World Heritage reports

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Periodic Report
Africa

UNESCO

PATRIMONIO MUNDIAL · WORLD HERITAGE · PATRIMOINE MONDIAL
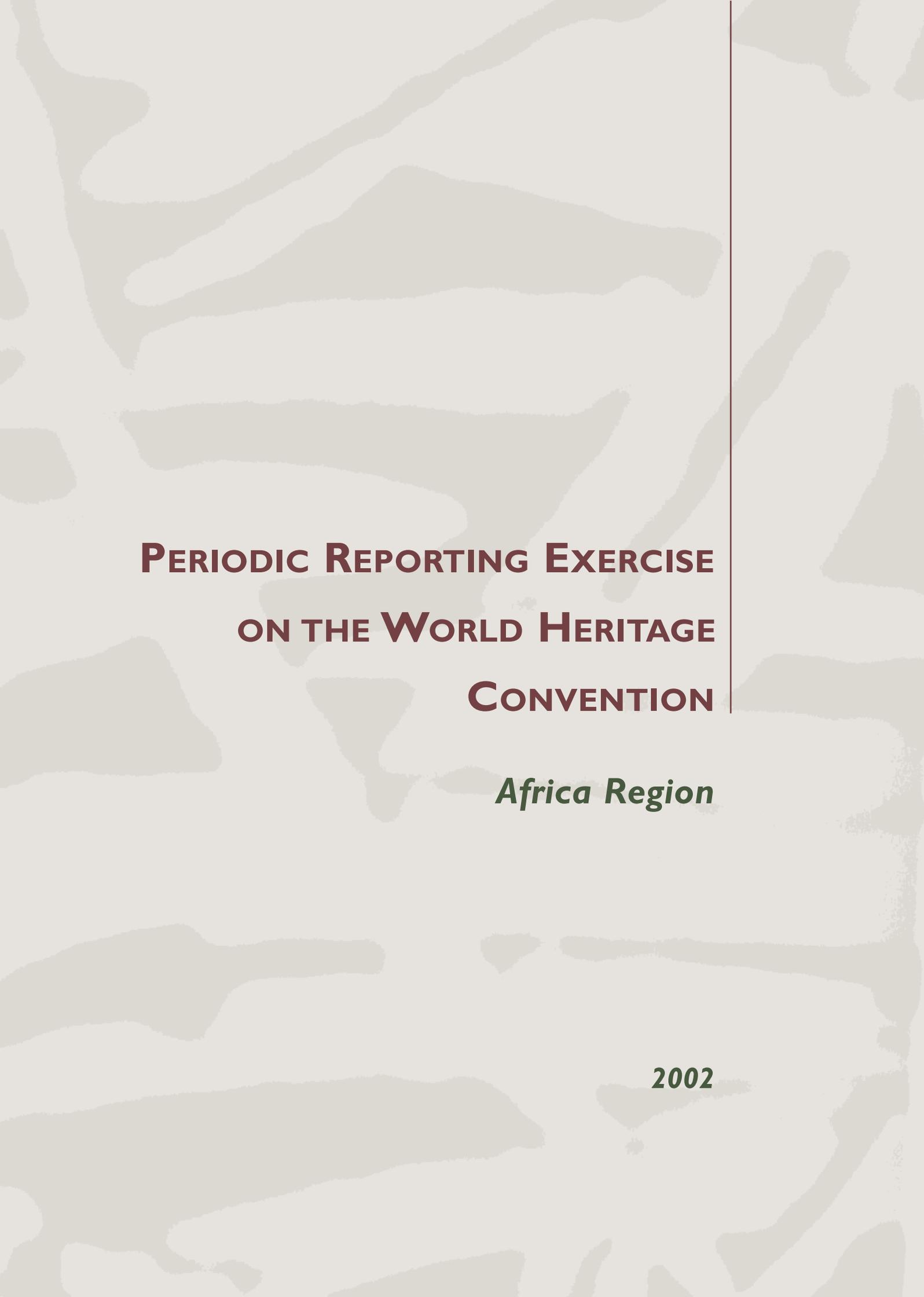
PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE ON THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

Africa Region

2002

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Thirty years after its adoption in 1972 and ratification by 175 States Parties, the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage remains a major international legal tool which has enabled 721 sites to be inscribed on the World Heritage List. It ensures the current protection of that heritage so that the achievements of the past may be passed down to the generations yet to come.

To date, 37 out of the 51 African countries have signed the World Heritage Convention, and 23 countries have set up a system whereby 57 African sites have been inscribed on the World Heritage List. The exceptional nature of the African heritage, of its forms and representations requires not only that different periods in history be taken into consideration, but also that its special features be identified and defined in the complementarity and continuity of nature and culture.

In a difficult socio-economic context, the African, and indeed World Heritage, cradle of the history of humanity, is facing various dangers and pressures which threaten the sites and sometimes cause them irremediable damage. As early as 1972, the World Heritage Convention warned of the pressures to which the sites were subject and underlined the need to integrate heritage conservation into the development process. By ratifying the Convention, each country commits itself to its implementation, by adopting policies and plans for setting up a framework for the protection and conservation of its heritage, particularly the sites inscribed on the list.

The 29th General Conference of UNESCO invited the States Parties to the World

Heritage Convention, in application of Article 29 of the Convention, through the intermediary of the World Heritage Committee Secretariat, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, "to report on the legislative and administrative provisions and other actions which they have taken for the application of the World Heritage Convention, including the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties located on their territories".

Supported by the 11th General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, periodic reporting on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and the monitoring of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List has been organized. A "voluntary contribution of the States Parties to the 1972 Convention", the periodic reporting process has been carried out according to the strategy adopted and approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 22nd session. It concerns all countries that inscribed sites on the World Heritage List before 1994. The 29th General Conference of UNESCO invited States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to submit periodic reports, in accordance with Article 29 of the Convention. Following this decision, which was upheld by the 11th General Assembly of States Parties, the World Heritage Committee at its twenty-second session (1998) adopted a general reporting form with submission of periodic reports every six years in the framework of a region by region examination of States Parties' reports. The strategy for periodic reporting from Africa was adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 23rd session (Marrakech, Morocco, 1999), according to a two-year programme.

foreword

Eighteen African countries and 40 sites were concerned (16 cultural sites and 23 natural sites, including two transboundary sites and one mixed site), inscribed prior to 1994. In accordance with the calendar established, 16 States Parties submitted their reports within the imposed timeframe. The Seychelles submitted its report too late to be included in the analysis and Zambia failed to submit a report. Of a possible 42 reports on the state of implementation of the Convention at site level[1], nine were not submitted or received in time. Located in conflict zones, four sites in the Democratic Republic of Congo could not be contacted, nor were they able to participate in sub-regional meetings. Apart from a very brief summary of their situation, sent by the State Party, no report was received. Tanzania sent only four out of a possible five reports. The reports for Selous (Tanzania), Mana Pools (Zimbabwe) and Mosi-oa-Tunya (Zambia) were not submitted. Finally, the officers in charge of the two sites in the Seychelles replied after the deadline expired, which meant that their reports could not be taken into account. The systematic analysis which follows was therefore conducted on 32 out of the 40 sites inscribed by African countries prior to 1994[2].

Despite the absence of replies from certain sites, this first reporting exercise in Africa has been a positive one. The procedure established and the documentation compiled have made it possible to assess the application of the World Heritage Convention by States Parties:

- to evaluate the upholding of World Heritage values for the sites inscribed on the World Heritage List,
- to update information on World Heritage sites to include changes in the state of conservation of these properties, and
- to develop a mechanism for regional cooperation and the sharing of information and experience between the States Parties concerned by the implementation of the Convention and the conservation of the world heritage.

The Periodic Reporting Exercise has paved the way for future monitoring actions and for the management of World Heritage sites in Africa.

The present summary of the three volumes of the periodic report[3] for Africa, to be submitted to the Committee, follows the broad lines of the report. After a brief introduction, Chapter 1 sums up the methodology of the Periodic Reporting Exercise. Chapter 2, devoted to the implementation of the Convention at State Party level, ends with specific recommendations at State level. Chapter 3 discusses the implementation of the Convention at the site level. Chapter 4 presents conclusions and recommendations, leading to the establishment of an Action Programme for Periodic Reporting with an implementation calendar.

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[1] In fact, 2 forms were requested for each transborder site. Mount Nimba and Mosi-oa-Tunya are managed by different authorities on each side of the border.

[2] Mount Nimba was counted as a single site despite two forms being received. The analysis thus concerned 32 sites (and 33 forms). The contradictions in the results for transborder sites raises problems not only for the analysis, but also in terms of their management.

[3] Volume 1 is entitled "The Report" and has seven chapters: the first, second and third outline the strategy used; the fourth covers the methodology; the fifth is an analysis of the responses, by States Parties and by sites; the sixth defines an Action Plan for upgrading before the 2007 reporting exercise; the seventh is the conclusion. Volume 2 is entitled "The Atlas" and is divided into four chapters of general cartography, of the cartography of the responses given to the forms by the States Parties and the sites, and a summary profile of the States Parties and sites. Volume 3 is made up of the appendices to the exercise and includes the general reporting questionnaire approved by the World Heritage Committee, the specific site questionnaire, the reporting calendar for the exercise, the list of African countries and sites involved in the exercise, the budget approved for this exercise, summaries of the two regional workshops for the anglophone and francophone countries of Africa organized during the reporting exercise and their working programme, and an analytical table of the responses received from the sites and States Parties.

Modalities, the periodic
reporting exercise

The methodology followed was consistent with the decisions taken at the twenty-second session of the World Heritage Committee (Kyoto, 1998) and was based on the use of two sections of the form[4]. This first periodic report also aims to update the information contained in the initial nomination form for inscription.

OBJECTIVES

The aim is to present a clear summary of the state of implementation of the World Heritage Convention and the state of the World Heritage sites in the Africa region for several audiences (Committee members, States Parties, managers, researchers and the general public, particularly in Africa). The findings and recommendations of this Exercise aim at improving national heritage policies and site management, developing active participation by local and national officials and by the population, setting up regional cooperation, and adopting of policy and decisions by the Committee and its Secretariat so that they are suited to local and national realities.

STRATEGY AND APPROACH

In Africa, the regional strategy has led to a participatory process, bringing together the States Parties, the competent institutions and the expertise available in the region. The Periodic Reporting activities were coordinated by the World Heritage Centre in cooperation with the States Parties. The reports were prepared with contributions from those in charge of the daily management of the properties, with the assistance of experts from the Secretariat or advisory bodies if and when the State Party so desired.
The exercise was divided into seven phases:

Phase 1 – Preparation of the exercise in 1999
With a view to making the States Parties aware of the issues involved in the reporting and in the

application of Article 29 of the Convention, the Centre, with consultant support, reformulated several items of the general reporting form adopted by the Committee in order to take the specific characteristics of the Africa region into account. The Centre then submitted this form to the States Parties and site managers, accompanied by the information available on the inscribed sites and on the funds allocated by the World Heritage Fund.

Phase 2 – Processing of the first replies to the questionnaire
The replies received enabled a first database to be set up, archived in the Centre, and analysed according to the objectives defined by the Convention, the Committee and the Operational Guidelines.

Phase 3 – Regional workshops
Two workshops, focusing on issues related to bio-geographic area and to specific cultural and linguistic features of the African sub-regions, were organized close to a World Heritage site to illustrate the exercise through activities in the field. The workshops, which lasted four days, made it possible to make the methodology explicit, to standardise the drafting of the reports, to create an awareness of strengths, weaknesses and management needs as well as regional complementarities, and to stress the issue of participation by the local communities. To this end, documents were made available, either of general interest, giving information on the Convention and the regional heritage, or of more specific interest to each country and each site. Marked by extremely active participation, these workshops trained the managers in the reporting of their sites.

Workshop 1 "Francophone Africa", held in Dakar in July 2000, brought together only six of the nine States Parties concerned, owing to political events (Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Senegal), and 10 of the 17 managers of World Heritage sites: four cultural sites (Royal Palaces of Abomey, Island of Gorée, Timbuktu, old towns of Djenné); five natural sites (Niokolo-Koba, Djoudj, Dja, Aïr and Ténéré, Taï), and one mixed site (the Cliffs of Bandiagara).

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[4] Section I of the reporting form enables the actions undertaken by the States Parties to honour their obligations with respect to the Convention to be evaluated. Section II of the form presents the state of conservation, and therefore implementation of the Convention in the sites concerned.

Workshop 2 "Anglophone Africa", held in Nakuru, Kenya in March 2001, brought together the nine States Parties concerned (Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Seychelles, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe), nine natural sites (Lake Malawi, the Aldabra Atoll, the Vallée de Mai, Mount Kilimanjaro, Selous Game Reserve, the Ngorongoro crater, Tsingy de Bemaraha, the Mana Pools national park, the Mosi-oa-Tunya site /Victoria Falls), and six cultural sites (Asante traditional buildings, the Forts and Castles of Volta, Island of Mozambique, Great Zimbabwe and Khami Ruins sites, the ruins of Kilwa Kisanghani).

Phase 4 – Receipt of the reporting forms

After the regional workshops, the site managers and authorities of the States Parties completed the second draft of the forms and sent them to the World Heritage Centre. By the deadline of 15 April 2001, 16 reports (out of 18) had been received for Section 1, and 32 reports (out of 40) for Section II. The analysis of these documents is the basis of the final report on the Africa region.

Phase 5 – Analysis and summary of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

The analysis enabled an appraisal to be made of the state of conservation, including conclusions and recommendations in order to disseminate the positive aspects, improve the shortcomings in conservation and development, and identify the training needed as well as the possibilities of exchange of regional and sub-regional expertise. In order to maintain the interactive relationship initiated by the workshops, the summary document will be sent to the managers concerned.

Phase 6 – The case of sensitive sites

Several of the sites analysed require more personalized assistance, owing to difficult situations or special circumstances. Individual assistance missions were carried out in order to help the managers and the State Party to identify and make explicit the difficulties encountered. In this way, the strategy drawn up for Ethiopia enabled contacts to be established to achieve better coordination between the various authorities responsible, and enabled the

seven reports on the sites as well as that concerning the State Party to be drafted.

Phase 7 – Validation and diffusion of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

The final report was presented to the twenty-fifth session of the World Heritage Committee in Helsinki, Finland (December 2001). It is planned to publish the report at a later date in the form of a brochure and CD-ROM and to make it available on the Internet.

This step-by-step procedure can thus be seen as the necessary stages of the pedagogy which resulted in an awareness and appropriation of the exercise by the national officials and site managers concerned, and in the final production of substantial, usable documents.

USEFULNESS OF THE EXERCISE

This first reporting exercise made the site managers aware of the Convention and its activities, and informed them about the characteristics of their sites. Thanks in particular to the sub-regional workshops, many managers were trained in conservation issues and methods, which led to an awareness of the achievements of each site in comparison with those of other sites, thus encouraging the exchange of experience. In this way, managers were encouraged to participate and take responsibility in conservation and development activities. The exercise also gave the institutions and experts the opportunity to draw attention to their most urgent needs. This Periodic Reporting Exercise proved a useful instrument for setting up a network of institutions and drawing up a list of African experts.

The exercise also enabled computerized databases to be set up, made up of nomination form archives, interactive data in the form of OCDB files (one States file, one Sites file and one Address file, bringing together the bodies and resource persons mentioned). In addition, it enabled the first step to be taken towards a Geographical Information System, thus paving the way for future assessments of sites in Africa. The data should be regularly

PERSON RESPONSIBLE FILLS IN PROVISIONAL FORM ADAPTED FOR AFRICA

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROVIDED AND DISCUSSIONS HELD

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SUB-REGIONAL 'HARMONIZATION'

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IMPROVEMENT TO AND RETURN OF FINAL FORM

↓

ANALYSIS, REPORT, RECOMMENDATIONS, DISSEMINATION

updated so that the Centre and every State Party or site can quickly and independently find the information they require.

RELEVANCE OF THE RESULTS

The frequency and range of items or individuals (States Parties or sites) concerned by a 'nil' response (no reply) has led us to regard this response as an evaluation indicator of the questionnaire, or rather of the type of response given to complex, disturbing or unfamiliar items. This relevance index, or rate of response obtained, measures the reliability of the responses and therefore the scope of the exercise: the higher the frequency of nil for a given item, the less relevant the information provided under this heading; the higher the nil score for a site or a State, the less informative the form. An item with a rate of less than 50 thus indicates a serious problem of perception or comprehension, since more than half of the respondents did not find it relevant, or were not able to provide a response. These items correspond to responses on risk prevention and regular monitoring, thus indicating shortcomings in these areas. Some respondents felt that risk prevention was outside their field of competence. The forms reveal three situations: States Parties whose reports are very uninformative (with rates of < 50); States Parties with an average relevance index (between 50 and 70); and sites with a high index (>70). The first group should be given assistance to improve their performance in the next reporting exercise. It should also be noted that a form seems to be the most appropriate format. Although Cameroon provided a very well-documented report, it was difficult to identify the questionnaire items, which led to the response rate being very low. Those responsible for completing the site forms were not the same as those who completed the States Parties' forms, which explains the difference in the States Parties' indices and those of the sites, which are situated there.

Despite its length, however, this form does not provide answers to all the questions that are facing States and their sites. For example, the form does not concretely document the state of conservation of certain endangered species in the case of natural or mixed sites, although this is clearly specified as a criterion for justification of inscription.

CONCLUSION

This first Periodic Reporting Exercise for the Africa region provides a set of findings on the implementation of the Convention. The first finding is the keen interest shown by the participants in the Periodic Reporting Exercise, and, consequently, in the introduction of relevant management and conservation methods for the sites, and in the improvement of the implementation of the Convention at the level of States Parties. This interest is generally limited by the scarcity, penury or obsolescence of the material resources available, and by the human capacities. The results achieved reflect the existing material and human resources. In addition, the periodic report must be seen as a continuous process, defining the basis upon which a permanent consultation process can be set up in the field and at site level, in interaction with the local and national institutions and the technical staff of the States Parties concerned. To that end, the recommendation of carrying out an evaluation half-way through the reporting exercise (every three years), proposed by the site managers, would make it possible to take stock of experience gained in management, conservation, protection and development and to endorse or reorient future actions. This mid-term evaluation would be all the more useful in that a site manager generally spends less than five years in one post, and would therefore enable the number of "novice" site managers in periodic reporting to be reduced. However, given the shortcomings observed in the state of the African world heritage, the reporting exercise could be linked to a continuous process aimed at guiding the officials in a dual process of reporting on the first exercise and preparing the next Periodic Reporting Exercise. Finally, the States Parties could consider revising their planning and site management plans to bring them in line with the six years of the periodic reporting cycle, thus optimizing the synchronization of the actions.

AFRICAN HERITAGE

Africa is a continent of vast and varied natural, cultural and archaeological resources and assets. The oldest remains of our ancestors, including their footprints in East Africa and Southern Africa, are only the beginning of a legacy that encompasses not only the origins of modern humans, but also the course of cultural evolution during the Stone Age, with a variety of outstanding sites all over Africa. Africa was also the cradle of one of the main innovations in later prehistory, the emergence of a dynamic adaptation to changing climate culminating in the keeping of African cattle in north-eastern Africa more than 10,000 years ago. Cattle keeping spread to the rest of Africa to create a spectrum of regional configurations associated with radical social and political transformations, including the emergence of a nation state in Egypt and tribal chiefdoms in other parts of Africa.

