



**Code:** UNESCO/1/1

**Committee:** United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

**Topic:** World Heritage Sites: Balancing Tourism and Preservation

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- 1 *Recognizing* the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage and  
2 Sustainable Tourism Programme, which manages and develops sustainable tourism at cultural heritage sites by  
3 creating increased awareness and balanced participation in order to protect the cultural value of sites,  
4
- 5 *Reaffirming* the 1980 Manila Declaration on World Tourism, which provides the moral and intellectual basis for  
6 international understanding and interdependence,  
7
- 8 *Expressing deep appreciation* for the World Monuments Fund (WMF), a New York based non-profit, which works  
9 with local communities to sustain their heritage, to act as an advocate for endangered sites, and to train craftspeople  
10 to enable sustainable heritage solutions,  
11
- 12 *Approving* of the continued use of the World Heritage Fund to preserve World Heritage Sites to use a portion of the  
13 funds obtained by tourism to directly fund the maintenance and upkeep of the Sites,  
14
- 15 *Fully aware* of the Association for Tourism and Leisure Education and Research Organization, which develops  
16 transnational educational initiatives in tourism and leisure for local and regional civilian communities,  
17
- 18 *Recalling* the International Council of Archives, which is dedicated to the effective management of records and the  
19 preservation, care, and use of the world's archival heritage, which will allow Member States to better monitor sites  
20 in danger and prevent future damage,  
21
- 22 *Emphasizing* Article 18 of the World Heritage Convention adopted in November 1972, which notes cultural heritage  
23 and natural heritage are increasingly threatened with destruction due to the traditional causes of decay and also by  
24 changing social and economic conditions from conflict,  
25
- 26 *The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,*  
27
- 28 1. *Encourages* Member States to raise awareness through the continuing nomination of their heritage sites, and  
29 community outreach while continuing to support the five C's of preservation and protection; credibility,  
30 conservation, capacity-building, communication, and communities, as stated in the Budapest Declaration;  
31
  - 32 2. *Calls for* education of the public on the importance of world heritage and building pride and unity with local  
33 communities through culturally embedded livelihood practices to help retain local knowledge of history,  
34 culture, and to generate employment while enabling local economic development, and training to promote  
35 emergency preparedness and response to natural disasters;  
36
  - 37 3. *Further invites* Member States to develop a multilevel system within their respective state for protection by:  
38
    - 39 a. establishing a transparent system by allocating responsibilities to specific government ministries  
40 including but not limited to Heritage Policy Bureaus, Heritage Conservation Bureaus and Heritage  
41 Promotion Bureaus;  
42
    - 43 b. establishing National, provincial, and local systems, based upon civil, governmental and institutional  
44 societies providing their expertise to create unique and diverse policies, and organizations that protect  
45 and preserve registered or undesignated World Heritage Sites;  
46
  - 47 4. *Recommends* the expansion of the UNESCO Archives to include structural layout of World Heritage to have  
48 digital preservation of the site that will help to rebuild the site in case of a natural disaster;  
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5. *Recommends* Member States invest in ecotourism and other sustainable practices to protect and preserve World Heritage Sites by ensuring that sites are protected from indiscriminate construction, facilitating practical assistance, using information-based training, linking sponsors with appropriate projects, and provide long-term sustainability by involving the indigenous communities in the custodianship and protection of sites;
  6. *Invites* Member States to engage their local and regional populations in order to promote the sense of custodianship over and cultural affiliation to World Heritage sites via:
    - a. a partnership between UNESCO and the WMF for the preservation of World Heritage Sites includes working closely to build economic, technical, and governmental infrastructures necessary to protect and preserve sites of the future, assembling of teams of international specialist to conduct pilot projects, develop training programs, plans with communities for long-term stewardship of sites, building the capacity of World Heritage Site education, youth development, training local community members in tourism related activities to participate in industry and receive tourism benefits;
    - b. the creation of a UNESCO Voluntary Fund to assist in the funding of the WMF in preservation, education, and sustainability; to which capable Member States may voluntarily contribute to aid in education cultural preservation and community revitalization;
  7. *Encourages* Member States to increase visitation to their World Heritage Sites through advertisement around high traffic areas which will increase revenue and therefore allow for the sustainability of infrastructure and integrity of the sites;
  8. *Invites* Member States to focus on long-term sustainability of their World Heritage Sites by enhancing land efficiency, where focus is placed on ensuring the conservation of soil water-regime, and biodiversity to assist in the preservation of natural diversity sites in collaboration with United Nations Environmental Programme's Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity through Sound Tourism Development in Biosphere Reserves in Central and Eastern Europe in order to extend its efforts internationally.



**Code:** UNESCO/1/2

**Committee:** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**Topic:** World Heritage Sites: Balancing Tourism and Preservation

