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**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Forty-second session

**Manama, Bahrain
24 June - 4 July 2018**

**Item 7A of the Provisional Agenda: State of conservation of the properties
inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger**

SUMMARY

In accordance with Section IV B, paragraphs 190-191 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the Committee shall review annually the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. This review shall include such monitoring procedures and expert missions as might be determined necessary by the Committee.

This document contains information on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. The World Heritage Committee is requested to review the reports on the state of conservation of properties contained in this document. The full reports of Reactive Monitoring missions requested by the World Heritage Committee are available at the following Web address in their original language:
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/42COM/documents>

All state of conservation reports are also available through the World Heritage State of conservation Information System at the following Web address:
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc>

Decision required: The Committee is requested to review the following state of conservation reports. The Committee may wish to adopt the draft Decision presented at the end of each state of conservation report.

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CULTURAL PROPERTIES

ASIA AND PACIFIC

1. Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Afghanistan) (C 208 rev)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2003

Criteria (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2003-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Site security not ensured
- Long-term stability of the Giant Buddha niches not ensured
- State of conservation of archaeological remains and mural paintings not adequate
- Management Plan and Cultural Master Plan (the protective zoning plan) not implemented

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1287>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1287>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1593>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/208/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2002-2002)

Total amount approved: USD 30,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/208/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 7,324,120 (2003-2018) from the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust; USD 159,000 (2011-2012) from the UNESCO/Switzerland Funds-in-Trust; USD 2,213,599 (2013-2019) from the UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust; USD 7,336,166 (2013-2019) from UNESCO/Korea Funds-in Trust; USD 1,500,000 (2017-2026) from the Government of Afghanistan

Previous monitoring missions

November 2010: World Heritage Centre/ICCROM Advisory mission; April 2011: UNESCO Kabul/ICOMOS Advisory mission; May 2014 ICOMOS technical Advisory mission; UNESCO expert missions in the context of the implementation of specific projects

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Looting, illicit traffic and illegal excavations of cultural heritage assets(issue resolved)
- Military Training (Continued inappropriate use of certain heritage areas for military posts) (issue resolved)
- Anti-personnel mines and unexploded ordinances (i.e. munitions) (issue resolved)
- Commercial development, Housing (Development pressure around the property and in the buffer zone)
- Ground transport infrastructure

- Others (Risk of collapse of the Giant Buddha niches; Irreversible deterioration of the mural paintings)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/208/>

Current conservation issues

On 12 February 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/208/documents> and which indicates the following:

- The State Party and UNESCO started preliminary consolidation work on the Western Buddha Niche in August/September 2017, with funding from the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust (JFiT). The scaffolding structure was reinforced, all the debris from the rear side of the niche was relocated, and painted plaster fragments were preserved. The work is expected to be completed within four years, but requires additional funding. A condition assessment of the remaining mural paintings located in caves throughout the Bamiyan Valley was conducted in July 2017, for the first time since 2010. Conservation work has continued for Shahr-i Ghulghulah with the support from UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust (FiT);
- The deployment of eight on-site guards in each component of this serial property stopped in March 2017. Since April 2017, a deficit in the national budget prevented the authorities from renewing the relevant contracts;
- An International Symposium “The Future of the Bamiyan Buddha Statues: Technical Considerations and Potential Effects on Authenticity and Outstanding Universal Value” (OUV) took place in Tokyo, Japan, from 27 to 29 September 2017, as part of the JFiT project, and brought together more than 70 attendees. The 14th Bamiyan Technical Working Group meeting took place from 1-2 October 2017 in Tokyo;
- The Cultural Master Plan (CMP) provides a strong framework to regulate urban growth in and around the property. More than 700 members of the local community were consulted within the framework of the JFiT project, twice in 2017, to raise awareness about heritage management and to assess the level of integration between the CMP and the City Master Plan. The Afghan Ministry of Urban Development and Housing and the University of Florence are currently developing the Strategic Master Plan, which is to be finalized in 2018;
- The increasing number of people returning to Afghanistan from neighbouring countries and a potential mining project in the Bamiyan province require close monitoring;
- The construction of the Bamiyan Cultural Centre, funded by the UNESCO/Republic of Korea FiT, is expected to complete in 2018, with the financial contribution from Afghanistan to create a public park around the Cultural Centre;
- The State Party reiterated its commitment to modify the boundaries of the property and to amend national legislation to protect the entire property and its surroundings.
- The State Party did not submit a revised timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures as requested by the Committee.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party has undertaken a number of conservation and consultation activities in cooperation with UNESCO, international partners and local communities and stakeholders and it is to be commended. The 14th Bamiyan Technical Working Group meeting set the priorities for the activities from 2018 onwards.

Major progress was achieved in 2017 with the preliminary stabilization of the Western Buddha niche, as part of the JFiT project for the Safeguarding of the Bamiyan Valley. The project also contributed to assessing the condition of mural paintings in the main Buddha cliffs, in the Kakrak and Foladi Valleys. Additional funding is necessary to continue this work, which is an essential step towards achieving the adopted Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

The International Symposium (see <https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1733>) provided a valuable opportunity for experts to debate technical and conceptual concerns related to the possible reconstruction of the Eastern Buddha statue. The conclusions of the symposium highlighted the need for further studies and debate and welcomed the establishment of a working committee in Afghanistan tasked with reviewing proposals for the Bamiyan Buddha statues. It should be noted that no specific and conclusive recommendation was made at the Symposium on the future treatment of the Bamiyan Buddha niches/statues. Participants to this Symposium considered that, prior to any consideration of

possible future treatment of the Bamiyan Buddha niches, “*extensive consultation be conducted by the local and national government with local communities, civil society, as well as spiritual leaders so as to ensure that all stakeholders’ interests are taken into consideration*”.

The CMP is proving to be a reliable framework in managing historical areas in the Bamiyan Valley and in helping to regulate and prevent, at an early stage, projects and initiatives that could potentially threaten the property’s OUV. It also affords a meaningful consultation process between the authorities and local stakeholders. The State Party’s efforts to promote a closer synergy between this instrument, the Strategic Master Plan for Bamiyan (currently under elaboration) and the City Master Plan should be welcomed. Additionally, it should be noted that the various preservation activities and public consultations to establish the CMP have contributed to building national capacities for heritage preservation, while raising public awareness and inclusivity.

However, the State Party reports a persistent shortage of resources, relating to the need to secure additional budgets to implement future activities for the stabilization of the Western Buddha niche, to permanently hire on-site guards for all component of the property, and to conduct significant conservation activities. The disruption in the deployment of on-site guards since April 2017 is of concern. To date, almost all significant activities for the property have been realized through international assistance mechanisms, and while the existing financial constraints should not be underestimated, it is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to prepare a long-term strategy to ensure that the necessary resources for the most important operations are reliably and continuously available.

Finally, the development of effective regulating mechanism to address future population growth and industrial developments in the vicinity of the property is vital. It is recommended that the Committee reiterate its full support for the State Party to proceed with a boundary modification and to revise national legislation in order to enhance the permanent protection of heritage resources, and notably the cultural landscape in the Bamiyan Valley that currently is not within protected zones, and in its setting.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.54** adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Notes with satisfaction the long-awaited launch, in the framework of the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust (JFiT) project for the safeguarding of the Bamiyan Buddha Niches, of the technical works aiming at consolidating the Western Buddha niche, which also contributed to the adequate conservation of fragments from the niche and helped assess the conditions of remaining mural paintings in several cliffs throughout the Bamiyan Valley, and requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a detailed technical report on the activities undertaken;*
4. *Also notes that surveys were conducted at Shahr-i-Ghulghulah, with support from UNESCO and the UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust, in order to establish a long-term plan for the conservation of historical monuments, and also requests the State Party to submit a detailed technical report on the research conducted and the plans made for the future conservation of this component;*
5. *Welcoming the organization of the International Symposium “The Future of the Bamiyan Buddha Statues: Technical Considerations and Potential Effects on Authenticity and Outstanding Universal Value” (OUV), held in Tokyo in September 2017 as part of the UNESCO/Japan FiT project, acknowledges the Symposium’s recommendations, which notably invite the State Party and international partners to deepen the reflection on the possible reconstruction of the Bamiyan Buddha statues; and further requests the State Party to conduct extensive consultation with local communities, civil society, as well as*

spiritual leaders and other stakeholders and to submit any selected proposals or options for review by the Advisory Bodies before any irreversible decision is made;

6. *Welcomes the organization of the 14th Bamiyan Technical Working Group meeting, held in December 2017, which set the priorities for future activities;*
7. *Expresses its concern over lack of on-going resources which has led to disruption in the deployment of on-site guards since April 2017, and the absence of significant conservation efforts for several components of the property which are in imminent danger of collapse;*
8. *Encourages the State Party to prepare a long-term strategy to ensure that the necessary resources for the most important operations are reliably and continuously available, taking into account the existing financial constraints;*
9. *Calls upon the international community to provide technical and financial support, notably to other components of the serial property in the Bamiyan Valley, such as Shahr-i-Zohak, Kakrak and Fuladi Valleys, in order to assist the State Party in reaching the adopted Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);*
10. *Further notes that the Cultural Master Plan is used as a tool to protect the OUV of the property, in consultation with national and local stakeholders, and further welcomes the State Party's efforts to promote a closer synergy between this instrument, the upcoming Strategic Master Plan for Bamiyan and the City Master Plan;*
11. *Noting nevertheless that industrial development and uncontrolled urban growth in the buffer zone could represent a potential threat to conservation in the future, requests moreover that the State Party closely monitor these activities within the framework of the implementation of the CMP and supports the State Party's commitment to proceed with a boundary modification and the revision of national legislation, in an effort to enhance the permanent protection of heritage resources, notably the cultural landscape of the Bamiyan Valley that is not currently included in protected zones and its setting;*
12. *Encourages the State Party to continue capitalizing on various capacity-building activities for national heritage experts by encouraging their participation in international projects, which also strengthens national and local capacities for heritage conservation and management, notably by developing the local communities' capacity to contribute to the safeguarding of the property;*
13. *Notes with concern that little progress has been achieved with the implementation of corrective measures due to the lack of human and financial resources, and urges again the State Party to review, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, the timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre, for examination by the Advisory Bodies;*
14. *Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including a revised timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;*
15. ***Decides to retain Cultural Landscape and Archaeological Remains of the Bamiyan Valley (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

2. Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Afghanistan) (C 211 rev)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2002

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2002-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Lack of legal protection
- Lack of an effective monuments protection agency
- Lack of adequate protection and conservation personnel
- Lack of a comprehensive Management Plan

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1286>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1286>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2002-2015)

Total amount approved: USD 93,750

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 844,901 (2003-2012) from the UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust; USD 124,300 (2003-2012) from the UNESCO/Switzerland Funds-in-Trust; USD 16,800 (2017) from Heritage Emergency Fund.

Previous monitoring missions

Several annual UNESCO expert missions took place between 2002 and 2006 in order to implement the operational projects for the property. After a period of three years of inactivity from 2007 to 2009, due to the security situation, UNESCO dispatched a mission in cooperation with an Afghan local NGO in 2010 to resume the on-site operations. The latest mission to Jam was organized within the framework of the Heritage Emergency Fund in September 2017.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Civil unrest (Political instability)
- River erosion (Inclination of the Minaret)
- Management systems/ management plan (Lack of management plan)
- Illegal activities (Illicit excavations and looting)
- Erosion and siltation/deposition

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/>

Current conservation issues

On 12 February 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/211/documents> and provides information on the implementation of the corrective measures and other elements as follows:

- A capacity building workshop was organized in Germany in April 2017, within the framework of International Assistance under the World Heritage Fund and with the support of the Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH) Aachen. One structural engineer from the Afghan

Ministry of Information and Culture and two hydrologists from the Ministry of Water and Energy attended the training to gain a better understanding of the property's surroundings in terms of geology, hydrology, conservation, and engineering. The workshop also elaborated numerical modelling of the hydrodynamic processes of Hari and Jam rivers;

- No progress was reported on the identification of boundaries;
- The State Party recalls the need for 3D digital data on the status of the property and the in-situ monitoring system to evaluate any structural movement of the property to protect and restore the outer part of the Minaret;
- The report stresses the existence of 3D data collected in 2009 on the conservation status of the outer and inner parts of the Minaret and surrounding areas, but reports that no activity could be conducted between 2009 and 2017;
- The deteriorated security situation and lack of electricity have hindered the installation of monitoring instruments on the Minaret to measure its inclination;
- A team of police officers have been deployed to monitor and safeguard the property and to address the issue of illicit trafficking of movable cultural properties.

The report on activities conducted as part of the Emergency International Assistance to establish the Conservation Action Plan for the property was finalized in October 2017 and mentions the mission to the property carried out in September 2017 with the support of the Heritage Emergency Funds of UNESCO.

The budget allocation required for the construction of the footbridge, which is necessary to enable a year-round access for inhabitants of the nearby villages over the Hari Rud and for future conservation activities, is expected in 2018. The project guest house also needs to be rehabilitated or reconstructed to accommodate experts during the mission seasons at Jam.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The lack of progress accomplished with regard to conservation work and the implementation of the corrective measures is unfortunately due to the difficulties encountered in accessing the property, the limited span of time available for field work per year and the lack of resources.

However, a technical mission to the site was conducted in September 2017, for the first time in three years, and is expected to produce a detailed set of data, notably on the condition of external decorations and the surrounding archaeological areas. This constitutes the first thorough survey carried out since the field studies of the 1970s and will provide the basis for the development of a conservation programme. To ensure the use of this important new data, it is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to finalize the conservation programme and begin fieldwork after having allocated appropriate and sustainable financial and human resources.

