUMÉ

La (les) route(s) de la soie est un projet de nomination sérielle transnationale lancé conjointement par la Chine et cinq pays d'Asie centrale, à savoir le Kazakhstan, le Kirghizistan, le Tadjikistan, le Turkménistan et l'Ouzbékistan. D'autres pays traversés par la (les) route(s) de la soie ont également manifesté leur intérêt à participer au projet.

L'origine de(s) la route(s) de la soie remonte à 138 av. J.-C., lorsque la dynastie des Han occidentaux envoya une délégation officielle en Asie centrale et en Perse. Dès lors, cet itinéraire culturel se développa progressivement et devint le théâtre d'échanges commerciaux, scientifiques et technologiques, où les religions, les traditions et les cultures se rencontraient. Au fil du temps, cette route s'étendit à l'Asie de l'Est, du Sud-Est et du Sud, à l'Europe ainsi qu'à l'Afrique, exerçant une influence considérable sur les civilisations qui l'empruntèrent.

Certains éléments constitutifs du projet de nomination sérielle transnationale furent déjà inscrits au Patrimoine mondial, telles les Grottes de Mogao (1987) et de Longmen (2000) en Chine ou encore la ville historique de Samarkand (2001) en Ouzbékistan. Certains de ces sites déjà inscrits sont prêts à abandonner leur statut d'inscription indépendante en intégrant la série, alors que d'autres souhaiteraient conserver leur statut d'inscription indépendante. D'autres encore ne désirent pas intégrer la série et rester indépendants.

La nomination sérielle de(s) la route(s) de la soie put compter dès le départ sur le soutien du Centre du Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO pour les questions de coordination et d'organisation et sur les conseils d'ICOMOS. De leur côté, la Chine et les cinq pays d'Asie centrale déjà cités formèrent un comité de coordination intergouvernementale dont la tâche est actuellement d'organiser des rencontres de coordination, des activités académiques et des travaux en rapport avec la nomination.

# QHAPAQ ÑAN

## NURIA SANZ, UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

### BACKGROUND

Qhapaq Ñan, the Andean road system, is a cultural itinerary that constitutes a unique physical accomplishment of the utmost importance to the history of humanity and of the continent of South America.

The construction of Qhapaq Ñan gave rise to an extraordinary road network, planned and laid as a permanent tract through one of the world's most broken and extreme geographical terrains, where the world's greatest biological diversity, coupled with great cultural diversity, is to be found. The roads were used by armies, whole population groups that often amounted to more than 40,000 persons and a large number of llama caravans, transporting goods and raw materials. In addition to the distance covered by that extensive road system, the sheer scale and the quality of the road, built to link the snow-capped mountain range of the Andes, at an altitude of more than 6,000 metres high, to the coast, running through hot rainforests, fertile valleys and absolute deserts, are most outstanding.

All territories were linked to the trunk road along the mountain range of the Andes. Towns, villages and rural areas were thus integrated into a single road grid. There are outstanding examples of the road administration, architectural and engineering technology used in finding solutions to myriad problems posed by the difficult terrain and in adapting to its variable landscape by means of bridges, stairs, ditches and cobblestone paving. This all conducted, under a specific maintenance programme, to the continuity, safety and sanitation of Qhapaq Ñan. Similarly, travel was facilitated by signposts, stores and staging and supply posts (way-side inns) all along the road.

When, in the sixteenth century, the Spanish reached Tawantinsuyu, a very large political entity in the Andes, they found a territory linked together by a communication system that was nearly 6,000 km long and had some 26,000 km of feeder roads. The road network was the outcome of a political project implemented by the Cusco Incas and linking towns and centres of production and

worship together under an economic, social and cultural programme in the service of the State.

The Europeans compared Qhapaq Ñan with the Roman road network, pointing out that, in their opinion, the Andean road technology was even more advanced than that used in Europe at the time.

The central thrust of the Incas' policy, initiated in the sixth century and recorded in millennia of pre-Hispanic Andean history, was expressed to the fullest in terms of territorial spread and maximum linkages among cultures in the fifteenth century. The exceptional feature of this great engineering feat is that its legacy is still physically, functionally and symbolically relevant to Andean peoples today.

The States of Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru have now made this living heritage the focus of a transnational integration project, thus undertaking to safeguard this outstanding feature of the common cultural heritage of Andean America, a unique legacy to the world.

### MAIN ANDEAN ROAD – QHAPAQ ÑAN

In April 2004, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru requested the UNESCO World Heritage Centre/LAC Unit to be the general coordinator of the international process to put forward an ambitious nomination for the inscription of the Main Andean Road, or Qhapaq Ñan (QÑ), the most complex and extensive pre-Hispanic communication network in the Americas, on the World Heritage List.

The Main Andean Road connected a well-developed network of paths and infrastructure constructed over a period of more than 2000 years by pre-Inca Andean cultures. Many of these sites are already featured on the World Heritage List. This system of longitudinal and latitudinal routes, which spanned over 23,000 kilometres, connected various productive, administrative and ceremonial centres and provided links between the centres of power and the warm valley zones as well as the deserts and the jungles at the furthestmost points of the Empire. This road network provided a rich fabric for all kinds of relationships throughout the territory and was an integral part of the power system, which unified the Empire both physically and organically. This system of continental communication grew as a response to a political programme dating back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

The Incas extended the routes to the far ends of the Empire in order to ensure the flow of ideas, power, goods and cosmologies to facilitate the smooth running of all areas of the vast Inca Empire – some four million square kilometres of land from the Pacific coastline to 5000 metres above sea level.

## STRATEGY

- Create a platform of technical exchanges between the countries as to submit a unique and comprehensive nomination file to the World Heritage List;
- take advantage of the nature of the property to develop integration policies;
- harmonize the Tentative List of the Andean region in the framework of the nomination.

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

A Scientific Committee composed of renowned scholars in anthropology, archaeology and ethno-history, as well as national experts selected by their respective countries and the World Heritage Centre was established in April 2005. The purpose of this Committee was to define the outstanding value of the Main Andean Road. The Scientific Committee held its first meeting in Quito, Ecuador in April 2005. The Scientific Committee believes that the Qhapaq Ñan is one of the ancient world's greatest human achievements and, to this day, it serves as a link between ancestral and contemporary heritage in Andean America.

A second meeting of the Scientific Committee (Paris, 2006) sought to develop the basis of the comparative study for the nomination. Academic experts on the ancient routes of communication in the Ancient Empires: international experts on Maya studies, Roman Empire main roads, the trade routes of the Tigris and Euphrates basin, the Silk Route, Indus River communication trails and Greek maritime itineraries, all attended the meeting and reflected, with the Andean specialists, upon the categories of analysis to be fulfilled or a comprehensive comparative study.

A third meeting of the Scientific Committee was held in March 2010 to finalize the proposal for Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the nomination.

## JURIDICAL COMMITTEE

Each country has identified a national expert in legal issues and a legal agreement is being prepared in order to assure the international conservation of the Main Andean Road.

The nomination of Qhapaq Ñan provides the opportunity for the six States Parties to be united in transcending current political sensitive issues in favor of supporting a unique sub-regional cultural integration to reinforce cooperation and be equipped to confront any sensitive political situations in the future.

The Project has been selected by the World Heritage Committee as a best practice case study for transnational serial nominations to the World Heritage List of UNESCO.

## THE ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS REPOSITORY ON THE WEBSITE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

The Qhapaq Ñan repository was created especially for this nomination process, to secure data management, improve communication between partners and to enable the development of the thematic coherence of the nomination. Individuals involved in the nomination are given access to the repository and are able to make use of document and data exchange mechanisms, a messaging service and an interactive calendar for related deadlines and thematic meetings. This service has proved of great value for the actors involved in the process, enabling groups to be consolidated on a secure server, accessible from anywhere in the world, and provides a flexible common reference point for all involved parties.

## SOME IMPORTANT FIGURES OF THE PROJECT

- 300 hundred people working on daily basis (field registration, database architecture, and ethnohistorical documentation);
- six countries, six interdisciplinary National Commissions;
- 20 international experts: from the universities of Lima, Harvard, Buenos Aires, Canberra, Bogota, Michigan and Georgetown- Washington;
- 12 International Experts Meetings organized;
- political Committee of Ambassadors from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru;

- the project has been selected by the Summit of Head of State and Governments of Latin America as a fair programme for regional integration;
- partnership with: American Museum of Natural History, Getty Conservation Institute, and Andean Ministries and Research Centres.