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1 *Seeking* to educate, promote, and invest in sustainable tourism practices,  
2  
3 *Expressing its appreciation* for resolution A/RES/69/230 on Culture and Sustainable Development, which highlights  
4 that culture and tradition are two rudimentary features of a state for the promotion of sustainable development for its  
5 people, its country, and its economic status,  
6  
7 *Believing* that the promotion of sustainable tourism is an essential tool for the preservation and shielding of cultural  
8 and natural sites in the tourism sector,  
9  
10 *Alarmed by* the unequal opportunities of educational experiences among the global community, as well as the  
11 unequal development of the economies of Member States through tourism,  
12  
13 *Stressing* resolution A/RES/69/233 on the Promotion of Sustainable Tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty  
14 eradication and environmental protection and the recognition of the benefits of employing sustainable approaches in  
15 economic development and environmental preservation,  
16  
17 *Guided by* resolution A/RES/69/281 on Saving Cultural Heritage that accentuates the need for a joint effort of the  
18 international community to safeguard heritage and which defines cultural heritage as the representative of human  
19 culture which can only be achieved with protection from local community,  
20  
21 *Fully aware of* the 2013 Hangzhou Declaration, which calls on Member States to value, safeguard, and transmit  
22 culture for future generations as a preparatory measure for the post-2015 UN Sustainable Development Goals,  
23  
24 *Observing* the importance of the implementation of domestic programs to expand and promote education for tourists  
25 and the employees of World Heritage sites,  
26  
27 *Recalling* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which was an inclusive  
28 intergovernmental process that was initiated to prepare a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),  
29  
30 *Emphasizing with deep concern* the urgency to take actions within the educational and tourism sectors in support of  
31 Member States' pursuit of economic growth and the importance of promoting the preservation of World Heritage  
32 Sites, while maintaining safety for all tourist and employees,  
33  
34 *Having adopted* the Code of the Cultural and Landscape Heritage, specifically Article 3, as a mandate for  
35 regulatory, investigative and protective measure for preservation of cultural heritage,  
36  
37 *Recognizing* the considerable value of and demand for experts and analysts in local and regional areas with countries  
38 of need as shown in resolution A/RES/69/114,  
39  
40 *Recalling* the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with  
41 Regulations for the Execution of the Convention, specifically the sections concerning the criminalization of  
42 intentional destruction of religious cultural property in times of armed conflict and the illegal transportation of  
43 cultural property across borders,  
44  
45 *Recalling* the resolution adopted by the 20th General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention Concerning the  
46 Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage as it invites the Director-General of UNESCO to inform the  
47 Secretary-General of the United Nations when the common heritage of humanity is threatened with willful  
48 destruction so that he/she may propose necessary actions to protect this heritage,  
49

50 *Recalling* A/RES/69/281, adopted on 28 May 2015, which highlights the need to take measures to safeguard  
51 tangible and intangible heritage of communities in Iraq against terrorist forces in the Middle East,  
52  
53 *Recognizing* the 2001 resolution on the Protection of the Cultural Heritage of Afghanistan adopted at the 13th  
54 General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural  
55 Heritage, which condemned the destruction of Afghanistan's tangible heritage by extremist groups,  
56  
57 *Recalling* the World Heritage Sites in danger of being damaged by general human activity or weathering,  
58 specifically the religious city of Timbuktu in Mali, as referenced by decision 36 COM 7B.106 of the 36th Session of  
59 the World Heritage Committee,  
60  
61 *Recognizing* the importance of natural heritage sites as equal to cultural heritage sites, while also recognizing the  
62 contribution of biological integrity to the ecosystem and tourism industries of each Member State as laid out in the  
63 1972 UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and Natural Heritage,  
64  
65 *The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,*  
66  
67 1. *Encourages* all Member States to officially codify in legislation the Hangzhou Declaration assessment of  
68 tangible heritage cultural preservation for posterity;  
69  
70 2. *Draws attention to* any acts of willful destruction and illegal trade of artifacts and recommends increased  
71 accountability for these criminal acts by raising awareness through diligent assessment and filing official reports  
72 on these artifacts to the UNESCO and the ECOSOC committees;  
73  
74 3. *Recommends* Member States to share human resources and expertise on conservation efforts available through  
75 the UNESCO Fellowship Program in which participants are given the opportunity to develop their skills in the  
76 field;  
77  
78 4. *Endorses* multilateral volunteer educational exchange programs in which professionals in the fields of science,  
79 technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) can assess world heritage sites and recommend physical  
80 modification to the relevant states and encourages these states to work with various non-governmental  
81 organizations in order to help protect these sites from natural weathering and disasters;  
82  
83 5. *Further recommends* that experts in historical preservation be made available at the regional and local level in  
84 order to make integrity assessments of heritage sites and make recommendations for sustainability to the  
85 ECOSOC committee and the Security Council to take appropriate actions;  
86  
87 6. *Encourages* Member States to install signs and barriers near and around archaeological sites that will help  
88 protect vulnerable archaeological sites by discouraging tourists and locals from damaging or vandalizing sites  
89 which will serve to extend the longevity of these sites;  
90  
91 7. *Recommends* that Member States send voluntary advisers with conflict early warning expertise to countries  
92 under threat of terrorism and civil fighting as well as make risk assessments of heritage sites based on the flow  
93 of conflict in order to prepare for necessary action to protect these sites because of the understanding of the  
94 diversity of human threats that are present in each Member State;  
95  
96 8. *Further suggests* that the African Union extends the parameters of the existing Continental Early Warning  
97 System to include the realm of World Heritage and Cultural Heritage sites;  
98  
99 9. *Encourages* the use of geo-referencing techniques by Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations  
100 Space Based Platform for Disaster Management and Emergency Response, in order to help build databases and  
101 analyze archaeological heritage sites affected by the crises in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria;  
102  
103 10. *Moves* to strengthen conservation efforts through research, data collection, and monitoring at World Heritage  
104 Sites, including through the use of satellite imagery, flora and fauna distribution data, and field-based programs