The Conservation Action Plan (CAP), finalized as an outcome of the Emergency International Assistance approved in 2014, was submitted to the World Heritage Centre in February 2018. The activities outlined in the CAP should be implemented accordingly, including the installation of a monitoring device at the Minaret of Jam to measure its inclination and emergency stabilization work for the wooden staircases, in order to prevent further destabilization of the Minaret's structure. The CAP should serve as the basis to revise the timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures adopted by the Committee at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007 – see Decision **31 COM 7A.20**), so as to achieve the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

The workshop held in Germany in April 2017 contributed to developing the capacities of national experts by improving their scientific understanding and technical skills. Further capacity building for national experts should be carried out, as it remains very difficult to send international experts on site.

In view of the Committee's previous recommendations and the corrective measures, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to increase its efforts to clearly delineate the boundaries of the minaret and the other three components of the property and its encompassing buffer zone, taking the topographic map produced in 2012 into consideration, and to submit a minor boundary modification to allow consideration of the rationale for the boundaries in relation to archaeological investigations that have been undertaken since inscription. As has been repeatedly pointed out by the Committee, the adoption of clear boundaries would constitute an essential step towards developing an effective conservation strategy.

In conclusion, it is recommended that the Committee note with concern that no actual conservation work has been undertaken at the property since 2012, and that it strongly urges the State Party to seek further international assistance and deploy efforts in sustainably securing the required financial and human resources to implement, as a matter of urgency, the priority actions set by the CAP.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.2

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.55**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Notes that the Conservation Action Plan (CAP) was finalized as an outcome of the Emergency International Assistance granted under the World Heritage Fund and submitted to the World Heritage Centre in February 2018 and urges the State Party to start implementing the short- and medium-term actions specified by this CAP and to secure the necessary financial and human resources;*
4. *Also notes that the first field visit to the property in three years was conducted in September 2017, with support from the Heritage Emergency Fund, and will provide detailed scientific data to further inform the implementation of the CAP;*
5. *Further notes the capacity-building workshop conducted in Germany in April 2017 to reinforce the scientific and technical skills of national engineers in view of the upcoming conservation activities in and around the property;*
6. *Regrets that the boundaries of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone remain to be precisely defined and, recalling that a topographical map was realized for this purpose as part of a UNESCO/Italy Funds-in-Trust project in 2012, also urges the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, a proposal for a minor boundary modification, in conformity with the CAP and in accordance with Paragraphs 163-164 of the Operational Guidelines, for review by ICOMOS;*
7. *Further urges the State Party to address the following three critical issues:*
 - a) *The installation of a monitoring instrument on the Minaret of Jam to measure its inclination,*
 - b) *The emergency stabilization work for the wooden staircases, in order to prevent further destabilization of the Minaret's structure,*
 - c) *The construction of a footbridge over the Hari Rud River and a guesthouse at the property, in order to improve access to the property and site security;*
8. *Encourages the State Party to capitalize on the capacity-building activities made possible via international cooperation mechanisms in order to further develop and strengthen the theoretical and technical knowledge and capacities of national heritage experts and encourage their participation in the training activities provided;*
9. *Calls upon the international community to provide technical and financial support, in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, for the implementation of above-mentioned CAP, which will be part of a strategy to implement the corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007);*

10. Also requests the State Party to revise the timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2019**, for review by the Advisory Bodies;
11. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
12. **Decides to retain Minaret and Archaeological Remains of Jam (Afghanistan) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

3. Nan Madol: Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia (Micronesia, Federated States of) (C 1503)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late finalization of the mission report)

4. Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz (Uzbekistan) (C 885)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2000

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2016-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Large-scale urban development projects carried out without informing the Committee or commissioning the necessary heritage impact assessments
- Demolition and rebuilding of traditional housing areas
- Irreversible changes to the original appearance of a large area within the historic centre
- Significant alteration of the setting of monuments and the overall historical town planning structure and its archaeological layers
- Absence of conservation and Management Plan

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Not yet drafted

Corrective measures identified

Not yet identified

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet identified

Previous Committee Decisions See page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/885/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (1999)

Total amount approved: USD 15,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/885/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

October 2002: Monitoring mission by an international expert; March 2006: UNESCO Tashkent/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; June 2014: UNESCO Tashkent fact-finding mission; March 2016: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; December 2016: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/management plan (Lack of a comprehensive conservation and management plan)
- Management activities
- Housing; Commercial development (Major interventions carried out, including demolition and re-building activities)
- Legal framework (Need to reinforce the national legal framework)
- Human resources (inadequate)
- Financial resources (inadequate)

Illustrative material See pages <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/885/> and <http://whc.unesco.org/document/164767>

Current conservation issues

On 1 December 2017, the State Party submitted details and documentation of the work carried out at Shakhriyabz as requested by the Committee in Decision **41 COM 7A.57**, and a further state of conservation report on 1 February 2018, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/885/documents>. The report and documentation provide the following details in response to requests of the Committee:

- A series of plans of the historic centre before and after the recent destruction, and of the remaining *mahalla* districts;
- Assessment of the changes to houses and streets since inscription and inventories of remaining traditional houses based on a field study carried out in 2017;
- Documentation on the monuments and the 'beautification' of their setting;
- The Master Plan for the overall city of Shakhriyabz, which sets the recent development of the historic centre into a wider context;
- Plans for further proposed projects to widen roads and upgrade houses in the historic centre in 2020.

The programme of demolition work and new landscaping in the heart of the historic centre was approved by the Cabinet of the Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on 20 February 2014, as part of a 'State Programme for complex measures for the building and reconstruction of Shakhriyabz city'. The aim was to promote tourism and the economic potential of the historic part of the city by displaying the main cultural heritage monuments in a landscaped setting. Following the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission in December 2016, all further work has been stopped at the property.

The State Party indicates that the urban planning scheme of Shakhriyabz will be reviewed in cooperation with national and international organisations in order to 'ensure the harmonization of cultural heritage sites':

- Lighting devices incompatible with the historic appearance of the city will be dismantled,
- Playgrounds and attractions will be moved beyond the historic centre,
- Recently-constructed walls that separate the centre from dwellings will be removed.

In relation to the relocation of around 2,000 residents, the State Party indicates that they were all provided alternative accommodation outside the city. A project is being prepared for the reconstruction of three traditional houses in the area where the most houses were demolished.

The State Party confirms that, in future, details of all major projects will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review before decisions are made, in line with the *Operational Guidelines*. This process has already commenced for projects in Samarkand and Bukhara.

Concerning the decaying mural tiles on the Ak-Saray Palace, it is reported that special methods of conservation have been developed by the museum in Shakhriyabz to re-affix them to the walls. This method will be trialled on a third of the total tiled area and, if it is successful, will be used to affix the remainder of the tiles. The State Party did not provide any details on this method.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

In response to the Committee's request concerning the Periodic Reporting and Reactive Monitoring processes for this property (see Decision **41 COM 7A.57**), the World Heritage Centre would like to provide the following clarifications:

- The 'State Programme for complex measures for the building and reconstruction of Shakhriyabz city' was not mentioned in the Periodic Reporting questionnaire submitted by the State Party in 2011-2012 (see <https://whc.unesco.org/document/164767>). The State Party indicated that '*the management system is being fully implemented and monitored*' (Question 4.3.5), and that '*major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure*' and '*interpretative and visitation facilities*' were having a positive impact on the property at the time (Question 3.15.1). Nor was information provided to the World Heritage Centre on the Programme, despite the provisions of Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.
- In the summer of 2014, the World Heritage Centre received a mission report from the UNESCO Office in Tashkent, providing information on renovation and construction works occurring within the Historic Centre of Shakhriyabz. In line with Paragraph 174 of the *Operational Guidelines*, the World Heritage Centre requested further information from the Permanent Delegation of Uzbekistan to UNESCO in a letter dated 1 October 2014.
- On 24 November 2014, the National Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan for UNESCO responded by sending to the World Heritage Centre a 4-page report (plus annexes) on the state of conservation of the property. After reviewing the information provided, the then-Director of the World Heritage Centre expressed concern, in his letter to the Permanent Delegation of 25 February 2015, that restoration and development works had been carried out since 2014, but that no details had been provided to the World Heritage Centre. He further informed the State Party that the state of conservation of the property would be examined at the upcoming session of the World Heritage Committee in July 2015.
- At its 39th session (Bonn, 2015), the Committee expressed '*its concern about the overall impact of the projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and the extent of urban transformation which could undermine the integrity and authenticity of Shakhriyabz*', urged the State Party '*not to commence or to halt any works until the [Heritage Impact] assessments and reviews have been carried out*', and requested that it invite a Reactive Monitoring mission to the property (Decision **39 COM 7B.74**). The mission took place in March 2016.
- At its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), the Committee took note with deep concern of the outcomes of the March 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission, expressed its deep concern that the State Party had not complied with its previous requests, urged the State Party to immediately suspend all tourism development and reconstruction projects within the property and in the adjacent areas and halt all demolition of traditional housing, and decided to inscribe the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger (Decision **40 COM 7B.48**). The Committee further requested that the State Party invite another Reactive Monitoring mission to identify the precise threats to the OUV of the property and determine whether corrective measures and a Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) could be defined, or whether the works undertaken so far had so irreversibly damaged the attributes that sustain the OUV that the property could no longer convey the OUV for which it was inscribed and should therefore be considered for possible deletion from the World Heritage List at a later session. The requested mission took place in December 2016.
- At its 41st session (Krakow, 2017), the Committee noted with extreme concern the conclusions of the December 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission, which confirmed that the monumental buildings had been disengaged from their urban surroundings, so the heart of the Timurid town planning had been lost and traditional dwelling houses in the core of the medieval town had been destroyed, with the result that key attributes of the OUV had been damaged to such an extent, and for the most part irreversibly, that the property could no longer convey the OUV for which it was inscribed. The Committee nevertheless invited the State Party to explore all possible options for the recovery of attributes and to examine whether a significant boundary modification could be envisaged, based

on any recoverable attributes, and to provide further details and documentation to allow an assessment of what, if anything, could be recovered. The Committee also indicated that, on the basis of this documentation, a decision would be made at its 42nd session whether there is potential for a re-nomination of the property, including only some of the monuments and the remaining urban areas, or whether it should be deleted from the World Heritage List, in accordance with Paragraph 192 of the *Operational Guidelines* (Decision **41 COM 7A.57**).

In view of the information provided since the last session, it is noted that the State Party is ready to collaborate with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in order to keep the property on the World Heritage List. However, the State Party has not been able to define the possible recovery of attributes, or a significant boundary modification based on recoverable attributes, in response to the Committee's invitation to explore these options.

The plans and other details provided clearly demonstrate the extensive impact on the fabric of the historic centre of the recent major demolition and restoration work undertaken as part of the 'State Programme for complex measures for the building and reconstruction of Shakhriyabz city'. They also show how the main cultural monuments are now separated from their urban context and sit in a modern park landscape. Although work has stopped on the major reconstruction project, further work is proposed in the 'State Programme' to widen roads and upgrade houses in the historic centre in 2020. The plans proposed for 2020 envisage an increase in service buildings, a large increase in open green spaces, further development of roads, squares and parking lots and an expansion of preservation zones, although the latter are not defined.

The possibility of mitigation measures is mentioned but not defined, and the only changes suggested are cosmetic, relating to street lights and the removal of the children's playground (neither of which was recommended by the December 2016 mission). The removal of the high wall built to shield the remaining houses would however be a welcome improvement.

The recent survey carried out on the residential buildings (similar to what has been done in Bukhara and Samarkand) provides a good overview of what remains of the *mahallas*. It highlights the fact that, although a fairly high percentage of buildings retain their traditional layout, traditional architectural details and fabric have been eroded. The number of dwellings constructed in the 19th century and early 20th century is now only 3%, and in most of these houses, only the *mehmkhonwas* block is preserved, with the rest of the complex having been rebuilt or reconstructed. This study highlights the need for better policies and strategies to save the essence of this now scarce architecture while efforts are made to improve the surrounding services, but it does not suggest that the remaining *mahallas* reflect in an exceptional way Temurid planning or construction.

The analysis provided confirms the conclusions of the December 2016 mission that drastic and irreversible damage was caused to the remnants of Temurid urban planning and to traditional dwelling houses at the core of the medieval town. It also confirms that this loss, combined with the extensive conservation work undertaken on the main cultural monuments, has damaged the attributes to such a degree that the property can no longer justify its OUV, and that this damage cannot be reversed.

The December 2016 mission could not envisage a way to recommend mitigation measures or to suggest a boundary modification that might save either part or all of the property, and the State Party made no such suggestion in its report. Regrettably, the destruction that occurred during the development works has altered the morphology of the city to such a degree that even reclaiming the street patterns would be impossible, as the ground levels have been altered significantly, and re-instating the relationship between the monuments and the city is similarly not an attainable goal. In terms of individual monuments, all have been subject to extensive restoration that has impacted adversely on their authenticity. Only the fragmentary remains of the Ak-Saray palace might have had the capacity to stand alone, but the work carried out recently on its structures and surroundings, along with the state of conservation of the remaining tilework, would not allow it to satisfy the conditions of authenticity and integrity.

In conclusion, it is recommended that the Committee express its deep regret at the situation but consider that, since the property has lost the attributes which conveyed its OUV as defined at the time of inscription, in accordance with Paragraph 192 of the *Operational Guidelines*, it should be deleted from the World Heritage List.