The spectacular rock art of the Horn of Africa, Namibia and the Drakensberg mountains is a vivid testimony to a mode of life and to an artistic skill and religious consciousness that have since permeated the cultural outlook of Africa. Archaeological remains in Africa capture the sense of transformations that have contributed to the rise of our modern world from the advent of Christianity to the colonial events predating the post-colonial era. Monasteries and churches in Ethiopia are among the oldest in the world and are of great religious significance to humankind. Africa is also rich in sacred mountains, groves and landscapes.

It is also famous for its trade centres and routes that have not only linked parts of Africa together, but were also a link between Europe and Asia at a time when modern Europe was in the making. The Portuguese trading centre in Mozambique is an example of the role played by Africa in the global trade network at that time. Africa's most recent monuments at Robben Island celebrate the triumph of the human spirit and the principles of Human rights.

The natural beauty of Africa and the remarkable biodiversity of its ecosystems are of special importance to humankind not only for the enjoyment of visitors but also for their scientific value and their critical importance in sustaining global biodiversity and preserving some of the world's most precious species.

The management of the cultural and natural heritage of Africa, however, is beset with problems. For a long time, cultural heritage management programmes in Africa have been concerned mainly with preservation and conservation of archaeological monuments primarily from a technical point of view. In many cases, the lives, beliefs and practices of local communities surrounding the monuments or living in heritage parks and reserves are linked with cultural and natural resources in their home range. In the majority of the cases the local communities are poor or disadvantaged economically. World heritage sites and potential heritage sites can serve as a model for a new era of heritage management, which takes into consideration the following:

- local communities in their role as users and beneficiaries of heritage sites as the focal point of heritage management and development with a special focus on poverty alleviation

- cultural landscape as the focus of heritage management instead of the narrow focus on the physical structure of a site or a monument;

- heritage management must include measures to protect and safeguard sites, conservation of the sites and their surroundings, compilation of documents and archives, ongoing research and education, development of sound sustainable visitor programmes, financial resources development, and legislation;

- capacity building and public education are two pillars for the viability of heritage management programmes and have to be specifically targeted.

Hassan Fekri

Implementation of the Convention by the State Parties

section 1

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION BY THE STATES PARTIES

"Each State Party to this Convention recognizes that the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage referred to in Articles 1 and 2 and situated on its territory, belongs primarily to that State …". (Article 4)

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPERTIES

The first stage, the identification of heritage properties, is an activity that is necessary for the systematisation of conservation actions. The efforts made by the States Parties in preparing national heritage inventories and tentative lists and in submitting the inscription form are the first indicators of implementation of the Convention.

Although 69% of the States Parties have prepared national inventories, further efforts are needed as far as identification is concerned. 62% of States Parties have identified their cultural heritage, 50% their natural heritage and only 30% their mixed heritage. Over and above the lack of identification, the 37% of responses obtained for the mixed heritage reveal a possible misunderstanding or lack of understanding of this concept. Thirteen States Parties specified the institutions in charge of heritage inventories, thus identifying ten institutions responsible for cultural properties, and eight responsible for natural properties. Madagascar, Senegal and Zimbabwe provided references for all their institutions.

Although the Convention is characterized by complementarity between the protection of nature and the conservation of culture, the African cultural heritage and natural heritage are generally entrusted to different authorities. The lack of communication between these authorities raises particular problems in countries which have both cultural and natural sites. This institutional "mismatch" emphasizes the challenge of integrated management of the national heritage as a whole.

National Inventories

"It is for each State Party to this Convention to identify and delineate the different properties situated on its territory mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 (of the Convention)". (Article 3)

NATIONAL INVENTORIES	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Preparation of lists or inventories, dates	11	5	0	100
Cultural inventory	10	0	6	62
Natural inventory	8	1	7	56
Mixed inventory	5	1	10	37
Institutions responsible for national inventories	13	0	3	81

NRP: No response given to this question

Tentative Lists

"Every State Party to this Convention shall, in so far as possible, submit to the World Heritage Committee an inventory of property forming part of the cultural and natural heritage, situated in its territory and suitable for inclusion in the (World Heritage) list. This inventory, which shall not be considered exhaustive, shall include documentation about the location of the property in question and its significance…" (Article 11)

TENTATIVE LISTS	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Submission of the tentative list	12	3	1	93
Submission dates indicated	13	0	3	81
Revision date	5	3	8	50
Institution responsible	14	0	2	87
Local authority participation	13	1	2	87
Local population participation	9	4	3	81

75% of the States Parties submitted tentative lists of natural and cultural sites (Cameroon and the Central African Republic did not submit lists). In the framework of identification of world heritage properties, the consultation process has not been well developed. Thirteen States Parties, 56% of the total, have involved the local administrative authorities, while only nine have involved the local population, either through the traditional chiefs or via public consultation meetings. Since 1996, eleven lists (73%) have been submitted and five lists revised, and the local community is increasingly being taken into account. This notable improvement in the application of the Convention, along with the high rate of responses obtained, reflects the impact of the Global Strategy.

Global Strategy

The Global Strategy adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 1994 aims to encourage countries to ratify the World Heritage Convention, to submit tentative lists, to harmonize these at the regional level and to prepare nomination forms for the properties selected in order to ensure that the World Heritage List is more representative.

The objectives of the Global Strategy are crucial for the Africa region, which includes 37 States Parties to the Convention, i.e. 22% of the total number, but whose 57 inscribed sites represent only 8% of the sites inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Several actions have been carried out in the framework of the Global Strategy. Eight meetings and workshops, bringing together 60 African experts, have been organized to discuss the issues and initiate appropriate actions. Since 1994, eight new African States Parties have adhered to the Convention, 23 tentative lists have been submitted and 13 new sites inscribed. Moreover, promotion and diffusion have led to six bilingual publications on the African heritage being produced.

Nominations of sites to the World Heritage List

NOMINATION OF SITES TO THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Submission of sites for inscription on the World Heritage List	14	0	2	87
Cooperation with local authorities	10	1	5	68
Obstacles and difficulties	7	2	7	56
Conclusions concerning the method	10	0	6	62

The inscription of sites on the World Heritage List involves a great deal of preparation and the submission of a nomination form. Even though two respondents did not mention this in their reports, all the States Parties have sites inscribed on the List. 44% mentioned the obstacles and difficulties encountered, particularly lack of experience of and information on preparing the nomination form, material and manpower problems (insufficient financing, inappropriate logistics, lack of qualified site management staff), and relations with the local population near the site (looting, expropriation of land with no compensation). Of the ten States Parties who had positive conclusions to draw on the inscription procedure, several judged the process to be helpful in leading to a better knowledge of the site and thus to more appropriate management and promotion. For others, the participatory strategies tend to lessen local resistance caused by poor understanding of World Heritage status. In addition, the contribution of the local authorities and the population ensures the smooth running of work carried out on the site.

States parties	Submission of inventories	Types of inventories Cultural/ natural	Submission of tentative lists	Submission date	Local authority involvement	Involvement of the local population
BENIN	Yes	C&N	Yes	1998	Yes	Yes
CAMEROON	No	X	No	X	X	X
CENTRAL AFRICAN REP.	No	X	No	X	X	X
COTE D'IVOIRE	No	C&N	Yes	1983	Yes	Yes
DEM. REP. OF CONGO	Yes	Natural	No	X (1997)	Yes	
ETHIOPIA	Yes	Cultural	Yes	1997	Yes	Yes
GHANA	Yes	C&N	Yes	1999	Yes	Yes
GUINEA	Yes	C&N	Yes	2001	Yes	Yes
MADAGASCAR	No	C&N	Yes	1996	Yes	No
MALAWI	Yes	X	X	1997	X	X
MALI	Yes	Cultural	Yes	1999	Yes	Yes
MOZAMBIQUE	Yes	Cultural	Yes	1997	Yes	No
NIGER	No	X	Yes	1996	Yes	Yes
SENEGAL	Yes	C&N	Yes	1998	Yes	No
SEYCHELLES			No			
UNITED REP. OF TANZANIA	Yes	X	Yes	2000	No	No
ZAMBIA			Yes	1997		
ZIMBABWE	Yes	C&N	Yes	1996	Yes	Yes

The date on which the Convention was ratified by the States Parties had no impact on the actions taken to identify properties. While the comprehensive responses given by the majority of the countries underline their interest in identifying properties, the answers provided by some countries, such as Malawi, the Central African Republic and Cameroon, were incomplete. The failure to reply and the contradictions inherent in some responses reveal not only lack of knowledge but also difficulties in understanding the questionnaire.

Natural and cultural heritage inventories were submitted not only by Senegal and Zimbabwe, both of which have natural and cultural sites, but also by Benin and Côte d'Ivoire, which have cultural and natural sites respectively. This raises a problem of consistency: while Côte d'Ivoire put down that it had not produced a national inventory, it also stated that it had drawn up an inventory of natural and cultural sites. Some States Parties, such as Madagascar or Niger, submitted tentative lists without having previously drawn up a national heritage inventory. Only Côte d'Ivoire's tentative list, submitted in 1983, has not been revised since 1996. Those in charge of completing the questionnaire do not always have the knowledge and information needed to do so. Thus, while the Democratic Republic of Congo claims not to have submitted a tentative list, such a list was received by the World Heritage Centre in 1997. Finally, while the involvement of the local community in the compilation of the tentative lists seems to be linked to the Global Strategy, the community's real participation depends on each country's policies. The United Republic of Tanzania's tentative list, submitted in 2000, was not prepared in partnership with the local authorities or population. Despite some failings, such as the inclusion of all heritage properties, an unsystematic approach and a lack of knowledge of the actions carried out, the identification procedure for heritage properties seems to be relatively well integrated and understood by the States Parties. The current situation results from efforts linked to the Global Strategy, from the decentralization policy currently underway in most of the States, and from greater local involvement.

2. LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

"*To ensure (…) protection [and] conservation (…), each State Party to this Convention shall endeavour, in so far as possible, and as appropriate for each country: to adopt a general policy which aims to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community and to integrate the protection of that heritage into comprehensive planning programmes…*". *(Article 5)*

Protection, conservation and presentation policy

PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION POLICY	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Integration of the heritage into a national management and development policy	15	0	1	93
Integration of the heritage into a regional management and development policy	13	0	3	81
Integration of the heritage into a local management and development policy	14	0	2	87

The integration of the heritage into national management and development policy has involved various means. Eleven States Parties have introduced new legislative texts and action plans. Institutional means implemented by eight States Parties include the setting up of functioning frameworks or networks. At the financial level, only two States Parties have regular budgets for the heritage, and funds for promotion of the sites. In the framework of a general government decentralization effort, 13 States Parties have drawn up a heritage protection policy. 50%

of the States Parties concerned have set up control and management structures at the regional level. Four States Parties are giving the region a genuine role in heritage conservation decision-making. 14 States Parties have taken the heritage into account at the local level. This is reflected in a real raising of awareness of the local communities of the impact of the heritage on their development, in the local sharing of benefits gained from eco-tourism resources, in training, in skills transfer and in the control management.

Adoption of a general policy

"*to adopt a general policy which aims to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community*" *(Article 5)*

ADOPTION OF A GENERAL POLICY	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
A policy and plans that aim to give the heritage a function in the life of the community:				
- exist	8	2	6	62
- are operational	9	1	6	62
- are being drawn up	3	3	10	37
- are envisaged	2	4	10	37
Protection linked to a national development plan	11	2	3	81
Protection linked to a national conservation strategy	11	2	3	81
Fields in which improvements are desirable and towards which the State Party is working	11	0	5	68

The low response rate casts doubt on the knowledge of and interest in the adoption of a general policy by those responsible. Although actions and policies have been developed to give the heritage a function in the life of the community, the approach to the heritage is nei-

ther systematic nor uniform. The challenge for heritage protection lies principally with conservation strategies or national development plans; only 50% of the States Parties have drawn up a general heritage policy.

Status of the services concerned

"Each State Party to the Convention shall endeavor in so far as possible "to set up within its territories, where such services do not exist, one or more services for the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage with an appropriate staff and possessing the means to discharge their functions". (Article 5b)

STATUS OF THE SERVICES CONCERNED	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
The services responsible for conservation depend on:				
- a ministry	13	1	2	87
- an interministerial committee	4	3	9	43
- a multisectorial committee	4	3	9	43
These services are responsible for:				
- protection/conservation	14	0	2	87
- presentation	12	0	4	75
- site operation/running	10	3	3	81
Human resources	14	0	2	87
Other resources	11	0	5	68
Areas where improvements would be desirable	13	0	3	81

All the States Parties have services responsible for conservation. The majority of countries have either natural sites or cultural sites, which explains the fact that 81% of the services are under the authority of a single ministry: the Ministry of the Environment for natural properties, and the Ministry of Culture for cultural properties. Five States parties - Benin, Ethiopia, Guinea, Mozambique and Senegal - have set up a supra-ministerial structure, which enables better coordination and integration of the heritage. Of the countries managing both national and cultural properties, Ethiopia and Senegal are the only two to have set up respectively an interministerial and an intersectorial committee.

The services are in charge of 62% of the conservation, presentation and running of the site, although this last function is sometimes conceded to other bodies. Two cases of delegation of power to para-governmental bodies can be cited: in Madagascar, the conservation of the natural heritage depends on an autonomous organization, the ANGAP (National Association for the Management of Protected Areas), and in Zimbabwe the cultural sites are managed by a para-governmental adminis-tration, the NMMZ (National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe).

Fourteen States Parties mention their human resources. These figures vary from over 1700 persons in the Democratic Republic of Congo to only four in the Central African Republic. This variation is mainly due to the characteristics of the sites themselves: large natural sites that are threatened by strong anthropic pressure (poaching, wood cutting, illegal grazing) generally have a higher number of staff. The effectiveness of the conservation actions undertaken remains very disparate and does not depend on staff size.

Eleven countries also mention their material and financial resources. Despite economic difficulties, the absence of negative replies leads to the conclusion that each country has means, however limited, available for heritage protection. Over and above the listing of logistical means or real estate holdings, some initiatives are worthy of mention, such as the creation of a community radio station at Lake Malawi to transmit messages about development to the local communities.

Finally, all the respondents feel that an improvement in services would be desirable. 83% of the needs expressed concern training, from advanced technician to guard, while improvements in logistics (75%), communication and transport, staff size and resources for research and promotion of the sites were also cited.

Scientific studies and research
As stated in Article 5, States Parties must "develop scientific and technical studies and research …".

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES AND RESEARCH	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Are there scientific and technical studies on the World Heritage sites?	15	0	1	93
Are the research results available?	13	0	3	81
Access through seminars and conferences	12	2	2	87
Access through local media	11	3	2	87
Access via Internet	5	7	4	75
Access through the press	10	2	4	75
Fields in which improvements would be desirable	14	0	2	87

57% of the scientific and technical studies undertaken on World Heritage sites aim at a better understanding of natural resources through study programmes on animal species or ecobiological monitoring. 36% are research programmes related to management and development plans, 29% concern socio-economic development, 21% ecotourism, 21% archaeological knowledge and 14% conservation of cultural sites. Studies and research carried out on the world heritage in Africa, which used to be organized by foreign missions, are now increasingly being undertaken by local researchers, in cooperation with universities and national or foreign research centres.

Despite the difficulties and costs of access in Africa to the Internet, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Senegal use the Internet as another means of disseminating research results in addition to the more common channels. Among the many improvements desired, four countries mentioned management capacities, suggesting the drawing up of a national heritage management plan or the creation of local management structures. The other areas often mentioned are conservation conditions, the expansion of research, an increase in knowledge of the heritage, and access to this knowledge. As far as this last point is concerned, three States Parties referred to the need for computerisation of the services, and two others mentioned the creation of Internet sites.

Measures for identification, conservation, presentation and enhancement
"… to work out such operating methods as will make the State capable of counteracting the dangers that threaten its cultural or natural heritage … to take the appropriate legal, scientific, technical, administrative and financial measures necessary for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of this heritage." (Article 5)

MEASURES FOR IDENTIFICATION, CONSERVATION, PRESENTATION AND ENHANCEMENT	YES	No	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Specific legislation and policies concerning the National Heritage	11	2	3	100
Restoration and rehabilitation of the Heritage considered as priorities	13	0	3	81
Actions to encourage active participation in the protection of World Heritage properties	12	0	4	75
Actions to involve the private sector in the conservation and protection of World Heritage sites	12	1	3	81
Is a general and/or legal policy reform necessary?	5	6	5	68
Other international conventions signed	9	0	7	56
Appropriate scientific and technical measures taken for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and enhancement of the cultural and natural heritage	12	1	3	81
Media used	14	0	2	87

Modifying or updating a legal or institutional framework, raising the awareness of the population, encouraging the circulation of information through discussions and seminars, creating relational structures (national network of protected areas), developing the zoning of visited sites, improving financing, and applying the law concerning repression are some of the different legal and institutional measures which have had a positive impact in 12 countries. Among the scientific and technical measures taken, five States Parties are continuing the work of identification through inventories, three are carrying out regular monitoring activities of the natural and cultural sites, three are organizing seminars and colloquia, three are carrying out specific training activities, six are trying to improve management, control and legislation respectively; finally Ethiopa has created a management structure, the Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage (ARCCH).

To disseminate information on these measures, ten countries use radio, nine use television and seven use the written press, brochures, films and postcards. To a lesser degree, some more sophisticated means are used, such as scientific reviews, the creation of Internet sites, museum exhibitions and recourse to artists.

Considered a priority by 81% of the States Parties, heritage restoration and rehabilitation actions are mentioned by five States. The priority given to restoration is also reflected in the increase in personnel and human technical capacities as well as in the increased financing of restoration actions. Other means of action include the extension of protected areas and tourism development. However, only five States feel that a reform of the general or legal policy is needed, which suggests that the current situation is generally considered fairly satisfactory.

A participatory approach to the protection and conservation of World Heritage properties is sought by 75% of the States Parties concerned. To this end, eight countries have implemented participatory management practices involving the local population, its elected officials and traditional leaders and in some cases have set up management committees. Four States Parties have carried out actions to heighten the awareness of user populations. The participatory approach also seeks to involve the private sector, which takes part in heritage conservation as a service provider or support. Some local NGOs have been requested to carry out work at the sites, or even to manage the protected area. Two countries have called upon private sponsors to support their conservation actions. In three States Parties, private companies organize tourist activities. Three countries also try to raise awareness by running joint seminars, colloquia and information days with the private sector. Two States mention the relevance of initiating or extending a participatory policy to local populations and to the public in general. In this way, a number of participatory measures are slowly beginning to involve the local population in development actions through conservation.

In addition to the World Heritage Convention, 15 States Parties are also signatories to other international Conventions on natural or cultural properties, ratification of which provides additional protection. These commitments are often not known to the questionnaire respondents, with 9 positive responses for 15 signatory countries.

STATES PARTIES	GENERAL POLICY		PROTECTION LINKED TO...		MEASURES				Political reform needed
	Exists and is operational	Is being drawn up or envisaged	National Development Plan	Conservation strategy	Law specific to the national heritage and impact on the	Restoration and rehabilitation are priorities	Local participation actions	Private sector actions	
BENIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	X
CAMEROON	Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
CENTRAL AFRICAN Rep.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	X	Yes	X	X	No
COTE D'IVOIRE	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dem. Rep. of CONGO	X	No	No	No	No	X	X	No	X
ETHIOPIA	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
GHANA	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
GUINEA	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
MADAGASCAR	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
MALAWI	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MALI	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	X
MOZAMBIQUE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
NIGER	X	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
SENEGAL	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
SEYCHELLES	Yes		Yes	Yes					
United Rep. of TANZANIA	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ZAMBIA									
ZIMBABWE	No	X	X	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

The very disparate responses from the different states stem not only from the differences in actions and commitment of the States Parties but are also correlated to the specialization of the author of the form. Malawi filled in only one item; Cameroon, Ghana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali and the Central African Republic filled in certain responses, while the other States Parties completed more than two thirds of the responses. However, these differences and the contradictions in certain replies are also linked to the form, which, in failing to give sufficient information for the items, does not seem well suited to the exercise[5]. A number of responses are inconsistent: in Mali, a protection policy exists but is not operational; conversely, in Tanzania and Zimbabwe there is no protection policy, but it is operational.