- 105 when financial support is available from the World Heritage Fund, willing and able Member States, or  
106 international non-governmental organizations;  
107
- 108 11. *Firmly seeks* cooperation with international committees to provide for public safety and security during travel  
109 by welcoming the supporting medical teams from other countries and funding regional hospitals and building  
110 several tourism medical support stations;  
111
- 112 12. *Encourages* UNESCO to collaborate more closely with Member States to enhance the effort for  
113 environmentally friendly access to the heritage sites by:  
114
- 115 a. encouraging political leaders to make firm commitments to historical sites including ecotourism  
116 activity;
  - 117
  - 118 b. promoting projects to train and educate specialists on the creation of environmentally friendly  
119 infrastructure for sites;
  - 120
  - 121 c. creating and maintaining working relationships with regional and local networks at the sites;  
122
- 123 13. *Highly encourages* all Member States to support the campaigns of the United Nations World Tourism  
124 Organization's promotion of sustainable tourism as a tool to protect the cultural and natural sites in the tourism  
125 campaign;  
126
- 127 14. *Strongly endorses* cooperation between Member States and other organizations in the global community to  
128 reduce travel costs in terms of transportation in order to promote equal tourism for educational experiences and  
129 the sustainability of economic development by:  
130
- 131 a. creating regional organizations to watch over transportation prices to ensure that no Member State is at  
132 an advantage or disadvantage in terms of tourist being able to access one country but not another;  
133
  - 134 b. creating multilateral agreements between Member States to help people travel to specific World  
135 Heritage sites, similar to exchange students, in order to provide equal access to educational  
136 experiences;
  - 137
  - 138 c. requesting assistance from the International Fund for Cultural Diversity for money to cover as much of  
139 the costs of travel between Member States to foster cultural diversity and create dialogue between  
140 cultures and Member States;  
141
- 142 15. *Urges* Member States to comply with the SDGs, in particular Goal 9, which calls to build infrastructure,  
143 promote inclusiveness, and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation;  
144
- 145 16. *Invites* states to implement domestic programs such as the early education programs aimed at the elevation of  
146 pride of heritage within the community from an early age, following the examples seen in the Kyiv Initiative  
147 Regional Programme and Associated Schools Project Network in Malaysia;  
148
- 149 17. *Draws the attention* to the creation and development of local expertise on World Heritage Sites by:  
150
- 151 a. implementing education initiatives for the education of the local community;
  - 152
  - 153 b. working on building infrastructure that encourages deeper bond with sites;
  - 154
  - 155 c. encouraging more volunteers to work and train under the International Centre for the Study of the  
156 Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property;  
157
- 158 18. *Encourages* Member States to participate in an annual World Heritage conference to discuss information,  
159 projects, and endeavors regarding the preservation of World Heritage Sites that will be:  
160

- 161 a. called the Conference for the Preservation of World Heritage and Culture;  
162  
163 b. funded by the World Heritage Fund;  
164  
165 c. open to all, including experts heavily involved in World Heritage site preservation, from institutions all  
166 over the world;  
167  
168 d. used for the promotion of global cooperation for World Heritage Preservation efforts;  
169
- 170 19. *Emphasizing* the promotion and protection of tourists by enhancing local water protection and food quality in  
171 each region, making hygiene conditions acceptable to foreign visitors; the specific standard for water and food  
172 quality should follow the EPA's Water quality standard and the International Organization Standardization  
173 (ISO) for Food Quality.



**Code:** UNESCO/1/3

**Committee:** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**Topic:** World Heritage Sites: Balancing Tourism and Preservation

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1 *Recalling* the 1972 World Heritage Convention as a means of protecting and conserving natural and cultural  
2 heritage,

3  
4 *Reaffirming* the request by the 35th session of the World Heritage Committee to draft an Implementation Plan,  
5 which allows for appropriate roles, responsibilities, and accountabilities,

6  
7 *Distressed* by detrimental environmental impacts including pollution, degradation, excessive waste, water reduction,  
8 erosion, and rising destruction of heritage sites by private corporations,

9  
10 *Noting* appreciation with the effectiveness of engaging various stakeholders including government, local authorities,  
11 civil societies and the private sector into programs on tourism development,

12  
13 *Emphasizing* that sustainable tourism embraces the concept of stewardship a responsibility to care for the  
14 environment in a way that will preserve and enhance its well being for residents and its appeal for future visitors,

15  
16 *Recognizing* that the shift from carbon-emitting transportation to environmentally sustainable alternative  
17 transportation methods has occurred in developed Member States,

18  
19 *The United Nations Educational, Science and Cultural Organization,*

20  
21 1. *Encourages* private tourist corporations to establish environmentally sustainable tourist practices:

22  
23 a. T\through developing sustainable transportation that decreases fossil fuel consumption and carbon  
24 dioxide emission through the implementation of public transportation and increased accessibility of  
25 bikes, Segway, boats, etcetera;

26  
27 b. by means of reducing material waste through monthly clean up days, integrating safety measures and  
28 upgrading solid waste methods, regulating garbage collection and administering recycling programs;

29  
30 c. by regulating flash photography and restricting environmentally detrimental belongings from being  
31 brought into heritage sites, depending on the nature of the site;

32  
33 2. *Recommends* that member states implement environmentally sustainable improvements through employment  
34 and training of local communities to ultimately build nationalism and simulate the local economy by:

35  
36 a. promoting download of application upon entering site and presenting a brief presentation detailing the  
37 historical and cultural importance of heritage sites prior to entering heritage site;

38  
39 b. promoting jobs in the neighborhoods surrounding the heritage sites and regulating proper cleanup  
40 management mechanisms to remove trash and other waste from the heritage sites;

41  
42 c. establishing regional tourism study groups to increase citizen involvement and help hotels and other  
43 tourism establishments know that visitors are welcome to come for one or more sessions;

44  
45 3. *Suggest* The World Heritage Committee to create comprehensive education to tourists that provides procedures,  
46 rules and historical content through the creation of a smart phone application such that:

47  
48 a. the application will eliminate pamphlet waste and facilitate enforcement of regulations;