Nonetheless, it is further recommended that the State Party be encouraged to put in place sensitive restoration and conservation policies for the remaining traditional buildings to maintain local characteristics and improve their services. The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies stand

ready to provide capacity-building assistance to the State Party at the national level, notably regarding the implementation of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, the process for Heritage Impact Assessments, in line with the ICOMOS Guidelines, and other heritage management and conservation tools.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.4

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decisions **39 COM 7B.74**, **40 COM 7B.48** and **41 COM 7A.57**, adopted at its 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively, and in particular the concern that the reconstruction project 'State Programme for complex measures for the building and reconstruction of Shakhrisyabz city' represented a threat to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 179 (b) of the Operational Guidelines,
3. Also recalling that the March 2016 and December 2016 Reactive Monitoring missions to the property confirmed that the heart of the Timurid town planning has been lost, that traditional dwelling houses in the core of the medieval town have been destroyed, and that the key attributes of the OUV have been damaged to such an extent (irreversibly, for the most part) that the property could no longer convey the OUV for which it was inscribed,
4. Regrets that no information was provided on the reconstruction and development scheme to the World Heritage Centre in due time, and before any irreversible decision was taken, despite the provisions of Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;
5. Notes that the State Party has not been able to define any possible mitigation measures to recover lost attributes, or to propose a significant boundary modification based on any recoverable attributes, in response to the Committee's request to explore these options;
6. Also notes that, although work is currently suspended on the 'State Programme for complex measures for the building and reconstruction of Shakhrisyabz city', further work is planned from 2020 onwards;
7. Considers that the State Party's 2017 report has confirmed the conclusions of the December 2016 mission that the attributes have been destroyed to such an extent that the property can no longer justify its OUV;
8. Greatly regrets this situation and the fact that this damage cannot be reversed or attributes recovered, and further notes that a major boundary modification would not be feasible;
9. Further recalling that, according to Article 6.1 of the Convention, properties inscribed on the World Heritage List constitute 'a world heritage for whose protection it is the duty of the international community as a whole to co-operate', and recalling furthermore the duty of the international community to assist and cooperate with States Parties in their endeavour to conserve such heritage,
10. Recalling moreover that States Parties have an obligation under the Convention to protect and conserve the World Cultural and Natural Heritage situated on their territory,

notably to ensure that effective and active measures are taken for the protection and conservation of such heritage,

11. *Notes with deep regret that the State Party was unable to fulfil its obligations defined in the Convention, in particular the obligation to protect and conserve the OUV of the World Heritage property, as defined at the time of inscription;*
12. *Deeply regrets that the entreaties of the World Heritage Committee at its 39th, 40th, and 41st sessions failed to protect the property;*
13. ***Decides to delete the Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz (Uzbekistan) from the World Heritage List;***
14. *Notes furthermore that the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies stand ready to provide capacity-building assistance to the State Party at the national level, notably regarding the implementation of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, the process for Heritage Impact Assessments, in line with the ICOMOS Guidelines, and other important aspects of heritage management and conservation, and encourages the State Party to use this opportunity as a means of strengthening management and conservation at other urban World Heritage properties in Uzbekistan.*

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

5. Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) (C 1033)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2001

Criteria (ii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2017-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

The current planning controls: adopted developments and lack of adequate planning rules

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

In progress

Corrective measures identified

In progress

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

March 2006: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the “Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn”; September 2012: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the “Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn” and “Historic Centre of Vienna”; November 2015: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to “Historic Centre of Vienna”

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Housing: High-rise construction projects in Central Vienna (proposed Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus project)
- Legal framework: Lack of effectiveness of the overall governance of the property
- Legal framework: Lack of appropriateness of planning controls in the ‘High-Rise Concept 2014’ and the ‘Glacis Master Plan’

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2017, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/documents>, and summarizes the response to Decision **41 COM 7B.42**.

- As a federal State, the State Party reported that urban development remains unchanged and no action has been taken towards their implementation. The legal basis for the “Intercontinental Hotel – Ice Skating Club – Vienna Concert Hall” project was established in June 2017 by the Vienna City Council, but construction work is not proposed before spring 2020. Prior to the project proceeding, there will be clarification on whether the 2017 modifications to the project are

sufficient to retain the authenticity of the property. The situation for the Karlsplatz site is also unchanged. The legal basis for the Wien Museum and the Winterthur Building projects is not in place, although a decision is expected in spring 2018.

- In late 2017, representatives of the State Party, the City of Vienna, the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS discussed a milestone plan and a programme to define the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and associated corrective measures.
- The State Party is implementing a three-stage process, comprising:
 - an expert workshop in March 2018 under the guidance of the Federal Chancellery of Austria, involving international experts in urban planning, urban development and international law;
 - the preparation of comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA), informed by the results of the expert workshop, aimed at developing specific proposals for corrective measures and future management as requested in Decision **41 COM 7B.42**;
 - the invitation of a World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission to examine the current conservation status of the Historic Centre of Vienna with special regard to the results of the expert-workshop and the HIA.
- The study on historic roof constructions was completed in 2017. It is the first such study of historic roof constructions of a historic city centre in Europe and encompasses about 1,400 historic roofs and 180 different construction systems from the 13th to the 19th century. The results provide an important basis for future building permissions related to roof conversions within the property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

A close and constructive dialogue was set in motion immediately after the Committee decision in July 2017 and the State Party with the City of Vienna must be commended for their commitment to the process.

The three-stage process being undertaken to address inappropriateness of planning rules and new developments is welcome. This three-stage process must lead to an agreed set of corrective measures and an agreed DSOCR, which can be adopted by the World Heritage Committee.

While noting that there has been no change to the status or implementation of the projects recently, considered by the Committee, it would be appropriate for the Committee to reiterate its concern that the legal approval has been given for the “Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus” project which the Committee considered would adversely affect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property if implemented in its current form. It would therefore also be appropriate that the Committee request that the City Council of Vienna confirms its commitment not to give legal approval for any further high rise development (including the Wien Museum and Winterthur Building project), as this would pre-empt the current process and would be inconsistent with the Committee’s request that the State Party halt further approvals for high-rise projects.

The OUV of the property remains in danger from lawfully designed buildings and existing planning controls; particularly the ‘High-Rise Concept’ and ‘Glacis Masterplan’, notwithstanding the May 2017 resolution, which seeks to ensure no new high-rise locations, will be decreed within the property. As previously reported to the Committee, this resolution does not cover areas outside the 1st municipal district, and does not reverse high-rise locations previously determined. Consequently, without actual change to the planning controls themselves, the resolution could be reversed in future by another resolution of the City Council of Vienna. All of these issues, as well as current projects and the broader historic urban context, including visual axes and visual links, and both close and distant views, are to be addressed through the three-stage process.

The State Party and the City of Vienna are to be commended for the process put in place in order to respond to the Committee’s decision and for the study on historic roof constructions in the Historic Centre of Vienna, which will directly contribute to the conservation of this important attribute of the property, as highlighted in the 2012 and 2015 mission reports.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.5

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decisions **40 COM 7B.49** and **41 COM 7B.42**, adopted at its 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,
3. Also recalling the concerns expressed by the 2012 mission regarding the critical level of urban development reached since inscription and its cumulative impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, the need for new tools to guide the development process towards sustainable development that protects the attributes of the OUV, and the specific recommendations of the 2015 mission to the property;
4. Welcomes the process put in place by the State Party together with the City of Vienna, ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre in order to establish a clear milestone plan for addressing the Committee's decisions;
5. Also welcomes the completion of the study on historic roof constructions in the Historic Centre of Vienna by the Federal Monuments Authority in collaboration with the City of Vienna, which will contribute to the conservation of this important attribute of the property, as highlighted in the 2012 and 2015 mission reports;
6. Notes with concern that legal approval was given in June 2017 for the "Intercontinental Hotel – Ice Skating Club – Vienna Concert Hall" project by the Vienna City Council, and that construction work is proposed to start in spring 2020, subject to a 'clarification of whether the 2017 modifications to the project are sufficient to retain the authenticity of the property', even though the Committee has advised that this project in its current form would adversely affect the OUV of the property; and that a political decision allowing the Wien Museum and the Winterthur Building projects is expected in spring 2018;
7. Requests the State Party to halt any further approvals for high-rise projects, and the implementation of already approved projects, pending the adoption of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and corrective measures by the Committee;
8. Notes with satisfaction the three-stage process proposed by the State Party, to address the substantive threats posed by current planning instruments and new developments at the property that led to Danger listing; and also requests that the State Party ensure that an outcome of the three-stage process is an agreed DSOCR and a related set of corrective measures and timeframe for their implementation, addressing decisions **40 COM 7B.49** and **41 COM 7B.42**, and the recommendations of the 2012 and 2015 missions, for adoption by the Committee;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

6. Medieval Monuments in Kosovo (Serbia) (C 724 bis)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2004, extension 2006

Criteria (ii) (iii) (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2006 to present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- a) Lack of legal status of the property;
- b) Lack of legislative protection of buffer zones;
- c) Lack of implementation of the Management Plan and of active management;
- d) Difficulties to monitor the property due to political instability, post-conflict situation (visits under the Kosovo Stabilisation Force / United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (KFOR / UNMIK) escort and lack of guards and security);
- e) Unsatisfactory state of conservation and maintenance of the property.

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

- a) Full and permanent protection of the property in a secure and stable political environment;
- b) Agreed medium-term plan for the restoration of wall paintings (including preventive conservation regime) and conservation and rehabilitation of the property;
- c) Implementation of the Management Plan, and full establishment of buffer zones and boundaries including their legal protection.

Corrective measures identified

Urgent / short-term corrective measures:

- a) Put in place appropriate guarding and security arrangements for the Church of the Virgin of Ljevisa;
- b) Prepare a conservation status report including a condition survey for the wall paintings and the status of the conservation works and take temporary measures where there is an urgent need (for example the lead roof of the west bay of the nave of the Church of Virgin of Ljevisa, that was partly removed);
- c) Prepare a risk preparedness study, in conformity with Paragraph 118 of the *Operational Guidelines* and with Decisions **28 COM 10B.4** and **30 COM 7.2**;

Long-term corrective measures:

- d) Ensure the adequate long-term administrative, regulatory protection and management of the property, in conformity with Paragraph 97 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
- e) Put in place strong protective regimes for the buffer zones;
- f) Adequately delineate the boundaries (e.g. extend the boundaries of the Patriarchate of Pec to include more of its riverside-valley settings);
- g) Prepare detailed state of conservation reports as a basis for adapted monitoring, preventative conservation measures, and specific conservation projects to reverse decline;
- h) Ensure appropriate and timely implementation of the Management Plan.

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

- a) Urgent / short-term corrective measures to be taken by the State Party, in cooperation with UNESCO programmes, UNMIK and Provisional Institutions of Self Government in Kosovo*;
- b) Regarding the long-term corrective measures to be taken by the State Party, in cooperation with UNESCO programmes, UNMIK and Provisional Institutions of Self Government in Kosovo, no specific timeframe can be given at this stage due to the uncertain political situation.

* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/724>

International Assistance

N/A

UNESCO Extra-budgetary funds

Total amount granted: USD 2,798,348 in 2008-2014 following the Donors Conference for the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Heritage in Kosovo, May 2005; USD 693,330 in 2008-2013 by the Italian Government; USD 76,335 in 2008-2013 by the Czech Government; USD 132,833 in 2008-2013 by the Greek Government; USD 2,010,000 in 2011-2014 by the Government of the Russian Federation and USD 45,000 in 2012-2013 by the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Previous monitoring missions

January 2007: UNESCO intersectoral mission to Kosovo; July 2008, January and August 2009, July 2010, July 2012, January and July 2013, January and June 2014, June and October 2015, April 2016, September 2017: missions of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice.

Main threats identified in previous reports

See above

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/724>

Current conservation issues

Note: *The Secretariat was informed by UNESCO's Legal Advisor in 2008 that the UNESCO Secretariat follows the practice of the United Nations, which considers that the Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999) continues to be applicable to the territory of Kosovo until a final settlement is achieved.*

At its 41st session (Krakow, 2017), the World Heritage Committee decided to adjourn until its next ordinary session the debate on the state of conservation of the property (Decision **41 COM 7A.21**). The state of conservation report submitted to the World Heritage Committee at its 41st session is available on the World Heritage Centre's website at the following page: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2017/whc17-41com-7A-en.pdf>.

On 31 January 2018, the Permanent Delegation of Serbia to UNESCO submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/724/documents/>. The report provides the following information:

- At the Dečani Monastery, continued monitoring of wall painting and buildings was performed and no negative impacts were observed. Monitoring shall continue in future. Concerns were raised about a possible blockage of the road leading to Dečani Monastery, however no blockage effectively happened;
- At the Patriarchate of Peć Monastery, continued monitoring of wall paintings and buildings conditions was performed. Following the monitoring and the occurrence of humidity, adequate measures of rehabilitation of the lead roofing will be taken in the future;
- At the Gračanica Monastery, conservation and restoration works were carried out on wall paintings during 2017, in continuation of the works started in 2015;
- At the Church of the Virgin of Ljeviša, no conservation and restoration works were carried out, but a study was undertaken to evaluate the condition of the building, wall painting and movable art objects. The study found that the building condition was not satisfactory, that it was subject to intensive capillary moisture in the walls which endangered frescoes, and that the drainage system was not functioning. Moreover, it found that some damage remained since the 2004 March pogrom, when the church was set on fire. A list of necessary measures was prepared, and project documentation was initiated for future conservation and other works. Moreover, as a site presentation measure, a scientific monograph for general public was issued about the Church of the Virgin of Ljeviša, in Serbian, Albanian and English languages.

