

# WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION



Convention concerning  
the Protection of the  
World Cultural and Natural Heritage,  
adopted by the United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and Cultural  
Organization, at its General  
Conference,  
Paris, 16 November 1972

**EXTRACTS**  
... deterioration or disappearance  
of ... the cultural or natural heritage  
constitutes a harmful  
imposition of the heritage  
of all the nations of the world.

... protection of this heritage  
at the national level often remains  
incomplete because of the scale  
of the resources which it requires.

... parts of the cultural or natural  
heritage are of outstanding interest  
and therefore need to be preserved  
as part of the world heritage  
of humankind as a whole.  
... [with] the magnitude and gravity  
of the new dangers threatening ...  
[the world's] heritage, it is  
incumbent on the international  
community as a whole to participate  
in the protection of the cultural  
and natural heritage of outstanding  
universal value...

Each State Party to this Convention  
recognizes that the duty of ensuring  
the identification, protection,  
conservation, presentation and  
transmission to future generations  
of the cultural and natural heritage...

... belongs primarily to that State.

An Intergovernmental Committee  
for the Protection of the Cultural  
and Natural Heritage of Outstanding  
Universal Value, called "the World  
Heritage Committee",  
is established within UNESCO.

... the Committee shall establish...  
under the title of "List of World  
Heritage in Danger", a list  
of the property appearing  
in the World Heritage List for  
the conservation of which major  
operatives are necessary.

Any State Party to this Convention  
may request international  
assistance for property forming part  
of the cultural or natural heritage  
of outstanding universal value situated  
within its territory.

# THE WORLD HERITAGE 2004-2005



Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

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