



RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLENARY COMMITTEE

At the conclusion of the Academic Sessions of the SAARC Capacity Building Workshop on 'Preparation of Proposals of New Sites for inclusion in the UNESCO's World Heritage List', held at Lumbini (Nepal) for 6 days from 3 (Sunday) to 8 (Friday) August 2014, a Plenary Session was held on 8 August 2014 at 4.00 p.m. in which all Resource Persons as well as a representative each from official delegations from the Member States were invited.

The following members were present:

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| 1. Prof. Dr. Jukka Jokilehto (Italy) | Chairman |
| 2. Mr. G.L.W. Samarasinghe (SCC) | Member |
| 3. Dr. Ayesha Pamela Rogers | Member |
| 4. Dr. Rohit Jigyasu | Member |
| 5. Ms. Munira Sultana (Bangladesh) | Member |
| 6. Mr. Sangay Kinga (Bhutan) | Member |
| 7. Dr. M. Nambirajan (India) | Member |
| 8. Mr. Suresh Suras Shrestha (Nepal) | Member (Vice Mr. Bhesh Narayan Dahal) |
| 9. Mr. Prasanna B. Ratnayake (Sri Lanka) | Member |
| 10. Dr Sanjay Garg (SCC) | Member Secretary |

At the outset, the Plenary Committee congratulated the SAARC Cultural Centre for its continued efforts relating to capacity building in the field of heritage management in the Member States and reiterated the need for a permanent platform for the experts and other stakeholders of the heritage sites in the SAARC region to share their common concerns and find solutions to the common problems and challenges. It then perused all the Feedback forms received from the participants of the Workshop.



PLENARY COMMITTEE

- Preparation of Proposals of New Sites -

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Plenary Committee of the SAARC Capacity Building Workshop on 'Preparation of Proposals of New Sites for inclusion in the UNESCO's World Heritage List', held at Lumbini, Nepal, 3-8 August 2014:

1. THANKS the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region (WHITR-AP) under the auspices of UNESCO, located in Shanghai (China), for its Technical Support in organizing this Workshop.

Recommendation:

The SAARC Cultural Centre should continue to work in close cooperation with WHITR-AP Shanghai (China), on different aspects of capacity building and research in the field of heritage management in the region.

2. REAFFIRMS the recommendations of the Plenary Committee of the First SAARC Capacity Building Workshop on Management Systems of World Heritage Sites in South Asia, held at Islamabad, Pakistan from 25-31 August 2013.
3. WELCOMES the steps taken by the UNESCO to set up its Category 2 Centre (C2C) – ASPAC Regional Centre for Conservation and management of World Heritage Sites (ARCOM-WHS) - at the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), New Delhi (India), for research, training, documentation, and dissemination of information on cultural heritage conservation and management in South Asia.

Recommendation:

The SAARC Cultural Centre should strive to work closely with the proposed Centre, especially in view of the fact that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), for cooperation in the field of culture has already been signed between the SAARC and UNESCO on 29 January 2008.

4. APPRECIATES that the setting up of the **SAARC Heritage Committee (SHC)** under the auspices of the SAARC Cultural Centre as recommended by the Plenary Committee of



SAARC Workshop on
**world
heritage
sites**
in South Asia
Lumbini, Nepal | 3-8 August 2014

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the First SAARC Capacity Building Workshop on Management of World Heritage Sites in South Asia, held at Islamabad, Pakistan from 25-31 August 2013, has been included in the Agenda of the Third Meeting of the SAARC Culture Ministers, scheduled to be held at New Delhi, India from 24-26 September 2014.

Recommendation:

*The setting up of the **SAARC Heritage Committee (SHC)** under the auspices of the SAARC Cultural Centre should be completed and a Working Group formed by the SAARC Cultural Centre at the earliest to work out its structure, membership format, funding aspects, etc. as well as activities based on the consolidated Terms of Reference (ToR) as given in Appendix A.*

It is further recommended that as suggested by the Plenary Committee of the SAARC International Conference on Development of Archives in South Asia: 'The Future of Archives and Archives of the Future' (Colombo, Sri Lanka, 3-5 December 2013), "The scope of the proposed SAARC Heritage Committee should cover all aspects of heritage management."

Prof. Dr. Jukka Jokilehto
Special Advisor to the Director-General of
ICCROM, (Rome).
Chairman, Plenary Committee


Dr Sanjay Garg
Deputy Director (Research)
SAARC Cultural Centre.
Convener and Member-Secretary of the
Plenary Committee



PLENARY COMMITTEE

APPENDIX A

The consolidated Terms of References (ToR) of the proposed SAARC Heritage Committee (SHC) would *inter alia* include:

- a. Compilation of an Inventory of the Heritage Properties in the Region;
- b. Establishing a SAARC Heritage Fund (SHF) for funding of projects and programmes of the SHC;
- c. Accreditation of SAARC Heritage Properties;
- d. Development and promotion of Guidelines, Management Plans, and Standards;
- e. Organizing Capacity Building activities; including establishment/ accreditation of a Training Centre in the region as the SAARC Heritage Training Centre (SHTC).
- f. Maintaining and Sharing a list of experts in Heritage management;
- g. Digital mapping of Heritage Properties;
- h. Facilitating Collaborative projects;
- i. Encouraging and facilitating the application of modern technologies in effective management of the heritage properties;
- j. Holding conferences and symposia;
- k. Facilitating research activities in the region;
- l. Establishing linkages for promoting the objectives of the SHC;
- m. Publications; Reports, etc.
- n. Promote exchanges, sharing of information and best practices.
- o. Coordinating trans-boundary and serial nominations.
- p. Development of a Model Heritage Law for South Asia.
- q. Awareness and sensitization about South Asian Heritage.