The World Heritage Centre, in cooperation with the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe and its Antenna Office in Sarajevo continues to closely monitor the situation through regular exchange of information with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). Concerning the security situation at the property, it should be noted that three components of the property are currently under the protection of Kosovo Police: the Gračanica Monastery, the Church of

the Virgin of Ljeviša and the Patriarchate of Peć Monastery. The fourth component of the property, the Dečani Monastery, remains under protection of the NATO-led Kosovo Force, KFOR.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.6 *

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **30 COM 8B.54, 31 COM 7A.28, 32 COM 7A.27, 33 COM 7A.27, 34 COM 7A.28, 35 COM 7A.31, 36 COM 7A.32, 37 COM 7A.34, 38 COM 7A.18, 39 COM 7A.42, 40 COM 7A.30 and 41 COM 7A.21**, adopted at its 30th (Vilnius, 2006), 31st (Christchurch, 2007), 32nd (Quebec City, 2008), 33rd (Seville, 2009), 34th (Brasilia, 2010), 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012), 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 38th (Doha, 2014), 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) and 41st (Krakow, 2017) sessions respectively,*
3. *Acknowledges the information provided in the state of conservation reports of 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, and the results of the missions of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice, to the property;*
4. *Reiterates its request, in cooperation with UNESCO, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the Institutions of Kosovo, as well as future European arrangements, to continue to take long-term corrective measures, including: ensuring adequate long-term legislative, regulatory protection and management of the property and strong protective regimes for the monuments and the buffer zones, adequately delineated boundaries and the timely implementation of the Management Plan;*
5. *Also reiterates its requests, in cooperation with UNMIK, to continue efforts in completing the short-term and long-term corrective measures to achieve the Desired state of conservation defined for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
6. *Requests the submission, in cooperation with UNMIK, to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, of an updated report on the state of conservation of the property, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;*
7. ***Decides to retain the Medieval Monuments in Kosovo on the List of World Heritage in Danger, and to continue applying the Reinforced monitoring mechanism until the 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee in 2019.***

* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

7. Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (C 1150)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (Review of complex information)

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

8. City of Potosi (Bolivia, Plurinational State of) (C 420)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (ii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2014-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Instability and imminent risk of collapse of the Cerro Rico's summit
- Lack of conservation policy of integral character which considers all the components of the property
- Deficiencies in conservation: special attention required for the restoration and upgrading of structures with residential use and the archaeological industrial heritage
- Potential degradation of the historic site by continued and uncontrolled mining operations in the Cerro Rico Mountain
- Inefficient enforcement of protective legislation
- Threatening impacts of climatic, geological or other environmental factors

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6969>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6969>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6969>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/420/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 5 (from 1988-2015)

Total amount approved: USD 83,777

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/420/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 10,000 for a World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS technical mission in 2005 financed by the Spanish Funds-in-Trust for World Heritage

Previous monitoring missions

May 1995 and November 2009: World Heritage Centre technical missions; November 2005 and February 2011: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS technical missions; December 2013 and January 2014: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; May 2017: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS technical mission; October 2017 and May 2018: Technical missions facilitated by the World Heritage Centre

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/management plan
- Mining
- Surface water pollution
- Potential degradation of the historic site by continued and uncontrolled mining operations in the Cerro Rico Mountain
- Instability and risk of collapse of the Cerro Rico
- Deficiencies in conservation: special attention required for the restoration and upgrading of structures with residential use and the archaeological industrial heritage
- Inefficient enforcement of protective legislation

- Environmental impacts on the hydraulic complex which in turn affects historic fabric and local population

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/420/>

Current conservation issues

On 15 February 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/420/documents/> and responds to Decision **41 COM 7A.23**, and to the updated set of corrective measures, providing the following information:

- The State Party reiterates its commitment to implement the set of corrective measures within the timeline approved in Decision **41 COM 7A.23** and presents a workplan under four themes: mining productive heritage; environmental heritage; archaeological, architectural and urban heritage; limits and regulation. The most significant advances were achieved in the preparation of the legal and operational framework for the management and conservation of the Cerro Rico, the elaboration of the Integrated and Participatory Management Plan (IPMP) and the definition of the buffer zone;
- The Ministry of Mining and Metallurgy, through the Mining Corporation of Bolivia (COMIBOL), issued a report on the Integral Management of the Cerro Rico de Potosí in October 2017 that presented a geophysical study, and proposals to implement the relocation of miners above the 4,400 m.a.s.l. limit. This report also noted that new mining production contracts are issued within the framework of the established work plan, and safety and environmental standards. In addition, the Ministry of Mining and Metallurgy presented a draft Supreme Decree in January 2018 that would establish permanent mechanisms and legal instruments for the conservation of the morphological structure of Cerro Rico, and foresees the implementation of a Conservation Plan based on the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). The Ministry of Cultures and Tourism supports the decree, which, at the time of the report, is still in the analysis phase within the government;
- The development of the IPMP has advanced thanks to the participatory workshop held as part of the October 2017 technical mission, in which the various institutions involved in the property's management and conservation participated. The mission resulted in the definition of the methodological strategy for the IPMP's elaboration. Working groups were established for each of the plan's six thematic components: mining heritage, environmental heritage, industrial archaeological heritage, architectural heritage, urban heritage, and intangible heritage. It was agreed that the overall goal of the IPMP would be to respond to the corrective measures and indicators defined in the DSOCR over the established 5-year timeframe. It will involve inter-agency work, coordinated by the Ministry of Cultures and Tourism. The State Party's progress and the first draft of the IPMP were discussed and further advanced with the authorities concerned in the May 2018 technical mission;
- The technical work involved in the clarification of limits and definition of buffer zones, coordinated by the Autonomous Departmental Government of Potosi and the site manager, is in progress. A first draft of cartographic and topographic information was expected in December 2017;
- The preparation and implementation of conservation and restoration works of industrial, architectural, monumental heritage, public and urban spaces, as well as improvements to urban infrastructure, will be included in the IPMP.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party's report, as well as the outcomes of the recent technical missions in the framework of the International Assistance granted for the property, demonstrate its commitment to implementing the corrective measures adopted in Decision **41 COM 7A.23**. It is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to continue their implementation along these lines. The design of the IPMP around the corrective measures is a promising strategy in this regard. The adoption of the corrective measures, of the DSOCR and the advice of the technical missions have helped to streamline the State Party's efforts in a more coordinated and sustainable manner.

The results of the October 2017 technical mission provided a solid base upon which the IPMP will be elaborated and finalized, with the commitments and participation of all involved actors, at different levels of government. The information provided on the IPMP reflects a well-considered methodology that takes into account the distinct needs of the diverse components of the property, and is directly linked to the objectives established in the DSOCR. More detailed information of the IPMP's status were presented and discussed in the May 2018 technical mission, and it is recommended that the Committee urge the

State Party to submit the draft IPMP as soon as it is available to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies.

It is also recommended that the Committee take note of the advances regarding the delimitation of the property's buffer zones, and reiterate the urgency of finalizing and submitting the proposal of a Minor Boundary Modification.

Regarding the implementation of the other corrective measures, the State Party should provide more complete information on their advances, including the relevant reports, legislation, policies, etc. mentioned in the state of conservation report, particularly regarding the Integral Management of the Cerro Rico de Potosí of October 2017 to allow for a fuller understanding of the current situation of the management and conservation of the Cerro Rico and the relocation of the miners.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.8

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.23**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Acknowledges with appreciation the State Party's commitment to implementing the corrective measures to achieve the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), and encourages the State Party to continue working towards their effective implementation within the established timeline;*
4. *Takes note of the progress achieved in elaborating the Integrated and Participatory Management Plan (IPMP) for the property, as facilitated by the two recent technical missions, and urges the State Party to submit the final draft to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, as soon as it becomes available;*
5. *Also takes note of the advances in elaborating a proposal for definition of the property's buffer zone, and also urges the State Party to submit a final proposal for a Minor Boundary Modification, in line with Paragraph 164 of the Operational Guidelines;*
6. *Requests the State Party to provide complete and clear information on the progress in implementing the entire set of corrective measures, and include the relevant reports, legislation, policies, etc. mentioned in its 2018 state of conservation report, to allow for a fuller understanding of the current situation particularly regarding the management and conservation of the Cerro Rico and the eventual relocation of miners above 4,400 meters;*
7. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;*
8. ***Decides to retain City of Potosí (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

9. Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Chile) (C 1178bis)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2005

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2005-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Extremely fragile nature of the industrial buildings
- Lack of maintenance for 40 years
- Vandalism due to looting of re-usable materials
- Damage caused by the wind

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5014>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5014>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5014>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1178/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 2007-2015)

Total amount approved: USD 135,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1178/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

October 2004: ICOMOS evaluation mission; May 2007: World Heritage Centre site visit; April 2010: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/management plan
- Wind
- Extremely fragile nature of the industrial buildings that were constructed using local materials such as timber for frames, corrugated iron sheets for roofs and some walls, in addition to stucco and lightweight construction
- Lack of maintenance over the past 40 years as well as vandalism at the property
- Corrosion of metal cladding and dismantlement of some of the structural elements
- A few buildings such as the Leaching House are liable to structural collapse if no support is given
- Damage caused by earthquakes and the wind (damages due to the 2014 earthquake addressed)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1178/>

Current conservation issues

On 2 February 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, the executive summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1178/documents/>. The State Party expects that the implementation of the corrective measures, as defined in **37 COM 7A.37**, will be completed by the end of 2018, and reports the following:

- 56% of the activities of the Priority Intervention Programme (PIP) 2005-2008 have been implemented and the remaining 44% (for which financing and a technical team have been secured) will be concluded by the end of 2018;

- The completion and implementation of the property's Conservation Plan is expected in the second half of 2018;
- The current project between the State Parties of Chile and Mexico aims to strengthen technical capacities to develop conservation and monitoring plans for World Heritage properties;
- Safety measures for the site, including the vehicle traffic restriction in Route A-16, and for its workers and visitors are implemented effectively;
- The Management Plan, approved in 2013, is in place and its seven programmes are in effect. During 2018, work will begin on updating the Management Plan up to 2023;
- Financial resources have been provided on a sustainable basis and 30 staff members now work on site. Additional resources will be made available under a national World Heritage Programme;
- The 2013 Strategic Interpretation Plan remains in full force; the rehabilitation of two buildings (one for an Interpretation Centre and another one for a Documentation Centre) was concluded;
- Buffer zones have been identified and their legal protection as Typical Zones was approved in January 2018 by the National Monuments Council. It is expected that the formal decree will be issued shortly, following which the proposal for a Minor Boundary Modification will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre. Regulations of use for the zones will be developed throughout the course of 2018;
- Five out of six emergency interventions were executed in 2017 under the UNESCO Emergency International Assistance;
- Extensive studies on materials and their conservation were undertaken and a Monitoring and Maintenance Manual elaborated;
- A Risk Management Plan is being prepared under the project "Strengthening Disaster Risk Management at 3 World Heritage Properties in Chile" funded by the German cooperation with the assistance of the World Heritage Centre. It is expected to be concluded in 2018.

The Ministry of Cultures, Arts and Heritage was officially created, integrating the National Board for Archives and Museums and the National Centre for World Heritage Sites. The new National Policy for Culture 2017-2022 intends to align national heritage regulations with relevant international conventions.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party should be commended for the important advances it has made in the implementation of the corrective measures established in Decision **37 COM 7A.37**. The official creation of the Ministry of Cultures, Arts and Heritage should be welcomed.

The following observations are made regarding the corrective measures that are to be completed by the end of 2018:

- i. *Full implementation of the Priority Interventions Programme (PIP), according to its 2005 and 2008 definitions:* By the end of 2017, 56% of this programme's actions had been implemented. It may be optimistic to expect that the remaining 44% will be implemented within a one-year period;
- ii. *Full design and initial implementation of the comprehensive Conservation Plan, based on the necessary scientific research, a clear conservation strategy, and the appropriate safety and security standards:* Important preparatory work has been carried out for the elaboration of the Conservation Plan. This Plan should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies as soon as it becomes available;
- iii. *Security and protection measures for the site fully operational:* The State Party has reported on this area for several years and the security and protection measures are fully operational;
- iv. *Sustained implementation of the management plan and fully operational management system in place:* The Management Plan was approved in 2013 and has been in full implementation since then. The management system has proven to be fully operational, and the Plan will be updated for a new period until 2023;
- v. *Management plan articulated with local and regional planning instruments:* The updated Management Plan will explicitly incorporate guidelines derived from regional and local regulations;
- vi. *Appropriate and sustained human, financial and material resources for the conservation and management of the property secured and vii. Stable and continuous contribution by the State for*

the conservation and management of the property, in a framework of shared funding (public / private): The Saltpeter Museum Corporation has 30 staff members in total, including heritage related specialists, administration, maintenance and security staff. Financial contributions from entrance fees, mining companies, the state, and other sources appear to have reached a sustainable level;

- viii. *Visitor strategy and interpretation plan fully in place:* The Strategic Interpretation Plan has been in force since 2013 and a full programme has been implemented. Rehabilitation works for an Interpretation Centre and a Documentation Centre have been concluded. Visitor numbers have been gradually increasing from 49 000 in 2005 to 91 000 in 2016;
- ix. *Site's facilities and activities contribute to the conservation and protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property:* Conservation, interpretation, communication and outreach programmes have been implemented systematically;
- x. *Buffer zone fully established and approved and regulatory measures for its protection adopted and enforced:* The declaration of the proposed buffer zones as a National Monument under the category of Typical Zone is an important step towards the fulfilment of this measure. Regulatory measures remain to be established, as does the formal submission of the buffer zone as a Minor Boundary Modification to the World Heritage Centre.