The case of the Democratic Republic of the Congo is worrying: although all its sites are inscribed on the list of World Heritage in Danger, no policy exists or is envisaged, the heritage is not integrated into a national plan, there is no law specific to the heritage and restoration is not a priority; only protection measures are indicated. Similarly, in Niger, despite its inscription on the list of World Heritage in Danger, no general policy is mentioned, protection remains linked to a development plan, and political

reform is not judged to be necessary. In the same situation, Guinea and the Central African Republic have a general heritage policy, but do not have a specific heritage law, nor are political reforms envisaged. Lastly, the appropriateness of the policies adopted can be questioned for Benin, Ethiopia, Mali and Senegal, all of which have sites inscribed on the list of World Heritage in Danger. Since Africa is the region in both relative and absolute terms with the greatest number of properties inscribed on the list of World Heritage in Danger, enormous progress in protection and conservation remains to be made in all related fields.

While heritage conservation is considered a priority sector by the majority of States Parties, the actions taken as a result of this priority and its effect are not specified. There is no marked inclination to review and reform the legal and institutional framework protecting Africa's heritage. Moreover, a real heritage integration policy must be ensured not only by the bodies responsible for heritage conservation, but also by the highest authorities, through the widest possible coordination. In fact, apart from very tentative references to a participatory policy, the relationship between heritage conservation and sustainable development is not contemplated. The integration of these two policy orientations would undoubtedly enable the relationships and balance of power to be modulated into a conservation policy which is no longer defensive but constructive.

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[5] The contradictions, inconsistencies and misunderstandings noted during the Periodic Reporting Exercise in the Arab countries and in Africa have led to the form being modified for Asia/Pacific and South America and the Caribbean.

3. TRAINING

"to foster the establishment or development of national or regional centres for training in the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage and to encourage scientific research in this field." (Article 5)

TRAINING	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Mechanisms in place or being introduced, to increase cooperation between the different institutions responsible for the conservation and protection of the World Heritage	13	0	3	81
Identification of the training needs for the protection and conservation of the heritage	13	0	3	81
Existing training opportunities	14	1	1	93
Training modules or programmes developed for the World Heritage sites.	4	11	1	93
Has the staff received heritage training in or outside your country?	11	4	1	93
Do you have a national or regional training centre for the protection and conservation of the natural and cultural heritage?	7	8	1	93
Measures taken to encourage scientific research as a support for training and educational activities	13	1	2	87
Areas where improvements would be desirable	13	0	3	81

As has already been mentioned several times, training is a major issue in World Heritage protection. With the aim of strengthening cooperation between the different institutions responsible for conservation and World Heritage protection actions, various mechanisms have been developed by 13 States Parties: seven have set up training programmes or units, three use the coordination of means, two have instituted the programming and planning of conservation actions, two States have created heritage committees and have set up modern management means, such as Geographical Information Systems.

Training needs are identified as being of great importance by 81% of respondents. The most frequent request (50%) concerns the management and planning of the World Heritage sites, followed by training in restoration (33%) and conservation (17%), and the organization of environmental and monument monitoring (25%).

Other needs identified are in socio-economy and development, legislation, documentation, the combat against poaching and the improvement of scientific capacities. Among the existing training opportunities in their own countries or in the region, the Ecole du patrimoine africain (African Heritage School) in Porto Novo, the ICCROM and CRA-Terre are cited several times; the training centres in the Garoua and Mweka Wildlife Colleges are less frequently mentioned. The majority of national universities offer training in archaeology. With the exception of Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi and Niger, all the States Parties confirm that they have benefited from heritage training. Seven countries have a national or regional centre for training in protection and conservation of natural heritage (including Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Tanzania) and cultural heritage (Benin).

Among the measures taken to encourage scientific research as a support for training and educational activities, five States Parties collaborate with foreign universities and research centres, and four have created or reactivated laboratories and other research structures. In three countries, students have been able to undertake research activities in situ. Five countries stress the need for strengthening training and upgrading equipment, especially computer equipment. In the same connection, requests were made by two States Parties for operational documentation centres and by three countries for

updated inventory and monitoring systems. Four States Parties also mentioned improvements needed in museological and immovable conservation, its financing and the modernization of management.

A major preoccupation for States Parties, training is seen as a priority need for improving knowledge of protection and conservation techniques. Strengthening training seems to represent an opportunity which, through a leverage effect, could offer an integrated approach to heritage and development.

HERITAGE TRAINING IN AFRICA

In accordance with Article 23 of the Convention, the World Heritage Committee has made financial contributions, through the World Heritage Fund, to the training of African specialists. Since their creation, the Mweka College of African Wildlife Management, in Tanzania (anglophone), and the Ecole de Faune de Garoua, in Cameroon (francophone), have regularly benefited from World Heritage funding. This assistance is aimed at training technicians who will subsequently be responsible for managing protected areas and wildlife parks. Training, which lasts one year at Mweka and two years at Garoua, consists of a series of technical modules: Mweka's study areas are the Kwakuchinja Mbugwe area and the Mount Meru reserve, while training at Garoua includes a 45-day pre-work internship on a reserve. Between 1994 and 2000, 12 African specialists were trained in wildlife management and protected areas at the Ecole de faune de Garoua, and 18 at the Mweka College of Wildlife, with financial contributions from the World Heritage Fund of US$180,000 per establishment. Since 2001, three specialists from each centre have benefited from a scholarship awarded by the Fund for the whole of their university studies. Since 1994, a total of 26 African specialists in wildlife management and protected areas have been able to benefit from training funded by the World Heritage Fund at a total cost of US$435,000.

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The **EPA**, **Ecole de patrimoine africain** (African Heritage School), in Porto-Novo is the heir to the "Prevention in the Museums of Africa - PREMA 1990-2000" programme. Set up by ICCROM and the National University of Benin, the School's purpose is the development of museums in 25 countries of sub-Saharan Africa. The objectives of the EPA, which has financial autonomy, are to further the "renewal through education" programme in African museums in order to increase the percentage of schoolchildren visiting their national museum from 4% in 2001 to 50% in 2010; to train museum staff; and to conserve the national collections.

AFRICA 2009 is a joint programme of ICCROM, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and CRA Terre-EAG working with African cultural heritage organizations. The objective of the programme is to increase national capacity in Sub-Saharan Africa for management and conservation of immovable cultural heritage. The following outputs will be achieved by its conclusion in 2009: national awareness as a means of promoting political, institutional, financial, and community commitment; trained national professionals and other skilled persons involved in the conservation and management of the immovable cultural heritage; an active network for exchange of information and experiences. The programme is organized around activities at both the regional and site levels and is coordinated by a Steering Committee made up of four African professionals and one member from each of the three institutional partners. Some of the achievements of the programme through the end of 2001:

- 61 professionals have been trained at three regional courses focusing on the development of management plans for immovable heritage sites in the region;
- three Directors' Seminars have been held to facilitate regional networking at the highest levels of the profession;
- two thematic seminars have been held to deepen understanding of specific issues of relevance to the field;
- a publication has been prepared on traditional conservation methods in the region;
- a course manual has been produced for documentation of rock art in southern Africa;
- computers and other technical assistance have been provided for national institutions;
- site projects have taken place at eight sites in the region, including one leading to the inscription of the Kasubi Tombs in Uganda on the World Heritage List.

Financial partners for the programme include Sida, NORAD, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Finland and Italy, the World Heritage Fund, and ICCROM.

UNESCO FORUM - UNIVERSITY AND HERITAGE – AFRICAN NETWORK

BENIN		
National University of Benin	**Cotonou**	**bolory@intnet.bj**
CAMEROON		
CICAT		
University of Ngaoundéré	**Ngaoundéré**	
University of Yaoundé	**Yaoundé**	
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC		
University of Bangui		
(Arts & Human Sciences Faculty)	**Bangui**	
CÔTE D'IVOIRE		
University of Bouaké	**Bouaké**	
University of Cocody	**Abidjan**	**hauhouot@minitel.refer.org**
MADAGASCAR		
Mahajanga University	**Mahajanga**	**cdrom@dts.mg**
RWANDA		
National University of Rwanda		
(Fine Arts Faculty, Kigali)	**Butare**	
SENEGAL		
Cheikh Anta Diop University	**Dakar**	**thioune@bucad.univ-dakar.sn**
SOUTH AFRICA		
University of Pretoria	**Pretoria**	**gbreedlo@postino.up.ac.za**
TOGO		
University of Benin	**Lomé**	
ZIMBABWE		
University of Zimbabwe	**Harare**	**wilpaul@icon.co.zw**

4. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND FUND RAISING

"…the States Parties undertake, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, to give their help in the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage…" (Article 6)

"For the purpose of this Convention, international protection of the world cultural and natural heritage shall be understood to mean the establishment of a system of international co-operation and assistance designed to support States Parties to the Convention in their efforts to conserve and identify that heritage." (Article 7)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND FUND RAISING	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Documentation which could help the other countries promote and improve the application of the World Heritage Convention	5	7	4	75
Bilateral or multilateral activities for the protection and conservation of the World Heritage	9	7	0	62
World Heritage sites that have been twinned with others at the national and international level	4	8	4	75
Your country has bilateral or multilateral activities concerning the World Heritage sites	6	3	7	56
Bilateral or multilateral agreements with funding institutions for the implementation of the Convention in your country	7	3	6	62
National, public or private or specific site foundation, for protection and conservation	5	6	5	68
Annual budget allowance for the protection and conservation of the World Heritage sites in your country	9	4	3	81
Has your government set up a programme for assistance and does it include funds for conservation and protection in other countries?	2	9	5	68
Advisory mechanism between the World Heritage administrative authority and the department responsible for training	1	9	6	62
Has your government made voluntary contributions other than the mandatory ones to globally improve the work on the Convention?	0	10	6	62
Awareness of arrears with your contributions to the World Heritage Fund	2	2	12	25

Bilateral or multilateral activities for the conservation of the World Heritage have been implemented by ten States Parties, are underway in five others and planned by a further seven. Ten programmes have been developed for the conservation or improvement of site management, three programmes for the economic development of the periphery of the site, two workshop seminars, one project financing and one national inventory. The implementation and identification of three trans-

border projects has involved local bilateral cooperation for the conservation of World Heritage sites (Zambia-Zimbabwe, Senegal-Guinea and Senegal-Mauritania). Tanzania implements a national twinning of its Serengeti and Ngorongoro sites. Sites in Benin, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania and Senegal are twinned with other sites in Europe or North America. Decentralized cooperation is very little developed, although it could generate fruitful exchange of expertise between managers.

International cooperation occupies an important place in the conservation of the African heritage. It is carried out exclusively with the countries of the North, and no inter-African cooperation is mentioned. Europe is heavily involved, with the European Union playing an increasingly important role by financing several projects for the conservation and development of World Heritage sites. Bilateral actions and financial and technical assistance programmes are run by many European countries. Relations with the USA are limited to site twinning. The cooperation achieved by six States mainly concerns UNESCO, UNDP, the GEF, as well as the European Union, France, the Netherlands and Germany, mainly for training and conservation programmes. Similarly, bilateral or multilateral agreements signed by seven countries enable assistance projects for the conservation of natural or cultural sites to be financed. The main funding institutions involved are UNESCO, UNDP, the World Bank, the European Union and Germany.

Five States Parties state that they have produced publications which could help promote and improve the application of the World Heritage Convention. In fact, numerous published works are available in the strict framework of the conservation and restoration activities supported by UNESCO World Heritage Centre (Mount Nimba, Aïr-Ténéré, Ashanti buildings, etc). This lack of coherence corresponds to a lack of knowledge and information, but may also reveal the stand taken by African states, who see themselves as being in a training phase, rather than a diffusion one.

Senegal and Tanzania have set up an assistance programme with funds allocated to conservation and protection that are available to other countries; the amounts concerned are not specified. Tanzania has even developed an international agreement to take action against offenders as far as conservation of the natural and cultural heritage is concerned.

The absence of any voluntary contribution to the World Heritage Convention is not surprising, given the economic situation in the region. With 73% of respondents failing to reply to the question, it seems that few national officials are aware of arrears in their contributions to the World Heritage Fund. This situation may be due either to a total dissociation of the Chancellery services which pay the dues linked to international treaties signed by the State, or to an ignorance of the financial duties of the State vis-à-vis the World Heritage Convention.

Five States Parties work with national, public or private foundations, or specific site foundations, for protection and conservation. Only Senegal has set up an advisory mechanism between the World Heritage administrative authority and the department responsible for training, in particular for universities and training centres. Nine States Parties have an annual budget allowance for the protection of their World Heritage sites. In certain cases, such as in Mozambique, this budget is not regular. Elsewhere, it can cover staff salaries, but not conservation activities. With only 53% of countries benefiting from regular financing, the problem is to access to resources for protection and conservation operations in countries where the economies are poor and where private investment is practically non-existent. This situation also raises the problem of the responsibility of the State in implementing credible, dependable and sustainable solutions to ensure the long-term conservation of world heritage.

It seems that cooperation opportunities remain under-utilized in relation to the needs of the African heritage and to the potential resources for cooperation, both inter-African and with other countries.

5. EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND AWARENESS BUILDING

"The States Parties to this Convention shall endeavour by all appropriate means, and in particular by educational and information programmes, to strengthen appreciation and respect by their peoples of the cultural and natural heritage *defined in Articles 1 and 2 of the Convention. They shall undertake to keep the public broadly informed of the dangers threatening this heritage and of the activities carried on in pursuance of this Convention." (Article 27)*

EDUCATION, INFORMATION & AWARENESS RAISING	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
National programme to educate the public and raise awareness about World Heritage	7	5	4	75
Measures taken for the integration of the cultural and natural heritage values into the educational programmes	6	1	9	43
Does the State Party participate in the Special Project World Heritage in Young Hands?	4	7	5	68

Parallel to the national programme to educate the public and raise awareness about World Heritage that exists in seven African countries, several States Parties are increasingly involving decision-makers, owners, tour operators and the general public. A similar effort is also being directed towards schools and universities. Measures are planned to integrate cultural and natural heritage values, which are already included in the primary school curriculum, into secondary level teaching in the framework of environmental education and studies, and civic and moral education. The Ministries of Education and of Environment, Water and Forest, and Culture are associated in this raising of awareness through education. Only Ethiopia, Mali, Senegal and Zimbabwe are taking part in the UNESCO Special Project World Heritage in Young Hands.

National Heritage Days, organized in several countries, also provide an opportunity for building public awareness about tangible and intangible heritage. They also provide information on the crucial role played by conservation in the quality of life and standard of living of the local communities and in the national economy.

RECOMMENDATIONS AT THE STATE PARTY LEVEL

All the countries that have ratified the World Heritage Convention have rights and duties with regard to this Convention. In order to have full information and to take stock of the implementation of the Convention, it is recommended that the field of periodic reporting be extended so that all the African States Parties are concerned by Section I of the reporting form.
Several other recommendations concern the States Parties, the World Heritage Committee and the World Heritage Centre.

Policy: coordination / participation

* to take into account the national heritage and not only the sites inscribed on the World Heritage List, in accordance with the recommendations for the protection of the national heritage adopted in 1972, a global heritage policy should be developed which shall ensure the identification, protection, conservation and management of all the heritage properties at the local, regional and national level.

- Due to the diversity of the situations, the legislation and the scarcity of competencies, it is recommended that a single body, a Committee placed under the authority of the highest State official (President or Prime Minister), centralise the information related to World Heritage, and coordinate the services responsible that are divided up between various ministries. This would facilitate the circulation of information towards and between the services directly responsible for the different aspects of the heritage, and would optimize conservation conditions.
- to devise national strategies to implement the World Heritage Convention and to set up National Committees for the World Heritage Convention
- in order that the protection, conservation and presentation of the heritage be the object of true national strategies integrated into the social and development plans, management and territorial development, the States Parties are called upon to combine their efforts in the framework of the Africa region with the help and assistance of UNESCO and other international bodies, for example through the drawing up of a Charter on the integration of heritage conservation in the economic, social and territorial development plans.
- to encourage the National Directorates to keep informed of the progress made by the State that they serve
  - to study the conditions for giving greater autonomy to the bodies responsible for conservation in order to compensate for the inability to meet financial needs
- to associate and even involve local authorities, local communities and the private sector in the identification, conservation, management and promotion processes by developing participatory communication and concertation strategies, and by drawing inspiration from the participatory management experiences of neighbouring countries

Networks/cooperation
- to collate the experiences of States Parties where significant conservation results are obtained with a limited number of agents in order to study how these can be reproduced in other countries
- to study the basis for the establishment of inter-African cooperation in the field of conservation, of construction techniques (earth, wood, thatching) and of biodiversity, making use of existing institutions
- to develop national or international structures, such as a Foundation, to organize financial support for natural and cultural heritage conservation actions and, in particular, to study the possibility of setting up an African Heritage Fund, the objective of which would be to assist in financing targeted operations, and which would be funded by the wealthiest States Parties and the multinationals that exploit Africa's natural resources
- to envisage carrying out a feasibility study for an African research network, using the World Heritage sites for field studies, given the diversity of these sites and the presence of study materials rarely to be found elsewhere

Technical aspects/assistance
- to assist the States Parties that so wish in drawing up inventories and tentative lists of their cultural and natural heritage, in particular the mixed sites and cultural landscapes

Research and education
- to make the World Heritage sites privileged places for scientific research. The national researchers or students involved should serve as a point of reference in intellectual development and higher training activities for the African States Parties
- to set up training for monitoring of natural sites
- to encourage the development of heritage education, as a complement to environmental education, by devising a manual for teachers
- to increase the participation of the African states in the special project "World Heritage in Young Hands"

section 2

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION AT SITE LEVEL

At the time of inscription of a site on the World Heritage List, steps must be taken to ensure the protection and conservation of the outstanding universal value of the property. This section provides information on the available knowledge at site level.

1. IDENTIFICATION OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PROPERTIES

In order to be placed on the World Heritage List, a natural or cultural property must, in accordance with Article 11, "have outstanding universal value in terms of the criteria established" by the World Heritage Committee. According to Articles 24 and 44 of the Guidelines[6], a property

"nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List, will be considered to be of outstanding universal value for the purposes of the Convention when the Committee finds that it meets at least one of the [established] criteria" [7] *as well as fulfilling the "test of authenticity" for cultural properties or the "conditions of integrity" for natural properties.*

Information provided at the time of inscription

At the time of inscription of a property, the terms and criteria approved, and the observations of the advisory bodies and the World Heritage Committee constitute the justification of inscription.

INFORMATION AT THE TIME OF INSCRIPTION	KNOWN	No	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Justification of inscription	29	0	3	91
Criteria approved by the Committee	26	0	6	81
Observations made by the advisory body for evaluation	17	0	15	53
WHC observations at the time of inscription	8	7	17	47
Your reactions to these observations	6	9	17	47

The two sub-regional meetings at Dakar and Nakuru were crucial: most of the site managers became aware, often for the first time, of the nomination data for the inscription of their site on the World Heritage List. As a result, 91% of the site managers knew the terms justifying the inscription of their site, and four out of five were able to define the criteria approved. They were less familiar with the reactions of the advisory body or the Committee (47% and 25% respectively). They also seemed unclear about their role: only six gave reactions to the Committee's observations, with four explaining that they took these observations into account in their site monitoring.

