The outcome document and recommendations

Of the International capacity-building workshop «World Heritage Properties: Conservation and Use for Sustainable Development»

(Niasvizh, 23-26 May 2012)

Participants of the International Capacity-Building Workshop «World Heritage Properties: conservation and use for sustainable development», held 23-26 May 2012 in Niasvizh (Belarus) express their gratitude to all the event organizers in the Republic of Belarus for the initiative and successful holding of this important event and to the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and UNESCO Office in Moscow for their valuable support.

The international capacity-building workshop «World Heritage Properties: Conservation and Use for Sustainable Development», commemorating the 40th anniversary of the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (the ‘World Heritage Convention’ or ‘Convention’), was held with the participation of experts from Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Russia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. The workshop was organized by the National Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve «Niasvizh» in cooperation with the Secretariat of the National Commission of the Republic of Belarus for UNESCO, and with the assistance of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the UNESCO bureau in Moscow.

The purpose of the workshop was the exchange of experience and best practices in the conservation of World Heritage Properties and the linkage between heritage conservation and sustainable development; to strengthen the capacity of World Heritage Site managers from Eastern Europe and the CIS in the fields of management and sustainable use of World Heritage Properties; and the preparation of the format for permanent dialogue between site managers for the exchange of experience and points of views on the methodologies to improve the management strategies for Heritage sites.

Preamble


Recognizing the importance and value of the 1972 UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage;

Noting that Heritage is the essential and indispen-
sable factor for sustainable development and for societal and intercultural dialogue;
Taking into account new global challenges that pose threats to the conservation of World Heritage Properties;

Desiring the maximum effectiveness of solutions to the most pressing of today’s challenges for the linkage between the conservation, use and sustainable development for specific sites of World Cultural and Natural Heritage;

Considering the recommendations of the international capacity-building workshop «World Heritage Management and Global Challenges» (Moscow, 1-3, March, 2011) together with the expert meeting held in Paraty (Brasil, 29-31, March, 2010) that note the direct influence of Cultural and Natural Heritage on the sustainable development of local communities;

Taking into account the UNESCO Operational Guidelines for 2012-2022;

participants of the international capacity-building workshop «World Heritage Properties: Conservation and Use for Sustainable Development» (Niasvizh, 23-26, May, 2012) found it necessary to elaborate the following offers and recommendations:

I. Experience and best practices exchange between the States Parties to the Convention

- to develop more effective cooperation for the exchange of conservation and use best practices, for the elaboration and realization of management plans for World Heritage Sites, and the incorporation of them into the cultural tourism system.

- to elaborate the arrangement for regular information exchange in the CIS with the participation of States Parties from other regions for questions of Heritage conservation through electronic communications.

To the World Heritage Centre and consultative organizations of UNESCO

- considering the high demand in the CIS states for Russian language documents of UNESCO, ICOMOS, ICCROM, IUSN on conservation and use of the Cultural and Natural Heritage, and the importance of its use at a local level, including for the elaboration of management plans, provide timely translation into the Russian language and its operative distribution through electronic communications.

- To review the possibilities for the organization and implementation of training programmes for CIS states in 2012-2012, with particular emphasis on the elaboration of plans for World Heritage Site management and preparation of periodic reports in accordance with the UNESCO Operational Guidelines.

II. World Heritage Sites conservation as the basis for sustainable development.

To the States Parties to the Convention

- To implement the monitoring of con international scientific principles and conservation of World Heritage Site: framework of the 1972 Convention, in vision for sustainable development, the protection and safeguarding of the identity and integrity.

- To provide improved licensing for storers who work on World Heritage P including Cultural Heritage sites at the nation level.

- To provide improved national system of high-level professional and specific restoration and craftsmanship.

- To develop at the national level inter and inter-sectoral connections for the high of successful and effective policies nation for Heritage sites use.

To the Minsk region Executive Committee district Executive Committee

- To ensure strict compliance with the the Convention (1972) in respect of th to the reconstruction of properties local World Heritage property territory in acc the Operational Guidelines to the Co consultative advices of the World Herita ICOMOS in particular:
To implement the monitoring of compliance with international scientific principles and standards of conservation of World Heritage Sites, within the framework of the 1972 Convention, including provision for sustainable development, founded on the protection and safeguarding of their authenticity and integrity.

- To provide improved licensing for specialists-restorers who work on World Heritage Properties, including Cultural Heritage sites at the national level.
- To provide improved national systems in the field of high-level professional and specialist training in restoration and craftsmanship.
- To develop at the national level interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral connections for the realization of successful and effective policies of conservation for Heritage sites use.

