



As we move into the New Year, I would like to take this opportunity to look back at the 15th General Assembly of States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention* and the 33rd General Conference of UNESCO, held at Paris Headquarters last October.

First of all, I wish to welcome the twelve new members of the World Heritage Committee, elected at the 15th General Assembly: Canada, Cuba, Israel, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco, Peru, Republic of Korea, Spain, Tunisia and the United States of America.

This General Assembly will be remembered for the decision taken by all candidates to the World Heritage Committee to restrict their term to four years. At this session a new voting system for the election of Committee members was introduced for the first time. The system proved to be effective, as it allowed the debate to continue while the voting process was being conducted. Some delegations have requested further improvements along the lines of methods used by the Executive Board.

The General Assembly discussed the proposal for the creation of the African World Heritage Fund, which was presented and welcomed by the Committee in Durban in 2005. The African Union summit in January 2006 is to examine the plan which will be launched this year.

Furthermore, the General Assembly discussed the continued lack of balance within the List, while it was pointed out that improvements to the List have been made with the increase in new categories of sites inscribed. Concerning the need to reinforce links between the *World Heritage Convention* and other international biodiversity conventions, attention was drawn to the establishment of the Biodiversity Liaison Group (see page 4).

Following the earthquake in Pakistan, questions were raised concerning the Risk Preparedness Strategy. This strategy is under preparation by the Advisory Bodies and will be presented this year for review by the Committee.

The 15th General Assembly also adopted an important Declaration on the Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes, which clearly puts conservation at the point of departure in the city planning and management policy of living historic cities. The Declaration is based on the Vienna Memorandum, approved by the Conference convened by UNESCO and the City of Vienna in May 2005. The Vienna Memorandum was discussed and welcomed by the World Heritage Committee at its 29th session in Durban in July.

Francesco Bandarin, Director, World Heritage Centre

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‘The *World Heritage Convention* is now 33 years old. A time for reflection has come for those who work on its behalf, in order to face the future with clarity and determination, and to maintain the high ambitions of its initial missions and the hopes it continues to represent.’

*Ambassador Jean Guéguinou,
Permanent Delegate of France to
UNESCO and Chairperson of the
15th General Assembly of States
Parties to the World Heritage
Convention, October 2005.*

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Periodic Reporting Meetings

An international meeting: 'European Periodic Reporting: Towards an Action Plan', organized jointly by the German authorities and the World Heritage Centre in co-operation with the national commissions for UNESCO of Austria, Germany, Luxemburg and Switzerland, and with support from the World Heritage Fund for the participation of Eastern European countries, was held in Berlin on 8 and 9 November. This was followed by a meeting on the preparation of the 'World Heritage Periodic Reporting Reflection Year in 2007', held on 10 and 11 November.

Thirty-eight countries and sixty-seven participants attended the 'European Periodic Reporting: Towards an Action Plan' meeting, which resulted in the Berlin Appeal and elements for the Action Plan for Europe.

This Action Plan acknowledged that Periodic Reporting has stimulated awareness and co-operation within countries and

that this interest must be maintained. The Plan encourages the creation of national as well as thematic networks of site managers and co-operation between countries in the harmonization of Tentative Lists. The Plan further calls for building on the momentum of Periodic Reporting in order to enhance contacts among States Parties and establish a network of World Heritage focal points in Europe.

It points out that heritage legislation in individual countries often needs to be updated to reflect current approaches to preservation and protection, and that there is a need to integrate World Heritage management into the wider regional, social and policy context at all levels. It also recognizes the importance of the sustainable use of World Heritage for the economic and social benefit of local and national communities.

The meeting on the preparation of the Reflection Year in 2007 reviewed the outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise in the different regions. It analyzed follow-up actions and the workload for the Secretariat, Advisory Bodies and



Participants in the 'European Periodic Reporting: Towards an Action Plan' Meeting in Berlin, 8-9 November

the Committee, highlighting priorities resulting from Periodic Reports.

This meeting also considered indicators for state of conservation to ensure better follow-up and scientific assessment over time.

The Director of the World Heritage Centre, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies and the States Parties concerned, is to report to the 30th session of the Committee in Vilnius, Lithuania in 2006 on the proposed structure, time-schedule and resources needed for the implementation of measures to be discussed in the Reflection Year.