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[6] Guidelines intended to guide the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, March 1999

[7] Six criteria have been established for cultural sites and four for natural sites.

Updating of the statement of value

Defined in 1993, the statement of value is a relatively recent concept, mentioned at the time of inscription of a site on the World Heritage List by the Committee

Updating of the statement of value	Yes	No	NRP	% of responses obtained
Statement of value reflects the WH values of the property	28	4	0	100
Need to reconsider these values	10	21	1	96
Boundary of the buffer zone is appropriate	11	20	1	96
Boundary of the property is appropriate	14	15	3	90
A revision or an extension of the boundaries should be envisaged	17	13	2	93
A new statement of value is required	14	7	11	65

The statement of value was assessed in order to ensure its appropriacy to the present context. For 87% of the managers, it reflects the outstanding universal value of the property; one third, however, consider that the statement should be revised, and nearly half feel that a new statement of value is needed. Conceptually defined in 1990, the site boundaries and buffer zone are also felt to be inappropriate: for more than half of the sites, the site boundary is not appropriate, more than half the respondents request a revision or extension of the boundaries, and two thirds would like to see the buffer zone redefined. Finally, the use of a GIS (Geographical Information System) shows that the geodesic information provided by the forms, usually based on the nomination form data, is incorrect, to the extent that a site is placed inside the borders of a neighbouring state.

Statement of Authenticity and Integrity

The authenticity conditions for cultural properties and integrity conditions for natural properties were designed to prevent the outstanding universal value from being compromised, at the time of inscription or subsequently

Statement of Authenticity and Integrity	Yes	No	NRP	% of responses obtained
There have been changes in the conditions of authenticity/integrity since inscription	9	21	2	93
Changes in the conditions of authenticity/integrity are foreseeable in the near future	12	19	1	96
The values for which the site was inscribed are maintained	29	1	2	93

More than two thirds of the managers are informated on how the authenticity and/or integrity of the site was evaluated at the time of inscription. In 91% of cases, they consider that the inscription conditions have been maintained. However, the way in which these authenticity and integrity conditions are evolving gives some cause for concern. 28% of the sites have undergone changes and 38% foresee changes in the near future. Only half of the forms describe the causes of these changes. Eleven natural sites indicate changes in the environmental conditions close to or within the boundaries of the site. Other factors that cause modifications to the sites include human events, such as the rural exodus or the installation of refugees, and eco-

nomic development and its consequences. These consequences can be immediate - planned or potential mining activities, creation of roads, and modernization of the urban fabric- or more distant - desertification or erosion.

The authenticity of cultural sites is also modified by inopportune restoration activities, by the gradual loss of significance of the sites, by their deterioration over time, and by anthropic pressure and biodiversity erosion.

AUTHENTICITY AND INTEGRITY

Experts' meeting - Great Zimbabwe - May 2000

The meaning of heritage is a set of values created by people. These values include norms and beliefs as well as material and technological aspects where, in most instances, culture and nature are inseparable. The values of heritage thus include tangible and intangible aspects which are of equal importance for the authenticity and integrity of the heritage. The meeting therefore recommended that the States Parties include in their nomination file a comprehensive statement of significance, to include reference to the authenticity and integrity of the site, and that due attention be given to the importance of language and other forms of intangible heritage which capture important values related to the heritage. The discussions contributed broader definitions of authenticity, including the perception of the values attributed to heritage, and the cultural context to which it belongs. Similarly, a wider definition of integrity would embrace the taboos and cultural, religious or customary systems that underlie the overall structure, diversity and distinctive character of natural properties and cultural landscapes. Thus, since the Nara Declaration, it has been recommended that the natural and cultural criteria be merged.

The second recommendation relates to the participation of local communities and other stakeholders in all phases of the sustainable conservation process of the sites in order to lead to empowerment through participatory development.

Finally, it was emphasized in discussion that the issues discussed in an African context can be applied to living cultures throughout the world. It is recommended that contextual research be encouraged to articulate differences in similar cultural practices, and similarities in our differences.

THE ETHIOPIAN SITES

The situation of the Ethiopian sites gives cause for concern. Their conservation conditions are worrying: the six cultural sites do not have a management plan and their material situation is difficult (Awash, Fasil Ghebi and Omo do not benefit from any outside funding); no protection policy or management plan seems to be foreseen.

Moreover, the Simen National Park is the only site to state that the values which enabled it to be inscribed are not maintained, which raises the problem of the validity of retaining the inscription, and the rehabilitation measures needed so that this site, which has been inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger since 1996, can recover all its values.

2. MANAGEMENT OF THE SITES INSCRIBED

 Essential for the long-term conservation of the qualities observed at the properties at the time of their inscription on the World Heritage List and for the application of Article 5 of the Convention, site management implies the implementation of legal instruments and of an appropriate and adequate institutional framework, on which the setting up of a management plan and of equipment depend. In accordance with Article 7 of the Convention, management also depends on various forms of cooperation and on other multilateral actions.

Legal and institutional framework

Each site comes within a legal and institutional framework that establishes its legal status, provides its management tools and sets up mechanisms for the preservation of its characteristics.

LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Ownership	31	0	1	96
Legal status	31	0	1	96
Legal framework	26	0	6	81
Institutional framework	22	0	10	68
Measures foreseen to preserve values in the future	24	0	8	75

The significant level of replies received and the absence of negative responses indicate knowledge of the legal framework and underlying issues. Only Malawi did not provide clear information on the type of ownership. In 24 sites, the state is the sole owner. In the other cases, the State is the joint owner with, in Benin, the regional authorities and private owners, in Ghana the traditional authorities, and in Ethiopia the religious authorities. Every site inscribed on the World Heritage List benefits from a legal statute and a national legislative framework ensuring its protection. The regional or local institutional framework may include site protection or safeguarding measures in the framework of master plans for development. The low number of replies received here is probably related to a lack of understanding of the question, in particular in Ethiopia and Senegal.

Common measures planned for preservation of the values of the site include: involving the local community; anticipating natural risks (fires, floods) and human threats (poaching, uncontrolled urbanism); raising awareness and educating, rather than repressing and forbidding; foreseeing and planning to improve the conservation conditions of the properties; developing research, scientific and technical capacities at the sites; and developing tourism and ecotourism. Other concerns mentioned were the linking of conservation with development, and the desire gradually to attain management autonomy.

Management and Planning

Changes in the legal and institutional framework and in the current management plan enabled the management exercised at the site to be identified.

MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING				% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Level at which management of the site is exercised:	Alone	In com.	NRP	
at the site	6	17		
in the region	1	13	2	93
from the central administration	7	14		
Changes occurred since inscription in:	YES	NO	NRP	
Type of ownership	0	28	4	87
Legal status	4	20	8	75
Protection measures	12	14	6	81
Boundaries	10	17	5	84
Means available	21	7	4	87
Registered plans relating to the property:				
Regional plan	11	8	13	59
Local plan	16	6	10	68
Conservation plan	16	4	12	62
Tourism development plan	11	6	15	53

The institutional and legal frameworks established are more or less identical: the type of ownership has not changed, the boundaries and legal status are virtually unchanged, and the protection measures are essentially the same. Only the human, financial and logistical resources available have changed, improving for 15 sites and declining for 6 others.

It is the governments that have the main management responsibility and they do not easily delegate their powers: 9 sites are administered from afar, by the central administration or sometimes by the region, and 14 sites are jointly administered by the central administration and another management level. Only 19% are administered entirely at site level.

In the face of their multiple responsibilities and the reduction in State means resulting from the structural adjustment plans imposed by the IMF, the current centralized management needs to be reviewed to optimize the types of property management. The Mali solution with its cultural missions, and the Malagasy solution with the management of areas decentralised under the responsibility of an association, are two examples of decentralized management underway.

While 50% of the sites have a local plan or a conservation plan, only one in three sites has a regional plan or a tourism development plan; with a 50% non-response rate, the tourism development plan seems to be the least known management tool.

Management plan and statement of objectives

With a response rate of 100%, all managers know the management plan. This basic tool is designed to organize the conservation and to support development actions related to the property, generally over a period of five to ten years.

MANAGEMENT PLAN (MP) OF THE SITE NRP		YES	NO	
			% OF RESPONSES	
MANAGEMENT PLAN				
A functional MP exists	16	16	0	100
A MP is being prepared	20	10	2	93
The local community has been consulted and informed	20	1	11	65
The MP takes into account human resources available	21	3	8	75
The MP takes into account current financial resources	19	3	10	68
The MP includes the problem of staff training	22	1	9	71
The MP takes into account the zoning and multiple uses of the site	22	0	10	68
The MP takes into account a defined buffer zone	18	5	9	71
The MP includes regular monitoring activities of the site	21	1	10	68
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN				
In accordance with specific legislation	14	0	18	43
Governmental institution	20		11	65
NGO's	7		11	65
Involvement of the local community in the implementation of the MP	22	0	10	68
Financial support for the implementation of the MP	19	2	11	65
Obstacles to the implementation of the MP	17	1	14	56
Evaluation of the MP	11	0	21	34
Revision planned	13	0	19	40

Half of the African sites concerned have a functional management plan, which puts the other half of the sites out of line with the prerequisites of the Guidelines, despite the fact that they have been inscribed for over ten years. The absence of a plan bears no relation to geographical area or type of site inscribed. Overall, there has been a clear improvement, with 62% of sites preparing or revising their plan. However, the situation of the Ethiopian cultural sites, for which no management plan exists or is being prepared, is problematic. In 62% of cases, the local community has been consulted and informed of the management plan. This figure is encouraging in that

participatory management is fostered in cases where the local population is both informed and associated.

In general, and despite no reply being given by one third of the respondents, the management plans take into account existing zoning, the buffer zone and the available human and financial resources. The obstacles to implementation cited relate to lack of funds and of trained staff, as well as, for three sites, administrative problems.

Specific legislation governs implementation for 43% of the sites. The management plan is implemented by a governmental organization (GO) in 33% of cases, a GO/NGO consortium in 22% and an NGO for one site only, confirming the predominance of State management.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Guidelines and of the Committee, the local population is involved in implementation at 69% of sites, but this is often limited to short-term hiring of qualified (masons, trackers, guides) or unqualified staff. Financial support for implementation of the management plan is national and bilateral in 34% of cases, only bilateral in 16% and solely national in the case of one site. This situation gives cause for concern as only 59% of managers know on which financial source they can depend to support their conservation activities. The necessary periodic evaluation of the management plan is mentioned by around a third of the respondents. Five-yearly evaluation is the most frequent case, but the rhythm varies from three months in Mozambique to ten years in Tanzania.

AFRICAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND HERITAGE

Africa is the cradle of humanity. Its natural and cultural diversity are matched only by its long history. Little attention, however, is paid to cultural and heritage policies in African local governments' action strategies. This lack of interest expresses itself in various ways. Most African cities do not have museums worthy of the name. Few have established a proper inventory of their natural and cultural heritage. Many do not have mechanisms for the classification or safeguarding of their heritage. Very few are aware of the World Heritage Convention.

We can legitimately talk here of a 'split' which, as is the case for other sectors of the economy and society, puts Africa at risk of being marginalized. It is humanity as a whole that has the most to lose from this lack of attention to one of its richest sources of natural and cultural diversity. The time has therefore come to make the efforts needed to upgrade local authorities' protection and valorization of their heritage. These efforts must first focus on information and training. For many African communities, nature and culture are intrinsic features of places and societies that have always been there, and thus do not require any special attention. Many local authorities do not know how to evaluate the importance of the cultural properties or biodiversity sanctuaries to be found in their jurisdiction. Nor are they aware of the risks to which the urbanization and modernization of their societies subject them. This behaviour is paradoxical, in view of the meticulous care with which traditional African societies safeguard certain places, such as sacred forests. It can, however, be explained by the fact that the African authorities are steeped in an environment in which it is words and rituals that create the attachment to customs and nature, rather than objects and architecture. In this context, the heritage has a symbolic, rather than an aesthetic value.

There is therefore a temptation to take little interest in natural areas and cultural properties, as it is only their symbolic dimension that counts. Changes in people's perceptions, however, indicate that the safeguarding and valorization of the heritage can contribute to development and

to combating poverty. The classification, protection and valorization of outstanding natural and cultural sites has a role to play in the development of national or international cultural tourism. There can also be no doubt, that it contributes to strengthening the local populations' pride, dignity and feeling of belonging, not to mention the job creation and revenue-making opportunities it offers them. These aspects of a local heritage policy should be better explained to the local African authorities and should be the subject of a real training and awareness raising programme for elected representatives and local staff.

But the measures taken should also include the provision of technical assistance. Until they themselves have the local capacity to draw up inventories, and to implement mechanisms for classifying, safeguarding and valorizing their natural and cultural heritage, African local governments should be given technical assistance by international cooperation bodies in order to be able to carry out the initial work required. In order for this upgrading exercise to have a chance of succeeding, it must be included in the framework of a specific UNESCO initiative "African Cities and Heritage". This initiative should be included in the World Heritage Centre's priorities for action, and could be officially launched on the occasion of the Third Summit of African Local Governments (Africities 3) to be held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, in May 2003. Before that, UNESCO should outline the structure of the initiative, particularly the results to be achieved in the (relatively) short term with regard to inventory, classification and inscription on national and world heritage lists. A publicity campaign should be launched, aimed at African local governments, so that the official opening of the 'Africities 3' Summit coincides with the launching of the initiative.

JP Elong Mbassi

Capacities in human and financial resources at site level

CAPACITIES IN HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES AT SITE LEVEL	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
HUMAN RESOURCES				
Management	24	3	5	84
Senior staff	25	4	3	90
Non-supervisory staff	28	2	2	93
FINANCIAL RESOURCES				
Regular	25	4	3	90
Generated by management	14	9	9	71
STAFF TRAINING NEEDS				
Deficiencies	24	0	8	75
Needs	23	0	9	71
Types of training	30	0	2	93

All the sites give information a minima on their staffing level and staff qualifications. With very few exceptions, each site benefits from a management, generally limited to the person of the director but sometimes assisted by a deputy. Supervisory staff comprise from one to eight

persons at the higher technician, engineer or university graduate level, and the number of non-supervisory staff varies from two at Mount Nimba (Côte d'Ivoire) to 415 for Serengeti. This last category includes staff assigned to protection – guards, rangers, scouts, to conservation – skilled and unskilled labour, and service personnel – secretaries, drivers. The already mentioned disparity between sites raises the question of the relation between staff size and satisfactory protection of the property.

75% of the sites point out deficiencies in training, particularly at high and middle level. All the training desired is short-term, with the possibility of taking part in exchange programmes. The needs identified concern management and planning (including documentation and archiving), conservation (control, poaching, archaeology, architecture, various types of craftsmanship), monitoring (ecology, landscape, sites), development (socio-economy, ecotourism, environmental education, awareness raising) and communication (museology, exhibitions). The upgrading of

computer skills requested by three sites demonstrates an awareness of the realities of modern management.

Three quarters of the sites receive regular financial resources which, in 44% of cases, are a direct result of their own management, generally originating from entrance fees and visitor permits. Nine sites receive no income from management, five do not indicate the amount, and eight provide an evaluation of their annual income, which, apart from some figures in local currency, ranges from 800 US dollars for Djenné to 4.5 million dollars for Serengeti. The government contributes towards the functioning of the site by means of regular funding, often limited to staff salaries. 34% of sites benefit from bilateral, European or intergovernmental funding in the framework of medium-term projects. Finally, Awash, Omo and Manovo state that they have no resources at all. Put to good use, the resources generated by several African sites could give them autonomy of management, which is not generally the case at present.

Other assistance and programmes

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Sources of expertise and training in conservation and management techniques	24	1	7	78
Protection measures and means of implementation	21	3	8	75
Existing local programmes	15	3	14	56
Policies and programmes for the safeguarding of the site	19	2	11	65
Financing	24	4	4	87
Technical assistance provided by the United Nations system	19	5	8	75
Technical assistance provided by bilateral cooperation	20	5	6	81

Three quarters of the sites mention access to sources of expertise and training. These are national in 12 cases, international in 13, and call upon foreign bodies (bilateral cooperation) in 10 cases. 53% of the sites benefit from technical

assistance provided by the United Nations system (WHC, UNESCO, UNDP, GEF, World Bank, etc.) 61% of the sites receive assistance via bilateral cooperation. Two thirds mention protection measures and means for implementation to ensure the

conservation of their sites. 47% of the sites have set up local programmes, with the West African cultural sites the best equipped, and those in East Africa the least. Only 58% of the African sites state that they have a policy and programme for the safeguarding of the site. The source of funding is varied: the State, own resources, bilateral or intergovernmental projects. One third indicate the amount of their annual financial resources, which ranges from 7,000 to 800,000 US dollars per year, or even more. Four sites have not benefited from any outside funding: Nimba, Awash, Fasil Ghebi and Omo. Even when outside assistance is received, the results for the conservation of sites indicate that a great effort still needs to be made in this area.

Facilities, tourism and promotion

The effects of inscription on the World Heritage list must be considered so that appropriate amenities, facilities and communication systems can be set up, as these are fundamental to sustainable tourism.

FACILITIES, TOURISM AND PROMOTION	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Signalisation indicating WH	15	14	3	90
Signposting of the site indicating WH property	18	12	2	93
Info/interpretation centre for visitors	21	9	2	93
Site museum	15	14	3	90
Discovery trails	14	13	5	84
Hotel infrastructure	18	11	3	90
Parking areas	17	7	8	75
Toilets	18	9	5	84
First Aid Centre	13	16	3	90
Personnel and training received	10	11	11	65
Information materials	22	5	5	84
Open house days	11	18	3	90
Events and exhibitions	18	10	4	87
Publicity activities	25	5	2	93
Effect of WH listing on visitor numbers	14	4	14	56
Need to revise legislation relating to the property	21	9	2	93
Need to revise administration provisions relating to the property	10	17	5	84

At the time of inscription of the site on the World Heritage List, the States Parties undertake to place a plaque with the World Heritage logo. More than ten years after their inscription, 56% of the sites are indicated as World Heritage properties, but only 47% have put up the logo. Listing of the site has increased visitor numbers at 44% of the sites. The stagnation or decrease in tourist numbers at other sites can be explained by a decline in the quality of visitor facilities or by access difficulties. The increase in visitors is not only a sign of recognition of the World Heritage label but also of an increase in world travel.

While not all the sites are suitable for the establishment of a museum, it is possible to set up an information centre and to ensure the good pres-

entation and the accessibility of all sites. Only 14 sites have created discovery trails. Two thirds have an information or interpretation centre for visitors, and 46% have a museum. Visitor facilities (accommodation, parking, toilets) exist in 50 to 66% of the sites. In view of the commitment and responsibility of the sites accepting visitors, the security system is a cause for concern, especially for the large, isolated sites: half of the sites do not have a first aid post or staff trained in first aid.

78% of the sites carry out publicity activities to promote the site and inform the public (visitors and local population). Two thirds use publicity materials, such as brochures, booklets, posters, books, slides, videos and CD-ROMs. 56% organize special events or exhibitions, such as the Cultural Days at Gorée, or sound and light shows. Only ten sites organize Open House days.

Finally, 62% consider it necessary to revise the legislation relating to the property, and 31% the administrative provisions. These results demonstrate the need for a clear, updated legislative framework to ensure that the sites play their role in conservation, education and development, and overcome their fear of new administrative provisions.