To the Minsk region Executive Committee and Niasvizh district Executive Committee

- To ensure strict compliance with the provisions of the Convention (1972) in respect of the approaches to the reconstruction of properties located within the World Heritage property territory in accordance with the Operational Guidelines to the Convention and consultative advices of the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS in particular:

a. To develop approaches will ensure elimination of the equalizing of the preserved original interior elements and re-created ones to avoid loss the authenticity of the property;

b. To explore the possibility of replacing some of new items by the historically and stylistically identical to the lost originals in accordance with the documentary evidence and archival materials;

c. To explore the options for replacing or improving the fire-extinguishing systems, electrical equipment, ventilation and air conditioning units in accordance with existing international practices at the World Heritage sites.

- To consider the possibility of creating an interdisciplinary research council with the participation of representatives from Poland and Lithuania for further work on the museumification of the Radziwill's Palace in the light of the existing experience at the World Heritage sites, including the improving the site management for sustainable development;

- To intensify an international campaign to collect authentic objects from the Niasvizh Radziwill's palace (including furniture, paintings, objects of decorative art, lighting fixtures, porcelain, silver, etc., as well as collections of books, archives, and various collections), which were historically an integral part of the
complex until 1939, through scientific research, diplomatic and media involvement;

III. Legal frameworks for the appropriate use and revitalization of World Heritage Properties. To the States Parties to the Convention

- To recommend to the States Parties to the Convention that they increase the legal status of World Heritage Site management plans and provide for their implementation by responsible persons;
- To introduce national legislative norms that will ensure the assignment of historical and cultural value status to geographical names relating to World Heritage.
- To determine legally a procedure for nomination of national cultural heritage properties to the World Heritage List and ensure appropriate safeguarding of these properties by means of the national legislation;
- To strengthen and increase the number of staff of the governmental services dealing with the protection of heritage and to introduce national legislative norms that will fasten the responsibility of local authorities for the preservation and proper use of World Heritage sites in compliance with national legislation and the World Heritage Convention and its Operational guidelines;

- To adopt appropriate legislative measures at the national level to provide to the buffer zones of the World Heritage sites appropriate protection corresponding to protection provided by national legislation to the World Heritage sites.
- To ask the World Heritage Centre:
  - To examine the feasibility to elaborate a set of recommendations that contain the basic principles of sustainable conservation and use of World Heritage Sites based on a balance between conservation and development, conservation and use, with the priority of conservation.

IV. Local communities in management and use of heritage sites for sustainable development

To the States Parties to the Convention

- To establish ways to actively involve local communities in the elaboration and implementation the World Heritage Site management plans, and to develop practical cooperation between governmental and non-governmental organizations at all levels, especially in science and education;
- To pay particular attention to working with children and the youth to increase their active role in the conservation and sustainable use of the Cultural and Natural Heritage;
- To organize consultations with the religious organizations on questions relating to the conservation of
cultural objects of religious value, taking into account the recommendations of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre that are being developed in this field.

To recommend to the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk Regional Executive Committee, Nesvizh District Executive Committee, the National Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve «Nesvizh» on the findings of experts who participated in the workshop:

- To establish a mechanism of interaction between all responsible and interested agencies and public organizations including local religious communities with the aim to elaborate common decisions on organization of the property use and their incorporation to the Management Plan for World Heritage Property;
- To maintain sustainable working relationship between the Museum Administration and the Corpus Christi church to ensure the preservation of this element of the World Heritage Site, in particular by improving (creating) the plan of conservation;
- To ensure the tourism infrastructure project development (marketplaces, food, parkings, control over souvenirs variety etc.) at the World Heritage Site and its buffer zone based on the regulations of their use in accordance with national legislation and provisions of the Convention 1972.

Итоговый документ и рекомендации Международного обучающего семинара «Объекты Всемирного наследия: сохранение и использование в целях устойчивого развития»
(Несвиж, 23-26 мая 2011 г.)

Участники Международного обучающего семинара «Объекты Всемирного наследия: сохранение и использование в целях устойчивого развития», который состоялся 23-26 мая 2012 г. в г. Несвиже (Республика Беларусь) выражают благодарность всем организациям мероприятия в Республике Беларусь за инициативу и успешное проведение этого важного мероприятия, а также благодарят Центр Всемирного наследия, ИКОМОС и Бюро ЮНЕСКО в Москве за их ценную поддержку.

В Международном обучающем семинаре «Объекты Всемирного наследия: сохранение и использование в целях устойчивого развития», посвященном 40-летию Конвенции ЮНЕСКО об охране всемирного