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Report on the State of Conservation
Silk Roads: the Routes Network of
Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor, 2015
(China)

STATE ADMINISTRATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE, CHINA

ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CENTRE-XI'AN

November 2015

Executive Summary

After receiving the Committee's Decision 38 COM 8B.24, the State Party has seriously implemented requests of the decision, by pushing forward relevant studies, collecting and verifying information from all aspects and addressed issues one by one. The State Party has completed the writing of the State of Conservation report for "Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang'an-Tianshan Corridor" in China, 2015.

In response to the Article 4 (a) of the Decision, the State Party believes the listed World Heritage Sites currently have the outstanding values and representativeness among the same types, and could represent the transportation system of nominated property comprehensively. Meanwhile, the State Party has included the Great Wall and beacon towers along the Silk Roads into national conservation framework, and is advancing relevant studies. After the completing of relevant works, the State Party may consider adding several beacon towers with significant value and favorable condition into the extension programme of the Silk Roads World Heritage in the appropriate time.

In response to the Article 4 (b) of the Decision, the State Party reviewed the information of relevant remains of water management around the 22 sites in the territory. The known artificial water management facilities all locate in the property area and the natural water all locate in the buffer zone or property area. The State Party has also noticed that irrigation canals may exist around the Site of Qocho City, but more information would be known only by the archaeological work in the future.

In response to the Article 4 (c) of the Decision, the 22 sites in the State Party have had their own management plans, and is advancing their conservation, visitor management and interpretation according to the plan.

In accordance with the Article 4 (d) of the Decision, the 22 sites in the State Party have built a relatively completed monitoring system and platform, and its capability and training could basically meet their needs, and corresponding approaches have been taken for each site according to their characteristics.

Besides, the State Party has continuously advanced the coordination, conservation projects, archaeological studies, training, promotion and public educational activities during 2014 and 2015.