It may indeed be expected, as the State Party indicates, that the corrective measures can be implemented by the end of 2018. However, some important measures, such as the Conservation Plan and the buffer zone regulations, are still to be completed. These plans should be submitted and reviewed by the Advisory Bodies to assess the progress made in the achievement of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.9

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.24**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Commends the State Party for its sustained effort and commitment to implement the programme of corrective measures within the established timeframe and welcomes the recent creation of the Ministry of Cultures, Arts and Heritage;*
4. *Encourages the State Party to complete the programme of corrective measures by the end of 2018 in order to assess the achievement of the Desired state of conservation, in view of the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
5. *Also welcomes the solution found for the protection of the proposed buffer zone and the declaration of this zone as a National Monument under the category of Typical Zone, requests the State Party to establish the regulatory measures for its management and protection, and further requests it to submit the buffer zone as a formal Minor Boundary Modification application, as per Paragraph 163 and 164 of the Operational Guidelines, to the World Centre for evaluation by the Advisory Bodies and consideration by the World Heritage Committee;*
6. *Urges the State Party to complete the Conservation Plan and to submit it as soon as it becomes available to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;*
7. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;*

8. ***Decides to retain Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works (Chile) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

10. **Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo (Panama) (C 135)**



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1980

Criteria (i)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2012-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Fragile state of the property and accelerated degradation by environmental factors, lack of maintenance and limited conservation planning
- Erosion
- Lack of established boundaries and buffer zones
- Absence of a conservation and management plan
- Encroachments and urban pressure
- Tourism pressure (particularly at Portobelo)
- Insufficient legislation for the preservation of built heritage and regulations combining the two components of the property

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4763>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4763>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4763>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/135/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 1980-1993)

Total amount approved: USD 76,800

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/135/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

1993: technical mission; November 2001, March 2009, March 2010: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; February 2014: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Erosion and siltation/ deposition
- Housing
- Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation
- Land conversion
- Legal framework
- Management systems/ management plan
- Fragile state of the property and accelerated degradation by environmental factors, lack of maintenance and limited conservation planning
- Erosion

- Lack of established boundaries and buffer zones
- Absence of a conservation and management plan
- Encroachments and urban pressure
- Tourism pressure (particularly at Portobelo)
- Insufficient legislation for the preservation of built heritage and regulations combining the two components of the property

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/135/>

Current conservation issues

On 26 January 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/135/documents/> and reports the following:

- The timeframe for the implementation of the programme of the corrective measures covers a three-year period from January 2016 to June 2019, with a detailed timetable for actions to be carried out in each quarter. However, its implementation was affected by the lack of funds. Consequently there is a considerable list of activities that were foreseen for 2017 but ultimately not realized. Some of these activities are:
 - The National Commission of World Cultural and Natural Heritage reactivation;
 - The territorial and urban development plan of Portobelo;
 - The implementation of the site museum of Portobelo
 - The visitor centre of San Lorenzo;
 - Only partial consolidation works of San Lorenzo Castle;
 - Other emergency interventions;
 - The preparation of a Management Plan.

Nevertheless, some actions were carried out with funding from the Panama Tourism Authority, the National Institute of Culture (INAC) and the Ministry of the Environment;

- As almost every action of the work plan foreseen for 2017 had to be postponed, a new timeframe has been established on the basis of funds that have been approved by the INAC and are expected from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) loan under the project “Support for the conservation and management of cultural heritage”. This INAC-IDB project has a duration of four years (2017-2020) and a budget of USD 45 million. From the global project, an amount of USD 22 million is allocated for the implementation of the Emergency Plan for the World Heritage site. Its objectives include institutional strengthening, emergency works for the property, and technical cooperation that includes the elaboration of the Management Plan that is scheduled to be finalized by December 2018. The project’s funds should be available from March 2018;
- The Ministry of Environment approved a new Public Use Plan (PUP) for Portobelo National Park, including the fortifications of Portobelo, which identifies tourist attractions and regulates the park’s use and management (order and flow of visitors, rules for visits, and management models);
- INAC has strengthened its relationship with the Patronato de Portobelo y San Lorenzo, which receives annual funding for its operations. The Patronato has improved its management, has recruited additional staff, and is in the process of establishing a technical office in San Lorenzo.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

It is regrettable to note, once again, that the implementation of the programme of corrective measures has had to be rescheduled due to the lack of funds allocated to INAC and the Patronato de Portobelo y San Lorenzo in 2017. Previous decisions of the Committee and recommendations of Reactive Monitoring and Advisory missions (the most recent being in 2014) have drawn attention to the fragile state of many of the components of the property, and stressed that further delays could significantly affect the property’s Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). The Committee has frequently urged the State Party to secure sustained government funds for the integral implementation of the programme of corrective measures. The revised timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures respects the final date of June 2019, but the condensed scheme of activities will pose serious challenges to the capacity of management and technical staff of INAC and the Patronato.

In this situation, it is very much welcomed that INAC and the IDB have agreed on a major loan for the conservation and management of cultural heritage in Panama. A major component of this programme

is the strengthening of the capacities of INAC, as well as actions to be implemented in the property. These include:

- Consolidation interventions in Portobelo;
- Restoration and rehabilitation of the fortifications Santiago el Nuevo, San Jeronimo, San Fernando and Santiago el Viejo;
- Design and construction of a multifunctional building for restrooms, administration offices, the customs and immigration service, and ticket sales;
- Rehabilitation of harbour facilities;
- Restoration and rehabilitation of the museum in the fort of San Lorenzo;
- Development of integral Management Plans;
- Capacity building activities with the staff of the Patronato and in conservation and restoration;
- Design and construction of a customs building with a museum on the second floor.

It is to be noted that the IDB project excludes some of the corrective measures such as the definition, protection and management of the buffer zones, and legal processes for the territorial and urban development plan for Portobelo. It is also observed that the project foresees important infrastructure and tourist facility projects. In this context, it should be recalled that tourism pressure was one of the factors identified as affecting the property when it was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. Therefore, the Management Plan needs to be truly integral and give priority to conservation programmes, and identify sustainable public use levels, facilities and activities. It is recommended that the Management Plan, scheduled to be finalized by December 2018, be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies by 1 February 2019.

It is recommended that the Committee congratulate the State Party for the INAC-IDB project that will provide funding over a four-year period, while also emphasizing the need to fully implement the programme of corrective measures in order to be able to achieve the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.10

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.25**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Expresses its regret that the implementation of the programme of corrective measures has suffered delays due to a lack of appropriate fund allocation, as a consequence of which the property risks losing important attributes and its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);*
4. *Welcomes the opportunity of funding offered by the Inter-American Development Bank for the conservation and management of cultural heritage that includes a major component for interventions in the World Heritage property;*
5. *Notes that the revised timeframe proposed by the State Party for implementation of the programme of corrective measures confirms June 2019 as the final date, and urges it to ensure that this programme be implemented in its entirety, and that due attention be given to the definition and protection of buffer zones and the preparation of an integral Management Plan, which should give priority to conservation programmes and a sustainable public use plan;*
6. *Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, the finalized Management Plan for review by the Advisory Bodies and an updated report*

on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;

7. **Decides to retain Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama: Portobelo-San Lorenzo (Panama) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

11. Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) (C 366)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1986

Criteria (i)(iii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1986-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Fragile state of conservation of earthen structures and decorated surfaces due to extreme climatic conditions (El Niño phenomenon) and other environmental factors
- Inadequate management system in place
- Insufficient capacity and resources for the implementation of conservation measures
- Increase in the levels of the phreatic water table

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4647>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4647>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4647>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/366/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 5 (from 1987-1998)

Total amount approved: USD 118,700

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/366/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

1997: ICOMOS mission; February 2007: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS and ICCROM mission; November 2010 and December 2014: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community
- Illegal activities
- Management systems/management plan
- Water (rain/water table)
- Continuous deterioration of earthen architecture structures and decorated surfaces from lack of conservation and maintenance practices
- Illegal occupation of the property
- Unregulated farming activities
- Rising water table levels

- Delay in implementing protective measures (legislation and regulations already passed by the National Authorities)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/366/>

Current conservation issues

On 24 January 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, an executive summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/366/documents/>, which addresses the three main issues that the Committee identified in its earlier decisions as follows:

- The updated *Master Plan for the Conservation and Management of Chan Chan Archaeological Complex* has been approved by all technical departments of the Ministry of Culture and the issuing of the final ministerial approval is in process;
- The formal delimitation of the buffer zone and elaboration of its regulatory measures are still pending the response of the management office of the Trujillo Provincial Municipality's Urban Development Plan;
- Several observations were made by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on the feasibility of the implementation of the draft regulations for Law 28261, which will address the issue of illegal occupations. In response, on 18 December 2017, the Minister of Culture established a Task Force that will report on the feasibility of the law within 140 days of this date.

Furthermore, the State Party reports on the implementation of the corrective measures as follows:

- Public Investment Projects (PIPs) implemented in 2017 included research, conservation and enhancement, with recovery and restoration works in Huaca Toledo, Chayhuac An walled complex, Martínez de Compañón complex and Utzh An walled complex;
- The Pan-American Conservation Centre for Earthen Heritage Sites (PCCEHS) implemented an extensive research programme, through the Earthen Architecture Laboratory, in order to improve the quality control of materials that are used in conservation interventions. The programme is aimed at the investigation of materials and techniques of constructions, located in different sectors of the heritage complex. Other activities carried out included the monitoring of weather conditions, gathering documentation, mapping projects and training programmes to improve the capacities of those in charge of physical and virtual documentation;
- Awareness-raising activities included educational programmes for the neighbouring community, including students, teachers and administrative staff of educational institutions and associations surrounding the property (benefitting more than 5,000 participants in 2017), in addition to the promotion of traditions and historical knowledge (including training on the manufacturing of traditional boats - *caballitos de totora*);
- Implementation of actions related to the existing Master Plan continued, including public use, risk management and museum development activities, as well as control of illegal occupation, encroachment, and urban pressure;
- Adequate financial resources for the approval and implementation of PIPs in 2017 were allocated, amounting to more than 11 million soles.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party should be commended on the numerous activities that were implemented in 2017, and the considerable resources that were made available for the conservation and management of the property. This shows the high commitment of the State Party towards the implementation and provision of financial resources for the programme of corrective measures.

Particular mention should be made of the PIPs, which provide important financial support for research, aimed at conservation and enhancement programmes for recovery and restoration works in the complex. The research and monitoring activities of the PCCEHS are particularly relevant in monitoring weather conditions and their impacts on the earthen architecture, and determining best materials and conservation practices to be implemented in the heritage complex. The application of new technologies in mapping and documentation, such as the use of drones, is commendable.

The outreach programmes for educational institutions and the involvement of surrounding populations are welcomed, in order to reinforce the cultural appropriation of the values that sustain the OUV of the

property, such as the undertaking of workshops by the artisans that build the *totorá* boats, establishing a direct link with nearby villages, including Huanchaco, where fishermen used the rafts on a daily basis.

It should be noted however that no substantial progress has been made in the implementation of the three main issues that the Committee identified in its Decision **41 COM 7A.26**, namely:

- Adoption of the revised Master Plan, which is pending formal approval by the Minister of Culture;
- Delimitation and regulation of the buffer zone, which has been awaiting the response of the management office of the Trujillo Provincial Municipality's Urban Development Plan since April 2016;
- Approval of regulations for Law 28261 regarding illegal occupations, which is now pending the results of the Task Force that will study the feasibility of their implementation.

These are essential components of the programme of corrective measures that have been awaiting implementation for many years. Without them, the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) cannot be achieved. It is therefore recommended that the Committee urge again the State Party to proceed with these issues as a matter of extreme urgency. Without a conclusion of these matters and proof of their effectiveness, the Committee will not be able to assess to what extent the DSOCR, as defined in its Decision **36 COM 7A.34**, has been reached.

