

## **Annex C - Criteria for Assessment of Outstanding Universal Value for World Heritage**

Sites may be nominated for World Heritage listing under cultural, natural or mixed criteria<sup>1</sup>. Nominated sites must demonstrate that they satisfy one or more of the 10 Outstanding Universal Values (OUVs). These OUVs are:

- i. To represent a masterpiece of human creative genius
- ii. To exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design
- iii. To bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared
- iv. To be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape with illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history
- v. To be an example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change
- vi. To be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should be preferably used in conjunction with other criteria)
- vii. To contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional beauty and aesthetic importance
- viii. To be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features
- ix. To be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals
- x. To contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation

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<sup>1</sup> 'Natural Heritage' includes natural features consisting of physical and biological formations (aesthetic and scientific point of view) and geological and physiographical formations (habitats from scientific and conservation point of view). 'Cultural Heritage' includes monuments (i.e., man-made) and sites which are the result of the combined efforts of men and nature. 'Mixed' properties satisfy the definitions of the previous two.