The Incas are a part of a lengthy, creative historical process. They knew how to take advantage of the lessons learned by their forebears, on physically and politically integrating a cultural and natural territory of enormous diversity and shaping it with the wisdom of a society endowed with a personality of its own, thanks to the constant contact and mutual knowledge facilitated by the road network.

The vast typological variety of scales, techniques, finishes, layouts and materials used in building the Road are a testimony of technically impeccable expert construction skills. The detail with which they sought to attenuate altitudes, using only human strength as their driving force, in the absence of draught animals and the wheel, is a tribute to a great imperial adventure, a success achieved in a matter of just a few generations.

The Qhapaq Ñan was a system of communication that enabled the dissemination and maturity of the regional cultures and the appropriation of common cultural values and an Andean cosmic vision. Today, the cultural landscapes of the Qhapaq Ñan shape a context of exceptional cultural diversity, in which the living Andean cultures continue to convey a universal message: the cultural capacity of human beings to convert into a liveable environment one of the most difficult geographical realities of the American continent.

The World Heritage Centre is coordinating the nomination initiative, which seeks to become a strategy of international cooperation at the service of knowledge and of the future conservation of the authenticity and integrity of the Main Andean Road. This is not a project of an archaeological nature intended to reconstruct the original course of the 16<sup>th</sup> century road legacy, but rather to take on the challenge of ensuring conditions of sustainable development for the cosmic vision of the contemporary Andean communities.

## RÉSUMÉ

Qhapaq Ñan, un réseau d'itinéraires extraordinaire dans la région des Andes, intégrant villes, villages et zones rurales et traversant les régions de la côte jusqu'aux sommets des Andes à 6'000 m d'altitude, représenta au 16e siècle un système de communication de 6'000 km de long et environ 24'000 km de routes secondaires. A partir de 2004, les États parties d'Argentine, Bolivie, Colombie, Chile, Équateur et Pérou, soutenus par le Centre du Patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO officiant en tant que coordinateur général, coopèrent au projet d'une proposition d'inscription du Qhapaq Ñan. Dès lors, des comités scientifique et juridique furent chargés d'établir la Valeur Universelle Exceptionnelle du Qhapaq Ñan et l'analyse comparative avec d'autres systèmes de communication, ainsi que de mettre en place des accords juridiques entre les États afin de garantir la préservation internationale de la série. Un système de gestion en ligne de tous les documents permet un travail cohérent et coordonné pour tous les participants: 300 personnes expertes travaillant dans les États parties, six commissions nationales interdisciplinaires des pays participants, 20 experts internationaux universitaires, un comité politique regroupant les Ambassadeurs des États parties concernés et des partenariats avec différents musées et centres de recherches sont aujourd'hui impliqués dans la préparation de cette nomination.

# 4. PRESENTATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE EXPERT MEETING

AT THE 34<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD  
HERITAGE COMMITTEE, BRASILIA, BRAZIL (2010)

# PRÉSENTATION DES RÉSULTATS DE LA RÉUNION INTERNATIONALE D'EXPERTS

À LA 34<sup>ÈME</sup> SESSION DU COMITÉ DU  
PATRIMOINE MONDIAL, BRASILIA, BRÉSIL (2010)



**P.70**

WHC-10/34.COM/9B

**REPORT ON  
SERIAL  
NOMINATIONS  
AND  
PROPERTIES**

34<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE  
COMMITTEE, BRASILIA, BRAZIL (2010)

**P.72**

WHC-10/34.COM/9B

**RAPPORT  
SUR LES  
PROPOSITIONS  
D'INSCRIPTION  
ET LES  
BIENS EN SÉRIE**

34<sup>ÈME</sup> SESSION DU COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE  
MONDIAL, BRASILIA, BRÉSIL (2010)

WHC-10/34.COM/9B

# REPORT ON SERIAL NOMI- NATIONS AND PROPERTIES

34<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE  
COMMITTEE, BRASILIA, BRAZIL (2010)

## I. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORLD HERITAGE EXPERT MEETING ON SERIAL NOMINATIONS AND PROPERTIES, 25–27 FEBRUARY 2010, ITTINGEN, SWITZERLAND

### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The participants to the International Expert Meeting on World Heritage serial-nominations and properties which took place from 25–27 February 2010 in Ittingen, Switzerland, appreciated the support of the Swiss authorities, in particular the Swiss Federal Office of Culture, the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment and the Canton of Thurgau, for the financial support and for organizing and hosting this important event in collaboration with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

1.2 The meeting was attended by 29 participants and experts from 17 countries, as well as by representatives of IUCN, ICOMOS, ICCROM, and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre. The agenda and the list of participants of the meeting are attached as Annexes II and III respectively.

1.3 The terms of reference of the expert meeting were defined by the Decisions of the World Heritage Committee at its 32<sup>nd</sup> (Quebec City, 2008, 32 COM 10B) and 33<sup>rd</sup> (Seville, 2009, 33 COM 10A) sessions respectively. The Meeting also took into consideration the reflections and the results of the two Vilm workshops on serial natural properties (2008 and 2009) and took into account the considerations necessary for cultural properties.

1.4 The meeting provided a forum for intense and fruitful debates, based on case studies from existing World Heritage properties and nomination projects of national and transnational serial sites, as well as the background papers and inputs

of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

1.5 The Meeting underlined that serial/transnational sites should be treated in the same way as single sites and encouraged all States Parties involved in a transnational nomination to consider the implications of serial approaches.

1.6 The Meeting recommended promoting and implementing the concept of transnational serial nominations as a tool for international cooperation, shared approaches and thus better management and conservation practice – for example, by using new technologies such as establishing virtual visitor centres which, in particular, facilitate the understanding of the concept and scientific framework of such nominations.

1.7 The Meeting proposed the development of a vision to celebrate such international cooperation in view of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *World Heritage Convention* and to look into opportunities for sharing heritage.

1.8 The Meeting further considered the benefits of broader approaches which could bring the experience of the *Convention* to sites that are not within the World Heritage List. In this way, the World Heritage List remains a select list but also promotes and celebrates a wider network.

## 2. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Meeting adopted the following conclusions and recommendations, further suggesting that they are also communicated to other expert meetings: World Heritage, Conservation and Sustainable Development (Paraty, Brazil, March 2010), Upstream Processes to Nominations: Creative Approaches in the Nomination Process (Phuket, Thailand, April 2010) and Integrity for Cultural Properties (Abu Dhabi, UAE, Fall 2010).

### 2.1 OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE AND SERIAL PROPERTIES

The Meeting recommended that the following concerns be taken into account by the Committee in relation to paragraph 137 of the *Operational Guidelines*:

- i) The requirement that the component parts of a serial property be of: «a) the same historico-cultural group; b) the same type of property which is characteristic of the geographical zone; c) the same geological, geomorphological formation, the same biogeographic province, or the same ecosystem type» may

lead to a mere catalogue of sites without an adequate definition of the functional links between the component parts, or an explanation as to how they contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property as a whole. For cultural properties, component parts should reflect clearly defined, cultural, social, historical or functional links over time. For natural properties, functional links between the component parts should be considered as including links that provide landscape, ecological, evolutionary or habitat connectivity. This overall concern also applies to the serial extensions of properties.

- ii) Each component part should contribute to the OUV of the property as a whole in a substantial, scientific, readily defined and discernible way, and may include, inter alia, intangible attributes. The resulting OUV should be easily understood and communicated.
- iii) Consistently, and in order to avoid an excessive fragmentation of component parts, the process of nomination of the property, including the selection of the component parts, should take fully into account the overall manageability and coherence of the property.

### 2.2 NOMINATION PROCESS OF SERIAL PROPERTIES, TENTATIVE LISTS

2.2.1 The Expert Meeting recommended to the World Heritage Centre to prepare a new Annex 2b of the *Operational Guidelines* to indicate the format for Tentative List submissions for serial transnational and transboundary sites which would indicate the agreement between all of the States Parties involved. The proposed property would therefore only be registered within the Tentative Lists as a serial transnational site when all States Parties involved have included their component parts in their national Tentative Lists.

2.2.2 The Meeting stressed specifically the requirement of harmonization of Tentative Lists (paragraph 73 *Operational Guidelines*) and the opportunities for international assistance and regional training workshops (paragraphs 75–76 *Operational Guidelines*).