It is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to include in its next state of conservation report an assessment of the level of implementation and the effectiveness of all corrective measures, as adopted in Decision **36 COM 7A.34**.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.11

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.26**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Commends the State Party for the important progress made in the implementation of most of the programme of corrective measures, and requests the State Party to continue its efforts;*
4. *Welcomes the research and monitoring activities of the Pan-American Conservation Centre for Earthen Heritage Sites (PCCEHS), and the implementation of a number of important conservation projects, public awareness and outreach activities with educational institutions and communities in the vicinity of the property;*
5. *Urges the formal approval of the Master Plan by the Minister of Culture, and also requests the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre immediately once this has been resolved;*
6. *Expresses its most serious concerns about the continued delays in the formal delimitation and regulation of the proposed buffer zone due to the lack of response from the management office of the Trujillo Provincial Municipality's Urban Development Plan, as well as in the implementation of Law 28261 that would address the matter of illegal occupation, which are both essential components of the programme of corrective measures, as adopted in Decision **36 COM 7A.34**;*
7. *Further urges the State Party, once again, to address these matters with the utmost urgency;*

8. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above matters, along with an assessment of the level of implementation of the effectiveness of all corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
9. **Decides to retain Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

12. Coro and its Port (Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of) (C 658)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1993

Criteria (iv)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2005-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Considerable decay of materials and structures resulting from lack of comprehensive conservation and maintenance, and torrential rains in 2004, 2005 and 2010
- Deterioration of architectural and urban coherence compromising the integrity and authenticity of the property
- Lack of adequate and efficient management, planning and conservation mechanisms, and institutional arrangements

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5965>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5965>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5965>

Updated in 2015: see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6263>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/658/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/658/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount provided: USD 20,000 (Spanish Funds-in-Trust for World Heritage) for the planning, implementation and subsequent publications of participatory workshops and meetings with artisans and civil society in Coro and La Vela

Previous monitoring missions

December 2003 and September 2006: World Heritage Centre missions to assess the state of conservation; July 2002, April 2005, May 2008 and February 2011: Joint World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; October 2015: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/management plan
- Water (rain/water table)
- Serious deterioration of materials and structures

- Deterioration of the architectural and urban coherence and integrity of the property
- Lack of adequate management, planning and conservation mechanisms
- Absence of detailed and technical information on the state of conservation of the property since 2007
- Flooding and water damage

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/658/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/658/documents/>, and responds to the matters raised by the World Heritage Committee in Decision **41 COM 7A.48**, and to the revised corrective measures approved in Decision **38 COM 7A.23**. The State Party provides the following information:

- The proposals for redefining the property's boundaries are still being studied in light of the elaboration of the Management Plan. The State Party notes that the expansion of both components' buffer zones is desirable in order to incorporate other important buildings of heritage value in adjacent blocks. These areas are more heterogeneous and in a weaker state of conservation, but currently benefit from some conservation and restoration investments. The buffer zone extensions will be submitted at a later stage as a Minor Boundary Modification. A detailed description of the proposed buffer zone extensions is provided for both components;
- Advances in the elaboration of the property's Management Plan are detailed, which is being led by a Mixed Commission involving the relevant stakeholders, including community councils. The detailed diagnostic phase is almost complete, upon which the Plan's proposal will be based. A database has been developed to analyze information collected on the state of conservation of approximately 600 buildings in the property's two components, to aid in identifying vulnerabilities and appropriate actions to undertake. The Management Plan should be finalized and approved by March 2019 according to the basic timeline provided. The Management Plan is conceived of as a global programmatic document to not only strengthen the conservation and management of the property, but also contribute to the social and economic development of the local communities;
- Draft versions of several chapters elaborated in the diagnostic phase of the Management Plan were submitted;
- A Risk Plan for the property is mentioned as being developed with the Civil Defense, National Guard, and Fire Department;
- Regarding the property's drainage system, some cleaning and dismantling work was undertaken in December 2017. A Master Plan and diagnostic studies were produced in previous years. The substantial budget allocated for the drainage system in late 2017 is currently under review by the State authorities. A basic timeline for the drainage system's construction from April to December 2018, developed by the Mixed Commission, was presented;
- Basic information is provided on the majority of the corrective measures.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

It is recommended that the Committee commend the State Party on its continued commitment to improving the state of conservation and management of the property. It is clear that community councils, and the community at large, are integral actors in these processes, and benefit from a range of awareness-raising and capacity-building initiatives related to cultural heritage.

The redefinition of the property's boundaries, which is still in the analysis stage, is critical in the framework of the Management Plan's elaboration, and decision-making for the property's conservation and management more broadly. It is therefore recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to finalize a clear boundary definition proposal, with the assistance of ICOMOS, and submit a Minor Boundary Modification for the extension of the buffer zones, as a matter of priority.

The progress in the diagnostic phase of the Management Plan, and the draft chapters provided, demonstrate important advances in implementing this corrective measure. The State Party should be requested to finalize the Management Plan and incorporate the necessary strategic plans and actions to address all vulnerabilities in the property and to ensure its long-term sustainability in terms of conservation, management, resource allocation, and relevant socio-economic factors.

Regarding the implementation of an effective drainage system, it is noted that little progress has been achieved in the past year. Recognizing the previous completion of studies for the property's drainage system, and that the budget for the project is currently under review, it is further recommended that the

Committee urge the State Party to begin implementation of the proposed actions, according to a prioritized and costed timeline, and demonstrate that sufficient financial resources have been secured for the project.

While the information provided by the State Party demonstrates satisfactory advances in the implementation of many of the corrective measures, further information and actions are needed to ensure that the key issues previously identified as affecting the property have been adequately addressed. The State Party should also provide a detailed analysis on the progress towards achieving the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as adopted in Decision **38 COM 7A.23**.

While the basic timelines for completing the Management Plan and constructing the drainage system are appreciated, it is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to develop an updated and more detailed timeline for their implementation and for any other outstanding corrective measures, given that the additional two years' timeframe noted in Decision **39 COM 7A.48** lapsed in 2017. The technical advice to be provided by ICOMOS in 2018 will assist in the completion of the remaining corrective measures, especially the elaboration of the Management Plan and the implementation of an effective drainage system.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.12

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.27**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Commends the State Party on its continued commitment to improving the state of conservation and management of the property, and ensuring the broad participation of community councils and the communities at large in these processes;*
4. *Taking note that the redefinition of the property's boundaries is still in the analysis phase, requests the State Party to finalize a clear boundary definition proposal as a matter of priority, in cooperation with ICOMOS, and submit a Minor Boundary Modification, in accordance with Paragraphs 163-164 of the Operational Guidelines, for the extension of the buffer zones;*
5. *Recognizes the advances in the diagnostic phase of the Management Plan's elaboration, and also requests the State Party to complete the draft version of this Plan, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies as soon as it becomes available;*
6. *Urges the State Party to start implementation of a prioritized and costed plan for the property's drainage system, and ensure that adequate financial resources are secured for its correct execution;*
7. *Further requests the State Party to provide complete and clear information on the implementation status of the entire set of corrective measures, and a detailed analysis of the progress in achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);*
8. *Given that the timeline adopted by Decision **38 COM 7A.23** has lapsed, also urges the State Party to provide updated and detailed timelines for the implementation of the remaining corrective measures;*

9. *Encourages the State Party to take advantage of opportunities for technical assistance, guided by ICOMOS, in addressing the above issues with the aim of advancing the implementation of the outstanding corrective measures;*
10. *Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;*
11. ***Decides to retain Coro and its Port (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

AFRICA

13. Old Towns of Djenné (Mali) (C 116rev)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1988

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2016-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Serious deterioration of materials in the historic town and continued decay at the archaeological sites
- Inappropriate interventions
- Erosion of the architectural coherence of the town
- Lack of enforcement and implementation of regulatory and planning tools

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

In progress

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6678>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/116/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 5 (from 1981-2018)

Total amount approved: USD 109,157

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/116/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 110,000 (Italian Funds-in-Trust); USD 23,100 (Croisi Europe); USD 86,900 (European Commission); USD 53,000 (Netherlands Funds-in-Trust); USD 71,090 (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation)

Previous monitoring missions

2002, 2005: World Heritage Centre missions; 2006: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission; 2014, 2016: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2017: UNESCO Expert mission to assess the state of conservation of Mali's World Heritage properties

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- No management and conservation plan
- Pressure from urban development
- Deterioration of dwellings
- Waste disposal problems
- Encroachment of the archaeological sites
- Unstable security situation

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/116/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2018, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/116/documents/>, providing the following information:

- A new 2018-2020 Management and Conservation Plan was developed in close cooperation with the local community;
- A Management Committee was created and ensures regular consultation of the Counsellors of the districts;
- Awareness-raising activities to combat looting and illicit trafficking of cultural property have been carried out in the communities and in schools;
- Other awareness-raising activities for the conservation of the property, such as regular radio broadcast messages or community meetings, are implemented;
- An interpretation plan for the property has been prepared, including tourist information (orientation panels and information). Informative signposting at the Djenné-Djeno site has been updated and panels forbidding the use of archaeological sites, for example, for making bricks and excavations, have been installed;
- The degradation and looting of the archaeological sites has decreased thanks to the effective involvement of the communities;
- Several dilapidated houses have been restored or are in the process of restoration;
- A request for International Assistance, approved in 2018, will enable rehabilitation work of monumental houses and the Moroccan Palace, partially collapsed due to torrential rains in August 2016;
- With support from the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), a system for the evacuation of rainwater has been installed, and 200 metres of river banks have been developed;
- Mechanisms to combat erosion caused by rainwater have been strengthened at the level of the mini-dams and stone barriers with piles of clay-filled sacks;
- The boundaries and the buffer zones of the archaeological sites of Djenné-Djano, Hambarketolo and Kaniana have been redefined and indicated; missing bollards have been installed throughout the property, except Tonomba;
- An architectural diagnostic and solar electrification project of the Grand Mosque of Djenné is ongoing, with support of the Spanish Developing Cooperation Agency (AECID).

The State Party highlights certain threats that weigh on the property, in particular:

- Water erosion;
- Clandestine excavations and encroachment of the archaeological sites;
- Transformation of the buildings and increased use of modern materials;
- Inscriptions on walls of the houses by adolescents;
- Implantation of metal kiosks and publicity posters.

Due to security concerns, the reactive monitoring mission was not organized. However, in April 2017, a cultural heritage expert was assigned by UNESCO to carry out a field mission to assess the state of conservation of the property (the mission report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/116/documents/>).

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The efforts undertaken by the State Party and the progress achieved in the implementation of the corrective measures are warmly welcomed. Indeed, at least 10 corrective measures of the 20 are being implemented (against 5 in 2017), with particular appreciation for the development of the new 2018-2020 Management and Conservation Plan and the creation of a Management Committee.

The different interventions carried out at the property are to be congratulated, all the more so as the security situation remains very fragile. In this context, the progress achieved is appreciated, in particular the restoration work of the dilapidated houses, measures to combat water erosion and the development of a section of the river banks, and also the installation of visible bollards marking the boundaries of the property. In addition, enhancement and awareness-raising measures of the property enable the local community to better appreciate the heritage of the city and to increase mobilization for conservation and management efforts. Thus, the Grand Mosque project, funded by Spain, will enable the provision of a new solar electricity plan for the building, including new public lighting surrounding the building, which will provide increased visual value.

Notwithstanding this progress, several areas of concern remain. Thus, threats continue to weigh on the earthen architecture and the number of dilapidated houses is still very high, despite ongoing restoration work. As already noted in 2014, it appears that the problems, such as the use of materials like clay-baked bricks and cement, brilliant paintwork on the door and window surrounds as well as the elimination of some decorative elements like the “sarafales” are not yet resolved. Therefore, it is advocated that the Committee recommend that the State Party accelerate the definition of conservation and maintenance regulations for the buildings of the historic Town (corrective measure), including urban standards for the reconstruction of dilapidated houses.

It is also recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party, through the Cultural Mission of Djenné, in addition to the signposting measures, to pursue awareness-raising and information efforts of the local population to slow down degradation in the ancient urban fabric and lessen the negative impacts on the buildings, but also to reduce encroachment of the archaeological sites.

It is also recommended that in response to the extremely difficult conditions prevailing at the site and the comparative isolation of the staff, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies explore the possibility of setting up a short-term distance support programme in order to allow dialogue on capacity-building and the drafting of the Desired State of Conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

Finally, whilst acknowledging the funds obtained from Spain and UNESCO in the framework of International Assistance, it is essential that financial means and the capacity of the Cultural Mission of Djenné be increased for the implementation of the Management Plan and future activities. It is also recommended that the Committee renew its appeal to the international community to contribute to the implementation of the second phase of the Action Plan for the rehabilitation of the cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali (2017-2020).

In view of all these concerns, it is recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.13

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.28**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Notes with satisfaction the projects carried out by the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures, in particular the rehabilitation of degraded or dilapidated houses and the securization of the archaeological sites, the measures to combat water erosion, development of a section of the banks, as well as enhancement and awareness-raising measures;*
4. *Congratulates the State Party for the development of the new 2018-2020 Management and Conservation Plan and the creation of a Management Committee;*
5. *Also notes with appreciation the financial support of the Spanish Developing Cooperation Agency (AECID) to carry out an architectural diagnostic and solar electrification of the Grand Mosque of Djenné and welcomes the granting of International Assistance to the State Party for rehabilitation work on the monumental houses and the Moroccan Palace;*
6. *Expresses its concern about the continuing problems linked notably to the degradation of the ancient urban fabric and the negative impacts affecting the buildings, the effects of water erosion, and encroachment of the archaeological sites that suffer from clandestine and superficial excavations;*

7. Recommends that the State Party accelerate the definition of the conservation and maintenance regulations for the buildings of the historic Town (corrective measure), including urban standards for the reconstruction of dilapidated houses, and encourages, through the Cultural Mission of Djenné, the pursuit of the awareness-raising and information efforts of the local population with a view to slowing down the degradation of the ancient urban fabric, lessen the negative impacts on the buildings, and reduce encroachment of the archaeological sites;
8. Launches an appeal to the international community to support the efforts of the State Party and contribute towards the implementation of the second phase of the Programme for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali;
9. Encourages the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to explore the possibility of setting up a short-term distance support programme, in order to allow dialogue on capacity building and on drafting the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
10. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
11. Decides to retain **Old Towns of Djenné (Mali)** on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

14. Timbuktu (Mali) (C 119rev)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1988

Criteria (ii)(iv)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1990-2005, 2012-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Occupation of the property by armed groups
- Absence of management
- Destruction of 14 mausoleums and degradation of the three mosques in the serial property

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
In progress

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6622>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/119/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 8 (from 1981-2018)

Total amount approved: USD 189,352

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/119/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 100,000 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust; USD 55,000 from the UNESCO Emergency Fund; USD 2,100,000 from the Action Plan Fund for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of ancient manuscripts in Mali

Previous monitoring missions

2002, 2004, 2005, 2006: World Heritage Centre missions; 2008, 2009 and 2010: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions; May, October and December 2012: UNESCO emergency missions to Mali; June 2013: UNESCO assessment mission to Timbuktu; April 2017: UNESCO Expert mission to assess the state of conservation of Mali's World Heritage properties

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Occupation of the property by armed groups
- Lack of management structure at the site
- Armed conflict

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/119/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2018, in response to Decision **41 COM 7A.30**, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, supplemented by a report submitted on 3 March 2018; these reports are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/119/documents/>, providing the following information:

- A new 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan was developed in close cooperation with the local community;
- A multidisciplinary commission was established to propose solutions for the conservation of the ancient fabric;
- The implementation of the urban regulation suffers from persistent insecurity, causing weak presence of the local authorities and technical service agents, and lack of civic spirit on the part of the local population. Also, the proliferation of containers and houses made of sheet metal in the midst of garbage and blocked gutters threaten the ancient urban fabric;
- The uncontrolled refuse dumps adjacent to the Djingareyber Mosque and the mausoleums of the three saints have been evacuated;
- The ablutions building of the Djingareyber Mosque has been rehabilitated and a green area, previously used as a domestic waste dump, has been developed on the southern side;
- A Maintenance Guide of the reconstructed and rehabilitated mausoleums of Timbuktu has been developed;
- Rehabilitation work on the Sankoré and Sidi Yahia mosques, and enhancement of the collections of the Municipal Museum and the Al Mansur Korey Museum are ongoing;
- The Ahmed Baba Institute of Higher Learning and Islamic Research (IHERI-AB) has benefited from extension work to the administrative buildings;
- The military presence and the establishment of military protection barriers up to the base of the walls of some buildings, notably the Djingareyber Mosque, represent a major risk caused by the redirection of traffic to nearby streets and listed buildings; the vibrations caused degrade the earthen buildings;
- The need to rehabilitate the enclosures of the cemeteries containing mausoleums continues, highlighting the absence of guards and public lighting;
- The Timbuktu Cultural Mission (MCT) lacks staff, in particular qualified technicians for the conservation of the earthen buildings, as well as a vehicle for work supervision missions;
- Due to security conditions, the UNESCO/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission was not organized. However, in April 2017, a cultural heritage expert was assigned by UNESCO to carry out a field mission to continue this work and assess the situation at site (the mission report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/119/documents/>).

