

AUSTRALIA

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 1974

Organisation submitting the report

- Environment Australia
GPO Box 787
Canberra, ACT 2601
Australia

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- The Register of the National Estate was established by the Australian Heritage Commission Act (1975) and is administered by the Australian Heritage Commission.
- In 2002, “more than 12,000 places of natural, historic and indigenous significance” have been listed, ranging from local to national importance.
- Following 4 years of extensive consultation, new heritage legislation has been developed which will amend Australia’s Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC) to establish a list of places of outstanding national heritage value and a list of Commonwealth places with heritage values. The Register of the National Estate will be maintained as a publicly accessible database of Australia’s natural and cultural heritage places.
- Emergency listing provisions have been included in the new system.
- A continent-wide assessment for sites of high-level significance for the evolution of eucalypts is underway.
- The Heritage Management Branch of Environment Australia maintains the list of Australia’s 14 WH properties.
- Each State and Territory of Australia has legislation which provides for the listing of natural and cultural heritage sites, as well as indigenous places.
- “Many Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander organizations also keep lists of important sites or significant sites to help ensure their protection. Given the sensitivity of cultural information, most of these lists are not publicly available.”

The preparation of a Tentative List

- “Australia’s Tentative List is determined by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage in accordance with formal heritage policy commitments of the government. The Commonwealth Government announces publicly its intention to nominate particular areas or sites.”

Nominations and the nomination process

- All 14 properties nominated by Australia to the WH Committee have been inscribed on the WH List.
- 1981 3 nominations (inscribed)
 - (a) Great Barrier Reef
 - (b) Kakadu National Park (1987, 1992)
 - (c) Willandra Lakes Region
- 1982 2 nominations (inscribed)
 - (a) Tasmanian Wilderness (extended 1989)
 - (b) Lord Howe Island Group
- 1986 Central Eastern Rainforest Reserves (inscribed, extended 1994)
- 1987 Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park (inscribed, cultural values 1994)
- 1988 Wet Tropics of Queensland (inscribed)
- 1991 Shark Bay, Western Australia (inscribed)
- 1992 Fraser Island (inscribed)
- 1994 Australian Fossil Mammals – Riversleigh / Naracoote (inscribed)
- 1997 2 nominations (inscribed)
 - (a) Heard & McDonald Islands
 - (b) Macquarie Island
- 2000 Greater Blue Mountains (inscribed)
- Nominations in process include Purnululu National Park (for Committee consideration in 2003) and the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens, Melbourne (to be considered in 2004). An assessment and nomination of a serial listing of Aboriginal rock art may proceed subject to consultations with Traditional Owners and other stakeholders.
- Challenges to a Rock Art nomination include: (i) “insufficient comparative analysis currently available at a global level... especially indigenous heritage”; (ii) the need to negotiate agreements between main stakeholders; and (iii) need to ensure adequate representation of Australia’s natural and cultural heritage.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- The Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC) came into force in 2000 and guarantees “up-front protection and improved management” for WH properties. The Act replaces the World Heritage Properties Conservation Act 1983 (WHPC).

- An action that will or is likely to have a significant impact on the WH values of a declared WH property is subject to a rigorous environmental assessment and approval regime under the EPBC Act. Significant penalties apply under this Act.
- The WHPC Act was the “first specific national legislation for the protection of World Heritage enacted by a State Party to the WH Convention”.
- The WHPC Act enabled Australia to make regulations to protect its WH Properties from threatening actions. “The legislation, in effect, operated as a last resort mechanism for stopping specified actions.”
- The EPBC Act amalgamated the following Commonwealth statutes: (i) Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act (1974); (ii) Endangered Species Protection Act (1992); (iii) National Parks & Wildlife Conservation Act (1975); (iv) WH Properties Conservation Act (1983); and (v) the Whale Protection Act (1980).
- The Minister of the Environment has the authority to accredit management plans for WH properties. It is noted that “separate approval under the EPBC Act is not required if a proposed action is to be taken in accordance with an accredited management plan.”
- “WH issues are taken into account by the Australian Government in national planning processes. They are also incorporated within regional planning processes such as the Commonwealth-State Comprehensive Regional Assessment-Regional Forest Agreement processes applied to native forests; and State regional planning exercises, such as FNQ2000 in Queensland.”
- Property-specific legislation includes: (i) the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act (1975); and (ii) the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area Conservation Act (1994).

