PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

SECTION II

State of Conservation of specific World Heritage properties

State Party: REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
Property Name: HISTORICAL CENTER OF BUKHARA CITY
II.1 Historical Center of Bukhara city

Introduction

a) State Party
   The Republic of Uzbekistan
b) Name of the World Heritage Property
   Bukhara city
c) Geographical coordinates
   40° latitude, 64° longitude
d) Date of inscription on the World Heritage list
   11 December 1993
e) Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible
   for the preparation of the report
   Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan
f) Date of report
   10 March 2003
g) Signature on behalf of State Party
   Minister of Culture

II.2 Statement of Significance

The Historical Centre of Bukhara is a museum under open-air, covering in uniform ensemble and showing a centuries-old history of city and was included into the World Heritage List by criterias (ii) (iv) (vi).

The substantiations and criterion, on which the World Heritage Committee has included the this site, is adequate on a present condition and studying of the this cultural heritage and to reconsideration it is not offered. Borders of the historical centre and its buffer zone in Bukhara are kept within the limits of 450 ha, the reconsideration at the given stage of development of city is not required. In these borders is fixed the legal attitudes with the appropriate legislative documents of measures on protection and preservation of cultural monuments.

II.3. Statement of authenticity/integrity

The historical and architectural values of each object and historical lay-out of city centre were not exposed to changes. Complex systematic works on preservation of each object and the lay-out of the centre as a whole, have prevented of negative influences resulting to their destruction.

II.4. Management

For the reporting period legal system on protection of cultural heritage monuments and their legal status in historical centre of Bukhara has not changed. The historical centre of the city is museum-reserve, where in the state account 462 monuments of architecture consist.

On significant architectural monuments of museum-reserve per 1996-2000 years, during preparation and the realizations of 2500 anniversary of city under aegis of UNESCO, were carried out complex scientific researches and on the basis of their results the measures on improvement of safety.

For safety of cultural heritage monuments under the acts and under the contractual attitudes are responsible the legal officials who maintain and use the monuments. The unique monuments which are under protection of museum-reserve administration and inspection on protection and use of monuments are the state property.

A recognition of the site as a part of the World Heritage, has predetermined the increase of the responsibility, growth of measures on preservation of cultural monuments in the historical part of city and flow of the tourists. The annual visiting
on monuments has made: for the foreign tourists more than 15000 people and about
300000 people from the local tourists.

For the reporting period for improvement of architectural monuments
authenticity in the historical centre of Bukhara the complex measures including
preventive works on the basis of scientific researches and studyings on the following
architectural monuments were carried out:

Kalon Mosque - the clearing of facing of facades from a dust and dirt is made, also
there was executed the covering by bricks of a court yard and on perimeter of a
monument at an ancient level, reinforcement works on the bases and basis of columns
of gallery. There are made preservation of interiors furnish in the large hall of the
mosque. Is given in an initial kind facing of a dome and roof of the mosque.

Ark (fortress) - the clearing of the become swollen sites of the fortress wall, the
reinforcement of the basis of walls is executed. In separate sites are restored lost
layings from the raw bricks. The ways to the Ark are improved.

Miri Arab Madrasah – there are restored the basic walls of a platform in front
of the main facade. There were conserved the rests of a furnish outside and court-yard
facades.

Madarikhan Madrasah - the preservation of facing of facades is executed. The
roof is repaired.

Kukaldash Madrasah - the clearing and preservation of the facings, remained
fragments of facades and cloths of a carved wooden gate is made.

Nodir Divan-begi Madrasah - the measures on elimination of a moisture
damaging the bases of the building are accepted. The clearing and preservation of the
facings, remained fragments of facades is made.

Poi-Ostona Mosque - preservation of facades decorations and aiwan designs.

Chor-Minor complex - an accomplishment of territory for removal of
atmospheric precipitation from a monument. There is restored the destroyed minaret-
guldasta on the entrance part Khalif Niyazkul Mosque.

Samanids Mausoleum – there is made an accomplishment of monument’s
territory for removal of atmospheric precipitation from a monument. There were
carried out the constructive reinforcements of carrying walls through injection.

Khaliifa Khudaydod Complex – there were carried out the conservation of
ganch decoration, aiwan designs and repair of a roof.

Bozori-Kord Bath-House - clearing and conservation of channels, constructive
reinforcement of carrying walls.

Sarrafon Bath-House - conservation of marble floors and panels. Clearing and
conservation of channels.

Abdullakhon Madrasah - clearing and conservation of the decorative furnish of
facades and interior.

Badriddin Karavan-Saray – conservation of khujras (rooms), restoration of
door apertures.

Zindon (prison) - clearing and conservation of the approaches to the object.

On all other monuments of the historical centre the current scheduled measures
on their safety are carried regularly out: the complex Oibinok, complex Labi-Khauz,
complex Sarrafon, complexes Gaukushon, Toki Telpakfurushon, Toki Zargaron,
Khoja Zainuddin, Bala Khauz, urban walls and gate, the complexes Khauzi Nau,
kush Madrasah, Saifuddin Bokharzi etc. are given into the exposition condition for
the visitors and tourists. On scientific-conservation works on protection and preservation of monuments in Bukhara for the period 1996-2000 there were spent 770,5 million so’m or 3,85 million US dollars.

II.5. Factors affecting the property

The preconditions to occurrence of the main negative factors affecting the condition of monuments in the historical part of city, such as industrial pollution, vibrations, unorganized visiting of site, vandalizm now are eliminated.

The ecologically harmful industrial objects on the territory of the buffer zone are absent. The large transport flows resulting the pollution and vibrations from a historical part are removed. Perfection of protection and the preservations of cultural monuments and comprehension by the population of these sites, as national property, and also regulation and management on visiting of objects have removed such negative influences, as vandalizm and unguided flows of the visitors.

The measures for development, improvement of road covering of the foot zone, rational installation of drainage system trays have resulted the improvement of safety from harmful affects of a moisture and earth waters.

A major factor negatively influencing on object is earthquake which amplification designs both bases of buildings and structures is opposed.

II.6. Monitoring

By bodies on protection and preservations of cultural monuments and involved employees of special scientific organizations will be carried out scheduled regular inspections on condition of monuments of historical center of the city. Besides, the supervision is carried out on actions of urban services which carry out the engineer-municipal, building and other works on the territory of historical zone. Irrespective of kinds of the property on a monument or on territory, as not of observance of a mode of use, the owners or the responsible persons are responsible in the legislative order.

From 462 objects of museum-reserve, 257 are the historical apartment houses, which are mostly in a private property. They more are subject to changes of social-demographic character of urban life and also growth of the modern requirements to comfort of residing.

On all monuments of architecture is made visual supervision, the acts of the technical condition are made. There is begun the working out of the State Cadaster on Cultural Heritage Monuments.

II.7. Conclusions and recommendations

The modern condition of monuments included into the World Heritage List answers in the whole to main requirements (criterion, authenticity, importance) proved for inclusion.

It is necessary to speed up preparations and acceptance of new "Law on protection and uses of cultural heritage monuments" in which are taken into consideration modern legal mutual relations and requirements, following from growth dynamics of population’s social life.

The further improvement of technical measures on protection and monitoring of the cultural heritage is necessary.

It is necessary to improve and to develop in museum-reserve the tourist service.
The above-stated measures will be executed according to the developed by bodies of protection and appropriate organizations the Program of complex measures on protection, preservation and presentation of cultural monuments.

Due to the necessities are involved in performance of this Program as far as possible the international organizations.