Scientific, technical and educational studies

In accordance with the World Heritage mission, the inscribed sites are centres for research and study as well as scientific and technical management. Their role is also to raise awareness among new generations and to communicate World Heritage values to residents, visitors and the wider public.

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND EDUCATIONAL STUDIES	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Research facilities at site	19	10	3	90
Qualified personnel	12	17	3	90
Research/development programmes	18	4	10	68
Computer equipment	11	17	4	87
Electronic mail	10	20	2	93
Internet access (operational)	8	22	2	93
G.I.S for the site	10	20	2	93
School visits	28	3	1	96
Educational programmes targeted at school establishments	21	11	0	100
Environmental education policy	18	14	0	100
Themes, targeted public, means	18	0	14	56
Information to public at large and residents	26	1	5	84
Transmission of WH values to residents and visitors	28	1	3	90

The equipment level of the 19 sites is disparate, often limited to more or less functional vehicles or unreliable accommodation, and the databases available at 11 sites are rudimentary, old or incomplete. Only 40% of the sites are well- or moderately-well equipped for research activities. A third of the sites have qualified personnel to assist in research, such as laboratory assistants, archaeologists or ecologists. Half of the sites currently participate in scientific research programmes, which, at 12 sites, are undertaken in cooperation with foreign research teams. Dramatically under-equipped as far as computer

equipment is concerned, only a third of the sites have a computer, often outdated.

Geographical Information Systems, which are indispensable management tools, exist at four sites, and are in preparation at six others. Internet access is possible at 25% of the sites: it requires the use of a telephone line, which is not available at all sites, and which is very expensive in Africa. Only ten site managers have access to electronic mail. The very limited access of the sites to modern management techniques and the lack of equipment and staff are worrying obstacles to the development of monitoring, management and research activities.

Offered by 28 World Heritage sites, the educational function is satisfactory, especially if the difficulties of access to some sites are taken into account. Awash, Omo and Manovo do not offer educational activities. Eleven sites have been visited by a total of 260 classes, with eight sites welcoming 18,900 schoolchildren, who thus gain knowledge of the wealth of their heritage. With 210 classes and 12,000 schoolchildren visiting annually, the trophy goes to the Great Zimbabwe site, an example of the educational role played by a site at the national and regional level. The impact of these school visits in terms of education, awareness raising and training is all the more positive in that two thirds of the sites concerned have educational programmes targeted at school groups.

To raise awareness in the local population and visitors, 56 sites, including six cultural sites, have developed an environmental education programme. The themes covered concern conservation in both its environmental and heritage aspects, bush fires, uncontrolled proliferation of waste, water management, afforestation, and combat against desertification, poaching, biodiversity erosion, pollution, marine pollution and land degradation. Information activities developed by 25 sites include reforestation of archaeological sites, campaigns against erosion and Open House days.

In parallel with raising awareness of local problems, 84% of the sites convey World Heritage values to the wider public through visits to village assemblies, councils of elders, debates, cultural evenings, film shows, theatre tours, television programmes and the production of leaflets, posters and T-shirts.

THE SITE MANAGER AND MANAGEMENT OF WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN AFRICA:

Two workshops, organized by the World Heritage Centre in Namibia and Uganda, gathered site and middle-level managers of potential and existing world heritage sites. Nearly 30% of them had heard of but never seen the World Heritage Convention; 40% percent had never seen the Operational Guidelines, while an even higher percentage did not understand what both documents meant in practice. Thus, being signatory to the Convention did not necessarily entail understanding it, especially at the lower echelons. This situation has created a chasm between policy makers and implementers of policy. Moreover, the World Heritage Convention places the responsibility for heritage on States Parties, actualizing the existence of a system that functions as a whole. The African reality is different. In the absence of synergy between the two levels, the heritage scenario is characterized by a system operating as a sum of parts, the site manager being only a small component, strategically placed but ineffectual. His marginalization has implications in terms of resource availability and allocation.

Most heritage legislation in Africa is out of date, principles enshrined in the World Heritage Convention are absent, and the notion of "heritage" is missing, popular terminology being "ancient monuments", "relics", etc. The terminology is also dominated by a system of taboos that make such "monuments" sancrosanct. In such a scenario the scribes, or formal heritage authorities, derive their authority from the State vis-a-vis the consent of the "governed" or "local communities".

The site manager is caught: on the one hand, he is the curse of the locals and their institutions (temporal and spiritual) because he is the embodiment of the prohibition syndrome. These local populations and institutions are backed by the World Heritage Convention, which states that heritage should have a function in the life of a community. On the other hand, the manager is faced with the dictates of the heritage authorities, again backed by the World Heritage Convention and other Charters with a focus on 'as it was in the beginning, so should it be forever'. The plight of the site manager reaches new heights when it comes to the issue of values. The conservation principles set out in the various charters refer to maintenance of "wholeness" (integrity), authenticity, etc. In practice, it is different, since, in some societies, repairing "damaged" sections may be an act against the actions of the deities.

The good intentions of the site manager fall foul of the reality on the ground. This situation is compounded by the fact that values attached by heritage authorities may not be consistent with the local or national perspective. In 70% of cases, the inventories from which sites are drawn were last updated in the 1970s and therefore do not address present expectations and concerns. Because the site managers do not have the "pull", it is an uphill battle to defend the "indefensible", let alone obtain resources for their site upkeep.

What this underscores is the need for genuine dialogue with all stakeholders, who should lead the process of defining cultural and natural properties, the basis of which should be the vox populi. Except for archaeological heritage, the majority of national inventories have little or nothing in the other heritage categories. In order to rectify that anomaly, the process requires the full participation of the local communities, who have the full knowledge of these forms of heritage. Resources channeled in that direction are a solid investment in heritage programmes of sustainable value, because such heritage is steeped in local institutions, traditions and practices. In this way, the plight of the site manager is resolved. National Action Plans to bring this about are urgently needed. This was the resolution of both workshops in Namibia and Uganda.

Dawson Munjeri

WORLD HERITAGE NATURAL SITE MANAGERS IN AFRICA
Experts' meeting – South Africa, September 2000

The discussions and work undertaken resulted for the States Parties in the following recommendations:

- ratification of the World Heritage Convention by those States Parties who have not yet done so
- adequate legal and administrative structures to ensure long-term protection of the inscribed sites
- creation of a national committee, made up of ministries, institutions, NGOs, universities, etc.
- identification of a focal point
- submission at the time of nomination of a plan for the management and development of the site, which would ensure financing mechanisms, partnership possibilities, awareness raising policy, training strategy
- considering the role of the world heritage, an undertaking from the States Parties to finance their natural sites with a budget corresponding to 1% of their global budget
- setting up of a national, regional and international exchange network
- ensuring an exchange between World Heritage sites and the Centre

A number of recommendations were addressed to the World Heritage Centre

- to increase the financial assistance provided for site nomination, training and education
- to make existing information available by setting up a working group to define the network structure to develop, to develop the network and to ensure that information pertaining to African sites is disseminated
- to continue to assist regional African collaboration

3. FACTORS AFFECTING THE SITES

The factors affecting or likely to affect a property are linked to economic development, to natural catastrophes and to the resident or itinerant human population. The typology of threats to the integrity of a site can be applied to both natural and cultural sites, distinguishing, from the most superficial to the most serious, between visual threat, threat to structural aspects and threat to the functioning of the site components. The nature-culture continuum in Africa is highlighted by the identification of the problems and threats to the sites

Degree of threat linked to development
The impact of development is reflected in the spread of urbanization, in industrial perimeters, and infrastructure, and in over-exploitation of natural resources.

DEGREE OF THREAT LINKED TO DEVELOPMENT	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Visual integrity	27	2	3	90
Structural integrity	26	3	3	90
Functional integrity	11	3	18	43

84% of the sites have had their visual integrity threatened by development; they are under pressure from illegal grazing, wood cutting, clearing in rural areas for natural sites, waste and rubbish, uncontrolled construction and impact of nearby roads in urban areas.

In 26 cases, threats to structural integrity are mentioned, caused by roads, factories, water pollution, marine erosion, biodiversity erosion, mining and introduced plant species. Here, too, there is no difference between cultural sites and natural sites: if the invasion of a natural site by an introduced plant pollutes the biological diversity, the same phenomenon could denature a cultural site.

Functional integrity is not threatened in 34% of sites. However, threats to functional integrity are neither evident nor immediate. There is a long latency period, during which regular medium-term and long-term observations should be made in the framework of thorough monitoring – conditions which may explain the non-responses in 18 cases.

Degree of threat linked to the environment
Environmental threats result mainly from external factors (rain, flooding, fire) or man-made factors (deforestation, atmospheric pollution).

DEGREE OF THREAT LINKED TO THE ENVIRONMENT	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Visual integrity	7	11	13	59
Structural integrity	14	5	13	59
Functional integrity	14	2	16	50
Natural catastrophes affecting the site	23	5	4	87

Environmental phenomena, often man-made, threaten the visual integrity of 22% of the sites. Modification to the structural integrity, observed in 44% of the sites, is in 93% of cases due to biodiversity erosion. Changes to the functional integrity, noted in 14 sites, result from desertification, biodiversity erosion, climate change and oxidation by marine air. The potential or established natural catastrophes cited are flooding (31%), fire (47%), drought (41%), wind causes, such as cyclones or gusts of wind (9%), the different types (rain, wind, marine) of erosion (9%), landslides (6%) and desertification (6%). Although some sites are situated in regions of high seismic faults or rifts, none of the respondents mentioned seismic danger.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: VIRUNGA NATIONAL PARK

Volcanic eruptions in Virunga National Park which continued during 2002 caused damage to both human and wildlife.

Implementation of the Convention at site level

Degree of threat linked to external human activities

Human activity is the major cause of modification in the sites. The flow of visitors, while positive for the development of local populations, may have negative effects on conservation, leading to irremediable damage.

DEGREE OF THREAT LINKED TO EXTERNAL HUMAN ACTIVITIES	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Annual tourist statistics	24	1	7	78
Site accessibility	27	0	5	84
Ease of movement within the site	22	1	9	71
Pressures caused by tourism	17	6	9	71
Tourist facilities	18	7	7	78
Defined visitor capacity of the site	10	15	7	78
Potential for sustainable tourism	18	7	7	78

With the distance between the capital and the site ranging from 20 km to more than 1000 km, access to the sites can be difficult. Most of the sites are accessible by macadam road. Twenty-one sites are less than 50 km from an airport. The island of Gorée can be reached by a regular launch service. Twenty-one sites can be visited on foot or in a vehicle; five are not open to vehicles; some require 4x4 vehicles while others, such as Aïr-Ténéré, recommend travel in a convoy of at least two vehicles. Most of the sites can be visited on foot, but only three sites are accessible to the disabled. Lastly, accessibility also depends on weather conditions: during the rainy season some sites are not accessible because of flooding and the state of the roads, while nine others are closed to vehicles.

Awash, in Ethiopia, is not open to visitors. In other cases, visitor numbers depend on the accessibility of the site and on its publicity campaign. The figures for the 23 countries range from 120 visitors annually (Dja) to more than 100,000 visitors (Island of Gorée, Great Zimbabwe and Serengeti). Because of its vast area and system of uncontrolled entry, Aïr-Ténéré does not have visitor statistics available. While the visitors often come from the countries of the North, national tourism, which is on the rise, should not be overlooked. Annual income from tourism is difficult to evaluate at site level. Of the sites that charge entrance fees, ten indicate their income, which can reach 4.5 million US dollars (for more than 100,000 visitors). Some sites do not charge entrance fees. Tourism thus benefits the local community through hotel accommodation, restaurants, sale of souvenirs, etc.

Seventeen sites report the impact of tourism. Twelve sites suffer problems with the management of waste (rubbish, W.C., plastic, papers). As this problem generally needs to be dealt with at site level, because of distance or lack of municipal infrastructure, there are sanitary consequences. But the visual integrity is also affected. Among the various types of damage caused, trampling is mentioned by nine sites. The presence of a large number of visitors causes overcrowding, erosion areas and damage of various kinds to the facilities.

Damage of this kind is indicative either of inadequate development of visitor circuits, or of over-visiting, when the tourist-carrying capacity of the site is not taken into account. Other damage, such as the removal of fauna, flora or objects, endangers the conservation of heritage. Although fires only concern three sites, they remain a serious source of deterioration for buildings constructed of inflammable materials (wood, thatch) or for natural arid environments with dry vegetation.

Seventeen sites have more or less adequate facilities to welcome and assist visitors, with overnight stays possible in lodgings, hotels or campsites. Some have also installed picnic areas and rubbish bins. Half the sites are not aware of their tourist carrying capacity, despite the fact that this is a fundamental factor in management. Of the 28% who replied, Lake Malawi's carrying capacity is exceeded.

Degree of threat linked to local human activity

The local population, its increase and its activities, are factors contributing to the modification in the qualities of the sites.

Goal of sustainable tourism must be to be able to cope with the many potential changes. Despite the problems mentioned, 53% of the sites consider tourism to be sustainable. Six cultural sites, some of which have very high visitor numbers, feel that tourism is not sustainable.

DEGREE OF THREAT LINKED TO LOCAL HUMAN ACTIVITY	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Evaluation of the local population	31	0	1	96
Geographical distribution of the human habitat	19	2	11	65
Cultural particularities of this population	21	0	11	65
Socio-economic factors	27	0	5	84
Specific refugee problems	4	16	12	62
Criminal acts and consequences	2	13	17	46
Other factors affecting the property	25	4	3	87
Indicate the measures undertaken to cope with the threats	20	2	10	68
Define the tendency of each one of these factors since the inscription of the site	19	0	13	59
Was the population associated in the request for inscription of the site	14	16	2	93
In what way?	13	0	19	40

Despite the high level of positive responses, no specific censuses of the local population have been carried out and the real figures are often unknown. The number of inhabitants living in the sites ranges from zero to more than 200,000, at Bandiagara. As is the case elsewhere in the world, the cultural sites in urban areas contain a large population in their central zone. While the 4500 inhabitants of Aïr Ténéré make it the natural site with the highest population, its vast area reduces the density of the residents to 0.06 inhabitants per square kilometre. According to the 14 sites analysed, the population living in the 20 km buffer zone varies according to the type of natural surroundings: from 5000 people around Simen, to more than three million near Gorée, due to its proximity to Dakar. If the 40 sites involved in the exercise are considered, 1.5 million people (excluding Dakar) and 4.5 million (including Dakar) live near a World Heritage site.

This population is increasing, in line with the demographic trends for sub-Saharan Africa. At the time of the next Periodic Reporting Exercise, the estimated peripheral population of the sites will be close to 5.4 million people, an increase which should be integrated into the management plans.

On the whole, the resident population in or around the sites is sedentary. Generally rural, the population lives in villages at 13 sites, and in nomad encampments at three others. Only four sites are in urban areas. For this reason, the principal production systems are agricultural: burnt land agriculture, transhumance breeding, arboriculture, etc. Artisan forms of production, such as fishing and trading, also exist. In some natural sites agreements exist for the use of natural resources, generally in contractual form through co-development charters with the local population (collection of dead wood, harvesting of medicinal plants, controlled fishing). Local staff is involved in the management of ten sites.

Conflictual transborder situations are rife in Africa. The location of some World Heritage sites in border areas has led to the movement of refugees there. Four sites, to which can be added the three Congo sites situated in the conflict zone, are affected by the refugee problem, with its human, sanitary and conservation consequences. The figures involved are not always provided: 25,000 in Guinea, 6,000 in Mozambique. The refugees swell the local population, endangering the sustainability of the region's natural resources, even though their presence is, in theory, temporary.

The question of criminal acts is poorly documented: three sites are affected, particularly Manovo, where there are problems with tourism, poaching and illegal grazing. Other problems, which affect visual, structural and even functional integrity, are encountered in 78% of properties: deforestation (76%), poaching (60%), illegal grazing (52%), vandalism (28%), theft and looting (28%). Participatory activities are being carried out to seek alternatives compatible with the subsistence needs of the populations and with conservation requirements.

The measures taken by two thirds of the sites include increased control at 63% of the sites, the creation of means for local population development (47%), awareness raising of the populations and traditional chiefs (42%), a crackdown on offences (37%), and educational measures (26%). Nearly two thirds of the sites explain the trend for each of these factors since inscription on the World Heritage list. Overall, the situation is stable in 15 sites, with even a decrease in anthropic threats at ten sites. The negative reactions and destructive pressures cited can also be explained by an absence of consultation with the population for 16 sites. The replies received are not consistent: 14 sites involve the local population, and 18 explain the ways in which they do so. The methods used involve discussions with the traditional chiefs (two sites), meetings with the population or associations (six sites), information (nine sites), advertisement (six sites) and education (three sites).

4. PREVENTIVE CONSERVATION AND MONITORING

In the face of the many factors noted and the impact of certain actions and situations, it is cru-cial to identify these threats and to plan strate-gies to minimise their harmful effects. Through regular updating of the information on African sites, monitoring enables natural and anthropic threats and pressures to be prevented.

Prevention of natural and anthropic threats and pressures

In order to deal with dangers that could threat-en or endanger the cultural or natural heritage, and given the importance of long-term planning and risk prevention, preventive methods can be adopted and improved and may sometimes rem-edy the situation.

PREVENTION OF NATURAL AND ANTHROPIC THREATS AND PRESSURES	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Natural catastrophes	13	6	13	59
Industrial pollution	0	6	26	18
Vandalism, theft, looting	7	3	22	31
Industrial infrastructures	2	4	26	18
Land use	4	4	23	28
Pastoralism	7	3	19	40
Poaching	10	2	19	40
Urbanization	5	3	24	25
Tourism	12	1	19	40
Trend in the impact of these factors since the date of inscription of the site	+ :4	= :3	- :12	Nrp :12/62
Mitigation measures already implemented or envisaged	20	0	12	62

The number of items left unanswered by two thirds of the respondents suggests, on the one hand, that the managers were unsure how to respond and, on the other hand, that the site does not experience the problems listed. It is therefore satisfactory to note that 59% of the sites have already taken, or are preparing to take measures to mitigate natural or anthropic catastrophes.

Of the twelve natural and cultural sites that have natural catastrophe prevention plans, ten have taken measures against fire, four against desertifi-cation and drought, two against wind and rain erosion, two against flooding and one against landslides. No measures have been taken against industrial pollution or infrastructures. Six sites are combating vandalism and looting, based on awareness raising of visitors and the local com-munity, and intensification of control and surveil-lance, including at borders and airports. The problems linked to changes in the type of land use and urbanization are considered respectively by three and five of the sites.

However, apart from the question of land use, where new planning is being established at Simen and Lake Malawi, the only measures being taken are awareness raising of the offenders and the application of the law. Illegal pastoralism and poaching mainly concern the natural sites, and are taken into consideration respectively by six and nine sites. Eight sites are increasing surveil-lance, two are trying to make the local popula-tion more aware of their responsibilities, while two others are developing participatory man-

agement. A third of the sites are dealing with problems related to tourism by setting up facilities or regulations that are under the direct responsibility of the person in charge at the site.

However, as soon as the threat is the responsibility of another section of the administration, or beyond the site boundaries, the means at the manager's disposal to deal with the problem are either non-existent, or very limited. This raises the problem of action and decision-making on World Heritage conservation at the highest State level, so that coordination between departments can be envisaged and set up. In response to the overall measures taken at African World Heritage site level, 63% of the 19 sites which evaluated the trend in the impact of threats and various catastrophes consider the situation to be stable, or the problems to be on the decrease.

