

## FORMAT FOR THE SUBMISSION OF STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORTS BY THE STATES PARTIES

(in compliance with Paragraph 169 of the Operational Guidelines)

Nan Madol: Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) (1503)

## 1. <u>Executive Summary of the report</u>

- (i) The State Party (FSM)invites a Reactive Monitoring mission to the property on/around April/May 2017.
- (ii) FSM is working with the Pohnpei State Legislature to pass and implement LB 392 by April/May 2017.
- (iii) The FSM is in the process of hiring professionals to assist in improving the management system of the site and in developing a conservation strategy project and corrective measures required to achieve the desired state of conservation.
- (iv) The FSM has formed a committee for the development of a museum master plan.
- (v) The FSM has, with the assistance of international partners begun to address the recommendations of the WHC and we expect a final report to be submitted to the WHC by May 2017.

## 2. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee

- 1. The State Party (FSM) accepts the recommendation of the WHC and invites a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property in 2017 to agree on a Desired State of Conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.
- <u>2.</u> The FSM continues to collaborate with the Pohnpei State Legislature for the passage and implementation of legislation LB 392 (postponed to April/May 2017).
- <u>3.</u> The FSM continues to develop, improve and extend the management system to include a designated property manager trained in cultural management who will assist in:
  - (i) Developing a risk preparedness strategy that will;
  - (ii) Extend the current maintenance program to cover the full area of the property, including the removal of silt from the waterways without jeopardizing possible cultural layers on the sea floor which could affect the stability of the current structure,
  - (iii) Include a conservation strategy project and corrective measures required to achieve the desired state of conservation,
  - (iv) Include comprehensive tourism strategy to deal with the future impact of tourism on the property;
- 4. The FSM, in consideration of the new UNESCO recommendation on the protection and promotion of museums and collections (17 November 2015) and using the proposed museum to disseminate the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, has formed a museum committee that is now working on developing a museum master

plan. The committee is now actively seeking funding assistance for the construction of a museum.

## If the property is inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger Please also provide detailed information on the following:

- a) Progress achieved in implementing the corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee
- 1. The passage and implementation of the new legislation LB 392 is now postponed to April/May 2017 to ensure financial transparency is fully reflected in the proposed legislation.
- 2. The FSM is in the process of contracting professionals to assist in extending and improving the management system to include a designated property manager who will;
  - (i) Develop a risk preparedness strategy which includes a work plan for the maintenance of the whole property/site, including removal of silt from the waterways without jeopardizing possible cultural layers on the sea floor which could affect the stability of the current structure;
  - (ii) Create a plan that will also include a comprehensive tourism strategy to deal with the future impact of tourism on the property

If needed, please describe the success factors or difficulties in implementing each of the corrective measures identified

The corrective measures as recommended by the WHC will require both technical and funding resources, capacities that are beyond the capabilities of the FSM as a small developing nation. We have reached out to our international partners and they are just now responding to our plea of assistance. An expert (archaeologist) was recently sent courtesy of France and two more teams, one from Japan and one from the USA will be arriving on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February. It will take some time to put all their evaluations/assessments together in a comprehensive report to the WHC.

b) Is the timeframe for implementing the corrective measures suitable? If not, please propose an alternative timeframe and an explanation why this alternative timeframe is required.

Due to the large scale of work to be involved and the lack of funding or technical capacity within the FSM, we are requesting that the timeframe for implementing the corrective measures be postponed to May 2017, to allow for the FSM to gather the results of the visiting experts 'evaluation/assessment of the property into a comprehensive report to the WHC.

c) Progress achieved towards the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR)

Progress towards the Desired State of Conversation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger has been slow but has begun with the assistance of our international partners, namely experts from France, Japan and the USA, we believe it can be achieved by May 2017.

3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value

The FSM will be able to report about other conservation issues once we have the final reports from our international partners on their ongoing evaluation/assessment of the property.

4. <u>In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines</u>, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.

At the present, all developments within the property, the buffer zones and/or corridors or other areas where such development may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity are now on hold awaiting the results of the assessment surveys that will be conducted by our international partners.

5. Public access to the state of conservation report

No objections.

6. <u>Signature of the Authority</u>

Augustine Kohler
Secretary-General
FSM National Commission for UNESCO

[Note: this report will be uploaded for public access on the World Heritage Centre's State of conservation Information System (<a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc">http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc</a>). Should your State Party request that the full report should not be uploaded, only the 1-page executive summary provided in point (1.) above will be uploaded for public access].

6. Signature of the Authority

Augustine Kohler Secretary-General

FSM National Commission for UNESCO