Participation of local communities

- The EPBC Act (1999) “preserves the joint management arrangements that exist with Traditional Owners at Kakadu and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Parks. The Traditional Owners continue to constitute a majority of the Boards of Management.”
- Nearly all WH properties have “property-specific committees” for community and NGO input, private sector & scientific advice for building links with stakeholders and specialist expertise. It is noted that it is “necessary to ensure appropriate consultative mechanisms are in place to respect the views of Indigenous people in relation to knowledge of sacred sites, ceremonies, and other cultural aspects remaining exclusively within their domain rather than being published in a nomination document.”

Tourism Development

- “Managing agencies for the individual WH properties produce published material such as brochures, maps and other interpretive material specific to the property for which they are responsible.”

Financial measures and budget allowance

- Between 1995-2002, the Australian government “invested almost AUD\$ 500,000,000 (US\$ 305 million) in meeting its international obligations for World Heritage areas within Australia”.
- Federal government funding for WH is provided through the Natural Heritage Trust. “The period of the Trust has recently been extended and an additional AUD\$ 1 billion (US\$ 610 million) has been provided to fund the delivery of its objectives.”
- State governments also contribute significantly with responsibility for the day-to-day management of 11 of Australia’s 14 WH properties.
- * International Assistance from WHF as follows:

2001	\$30,000 Technical Co-operation for Revised Operational Guidelines drafting group Meeting
2003	\$20,000 Training, participation of site managers to International Ranger Federation 4 th World Congress

Professional

- The Heritage Division of Environment Australia (with a ‘Heritage Assessment’ and ‘Heritage Management’ Branch) is responsible for the overall national overview & coordination of Australia’s obligations under the WH Convention.
- About 98 personnel staff work in the Heritage Division, which also includes staff supporting the Australian Heritage Commission.
- The Heritage Management Branch of EA has held 2-day workshops for WH property managers roughly every 1-2 years since 1993 (8 workshops listed).
- Commonwealth and State government agencies with responsibility for managing WH properties employ in total several thousand staff.

New and improved services

- Between 1995-96, a Commonwealth parliamentary committee, the ‘House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment, Recreation and the Arts’ conducted a public inquiry into the management arrangements for inscribed WH Areas in Australia.

Issues to be addressed

- Key national priorities for development through the next six-year periodic reporting cycle include: (i) the ongoing development of management plans that are consistent with the Convention and with Australia’s World Heritage Management Principles; (ii) enhanced participation of Indigenous peoples in the management of World Heritage properties; (iii) the continued development of secure and well directed funding arrangements that develop partnerships

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

between communities, landholders, industry and Governments; (iv) the further development of monitoring and reporting processes in the light of the outcomes of the Asia Pacific Region Periodic Reporting process; (v) encouragement of partnerships toward economically and ecologically sustainable enterprises and employment, particularly in tourism; (vi) the continued development of the Asia Pacific Focal Point, in co-operation with the region, to enhance its contribution to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- The Asia-Pacific Focal Point for WH (APFP) is a regional network for WH Managers, established to share experience, knowledge & resources between countries in the region. The APFP helps Asia-Pacific countries adopt and meet their obligations under the World Heritage Convention and ensure best practice management of their WH sites.
- An MoU on cooperation regarding World Heritage in the Asia-Pacific region was signed by Australia and UNESCO in May 2002. The MoU facilitates mutual arrangements between APFP and UNESCO's WH Centre and regional field offices for effective co-operation and prioritisation of Australia's contribution to regional coordination in WH matters.
- A list of 18 activities recently carried out by the APFP was presented including: (i) support for WH awareness raising and capacity building activities in the Pacific, including assistance to the Levuka Heritage Awareness Programme in Fiji and a Heritage Conservation, Cultural Tourism and Local Community Development project in Vanuatu, and secondment of expert staff to support World Heritage Activities in Western Samoa, (ii) implementation of \$250,000 project with Lorentz National Park, Indonesia, (iii) the creation of a website & a newsletter; (iv) support for workshops in Indonesia, Laos & New Zealand; (v) support for indigenous representation from Australia & Pacific Island states in WH meetings; (vi) support for publications; and (vii) funding to bilateral aid projects in the Pacific.

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- The Commonwealth government has worked with State & Territory education networks in promoting World Heritage education in schools, including a 'WH Youth Forum' in conjunction with the WH Committee meeting in Cairns, 2000.
- Numerous tertiary courses in law, archaeology, geography & environmental studies include a "World Heritage element".

