



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

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WORLD HERITAGE LIST

The Prime Minister has written to the Premiers inviting them to nominate places within their States for listing on the World Heritage List.

Under the terms of the Convention covering the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by the General Conference in UNESCO in 1972, there is to be established, under the title of "World Heritage List", a list of properties having outstanding universal value which form part of the cultural and natural heritage of signatory countries.

Australia is one of the early signatories and a member of the World Heritage Committee.

A steering committee chaired by the Australian Heritage Commission has evaluated possible areas from Australia in consultation with a number of authoritative institutions in selecting Australia's nomination for the first World Heritage List.

Mr. Fraser said: "The Great Barrier Reef received the support of all concerned and I have written to the Premier of Queensland seeking his agreement that this nomination proceed".

All State Premiers have been invited to put forward proposals which clearly fall within the guidelines of world significance for future listings.