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Organización  
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

**Culture Sector**  
Division for Heritage

H. E. Mr Lionel Strengart Veer  
Ambassador Extraordinary and  
Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of  
Netherlands  
Permanent Delegate  
Permanent Delegation of the  
Kingdom of the Netherlands to  
UNESCO  
7, rue Eblé  
75007 Paris  
France

Ref: CLT/HER/WHC/PSM/18/244 20 July 2018

**Subject: Nomination of Colonies of Benevolence (C 1555), Belgium / Netherlands, for inscription on the World Heritage List**

Dear Ambassador,

I would like to inform you that the World Heritage Committee, at its 42nd session (Manama, 2018), examined the nomination of **Colonies of Benevolence** and decided to **refer** the inscription of this property.

Please find the decision of the Committee concerning this property enclosed.

As you know, according to paragraph 159 of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*, nominations which the Committee decides to refer back to the State Party for additional information may be resubmitted to the following Committee session for examination. The additional information must be received by the Secretariat by **1 February** of the year in which examination by the Committee is desired. A referred nomination which is not presented to the Committee within three years of the original Committee decision will be considered as a new nomination when it is resubmitted for examination, following the procedures and timetable outlined in paragraph 168.

Thanking you for your cooperation and support in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Mechtild Rössler  
Director  
World Heritage Centre

cc: Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO  
Permanent Delegation of the Kingdom of Belgium to UNESCO  
ICOMOS

**Extract of the Decisions adopted by the 42nd session of the World Heritage Committee (Manama, 2018)**

**Decision: 42 COM 8B.25**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/18/42.COM/8B and WHC/18/42.COM/INF.8B1,
2. Refers the nomination of the **Colonies of Benevolence, Belgium and Netherlands**, back to the States Parties, in order to:
  - a) Adapt the nomination by focusing on the well-preserved cultural landscapes of the free and unfree Colonies, both understood to reflect the ideals relating to a single utopian model of poverty reduction that guided their foundation and evolution,
  - b) Ensure that the nominated free and unfree Colonies reflect the scope and careful planning of the agricultural settlements and their ordered buildings and how these were integrated as a whole and offered an approach to the idea of improvement of individual over 150 years,
  - c) Adapt the Management Plan so that it aims to evoke, through adequate protection and through careful management and presentation, both the positive and the negative approaches of these colonies, their overall organisation, and the lives of their inhabitants;
3. Recommends the States Parties to consider inviting an ICOMOS advisory mission to the component sites, if needed;
4. Also recommends that the States Parties give consideration to the following:
  - a) Provide a better rationale for the delineation of buffer zones,
  - b) Provide detailed information on how the whole landscape of the colonies is protected,
  - c) Complete the monitoring system to include indicators related to the attributes of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.