Technical Agreement Reached for Aksum Stela

A UNESCO team went to Ethiopia in October 2005 to discuss the development of the Aksum Obelisk (Stela 2) re-erection project with Ethiopian authorities. The team, headed by Francesco Bandarin, World Heritage Centre Director, met with the Ethiopian Minister of Culture, Mahmud Dirir, Teshome Toga, Speaker of the House and Sahle-Work Zewde, the Ambassador of Ethiopia to UNESCO, as well as with Guido La Tella, the Italian Ambassador to Ethiopia.

The main task of this mission, carried out thanks to funding by the Italian government, was to reach agreement among all parties concerned on the technical orientations for the re-erection of the Aksum Obelisk, often referred to as Stela No. 2, because it is the second largest stela of Aksum (160 tonnes and 24m high).

It was agreed that the re-erection of the obelisk will have no impact on the existing archaeological structures. The

re-positioning of Stela 2 will require the construction of a new foundation which will not interfere with the archaeology on the site. Special care is to be taken in order to protect these underground structures.

A survey of the area surrounding the foundations of Stela 2 and the area where heavy machinery will be used in the repositioning is to be conducted in order to complement the geo-technical analysis carried out in April 2005.

Agreement was also reached on the final structure of the Stela 2 foundation design. Since only the front stone slab of the base plate of Stela 2 has been conserved, a design for the completion of its pedestal will be prepared.

The World Bank is currently carrying out a landscaping design project of the entire area, including some archaeological excavations, an overall archaeological inventory and the construction of a new site museum. The re-positioning of Stela 2 will be coordinated with this project.

It has been agreed that training will be provided for tour guides, for engineering and architectural students and for site staff. Training will also be provided to stone restorers in order to develop capacity for the maintenance and restoration of the other stelae in the archaeological park.

Finally, following the re-erection, Stela 2 will be cleaned and restored under the supervision of the technical staff of the Istituto Centrale per il Restauro of Rome, which assisted with the removal and transport of the Stela to Ethiopia from Rome.

Jet Tours Operating for World Heritage

Following an agreement signed by UNESCO and the French-based travel agency Jet Tours in September, Jet Tours has developed a series of special 'Jet Tours – UNESCO World Heritage' tours which, with the help of UNESCO, will promote sustainable and responsible tourism in and around UNESCO World Heritage sites.

This agreement, which in its initial stage covers a three-year period, is a historic first. Jet Tours, in association with UNESCO, has undertaken to develop a series of thematic tours centered on sustainable tourism and to contribute to the World Heritage Fund.

Jet Tours is offering a large choice of heritage tours, complete with a heritage kit, developed by the World Heritage Centre and Jet Tours. Thematic tours of World Heritage sites in several countries ('Cradle of Civilization': Jordan, Lebanon and Syria) will be offered, as well as trips to one country or one site (Serengeti Safari; Egyptian Dynasties, Oasis, Mosques and Temples).

On 29 September and 27 October at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, the World Heritage Centre held two joint Jet Tours-UNESCO World Heritage workshops, 'Mobilizing World Heritage Guides,' in order to sensitize Jet Tours guides and tourism professionals to the *World Heritage Convention*. The one-day sessions offered a programme on the conservation process, as well as site-specific information on a selection of sites that are part of the Jet Tours-World Heritage packages. Tour guides received up-to-date information on the state of conservation of sites and ongoing projects at the sites. Jet Tours is also assisting the Centre through local training activities. During a recent World Heritage workshop in Bamako (Mali), the Jet Tours guides received the visit of the Minister of Tourism. In this framework, Jet Tours is now studying with the World Heritage Centre ways in which it may also contribute directly to conservation projects at World Heritage sites.



Interview with the Chairperson

H.E. Ms Ina Marčiulionytė, the Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Lithuania to UNESCO, is the new World Heritage Committee Chairperson. The Newsletter was interested to hear about her priorities as Chair of the World Heritage Committee, in particular with regard to the view, expressed by several States Parties, that the Committee should give priority to conservation rather than nominations.

convinced that before we commence the 2nd cycle of the Periodic Reporting we have to evaluate the outcomes of the first cycle, to solve problems and to fill in the gaps identified during the 1st cycle. Otherwise, in my opinion, we will discredit the whole process.