- "NGOs have made substantial contributions towards the identification and management of Australia's WH properties".

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- Under the EPBC Act (1999) the Australian Minister for the Environment had made decisions relating to 82 proposed actions concerning WH protection as at June 2002, while "there were only six uses of the regulatory provisions of the WHPC Act in the course of the sixteen years of its operation."
- Under the MoU signed with UNESCO in May 2002, Australia has agreed to assist State Parties in the Asia-Pacific region to: (i) implement the WH Convention; (ii) promote best practice in management of WH properties; (iii) facilitate requests for international assistance for submission to bilateral & multilateral cooperation agencies; (iv) identify and secure funding for WH activities; and (v) share information & exchange views on management issues, including through the use of the internet.
- To achieve continuous improvement in WH management, Australia "will engage with property managers, expert bodies, technical committees and community consultative committees along with Australian chapters of the advisory bodies to identify practical, achievable and realistic recommendations for future action on a national basis."

FIJI

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 1990

Organisation submitting the report

- National Trust for Fiji (NTF)

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

- The status of national inventories.
- The Legislation to create a National Heritage Register was passed in 1998. The National Trust of Fiji is currently putting this Register together.
- The Fiji National Biodiversity and Action Plan endorsed by the Cabinet in 2003 lists sites of natural significance in Fiji.
- The Fiji Museum keeps a Register of Historical Sites in Fiji.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- * 4 sites included in the Tentative List.
- The Ministry of Environment chaired the selection and study of Fiji's four sites to the Tentative List via a Fiji Heritage Committee in 1997. The Cabinet endorsed this list in 1998.

Nominations and the nomination process

- Of the 4 sites on the Tentative List, the Fiji Heritage Committee, following the Third Global Strategy Meeting for the Pacific held in Fiji in 1997, chose Levuka as the first site.
- Application to the Preparatory Assistance Grant was first submitted in 2000 and the preparatory process for nomination of Levuka is currently underway.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- There are four key heritage management agencies: the Fiji Arts Council, the Fiji Museum, the National Trust for Fiji and the National Archives.
- Support to WH covered under the National Development Strategic Plan.
- Fiji's National Heritage Policy, 1996.
- Proposed Cultural Heritage Legislation.
- There is no specific legislation for the protection of World Heritage sites in Fiji.
- A new Department of Culture and Heritage was established in 2000. This Department will be responsible for reviewing heritage legislation in Fiji.

- Support to WH was recently included as a key activity by the Department in the Fiji Government Strategic Development Plan 2003-2005.
- Fiji's National Heritage Policy of 1996 supported World Heritage.

Participation of local communities

- Community involvement in WH in Fiji has been mainly limited to Levuka. This has been through presentations to local provincial meetings, various stakeholder workshops and site specific committees. Linkage to other stakeholder groups and agencies has been spontaneous and short-term.
- It is now widely accepted that local ownership, acceptance and understanding of WH is crucial to local support for the process. Future proposals have been developed with this in mind.

Tourism Development

- Tourism support via national agencies to sites on the Tentative List is minimal and mainly through the Fiji Visitors Bureau website and brochures. National focus on these sites is not considered a priority.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- The National Trust receives no financial grant from Government for WH work.
- Between 1998 – 2002, the Trust received US\$12,000 from the WHC to conduct research, awareness and workshops for World Heritage awareness.
- In 2002 the Trust received US\$2,500 from the APFP for WH for awareness work.

Professional

- Director, NTF and Fiji Museum (FM)
- Cultural Heritage Officer
- Historical Archaeologist, FM
- Archaeologist, FM
- The National Trust of Fiji creates links between communities and the professional sector on heritage management issues.
- The Fiji Museum is the national authority on archaeological site research and collections.
- Other Government organisations, statutory authorities and NGOs provide specialist training and support.

New and improved services

- The Department of Culture and Heritage is the newly created Government Department that forms the link between the sector and government and will be instrumental in achieving adequate heritage legislation for Fiji.
- The Department is also working closely with the National Trust to reactivate the World Heritage Advisory Committee for Fiji.