49

- 50           b. the application will provide guided tours with detailed introduction of procedures, rules and  
51           enforcements;  
52
- 53           c. the application will include detailed history of the site to promote tourist's respect and preservation of  
54           the site;  
55
- 56           d. the application will promote new sustainable transportation options by providing public transportation  
57           options, schedules and maps;  
58
- 59           e. the application will be sponsored by local restaurants, gift shops and hotels that are advertised on the  
60           application;  
61
- 62           f. tourists will be incentivized to download the application because of these exciting features and  
63           coupons to local businesses and neighboring world heritage sites;  
64
- 65           g. the application will be advertised on every heritage site website and tourists will be informed of the  
66           application upon arrival to historic site;  
67
- 68 4. *Proposes* that local government's tourism departments, local non-governmental organizations, civil society  
69           organizations and concession holders to use the comprehensive education techniques referenced in operative  
70           three for environmentally sustainable tourist practices to tailor the needs of each unique heritage site and  
71           institute the most effective and sustainable tourist practices;  
72
- 73 5. *Recommends* that tourist activities in developing countries should be removed from the governmental tourist  
74           sector to stimulate collaboration between the public-private sector that aligns with the UN agenda:  
75
- 76           a. which is based on detailed analysis by UNESCO to yield sustainable and consistent financial  
77           projections;  
78
- 79           b. further engaging foreign and native investment to cultivate small-scale tourism enterprises, boosting  
80           economic growth;  
81
- 82 6. *Notes with gratitude* the financial support received from developed Member States to aid developing Member  
83           states transition from environmentally deleterious transportation practices to environmentally sustainable  
84           transportation methods.





**Code:** UNESCO/1/4

**Committee:** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**Topic:** World Heritage Sites: Balancing Tourism and Preservation

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1 *Recognizing* the stress on World Heritage Sites caused by natural disasters and conflict,

2  
3 *Highlighting* the bilateral and multilateral co-operation intended to increase the expertise and technical capacities of  
4 institutions charged with the duty to manage their heritage as outlined in WHC-99/CONF.206/7 adopted by the 12th  
5 General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention,

6  
7 *Reminding the body of* Resolution 2199 condemning the destruction of Cultural Heritage Sites recently adopted by  
8 the UN Security Council as well as the recent World Heritage Committee's decision to use the latest geo-spatial  
9 technology to record and share damage done to Heritage Sites in Syria through the UN's Institute for Training and  
10 Research and the UN Operational Satellite Applications Programme,

11  
12 *Referring to* The United Nations Charter chapter VII sections 15, 16, and 17 condemning the destruction and looting  
13 of cultural heritage sites,

14  
15 *Noting* Article 5 of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, which aims "to integrate the protection of that heritage  
16 into comprehensive planning programmes" and the successes of satellites in identifying the destruction Syrian  
17 World Heritage Sites,

18  
19 *Recognizing* the success of Belgian GIS Technology and Belgian Science Policy Office in conjunction with the  
20 UNESCO World Heritage Center of finding new places to nominate and confirm as World Heritage Sites via  
21 satellite imagery,

22  
23 *Expressing* satisfaction concerning the progress that has been made within universities compiling geo-referencing  
24 techniques and information in an effort to make such information interactive, transparent and available to all  
25 Member States and their citizens as outlined in E/C.20/2015/7,

26  
27 *Affirming* the Global Strategy's goal of reflecting the full spectrum of cultural and natural treasures of the world  
28 outlined in WHC-94/CONF.003/INF.6,

29  
30 *Acknowledging* the shortcomings of current mechanisms for determining the status and specific needs and diversity  
31 of situations within Member States which necessitates differentiation in levels of endangerment,

32  
33 *Commending* the work of voluntary youth expert panels as outlined in WHC.15/39.COM/19 that discuss and  
34 recommend solutions including geo-spatial and satellite technology,

35  
36 *Recognizing* certain Member States have in the past and will continue to contribute funds to geo-spatial technology  
37 initiatives,

38  
39 *Cognizant* of the issues that certain Member States face bringing tourism into their borders to create cultural fluency  
40 among the global community,

41  
42 *The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,*

- 43  
44 1. *Invites* Member States to openly discuss creative alternatives such as the monitoring of sites in place of more  
45 traditional preservation techniques;
- 46  
47 2. *Decides* that Member States and organized interests should remain diligent managing their Sites and begin  
48 implementing satellite technologies within their own borders that have been provided and implemented by  
49 UNESCO;
- 50