Periodic Reporting is not a handy control mechanism. It is a tool to identify problems and to create an action plan as a follow-up – what has to be done, how we should proceed to ensure the proper implementation of the *Convention*. We all need to look at whether the forms and format used for the exercise were adequate and what should be changed.

At its last session the Committee encouraged States Parties to integrate the concept of historic urban landscapes in the nomination process. Is this issue gaining ground?

This is just the very beginning. The Vienna Conference triggered an interesting and heated debate. This is a very delicate issue. We see more and more cases in which the concept of historic urban landscapes is caught between the attempts to preserve and protect old towns inscribed on the List and the wishes of investors to develop in the very core of the protected areas. We still need to debate this issue more profoundly.

Our priority is to assist in implementing the 1972 *Convention*. I would add my voice to those who think that conservation and periodic reporting are of the greatest importance – not just the inscription of new sites. This is becoming more and more of a challenge for the Committee. We can't afford to postpone or to neglect state of conservation reports. Sometimes we tend to push aside state of conservation reports of the States Parties. But this is a very worrying tendency!

We have a large number of sites on the World Heritage List already. A real challenge to the Committee, to the Advisory Bodies, and to the World Heritage Centre is how to cope with an increasing workload. We have to be organized and disciplined. We have to prepare the Committee sessions in a very serious way – starting with the States Parties submitting their reports within the deadlines and ending with Committee members trying to be constructive and concise with their interventions during Committee sessions.

States Parties are taking a close look at the Periodic Reporting process. What do you consider to be its successes? What still needs to be done?

We will have a reflection year to think and to draw conclusions on lessons learned during the Periodic Reporting exercise. I am



Kernavė Archaeological Site (Cultural Reserve of Kernavė), Lithuania, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2004

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World Cultural Heritage in the Pacific Region

The World Heritage Centre and the Vanuatu Cultural Centre (with funding from the Nordic World Heritage Foundation and the World Heritage Fund, and the technical contribution of the Department of Conservation of New Zealand) organized a workshop at Port Vila, Vanuatu (5-8 September). It was attended by 32 participants representing 12 States Parties from the Pacific Islands, as well as by representatives and experts from ICOMOS, ICCROM, United Nations University, University of the South Pacific, New Zealand, Australia, the UNESCO Apia Office and the World Heritage Centre.

This workshop provided the occasion for the first ever systematic look at cultural heritage in a region that is under-represented on the World Heritage List. While most States Parties in the Pacific Region have ratified the *World Heritage Convention*, many of them have not prepared Tentative Lists, an essential step to nominating sites. The seminar therefore served as an instrument in sensitizing various players to the cultural values of many potential World Heritage sites in the region.

In the course of the three-day workshop participants developed a series of regional themes appropriate for the nomination of sites of cultural value, and clarified what site types would best represent them. The workshop also agreed on a methodology to be used in undertaking thematic studies, and identified those who are to take responsibility for the studies.

The identification of these regional cultural themes and the elaboration of thematic studies are to serve as an aid to States Parties in selecting sites to be included in Tentative Lists and developing comparative analyses to support nomination files for the inscription of cultural properties on the List.

Participants in the Workshop drew up a list of priority cultural sites from each State Party, representing properties that each State intends to nominate over the next few years.



The 2006 UNESCO World Heritage Desk Diary is now available. Discover 67 natural and cultural sites with beautiful colour photographs and informative descriptions in English and French.

Order it at <http://publishing.unesco.org/> or at UNESCO Publishing - 7 place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France

Chief of Roimata community in Vanuatu, at the Roimata Site complex, which is being prepared for nomination to the World Heritage List



ICCROM and ICOMOS Elections

ICCROM's 24th General Assembly (9-11 November) elected **Mounir Bouchenaki** as Director-General of ICCROM. Mr Bouchenaki is currently Assistant Director-General for Culture at UNESCO, where he entered in 1982. He previously served as Director of Antiquities, Museums and Historical Monuments in Algeria. He holds a Doctorate in Archaeology and Ancient History from the Faculty of Letters of Aix-en-Provence (France). He is also a Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres, and in 2000 was the recipient of the ICCROM award. Mr Bouchenaki will be starting his new position at ICCROM on 1 March 2006. **Michael Petzet** was re-elected President of ICOMOS at the ICOMOS 15th General Assembly, held in Xi'an, China (17-21 October). He directed the Bavarian State Conservation Office, the Central Authority for the Protection and Conservation of Monuments and Sites in Bavaria, Germany from 1974-1999. Mr Petzet has been President of ICOMOS International since 1999.

