

## Sweden in UNESCO's World Heritage Committee

Sweden was elected to UNESCO's World Heritage Committee in October 2007. The appointment will last until 2011. The World Heritage Committee consists of members from 21 countries. Sweden is represented by Inger Liliequist, The Swedish National Heritage Board, and Rolf Löfgren, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.

### Visions and strategies

Sweden's work in the World Heritage Committee concerns a number of issues in harmony with goals and objectives in the work of environmental and cultural preservation and with the strategy for Sweden's involvement in UNESCO. The assignment is carried out in interaction with other UNESCO and UN initiatives on the environment, heritage, development, and urban planning.

- **A balanced and representative World Heritage List**  
UNESCO's global strategy is supported in order to attain a more even geographical distribution of World Heritage sites and a better balance between the number of natural and cultural sites.

### THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

The World Heritage Committee selects new World Heritage sites and makes recommendations as to how existing sites should be protected and managed. When a site is seriously threatened, for example, by development or insufficient management, the Committee places it on a List of World Heritage in Danger. The Committee also makes decisions about measures to do with information and education.

### WORLD HERITAGE

A World Heritage is a site, place, environment or object which is unique testimony to the history of the earth and of humankind, and which is so valuable that its preservation is a concern for all of humanity. Today there are more than 800 World Heritage properties in over 140 countries on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

- **An integrated approach to nature and culture**  
The view that heritage values may have been created by nature, by humankind, or in interaction between them, is communicated in the work of identifying and managing the World Heritage.
- **Sustainable development**  
Environmental change, such as global warming, impacts on the World Heritage. It is essential to support research about how the World Heritage sites are affected and how they can be protected and managed.



- **Measures for the endangered World Heritage sites**

UNESCO's efforts to alert the international community and initiatives by states and organizations are supported in order to reduce the threats against World Heritage sites.

- **Increasing awareness of the natural and cultural heritage**

Sweden supports the work of involving and educating young people in the preservation and use of our common natural and cultural heritage.



### THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

UNESCO's Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage is an international treaty for the preservation of areas, sites, and objects of outstanding universal value. Over 180 states adhere to the Convention, which Sweden ratified in 1985.



### Inger Liliequist

Director General of The Swedish National Heritage Board since 2003. In this capacity she leads the work of preserving and using the cultural heritage and strengthening its position as a positive force in the development of a democratic and sustainable society.

### Rolf Löfgren

Has been at the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency since 1973, working with matters including forestry protection and the establishment of national parks. Rolf Löfgren is a member of the World Commission on Protected Areas and has broad experience of the World Heritage through the inquiry into The World Heritage in the Nordic Countries and the nomination of World Heritage sites in Sweden and Greenland/Denmark.

PHOTO Front: Aktse in Lapponia (photo Rolf Löfgren).  
Back: The Fossum rock carving, Tanum.  
This page: Portrait of Inger Liliequist.  
Portrait of Rolf Löfgren (photo Birgitta Hoberg).  
Inner page: Mining area, Falun, and agricultural landscape, Öland.  
Photographer if not otherwise stated: Bengt A. Lundberg.

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www.whc.unesco.org  
www.nwhf.no  
www.unesco.se