The meeting further requested that:

- The World Heritage Centre promote the issue of the harmonization of Tentative List processes in Periodic Reporting Meetings;
- The Advisory Bodies, consistent with paragraph 73 of the *Operational Guidelines*, provide guidance to States Parties on the preparation of Tentative Lists, including through Periodic Reporting Meetings, gap analysis and the preparation of

thematic studies for regions or sub-regions where serial nominations are being considered.

#### NOMINATIONS

2.2.3 The Expert Meeting requested the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to advise on best practice in the process of serial transnational nomination. The meeting explored the possibility of an annex or a separate supplement to the manual on nominations as well as a new Annex 5b for the nomination format in the Operational Guidelines on serial transnational sites which could be addressed in the pending revision of the *Operational Guidelines*.

2.2.4 The Expert Meeting noted that possible future nominations are included in the Periodic Reporting Questionnaire, and recommended that those responsible for drafting the nomination be targeted for extra training, capacity building and mentoring including invitation to attend a World Heritage Committee.

2.2.5 In relation to paragraph 132 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the Expert Meeting underlined the importance that, in preparing serial nominations, States Parties carry out a comparative analysis of the whole property and provide appropriate justification, relative to the demonstration of OUV, for the selection, number and size of the component parts of the nominated property.

2.2.6 The Meeting recommended that an adequate comparative analysis should be an essential requirement for a nomination to be accepted as complete.

#### OVERALL FRAMEWORK

2.2.7 The Meeting recommended that the Advisory Bodies offer guidance in the initial planning stages of potentially complex serial transnational properties, prior to the development of specific nominations. The Meeting noted that issues of timing and resources for the Advisory Bodies would need to be considered for such guidance to be effective.

#### EXTENSIONS

2.2.8 Concerning nominations of extensions, the Meeting discussed how States Parties should aim to add value and enhance the integrity of an existing nomination and should avoid the nomination of «catalogues».

2.2.9 The Meeting requested that a signature should be required of all States Parties involved in the case of an extension for it to be accepted as complete.

#### EVALUATION

2.2.10 The Meeting recommended that the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre should analyze and report to the World Heritage Committee on the additional resources required, and work load resulting, from the evaluation of large scale, complex nominations. This assessment should be made in comparison to the equivalent nominations of individual properties.

2.2.11 The Meeting noted that, consistent with Annex 6 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the Advisory Bodies should preferably not send experts on field evaluations of a serial nomination from countries known to have sites proposed for inclusion in further phases of the same nomination (as noted in Tentative Lists).

#### 2.3 STATE OF CONSERVATION, INSCRIPTION ON AND REMOVAL FROM THE LIST OF THE WORLD HERITAGE

2.3.1 The Meeting looked at the issue of how serial properties differ from other properties and the legal issues involved. It noted that each State Party, having ratified the *Convention*, is responsible for heritage located in its own territory. For serial transnational and transboundary properties, there is a level of shared responsibility. This has implications for management, conservation and danger listing.

2.3.2 The Meeting noted that when a series of sites is nominated, each State Party should be aware of the implications (both in terms of opportunities and benefits, as well as specific additional challenges) in relation to the nomination strategy they choose to adopt. Examples of different nomination strategies include:

- a) Nominating single properties, including series of national sites;
- b) extensions to existing World Heritage properties (both single or serial);
- c) nominating a series of single properties under a common framework (but not constituting a single property);
- d) nominating a single serial transnational property.

2.3.4 The Meeting noted that upstream processes for conservation and management have to be in place prior to any nomination and inscription of serial/transnational properties. An agreed management system has to be developed for all components in the series. This also needs to be applied for extensions to existing properties.

2.3.5 The Meeting recognized that if the OUV clearly acknowledges and articulates how the component parts contribute to the

whole of the serial site, this will enhance management and conservation processes and improve communication of the OUV to the general public.

2.3.6 The Meeting recommended that the States Parties clarify the approach they choose prior to nomination and this should be done if possible at the time of preparing the Tentative List (see 2.2.1 above). After nomination, all conservation issues need to be addressed through a functional and effective management system that guarantees effective communication and coordination. Specifically in the case of threats and potential impacts to transnational sites, the issues need to be addressed jointly.

2.3.9 The Meeting also noted that the issue of integrity of serial national sites requires further reflection and requested that this be considered at the forthcoming meeting on integrity for cultural properties.

2.3.10 The Meeting considered that reactive monitoring missions should address the problems and issues identified within a serial property and establish which component(s) might be affected, and how each of those component(s) relate(s) to OUV. Once this is established, the Committee needs to dispatch the mission to the relevant component(s). The report of the reactive monitoring mission should clearly identify whether the OUV of the serial property as a whole is under threat.

2.3.11 The Meeting recommended that guidance for conservation practice within serial approaches be prepared jointly by the Advisory Bodies. This guidance should include transnational cases, how to establish a common conservation vision, and experience of different nomination approaches.

#### 2.4 MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND TRANSNATIONAL SERIAL PROPERTIES

2.4.1 The Meeting considered that, in conformity with the *Operational Guidelines* of the *1972 Convention*, a transnational serial property requires a management system, which should be understood as: a) a tool for coordination between the component parts of the serial property, and b) a strategic process describing, in an accountable and transparent way, how the management of the property as a whole is intended to function in terms of objectives and coordination.

2.4.2 The Meeting recognized that an adequate international management system contributes critically to the success of joint conservation efforts, allowing for the exchange of experience and collaborative

efforts in terms of research and conservation. This is relevant, not only to the nominated property, but also to other related sites.

2.4.3 The Meeting considered coordination as an essential feature of the management system of a transnational serial property and drew attention to the following factors: a) different languages and institutional cultures, including those of local communities, b) the «participatory management», that is, the involvement at all levels of partners and stakeholders in the management of each component of the property, c) the challenge of conveying the significance of the serial character to a broader audience.

2.4.4 The Meeting considered that a formal intergovernmental agreement is of particular value as the basis of coordination within the management system for a transnational serial property. Such an agreement should be concluded to establish clear responsibilities, applicable both for the preparation of the nomination and the follow up to the possible inscription. For the purpose of the preservation of the OUV of the property, such an agreement should include a common vision for the conservation and sustainable development of the property and a common understanding and commitment to the management system. Common conservation objectives should be established and translated into specific management activities directed at the OUV of the property at the international, national and local levels.

2.4.5 The Meeting recommended that guidelines on the management of transnational serial properties should be developed to include, inter alia, how to:

- a) Explain, and, where appropriate, clarify, the concept of a «management system» as regards a transnational serial property, consistent with the *Operational Guidelines*;
- b) address the issues of: different languages and institutional cultures, including those of local communities; the involvement of partners and stakeholders in the management plan at all levels; awareness raising, with particular attention to the common understanding of OUV; articulating and building on the existing management policies, including traditional practices; reporting within the framework of the *World Heritage Convention*;
- c) ensure comprehensive coordination and communication, including within each State Party and between the States Parties involved;
- d) take advantage of, and raise awareness on, relevant best practice, case studies, legal approaches and experience on

management, using existing materials and information resources and, when appropriate, developing new ones;

- e) define the activities and the responsibilities at the different levels of the management system;
- f) define the features of an effective formal intergovernmental agreement, as the basis for the coordination of the management system.

## II. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision: 34 COM 9B

*The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Having examined *Document WHC-10/34.COM/9B*;

2. Recalling *Decisions* 32 COM 10B and 33 COM 10A adopted at its 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) and 33rd (Seville, 2009) sessions respectively; and thanking the State Party of Switzerland for having hosted the *International Expert Meeting on serial nominations and properties (Ittingen, Switzerland, 25 -27 February 2010) in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre*;

3. Notes *the detailed report provided by the expert meeting which reflects on a wide range of issues relevant to serial and transnational World Heritage properties and nominations and further notes that an electronic publication is under preparation*;

4. Considers *the conclusions and recommendations aimed at promoting and implementing the concept of transnational serial nominations as a tool for international co-operation, shared approaches and better management and conservation practice*;

5. Also notes *that draft changes to Annex 2 and Annex 5 of the Operational Guidelines have been included in Document WHC-10/34.COM/13 for consideration of the World Heritage Committee*.