Restructuring at the World Heritage Centre

The World Heritage Centre has undergone streamlining of its functions and structure. Natural heritage has been reinforced in the regional units. Staff from the Tangible Heritage Section of the Culture Sector (CLT/THS) has now joined World Heritage Centre staff. Changes at the World Heritage Centre have involved a re-organization of staff and several new appointments.

The Asia/Pacific Section has been divided into two sub-regional units: Central and South Asia, and East Asia and the Pacific. In addition to his role as World Heritage Centre Deputy-Director, Kishore Rao will take up duties as Chief of the Asia/Pacific Section.

Jim Williams has been appointed as the new Chief of the Latin America and Caribbean Section, while Christian Manhart has become Chief of the Communication, Education and Partnerships Section, to which Barbara Blanchard has also been transferred.

Francis Childe is Chief of the new Central and South Asia sub-regional unit, to which Zohra Ndiaye has also been transferred. Junaid Sorosh Wali is now part of the Europe Unit, while Mounira Baccar joins the Arab Region Section.

25 and 30 Years of Service

Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura awarded diplomas and medals to colleagues who had completed 25 and 30 years of service to UNESCO at a ceremony last June. Among those honoured were four World Heritage Centre staff: Marielle Richon and Silvia Simmonds for 27 and 30 years of service, and Margarita González Lombardo and Elizabeth Wangari for 25 years.

Margarita González Lombardo works in the World Heritage Centre Latin America and Caribbean Section since 1999. Before that she worked in the Education Policy and Planning Division of the Education Sector. She also worked in the Higher Education Division where she helped establish the UNITWIN/UNESCO chairs programme.

Since 2001, **Marielle Richon** has been Focal Point for Universities at the World Heritage Centre. She joined the Division of Cultural Heritage in the Culture Sector in 1998, after having worked for two years on the publication of the first World Culture Report. Earlier in her career she worked for the 'Encounter between the Two Worlds' Programme (commemoration of the 500th anniversary 1492-1992), the International Year of the World's Indigenous Peoples (1993)

and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples (1995-2004). She was recruited into UNESCO upon the creation of the Protocol Service in 1977.

Before joining the World Heritage Centre in 2001, **Silvia Simmonds** worked with the Office of the Director-General, the Social Sciences Sector and the Conferences Division. When she first started in 1975 she worked for the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

Dr **Elizabeth Wangari** is Chief of the World Heritage Centre Africa Section, working both on cultural and natural heritage. She joined the World Heritage Centre in 1980 as Senior Programme Specialist in charge of natural heritage activities for Africa and the Arab region. Before that she was Head of the Science Unit in the UNESCO Dakar Office, co-ordinating all the scientific activities of UNESCO in west and central Africa. She started at UNESCO as a Programme Specialist in Ecological Sciences with the Ecological Division of the Science Sector.



From left: Silvia Simmonds, Marielle Richon, Margarita González Lombardo and Elizabeth Wangari

World Heritage in Danger



Walled City of Baku with the Shirvanshah's Palace and Maiden Tower, Azerbaijan

Built on a site inhabited since the Palaeolithic period, the Walled City of Baku reveals evidence of Zoroastrian, Sasanian, Arabic, Persian, Shirvani, Ottoman, and Russian presence in cultural continuity. The Inner City (Icheri Sheher) has preserved much of its 12th-century defensive walls. The 12th-century Maiden Tower (Giz Galasy) is built over earlier structures dating from the 7th to 6th centuries BC, and the 15th-century Shirvanshahs' Palace is one of the pearls of Azerbaijan's architecture.

Baku sustained significant damage during the earthquake of November 2000. The 27th session of the World Heritage Committee inscribed the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2003, following the increasing pressure of urban development, dubious restoration efforts and the absence of management and conservation policies.