- 51 3. *Recommends* Member States consent to UNESCO, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, and  
52 the United Nations Operational Satellite Applications Programme monitoring their heritage sites via satellite  
53 and geo-spatial technology through a partnership with the UN Office on Outer Space Affairs in an effort to  
54 make use of the latest technology available by:  
55
- 56 a. taking detailed satellite images of World Heritage Sites, which will allow for the identification of the  
57 causes that destroy sites and assist in the rebuilding and restoration;
  - 58
  - 59 b. monitoring potential terrorist activity at these Sites and the illegal trafficking of artifacts from World  
60 Heritage Sites;
  - 61
  - 62 c. making available the information gathered to other Member States, their academic institutions, their  
63 own citizens and the world population as a whole;
  - 64
- 65 4. *Requests* that Member States recognize and discourage the looting and theft of artifacts from Heritage Sites  
66 within their state while also openly sharing information about incidences of looting and theft within their own  
67 borders and within the borders of other Member States with other states;  
68
- 69 5. *Implores* Member States to become more active participants of planning large scale, long-term programs, such  
70 as cooperation with academic institutions, communities and other Member States to protect these sites for  
71 generations to come;  
72
- 73 6. *Reiterates* the importance of implementing satellite technology not only for monitoring current sites but to also  
74 find new sites of interest to become part of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites list and add to the world economy  
75 and global cultural heritage value;  
76
- 77 7. *Welcomes* Member States to participate in data collection and data sharing programs within their own academic  
78 institutions and that this information become available to all other Member States' academic institutions;  
79
- 80 8. *Establishes* levels of World Heritage Endangerment based on levels of danger and risk as outlined by the  
81 Operational Guidelines of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, including:  
82
- 83 a. Category 4 which is "Critically Endangered," where there is ascertained danger to a Site, significant  
84 degradation or loss of historical integrity of the Site or potential risk of further degradation;
  - 85
  - 86 b. Category 3 which is "Endangered," where there is ascertained danger to site, some degradation or loss  
87 of historical integrity of the Site or some potential risk of further degradation;
  - 88
  - 89 c. Category 2 which is "Vulnerable," where there is an absence of ascertained danger; however, the  
90 region is extremely vulnerable to natural disasters, instability or environmental concerns;
  - 91
  - 92 d. Category 1 which is "Safe," where there is an absence of ascertained danger and a relatively low risk  
93 of degradation to the Site;
  - 94
- 95 9. *Recommends* utilizing voluntary youth expert panels hosted by UNESCO in the 39<sup>th</sup> Session and in future  
96 sessions of the World Heritage Convention to address preservation, restoration and causes of degradation to  
97 World Heritage Sites;  
98
- 99 10. *Calls for* more Member States to contribute funds to the World Heritage Fund to make these projects more  
100 universal and more easily attainable;  
101
- 102 11. *Further requests* that Member States take advantage of the geo-spatial technology mentioned above to achieve  
103 sustainable tourism and cultural communication at their World Heritage Sites on a domestic level.



**Code:** UNESCO/1/5

**Committee:** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**Topic:** World Heritage Sites: Balancing Tourism and Preservation

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1 *Noting with appreciation* the success of UNESCO in preserving and protecting World Heritage Sites, including by  
2 parking with Member States for an international campaign to save the monuments of Nubia, the ruins of Mohenjo-  
3 Daro in Pakistan, and the Borobudur temple compounds in Indonesia,

4  
5 *Fully Aware* of the fact that the growth of tourism is threatening many World Heritage Sites due to high levels of  
6 visitation and the need for engagement with local populations in sharing global culture through category 2  
7 organizations such as the Nordic and African World Heritage Funds,

8  
9 *Recognizing* the efforts introduced through frameworks such as the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, the 2002  
10 Budapest Declaration on World Heritage, the Manila Declaration of World Tourism, as well as the Tourism  
11 Programme Action Plan,

12  
13 *Bearing in mind* the continued efforts necessary to protect our world's heritage sites,

14  
15 *Welcoming* the suggestion to begin a micro credit fund to sponsor education to the local communities throughout  
16 Member States by recalling the efficiency of microcredit as noted in A/RES/52/194,

17  
18 *Taking note* of the potential threat of tourism on World Heritage Sites in regards to the cultural, historical, and  
19 natural integrities outlined by A/RES/69/233 as well as A/RES/69/224,

20  
21 *Reaffirming* the importance of culture and its effects on the local communities in the region, with special emphasis  
22 on past collaborations in regards to the regional meeting of experts in Montenegro focused on "World Heritage and  
23 Sustainable Development: the Role of Local Communities,"

24  
25 *Keeping in mind* A/RES/63/308, and its assertion that the future we want is dependent upon the international  
26 community's ability to approach balancing tourism and preservation,

27  
28 *Having Considered* A/RES/34/134 concerning the convening of the World Tourism Conference in September and  
29 October 1980 at Manila by the World Tourism Organization,

30  
31 *Aware* of the important role of the 1987 Brundtland Commission, which focused on economic progress, social  
32 justice, and environmental preservation for the purpose of sustainable development,

33  
34 *Noting with Satisfaction* the positive impacts of Medical Tourism, including foreign-exchange generation of and  
35 investment in technology and equipment, development and protection of natural resources, cultural enrichment,  
36 employment generation, and cooperation between different agencies such as the United Nations Industrial  
37 Development Organization that supports capacity-building initiatives and partnerships to promote private sector  
38 development,

39  
40 *Referring to* Article 2 Section 4 of the Global Codes of Ethics for Tourism, Article 2 Section 4, which states that  
41 travel for health purposes as a particular beneficial form of tourism,

42  
43 *Considers* education to be crucial to preservation of world heritage sites as supported by A/RES/67/132 A-B,

44  
45 *Reaffirming* Article 27 of "Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage,"

46  
47 *Stressing* the desire to improve the way in which UNESCO conducts cultural exchange and education,

48  
49 *Acknowledging* the relevance of healthcare or medical care in the tourism industry,