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Issues to be addressed

- Review the Tentative List.
- To continue with the nomination of Levuka to the World Heritage List the community problems related to an acceptance and a definition of Levuka's heritage, and the boundaries in question be addressed. This is compounded by a lack of activity at government and policy level. Therefore, whether it is Levuka or an other site, the government/policy input is an essential ingredient.
- Fiji's obligations to the Convention should be identified in the National Planning Strategic Plan (this was a recent event of 2003) and through some form of legislation or policy. This will justify Government Budgetary expenditure needed to support the requirements of potential listed areas and encourage co-operation between relevant government departments and the private sector. It is considered that the lack of adequate legislation forms a poor basis to any management plans for a site and will not strengthen a nomination document.
- "The need for all parties impacted by the decision to nominate the site to the World Heritage List cannot be overemphasized. Understanding the value of the Convention, and the meaning, impacts and implications of World Heritage Listing is important to the acceptance and support from all stakeholders. Besides, the high percent of land under customary ownership demands a process of consultation with traditional owners for access to, use of, and knowledge of local traditions and customs".

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- Two prepared project proposals seek financial assistance from WHC.
- One proposal sent to the APFP.
- * International Assistance from WHF as follows:

1996	\$29,000	Training; Workshop on Pacific WH properties
1999	\$13,800	Preparatory Assistance for stakeholders meeting on nomination of CH and NH
2003	\$20,000	Preparatory Assistance for nomination of Levuka

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- * Fiji Museum has an Education Programme.
- Understanding Heritage, Workshop, April 2002.
- * 3 Stakeholders workshops, 1999.
- * WH Global Strategy workshop, 1997.
- Understanding Heritage, Workshop, April 2002.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- The government should nominate a World Heritage Committee (TOR to be identified) represented by the following: the Department of Culture and Heritage (possible Chair), the National Trust (possible Secretariat), the UNESCO Commission Secretariat, the Fiji Museum, NLTB, FAB, Tourism, National Planning, DOE, Town and Country Planning, and two NGO representatives. The first role of this committee should be to conduct a thorough stakeholder convention to reiterate the government's and the people's commitments to the Convention, review the current tentative list, and develop policy outlines for the government. A detailed proposal was written by the Trust and submitted to the World Heritage Centre in March 2003.
- A policy or legislation needs to be developed to govern the protection of specific World Heritage Sites. This could be a new policy, strengthening of the National Trust Act, or part of a new Heritage Act for Fiji. This should include regulations for the protection and management of such sites and be linked with other specific pieces of legislation such as the Forestry and Fisheries Acts. This legislation should also ensure community ownership and management rights are protected.
- The responsibility for the selection of sites to the tentative list should be designated to a particular Ministry, Department and/or agency. The Minister should then take responsibility to review and accredit management plans for sites, ensure they are included in the Government's national planning process, the regional development plans and the national budget.
- The comparative analysis study of Levuka to justify its inclusion to the World Heritage List is necessary to support its application. Taking into account the fact that intermittent progress has been made in Levuka, it is crucial for this study to be carried out despite the fact that stakeholder consultations may not result in a support for the inclusion of Levuka in the Tentative List. A proposal regarding this has been written by the Trust, and consultants for the study selected.

KIRIBATI

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2000

Organisation submitting the report

- Ministry of Environment and Social Development.
- Ministry of Education, Training and Technology.

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- This is an ongoing activity yet to be completed.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- A Tentative List has been prepared and approved by the Government.

Nominations and the nomination process

- No nominations have yet been prepared.
- Line Islands Project includes some potential sites.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- Environment Act 1999.
- Fisheries Ordinance 1979 amended in 1983.
- Wildlife Conservation Ordinance 1975.
- Closed District Ordinance 1936.
- Co-operation between Ministry of Works and the Cultural Centre.

Participation of local communities

- Local communities are involved in conservation activities.

Tourism Development

- No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- Culture and environment have special budget.

Professional

- No information provided.

New and improved services

- A 10 years programme has been developed to address cultural and environmental conservation issues at a national level.
- Kiribati Ministry Board meets twice a year.

Issues to be addressed

- There is a lack of expertise (no archaeologist, anthropologist, environmental specialist and oral historian).
- Training needed in cultural and natural heritage.
- Public awareness of cultural and natural heritage needs to be increased.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- The Japanese Government funded the preparation of relics and sites.
- * International Assistance from WHF: none.

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- This has been addressed in the 10 years programme.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- There is an urgent need of assistance to promote the Millennium Island. In this regard, Kiribati will seek support from UNESCO and other regional countries in promoting Millennium Island as one of the cultural and natural sites in the Pacific.
- Assistance required from UNESCO and other donor agencies to prepare Tentative List and inventories of all natural and cultural sites.
- Following the Capacity Building workshop at Apia, Samoa, February 2003, a regional follow up workshop has been proposed.