WHC-10/34.COM/9B

# RAPPORT SUR LES PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION ET LES BIENS EN SÉRIE

34<sup>ÈME</sup> SESSION DU COMITÉ DU PATRIMOINE  
MONDIAL, BRASILIA, BRÉSIL (2010)

## I. CONCLUSIONS ET RECOMMANDATIONS DE LA RÉUNION INTERNATIONALE D'EXPERTS DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL SUR LES PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION DE BIENS EN SÉRIE, 25–27 FÉVRIER 2010, ITTINGEN, SUISSE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Les participants à la réunion internationale d'experts du patrimoine mondial sur les propositions d'inscription et les biens en série qui s'est tenue du 25–27 février 2010 à Ittingen, en Suisse, ont apprécié le soutien des autorités suisses, en particulier de l'Office fédéral de la culture, de l'Office fédéral de l'environnement et du canton de Thurgovie, qui ont apporté un soutien financier et ont organisé et accueilli cet important événement en collaboration avec le Centre du patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO.

1.2 Vingt-neuf participants et experts de dix-sept pays ainsi que des représentants de l'UICN, de l'ICOMOS, de l'ICCROM et du Centre du patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO ont assisté à la réunion. L'ordre du jour de la réunion et la liste des participants sont respectivement joints en Annexes II et III.

1.3 Les termes de référence de la réunion d'experts ont été définis par les décisions du Comité du patrimoine mondial à ses 32<sup>ÈME</sup> (Québec, 2008, 32 COM 10B) et 33<sup>ÈME</sup> (Séville, 2009, 33 COM 10A) sessions respectivement. Les décisions sont reportées à l'Annexe IV. La réunion a également pris en considération les réflexions et les résultats des deux ateliers de Vilm sur les biens naturels en série (2008 et 2009) et pris en compte les considérations nécessaires pour les biens culturels.

1.4 La réunion a servi de cadre à des discussions intenses et fructueuses, basées sur des études de cas de biens déjà inscrits sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial et de projets de propositions d'inscription nationales et transnationales en série, ainsi que sur les dossiers et contributions du Centre du patrimoine mondial et des organisations consultatives.

1.5 La réunion a souligné le fait que les sites en série/transnationaux devaient être traités de la même manière que les sites simples et a encouragé tous les États parties engagés dans une proposition d'inscription transnationale à réfléchir sur les implications des approches en série.

1.6 La réunion a recommandé la promotion et la mise en oeuvre du concept de propositions d'inscription transnationales en série comme outil favorisant la coopération internationale, les approches communes et donc une meilleure pratique de gestion et de conservation – par exemple, en utilisant de nouvelles technologies telles que la création de centres de visiteurs virtuels qui, en particulier, facilitent la compréhension du concept et du cadre scientifique de ces propositions d'inscription.

1.7 La réunion a proposé qu'une vision soit élaborée pour célébrer cette coopération internationale en vue du 40<sup>ème</sup> anniversaire de la *Convention du patrimoine mondial* et pour explorer les possibilités de partage patrimonial.

1.8 La réunion a également réfléchi sur les bienfaits d'approches plus larges qui pourraient apporter l'expérience de la *Convention* à des sites qui ne sont pas inscrits sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial. De cette façon, la Liste du patrimoine mondial reste une liste fermée mais promeut et célèbre également un réseau plus étendu.

## 2. CONCLUSIONS ET RECOMMANDATIONS

La réunion a adopté les conclusions et recommandations suivantes, suggérant par ailleurs qu'elles soient également communiquées à d'autres réunions d'experts: Patrimoine mondial, conservation et développement durable (Paraty, Brésil, mars 2010), Traitement en amont des propositions d'inscription: approches créatives dans le processus de proposition d'inscription (Phuket, Thaïlande, avril 2010) et Intégrité pour les biens culturels (Abou Dhabi, EAU, automne 2010).

### 2.1 VALEUR UNIVERSELLE EXCEPTIONNELLE ET BIENS EN SÉRIE

La réunion a recommandé que les préoccupations suivantes soient prises en compte par le Comité à l'égard du paragraphe 137 des *Orientations*:

- i) La condition que les éléments constitutifs d'un bien en série appartiennent: «a) au même groupe historico-culturel; b) au même type de bien caractéristique de la zone géographique; c) à la même formation géologique, géomorphologique, à la même province biogéographique, ou au même type d'écosystème» peut donner lieu à un simple catalogage de sites sans définition adéquate des liens fonctionnels entre éléments constitutifs, expliquant de quelle manière ils contribuent à la valeur universelle exceptionnelle (VUE) du bien dans son ensemble. Pour les biens culturels, les éléments constitutifs devraient refléter des liens culturels, sociaux, historiques ou fonctionnels clairement définis dans le temps. Pour les biens naturels, les liens fonctionnels entre les éléments constitutifs devraient être considérés comme incluant des liens qui génèrent une connectivité au niveau du paysage, de l'écologie, de l'évolution ou de l'habitat. Cette préoccupation générale s'applique également aux extensions de biens en série.
- ii) Chaque élément constitutif devrait contribuer à la VUE du bien dans son ensemble, d'une manière substantielle, scientifique, aisément définie et visible, et peut inclure, entre autres, des attributs immatériels. La VUE en résultant devrait être aisément comprise et transmise.
- iii) De façon cohérente, et afin d'éviter une fragmentation excessive des éléments constitutifs, le processus de proposition d'inscription du bien, incluant la sélection des éléments constitutifs, devrait pleinement prendre en compte la gérabilité d'ensemble et la cohérence du bien.

### 2.2 PROCESSUS DE PROPOSITION D'INSCRIPTION DE BIENS EN SÉRIE

#### LISTES INDICATIVES

2.2.1 La réunion d'experts a recommandé au Centre du patrimoine mondial de préparer une nouvelle Annexe 2b des *Orientations* arrêtant le format pour la soumission des Listes indicatives pour les sites transnationaux et transfrontaliers en série faisant état de l'accord de tous les États parties engagés. Le bien proposé ne devrait par conséquent être porté sur les Listes indicatives comme site transnational en série que lorsque tous les États parties engagés ont inclus leurs éléments constitutifs dans leurs Listes indicatives nationales.

2.2.2 La réunion a spécifiquement souligné l'exigence d'harmonisation des Listes indicatives (paragraphe 73 des *Orientations*) et les possibilités d'assistance internationale et d'ateliers régionaux de formation (paragraphe 75–76 des *Orientations*). La réunion a par ailleurs demandé:

- au Centre du patrimoine mondial de promouvoir la publication de l'harmonisation des processus d'inscription sur les Listes indicatives dans les réunions de soumission de rapports périodiques;
- aux organisations consultatives, conformément au paragraphe 73 des *Orientations*, de porter assistance aux États parties dans la préparation des Listes indicatives, y compris par l'intermédiaire de réunions de soumission de rapports périodiques, analyses des lacunes et préparation d'études thématiques pour les régions ou sous-régions où des propositions d'inscription en série sont envisagées.

#### PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION

2.2.3 La réunion d'experts a demandé au Centre du patrimoine mondial et aux organisations consultatives d'apporter leurs conseils en termes de bonne pratique dans le processus de proposition d'inscription transnationale en série. La réunion a exploré la possibilité d'une annexe ou d'un supplément distinct au manuel sur les propositions d'inscription ainsi que d'une nouvelle Annexe 5b arrêtant le format des propositions d'inscription dans les *Orientations* sur les sites transnationaux en série, pouvant être réalisés dans le cadre de la révision en cours des *Orientations*.

2.2.4 La réunion d'experts a noté que d'éventuelles futures propositions d'inscription figurent dans le questionnaire de soumission des rapports périodiques et a recommandé que les personnes chargées de rédiger les propositions d'inscription soient identifiées pour suivre une formation complémentaire, des activités de renforcement des capacités et un programme de mentorat incluant une invitation à prendre part aux sessions du Comité du patrimoine mondial.

2.2.5 Au regard du paragraphe 132 des *Orientations*, la réunion d'experts a souligné l'importance pour les États parties, dans la préparation des propositions d'inscription en série, de réaliser une analyse comparative de l'ensemble du bien et de fournir une justification appropriée, se rapportant à la démonstration de la VUE, pour la sélection, le nombre et la taille des éléments constitutifs du bien proposé pour inscription.

2.2.6 La réunion a recommandé qu'une analyse comparative appropriée soit une condition essentielle pour qu'une proposition d'inscription soit acceptée comme complète.

#### CADRE GÉNÉRAL

2.2.7 La réunion a recommandé que les organisations consultatives donnent des indications lors des phases de planification initiales de sites transnationaux en série potentiellement complexes avant l'élaboration de propositions d'inscription spécifiques. La réunion a noté que les questions de calendrier et de ressources pour les organisations consultatives devront être prises en compte pour l'efficacité de ces indications.