Regular monitoring

The main aim of regular monitoring is to have a permanent inventory of the site, to ensure that the values which were at the origin of its inclusion on the World Heritage List have not been altered by natural or anthropic events. Studying the conditions of the property on the basis of key indicators enables such an inventory to be drawn up. The preparation of a periodic report can be the occasion not only to identify such indicators, but also to assess the validity of the previously chosen indicators and to review these, if necessary.

MONITORING	YES	NO	NRP	% OF RESPONSES OBTAINED
Regular monitoring activity at site	24	8	0	100
Periodic monitoring of flora	11	3	18	43
Periodic monitoring of plants	11	3	18	43
Periodic monitoring of wildlife	10	1	21	34
Monitoring of landscapes	7	4	21	34
Monitoring of constructions and buildings	10	6	16	50
Human resources responsible for monitoring	20	3	9	71
Related material means	10	5	17	46
Key indicators	25	3	4	87
Monitoring partners	14	7	10	68
Monitoring results	15	3	14	56

Twenty-three sites undertake regular monitoring; six cultural sites and two natural sites do not do so. The first four monitoring categories (flora, plants, wildlife, landscape) concern first and foremost the natural sites. Ten sites carry out regular monitoring of the flora, while three do not do so. Similarly, regular monitoring of plants (plant and ecosystem formations) is carried out by 10 sites, as against three, which do not do so. Two thirds of the sites undertake regular monitoring of wildlife. Only seven sites carry out landscape monitoring, although cultural sites in rural areas are also affected.

Monitoring of constructions and buildings chiefly affects the cultural sites. Only half of the sites, however, monitor constructions, including one natural site concerned about the state of its park constructions. Nineteen sites specify the staff at their disposal to carry out regular monitoring. Generally, monitoring activities are carried out by members of the staff assigned to the site, supported or supervised by professionals from central administration. In some cases, assistance is provided by the local population or by students undergoing training. In addition, 44% of the sites benefit from the par-

ticipation of regular or occasional partners, such as guides, trackers, local artisans, and local or foreign universities in the framework of bilateral cooperation. One site mentions the existence of a monitoring group. Only 31% mention material means, indicating lack of equipment, or inadequate equipment. Instruments such as GPS, necessary for spatial tracking, are only mentioned once.

77% of the sites have established key indicators. This apparently satisfactory result needs to be analysed in more depth by studying the content of the responses. The main indicator categories mentioned for cultural sites include: measurement of environmental factors, development of restoration activities, architectural measurements, regular photography, changes in looting activities, changes in visitor numbers, inspection reports.

RECOMMENDATIONS AT SITE LEVEL

The information analysed in this chapter shows that the deficiencies observed derive more from a lack of means and training of site staff than from disinterest or unconcern. Activities undertaken with schoolchildren, visitors and the local population reflect the staff's determined efforts, with the limited means at their disposal, to become involved in conveying the importance of conservation.

Decentralisation/governance

- to define more adequate legislative frameworks, on the basis of the experiences recorded; and, in particular, when the context permits, to consider the delegation of power at site level with regard to management and its organization in the form of site committees with clearly defined powers, means and responsibilities
- to launch discussions at the States' and managers' level on changes in administrative structures to enable the sites to have greater autonomy
- to review protection and conservation policy and actions at the local level

For natural sites the indicators include: monitoring of abiotic parameters, estimate of numbers, poaching, cuttings and ecotourism trends, and local population feedback. Only 34% of the sites generally find the monitoring results obtained "satisfactory" or "positive".

The disparate nature of the responses analysed indicates the need for an information and general awareness activity on monitoring methodologies for natural and cultural sites. It will be important to define, in accordance with the characteristics of each site, a series of indicators, with a methodology to measure and make comparisons from year to year for the same site, and from one site to another, for the same year. An upgrading of the African World Heritage sites is thus needed to ensure effective and targeted conservation of the inscribed properties.

Local participation

- to encourage diversification in the forms of participation by the local population in the management of the sites considered as instruments of local or regional economic development
- to hold a seminar on local participation to tackle the question of profit-sharing among the overall population
- to develop participatory activities with the local population to seek alternatives compatible with the subsistence needs of the populations and with conservation requirements. In this context, it is recommended that the anti-poaching combat be linked with the fight against poverty. Demographic growth estimates should be included in the management and conservation plans.
- to involve site managers, civil authorities and the population in drawing up prevention strategies for major threats and natural or anthropic catastrophes concerning each World Heritage site
- to organize Open House days and to twin them with a local event in order to involve the local population
- to encourage the promotion of the sites; in

general, there appears to be a lack of promotion activities for the African sites. Promotion is an essential tool in the economic development of the geographical area of the site, and thus an essential factor in conserving the site's heritage qualities.

Management autonomy

The sites which benefit from management autonomy can mobilize resources and often have considerable means at their disposal, thus improving the quality of their management and performance with regard to conservation. The following general recommendations can be made, bearing in mind that they must be adapted to the specific context:

- to analyse the reasons for the economic success of some sites and to develop a strategy to be applied to other sites
- to encourage some sites to obtain management autonomy organized by a site committee managing its own budget so that the sites can benefit from the income of their activities, organize their own management and improve the conservation of the national and world heritage. Through regulation of income and reinvestment in infrastructure for visitor facilities, management autonomy can ensure sustainable tourism.
- to give the persons responsible for the site the means to implement the planned conservation measures: coordination and planning, fund raising, training programmes, etc.

Even if the State Party creates an autonomous management body, the property under consideration is one of national importance before being one of world significance. The State, should, therefore, fulfil its financial obligations with regard to the management of the property, provide adequate annual operational budgets and ensure that the site managers are informed of the level of financing available. In order to prevent the current reduction of external support experienced by many World Heritage sites, their managers should seek projects that would generate internal funds in order to obtain alternative sources of reliable and sustainable funding to finance the sites' management activities.

Standardization of the management methods

While the differences between sites and the special characteristics of each site call for a specific approach to be taken, the methods and factors considered require some standardization in order to obtain regular, effective and comparative monitoring.

- to set up consultation with the partners and parties concerned in the preparation of a management plan, which should take into account local, regional and national development plans as well as the legislation and regulations governing the other methods of management, territorial planning and development
- to fine-tune the implementation of management plans by introducing annual reporting on their objectives and a mid-term evaluation
- to attempt to draw up a model management plan which would integrate the realities of the African situation, the new Guidelines and the regular and periodic reporting activities. Given that Africa is moving towards the inscription of non-conventional sites, it is necessary to define both the management methods and types of reporting for these new properties which, due to their distribution and size, are faced, more than conventional sites, with new anthropic pressures.
- to establish visitor management plans, in accordance with the national tourism policy, in order to ensure visitor control and reduce pressure on sites
- to draw up a reactive plan for natural catastrophes at the level of each site to mitigate the effects of a serious natural catastrophe threatening two thirds of the African sites; to integrate into the monitoring strategy the trend indicators for threats and natural or anthropic catastrophes, and to set up an observatory to provide warning of imminence. As fire has proved to be the most frequent threat, each site, whether natural or cultural, should have a fire combat and prevention plan.
- to define monitoring methodologies and provide a model based on past achievements: for natural sites, to set up methodologies to

inventory and evaluate the flora, plants and wildlife; for cultural and natural sites, to define a methodology to evaluate changes in landscapes; for cultural sites, to define methodological directives easily applied by middle level personnel

- to carry out an environmental impact study for each project
- to ensure that the necessary means are available to organize a mid-term evaluation for those States Parties and sites that manifest their interest

Facilities and equipment

- to provide minimum computer equipment. The lack of computer equipment is a major obstacle and its provision should be a clear priority, as the cost of the equipment is relatively low. It is therefore recommended that the sites be equipped, and the staff trained in the use of modern monitoring means (GIS, computerization, etc.), with an elementary weather station for each site. Each of the World Heritage sites in Africa should be provided with minimum computer equipment (computer with hard disk, CD-ROM drive, printer, modem, scanner), and the software and specific programs should be standardized.
- to make comprehensive first aid facilities available, to train some staff members in first aid and to have one person specialized in emergency care
- to allow only vehicles that meet national security standards to travel on the site, accompanied by a qualified guide
- to facilitate wheelchair access

Information

- to try to ensure that the administrative unit of each site has a copy of the nomination file for the site and receives a copy of the annual World Heritage Committee Report in order to have the basic information required to organize its future management. It would also be useful if the additional headings of the current nomination form were added to the nomination forms of the

sites inscribed in earlier years. It is recommended that the World Heritage Centre update the CD-ROM archives for the nomination of sites.

- to set up at site and State Party level a monitoring and document archival system for ease of consultation over time, including cases where the person formerly responsible is called upon to carry out other functions
- to create a photographic bank for the African World Heritage sites, attached to the World Heritage Centre, and to set up a Geographical Information System for the sites, based on the model produced during this reporting exercise
- to recommend that each State concerned (re)propose a new statement of value for the sites inscribed before 1994, taking into account the current conservation situation and the progress of science since their inscription
- to define precisely the limits of the central area of the site based on topographical, cartographical and satellite references
- to create buffer zones for all the sites (natural and cultural) undergoing heavy demographic pressure in rural areas, or urban development pressure in urban areas
- to clarify the concepts of authenticity and integrity

Training and capacity building

Although some of these actions are already being carried out in the framework of the existing training programme, particularly Africa 2009, it is important to underline the following recommendations for both cultural and natural properties.

- to organize training in the use of computer science and in periodic reporting techniques for the African sites
- to raise awareness among managers with regard to the types of auxiliary planning that would contribute to the presentation or economic development of the region where their site is located
- to organize training in management plan-

ning and in ecological, architectural and landscape monitoring

- to organize a seminar/workshop to study the concepts of functional integrity and related monitoring methods
- to organize regular training seminars or workshops to provide the managers with ongoing training, enabling them better to apply the decisions of the World Heritage Committee to their site

Networking

- to create a network of World Heritage site managers in Africa, enabling them to exchange ideas as in a forum. In the absence of concrete data on the means to establish an Internet site dedicated to the African World Heritage sites, it is recommended that a link between managers be created via electronic mail.
- to inform the sites about the educational programmes developed in some pilot cultural and natural sites

- to create focal points for each site to establish direct relations between the World Heritage Centre and the sites inscribed
- to draw up a list of African institutions that can provide expertise and training

Form

- The distinction between development pressure and environmental threats is not always clearly understood, especially when one is the consequence of the other. It is the negative aspects (pressure, threat, nuisance) of a phenomenon that concern a manager, more than its origin. A number of the questionnaire items could therefore be regrouped.
- In view of the importance of human-induced pressures on the World Heritage sites, it is important to consider including conflicts, disputes over land use, economic and trade disputes, conservation interventions and research activities in the periodic reporting form.

Conclusions
and recommendations

The conclusions that can be drawn allow a general appraisal of objectives, a strategic approach to the ensuing recommendations, an action plan for periodic reporting according to priorities, and a calendar for implementation. The conclusions that have been drawn from various activities carried out during the periodic reporting exercise and from analysis of the forms submitted concern the sites, the States Parties, the African region in general, and also the World Heritage Committee and its Secretariat.

CONCLUSIONS

The results have been grouped into transversal themes setting out the goals to be achieved.

State Party Organization

All the countries that have ratified the World Heritage Convention have rights and duties vis-à-vis this Convention. Its implementation concerns all the States Parties, whether or not they have sites inscribed. All the States Parties should therefore be involved in the periodic reporting activities for Section I of the form.

The actions and tasks for which the World Heritage Convention makes provision are implemented by different institutions. A lack of institutional organization at the national level has led to inconsistencies in the implementation of these tasks. Administrative compartmentalization prevents actions being coordinated, particularly when the country has both cultural and natural properties inscribed.

The integration of the heritage into a management and development policy at the national, regional and local level, already achieved or underway in most African states, covers very different aspects from one country to another. While heritage is beginning to be taken into account in development plans, only half of the African states in this study have adopted a heritage protection policy or plan. Great efforts still need to be made to give a place and a role to heritage in these countries' management and development strategies. In the spirit of the World Heritage Convention, it would be useful to draw inspiration from States that have been able to develop participatory integration policies. Several major deficiencies prevent the development at national level of an effective, integrated, heritage approach ensuring sustainable development.

Identification of Properties

Following the implementation of the Global Strategy in Africa, a process of identification has become widespread. Two thirds of the African States Parties have drawn up at least partial inventories of their heritage. Even if it is difficult to have full information on the complete heritage of a country, the establishment of an inventory is a crucial stage and one that must be encouraged. Three quarters of the African States Parties have drawn up or revised tentative lists, increasingly in association with the local community.

The properties already inscribed in Africa reflect a rather conventional vision of African heritage, with a very high majority of natural sites, contrary to the situation in the rest of the world, where natural sites are very much in the minority. This situation diminishes the African cultural heritage, belittling its diversity and specificity. However, the tentative lists show that change is underway. The face of the African cultural heritage is changing, taking into account not only nature-culture interactions in the framework of the cultural landscape concept but also the notion of exchange routes. It would be possible to examine closely the role of the Forts and Castles in Ghana or the Royal Palaces of Abomey in the Slave Routes. Similarly, it would be possible to include the cultural elements of populations living in certain natural sites, such as Aïr-Ténéré or Mount Nimba.

Not having a copy themselves, site managers were unfamiliar with the nomination files. This results in a chain of ignorance concerning the statement of value, authenticity, etc. The reporting exercise strategy has enabled this gap in knowledge to be filled by providing the managers with these documents. Examination of the nomination files shows that the information supplied at the

time of inscription is often incomplete, failing to specify all the information required to inscribe a site. Updating of this information is necessary, particularly in order to define the precise boundaries of a site or to create a buffer zone. Furthermore, the very brief information contained in the files is often obsolete. Most of the managers feel that some modifications in integrity and authenticity have occurred or are foreseeable and that a new statement of value is required.

The recent approach based on the Global Strategy has improved the identification of the African heritage in all its diversity. Nevertheless, an effort is still needed to carry through this initiative and to update the information for the sites inscribed before 1990.

Management Plans and Integrated Conservation

For all the African sites there exists a legal status and a legal framework, generally at the national level, which remain relatively unchanged. However, the measures planned by three quarters of the sites to safeguard the future must be reviewed and adapted to encourage a participatory approach to site management, anticipate natural and human risks, raise awareness and educate. In this minimal framework a management plan and strategy are lacking. Only half of the African sites currently have an operational management plan. Much progress remains to be made in this area, particularly in strengthening the link between conservation, management and the means required, and in developing sustainable tourism.

The States Parties retain a high level of management responsibility and do not easily delegate their powers. In order to optimize site management, it is important to draw inspiration from the decentralized management solutions that exist in Africa, using them as pilot projects. Given the existing centralization, the minimum and often irregular amount of funding allocated by the African States Parties underlines the responsibility of the State in implementing credible, reliable

and sustainable solutions to ensure long-term conservation. The identification of alternative solutions, both for financing and for management, is imperative in responding to the diverse pressures experienced by many African World Heritage sites.

Management autonomy and a linking of conservation with development are the underlying objectives of most of the forms, but are difficult to articulate in the rigid context of the State-Site relations observed.

Factors Affecting the Properties

Major problems such as desertification or climate change, biodiversity erosion and development affect the integrity of African natural and cultural sites. Tourism and the services and facilities that go with it exert pressure which, in the framework of sustainable tourism, should be regulated by an analysis of tourist carrying capacity. Sometimes unknown, often unrecognized, these factors must be identified and balanced, in relation to their frequency, against the risk they represent. A number of measures have been taken to combat these numerous pressures, but they are not very proactive and remain insufficient.

LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER

The list currently comprises thirty sites, of which thirteen are in Africa. While the African sites inscribed represent only 7% of the World Heritage List, they make up 43% of the List of World Heritage in Danger. Almost a quarter of the African sites are on the List in Danger. There are many contributing factors, notably the lack of regular investment by States in the conservation of their heritage.

Preventive Conservation and Monitoring

All integrated and sustainable management requires regular monitoring. Even if two thirds of the African sites mention its existence, current monitoring is not systematic. Few sites have a

coherent, effective monitoring methodology. The problems include lack of information on key indicators, necessary for summarising observations made during regular monitoring, lack of personnel assigned to this task and inadequate or inappropriate means. The raising of standards required for natural and cultural sites should draw on the experience of the few African sites to have instituted regular monitoring, which could act as pilot sites to systematize and develop this activity. Given the many threats facing them, a monitoring methodology that includes the local population and is suited to the African sites is urgently required for the medium term. Furthermore, coherent monitoring activities form the basis for preventive conservation, which enables a site to be protected without awaiting the proof of subsequent deterioration. By anticipating the problems, regular monitoring and preventive conservation reduce the cost of heritage protection and conservation actions. For this reason, periodic reporting and conservation activities must be systematically included in the management plans of the African natural and cultural sites.

Promotion of the Convention and Inscribed Properties

Most countries have undertaken actions to promote the World Heritage Convention and inscribed properties. Information is targeted at the general public through the media, and public awareness campaigns are aimed at the local population to make them aware of the value and interest of the site. Some promotional activities carried out by various African countries, such as Open House days, are well suited to the economic realities of the continent and have great potential. These exemplary actions should be carried out systematically, as their implementation requires limited means but plays an important role in raising public awareness. It is therefore important to draw inspiration from these actions, and to synchronize certain activities in order to broaden their impact.

Training and International Cooperation

Research is an important aspect of the conservation of sites because, in numerous cases, it enables the interest and significance of the sites to be better understood. Half of the African sites have participated in fundamental or applied scientific research programmes, often carried out on the initiative of foreign universities and research centres. However, the conditions are difficult: in general, the site equipment, particularly the computer equipment, needs to be updated and increased, and the staff, often too few in number, require training in routine research tasks. Internet access is beginning to be established, but remains very costly or impossible due to the remoteness of sites. Almost all the African World Heritage sites fulfil an educational function by receiving numerous primary and secondary school classes, who can thus discover the wealth of their national and world heritage.

Training needs for the protection and conservation of the heritage have been identified by most of the African States. Requests concern, in decreasing order of importance, management and planning for World Heritage sites, conservation and restoration training, and monitoring of the environment and of monuments.

While staff in several States have been able to benefit from local or regional training opportunities, great efforts remain to be made in this field, where the concept of further training is not linked to officials' career path. These efforts should be based on the strengthening and development of existing training programmes.

The vast majority of African States Parties are involved in bilateral or multilateral cooperation activities for World Heritage protection and conservation. For the most part, this involves conservation programmes or management improvement of the sites and economic development plans for the periphery of the sites. In all the cases mentioned, the cooperation is South-North. A third of African States Parties have bilateral or multilateral funding bodies which assist them in implementing the World Heritage

Proposal of an Action Plan for Medium-Term Regular Reporting

The summary of activities carried out in the framework of conservation of the African heritage underlines deficiencies in several fields. The recommended actions result from a consideration of these themes. If organized coherently, these actions could form the basis of an "Action Plan for Periodic Reporting", the effects of which could be tested by the next Periodic Reporting Exercise in 2007. This action plan therefore comprises a set of basic projects grouped into five main thematic strategies, planned over six years according to priorities. A number of actions can be included in several thematic strategies, thus emphasizing the transversal and integrated nature of heritage protection and conservation.