50

51 *Emphasizing* a multifaceted approach to cultural education,  
52  
53 *United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,*  
54  
55 1. *Endorses* a three pronged approach in regards to preservation, education, and growth;  
56  
57 2. *Recognizes* the efforts introduced through frameworks such as the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, the 2002  
58 Budapest Declaration on World Heritage, the Manila Declaration of World Tourism, as well as the Tourism  
59 Programme Action Plan;  
60  
61 3. *Endorses* the creation of the Tourism Harm Reduction and Implementation of Vocational Education initiative,  
62 or THRIVE, a grassroots campaign dedicated to harmonize the effects of tourism and the environmental and  
63 cultural heritages of locations on the regional and global scale by:  
64  
65 a. supporting the sustainability of biodiversity;  
66  
67 b. adopting a socio-economic impact assessment program in tandem with the approval of tourism projects  
68 associated with World Heritage Properties;  
69  
70 c. establishing the outreach to local communities in efforts to identify the heritage sites that are under  
71 promoted;  
72  
73 d. equipping the new employees with the proper tools required to perform the task of guiding tourists,  
74 installing a boot camp training program aimed towards local residents that will:  
75  
76 i. provide financial support to new employees during the training duration so that they can  
77 support their family and themselves;  
78  
79 ii. cooperate with NGOs and enlist a volunteer team that will educate local residents looking for  
80 a job on: respecting the tourists' cultures, properly chaperoning the tourists, emergency  
81 procedures, and all of the necessary information to keep both the tourists and the environment  
82 safe;  
83  
84 e. Urging all category 2 organizations and associated Teacher Training programs to provide a focal point  
85 towards furthering cultural education;  
86  
87 f. Increasing education by creating Interdisciplinary Research Teams, with scientific and technical  
88 expertise to draw up and regularly update comprehensive inventories of the cultural heritage and  
89 national level;  
90  
91 g. Inviting all governments and NGOS to join in UNESCO's efforts by;  
92  
93 i. sponsoring and hosting fellowships and exchange programs between various member states;  
94  
95 ii. sponsoring classes and programs that educate all people on world heritage sites;  
96  
97 iii. hosting cultural events and programs at every world heritage site;  
98  
99 h. Calling for the promotion of an international tax treaty through the Organization for Economic  
100 Cooperation and Development (OECD) for the purposes of:  
101  
102 i. incentivizing developing nations to allocate tax proceeds to regional local governments for the  
103 purpose of preserving World Heritage Sites by;  
104  
105 ii. utilizing funds provided by the OECD in a tiered system to be based on those nations hosting  
106 endangered World Heritage Sites;

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- iii. employing UNESCO in the monitoring of preservation of World Heritage Sites by local-regional governments;
  - iv. revisiting the status of endangered World Heritage Sites on an international level, encouraging all OECD to hold a Sustainable Tourism Convention (SCT);
  - v. continuing to allocate OECD funds to local regional governments for the purposes of protecting World Heritage Sites;
  - i. Stresses the cooperation of various NGOs such as the Network of Asia Pacific Education and Training Institute in Tourism (APETIT) in the:
    - i. cultural training of tour guides for utilization of their expertise and sustainable methods to balance tourism and the integrity of World Heritage;
    - ii. promoting preservation with the Earthwatch Institute;
    - iii. employing the Travel Foundation in addressing sustainable tourism in business professionals so as to institutionally protect the cultural integrity of the most frequently visited World Heritage Sites;
  - 4. *Supports* enlarging the intake of volunteer expertise and creating cooperation mechanisms to associate Non-Governmental Organizations with various procedures related to the protection and effective management of industrial heritage, and when necessary, nurture volunteer resources by providing capacity-building initiatives;
  - 5. *Encourages* the establishment of a network of multidisciplinary task forces, bringing together expertise and financial strategies, investment and partnerships, to facilitate knowledge sharing in sustainable regeneration projects that are driven by rehabilitation of cultural heritage sites;
  - 6. *Requests* the expansion of global publicity of the sustainability generated by the actions of high value companies by exploring and cooperating with those that are unique and generate differentiation and add value to services in regards to medical tourism;
  - 7. *Draws* the attention of member states to promote investment in sustainable tourism to create small and medium-sized enterprises that facilitate economic growth and promote micro credit initiatives for impoverished people;
  - 8. *Recommends* that education according to “Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage” be refined;
  - 9. *Requests* that member states train teachers and dedicate more time in classes to discussions of History and Culture;
  - 10. *Encourages* the development of means to facilitate cultural education whilst protecting our world heritage sites, including:
    - a. reaffirming its belief in the education and practice of social equality in regards to the world’s heritage sites;
    - b. recognizing the expansion of opportunities and facilities for medical tourism;
    - c. requesting the involvement of all member states and medical/international NGOs in facilitating this program;
    - d. requiring the dissemination of medical tourism information at every world heritage site.



**Code:** UNESCO/1/6

**Committee:** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**Topic:** World Heritage Sites: Balancing Tourism and Preservation

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1 *Emphasizing* that world heritage is the amalgamation of all cultures together and is a large component in the  
2 development of a shared human identity as idealized in the Constitution of UNESCO, which goes to promote the  
3 development of long-term, sustainable peace,  
4

5 *Referring* to Article 11 (4) of the Convention on World Heritage Sites to prioritize various preservation mechanisms  
6 of the outstanding universal value of World Heritage Sites,  
7

8 *Remembering* that many World Heritage Sites are hard to access due to the lack of appropriate transportation  
9 infrastructure,  
10

11 *Keeping* in mind the fact that, if not properly managed, tourism may be damaging, as rapid development may cause  
12 problems such as pollution, habitat destruction, and the disturbance of isolated cultures,  
13

14 *Emphasizing* the World Tourism Organization Network's definition of sustainable tourism, which is "tourism that  
15 takes full account of its current and future economic, social, and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of  
16 visitors, the industry, the environment, and host communities,"  
17

18 *Realizing* the need for regulation and control of World Heritage Sites to lie in the hands of the local communities  
19 that preside over them as affirmed in the World Heritage Convention,  
20

21 *Taking note* of the principles stipulated in the Manila Declaration on World Tourism that assert tourism and  
22 responsible preservation are not mutually exclusive initiatives,  
23

24 *Realizing* that educating locals on methods to manage natural resources and World Heritage Sites is an essential  
25 element of UNESCO's efforts to maintain preservation,  
26

27 *Bearing* in mind that the rise in global population and tourism may lead to an overuse of resources both maritime  
28 and land-based,  
29

