

GREECE

I.01. Introduction

Year of adherence to the Convention: 1981

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

- Ministry of Culture, General Directorate of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories

- The coordinating unit of national cultural heritage inventories is the Directorate of the Archive of Monuments and Publications/ Ministry of Culture
- Natural Heritage has no central inventory because responsibility is divided between several ministries
- Scientific List of Protected Areas related to the NATURA 2000 requirements

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List submitted in 1985
- Revision submitted in 2003
- Ministry for Culture, prepared on national level under a joint interdisciplinary 'Committee on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention'

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

Nominations

- Main responsibility lies with the Central government, nominations are prepared by site managers
- Motivations for nomination: significance of the site, conservation of the site, awareness raising of the site, working in partnership, protection of the site that is under development pressure, lobbying/political pressure, increased funding
- Difficulties encountered: lack of local/regional cooperation, inadequate staffing and development pressures
- *The Gorge of Samaria National Park* - deferred in 1987; *Petrified Forest on Lesbos* - deferred in 1988; *Archaeological Site of Akrotiri in Santorini* - deferred in 1989

Inscriptions

- 14 cultural sites: *Temple of Apollo Epicurius at Bassae* (1986); *Archeological Site of Delphi* (1987); *Acropolis, Athens* (1987); *Paleochristian and Byzantine Monuments of Thessalonika* (1988); *Archaeological Site of Epidaurus* (1988); *Medieval*

City of Rhodes (1988); *Mystras*, (1989); *Archaeological Site of Olympia* (1989); *Delos* (1990); *Monasteries of Daphni, Hossios Luckas and Nea Moni of Chios* (1990); *Pythagoreion and Heraion of Samos* (1992); *Archaeological Site of Vergina* (1996); *Archaeological Sites of Mycenae and Tiryns* (1999); *The Historic Centre (Chorá) with the Monastery of Saint John "the Theologian" and the Cave of Apocalypse on the Island of Pátmos* (1999)

- 2 mixed (cultural and natural) sites: *Mount Athos* (1988); *Meteora* (1988)

Benefits of inscription

- Honour/prestige, enhanced protection and conservation of the site, working in partnership, lobbying and political pressure, endangered site protected

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

Specific legislations

- Cultural environment: Law 'On the protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in General'. The 'General Building Construction Regulation' focuses specially on the protection of listed architectural heritage and living settlements. Special legislation 'Spatial planning and sustainable development' including Regional Frameworks
- The requirement of management plans and a management body for protected areas is included in the legislation. Other regulations include 'On sustainable development of towns and settlements'; 'On the Expansion of urban planning, settlement development and relevant regulations'
- Special measures for World Heritage sites include zoning of archaeological sites, expropriation programmes and several site specific programmes
- A legislative reform is under consultation
- Natural environment: 'On the protection of the environment', 'Protected Areas Law' includes National Parks; Several special legislations concerning Natura 2000 areas, forests and aesthetic landscapes. Aegean island Policy pertaining to the protection and rehabilitation of the cultural and natural environment on the islands of the Aegean
- Management plans are required for the natural environment

Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Hague Protocol (1954), London Convention (1969), UNESCO Convention (1970); Granada Convention (1985), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES (1973), CMS (1979), Bern Convention (1979), Basel Convention (1989), Barcelona Convention (1976), Special Protected Areas Protocol (1982), Paris Convention (1994), Kyoto Protocol, Convention on Biological Diversity (1992),

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Delphi Convention (1985), Valetta Convention (1992), Hague 2nd Protocol (1999), Florence Convention(2000), Paris Convention (2003)

Provisions have been integrated into national legislation and policies

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

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- The Ministry of Culture is the main responsible through its General Directorates of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage and of Restoration, Museums and Technical Works with regional services
- Several Greek and Foreign Archaeological Foundations
- The Hellenic Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Work is responsible for protection under spatial and town planning, urban development and housing and the protection of the natural environment
- The implementation and control is decentralised to regions; The Ministry for Macedonia and Thrace and The Ministry for the Aegean and Island Policy have independent departments for cultural and environmental conservation
- The responsibilities of the Ministry for Agricultural development and Food include forests and National Parks
- There is a specific planning legislation for World Heritage sites
- Local communities involved; NGO participation mainly concerning natural environment
- Ministry of Culture has limited collaboration with Hellenic Society for the Protection of the Environment and Cultural heritage

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- An extensive reference list on scientific research

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- State budget financing for cultural and natural heritage
- No specific funding related to World Heritage monuments
- EU funding relevant
- International assistance from the World Heritage Fund and contributions to the World Heritage Fund

I.09. Training

Professional and Institutional training

- Primary needs identified for cultural heritage: Operation of the Centre for Professional

Specialisation on the Conservation and Rehabilitation of Monuments, training of Service executives on specific new fields, preventive conservation, staff and vocational training

- For natural heritage training for employees in management, control and eco-tourism. Education and training at University graduate and postgraduate courses, training of museum and sites personnel (guards)

I.10. International Co-operation

- International cooperation through bilateral and multilateral agreements, hosting and/or attending international training courses/seminars, distribution of material/information, financial support, experts and other measures
- Damage prevention through foundations for international cooperation and participation in other UN programmes
- No twinning of World Heritage sites

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

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

- Presentation and promotion include websites, events, exhibitions, educational programmes in sites, open days, a Culture Card, scientific meetings and congresses and publications, tourism promotion, environmental programs and information centres for visitors
- UNESCO Associated Schools Project and Heritage in Young Hands and environmental education in schools
- Courses and events in archaeological sites, and on a systematic base on several World Heritage properties

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Weaknesses: The collaboration between National Services and the local communities, integration the environmental approach in policies, improvement of implementation and control procedures in planning, housing and environmental policy should be strengthened

Proposed actions:

- Management plans for the World Heritage sites
- Completion of impact studies
- The development of Local Agenda 21 work
- Public-private partnerships and financial incentives
- Awareness and capacity building actions for government officials, decision-makers
- Conference on the issue of the continuous use of the religious monuments in collaboration with the Church

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

- Drafting of Special Environmental Studies and operation of the Management Bodies
- Strengthening of the collaboration in the context of the European Centre for Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments projects
- This action requires International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund