

**IF NO "FIRM AND DEMONSTRABLE COMMITMENT" ON PRIORITY
ISSUES, WHC and IUCN RECOMMEND**

INSCRIPTION ON THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER

AT 38th SESSION WHC in 2014

FULL STATEMENT:

In its previous decision, the Committee decided to consider the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger in the absence of substantial progress. The World Heritage Centre and IUCN are of the view that the State Party has made progress on some key issues and actions but progress on several recommendations, including those related to water quality and measures to prevent coastal development that can negatively impact on the OUV of the property and/or undermine the outcomes of the forthcoming Strategic Assessment, remains limited. Urgent and decisive action is needed to address these issues. The World Heritage Centre and IUCN recommend that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to undertake the following actions in order to maintain the property's OUV: a) make a clear financial commitment to maintain the Reef Rescue programme and ensure water quality continues to improve, b) halt the approval of coastal development projects that could individually or cumulatively impact on the property's OUV and compromise the ongoing Strategic Assessment, and c) ensure that the legislation protecting the property remains strong and adequate to maintain and enhance its OUV. They further recommend that the Committee consider the Great Barrier Reef for inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger at its 38th session in 2014 in the absence of a firm and demonstrable commitment on these priority issues by the State Party.