MARSHALL ISLANDS

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2002

Organisation submitting the report

- Alele Museum, National Library and Archives, P.O. Box 629, Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960.

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- Under consideration.
- National Register, for Historical / Cultural Sites: ongoing.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- No Tentative List.

Nominations and the nomination process

- No information provided.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- Historic Preservation Legislation, 1991.
- National Archives Act.
- Language Commission Act.
- EPA Act – 1984.
- UES - USAKA Environmental Standards.
- MIVA - Marshall Islands Visitors Authority Act.

Participation of local communities

- Pending Tentative List preparation.
- Tourism Development.
- Pending Tentative List preparation.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- Insufficient financial resources.

Professional

- Professional – Locally available.

New and improved services

- No information provided.

Issues to be addressed

- * There is a need for resources for capacity building and awareness.
- Inventory of sites (historical/cultural); natural history and research.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- No information provided.
- * International Assistance from WHF: none.

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- Company Newsletter.
- Weekly Radio / TV Programmes.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- No information provided.

MICRONESIA (FEDERATED STATES OF)

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2002

Organisation submitting the report

- Archives and Historic Preservation,
P.O. Box PS70,
Palikir,
Pohnpei FSM 96941
Micronesia

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- Ongoing.
- Cultural resources survey begun in 1998.
- Each State is responsible for the inventory of its resources.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- No Tentative List.

Nominations and the nomination process

- No sites in the World Heritage List.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- The FSM National Code covers cultural and environmental protection.
- Each State has a Historic Preservation Board.

Participation of local communities

- No information provided.

Tourism Development

- No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- None. Locally generated funds are allocated to maintaining essential services.

Professional

- Insufficient.

New and improved services

- Formation of the World Heritage Committee is in progress.

Issues to be addressed

- Need of skilled staff and of funds.
- Need of technical assistance from the international community.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- Japan is likely to provide some technical assistance.
- * International Assistance from WHF: none.

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- Local media and Discovery Channel programs.
- Newsletter in progress.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- No information provided.

NEW ZEALAND

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 1984

Organisation submitting the report

- Department of Conservation - Te Papa Atawhai (DoC)

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- “The Department of Conservation is currently reviewing its procedures for involving the community in the identification of sites for inclusion in New Zealand’s ‘National Inventory’ and ‘Tentative World Heritage List’. The current focus of this work is to establish processes to involve the indigenous Maori community.”
- The DoC’s responsibilities are described in its Maori name - Te Papa Atawhai; “Te Papa signifies a box or container (for the *taonga* or treasures) and Atawhai the act of caring, nurturing or preserving”.
- The DoC acknowledges & encourages “the contributing roles of other government and non-government agencies and of individuals in assisting New Zealand to be an effective State Party to the World Heritage Convention.”

The preparation of a Tentative List

- Based on attempts to develop inventories for wetlands of international significance, the finalisation of the inventory and WH Tentative List has been deferred until the appropriate “community consultation processes have been developed”.

Nominations and the nomination process

- 1986 Westland and Mount Cook; Fiordland National Parks (inscribed)
- 1990 Te Wahipounamu – South West New Zealand (expanded and renamed to include Westland, Mount Cook, Fiordland and Mount Aspiring National Parks)
- 1990 Tongariro National Park (inscribed, extended in 1993)
- 1998 New Zealand’s sub-Antarctic Islands (inscribed)

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- It is noted that “management of WH sites and work in support of the Convention is undertaken within other duties and is not resourced separately from them.”
- “In 2001, the Department allocated the co-ordination of WH site management to its Southern Regional General Manager. This move was intended to increase the level of consistency of policy applied to these sites and to create a greater sense of their identity as WH properties.”
- The principal laws concerning New Zealand’s national heritage are the: (i) Conservation Act; (ii) National Parks Act; (iii) Reserves Act & Wildlife Act (administered by the Minister of Conservation); (iv) Historic Places Act (administered through the Historic Places Trust by the Minister for Culture & Heritage); and (v) the Resource Management Act (administered by the Minister for the Environment). * No dates provided.
- The DoC also has a number of other planning tools & management principles including a: (i) biodiversity strategy; (ii) visitor strategy; and (iii) historic heritage strategy.

