

THE NETHERLANDS

environmental planning policy and spatial developments

I.01. Introduction

Year of adherence to the Convention: 1992

Organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for preparation of report

- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science/Netherlands Department for Conservation
- Island Territory of Curaçao

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories

- Inventories, established at national level, have not been used as a basis for selecting World Heritage sites

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List was submitted in 1994 (archaeological sites) and in 1995 (non-archaeological sites)
- Responsibility lies with the central government, which prepared the dossier on the basis of recommendations made by advisory bodies

I.04. Nomination of Cultural and Natural Properties for the World Heritage List

Nominations

- Nominations are the responsibility of the central government, prepared in collaboration with regional/local governments and consultants/experts
- Motivations for nomination: conservation, honour/prestige, working in partnership, application of the WH Convention

Inscriptions

- 7 cultural sites: *Schokland and Surroundings* (1995); *Defence Line of Amsterdam* (1996); *Mill Network at Kinderdijk-Elshout* (1997); *Historic Area of Willemstad, Inner City and Harbour, Netherlands Antilles* (1997); *Ir. D.F. Woudagemaal (D.F. Wouda Steam Pumping Station)* (1998); *Droogmakerij de Beemster (Beemster Polder)* (1999); *Rietveld Schröderhuis (Rietveld Schröder House)* (2000)

Benefits of inscription

- Honour/prestige, conservation, working in partnership, international and national recognition of the cultural heritage, increased responsibilities within the government and among the residents/site managers, repercussions on

I.05. General Policy and Legislation for the Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage

Specific legislations

- Monument Act (1988); Spatial Planning Act/Space Document (1965/2004); By-law for the restoration and maintenance of monuments in Noord-Holland (2001), Monuments By-Law for Zuid-Holland (1989); Belvedere Document (1999); Architecture Policy Document (2001-2004); Culture Document (2001-2004); Culture Document (2005-2008)
- Nature Conservancy Act (1998 revised in 2004); Nature Conservation Act (1982); The Flora and Fauna Act (1992/2002); Nature 2000 Protected areas; National parks, National Ecological Network; National "Nature Objectives Plan"; Agenda for a dynamic Rural area/Long Term Program for a Dynamic Rural Area; Development oriented landscape strategy; Nature Status
- Management plans are not required for cultural heritage but management plans have been drawn up for natural heritage
- There is no specific planning legislation to protect cultural World Heritage
- A revision of the Spatial Planning Act and the Monument Act is in preparation

Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Hague Protocol (1954), UNESCO Convention (1970), Second Protocol of the Hague Convention of 1954 (1999), Granada Convention (1985), Valetta Convention (1992), Unidroit (1995), Ramsar Convention (1971)

In most cases, provisions have been integrated into national legislation

I.06. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW); Netherlands Department for Conservation (RDMZ); The National Service for Archaeological Heritage (ROB); Provincial Centre for Monuments Conservation, Provincial Monuments Houses/Heritage Houses, Government Building Agency, Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM); National Contact Monuments Foundation; institutes and private organisations working within the field of conservation and site management. Regarding natural heritage: Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV), national, regional and private nature conservation organisations. Heritage

conservation is not institutionally integrated. The private sector, local communities and NGOs are also involved

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- Scientific research on the hydrological zone of Schokland and Surroundings

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- Funding of World Heritage sites: national and local/regional authority budget allowances, fundraising, private sector. The State Party has not helped to establish associations to allocate funds for the protection of culture and cultural heritage. The activities related to the WH sites are mostly funded through public means and/or the financial means of the local authorities. No additional contributions to the World Heritage Fund have been made, but contributions have been made to the Netherlands Funds in Trust (NFIT)

I.09. Training

Professional and Institutional training

- No training needs for the protection of World Heritage have been identified. No heritage training has been received. International/regional programmes and international/regional institutions are considered important

I.10. International Co-operation

- Cooperation to protect World Heritage on the territory of other State Parties: hosting and/or attending international training courses/seminars, financial support, experts. Measures to avoid damage to WH on the territories of other States Parties: contributions to the Netherlands Funds in Trust

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

Information and awareness raising on local, regional national or international level

- Promotion of World Heritage is at international, national, regional and local levels through publications, Internet, and other events. General awareness is considered inadequate / to improve through publications, website, implementation of a communication strategy. Education of World Heritage protection: publication of a CD-Rom, development of educational projects (primary and secondary education)

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strengths: Increase in cooperation between the different bodies involved in the heritage protection has brought about a clarification of their responsibilities; Existing legislation, which already applies to heritage sites, is currently being developed to ensure a better protection of the WH sites
- Weaknesses: Lack of consideration of the natural heritage of possible outstanding value (no identification, no policy, no scientific research). Despite a better recognition of Dutch cultural heritage, the attention paid to the information and education is insufficient; Site managers do not have adequate financial means to provide information and promote their site and the information broadcasted on the Internet is scattered, uncoordinated and often not updated. International exchange of information, and education, should be enhanced

Proposed actions:

- Drawing up of a regional document concerning the preservation of "Schokland and its surroundings";
- Revision of the municipal zoning plan of the rural area of Beemster Polder; Application of the provisions of the Space Document to the "Defence line of Amsterdam", the "Beemster Polder" and the "Mill Network"
- Revision of the Tentative List
- Development of a website dedicated the "World Heritage in the Netherlands"
- Development and implementation of a Periodic Reporting strategy for World Heritage
- Raising awareness and educational projects
- These activities may not require assistance from the World Heritage Fund