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The progress achieved by the State Party in the rehabilitation and conservation of the property at several levels and the implementation of the corrective measures adopted by the Committee (Decision **40 COM 7A.6**), despite the security situation, is warmly welcomed. The report submitted demonstrated that of

the 12 corrective measures, nearly 10 of them are being implemented and it is recommended that the Committee congratulate the State Party.

In this context, the development of a new 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan constitutes major progress, however, the implementation will depend on the mobilization of sufficient means. This achievement, like the establishment of a Multidisciplinary Committee, demonstrates the increased involvement of the local community that remains very active. The continuation of rehabilitation and safeguarding works, in particular for the three mosques, the El-Farouk monument, the libraries of manuscripts and the museums, or also the extension of the IHERI-AB are again visible signs for the local population of the dynamic action being undertaken, mainly thanks to the contribution of the European Union to the second phase of the Rehabilitation Programme.

Despite this dynamic and the progress achieved, the unstable security situation still remains an important concern, all the more so since the military presence and the vibrations caused by the military vehicles constitute a new threat to the buildings. It is recommended that the State Party, in consultation with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), studies reorganization options for traffic adjacent to the listed buildings in order to reduce the potential negative effects.

Moreover, notwithstanding the planned interventions at the two cemeteries, for the repair and reconstruction of the enclosure walls and development work for the evacuation of rainwater, additional security measures at all the cemeteries containing mausoleums of saints are necessary, specifically the recruitment and training of guards for each cemetery and the installation of public lighting.

A further concern is the insufficient capacities of the Timbuktu Cultural Mission (MCT), in particular the need for logistic means (vehicles and motorbikes), human resources and funds and the rehabilitation of the disused premises of the MCT that remain unoccupied following acts of vandalism sustained during the occupation of the town in 2012. The State Party is encouraged to increase the budgetary means available to the MCT to better fulfil its central function and ensure the implementation of the new Management and Conservation Plan. In the same way, it is recommended that the Committee renew its appeal to the international community to contribute to the implementation of the second phase of the Action Plan for the rehabilitation of the cultural heritage and safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali (2017-2020).

Finally, it is recommended that in response to the extremely difficult conditions prevailing at the site and the comparative isolation of staff, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies explore the possibility of setting up a short-term distance support programme in order to allow dialogue on capacity-building and the drafting of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

In view of all these remarks, it is recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.14

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.29**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Notes with satisfaction the progress achieved in the implementation by the State Party of the corrective measures adopted at its 40th session, in a continuingly difficult context in northern Mali, notably the rehabilitation and safeguarding work of the three mosques, the private libraries and the museums, the El-Farouk monument and the development of Independence Square, and also the extension of the HERI-AB;*
4. *Congratulates the State Party for the preparation of the new 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan, and the increased involvement of the local community in activities carried out for the benefit of the property;*

5. Warmly welcomes the interventions foreseen for the security of two cemeteries, and recommends the State Party to broaden the scope of its efforts to include all the cemeteries containing the mausoleums of saints through additional measures, in particular the recruitment and training of guards for each cemetery, as well as public lighting;
6. Expresses its concern as regards the continuing unstable security situation and notably certain impacts due to military presence, such as the potentially negative effects of vibrations caused by military vehicles to the listed buildings, and also recommends that the State Party study, in consultation with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), reorganization options for traffic adjacent to the concerned buildings to reduce these effects;
7. Encourages the State Party to increase the financial, logistical and human resources of the Timbuktu Cultural Mission, to enable an improved fulfilment of its central function and ensure the implementation of the new Management and Conservation Plan;
8. Launches an appeal to the international community to provide support to the efforts of the State Party and contribute towards the implementation of the second phase of the Rehabilitation Programme for Cultural Heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali;
9. Also encourages the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to explore the possibility of setting up a short-term distance support programme, in order to allow dialogue on capacity building and on drafting the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
10. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
11. Decides to pursue the application of the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;
12. Also decides to retain Timbuktu (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

15. Tomb of the Askia (Mali) (C 1139)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2004

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2012-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Occupation of Gao city by armed groups
- Inability to ensure daily management in the protection and conservation of the property
- Risk of collapse of the property

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
In progress



Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6623>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1139/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 2000-2018)

Total amount approved: USD 79,822

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1139/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: UNESCO Emergency Fund: USD 40,000; Action plan for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of ancient manuscripts in Mali: USD 50,000

Previous monitoring missions

May 2012: Emergency UNESCO mission to Bamako; October and December 2012: World Heritage Centre monitoring missions to Bamako; February 2014: UNESCO assessment mission to Gao; April 2017: UNESCO Expert mission to assess the state of conservation of Mali's World Heritage properties

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of site management
- Armed conflict

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1139/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2018, responding to Decision **41 COM 7A.30**, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, completed by a report submitted on 3 March 2018, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1139/documents/>. These reports provide the following information:

- A 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan was prepared in close cooperation with the local community;
- In August 2017, a part of the roof of the men's mosque collapsed. Emergency repairs carried out to avoid further damage and a joint mission of UNESCO Bamako/National Directorate of Cultural Heritage (DNPC) of Mali was sent to the site the following month to evaluate the damage and assess the general state of conservation of the property;
- A request for International Assistance was submitted by the State Party and approved in 2018, to enable the commencement of the repair work on the roof, maintenance of the pyramid tower and regeneration of hasu trees;
- Various work has been carried out on the Necropolis, in particular to avoid water erosion (re-excavation of the canal to drain rainwater, rehabilitation of the drainage area of the women's mosque, development of water drainage canals along the wall of the enclosure);
- Restoration work of the men's prayer area has been carried out, as well as the clean-up activity and rehabilitation of some tombs;
- The plastering of the property was carried out on 14 April 2018;
- An enclosure wall was constructed to protect the Tomb and its surroundings against roaming animals and the deposit of domestic waste in the courtyard of the property by the populations;
- A capacity-building workshop to combat looting and illicit traffic of cultural property, involving the community, was held in December 2017;
- An inventory study of movable heritage and an emergency plan was undertaken in July 2017;
- Management capacities have benefited from support from the Agency for the Promotion of Youth Employment that made available a trainee.

Due to security conditions, the UNESCO/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission requested by the Committee, was not organized. However, in April 2017 an expert was assigned by UNESCO to carry out a field mission to assess the situation at the property (the mission report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1139/documents/>).

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Since the last report in 2017 on the state of conservation of the property, the State Party has increased its efforts in the conservation and management of the property, and this in a continuingly difficult security context. The report submitted informed that among the 10 corrective measures adopted by the Committee (Decision **40 COM 7A.7**), eight are being implemented, in comparison to three in the preceding year. Thus, it is recommended that the Committee congratulate the State Party. Among the major achievements, the preparation of a new Management and Conservation Plan that potentially will have a beneficial impact for the conservation of the property, is to be particularly noted, on the condition that sufficient funds are made available for its implementation. Restoration and improvement measures of the physical components of the property are also to be acknowledged, specifically those aimed at the combat against water erosion, clean-up activities and the construction of the enclosure wall to counter degradation effects on the Necropolis of the mosque and the insalubrity of the esplanade.

Greater efforts given to the involvement of the community are also appreciated, notably in the management of the property, now formalized through the new Management and Conservation Plan, or again in the combat against illicit traffic of cultural property.

Nevertheless, several concerns remain, first and foremost being the collapse of the roof of the men's mosque that is an indicator of continuing degradation risks to the Necropolis due to water erosion, despite the measures undertaken. This is the third of a series of collapses all concerning the first span of the building.

Indeed, the mission report sent in September 2017 attributed the main cause for the collapse of the pillar and the roof to the lack of an appropriate conservation and safeguarding operational device that would have enabled, through regular inspections, to ascertain early signs of the fragility of this pillar and undertake appropriate measures. Therefore, it is important to ensure regular inspection of the property and the preparation of a conservation handbook of the property components indicating the periodic assessment mechanism of its state of conservation. This constitutes one of the corrective measures that has not yet been initiated.

Moreover, it is recommended that in response to the extremely difficult conditions prevailing at the site and the comparative isolation of staff, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies explore the possibility of setting up a short-term distance support programme in order to allow dialogue on capacity-building and the drafting of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

Finally, despite granting International Assistance for emergency intervention at the property, funding needs remain important. It is therefore necessary to reinforce efforts to mobilize funds for the conservation of the property and the implementation of the Management and Conservation Plan. Thus, it is recommended that the Committee renew its appeal to the international community to contribute in the implementation of the second phase of the Action Plan for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali (2017-2020).

In view of all these conservation problems, it is recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.15

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.30**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Takes note of the progress recorded (or carried out) in the implementation by the State Party of the corrective measures adopted at its 40th session, in a continuing difficult security context in northern Mali, in particular the restoration and improvement of the physical components of the property, the action to combat water erosion, the clean-up activity and the construction of the enclosure wall, and encourages the State Party to continue these actions with support from its partners;

4. Congratulates the State Party for the preparation of the new 2018-2022 Management and Conservation Plan, as well as in increasing the involvement of the local community in actions carried out for the benefit of the property;
5. Notes with satisfaction the submission by the State Party, and the granting, of International Assistance for the restoration and enhancement of the property, specifically the repair of the damaged roof, the maintenance of the pyramid tower and the regeneration of the basu trees;
6. Expresses its concern about the continuing degradation risks to the Necropolis due to water erosion, despite measures undertaken, and notably following the collapse of the roof of the men's mosque in August 2017, and also encourages the State Party to pursue the implementation of the corrective measures with particular attention to the regular inspection of the property and the development of a conservation handbook on the components of the property, indicating the periodic assessment mechanism of its state of conservation;
7. Launches an appeal to the international community to support the efforts of the State Party and contribute towards the implementation of the second phase of the Programme for the rehabilitation of the cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali;
8. Further encourages the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to explore the possibility of setting up a short-term distance support programme, in order to allow dialogue on capacity building and on drafting the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
9. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
10. Decides to pursue the application of the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;
11. Also decides to retain Tomb of Askia (Mali) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

16. Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) (C 1022)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

ARAB STATES

17. Abu Mena (Egypt) (C 90)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

18. Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Iraq) (C 1130)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2003

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2003-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Nearby construction of a dam entailing partial flooding and seepage
- Armed conflict

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Not yet drafted

Corrective measures identified

Not yet identified

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet established

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1130/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2003-2003)

Total amount approved: USD 50,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1130/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted (for all World Heritage properties of Iraq):

- USD 6,000 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust
- USD 1.5 million by the Government of Japan (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 154,000 by the Government of Norway (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- EUR 300,000 by the Government of Italy (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 35,000 by the Government of the Netherlands (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 100, 000 Heritage Emergency Fund - support for Iraqi World Heritage properties

Previous monitoring missions

November 2002: UNESCO mission for the Makhool Dam project; June 2011: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Flooding
- Management activities
- Managements systems/management plan
- Water infrastructure

- Partial flooding and seepage due to a dam building project
- Fragile mud brick structures
- Absence of a comprehensive conservation and management plan
- Destruction and damage due to the armed conflict

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1130/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1130/documents>. Progress in a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions is presented in this report, as follows:

- The State Party notes that this report does not represent the full state of conservation report that had previously been requested for Ashur and other World Heritage properties that have been subjected to military operations and/or occupation by extremist armed groups;
- Despite being liberated from occupation in mid-December 2016, no significant restoration or conservation work has been undertaken at Ashur, nor have any missions been sent to undertake a full assessment and report on the damage incurred, further to the Rapid Assessment mission carried out by the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH) and UNESCO on 3 February 2017 ;
- Little has happened to convert the various international initiatives and commitments into tangible results on the ground;
- World Heritage properties in Iraq continue to suffer from problems related to protection, management and land use, as well as lack of funding or foreign investment and inadequate social awareness about World Heritage.