Participation of local communities

- “Opportunities are being explored for increasing the involvement of Maori, as New Zealand’s indigenous community, in the co-operative management of the WH sites with which they have a particular ancestral association. This work has led to the proposal for a WH Indigenous People’s Council of Experts. This proposal has not been accepted by the WH Committee but New Zealand continues to work with other interested countries to develop and apply its principles.”
- Community involvement is also promoted through: (i) local conservation boards; (ii) volunteer programmes; (iii) NGOs; and (iv) other agencies including IUCN-NZ; ICOMOS-NZ; UNESCO National Commission; NZ Archaeological Association; NZ Historic Places Trust; and the Royal NZ Forest & Bird Protection Society.

Tourism Development

- Visitor centres at Whakapapa (Tongariro NP) & Haast (Te Wahipounamu) provide visitors with “attractively-presented information on the outstanding significance of WH properties”.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- No figures supplied.
- The private sector sponsors a number of conservation projects, either directly or indirectly through the 'Threatened Species Trust' & 'National Parks & Conservation Foundation'.
- * International Assistance from WHF as follows:
1998 \$4,000 Promotional Assistance for photographic exhibition on WH properties
2000 \$20,000 Training for 3rd meeting of regional network management of WH in Southeast Asia and Pacific

Professional

- The DoC "provides protection, conservation & presentation services from within its national and regional conservancy structure of 1,400 staff."
- Government & specialist institutions provide training opportunities for staff and members of community groups. The DoC also works with an external training organisation to provide general instruction for novice rangers.

New and improved services

- New Zealand is now "forming an inter-agency liaison committee to facilitate effective involvement of agencies beyond the State Party representative in the work of the Convention."

Issues to be addressed

- "The timeframe for developing a national inventory & indicative list will be dependent on the progress made in gaining the acceptance and participation by Maori and other key sectors of the community."

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- In October 2000, the DoC hosted & facilitated the UNESCO WH Managers' workshop for the Asia-Pacific region held in Tongariro National Park.
- The NZ Overseas Development Assistance (now NZAID) programme has funded a WH officer at the UNESCO Office for the Pacific in Apia.

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- The NZ National Commission for UNESCO has developed an internet-based addition to UNESCO's WH Education kit, as well as co-ordinating a Pacific addition which will involve input from Australia, Fiji, Samoa & the Solomon Islands.

- The Min. of Education has funded the 'LEARNZ' computer-based, interactive education programme for NZ schools, which included popular modules on Te Wahipounamu & Tongariro WH sites.
- The DoC maintains a website that provides a ready source of information on the WH Convention & New Zealand's WH sites. It also provides internet links to the WH Centre & other key websites in the region.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- New Zealand is planning further work in the following areas to: (i) identify greater opportunities for using the WH properties to convey key conservation messages & to promote the WH Convention; (ii) involve the community & key stakeholder groups in the identification of sites to be included on the Tentative List; (iii) explore ways of assisting neighbouring Pacific island countries to participate in the WH Convention; (iv) develop further, with interested states parties, means of allowing a greater involvement of indigenous peoples in the management of their traditional cultural heritage (including support to staff to gain experience in working with indigenous peoples in WH sites in other countries); and (v) stand for election in 2003 to the WH Committee.
- A Memorandum of Understanding between UNESCO and New Zealand was signed in April 2003. The MoU focuses on the implementation of the WH Convention in the Asia-Pacific region, with particular emphasis on the Pacific sub-region. To ensure the effective safeguarding and sustainable use of cultural & natural heritage, the Government of New Zealand and UNESCO will work co-operatively to promote the Global Strategy for a balanced & representative WH List; and improve the management of cultural and natural WH properties in the Asia-Pacific region. For this purpose the NZ Government will work in co-operation with WHC & UNESCO's Field Units in the Asia-Pacific region, and the Asia-Pacific Focal Point for WH Managers.

NIUE ISLAND

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2001

Organisation submitting the report

- The Huanaki Cultural Centre and Museum under the Department of Community Affairs.

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- This is an ongoing activity and yet to be completed.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- Tentative List has not been prepared yet and requires training.

Nominations and the nomination process

- No nominations but foreseen nominations for both natural and cultural significance.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- World Heritage Convention is considered to be covered by the Cultural Council Act 1986.
- National Committee for World Heritage is under consideration.
- Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Department has the legislation for the Terrestrial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act 1997.
- The Land Ordinance 1969 gives the government rights to protect natural and cultural areas.

Participation of local communities

- "Communities are very protective of their inherited traditional artefacts as well as practices and land rights".
- The Environment Section of Community Affairs is active in the promotion and conservation of the environment.
- The Village Council Ordinance 1967 gives the villages responsibilities in the protection of natural and cultural sites.

