

CYPRUS

I.01. Introduction

Year of adherence to the Convention: 1975

Organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for preparation of report

- Ministry of Communications and Works (Department of Antiquities)

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories

- National level inventories of cultural and natural properties have been used as a basis for World Heritage selection

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List submitted in 1979
- Revisions submitted in 1979, 1980, 1984, 1998, 2002, 2004
- Responsible Department of Antiquities (responsible body for the management of the ancient sites and monuments of Cyprus)

I.04. Nomination of Cultural and Natural Properties for the World Heritage List

Nominations

- Prepared by Central government
- Motivations for nomination: conservation of site, site in danger, honour/prestige
- Difficulties encountered: inadequate staffing
- *Kourion* - withdrawn in 1984; *Wine Villages Terraces*, 2002, 2003 - not inscribed; *Village of Fikardou* - deferred in 2004

Inscriptions

- 3 cultural sites: *Paphos* (1980); *Painted Churches in the Troodos Region* (1985, extensions in 2001 and 2004), *Choirokoitia* (1998)

Benefits of inscription

- Conservation of site, honour/prestige, increased funding
- World Heritage listing has given the opportunity to protect from dangers, to control the building activities and to facilitate visits by the public. The listing of a number of churches transferred the responsibility of restoration to state ensuring better protection

I.05. General Policy and Legislation for the Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage

Specific legislations

- Legislation at National level includes Antiquities Law, Town and Country Planning Law, Provisions in Nature and Wildlife Law
- No specific legislation for World Heritage sites
- Management plans are required for the largest archaeological sites but do not exist at this stage

Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Hague Protocol (1954), London Convention (1969), UNESCO Convention (1970), Granada Convention (1985), Rome Convention (1995), Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 (1999), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES (1973), Bonn Convention (1979), Bern Convention (1979), Basel Convention (1989), Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), UNIDROIT (1995), Delphi Convention (1985), Valetta Convention (1992), Florence Convention (2000)

I.06. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- Department of Antiquities with the active involvement of the private sector
- Key organisations are also Department of Town Planning and Housing, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural resources and Environment
- Local authorities involved
- Government offers financial sponsorship and tax deduction, informs and supports NGO initiatives with funding

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- Scientific research projects on conservation techniques and material conservation

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- World Heritage sites are funded mainly by the State Party budget allowance
- No additional contributions to the World Heritage Fund have been made
- NGOs and private sector may finance improvement works

I.09. Training

Professional and Institutional training

- Primary needs identified are specialised architects, civil engineers, conservations, technical staff
- Staff has received national and international training
- Relevant organizations: Getty Conservation Institute (USA), Courtauld Institute of Art (London, UK), University College London Institute of Archaeology (UK), American Institute of Conservation (USA)

I.10. International Co-operation

- No international cooperation established due to limited number of World Heritage sites and limited capacities of the responsible bodies

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

Information and awareness raising on local, regional national or international level

- Promotion and presentation of World Heritage is achieved through publications, films, postcards, and media campaigns, stamps on international and national level
- The presentation and general awareness is considered adequate
- The education policy aims at sensitising the students through educational visits and media. A special sector in the Ministry of Education and Culture deals with awareness raising in schools. In universities, where a chair of archaeology exists, conservation is included in courses
- An UNESCO chair has been created at the private college 'Intercollege'

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strengths: Existing strict Antiquities Law; Increased interest in research involving public and private institutions

Proposed actions:

- Revision of Tentative List
- Management plans for each archaeological site with technical assistance
- International cooperation and twinning
- Documentary film on Cyprus World Heritage monuments and sites
- Activities may require assistance from the World Heritage Fund