



Summary of State of Conservation Report

Churches of Chiloé (C 971) Chile

As was indicated in Decision 37 COM, Chile invited the joint WHC / ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission. This mission visited the Member State between 2 and 7 December 2013. ICOMOS expert Betina Adams and World Heritage Centre expert César Moreno-Triana were in charge of the mission.

Regarding the protection of the Churches of Chiloé and their settings, Chile has worked on the following:

- A “Comprehensive plan for protecting the churches’ settings as Typical Zones”: Since 2012, Chile has been developing this initiative in order to generate –under this official category– buffer zones that are appropriate according to each territory and landscape. Five of these zones have been declared up to now, and all the churches will have their setting protected by the end of 2014, according to the plan.
- The definition of “Preliminary Protection Areas”, as a first step in the process of providing official protection. The objective is that municipal governments can guide those who propose projects in these areas, and provide the municipal government’s and the community’s perspective on the demarcation of the sector that will ultimately be given official protection.
- The establishment of Chile’s World Heritage Commission in 2013, as an initiative of the National Monuments Council. The Commission will promote the coordinated work of public services around World Heritage sites, reinforcing the application of existing rules and protocols, and strengthening the State’s commitment from an integrated and inter–institutional approach.
- A proposal for regulations regarding Typical and Picturesque Zones (National Monuments Law No. 17288). This proposal –which is under study– contributes definitions, establishes procedures, and provides what is necessary for the identification, declaration, intervention, supervision, management, and/or conservation of Typical or Picturesque Zones. The new regulations will benefit the management of Chiloé’s Typical Zones, by providing protection to Buffer Zones.
- A bill to reform National Monuments Law No. 17288, sent to Chile’s Congress in 2014, and a bill to establish the Ministry of Culture, sent to Chile’s Congress in 2013. Among other issues, these bills include the creation of National Monuments Councils by

Region. These Regional Councils will have decision-making powers, which will put an end to the centralism that affects this institution today and will strengthen its management capacities at the regional level.

- A New National Urban Development Policy (2013), which will be enacted via decree. This new Policy establishes guidelines on Chile's urban development by coordinating the different public agencies that intervene in one territory. For the first time, it includes the Identity and Heritage dimension.

Regarding measures to mitigate the visual impact of Castro's shopping mall –which has already been built with the corresponding municipal licence– the building's facades had their cladding changed. Materials that simulate the texture, grain, and colour of wood were used. A proposal has been presented for managing the green areas and trees of the mall's surroundings in a way that, with the passing of time, given their size and growth, they would provide a natural vegetation screen. While this is not a deep-rooted measure, it will offset the shopping mall's presence.

Chile's Report includes restoration projects that were implemented in 2013 and projects that are planned for 2014, as well as the process that is under way in order to update and broaden intervention criteria. The Report also talks about the successful actions that were taken to prevent the installation of antennae for mobile phones near one of the churches. It also mentions the project that intends to build an underground parking lot below Castro's Main Square.