Strategies

The actions for a given strategy are presented in the form of a table, which summarizes the information needed for their implementation. The table notes the following:

Training Strategy
The implementation of training structures for the managers aims to improve their knowledge and capacities. These structures can draw on the

- theme of the action planned; potential addressees (States Parties (SP), World Heritage Committee (Co), African Region (Afr), Site Managers (SM), Local Population (Pop), World Heritage Centre (WHC).
- implementation period (short-term = 1 to 2 years; medium-term: from 3 to 4 years; long-term: more than 5 years, or even beyond the 6-year period)
- level of priority ((1* = top priority; 1 = priority; 2 = important)
- level of feasibility (*** actions which do not raise any technical problems for implementation, ** actions requiring a consensus or means, * actions for which implementation is more problematic (but which does not call into question their relevance)
- strength of political will required (*routine actions, **actions requiring recognition of their utility, ***actions less easily adopted)
- possible sources of funding (WHF: World Heritage Fund; Monit. line: monitoring line of the WHF; CP: conventions with the private sector; CB: Cooperation Conventions between the Centre and donor countries; CM: multilateral funding)

experiences of the EPA or of other institutions whose objective is to encourage capacity building in world heritage conservation.

Theme	Recommended actions	Addressee	Term	Priority	Technical Feasibility	Political Will	Funding Source
Identification of properties	Regional seminar on the concepts of statement of value and principles and criteria of authenticity–integrity	SP, Af	m	1	***	*	WHF, CB
Management and integrated conservation plans	Management plan training	WHC	m	1	***	*	
	Regional seminar on the Diversification of Participatory Management and Economic Development	SP, SM	m	1	***	*	WHC, CB
Factors affecting properties	Training in the management of natural and anthropic risks	Co, WHC	m, l	1	***	*	CB
Preventive conservation and reporting	Training in periodic reporting techniques	WHC	m, l	1	***	*	WHC, CB
Training and international cooperation	Inter-African cooperation for conservation	SP, WHC, Afr	m, l	1	**	**	CM, WHF

Management strategy

One of the main concerns of management strategy, as a crucial issue in development, is the updating of existing data and information, mainly at site level. Its task is also to launch actions to fill the current gaps in the management system and to ensure the system's effectiveness and sustainability in integrating heritage management into local, regional and national development.

Theme	Recommended actions	Addressee	Term	Priority	Technical Feasibility	Political Will	Funding Source
Organization of States Parties	Creation of "National Committees for the World Heritage Convention"	SP	m	1	**	***	SP
	Elaboration of national strategies integrating protection, conservation and presentation of cultural and natural heritage in economic and social development plans and management and development of the territory	Co, SP, WHC	s, m	1	**	***	SP, CB
Identification of Properties	Documentation: Duplicate of the nomination file	WHC	s	2	***	*	Monit. line
	Updating of nomination files prior to 1990	SP	m	2	***	*	SP, WHF, CB
	Creation of buffer zones for sites undergoing heavy pressures	SM, SP	m	2	**	**	SP, CB
	Site Plans	SM	s	2	**	*	Monit. line
	Updating of nomination criteria for the sites	SP	m	2	**	*	CB
	Updating of the statement of value for sites inscribed before 1994	SP	1	3	**	*	WHF, CB
Management and integrated conservation plans	Greater autonomy given to management bodies for properties inscribed on the WHL	SP	m, l	1	**	***	SP, CB
	Means to implement conservation measures for sites	SP	s, m, l	1	*	***	SP, CB
	Additional planning at site level	SM	s	2	***	*	SP, CB
	Training school for management plans	WHC	m	1	***	*	
	Evaluation and updating of management plans	SM	m	2	***	**	CB
Factors affecting properties	Analysis of reasons for economic success of some sites	WHC	s, m	2	***	*	WHF
Promotion	Reflection on the updating of the administrative structures of sites	SP, SM	m, l	1	**	***	WHF, CB
Training and international cooperation	Scientific committees for the site	SP, SM	s, m	2	***	*	SP

"Research and site reporting" strategy

This strategy aims at mobilizing research on World Heritage sites and at establishing regular reporting activities at the sites.

Theme	Recommended actions	Addressee	Term	Priority	Technical Feasibility	Political Will	Funding Source
Organization of States Parties	Documentation of Section I of the periodic reporting form by all States Parties	Co	m	1	***	**	SP
Identification of Properties	Creation of a Geographical Information System at the World Heritage Centre	WHC	s,m	1	***	*	Monit. line
Factors affecting properties	School for the management of natural and anthropic risks	Co, WHC	m, l	1	***	*	CB
	Elaboration of strategies for the prevention of natural or anthropic risks	SP, SM, Pop	m, l	2	**	*	CB
	Reactive plan for natural catastrophes	SM	m, l	2	**	*	SP
	Trend indicators for natural and anthropic risks	SM	s, m, l	2	***	*	SP
Preventive conservation and reporting	Training School for periodic reporting techniques	WHC	m, l	1	***	*	WHF, CB
	Updating reporting means	SM	m, l	1	*	**	CB

"Participation" strategy

The aim of the participation strategy is to set up local conservation actions that encourage management decentralization. Its goal is also to raise awareness of and involvement in heritage and development issues not only on the part of the local authorities and population but also the site visitors

Theme	Recommended actions	Addressee	Term	Priority	Technical Feasibility	Political Will	Funding Source
Identification of Properties	Participation of local population in the nomination procedures	SP	s, m, l	1	**	**	SP, CB
Management and conservation plans	Recording of participatory management experiences and production of a plaque	WHC	m	2	***	*	Monit. line
	Greater autonomy given to management bodies for properties inscribed on the WHL	SP	m, l	1	**	***	SP, CB
	Regional seminar on the Diversification of Participatory Management and Economic Development	SP, SM	m	1	***	*	WHF, CB
Factors affecting properties	Facilitation of site access for the disabled	SM	s, m	2	*	***	SP, CB
Promotion	Establishment of an International World Heritage Day	Co, WHC	s	2	***	**	WHF
	Establishment of a Special Site Day	SP, SM, Pop	s	2	***	**	SP
Training and international cooperation	School visits to the World Heritage sites and educational programmes	SM, SP	s, m, l	1	***	**	SP, SM

"Networks and cooperation" strategy

In an effort to enhance exchanges and cooperation not only between Africa and other regions, but also between African countries, this strategy aims to mobilize conservation resources.

Theme	Recommended actions	Addressee	Term	Priority	Technical Feasibility	Political Will	Funding Source
Identification of Properties	Preparatory assistance for national heritage inventories	WHC	s, m, l	2	***	*	WHF, CB
	Preparatory assistance for the elaboration of tentative lists	WHC	s, m, l	2	***	*	WHF, CB
Training & International Cooperation	Twinning of World Heritage sites with research bodies	SP, SM	s,m	2	***	**	CB
	African network of site managers and New Information Technologies	SM, SP, Afr, WHC	s, m	2	***	**	SP, WHF, CB
	Inter-African cooperation for conservation	SP, WHC, Afr	m, l	I	**	**	CM, WHF
	Creation of an African Heritage Fund	Co, Afr, SP	m, l	I	*	***	CB, CP, CM

TENTATIVE CALENDAR FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The tentative calendar for implementation enables the notion of priority to be reinstated, in relation to feasibility and difficulty of achievement. It takes into consideration the actions which can be undertaken and the time required for their achievement, according to top priority objectives (highlighted in very dark); priority objectives (dark), and important objectives (pale). This level of "political" priority in terms of site conservation and implementation of the Convention does not, however, call into question the urgency of implementing these actions.

The Action Plan for Periodic Reporting (APPR) has been planned on a provisional basis over the six years that separate two periodic reporting exercises. The Plan comprises three types of actions: firstly, actions which, once a decision has been taken, can be executed within a short time span; secondly, more complex actions requiring consultation time and major funding; and, thirdly, recurrent actions that will (probably) be repeated far beyond this medium-term programme.

Recommendations	Start	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
(a) to adopt a general policy which aims to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community and to integrate the protection of that heritage into comprehensive planning programmes						
Additional planning at site level	2002	2003				
Establishment of a World Heritage Day	2002	2003				
Establishment of a special Site Day	2002	2003				
Recording of participatory management experiences and production of a plaque	2002	2003	2004			2004
Facilitation of site access for the disabled	2002	2003	2004			2004
ELABORATION OF NATIONAL STRATEGIES	2002	2003	2004	2005		2005
Participation of local population in the nomination procedures	2002	2003	2004	2005		2007
Updating of the statement of value for sites inscribed before 1994	2002	2003	2004	2005		2007

RECOMMENDATIONS	START	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Regional seminar on the Diversification of Participatory Management and Economic Development		2003				
INTER-AFRICAN COOPERATION FOR CONSERVATION		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Documentation of Section I of the periodic reporting form by all States Parties			2004			
Reflection on the updating of the administrative structures of sites			2004			
Creation of buffer zones for sites undergoing heavy pressures			2004	2005		2005
Updating reporting means			2004	2005	2006	2007
Greater autonomy given to management bodies for properties inscribed			2004	2005	2006	2007
Updating of nomination files prior to 1990			2004	2005	2006	2007
Updating of nomination criteria for the sites			2004	2005	2006	2006
(b) to set up within its territories, where such services do not exist, one or more services for the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage with an appropriate staff and possessing the means to discharge their functions;						
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES FOR THE SITE	2002	2003	2004			2004
Creation of a GIS at the World Heritage Centre	2002	2003	2004	2005		2005
Creation of "National Committees for the World Heritage Convention"			2004	2005		2005
(c) to develop scientific and technical studies and research and to work out such operation methods as will make the State capable of counteracting the dangers that threaten its cultural or natural heritage;	2002	2003				
African network of site managers and New Information Technologies	2002	2003	2004			2004
Trend indicators for natural and anthropic risks	2002	2003	2004	2005		2007
Twinning of World Heritage sites with research bodies	2002	2003	2004	2005		2007
Elaboration of strategies for the prevention of natural or anthropic risks			2004	2005	2006	2007
Reactive plan for natural catastrophes			2004	2005	2006	2007
(d) to take the appropriate legal, scientific, technical, administrative and financial measures necessary for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of this heritage;						
Documentation: Duplication of nomination file						
Site plans	2002	2003				
Analysis of reasons for economic success of some sites	2002	2003	2004			2004
Preparatory assistance for national heritage inventories	2002	2003	2004	2005		2007
Preparatory assistance for the elaboration of tentative lists	2002	2003	2004	2005		2007
Evaluation and updating of management plans			2004			
Means to implement conservation measures for sites	2002	2003	2004	2005		2007

(continued on next page)

RECOMMENDATIONS	START	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Creation of an African Heritage Fund			2004	2005	2006	2007
(e) to foster the establishment or development of national or regional centres for training in the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage and to encourage scientific research in this field.						
School visits to the World Heritage sites and educational programmes	2002	2003	2004	2005		2007
Management plan training		2003				
Regional seminar on the concepts of statement of value and principles and criteria of authenticity – integrity			2004			
Training in the management of natural and anthropic risks			2004			
Training in periodic reporting techniques			2004			

Human and Financial Resources

The implementation of this medium-term programme requires a combination of human and financial resources and varied competences so that the objectives identified can be achieved. It must be linked with the other programmes decided upon by the Committee which are currently being implemented (Global Strategy, Africa 2003 and Africa 2009 Programmes). The World Heritage Committee's advisory bodies (IUCN, ICOMOS and ICCROM) should be closely involved in the programme, especially during its implementation phase.

There should also be cooperation with other UNESCO programmes in order to strengthen the means for implementing the APPR. Close collaboration with the Science Division's MAB Programme would be useful as numerous African sites are also Biosphere Reserves. Collaboration with the Culture Sector, and with Social Sciences' MOST Programme are also advisable; as humankind is at the centre of conservation and development, one cannot neglect the social aspects of conservation, in particular in a region where poverty is increasingly turning into destitution. In addition, links with the Africa 2009 Programme would allow the APPR to build on competences developed in conserving the built and non-built heritage, and would enable it to extend its action to fully incorporate monitoring of cultural or natural landscapes

Implementation of the APPR typically falls within the framework of periodic reporting actions. The setting up of a specific section for periodic reporting in the framework of the Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention would, however, lead to a multiplication of units, a partitioning of functions and an increase in costs. On a functional level, the regional units are in a better position to deal holistically with the different regional files, including those for periodic reporting. It would thus be preferable to optimize the functioning of the Centre's regional units by providing them with adequate human and logistical resources, rather then creating an additional structure.

With regard to funding, it is clear that the World Heritage Fund cannot bear the cost of all these operations, especially as its own budget is decreasing in the short term. Some of the Action Plan's activities can be linked to Fund budget lines such as Periodic Reporting or Preparatory Assistance. Nevertheless, it will be necessary to find extrabudgetary funding resources, either through cooperation conventions with the World Heritage, or from funds originating from multilateral bodies. Mobilization would enable substantial means to be released and would help these bodies harmonize their global policies in relation to the African World Heritage sites.

The African Heritage Fund – The support of donors from the private sector is another factor which has not yet been exploited. The mobilization of the large multinationals which derive great wealth and prosperity from the raw materials they extract from the African continent, could, in the context of their public image, be a major source of regular funding. This would provide financing for an African Heritage Fund, which would take pressure off the World Heritage Fund and would be the principal funding source for actions aimed at the conservation and protection of the African heritage, with sustainable development as a priority. A feasibility study is being carried out by the World Heritage Centre.

The Periodic Reporting Exercise has made it possible to take stock of the implementation of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties, to record the state of conservation of the sites inscribed on the World Heritage List, to highlight a number of problems, and to put forward recommendations. It is crucial that this information be made available to all parties interested in the conservation of the African World Heritage.

With the aim of presenting and valorising the results of the exercise, a **regional restitution meeting** was held in Dakar (25 to 27 February 2002), during which the African site managers were given the results of the reporting exercise. The value of the workshops held before the exercise was underlined, and an exchange of views resulted in the recommendations being better understood. The Action Plan was examined in the light of the actions to be undertaken, the sharing of responsibilities and the deadlines to be met. The

final report on the exercise, the action plan and reporting frequency were approved.

Other recommendations made during the meeting were: to take the intangible African heritage into consideration; to encourage harmonization of the implementation of the Convention at State Party level through interministerial meetings; to take the specific requirements and mentalities of the local populations into account when adopting the management method; to fine-tune the questionnaire; to promote transborder sites; to boost partnerships; to find a compromise at the level of the properties' management sovereignty; to begin by implementing actions that do not require major funding.

Two resolutions marked this meeting: the first recommended "harmonizing African legislation in the field of heritage protection, giving World Heritage site managers greater powers, and drawing up an African Heritage Convention." The second stressed the need to "envisage, as soon as possible, the setting up of reliable, sustainable Funds for the safeguarding and presentation of the African heritage."

While we should draw inspiration from the African sites with the best performance in conservation and management, the resources required for managing an African world heritage that represents more than 285 thousand square kilometres (half the territory of France), and for managing a number of non-conventional sites with a rich growth potential must be strengthened, mobilized and created, so that actions for protecting and conserving the African heritage are no longer only reactive but also preventive.

Appendixes

STATE PARTY AND SITES	RATIFICATION OR INSCRIPTION DATE	CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA	
BENIN	1982	Cultural	
Royal Palaces of Abomey	1985	Cultural	C III , IV
CAMEROON	1982	Natural	
Dja Faunal Reserve	1987	Natural	N II, IV
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	1980	Natural	
Manovo-Gounda St. Floris National Parc	1988	Natural	N II, IV
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	1981	Natural	
Taï National Park	1987	Natural	N III , IV
Comoé National Park	1983	Natural	N II, IV
Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve	1981	Natural	N II, IV
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	1974	Natural	
Virunga National Park	1979	Natural	N II, III, IV
Garamba National Park	1980	Natural	N III, IV
Kahuzi-Biega National Park	1980	Natural	N IV
Salonga National Park	1984	Natural	N II, III
ETHIOPIA	1977	Cultural & Natural	
Simien National Park	1978	Natural	N III , IV
Rock-hewn Churches, Lalibela	1978	Cultural	C I, II, III
Fasil Ghebi, Gondar Region	1979	Cultural	C II, III
Lower valley of the Awash	1980	Cultural	C II, III, IV
Tiya	1980	Cultural	C I, IV
Aksum	1980	Cultural	C I, IV
Lower valley of the Omo	1980	Cultural	C III , IV
GHANA	1975	Cultural	
Forts and castles of Volta and Accra	1979	Cultural	C VI
Asante traditional buildings	1980	Cultural	C V
GUINEA	1979	Natural	
Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve	1981	Natural	N II, IV
MADAGASCAR	1983	Natural	
Tsingy Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve	1990	Natural	N III , IV
MALAWI	1982	Natural	
Lake Malawi National Park	1984	Natural	N II, III, IV
MALI	1977	Cultural & Natural	
Old Towns of Djenné	1988	Cultural	C III , IV
Timbuktu	1988	Cultural	C II, IV, V
Cliffs of Bandiagara (land of the Dogons)	1989	Mixed	N III; C V
MOZAMBIQUE	1982	Cultural	
Island of Mozambique	1991	Cultural	C IV, VI

State Party and sites	Ratification or inscription date	Categories and criteria	
NIGER	1974	Natural	
Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserves	1991	Natural	N II, III, IV
SENEGAL	1976	Cultural & Natural	
Island of Gorée	1978	Cultural	C VI
Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary	1981	Natural	N III, IV
Niokolo-Koba National Park	1981	Natural	N IV
SEYCHELLES	1980	Natural	
Aldabra Atoll	1982	Natural	N II, III, IV
Vallée de Mai Natural Reserve	1983	Natural	N I, II, III, IV
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA	1977	Cultural & Natural	
Ngorongoro Conservation Area	1979	Natural	N II, III, IV
Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani & Songo Mnara	1981	Cultural	C III
Serengeti National Park	1981	Natural	N III, IV
Selous Game Reserve	1982	Natural	N II, IV
Kilimanjaro National Park	1987	Natural	N III
ZAMBIA	1984	Natural	
Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls	1989	Natural	N II, III
ZIMBABWE	1982	Cultural & Natural	
Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls	1989	Natural	N II, III
Mana Pools National Park	1984	Natural	N II, III, IV
Great Zimbabwe National Monument	1986	Cultural	C I, III, VI
Khami Ruins National Monument	1986	Cultural	C III, IV

BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF THE AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE SITES INVOLVED IN THE PERIODIC REPORTING

BENIN
Royal Palaces of Abomey 1985
(C iii, iv)

From 1625 to 1900, twelve kings succeeded one another at the head of the powerful Kingdom of Abomey. With the exception of King Akaba, who used a separate enclosure, they each had their palaces built within the same cob-wall area, in keeping with previous palaces as regards the use of space and materials. The royal palaces of Abomey are a unique reminder of this vanished kingdom

CAMEROON
Dja Faunal Reserve 1987
(N ii, iv)

This is one of the largest and best protected humid forests in Africa. 90% of its area remains intact. Almost completely surrounded by the Dja River, which forms its natural boundary, the reserve is especially noted for its biodiversity and for the wide variety of primates that live there. It has 107 species of mammal, five of which are endangered.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park 1988
(N ii, iv)

The importance of this park rests with its wealth of flora and fauna. Its vast savannahs provide shelter for a wide variety of species: black rhinoceroses, elephants, cheetahs, leopards, wild dogs, red-fronted gazelles and buffaloes, while different types of waterfowl are to be found in the northern flood-plains.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Taï National Park 1982
(N iii, iv)

This park is one of the last important remnants of the primary tropical forest of West Africa. Its rich natural flora, and threatened mammal species, such as the pygmy hippopotamus and eleven species of monkeys, are of great scientific interest.