#### EXTENSIONS

2.2.8 En ce qui concerne les extensions, la réunion a débattu de la manière dont les États parties pourraient ajouter de la valeur et renforcer l'intégrité d'une proposition d'inscription existante et de la nécessité d'éviter l'inscription de « catalogues ».

2.2.9 La réunion a demandé qu'une signature soit requise de tous les États parties impliqués dans le cas d'une extension afin qu'elle soit acceptée comme complète.

#### ÉVALUATION

2.2.10 La réunion a recommandé que les organisations consultatives et le Centre du patrimoine mondial analysent les ressources supplémentaires requises et la charge de travail résultant de l'évaluation de propositions d'inscription complexes et de grande envergure et en rendent compte au Comité du patrimoine mondial. Cette évaluation devrait être réalisée par rapport aux propositions d'inscription équivalentes des biens individuels.

2.2.11 La réunion a noté que, conformément à l'Annexe 6 des *Orientations*, les organisations consultatives devraient de préférence ne pas envoyer d'experts pour des évaluations sur site de pays connus pour avoir des sites proposés pour inscription dans une phase plus avancée de la même proposition d'inscription (comme noté dans les Listes indicatives).

#### 2.3 ÉTAT DE CONSERVATION, INSCRIPTION SUR LA LISTE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL ET RETRAIT

2.3.1 La réunion s'est intéressée à la manière dont les sites en série différaient des autres sites et aux aspects juridiques impliqués. Elle a noté que chaque État partie, ayant ratifié la *Convention*, est responsable du patrimoine situé sur son propre territoire. En ce qui concerne les sites transnationaux et transfrontaliers en série, la responsabilité

vis-à-vis du bien est partagée. Cela a des implications pour la gestion, la conservation et l'inscription sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial en péril.

2.3.2 La réunion a noté que lorsqu'un site en série est proposé pour inscription, chaque État partie se doit d'être conscient des implications (autant en termes d'opportunités et avantages que de défis supplémentaires spécifiques) vis-à-vis de la stratégie de proposition d'inscription que les pays choisissent d'adopter. Parmi les exemples de stratégies de proposition d'inscription figurent:

- la proposition d'inscription de sites uniques, incluant des sites nationaux en série;
- les extensions de biens déjà inscrits sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial (uniques ou en série);
- la proposition d'inscription de sites uniques en vertu d'un cadre commun (mais ne constituant pas un bien unique);
- la proposition d'inscription d'un site transnational en série unique.

2.3.4 La réunion a noté que les processus amont concernant la conservation et la gestion doivent être en place avant toute proposition d'inscription et inscription de biens transnationaux/en série. Un système de gestion convenu doit être élaboré pour l'ensemble des éléments de la série. Cela doit également être appliqué pour les extensions des biens déjà inscrits.

2.3.5 La réunion a reconnu que si la VUE reconnaît et formule mieux la manière dont les éléments constitutifs contribuent à l'ensemble du site en série, cela améliorera les processus de gestion et de conservation et profitera à la présentation et diffusion de la VUE auprès du grand public.

2.3.6 La réunion a recommandé aux États parties de clarifier l'approche qu'ils choisissent avant la proposition d'inscription et que cela soit fait, si possible, lors de la préparation de la Liste indicative (voir 2.2.1 ci-dessus). Après la proposition d'inscription, toutes les questions de conservation doivent être traitées par l'intermédiaire d'un système de gestion fonctionnel et concret et une communication et coordination efficaces. En particulier dans le cas de menaces et d'impacts potentiels sur les sites transnationaux, les questions doivent être traitées conjointement.

2.3.7 La réunion a également noté que la question de l'intégrité des sites nationaux en série demande une plus ample réflexion et a demandé que ce point soit envisagé lors de

la prochaine réunion sur l'intégrité pour les biens culturels.

2.3.8 La réunion a estimé que les missions de suivi réactif devraient traiter les problèmes et questions identifiés au sein d'un bien en série et établir quel(s) élément(s) pouvaient être affecté(s) et de quelle manière chacun de ces éléments se rapportaient à la VUE. Lorsque cela est établi, le Comité doit envoyer la mission sur l'élément ou les éléments en question. Le rapport de la mission de suivi réactif devrait clairement identifier si la VUE du bien en série est menacée.

2.3.9 La réunion a recommandé que des conseils en matière de pratique de conservation dans le cadre d'approches en série soient préparées conjointement par les organisations consultatives. Ces conseils devraient inclure des cas transnationaux, préciser la manière d'établir une vision de conservation commune et rendre compte d'approches de propositions d'inscription différentes.

#### 2.4 SYSTÈMES DE GESTION ET BIENS TRANSNATIONAUX EN SÉRIE

2.4.1 La réunion a considéré que, conformément aux *Orientations* de la *Convention de 1972*, un bien transnational en série exige un système de gestion, qui doit être compris comme: a) un outil de coordination entre les éléments constitutifs du bien en série, et b) un processus stratégique décrivant, de manière responsable et transparente, de quelle façon la gestion du bien dans son ensemble est supposée fonctionner en termes d'objectifs et de coordination.

2.4.2 La réunion a reconnu qu'un système de gestion international adéquat contribue de manière importante à la réussite des efforts conjoints de conservation, permettant l'échange d'expériences et d'efforts collaboratifs en termes de recherche et de conservation. Cela s'applique non seulement pour le bien du patrimoine mondial proposé à l'inscription mais également pour d'autres sites apparentés.

2.4.3 La réunion a estimé que la coordination était une caractéristique essentielle du système de gestion d'un bien transnational en série et a attiré l'attention sur les facteurs suivants: a) différentes langues et cultures institutionnelles, y compris celles des communautés locales, b) « gestion participative », c'est-à-dire participation à tous les niveaux des partenaires et parties prenantes dans le plan de gestion de chaque élément du bien, c) le défi pour transmettre l'importance du caractère en série à un public plus large.

2.4.4 La réunion a considéré qu'un accord intergouvernemental officiel était particulièrement important comme base de coordination du système de gestion pour un bien transnational en série. Un tel accord devrait être conclu pour définir des responsabilités claires, applicables à la fois pour la préparation de la proposition d'inscription et le suivi de l'inscription éventuelle. Aux fins de la préservation de la VUE du bien, un tel accord se doit d'inclure une vision commune pour la conservation et le développement durable du bien et une compréhension et un engagement communs envers le système de gestion. Des objectifs de conservation communs doivent être établis et traduits en activités de gestion spécifiques concentrées sur la VUE du bien aux niveaux international, national et local.

2.4.5 La réunion a recommandé que des orientations sur la gestion des biens transnationaux en série soient développées et contiennent, entre autres, des précisions sur la manière:

- a) d'expliquer et, le cas échéant, de clarifier le concept de «système de gestion» pour un bien transnational en série, en conformité avec les Orientations;
- b) de traiter les questions de: différentes langues et cultures institutionnelles, y compris celles des communautés locales; participation des partenaires et parties prenantes dans le plan de gestion à tous les niveaux; sensibilisation, avec une attention particulière au développement conjoint et à l'importance de la VUE; articulation et renforcement des politiques de gestion existantes, y compris les pratiques traditionnelles; soumission de rapports dans le cadre de la Convention du patrimoine mondial;
- c) de garantir une coordination et une communication complètes, y compris au sein de chaque État partie et entre les États parties engagés;
- d) de tirer profit de et sensibiliser aux bonnes pratiques, études de cas, approches juridiques et expériences de gestion pertinentes, à l'aide des matériaux et ressources existants et, le cas échéant, en élaborant de nouveaux;
- e) de définir les activités et les responsabilités aux différents niveaux du système de gestion;
- g) de définir les caractéristiques d'un accord intergouvernemental officiel efficace, en tant que base pour la coordination du système de gestion.

## II. PROJET DE DÉCISION

Projet de décision: 34 COM 9B

*Le Comité du patrimoine mondial,*

1. Ayant examiné le document WHC-10/34.COM/9B;
2. Rappelant les décisions 32 COM 10B et 33 COM 10A adoptées respectivement à sa 32<sup>e</sup> (Québec, 2008) et 33<sup>ème</sup> (Séville, 2009) sessions; et remerciant l'État partie suisse d'avoir accueilli la réunion internationale d'experts sur les propositions d'inscription de biens en série (Ittingen, Suisse, 25–27 février 2010) en coopération avec le Centre du patrimoine mondial;
3. Prend note du rapport détaillé remis par la réunion d'experts concernant ses réflexions sur les biens transnationaux et en série du patrimoine mondial et les propositions d'inscription et note également qu'une publication électronique est en préparation;
4. Prend acte des conclusions et recommandations destinées à promouvoir et mettre en oeuvre le concept de propositions d'inscription transnationales en série comme un outil favorisant la coopération internationale, les approches communes et une meilleure pratique de gestion et de conservation;
5. Note également que des projets de modification des Annexes 2 et 5 des Orientations ont été inclus dans le document WHC-10/34.COM/13 pour examen par le Comité du patrimoine mondial.