The Director-General of UNESCO, Koïchiro Matsuura, visited the site in August 2005, and a joint mission by the World Heritage Centre and the University of Minnesota (USA) was carried out in September 2005 in order to evaluate the situation.

The mission found that the management structure for the historical-architectural reserve of the Inner City (Icheri Sheher), which came under the authority of the Cabinet of Azerbaijan in February 2005, had still not been approved. This situation has delayed plans to safeguard the site, and in particular has delayed the application of the presidential decree of 2003 which forbade construction inside the Walled City. The general state of conservation of historic habitations was found to be mediocre, and there is no management and safeguard plan for the site.

A co-operation agreement between the University of Minnesota and the Architecture and Construction University of Baku was signed at the end of this mission. According to this agreement, the two universities will begin working on the elaboration of an inventory of the Walled City of Baku and a Manual of Conservation. This work is necessary as the basis for the development of a general management and conservation plan.

In Memoriam A. Durand 'Randy' Jones

A. Durand 'Randy' Jones, Deputy-Director of the United States National Parks Service, and Special Assistant to Director Fran Mainella, passed away on 23 November 2005 at his home in Estes Park, Colorado. Randy had a long and distinguished career in the Service, and was a strong supporter of World Heritage at the NPS. He participated actively in the World Heritage Periodic Reporting process and was part of the U.S. delegation to the 15th session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention. The World Heritage Centre sends its condolences to his wife, Julie.

In order to enhance coherence and co-operation in implementation, the **Biodiversity Liaison Group** (BLG) was established, following a decision by the 7th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in February 2004. The BLG comprises the heads of the secretariats of the five biodiversity-related conventions (Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on International Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora, Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and *World Heritage Convention*). The BLG meets regularly to explore opportunities for synergistic activities and to exchange information.

Within the context of an agreement between the online tour operator, Expedia Inc., and UNESCO's longstanding partner, the United Nations Foundation (UNF), a web-based **Friends of World Heritage** website was launched in November 2005. The website, which complements the World Heritage website, is intended to raise awareness about World Heritage and to raise funds in support of World Heritage projects, both directly and by booking a World Heritage Trip through Expedia. All the profits from such trips will be directed to a Friends of World Heritage Fund, held at UNF. Such donations will be matched, up to a limit of US\$50,000 per year, by both Expedia and UNF. The monies donated to this fund will be used exclusively to support community development and conservation projects around World Heritage sites in developing countries. The World Heritage Centre will be involved in developing the criteria and deciding on the projects to be supported. (<http://www.friendsofworldheritage.org>).

World Heritage films are now available online thanks to **Nippon Hoso Kyokai (NHK)**, Japan's public broadcasting television channel. Within the context of the joint NHK-UNESCO Digital Heritage Images Archives Initiative, NHK has produced a series of digital, high-definition short TV documentaries aimed at facilitating access for a wide, mainly Internet audience to information about World Heritage and Intangible Heritage. In the long term, these documentaries are expected to cover all World Heritage sites as well as all Intangible Heritage. Over forty videos have been edited and adapted by UNESCO especially for access via the web: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/videos/>

The World Heritage Centre and Ecotourism Australia have initiated a new co-operation programme: **'World Heritage Mentoring Programme'** intended to educate professionals and site managers from developing countries about successful tourism, the sustainable tourism industry and environmental management at Australian World Heritage sites. The 2005 World Heritage Mentoring Programme was organized for Chinese national experts and natural World Heritage site managers (22 November–2 December). Further training on sustainable tourism management for World Heritage sites in China will be carried out in 2006.

A **Periodic Reporting Follow-Up Meeting for Central Asia** was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, (30 October-5 November) in co-operation with the UNESCO Almaty Office and the Kazakh National Commission for UNESCO and with the participation of ICOMOS, IUCN, UNESCO WHC, the UNESCO Tehran Cluster Office, the UNESCO Tashkent Office and four central Asian countries expert representatives. A Priority Action Plan 2006-2009 for cultural heritage was adopted within the framework of UNESCO's 'Central Asian Earth 2002-2012' and 'Action Asia 2003-2009' programmes. The meeting decided on the review and updating of national cultural heritage and protection legislation, as well as of national inventories, the harmonizing of tentative lists and the preparation of the serial nominations 'The Central Asian Silk Roads' and 'Rock Art in Central Asia'.

