

**STATE PARTY REPORT ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY  
INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

**STATE OF CONSERVATION OF THE PROPERTY**

**"TIWANAKU: SPIRITUAL AND POLITICAL CENTER OF THE TIWANAKU CULTURE" (PLURINATIONAL  
STATE OF BOLIVIA) (ID. N° 567 REV) (Criteria (iii) and (iv))**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**1. Response from the State Party to the World Heritage Committee's Decision:**

- Tiwanaku have changed to a new Executive Director in the end of May 2015, and a new technical – administrative professional team is formed, with archaeologist, architect and conservator, among others. The local indigenous authorities are coordinating with the work.
- Since May the CIAAAT has been prioritizing the institutionalization of the Center, Staff Manual has been formulated as well several proceedings for the daily work at the Site and the museums.
- The presented Management Plan at the beginning of 2015 has been evaluated and CIAAAT is working on the improvement of the document.
- No restorations are made at the Site, just preventive conservation work.
- The protection of the intangible and buffer zone is prioritized by the new Executive Director.

**2. Other current conservation issues identified:**

- New **Conservation Laboratory**; created, curative conservation work initiated; investigation of stone conservation; investigation of biocontrollers for the microbiological colonies existing on the stone monuments.
- Improvements at the **Ceramic Museum**; no leakage is registered this year; cleaning of exhibits and showcases; esthetic improvements and less exhibits on display. New exhibition is under preparation.
- Improvements at the **Stone Museum**; three more showrooms opened for visitors, new roof; new deposit for stone objects; physical protection of the exhibits.
- Conditions at the **deposits**; no preventive conservation at the 10 existing deposits, no knowledge of what and where, how much and in what conservation condition the collection exist.
- **Information and signage**; old signage removed, new signage under development with French company until April 2016.
- **Site (Area 1 and 2)**; no good conservation conditions at the site; only preventive conservation project executed; new touristic circuit under development; prioritizing the conservation of stone walls and monoliths in coordination with investigation project (see above).

**3. In conformity with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines:**

No protection of buffer zone until now; regulation development prioritized; new museum under planning.



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**1. Regarding the decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee 38 COM 7B.39  
(Doha, 2014)**

**1.1 Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7B**

**1.2 Recalling Decision 37 COM 7B.92**

**1.3 Notes the appointment of the director for the CIAAAT and the approval of the  
management structure for the property:**

New Director was appointed for the CIAAAT end of May 2015 and new technical team, giving importance on creating an interdisciplinary team with professional archaeologist, conservator, architect, lawyer and administrative personal and technical staff in tourism. The new administration of CIAAAT has as well formulated a Staff Manual including a new management structure of the CIAAAT as well for the definition of the responsibilities and characteristics of every employ. This Staff Manual has been evaluated and admitted by the CIAAAT Directory. Since May, much emphasis is made to develop the necessary institutional documents to improve the functionality of the CIAAAT. This includes the annual budget 2015 and 2016 with the respective projects, the Strategic Institutional Plan (PEI in Spanish), the Staff Regulations, Protocol for visiting researchers, Protocol for loan of collections, Regulations for visitors, among others.

The local indigenous authorities are working in a coordinated manner with the new administration and are completely aware of the work that is going on at the CIAAAT and the communities.

**...and urges the State Party to secure the necessary resources to make it fully operational; ...**

CIAAAT is operating only with the income made by ticket sale, no other resources are available. As the new Director and technical team have entered in the management of the CIAAAT, it has become more than obvious that these resources are not enough to resolve all the problems detected at the site of Tiwanaku and the museums. More funds are needed and urgently.

**1.4 Notes with appreciation the progress made by the national and local authorities in  
the development of the management and conservation plan for the property:**

State Party appreciates the recognition expressed by UNESCO. Even though, the new technical team has evaluated the management plan presented by the former director





of CIAAAT at the WHC. The team is now working with the reformulation of the document so that all the needs detected will be considered and also make possible a direct and active participation of the indigenous communities of Tiwanaku in the formulation and implementation of the management plan.

There is no knowledge of the conservation plan even though it was mentioned at the UNESCO visit in august 2015; CIAAAT does not have the document.

- 1.5 Expresses its concern about the extent of restoration interventions undertaken at the Akapana Pyramid and the Puma Punku sector that can potentially erode the conditions of authenticity of the property and requests the State Party to halt these interventions until the Conservation and the Management Plans have been developed.**

This concern is shared with the present technical team at CIAAAT as well, but there are certain conservation problems that need to be solved with urgency. So this year, 2015, there has been a Preventive Conservation Project fulfilled at the Area 1, solving problems as erosion, drainage, and maintains of the area. No restoration has been done. CIAAAT is trying to follow the instructions presented by the UNESCO consultants made in 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2015.

With the JFIT project that has been reactivated this year, it is programmed to fund a specialist to create an integral Conservation Plan for the Akapana Pyramid and other structures at the site. The authenticity of the structures and the site is a shared concern and will be taken seriously.

- 1.6 Also requests the State Party to finalize the conservation and management planning process and to provide an electronic and three printed copies of the draft revised management plan and the conservation plan by 1 October 2014 for the review by the World Heritage Center and the Advisory Bodies.**

As what the actual director at the CIAAAT knows, the documents were sent last year as requested, even though the actual technical team are now working on the reformulation of the Management Plan. This work is considered a priority for the new Director and technical team. So is the development of the Conservation Plan.