**ANNEX I**

Agenda of the expert meeting

**WEDNESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2010**

Arrival and registration at Kartause Ittingen, Switzerland

**THURSDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2010****09.00 – 10.30****Session 1: Opening Session**

Chair: Oliver Martin

Welcome by hosting country (10')

Johann Mürner

Briefing on the Meeting (40')  
Background and general issues  
Objectives and rules for all discussionsMechtild Rössler  
Alessandro Balsamo

Results of the two previous workshops (Vilm, Germany) (30')

Barbara Engels

**10.30 – 11.00**

Coffee Break

**11.00 – 13.00****Session 2: Background, Results of previous meetings**

Chair: Bruno Stephan Walder

Key Issues for all Working Groups (30')

Susan Denyers  
Tim BadmanCase study / project: main questions: *Transsaharan Routes*  
(10')

Namy Ould Mohamed Kaber

Case study / project: main questions: *Viking Heritage* (10')

Ragnheidur H. Thorarinsdottir

Announcement of working methods and working groups A, B,  
C and D (5')

Oliver Martin

Discussion in plenary (30')

**13.00 – 14.30**

Lunch Break



14.30 – 16.30	<p><b>Session 3: Working groups</b> (to take into account the consideration and guidance included in document 32 COM 10B)</p> <p>A) OUV and serial properties Chair: Johann Mürner Rapporteur: Guy Palmer Case studies: <i>Cape Floral Region Protected Areas</i>, Guy Palmer <i>Rainforests of the Atsinanana</i>, Guy Suzon Ramangason Nomination on <i>Tapu Tapu Atea</i> (in preparation), R. Ariihau Tuheiava</p> <p>B) Nomination process of serial properties (Tentative List, overall framework, extension and evaluation) Chair: Ragnheidur Helga Thorarinsdottir Rapporteur: Carlo Ossola Case studies: <i>Frontiers of Roman Empire</i>, Andreas Thiel <i>High Coast/Kwarken Archipelago</i>, Rolf Loefgren Nomination of <i>Kenyan Lake Systems</i> (in preparation), Hoseah W. Mwangi</p> <p>C) State of Conservation, inscription on and removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger Chair: Nicolas Mathieu Rapporteur: Jane Thompson Case studies: <i>Rock Drawings in Valcamonica</i>, Adele Cesi <i>Mata Atlantica Biosphere Reserve</i>, Joao L. Ruegger Nomination on <i>Moravian Heritage</i> (in preparation), Paulius Kulikauskas</p> <p>D) Management systems for transnational serial properties Chair: Oliver Martin Rapporteur: Ariel Gonzales Case studies: <i>Stones Circles of Senegambia</i>, Baba Ceessay Nomination on <i>Silk Road</i> (in preparation), Guo Zhan Nomination on <i>Qhapac Nan</i> (in preparation), Ariel Gonzales</p>	
16.30 – 17.00	Coffee Break	
17.00 – 19.30	<p><b>Session 4: Working groups</b></p> <p>Preparation of recommendations</p>	
20.00	Dinner	

## FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2010

08.30 – 11.00	<p><b>Session 5: Discussion of recommendations in plenary</b>  Chair: Barbara Engels  Rapporteurs of working groups</p> <p>(A) OUV and serial properties</p>
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.00	<p><b>Session 6: Discussion of recommendations in plenary</b></p> <p>(B) Nomination process, extension and evaluation of serial properties</p>
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch Break
14.30 – 16.00	<p><b>Session 7: Discussion of recommendations in plenary</b>  Chair: Richard Tuheiava  Rapporteurs of Working groups</p> <p>(C) Inscription on and removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger</p>
16.00 – 16.30	Coffee break
16.30 – 18.30	<p><b>Session 8: Discussion of recommendations in plenary</b></p> <p>(C) Management systems for transnational properties</p>
18.30 – 19.30	<i>Possibility for a guided tour of the Kartause Ittingen</i>
20.00	Official Dinner with Swiss Authorities

**SATURDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2010**

<b>08.30 – 11.30</b>	<b>Session 9: Presentations of recommendations</b> Chair: Oliver Martin Rapporteur: Jane Thompson  Discussion of recommendations, agreement on results and synthesis report including conclusions of the meeting.	
<b>10.00 – 10.30</b>	Coffee Break	
<b>11.30 – 12.00</b>	<b>Session 10: Concluding remarks</b>	Mechtild Rössler Johann Mürner
<b>12.00 – 13.30</b>	Lunch break	
<b>13.45 – 23.30</b>	<b>Departure by bus for field visit</b>  Pile Dwelling site at Eschenz (Switzerland/Germany) World Heritage Site Convent of St-Gall Dinner in St-Gall	

**SUNDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2010**

	Departures	
--	------------	--

**ANNEX II****Participants****Baba Ceesay**

National Centre for Arts and Culture  
PMB 151  
Independence Drive  
Banjul  
The Gambia  
Tel. +220 422 62 44  
Tel. (mobile) +220 992 97 01  
Fax +220 422 74 61  
baba\_baba\_c@yahoo.com

**Adele Cesi**

Ministero per i Beni e le Attività culturali  
Ufficio UNESCO  
Via del Collegio Romano 27  
00186 ROMA  
ITALY  
Tel. +39 06 67 23 22 34  
Fax +39 34 03 62 31 12  
acesi@beniculturali.it

**Barbara Engels**

Federal Agency for Nature Conservation  
Konstantinstr. 110  
53179 Bonn  
GERMANY  
Tel. +49 228 849 117 46  
barbara.engels@bfn.de

**Ariel Gonzalez**

Goldschmiedgasse 2/1  
1010 Vienna  
Austria  
+43 15 33 84 63  
+43 67 63 85 88 48  
arielwgonzalez@yahoo.com  
awg@mrecic.gov.ar

**Paulius Kulikauskas**

74, Don Bernard Haber Str.  
NDR 1020 Nadur, Gozo  
Malta  
paulius@kulikauskas.net

**Rolf Lofgren**

Naturvårdsverket  
Valhallavägen 195  
106 48 Stockholm  
Sweden  
Tel. +46 86 98 13 92  
Tel. (mobile) +46 761 151 745  
rolf.lofgren@naturvardsverket.se

**Nami Mohamed Kaber Saleh**

Ministère de la Culture  
Direction du Patrimoine Culturel  
BP 196 Nouakchott  
Mauritanie  
namyimrs@yahoo.fr

**Hoseah Wanderi Mwangi**

National Museums of Kenya  
Directorate of Museums Sites & Monuments  
P.O BOX 40658-00100 Nairobi  
Kenya  
hwanderi@museums.or.ke

**Guy Palmer**

Scientific Services  
Assegaibosch Nature Reserve  
Jonkershoek  
Private Bag X5014  
Stellenbosch 7599  
South Africa  
Tel. +27 21 866 80 09  
Fax +27 824 15 18 84  
gpalmer@capenature.co.za

**Joao L. Ruegger de Albuquerque**

Reserva da Biosfera da Mata Atlantica  
R. Cristiano Viana 765, Ap. 71  
05411 011 São Paulo  
Brazil  
Tel. +55 11 223 25 75 28  
joaocnrbma@uol.com.br

**Guy Suzon Ramangason**

Immeuble  
Madagascar National Parks  
BP 1424 – Ambatobe  
Antananarivo 101  
Madagascar  
Tel. +261 202 241 803  
tnr.parks@gmail.com  
dg@madagascar.national.parks.mg

**Andreas Thiel**

Regierungspräsidium Stuttgart  
Landesamt für Denkmalpflege  
Berliner Straße 12  
72728 Esslingen  
Deutschland  
Tel. +49 711 904 45 404  
Fax +49 1522 85 97 402  
andreas.thiel@rps.bwl.de