30 *Fully aware* that formal education plays a pivotal role in increasing awareness amongst youth in respect to  
31 sustainable management and allocation of resources,  
32

33 *Emphasizing* that the central goal of promoting preservation worldwide necessitates extensive research on  
34 innovative ways to acquire natural resources and safeguard World Heritage Sites,  
35

36 *Reaffirming* that a stable infrastructure is needed to accelerate the growth of the tourism industry in various regions,  
37

38 *Underlining* the need for transparency and trust between Member States to facilitate dialogue on an international  
39 platform,  
40

41 *The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,*  
42

- 43 1. *Encourages* local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations to partner up with  
44 local governments in the creation of sustainable programs, which educate locals on the importance of World  
45 Heritage Sites;  
46
- 47 2. *Further invites* Member States to host dialogues between the private sector, the public sector, non-governmental  
48 organization, and local people on the beneficence and importance of sustainable development and cooperation;  
49

- 50 3. *Advises* Member States to consider directing businesses to obtain Global Sustainable Tourism Council  
51 Accreditation to show their commitment to sustainable development and to promote impartiality, transparency,  
52 and competence;  
53
- 54 4. *Considers* the use of new technologies such as geospatial devices to gather necessary data on existing world  
55 Heritage Sites in an effort to further consolidate research on new ways to protect local and international  
56 resources;  
57
- 58 5. *Draws attention to* organizations that act as a conduit between past, present and future generations through  
59 actions including but not limited to the consolidation of research in the arts and sciences, preservation of  
60 languages and conservation of relics;  
61
- 62 6. *Requests* that more funds be used to improve local infrastructures by using part of tourism revenues to finance  
63 projects such as the construction of a more efficient transportation system, communication and sanitary systems  
64 in areas in crucial need of infrastructural overhaul;  
65
- 66 7. *Urges* Member States to collaborate further with UNESCO Member States, UNESCO subsidiaries, regional  
67 organizations, NGOs and local peoples to:  
68
- 69 a. create and further work toward the expansion of local, national, and regional action plans and research  
70 facilities to safeguard respective cultural histories;  
71
- 72 b. use the List of World Heritage in Danger to determine what World Heritage Sites should be prioritized  
73 should be in terms of preservation;  
74
- 75 c. work to ease travel and tourism expenditures through bilateral and multilateral agreements for citizens  
76 of the involved states;  
77
- 78 8. *Encourages* Member States to include national and world heritage in their own curriculums for the education of  
79 youth and the inspiration of preservation and sustained growth;  
80
- 81 9. *Reaffirms* the importance of global communication, advocating for multilateral partnerships between NGOs,  
82 governmental programs and UNESCO subsidiaries to facilitate the development of international exchange  
83 programs and the expansion of already existing fellowship programs;  
84
- 85 10. *Recommends tourism* revenues from World Heritage Sites to be reinvested in sustainable programs involving  
86 the preservation of world Heritage sites;  
87
- 88 11. *Calls upon* Member States to contribute aid to the World Heritage Fund for the purpose of development as each  
89 state deems necessary;  
90
- 91 12. *Recognizes* the need for neutral control of allocation of the funds by a rotating committee of Member States  
92 under the advisement of UNESCO scientist and researchers;  
93
- 94 13. *Reminds* donating Member States that donations do not warrant any control of the allocation of those funds as  
95 expressed in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.



**Code:** UNESCO/1/7

**Committee:** United Nations Organization Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**Topic:** World Heritage Sites: Balancing Tourism and Preservation

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1 *Underlining* the importance of the relationship between private concession holders and the host governments  
2 pursuant to the goals outlined in the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) A/RES/406(XIII),  
3 Article 5 in an effort to preserve World Heritage Sites,  
4

5 *Stressing* the need for protection of both natural and cultural sites and their importance to national identity as called  
6 for in the World Heritage Convention,  
7

8 *Noting* the positive role that sustainable tourism plays in promoting local-regional and international community  
9 development congruent with the Manila Declaration on World Tourism,  
10

11 *Further noting* that World Heritage Council Resolution 03 calls on Member States to “initiate and encourage  
12 bilateral and multilateral co-operation with States Parties,”  
13

14 *Emphasizing* the importance of dialogue between the public and private sector as well as partnership, which can  
15 provide strong, cohesive international and regional frameworks, such as the World Heritage Framework, to promote  
16 sustainable tourism that is beneficial to all sectors of society,  
17

18 *Stressing* the importance of programs like the Jasper Aboriginal Forum which connect through dialogue indigenous  
19 people with the state, to advocate for better World Heritage preservation,  
20

21 *Recognizing* the efforts put forth by domestic government bodies in establishing legal protections and financial or  
22 other assistance to the protection of the sites such as passage of laws recognizing and protecting national monuments  
23 or designating properties to have significant cultural purposes,  
24

25 *Noting* the UNESCO 37 C/5 and 37 C/4 documents that establish the medium and long-term strategies of the  
26 organization and strive to plan holistic long-term work on cultural heritage Sites,  
27

28 *Recalling* the Product and Environmental Management System (PMZ), an organization that helps reduce the impacts  
29 on the environment,  
30

31 *Recognizing* the corporate social responsibility (CSR) that has foundational economic, social, and cultural pillars to  
32 achieve sustainability, which is reflected in the tourism sector,  
33

34 *Reaffirming* the three modes of analysis prescribed by the United Nations World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism  
35 Programme (WH+ST) as effective models for obtaining and interpreting tourism data,  
36

37 *Reiterating* the importance for the application of universal standards of sustainable tourism while recognizing local  
38 context and individual requirements, as recommended by the WH+ST subsection D,  
39

