

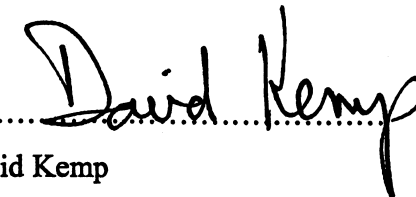
**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA
AND THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
ON COOPERATION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION AND
PROMOTION OF WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE
IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**

1. *In this Thirtieth Anniversary of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972 (the World Heritage Convention), and the United Nations Year of Cultural Heritage, and in keeping with the cooperative spirit of the Convention, the Government of Australia and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), wish to further enhance the implementation of the Convention.*
2. This Memorandum of Understanding aims to enhance the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in the Asia-Pacific region and its effectiveness in the safeguarding and sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage by promoting the Global Strategy for a balanced and representative World Heritage List and by improving the management of cultural and natural properties inscribed on the World Heritage List, in cooperation with UNESCO's World Heritage Centre as focal point within the Organization, UNESCO's Field Units in the Asia-Pacific region, and the Asia-Pacific Focal Point for World Heritage Managers.
3. To cooperate with States Parties in the Asia-Pacific region in achieving this objective, Australia is making available its skills and resources. Accordingly, the Australian Government and UNESCO will consult with one another, and States in the Asia-Pacific region, on ways and means of assisting States in the region to:
 - Implement the World Heritage Convention;
 - Promote best practice in management of properties on the World Heritage List;
 - Facilitate requests for international assistance, for submission to bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies, for properties inscribed on the World Heritage List;
 - Identify and secure funding for World Heritage activities;
 - Share information and experience, further develop networks, and exchange views on management issues, including through the use of the internet.

4. The Australian Government and UNESCO will meet annually for consultations during the course of World Heritage meetings in order to define the modalities of cooperation and determine the activities to be undertaken within this framework.

5. This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect upon signature by both the Australian Government and UNESCO. It will remain in effect for a period of five years, following which period it will continue to remain in effect until either the Australian Government or UNESCO notifies the other of its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding. Either the Australian Government or UNESCO may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding during or after the said five year period by notifying the other in writing. Termination will take effect three months after such notification, but will not affect the validity or duration of specific activities initiated pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding but not yet completed at the time of termination.

SIGNED at Melbourne, Australia, on the seventh day of May, 2002



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David Kemp
Minister for the Environment and Heritage
Commonwealth of Australia



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Koichiro Matsuura
Director-General
UNESCO