Tourism Development

- No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- No figures supplied.

Professional

- A list of scientific and technical research papers have been provided.

New and improved services

- Different departments have developed their own policies that relate to some of the objectives in protection and conservation and identification of sites.
- The Environmental Bill is being reviewed.
- The Forestry National Policy will be completed by the end of the year.

Issues to be addressed

- There is a need of awareness concerning World Heritage Convention at all levels of the Government.
- Lack of trained and/or technical staff.
- Training in natural and cultural conservation is required.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- No information provided.
- * International Assistance from WHF as follows:
2003 \$20,000 Preparatory Assistance for Tentative List workshop

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- The Environment Department has conducted some awareness programmes on conservation.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- There is a lack of expertise and funds to implement conservation programmes. In this regard, Niue Island intends to submit a proposal to UNESCO for assistance for education and awareness programmes.
- Awareness among government officials, departments and NGOs required.

PALAU

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2002

Organisation submitting the report

- Palau National Commission for UNESCO.

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- A national inventory of cultural and historical heritage is under preparation.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- A Tentative List has not yet been prepared.

Nominations and the nomination process

- No nominations have yet been prepared.

1.3. Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- Ministry of Resources and Development.
- Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs.
- The Palau National Code addresses cultural and natural resource protection.
- A Palau Committee for World Heritage is being organized. The proposed functions of this Committee are: (i) to formulate priorities regarding the planning implementation, maintenance, development and sustainability of heritage conservation; (ii) to seek ways and means of obtaining financial support; (iii) to ensure relevant and correct information is made available and accessible; (iv) to negotiate with affected parties; (v) to assist and encourage ongoing awareness programmes on the importance of World Heritage sites; (vi) to encourage and assist on matters for research of heritage conservation.

Participation of local communities

- The traditional Council of Chiefs and Traditional Council of Women are to be included in the Palau World Heritage Committee.

Tourism Development

- No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- Financial support will be discussed by the Palau Committee for World Heritage.

Professional

- No information provided.

New and improved services

- The Palau National Commission for UNESCO will organize the meeting of the Palau Committee for World Heritage to formulate issues regarding heritage conservation.

Issues to be addressed

- Need of training in the conservation of natural and cultural heritage.
- Need of financial support from the World Heritage Centre.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- No information provided.
- * International Assistance from WHF: none.

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- Some agencies publish newsletters, which can be used for World Heritage information. There is a proposal for the use of media in information dissemination.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- Palau has begun a work programme dealing with preservation and conservation of cultural and natural heritage sites under Palau laws or regulations.
- There is a need of assistance from the Centre in planning, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of potential sites as well as for training and public awareness activities.
- Partnerships with other Pacific Island States will be developed to share expertise and seek support from relevant regional bodies.
- Palau Committee on WHC will have to be actively involved in the decision-making process pertaining to nominations, evaluation of possible sites to be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

1.1. Introduction

Year of ratification 1997

Organisation submitting the report

- No report has been submitted.

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- No information provided.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- * Draft TL received.

Nominations and the nomination process

- * Draft nominations of Kuk & Bogongara received.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- National Cultural Property Preservation Act, 1975.

Participation of local communities

- No information provided.

Tourism Development

- No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- * Application for Preparatory Assistance for phase 2 of Kuk nomination received.

Professional

- * Research undertaken.
- * Training facilities for conservation and management do not exist.

New and improved services

- * The Papua New Guinea World Heritage Properties Act is underway.

Issues to be addressed

- * Need of financial assistance from UNESCO for identification, preparation of WH nomination and site conservation.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- * International Assistance from WHF as follows:
1999 \$15,000 Preparatory Assistance for workshop on identification and nomination of potential WH properties
2000 \$30,000 Preparatory Assistance for nomination of Bobongara, Huon Peninsula
2003 \$18,000 Preparatory Assistance for nomination of CH and NH for WH List

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- * The awareness campaign began in 1998 and is on-going.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- No information provided.

SAMOA

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2001

Organisation submitting the report

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.
- Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture.

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- An inventory of all colonial and historical buildings was conducted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in 2000.
- A national inventory of fauna and flora for both marine and terrestrial species has been prepared, where 14 ecosystems are identified as being of highest priority for conservation.
- A series of sites (volume 1-5) where traditional folklore and cultural activities are important) have been documented. This work started in 1997 and is funded by UNESCO. 5 volumes have been produced.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- The Tentative List has not been prepared yet but is foreseen.