40 *Acknowledging the* financial burden associated with addressing the preservation of World Heritage Sites,  
41

42 *The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,*  
43

44 1. *Requests* the United Nations Global Compact to establish a public database of voluntarily submitted reports  
45 from private entities that wish to engage in public private partnerships (PPP) with host governments cooperating  
46 to preserve World Heritage Sites by:

- 47  
48 a. suggesting database participation resulting in UNESCO Certified World Heritage Partner (CWHP)  
49 status;  
50



- 51 b. urging prospective concession-holders to present a comprehensive application consisting of, but not  
52 limited to:  
53
- 54 i. a written statement of purpose to protect the cultural, historical, and natural integrity of the  
55 Heritage Site in question and a commitment to provide a minimum 4% of gross profit generated  
56 from Sites to their respective host governments for the express purpose of Site preservation;  
57
- 58 ii. projected earnings from the acquisition of the Heritage Site in question;  
59
- 60 iii. supporting documentation or account of cultural and material benefit to the surrounding  
61 community;  
62
- 63 c. supports the preliminary sponsorship of World Heritage Sites by those concession holders who stand to  
64 be monetary benefactors of the prospective Sites in question for the purposes of:  
65
- 66 i. encouraging private organizations to work with endangered and nominated World Heritage Sites  
67 to assist in getting those nominated Sites to the point of addition on the UNESCO World Heritage  
68 List;  
69
- 70 ii. establishing a cooperative relationship between local-regional governments in ensuring that World  
71 Heritage Sites are protected in a manner that is both sustainable and responsive to the needs of  
72 those surrounding communities;  
73
- 74 iii. providing concession-holders with the benefit of a 1% deduction in the financial commitment as  
75 noted in section (a) subsection (i);  
76
- 77 2. *Strongly urges* continental and regional governance organizations such as the organization of The African  
78 Union, ASEAN, The European Union, The League of Arab States, MERCOSUR, The Organization of  
79 American States, and other regional economic commissions to lead Member States of their region in upholding  
80 these sustainable tourism guidelines by:  
81
- 82 a. ensuring maximum participation at the regional level;  
83
- 84 b. recommending the creation of a Regional Monitoring Apparatus (RMA) of which the chairmanship  
85 will rotate between Member States in each region;  
86
- 87 c. designating that as a collaborative effort between Regional Organizations and UNESCO, the RMA will  
88 ensure that Member States are given an international framework for implementing sustainable tourism  
89 guidelines;  
90
- 91 3. *Endorses* the establishment of waste management systems through public-private partnership in Member States  
92 with World Heritage Sites for the purpose of decreasing damages that have been imposed on buildings and  
93 sites;  
94
- 95 4. *Requests* that each Member State develop an action plan specific to their local context and individual needs to  
96 be submitted to their Regional Monitoring Apparatus, which shall:  
97
- 98 a. call upon Member States to be consistent with the guidelines for sustainable tourism outlined in  
99 Sustainable Tourism Development Guidebook, developed by the UNWTO;  
100
- 101 b. urge the development of national policies for sustainable tourism both in rural and urban environments;  
102
- 103 c. emphasize advocacy for the needs of indigenous peoples in accordance to United Nations Declaration  
104 of the Right of Indigenous People and the Declaration of the Right of Persons Belonging to National or  
105 Ethnic Religious and Linguistic Minorities;  
106

- 107 d. express the Member States' environmental preservation policies for Heritage Sites;  
108  
109
- 110 5. *Strongly Encourages* Member States and their constituent governing agencies to establish dialogues and  
111 interactions with local and indigenous people for the purposes of gathering more and better information on  
112 preservation and conservation methods through improved forums and dialogues;  
113
- 114 6. *Recommends* that UNESCO collaborates with Category II Centers to create a data sharing and measurement  
115 system of Periodic Reporting (PR), State of Conservation and Reporting (SoC), and Reactive Monitoring (RM)  
116 by:  
117
- 118 a. employing UNESCO officials in the immersion training of qualifying concession-holders, as per the  
119 initiative set by the UNESCO Beirut office and endorsed by Lebanon;  
120
- 121 b. encouraging agents of concession holders to pursue cultural protection of the World Heritage Sites that  
122 they are responsible for;  
123
- 124 7. *Encourages* the establishment of research networks between Universities, anthropological facilities, and cultural  
125 foundations in order to exchange ideas, research and preservation practices including information on how to  
126 preserve sites, their significance, systems of sustainability and the global importance of sites in addition to  
127 tourism practices;  
128
- 129 8. *Recommends* the expansion of a new system of provisional funding that mirrors International Assistance  
130 Request but will be implemented to provide smaller amounts of more flexible assistance for sites with acute  
131 instead of chronic challenges;  
132
- 133 9. *Recommends* the implementation of a Product and Environmental Management System (PMZ) primarily used  
134 by the Netherlands, where tourism organizations self-regulate and reduce the impact of their activities on the  
135 environment; pragmatic measure that guides tour operators towards a sustainable future and to oblige them to  
136 take their responsibilities on travel packages, travel, accommodation, and entertainment;  
137
- 138 10. *Endorses* utilization of the New Development Bank, with the full support of Brazil, the Russian Federation,  
139 India, China, and South Africa (BRICS), for the disbursement of interest free loans to cover the costs incurred  
140 by Member States when implementing their action plans, as outlined in above operative clauses;  
141
- 142 11. *Further recommends* the expansion of the UNESCO Fellowship Program to incorporate new extra-budgetary  
143 programs that focus on sites known to effectively manage high volumes of tourism, for the hope of gathering  
144 more information on the affective balance between tourism and preservation.