**Ragnheidur Helga Thorarinsdottir**

Ministry of Education, Science & Culture  
Sólvhólgata 4  
150 Reykjavík  
Iceland  
Tel. +35 454 59 511  
Fax +35 489 17 979  
ragnheidur.h.thorarinsdottir@mrn.stjr.is

**Richard Ariihau Tuheiava**

Sénat – Palais du Luxembourg  
15 Rue du Vaugirard  
Bureau R364  
75006 Paris  
France  
Tel. +33 6 27 22 12 92  
Tel. +33 1 42 34 28 11  
a.tuheiava@gmail.com  
r.tuheiava@senat.fr

**Guo Zhan**

1804, Building b,  
No. 3 Yanjingli Zhongjie  
Chaoyang District  
Beijing 100025  
China  
Tel. +86 10 65 03 58 99  
guozhan1@126.com

**WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE****Alessandro Balsamo**

Centre du patrimoine mondial  
7, place de Fontenoy  
75352 Paris  
France  
Tel. +33 145 68 11 36  
a.balsamo@unesco.org

**Jing Feng**

Centre du patrimoine mondial  
7, place de Fontenoy  
75352 Paris  
France  
Tel +33 145 681 872  
f.jing@unesco.org

**Mechtild Rössler**

Centre du patrimoine mondial  
7, place de Fontenoy  
75352 Paris  
France  
Tel. +33 145 68 18 91  
m.rossler@unesco.org

**Nuria Sanz**

Centre du patrimoine mondial  
7, place de Fontenoy  
75352 Paris  
France  
Tel. +33 145 68 11 04  
n.sanz@unesco.org

## ADVISORY BODIES

### Tim Badman

IUCN

Rue Mauverney 28  
1196 Gland  
Switzerland  
Tel. +41 795 21 89 84  
tim.badman@iucn.org

### Susan Denyer

66 Brand Street  
London  
SE10 8SR UK  
susan.denyers@denyers.net  
Tel. (mobile) +44 796 765 73 87

### Angela Rojas

Galena 13  
Galapagar  
Madrid  
Spain  
Tel. +34 628 097 934  
Fax +34 918 58 87 53  
angela.rojas@icomos.org

### Jane Thompson

ICCROM  
Via di San Michele 13  
Rome 00153, Italy  
Tel. +39 069 07 09 00  
Tel (mobile) +39 338 828 06 60  
j.thompson@tiscali.it

## ORGANISATORS

### Samuel Gendre

Federal Office of Culture  
Cultural Heritage and Historic Monuments  
Section  
3003 Berne  
Switzerland  
Tel. +41 31 322 50 22  
Fax +41 31 322 87 39  
Samuel.Gendre@bak.admin.ch

### Oliver Martin

Federal Office of Culture  
Cultural Heritage and Historic Monuments  
Section  
3003 Berne  
Switzerland  
Tel. +41 31 322 44 48  
Fax +41 31 322 87 39  
Oliver.Martin@bak.admin.ch

### Nicolas Mathieu

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs  
Division V  
3003 Berne  
Switzerland  
Tel. +41 31 323 41 34  
Fax +41 31 324 10 70  
Nicolas.Mathieu@eda.admin.ch

### Johann Mürner

Federal Office of Culture  
Cultural Heritage and Historic Monuments  
Section  
3003 Berne  
Switzerland  
Tel. +41 31 322 80 59  
Fax +41 31 322 87 39  
Johann.Muerner@bak.admin.ch

### Carlo Ossola

Federal Office for Environment  
Natural Heritage Section  
CH-3003 Berne  
Switzerland  
Tel. +41 31 322 93 73  
Fax +41 31 324 75 79  
Carlo.Ossola@bafu.admin.ch

### Bruno Stephan Walder

Federal Office for Environment  
Natural Heritage Section  
3003 Berne  
Switzerland  
Tel. +41 31 322 80 77  
Fax +41 31 324 75 79  
Bruno.Walder@bafu.admin.ch

## ANNEX III

➤ **NEW ANNEX PROPOSED BY SWITZERLAND BASED ON THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXPERT MEETING ON SERIAL NOMINATIONS AND PROPERTIES**

Annex 2B



**TENTATIVE LIST SUBMISSION FORMAT  
FOR SERIAL TRANSNATIONAL AND TRANSBOUNDARY  
SITES**

STATE PARTY:

DATE OF SUBMISSION:

Submission<sup>1</sup> prepared by:

Name:

E-mail:

Address:

Fax:

Institution:

Telephone:

1.a Name of the serial transnational / transboundary site<sup>2</sup>:

1.b Other States Parties participating:

1.c Name(s) of the national component part(s):

1.d State, Province or Region:

1.e Latitude and Longitude, or UTM coordinates:

2.a Brief Description of the serial transnational / transboundary site<sup>2</sup>:

2.b Description of the component part(s):

3. JUSTIFICATION FOR OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE<sup>2</sup>

(Preliminary identification of the values of the property which merit inscription on the World Heritage List)

3.a Criteria met<sup>2</sup> [see Paragraph 77 of the *Operational Guidelines*]:

(Please tick the box corresponding to the proposed criteria and justify the use of each below)

 (i)    (ii)    (iii)    (iv)    (v)    (vi)    (vii)    (viii)    (ix)    (x)
3.b Statements of authenticity and/or integrity [see Paragraphs 79-95 of the *Operational Guidelines*]:

3.c.1 Justification of the selection of the component part(s):

3.c.2 Comparison with other similar properties<sup>2</sup>:

(The comparison should outline the similarities with other properties inscribed or not on the World Heritage List, and the reasons for the exceptional character of the property.)

1 = This submission will be valid only when all the States Parties indicated in Section 1.b have sent their submissions

2 = The text provided in this section should be identical in all submissions of the States Parties involved in the presentation of the same serial transnational / transboundary site

➤ **NOUVELLE ANNEXE PROPOSÉE PAR LA SUISSE À PARTIR DES CONCLUSIONS ET RECOMMANDATIONS DE LA RÉUNION INTERNATIONALE D'EXPERTS SUR LES PROPOSITIONS D'INSCRIPTION ET BIENS EN SÉRIE**

Annexe 2B



**FORMAT POUR LA SOUMISSION  
D'UNE LISTE INDICATIVE  
POUR LES SITES TRANSNATIONAUX  
ET TRANSFRONTALIERS EN SÉRIE**

**ÉTAT PARTIE :****DATE DE SOUMISSION :**Formulaire de soumission rempli par<sup>1</sup> :

Nom :

Courriel :

Adresse :

Fax :

Institution :

Téléphone :

**1.a Nom du site transnational/transfrontalier en série<sup>2</sup> :****1.b Autres États parties participants :****1.c Nom(s) de l'élément/des éléments constitutif(s) national/nationaux :****1.d État, province ou région :****1.e Latitude et longitude, ou coordonnées UTM :****2.a Brève description du site transnational/transfrontalier<sup>2</sup> :****2.b Description de l'élément/des éléments constitutif(s) :****3. JUSTIFICATION DE LA VALEUR UNIVERSELLE EXCEPTIONNELLE<sup>2</sup> :**

(Identification préliminaire des valeurs du bien méritant l'inscription sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial)

**3.a Critères remplis<sup>2</sup> [voir le paragraphe 77 des Orientations] :**

(Veuillez cocher la/les case(s) correspondant au(x) critère(s) proposé(s) et justifier le choix de chacun ci-dessous)

 (i)    (ii)    (iii)    (iv)    (v)    (vi)    (vii)    (viii)    (ix)    (x)
**3.b Déclarations d'authenticité et/ou d'intégrité [voir les paragraphes 79-95 des Orientations] :****3.c.1 Justification de la sélection de l'élément/des éléments constitutif(s) :****3.c.2 Comparaison avec d'autres biens similaires<sup>2</sup> :**

# 5. DECISION 34 COM 9B

**ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE  
AT ITS 34<sup>TH</sup> SESSION,  
BRASÍLIA, BRAZIL, 23 JULY – 3 AUGUST 2010**

# DÉCISION 34 COM 9B

**ADOPTÉE PAR LE CENTRE DU PATRIMOINE MONDIAL  
LORS DE SA 34<sup>ÈME</sup> SESSION,  
BRASÍLIA, BRÉSIL, 23 JUILLET – 3 AOÛT 2010**



**DECISION: 34 COM 9B**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined* Document WHC-10/34.COM/9B,
2. *Recalling* Decisions 32 COM 10B and 33 COM 10A adopted at its 32nd (Quebec City, 2008) and 33<sup>rd</sup> (Seville, 2009) sessions respectively and *thanking* the State Party of Switzerland for having hosted the International Expert Meeting on serial nominations and properties (Ittingen, Switzerland, 25–27 February 2010) in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre,
3. *Notes* the detailed report provided by the expert meeting which reflects on a wide range of issues relevant to serial and transnational World Heritage properties and nominations and also notes that a publication is under preparation;
4. *Approves* the conclusions and recommendations aimed at promoting and implementing the concept of transnational serial nominations as a tool for international cooperation, shared approaches and better management and conservation practice;
5. *Further notes* that draft changes to Annex 2 and Annex 5 of the *Operational Guidelines* have been included in Document WHC-10/34.COM/13 for consideration of the World Heritage Committee.
6. *Takes note* of the discussions of the working group on the Operational Guidelines established during the 34<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee and *requests* the World Heritage Centre, in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies, to prepare proposals for amendments, in particular for annex 2 and 5, for discussion by the working group and for examination by the Committee at its 35<sup>th</sup> session in 2011.