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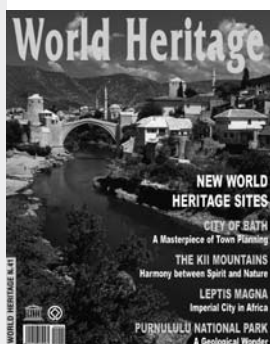
What Are They Doing ?

■ **Francesco Bandarin**, WHC Director, **Véronique Dauge**, Chief Arab States Section, and **Franca Miglioli**, Consultant, went on an assessment mission to the Old City of Jerusalem (10-17 September) in view of the elaboration of an 'Action Plan for the Conservation of the Old City promoted within the Initiative of the Director-General'. ■ **Mechtild Rössler**, Chief Europe & North America Section, attended a Euromed Workshop in Barcelona, Spain (28-29 October). She also represented the Centre at the IUCN-WCPA World Heritage Workshop 'Enhancing IUCN Evaluation Process: A Contribution to Achieve a Credible and Balanced World Heritage List', organized by IUCN and the International Academy for Nature Conservation, on the Isle of Vilm, Germany (24-28 November). ■ **Nuria Sanz**, Programme Specialist, Latin America & Caribbean Section, attended a workshop on the definition of guidelines for the Management Plan of Quebrada de Humahuaca, Argentina (5-9 December). Ms Sanz also attended the Sixth Experts' Meeting for the Feasible Nomination of the Main Andean Road/Qhapaq Ñan, Argentina (13-15 December). ■ **Marc Patry**, Programme Specialist, Nature Team, was at Serengeti National Park, Tanzania (24 September-1 October) to work with park authorities and the University of Queensland, Australia, for the application of the WCPA Management Effectiveness Framework. ■ **Guy Debonnet**, Programme Specialist, Nature Team, conducted a monitoring mission, together with Pedro Rosabal of IUCN (21 October-2 November) to Lake Baikal to evaluate the state of conservation of the site and to review plans to construct a trans-siberian oil pipeline through or in the vicinity of the site. Mr Debonnet was also in Aomori, Japan (13-18 October) to participate in the Shirakami-Sanchi International Conference on World Natural Heritage. ■ **Marijaana Kokkonen**, Marine Heritage Specialist, Nature Team, participated in the First International Marine Protected Areas Congress held in Geelong, Australia (23-28 October). ■ **Kerstin Manz**, Consultant, Europe & North America Section, attended the HERMES Symposium on Practical Aspects of Cultural Heritage in Europe, Krakow, Poland (28-29 October). ■ **Salamat Ali Tabassum**, Assistant Programme Specialist, Asia & Pacific Section, and **Ron Van Oers**, Co-ordinator Small Islands Developing States Programme, attended the National World Heritage Strategy Workshops (24 October-9 November)

in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia within the framework of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the World Heritage Pacific 2009 Programme. ■ **Anna Sidorenko-Dulom**, Assistant Programme Specialist, now part of the Europe & North America Section, carried out a mission to Baku, Azerbaijan (3-9 September) jointly with the University of Minnesota. ■ **Junko Okahashi**, Assistant programme Specialist, Asia & Pacific Section, participated in a Consultative Revision Meeting with Stakeholders on the draft Site Management Plan for Hampi in Hampi and Bangalore, India, (3-6 August). ■ **Flora Altena van Regteren**, Associate Expert, Africa Section, attended the 'International Regional Workshop on the *World Heritage Convention* and the Conservation of African Cultural Landscapes' conference in Lilongwe, Malawi (7-11 November). Ms Altena also participated in the sub-regional workshop: 'Training of African Decision Makers and Site Managers on the *World Heritage Convention* and its Implementation' in Maun, Botswana (24-28 October). ■ **Grazia Piras**, Associate Expert, Latin America & Caribbean Section, participated in the sub-regional training seminar on the 'Conservation of Limestone in Mayan Archaeological Sites' in Tikal, Guatemala (23-25 November). ■ **Fumiko Ohinata** has been transferred from the Europe & North America Section to the UNESCO Addis Ababa Office as Programme Specialist for Culture. ■ **Anastasia Tzigounaki**, Consultant, joined the Europe & North America Section February 2005, on secondment from the Greek Ministry of Culture to work on Mediterranean countries and post-conflict regions. ■ **Alcira Sandoval Ruiz**, Assistant Programme Specialist, joined the Latin America & Caribbean Section January 2005. ■ **Cédric Hance** joined the Nature Team in October as an Associate Expert funded by Belgium. He will assist the Nature Team with the management of some of the natural heritage projects and will support the thematic programme on forests.



