



#### Article 29

The States Parties to this Convention shall, in the reports which they submit to the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on dates and in a manner to be determined by it, give information on the **legislative and administrative provisions** which they have adopted and **other action** which they have taken for the application of this Convention, together with details of the experience acquired in this field.

These reports shall be brought to the attention of the World Heritage Committee.

The Committee shall submit a report on its activities at each of the ordinary sessions of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Apart from the Convention itself, the Committee has developed *Operational Guidelines* (OG) to provide more practical advice on the application and implementation of the Convention. The OG have been revised from time to time, most recently in 2012 (see Part 3.3). The Committee also adopts other guidance which may be found in its decisions (available through the World Heritage Centre website and other publications) (see Part 3.4).

### 3.3 The *Operational Guidelines*: managing in order to protect Outstanding Universal Value

As noted above, the OG provide detailed guidance on the application of the Convention. Since 2005, the OG have contained guidance on the management of World Heritage properties. Inevitably, this is fairly general since the guidance has to be applicable to management in all parts of the world. Nonetheless, there is a definition both of the objectives of a management system and of what it should contain. Paragraph 78 says that each World Heritage property must have an adequate protection and management system in order to be deemed of Outstanding Universal Value. The references to management in the World Heritage *Operational Guidelines* (2012 edition) are provided below.

#### References to management in the World Heritage *Operational Guidelines* (2012 edition)

**OG108:** Each nominated property should have an appropriate management plan or other documented management system which must specify how the Outstanding Universal Value of a property should be preserved, preferably through participatory means.

**OG109:** The purpose of a management system is to ensure the effective protection of the nominated property for present and future generations.

**OG110:** An effective management system depends on the type, characteristics and needs of the nominated property and its cultural and natural context. Management systems may vary according to different cultural perspectives, the resources available and other factors. They may incorporate traditional practices, existing urban or regional planning instruments, and other planning control mechanisms, both formal and informal. Impact assessments for proposed interventions are essential for all World Heritage properties.

**OG111:** In recognizing the diversity mentioned above, common elements of an effective management system could include:

- a. A thorough shared understanding of the property by all stakeholders;
- b. A cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and feedback;