**DÉCISION: 34 COM 9B**

Le Comité du patrimoine mondial,

1. *Ayant examiné* le document WHC-10/34.COM/9B,
2. *Rappelant* les décisions 32 COM 10B et 33 COM 10A adoptées respectivement à sa 32<sup>ème</sup> (Québec, 2008) et 33<sup>ème</sup> (Séville, 2009) sessions et *remerciant* l'Etat partie de la Suisse d'avoir accueilli la réunion internationale d'experts sur les propositions d'inscription de biens en série (Ittingen, Suisse, 25–27 février 2010) en coopération avec le Centre du patrimoine mondial,
3. *Prend note* du rapport détaillé remis par la réunion d'experts concernant ses réflexions sur les biens transnationaux et en série du patrimoine mondial et les propositions d'inscription et note également qu'une publication est en préparation;
4. *Approuve* les conclusions et recommandations destinées à promouvoir et mettre en œuvre le concept de propositions d'inscription transnationales en série comme un outil favorisant la coopération internationale, les approches communes et une meilleure pratique de gestion et de conservation;
5. *Note en outre* que des projets de modifications des Annexes 2 et 5 des Orientations ont été incluses dans le document WHC-10/34.COM/13 pour examen par le Comité ;
6. *Prend note* des discussions du groupe de travail sur les Orientations créé au cours de la 34<sup>ème</sup> session du Comité du patrimoine mondial et *demande* au Centre du patrimoine mondial, en coopération avec les Organisations consultatives, de préparer des propositions d'amendements sur ce sujet, en particulier pour les annexes 2 et 5, pour discussion par le Groupe de travail puis pour examen par le Comité du patrimoine mondial à sa 35<sup>ème</sup> session en 2011.



#### **EDITED BY**

Swiss Federal Office of Culture  
Oliver Martin  
Samuel Gendre

#### **GRAPHICS**

Fabienne Kilchör, Sébastien Fasel  
Emphase Sàrl – Lausanne

#### **TRANSLATIONS**

Paola de Lumé Mosca

#### **DISCLAIMER**


The authors are responsible for the choice and presentation of the facts as well as for the respect of the copyright of text and images contained in this publication and for the opinions therein which are not necessarily those of the Swiss Federal Office of Culture and do not commit the Federal Office. The designation employed and the presentation of the material throughout this publication does not imply the expression of any opinion whatever on the part of the Swiss Federal Office for Culture concerning legal status of any country, territory, city or area of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontier or boundaries.

#### **AVERTISSEMENT**

Les auteurs sont responsables du choix, de la présentation des faits et du respect des droits d'auteur des images et des textes mentionnés dans ce texte, ainsi que des opinions exprimées qui ne reflètent pas nécessairement celles de l'Office fédéral de la culture et ne sauraient par conséquent engager l'Office. Les désignations employées tout au long de cette publication, ainsi que la présentation des informations, n'impliquent nullement l'expression d'une quelconque opinion de la part de l'Office fédéral de la culture sur le statut juridique, les autorités, ou le tracé des frontières des divers pays, territoires, villes ou régions mentionnés dans le texte.

© FOC / OFC 2010

Swiss Federal Office of Culture  
Cultural Heritage and Historic Monuments  
Hallwylstrasse 15  
3003 Bern  
Switzerland  
T +41 31 322 86 25  
F +41 31 322 87 39  
denkmalpflege@bak.admin.ch

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA  
Federal Office of Culture FOC

 In cooperation with  
En coopération avec

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

World  
Heritage  
Centre

Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture

Centre du  
patrimoine  
mondial





P.37



P.60



P.38



P.39



P.58



P.45



P.46



P.40



P.47



P.56



P.41



P.56



P.61



P.57



P.62



P.42

## Transnational Serial Nominations in Europe

Europe:

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

### I. Inscribed Transnational Serial Properties

States	Title	Ref.	Date of Inscription	Criteria
Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland	Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps; <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1363">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1363</a>	1363	2011	(iv)(v)
Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sweden, Ukraine	Struve Geodetic Arc; <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1187/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1187/</a>	1187	2005	(ii)(iv)(vi)
Belgium, France	Belfries of Belgium and France; <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/943">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/943</a>	943bis	1999; Extension in 2005	(ii) (iv)
Argentina, Belgium, France, Germany, India, Japan, Switzerland	The Architectural Work of Le Corbusier, an Outstanding Contribution to the Modern Movement; <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1321">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1321</a>	1321rev	2016	(i)(ii)(vi)
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia	Stecci Medieval Tombstone Graveyards; <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1504">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1504</a>	1504	2016	(iii)(vi)
Croatia, Italy, Montenegro	Venetian Works of Defence between the 16th and 17th Centuries: <i>Stato da Terra</i> – western <i>Stato da Mar</i> ; <a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1533">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1533</a>	1533	2017	(iii)(iv)
Czechia, Germany	Erzgebirge/Krusnohori Mining Region;	1478	2019	(ii)(iii)(iv)

	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1478">https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1478</a>			
Germany, UK of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Frontiers of the Roman Empire; <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/430">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/430</a>	430ter	1987; Extension 2005, 2008	(ii)(iii)(iv)
Germany, Poland	Muskauer Park / Park Musakowski; <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1127">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1127</a>	1127	2004	(i)(iv)
Italy, Holy See	Historic Centre of Rome, the Properties of the Holy See in that City Enjoying Extraterritorial Rights and San Paolo Fuori le Mura; <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/91">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/91</a>	91ter	1980; Extension 1990	(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)
Poland, Ukraine	Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine; <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1424">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1424</a>	1424	2013	(iii)(iv)
Portugal, Spain	Prehistoric Rock Art Sites in the Côa Valley and Siega Verde; <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/866">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/866</a>	866bis	1998; Extension 2010	(i)(iii)
Slovenia, Spain	Heritage of Mercury. Almaden and Idrija; <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1313">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1313/</a>	1313rev	2012	(ii)(iv)

## II. Transnational Serial Properties on Tentative Lists

States	Title	Date of submission	Links
Austria, Germany	Frontiers of the Roman Empire	09/02/2015	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6004/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6004/</a>
Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Germany, France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Italy	Great Spas of Europe	11/07/2014	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5930/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5930/</a>
Belgium, France	Sites funéraires et mémoriels de la Première Guerre mondiale (Front Ouest)	14/04/2014	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5886/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5886/</a>

Belgium, Netherlands	Koloniën van Weldadigheid (agricultural pauper colonies)	27/09/2013	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5841/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5841/</a>
Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Serbia	Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Danube Limes	31/01/2020	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6474/">https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6474/</a>
Czechia, Slovakia	Sites of Great Moravia: Slavonic Fortified Settlement at Mikulčice – Church of St. Margaret at Kopčany	06/07/2001	<a href="https://whc.unesco.org/fr/listesindicatives/1559/">https://whc.unesco.org/fr/listesindicatives/1559/</a>
Germany, Austria	Frontiers of the Roman Empire – Danube Limes	04/02/2015	<a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6002/">http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6002/</a>
Germany, Netherlands	Frontiers of the Roman Empire – The Lower German Limes	29/11/2018	<a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6365/">http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6365/</a>

## **ICOMOS**

International Council on Monuments and Sites  
11, rue du Séminaire de Conflans  
94220 Charenton-le-Pont  
France

Tel: + 33 (0)1 41 94 17 59  
E-mail: [secretariat@icomos.org](mailto:secretariat@icomos.org)  
Web: <http://www.icomos.org>