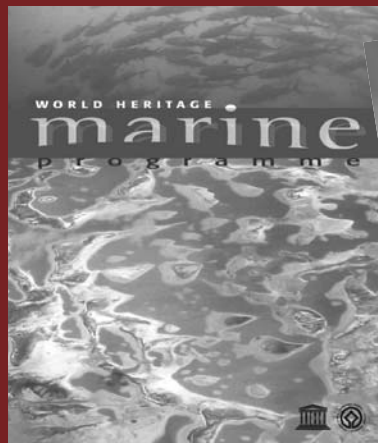
Participants in the 'Training of African Decision Makers and Site Managers on the World Heritage Convention and its Implementation' workshop, 24-28 October 2005 in Maun, Botswana



World Heritage of October 2005, No. 41, dedicates its feature article to the 34 new sites inscribed on the World Heritage List. In this issue you will also discover: the City of Bath, in the United Kingdom, originally founded by the Romans as a thermal spa and evolving into an elegant neoclassical city of the 18th century; the temples situated in the spectacular setting of the Kii Mountains in Japan; the archaeological site of Leptis Magna in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, one of the most beautiful cities of the Roman Empire; and the cone-shaped karst formations of the Bungle Bungle range in Purnululu National Park in Australia.

Beginning in 2006, the *World Heritage Newsletter* and the *World Heritage review* will be combined in a single publication. We shall pursue our journey of discovery of World Heritage sites everywhere in the world, each issue offering news items and in-depth articles illustrated with high-quality photographs. For more information, contact: wh-info@unesco.org

The World Heritage Centre has recently published two new brochures: *World Heritage Marine Programme* (English only) and *World Heritage, Today and Tomorrow with Young People* (English, French and Spanish). The first gives an overview of the World Heritage Centre programme dedicated to the protection of marine sites around the world, and the second sensitizes young people to the importance of heritage protection, explaining ways they can be involved in preserving our heritage.



1 January to 31 March

The Euromed Heritage Journalistic Award international press competition, organized by the European Commission. Rome, Italy. Information: award@euromedheritage.net

15 to 20 January

'Seeing with Young Eyes', Third Sub-regional Southeast Asian Teacher Training Workshop on using art to teach about World Heritage, organized by the UNESCO Bangkok Office. Penang, Malaysia. Information: bangkok@unesco.org

26 to 27 January

UNESCO WHC and Advisory Bodies Meeting. ICCROM, Rome, Italy. Information: a.lemastre@unesco.org

30 January to 1 February

Meeting on Implementing the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas: Conservation NGOs and WH Sites. Paris, France. Information: ma.patry@unesco.org

27 February to 3 March

Regional Training Workshop for the Caribbean on Marine World Heritage. Pitons Management Area, Saint Lucia. Information: m.kokkonen@unesco.org

13 to 14 March

New Heritage Conference: Cultural Heritage and New Media, co-hosted by the University of Hong Kong and the Center for New Media at UC Berkeley. Hong Kong. Information: Janice Affleck, University of Hong Kong, Conference Secretariat or <http://newheritageforum.org/>

16 to 17 March

World Heritage and Climate Change. International workshop (by invitation only). UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France. Information: m.rossler@unesco.org or c.hance@unesco.org

17 to 20 April

'Heritage at Risk, Preservation of the 20th-Century Architecture and the World Heritage'. Moscow, Russian Federation. Information: rector@marhi.ru (Moscow) and zalivako@baugeschichte.a.tu-berlin.de (Berlin)

19 to 22 April

9th US/ICOMOS International Symposium. Newport, Rhode Island, USA. Information: symposium@usicomos.org

The World Heritage

newsletter

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