Comoé National Park 1983
(N ii, iv)

One of the largest protected areas in West Africa, this park is characterised by very great plant diversity. Due to the presence of the Comoé River, it contains plants which are normally only found much farther south, such as shrub savannahs and patches of thick rain forest.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
Virunga National Park 1979
(N ii, iii, iv)

The park of Virunga offers within its 790,000 hectares an incomparable diversity of habitats: from swamps and steppes to the snowfields of Rwenzori at an altitude of over 5,000 m, and from the lava plains to the savannahs on the slopes of the volcanoes. Some 20,000 hippopotamuses live in its rivers, mountain gorillas find refuge there and birds from Siberia spend the winter there.

Garamba National Park 1980
(N iii, iv)

Immense savannahs, grasslands or woodlands, interspersed with gallery forests along the river banks and the swampy depressions, protect four of the largest mammals: the elephant, giraffe, hippopotamus and above all the white rhinoceros. Harmless, and much larger than the black rhinoceros, only some thirty individuals remain.

Kahuzi-Biega National Park 1980
(N iv)

A vast area of primary tropical forest dominated by two spectacular extinct volcanoes, Kahuzi and Biega, the park is populated with a diverse and abundant fauna. One of the last groups of mountain gorillas (consisting only of about 250

individuals), lives between 2,100 and 2,400 metres above sea-level.

Salonga National Park 1984
(N ii, iii)

The largest tropical rainforest reserve, at the heart of the central river basin of the Zaire River, Salonga National Park is very isolated and accessible only by water. It is the habitat of many endemic endangered species, such as the dwarf chimpanzee, the Zaire peacock, the forest elephant and the African slender-snouted or "false" crocodile.

ETHIOPIA
Simen National Park 1978
(N iii, iv)

Massive erosion over the years on the Ethiopian plateau has created one of the most spectacular landscapes in the world, with jagged mountain peaks, deep valleys and sharp precipices as deep as 1,500 metres. The park is the refuge of extremely rare species such as the Gelada baboon, the Simien fox and the Walia ibex, a kind of goat which is not found elsewhere.

Rock-hewn churches of Lalibela 1978
(C i, ii, iii)

In a mountainous region in the heart of Ethiopia, the eleven medieval monolithic cave churches of this 13th-century "New Jerusalem" were carved out of rock near a traditional village with circular-shaped dwellings. Lalibela is a centre of paramount importance for European Christianity, a place of pilgrimage and worship.

Fasil Ghebbi 1979
(C ii, iii)

Residence of Ethiopian emperor Fasilides and his successors during the 16th and 17th centuries, the fortress-city of Fasil Ghebbi, surrounded by a 900 metre wall, contains palaces, churches, monasteries and unique public and private buildings marked by Hindu and Arabic influences, and transformed by the baroque style brought to Gondar by the Jesuit missionaries.

Lower valley of the Awash 1980
(C ii, iii, iv)

The Awash Valley contains one of the most important groupings of palaeontological sites on the African continent. The remains discovered on the site, the oldest of which date back at least 4 million years, provide evidence of human evolution that has become a reference point in the study of the origins of mankind. The most spectacular discovery was made in 1974, when fifty-two fragments of a skeleton enabled the famous Lucy to be reconstructed.

Tiya 1980
(C i, iv)

Of the roughly 160 archaeological sites discovered so far in the Soddo region, south of Addis Ababa, Tiya is one of the most important. The site contains 36 monuments, including 32 carved stelae covered with representations of swords and symbols, for the most part difficult to decipher, which are the remains of an ancient Ethiopian culture, whose age has not yet been precisely determined.

Aksum 1980
(C i, iv)

Near Ethiopia's northern border, the ruins of the ancient city of Aksum mark the heart of ancient Ethiopia, when the Kingdom of Aksum was the most powerful state between the Eastern Roman Empire and Persia. The massive ruins, which date from the 1st to the 13th centuries, include monolithic obelisks, enormous stelae, royal tombs and the ruins of ancient castles. Long after its political decline, towards the 10th century, the emperors of Ethiopia came to Aksum to be crowned.

Lower valley of the Omo 1980
(C iii, iv)

A prehistoric site near Lake Turkana, the lower valley of the Omo is renowned the world over. The discovery of many fossils there, especially Homo gracilis, has been important in the study of human evolution.

GHANA
Forts and castles of Volta, Greater Accra, and the Central and Western regions 1979
(C vi)

These fortified trading posts, founded between 1482 and 1786 along the coast of Ghana between Keta and Beyin, are the remains of the trading routes established by the Portuguese throughout the world during their era of great maritime exploration.

Asante traditional buildings 1980
(C v)

To the north-east of Kumasi, these are the last material remains of the great Asante civilization, which reached its peak in the 18th century. The dwellings, made of earth, wood and straw, are gradually being destroyed by the effects of time and weather.

GUINEA AND CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve 1981
(N ii, iv)

Located between Guinea, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire, Mount Nimba rises above the surrounding savannah. Its slopes, covered by dense forest at the foot of grassy mountain pastures, harbour an especially rich flora and fauna, with endemic species such as the viviparous toad and chimpanzees that use stones as tools.

MADAGASCAR
Tsingy de Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve 1990
(N iii, iv)

Tsingy de Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve is made up of karstic landscapes and limestone uplands cut into impressive "tsingy" peaks and a "forest" of limestone needles, the spectacular canyon of the Manambolo River, rolling hills and high peaks. The undisturbed forests, lakes and mangrove swamps are the habitat for rare and endangered lemurs and birds.

MALAWI
Lake Malawi National Park 1984
(N ii, iii, iv)

Located at the southern end of the immense Lake Malawi, with its deep and clear waters and background of mountains, Lake Malawi National Park protects many hundreds of fish species, nearly all endemic. Its importance in the study of evolution is comparable to that of the finches of the Galapagos Islands.

MALI
Old Towns of Djenné 1988
(C iii, iv)

Inhabited since 250 B.C., Djenné developed into a market centre and a link in the trans-Saharan gold trade. In the 15th and 16th centuries, it became one of the spiritual centres for the dissemination of Islam. Its traditional houses, of which close to 2000 have survived, are built on hillocks (toguere) and adapted to the environment of seasonal floods.

Timbuktu 1988
(C ii, iv, v)

Home of the prestigious Koranic Sankore University and other médersas, Timbuktu was in the 15th and 16th centuries an intellectual and spiritual capital and a centre for the expansion of Islam throughout Africa. Its three great mosques, the Djingareyber, Sankore and Sidi Yahia, speak of Timbuktu's Golden Age. Although restored in the 16th century, these monuments are today threatened by the encroachment of sand.

Cliffs of Bandiagara (Land of the Dogons) 1989
(N iii / C v)

The Bandiagara site is situated in a breathtaking landscape of sandstone cliffs and plateau, which house architectural structures of great beauty (houses, granaries, altars, sanctuaries and toguna - meeting places). Its rich social traditions are still alive (masks, ritual and popular festivals, regular ancestor worship through various ceremonies). Its geological, archaeological, ethnological and landscape features make the Bandiagara

plateau one of the most impressive sites in West Africa.

MOZAMBIQUE
Island of Mozambique 1991
(C iv, vi)

The fortified city of Mozambique is located on this island, which was a former Portuguese trading post on the route to India. Its astonishing architectural unity is due to the consistent use, since the 16th century, of the same building techniques and materials(stone or macuti) and the same decorative principles.

NIGER
Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserves 1991
(N ii, iii, iv)

This is the largest protected area in Africa, covering some 7.7 million hectares. The area considered as a protected sanctuary is only one-sixth of the total area. It includes the volcanic rock massif of the Aïr, a small Sahelian pocket, isolated as regards its climate and flora and fauna in the Saharan desert of Ténéré. The reserves boast an outstanding variety of landscapes, plant species and wild animals.

SENEGAL
Island of Gorée 1978
(C vi)

Off the coast of Senegal, facing Dakar, Gorée was, from the 15th to the 19th century, the largest slave trading centre on the African coast. Ruled, in succession, by Portuguese, Dutch, English and French powers, its architecture is characterized by the contrast between the dark slave-quarters and the elegant houses of the slave traders. Today it continues to serve as a reminder of human exploitation and as a sanctuary for reconciliation.

Niokolo-Koba National Park 1981
(N iv)

Located in a well-watered area, along the banks of the Gambia River, the gallery forests and savannahs of Niokolo-Koba National Park protect a very rich fauna, among them the Derby eland (largest of the antelopes), chimpanzees,

lions, leopards, a large population of elephants as well as many birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary 1981
(N iii, iv)

In the Senegal River delta, the Djoudj Sanctuary is a wetland of 16,000 hectares, comprising a large lake surrounded by streams, ponds and backwaters, which form a living but fragile sanctuary for one and a half million birds, such as the white pelican, the purple heron, the African spoonbill, the great egret and the cormorant.

SEYCHELLES
Aldabra Atoll 1982
(N ii, iii, iv)

The atoll comprises four large coral islands which enclose a shallow lagoon; the group of islands is itself surrounded by a coral reef. Due to difficulties of access and the atoll's isolation, Aldabra has been protected from human influence and has as such become a refuge for some 152,000 giant tortoises, the world's largest population of this reptile.

Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve 1983
(N i, ii, iii, iv)

In the heart of the small island of Praslin, the reserve shelters the vestiges of a natural palm forest preserved in close to its original state. The famous coco de mer (palm tree), once believed to come from a tree growing in the depths of the sea, bears the largest seed in the plant kingdom.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
Ngorongoro Conservation Area 1979
(N ii, iii, iv)

A large permanent concentration of wild animals can be found in the huge and perfect crater of Ngorongoro. Nearby, the crater of Empakaai, filled by a deep lake, and the active volcano of Oldonyo Lenga can be seen. Excavations carried out in the Olduvai Gorge, not far from there, have resulted in the discovery of one of man's more distant ancestors, Homo habilis. At the

Laitoli site in this same region can be found the traces of footsteps of the first hominids, dating back 3.6 million years.

Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Ruins of Songo Mnara 1981
(C iii)
On two small islands near the Tanzanian coast, the remains of two great East African ports admired by early European explorers can be found. From the 13th to the 16th centuries, the merchants of Kilwa traded gold, silver, pearls, perfumes, Arabian crockery, Persian earthenware and Chinese porcelain, much of the trade in the Indian Ocean thus passing through their hands.

Serengeti National Park 1981
(N iii, iv)
In the vast plains of Serengeti, comprising 1.5 million hectares of savannah, immense herds of herbivores - wildebeests, gazelles and zebras - followed by their predators in their annual migration to permanent water holes, offer a sight from another age, one of the most impressive in the world.

Selous Game Reserve 1982
(N ii, iv)
Elephants, black rhinoceroses, cheetahs, giraffes, hippopotamuses and crocodiles live in large numbers in this immense sanctuary - 50,000 square kilometres relatively undisturbed by man. The park has a variety of vegetation zones from dense thickets to open wooded grasslands.

Kilimanjaro National Park 1987
(N iii)
The highest point in Africa, Kilimanjaro is a volcanic massif 5,963 metres high which stands, isolated, above the surrounding plains, with its snowy peak looming over the savannah. The mountain is encircled by mountain forest, and numerous mammals, many of which are endangered, live in the park.

ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE
Mosi-oa-Tunya/ Victoria Falls 1989
(N ii, iii)
These are among the most spectacular waterfalls in the world. The Zambezi River, more than two kilometres wide at this point, plunges noisily down a series of basalt gorges and raises an iridescent mist that can be seen more than 20 kilometres away.

ZIMBABWE
Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chewore Safari Area 1984
(N ii, iii, iv)
On the banks of the Zambezi River, great cliffs overhang the river and the flood-plains where a remarkable concentration of wild animals can be found, including elephants, buffaloes, leopards and cheetahs. An important concentration of Nile crocodiles can be found in the area.

Great Zimbabwe National Monument 1986
(C i, iii, vi)
The ruins of Great Zimbabwe, which, according to an age-old legend, was the capital of the Queen of Sheba, are a unique testimony to the Bantu civilization of the Shona between the 11th and 15th centuries. This city, covering an area of nearly 80 hectares, was an important trading centre, renowned since the Middle Ages.

Khami Ruins National Monument 1986
(C iii, iv)
Khami, developed after the capital of Great Zimbabwe had been abandoned in the mid-16th century, is of great archaeological interest. The discovery of objects from Europe and China reveals that Khami had long been an important centre for trade.

BENIN

ROYAL PALACES OF ABOMEY
From 1625 to 1900, 12 kings succeeded one another at the head of the powerful Kingdom of Abomey. With the exception of King Akaba, who had his own separate enclosure, they all had their palaces built within the same cob-wall area, in keeping with previous palaces as regards the use of space and materials. The royal palaces of Abomey are a unique reminder of this vanished kingdom.
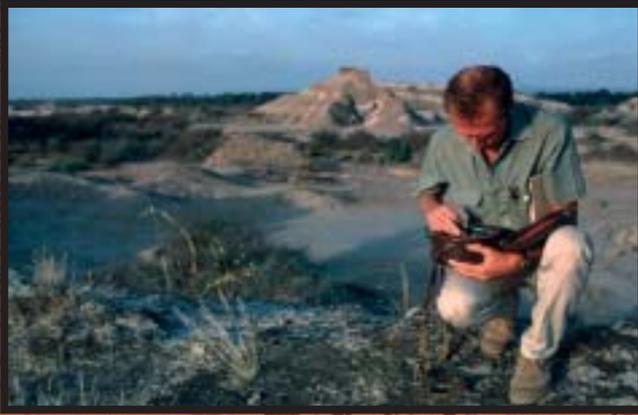
CAMEROON

DJA FAUNAL RESERVE
This is one of the largest and best-protected rainforests in Africa, with 90% of its area left undisturbed. Almost completely surrounded by the Dja river, which forms a natural boundary, the reserve is especially noted for its biodiversity and a wide variety of primates. It contains 107 mammal species, five of which are threatened.

LOWER VALLEY OF THE OMO
A prehistoric site near Lake Turkana, the lower valley of the Omo is renowned the world over. The discovery of many fossils there, especially Homo gracilis, has been of fundamental importance in the study of human evolution.

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ETHIOPIA

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ROCK-HEWN CHURCHES, LALIE

FASIL GHEBBI, GONDAR REGION
In the 16th and 17th centuries, the fortress-city of Fasil Ghebbi was the residence of the Ethiopian emperor Fasilides and his successors. Surrounded by a 900-m-long wall, the city contains palaces, churches, monasteries and unique public and private buildings marked by Hindu and Arab influences, subsequently transformed by the Baroque style brought to Gondar by the Jesuit missionaries.

ROCK-HEWN CHURCHES, LALIE
The 11 medieval monol
region in the heart of E
place of Ethiopian Chris

THIOPIA
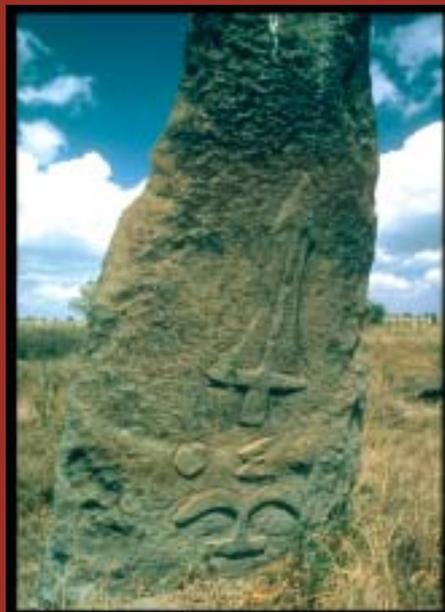
TIYA
Tiya is among the most important of the roughly 160 archaeological sites discovered so far in the Soddo region, south of Addis Ababa. The site contains 36 monuments, including 32 carved stelae covered with symbols, most of which are difficult to decipher. They are the remains of an ancient Ethiopian culture whose age has not yet been precisely determined.

THIOPIA
 ave churches of this 13th-century 'New Jerusalem' are situated in a mountainous
ia near a traditional village with circular-shaped dwellings. Lalibela is a high
y, still today a place of pilmigrage and devotion.
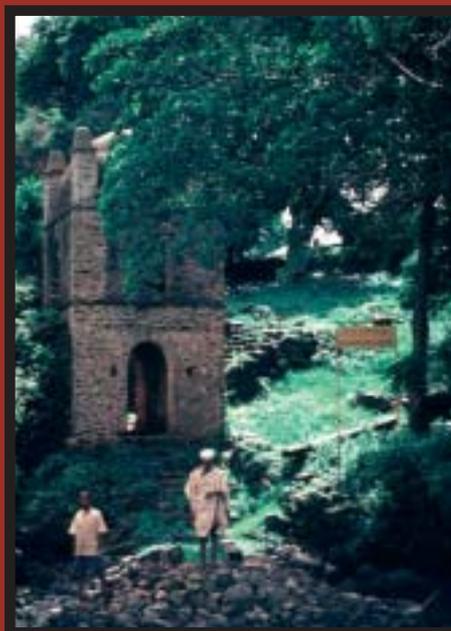
SIMIEN NATIONAL PARK
Massive erosion over the years on the Ethiopian plateau has created one of the most spectacular landscapes in the world, with jagged mountain peaks, deep valleys and sharp precipices dropping some 1,500 m. The park is home to some extremely rare animals such as the Gelada baboon, the Simien fox and the Walia ibex, a goat found nowhere else in the world.

ASANTE TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS, GHANA
To the northeast of Kumasi, these are the last material remains of the great Asante civilization, which reached its peak in the 18th century. The dwellings, made of earth, wood and straw, are gradually being destroyed by the effects of time and weather.

GHANA

FORTS AND CASTLES, VOLTA, GREATER ACCRA, CENTRAL AND WESTERN REGIONS
The remains of fortified trading-posts, erected between 1482 and 1786, can still be seen along the coast of Ghana between Keta and Beyin. They were links in the trade routes established by the Portuguese in many areas of the world during their era of great maritime exploration.

MADAGASCAR

TSINGY BEMARAHA STRICT NATURE RESERVE
Tsingy de Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve is made up of karstic landscapes and limestone uplands cut into impressive "tsingy" peaks and a "forest" of limestone needles, the spectacular canyon of the Manambolo River, rolling hills and high peaks. The undisturbed forests, lakes and mangrove swamps are the habitat for rare and endangered lemurs and birds.

GUINEA

MOUNT NIMBA STRICT NATURE RESERVE
Located on the borders of Guinea, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire, Mount Nimba rises above the surrounding savannah. Its slopes are covered by dense forest at the foot of grassy mountain pastures. They harbour a remarquably rich flora and fauna, with endemic species such as the viviparous toad and chimpanzees that use stones as tools.

MALI

OLD TOWNS OF DJENNÉ
Inhabited since 250 B.C., Djenné developed into a market centre and a link in the trans-Saharan gold trade. In the 15th and 16th centuries, it became one of the spiritual centres for the dissemination of Islam. Its traditional houses, of which close to 2000 have survived, are built on hillocks (toguere) and adapted to the environment of seasonal floods.

CLIFFS OF BANDIAGARA- LAND OF THE DOGONS
Ces falaises, qui abritent de très belles architectures (habitations, greniers, autels, sanctuaires et toguna - lieux de réunion), demeurent depuis des siècles l'âme de la culture dogon traditionnelle. Par ses caractéristiques géologiques et ses paysages, le plateau de Bandiagara est l'un des sites les plus impressionnants de l'Afrique de l'Ouest.

DJENNÉ, MALI

DJENNÉ, MALI

mozambique

ISLAND OF MOZAMBIQUE
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AIR AND TÉNÉRÉ NATURAL RESERVES, NIGER

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SENEGAL

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