- 1.7 Reiterates its request to establish a buffer zone for the property and adopt the necessary regulatory measures to ensure the protection of its Outstanding Universal Value and conditions of authenticity and integrity;**

This situation was not attended by the former director and technical team. It is a situation that the actual director and team are working on. It is important to understand that the territorial situation in Tiwanaku is tense and this problem with the buffer zone requires a process with different strategies, like: socialization, seminars, topographic survey and negotiation with the neighbors. There should as well be elaborated a regulation on the use of the buffer zone and the neighboring terrains. The regulation should as well include norms for the use of the surrounding

land, considering that the extension of the ancient city of Tiwanaku exceeds the intangible areas. This work is considered a priority for the new Director and technical team.

**1.8 Further requests the State Party to submit the World Heritage Center, by 1 December 2015, an updated report.**

The present report must be considered a replay to this request.

**2 Other current conservation issues identified by the State Party**

**2.1 Conservation Laboratory.** As the CIAAAT now have one professional conservator working full time and an assistant, a new conservation laboratory is getting established. Curative conservation work has started with the collections that are on display at the Ceramic Museum. After 1 ½ month of curative conservation work, 15 objects have been treated and 8 are under treatment at this moment.

The CIAAAT is expecting the donation of full basic laboratory equipment from the JFIT project at the beginning of 2016.



***Conserved semiprecious stones***

A stone conservation project is programmed at the Conservation Laboratory. It will start in 2016, to determent the best consolidates for the stone walls, monoliths and steels at the site and in the museums. This project is developed in coordination with the JFIT project and we are expecting a specialist in stone conservation funded by the JFIT project to participate in the stone conservation project.





*General view from the new Conservation Laboratory*

**2.2 Ceramic Museum.** At the Ceramic Museum, finally the roof is without any leakage for the first time in many years. The exhibition has gradually been esthetically improved; the showcases and the exhibits have as well been vacuumed. A selection of the objects on display is in process.

A new exhibition is in preparation at the moment. In general, the collection has a big problem with soluble salts, and initial desalinization processes have been started and the first ceramic is almost finished after 6 months with regular changes of deionized water. This means an enormous work waiting to be done only in desalinization of ceramics. A large amount of the actual exhibited objects will be saved in deposit. By now, 21 boxes with 255 objects have been taken out of the showcases and packed.

The improvements at the Ceramic Museum are projected so that Tiwanaku can offer a better service towards the visitors, as well give a better preventive conservation conditions to the collection on display.



*Photos from the cleaning process at the Ceramic Museum*



*Same showcase after the cleaning and esthetic improval*

**2.3 Stone Museum (Lithic Museum).** At the Stone Museum, 3 showrooms have been opened for visitors this year. The stone objects and steels have been physically protected from the reach of the visitors by the implementation of ropes. The illumination has been improved even though it is not the best. At one of the closed showrooms a deposit for stone objects is under preparation.

The most important situation at the museum is the roof. In two weeks a project for the total renovation of the roof will start improving considerably the preventive conservation conditions for the stone objects that exist in the museum. This work will also improve the experience for the visitors.



*General view at the Lithic Museum, one of the showrooms newly opened.*

**2.4 Deposits.** At the moment of entering the CIAAAT in May, the new administration received 10 deposits, non in satisfactory conditions. The last 3 years a project for the registration of the collections has been going on, but without specific results. Now the registration and more adequate packing of the objects are being prioritized. The conditions at the deposits are as well being evaluated and improvements planned. At the moment there are no partial or complete knowledge of what and how much collections exist, where they are and in what conditions. The reality is that the space







*Deteriorated signage that has been removed*

**2.6 Site (area 1, 2 and 3).** The conservation conditions at the site are not the best, but the conservation of stone walls at the Akapana pyramid will be prioritized as accelerated exfoliation on the sandstone has been registered. This will be connected with the implementation of the stone consolidate investigation project programmed for 2016. The conservation of the monoliths and steels, that still exist in situ at the site, is also prioritized. The planning of a touristic circuit is in process as part of the project with Thales.

An investigation project for the determination of the lichens at the site is starting as well next year. It will be experimented with natural biocontrollers to prevent the growth of lichens and other microorganisms. The first part will be done in laboratory cultures and then on stone samples with lichens (andesite, sandstone and lime stone) without any heritage value, to observe if there will be any deterioration on the stones after the application of the suggested biocontrollers



### **3 In conformity with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines:**

At the moment there are no new alterations of the protected area or the buffer zone. But in the passed the buffer zone has been invaded by quite a lot of constructions, since the declaration in 2000:

- To the West of the area 1, there have been constructed a big hotel (Hotel Akapana) and several smaller buildings, some recently.
- To the North of the area 1, one house with two floors has been build.
- To the East of the area 2, urbanization has been freed by the Municipality of Tiwanaku and several houses have been constructed.
- At the area between area 1 and 2, neighboring to the museums and the administration of the CIAAAT a lot of houses have been build.
- As well at the administrative area of the CIAAAT the former director build an elevated tank for the water provision at the museums.

The present director of CIAAAT is planning the building of a new museum instead of the two old ones. This project is still in the initial planning phase and is projected to start in two years (2017).

Other considerations that should be taken into evaluation are the recent construction of two towers (antennas) for mobile phone communication. These are situated outside of the buffer zone but represent a big impact on the view from the site towards the village of Tiwanaku. No regulation on the constructions at the village, is also putting the cultural landscape on risk. It should be considered that the Colonial Church and village of Tiwanaku is a National Monument, and the vernacular architecture of Tiwanaku is not protected.