Nominations and the nomination process

- No nominations have yet been prepared.
- Pending the preparation of the Tentative List.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- A national policy on heritage conservation "Cultural and Natural Heritage Conservation Policy" was identified under the National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS) for Samoa in 1993. The Policy is awaiting approval from the Government.
- A National Landuse Policy and National Water Resource Conservation Policy have been approved by the government.
- National Biodiversity Policy and Forest Conservation Policy are awaiting cabinet approval.

- Several other legal instruments (eg National Parks and Reserves Act 1974, The Land Surveys and Environment Act 1989 etc) provide a framework for the protection and conservation of potential World Heritage sites.

Participation of local communities

- The Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment is involved in community capacity building trainings for the promotion of conservation.

Tourism Development

- A National Beautification Committee has been established to promote tourism.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- No information provided.

Professional

- No information provided.

New and improved services

- The establishment of the Division of Environment and Conservation in 1989 and the National Advisory Heritage Committee for Samoa.
- Management plans, strategies and action plans have been established (e. g. draft management plans for 9 reserves, National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2001).

Issues to be addressed

- Need for assistance to identify training for the cultural and natural heritage conservation.
- Lack of regional centres for training and education for the conservation of natural and cultural heritage.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- At the February 2003 Apia workshop, the need for national and international fund raising was identified.
- *International Assistance from WHF: none.

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- Information on heritage is disseminated through a newsletter called "Samoa Heritage".
- Annual environmental events are conducted for public awareness.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- Preservation of traditional arts, culture and history together with the conservation of biodiversity have been identified in the 1993 National Environmental Management Strategy.
- There is need of UNESCO assistance in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of sites for World Heritage.
- A proposal will be submitted seeking UNESCO assistance for education, information and public awareness.
- Need for both financial and technical assistance for the preparation of a Tentative List and the planning of a nomination.
- Partnerships with other Pacific countries and donors will be developed to share expertise and seek financial support.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

I.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 1992

Organisation submitting the report

- No report has been submitted.

I.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- * Natural resource survey partially completed in early 1990's.
- * Cultural inventories incomplete.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- * No Tentative List.

Nominations and the nomination process

- East Rennell included in the World Heritage List in 1998.

I.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- * No policy integration during the current crisis.

Participation of local communities

- No information provided.

Tourism Development

- No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- * Insufficient.
- * All available finances directed to essential services.

Professional

- * In-country specialist & administrative staff are currently unavailable.

New and improved services

- None.

Issues to be addressed

- * WH capacity, resources & processes have largely been lost during the current crisis.

I.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- * East Rennell & Marovo Lagoon bilateral aid project with New Zealand suspended due to crisis.
- *International Assistance from WHF: none.

I.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- No information provided.

I.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- No information provided.

VANUATU

1.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2002

Organisation submitting the report

- Vanuatu Cultural Centre.

1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories

- Ongoing since 1990.
- Almost 3000 sites have been surveyed and registered.

The preparation of a Tentative List

- A preliminary Tentative List has been submitted. To prepare an updated Tentative List, preparatory assistance request has been submitted to the WHC.

Nominations and the nomination process

- No nominations have yet been prepared.

1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning

- The Environmental and Conservation Act, 2002.
- Preservation of Sites and Artifacts Act, provides for protection of important cultural sites.

Participation of local communities

- Vanuatu Cultural Centre has a well-established system of over 100 community-based fieldworkers trained in cultural heritage protection and management.

Tourism Development

- No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance

- No information provided.

Professional

- Vanuatu Cultural Centre has experienced site surveyors and archaeologists.

New and improved services

- All land-development projects are subject to Environment Impact Assessment under the Environment and Conservation Act, 2002.

Issues to be addressed

- Funds to pursue conservation activities are very limited.
- There is a need for assistance from UNESCO to carry out sites surveying and community awareness programmes.
- A preparatory assistance request has been submitted to the WH Centre and is awaiting approval.

1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising

- No information provided.
- *International Assistance from WHF as follows:
2003 \$16,200 Preparatory Assistance for development of site inventories and preparation of Tentative List

1.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures

- Recently submitted preparatory assistance request to WH Centre proposes to conduct awareness for rural communities and policy-makers.

1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

- There is an urgent need of assistance from UNESCO in identification, preparation and conservation of sites.