

- International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), whose principal functions are to evaluate the nominations of cultural sites, and to report on the state of conservation of cultural properties on the List,
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), whose principal functions are to evaluate the nominations of natural sites, and to report on the state of conservation of natural properties on the List.

**The roles of the Advisory Bodies are to:**

- a) advise on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in the field of their expertise;
- b) assist the Secretariat, in the preparation of the Committee's documentation, the agenda of its meetings and the implementation of the Committee's decisions;
- c) assist with the development and implementation of the Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List, the Global Training Strategy [since 2011 substituted by the 'World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Building'], Periodic Reporting, and the strengthening of the effective use of the World Heritage Fund;
- d) monitor the state of conservation of World Heritage properties and review requests for International Assistance;
- e) in the case of ICOMOS and IUCN evaluate properties nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List and present evaluation reports to the Committee; and
- f) attend meetings of the World Heritage Committee and the Bureau in an advisory capacity. (OG para 31)

The Secretariat of the Committee is provided by UNESCO's World Heritage Centre. The Centre's main role is to service the World Heritage Committee, implement its decisions and manage the major processes of the Convention.

**The main tasks of the World Heritage Centre are:**

- a) the organization of the meetings of the General Assembly and the Committee;
- b) the implementation of decisions of the World Heritage Committee and resolutions of the General Assembly and reporting to them on their execution;
- c) the receipt, registration, checking the completeness, archiving and transmission to the relevant Advisory Bodies of nominations to the World Heritage List;
- d) the coordination of studies and activities as part of the Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List;
- e) the organization of Periodic Reporting and coordination of Reactive Monitoring;
- f) the coordination of International Assistance;
- g) the mobilization of extra-budgetary resources for the conservation and management of World Heritage properties;
- h) the assistance to States Parties in the implementation of the Committee's programmes and projects; and
- i) the promotion of World Heritage and the Convention through the dissemination of information to States Parties, the Advisory Bodies and the general public. (OG para 28)

### Responsibilities of States Parties

Management per se is not mentioned in the World Heritage Convention. The Convention, however, makes clear both that the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties should be protected to a particular level (Article 4), and that States Parties to the Convention should have in place a general system for protecting both natural and cultural heritage (Article 5). Article 4 sets out clearly the objectives of the Convention for World Heritage properties, and these should be the guiding star for managing them, while Article 5 could be said to