On 30 March 2018, the State Party briefly reported that explosions had damaged the Tabira gate's stacks, where large cracks are visible, and severely damaged the Summer Palace and the northern section of the property along the Tigris River. The latter, which was extensively excavated by a German archaeological mission, has also been looted.

The State Party feels that the current security situation is stable, thus allowing conservation, restoration and reconstruction work to be initiated on the ground. It highlights the need for technical missions to conduct a central assessment of the damage incurred at World Heritage properties, as was done with the technical mission to Palmyra in April 2016. It recommends engagement with UNESCO, the international community, universities and scientific institutions to fulfil the international commitments that have been made, and to address long-term shortcomings in the areas of management and protection. It also recommends convening an international conference on Iraqi heritage, to be followed by donor countries. It further recommends enforcing prohibitions on illicit trafficking of cultural property from Iraq.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The lack of detailed information about the state of conservation of the property (for the fourth consecutive year) continues to be of very grave concern. As has been recommended in previous decisions by the Committee, it is essential that a full and detailed assessment of the damages incurred be carried out as soon as security conditions permit and prior to any action on the ground, with the responsible authorities working in close collaboration with the UNESCO Office for Iraq. It is also recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to submit, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, a full report of the post-liberation rapid emergency assessment of the property, undertaken by the SBAH in February 2017.

There has evidently been no improvement on the ground since the last state of conservation report. Priority actions and needed resources that were proposed by the International Coordination Conference on the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq, organized by UNESCO and the Iraqi Government in February 2017 (see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1632/>), have not been advanced to the degree and pace then envisioned. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to revisit the national and international initiatives for the safeguarding and restoration of cultural heritage in the liberated areas of Iraq, with the objective of finding ways forward to start implementing the priority actions and securing the needed resources as urgently as possible.

As previously recommended by the Committee, any protection and emergency stabilization work should be undertaken only in cases where collapse or further damage is imminent, according to the principle of minimal intervention. Architectural, sculptural and relief elements found at the property, and resulting from conflict-related damages such as intentional destructions, should be retrieved and gathered in a safe location, and the boundaries of the property protected from illegal excavations and looting, as outlined in the 2017 International Coordination Conference. It is recommended once again that, when security conditions permit, a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission be sent to assist in assessing the damage, preparatory to a comprehensive conservation plan being developed.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.18

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.33**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Expresses its very grave concern about the state of conservation of the property following the armed conflict and intentional destructive acts;
4. Notes with concern the continuing lack of information on the state of conservation of the property, and requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed about the situation on the ground;
5. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit a report on the rapid emergency assessment of the property undertaken in 2017, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;
6. Encourages the State Party to continue to pursue efforts to ensure the protection of the property, despite the difficult prevailing situation, and in particular to take steps toward the urgent implementation of the priority actions outlined at the International Coordination Conference on the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq (UNESCO, February 2017), with the support of UNESCO and the international community;
7. Urges all parties associated with the situation in Iraq to refrain from any action that would cause further damage to cultural and natural heritage of the country and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage;
8. Reiterates its appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage coming from Iraq as per the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2199 of February 2015, 2253 of December 2015 and 2347 of March 2017;
9. Calls again on all Member States of UNESCO to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;
10. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
11. **Decides to retain Ashur (Qal'at Sherqat) (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

19. Hatra (Iraq) (C 277rev)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1985

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2015-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Destruction and damage due to the armed conflict

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Not yet drafted

Corrective measures identified

Not yet identified

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet established

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/277/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (1999)

Total amount approved: USD 3,500

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/277/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted (for all World Heritage Sites of Iraq):

- USD 6,000 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust
- USD 1.5 million by the Government of Japan (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 154,000 by the Government of Norway (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- EUR 300,000 by the Government of Italy (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 35,000 by the Government of the Netherlands (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 100 000 Heritage Emergency Fund - support for Iraqi World Heritage properties

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Major looting of Iraqi archaeological sites (issue resolved)
- Destruction and damage due to the armed conflict

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/277/>

Current conservation issues

In January 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/277/documents>. Progress in a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions is presented in this report, as follows:

- The State Party notes that this report does not represent the full state of conservation report that had previously been requested for Hatra and other World Heritage properties that have been subjected to military operations and/or occupation by extremist armed groups;
- There has been no progress on the completion of infrastructure in the city, which was liberated in April 2017;
- The priority actions outlined at the February 2017 International Coordination Conference on the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq have not yet been implemented, nor has a rapid emergency assessment of the damages incurred been carried out;

- World Heritage properties in Iraq continue to suffer from problems related to protection, management and land use, as well as lack of funding or foreign investment and inadequate social awareness of World Heritage.

On 22 November 2017, the State Party shared with UNESCO a report on Hatra, intended to support a project proposal for the property's conservation and restoration. This report provides some details of the damage to the property, as assessed during a mission carried out on 9 September 2017, summarized as follows:

- Wall of the Sanctuary of the Sun: Major damage occurred during the liberation of the site in April 2017, in addition to minor damage inside the rooms of the eastern main gate. Mortar shelling destroyed the upper part of the eastern façade of one of the rooms, where a 2.6m wide hole is visible;
- Maran/Hellenistic Temple: Bullet impacts have damaged the external pillars of the southern façade of the temple;
- Triad Temple: The sculptures on the arches of the small *iwans* (vaulted porches) have been intentionally destroyed. Vehicles were put to fire during the liberation of the site, which further damaged the small *iwans*. In the large *iwana*, the room containing several statues of the Temple was found still locked;
- Southern Great *Iwans*: Most of the eagle statues on the façade of the main *iwana* (three on each side of the arch) have been destroyed, having been used as shooting targets. The debris of the intentionally-destroyed mask statue of the northern façade has been found on the ground. The statues on the façade of the southern small *iwana* have been destroyed, as has the lower part of the statue inside the small *iwana*. The two mask statues inside the northern *iwana* have been destroyed, but the pair of headless statues were found intact. The rear façade of this *iwana* has been damaged by mortar shelling;
- Northern Great *Iwans*: the sculptures representing human and animal figures, located on the arch of the *iwans*, have been damaged. The room inside the main *iwana* was unlocked and parts of the statues inside have been destroyed;
- Allat, Samya and Shuhair/Shahiru Temples: No damage to these temples and sculptures has been reported;
- The modern mission building has been looted (including archaeological objects, equipment, furniture and fencing).

The State Party states that the current security situation is stable, thus allowing conservation, restoration and reconstruction work to be initiated on the ground. It highlights the need for technical missions to conduct a central assessment of the damage incurred at World Heritage properties, as was done with the technical mission to Palmyra in April 2016, after its liberation. It recommends engagement with UNESCO, the international community, universities and scientific institutions to fulfil the international commitments that have been made, and to address long-term shortcomings in the areas of management and protection. It also recommends convening an international conference on Iraqi heritage, to be followed by donor countries. It further recommends enforcing prohibitions on illicit trafficking of cultural property from Iraq.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The damages incurred at the property and the continuing absence of information about the state of conservation of the property remains of very grave concern.

The mission carried out by Iraqi authorities in September 2017 provides a general assessment of the damage incurred at this property. The State Party has prepared a project proposal for the conservation and restoration of Hatra and is actively fundraising for this project. A detailed plan for the property with short-, medium- and long-term conservation and protection goals and actions will be required.

Until such a comprehensive project has been developed, the State Party needs to take emergency protection measures that would prevent looting and further damages to the property. However, any protection and emergency stabilisation work should be undertaken only in cases where collapse or further damage is imminent, and according to the principle of minimal intervention. It is recommended that the Committee invite the State Party to inform it, through the World Heritage Centre, of any future plans for major restoration or new construction projects that may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse. It is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to further assess the

damages and to discuss with the Iraqi authorities the short-, medium- and long-term goals and actions required to protect Hatra from further damage and looting, as well as to develop a more complete and detailed damage assessment in support of a comprehensive project for the conservation and restoration of the property.

It is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to revisit the national and international initiatives for the safeguarding and restoration of cultural heritage in the liberated areas of Iraq, with the objective of finding ways forward to start implementing the priority actions and securing the needed resources as urgently as possible.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.19

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.34**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Acknowledges the damage assessment undertaken by the Iraqi authorities and underlines the need for a detailed damage assessment followed by a comprehensive project for the conservation and protection of the property;*
4. *Encourages the State Party to pursue efforts to protect the property, despite the difficult prevailing situation, and in particular to prevent looting and further damages to the property, as outlined at the International Coordination Conference on the Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage in Liberated Areas of Iraq (UNESCO, February 2017), with the support of UNESCO and the international community;*
5. *Invites the State Party to inform it, through the World Heritage Centre, of any future plans for major restoration or new construction projects that may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse.*
6. *Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to further assess damages and to discuss with the Iraqi authorities the short-, medium- and long-term goals and actions required to protect the property from further damage and looting, as well as a more complete and detailed damage assessment in support of a comprehensive project for the conservation and restoration of the property;*
7. *Urges all parties associated with the situation in Iraq to refrain from any action that would cause further damage to cultural and natural heritage of the country and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage;*
8. *Reiterates its appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage coming from Iraq as per the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2199 of February 2015, 2253 of December 2015 and 2347 of March 2017;*
9. *Calls again on all Member States of UNESCO to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;*
10. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the*

implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;

11. **Decides to retain Hatra (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

20. Samarra Archaeological City (Iraq) (C 276 rev)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2007

Criteria (ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2007-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

State of conflict in the country that does not allow the responsible authorities to assure the protection and management of the property

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Not yet drafted

Corrective measures identified

Not yet identified

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Not yet established

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/276/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/276/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 100,000 from the Nordic World Heritage Fund for training and documentation aiming at the preparation of the Nomination File.

Total amount granted for all World Heritage Sites of Iraq:

- USD 6,000 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 1.5 million by the Government of Japan (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 154,000 by the Government of Norway (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- EUR 300,000 by the Government of Italy (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 35,000 by the Government of the Netherlands (for cultural heritage, including World Heritage)
- USD 100,000 Heritage Emergency Fund - support for Iraqi World Heritage properties

Previous monitoring missions

June 2011: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/ management plan
- War
- Weathering and lack of maintenance affecting the fragile structures
- State of conflict in the country that does not allow the responsible authorities to assure the protection and management of the property

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/276/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 February 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/276/documents>. Progress in a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions is presented in this report, as follows:

- The State Party notes that this report does not represent the full state of conservation report that had previously been requested for Samarra Archaeological City and other World Heritage properties that have been subjected to military operations and/or occupation by extremist armed groups;
- No further damage assessment has been carried out subsequent to the documentation prepared by the Samarra Department of Antiquities mentioned in the previous state of conservation report;
- The project announced in July 2015 to preserve the Great Mosque and its minaret has not begun;
- World Heritage properties in Iraq continue to suffer from problems related to protection, management and land use, as well as lack of funding or foreign investment and inadequate social awareness of World Heritage.

On 30 March 2018, the State Party briefly reported that more than 200 m of enclosures of the northern site of Sur Ashnas have been damaged by explosions during combat in the City of Samarra, and that mortar shelling damaged the western side of the octagonal Qubbat al-Sulaybiyya, where a hole and cracks are visible.

The State Party feels that the current security situation is stable, thus allowing conservation, restoration and reconstruction work to be initiated on the ground. It highlights the need for technical missions to conduct a central assessment of the damage incurred at World Heritage properties, as was done with the technical mission to Palmyra in April 2016, after its liberation. It recommends engagement with UNESCO, the international community, universities and scientific institutions to fulfil the international commitments that have been made, and to address long-term shortcomings in the areas of management and protection. It also recommends convening an international conference on Iraqi heritage, to be followed by donor countries. It further recommends enforcing prohibitions on illicit trafficking of cultural property from Iraq.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The continuing lack of information about the state of conservation of the property remains of very grave concern.

It is recommended that the Committee request again the State Party to submit, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, a copy of the Samarra Department of Antiquities' documentation that was mentioned in the previous state of conservation report. It is further recommended that the Committee reiterate its recommendation that a full and comprehensive assessment be carried out in close collaboration with the UNESCO Office for Iraq, as soon as security conditions permit and before any remedial actions are undertaken. As previously recommended, any required emergency stabilization work should adhere to the principle of minimal intervention.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.20

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision 41 COM 7A.35, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Expresses its very grave concern about the state of conservation of the property following intentional destructive acts;

4. *Notes with concern the continuing lack of information on the state of conservation of the property, and requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed about the situation on the ground;*
5. *Reiterates its request that the State Party submit a copy of the Samarra Department of Antiquities' documentation of the damage done to the affected monuments, for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies;*
6. *Encourages the State Party to continue to pursue efforts to ensure the protection of the property, despite the difficult prevailing situation;*
7. *Urges all parties associated with the situation in Iraq to refrain from any action that would cause further damage to cultural and natural heritage of the country and to fulfil their obligations under international law by taking all possible measures to protect such heritage;*
8. *Reiterates its appeal to all Member States of UNESCO to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural heritage coming from Iraq as per the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2199 of February 2015, 2253 of December 2015 and 2347 of March 2017;*
9. *Calls again on all Member States of UNESCO to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;*
10. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;*
11. ***Decides to retain Samarra Archaeological City (Iraq) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

21. Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls (site proposed by Jordan) (C 148 rev)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add.2 (subject to the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism)

22. Archaeological Site of Cyrene (Libya) (C 190)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

23. Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna (Libya) (C 183)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

24. Archaeological Site of Sabratha (Libya) (C 184)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

25. Old Town of Ghadamès (Libya) (C 362)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

26. Rock-Art Sites of Tadrart Acacus (Libya) (C 287)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

27. Birthplace of Jesus: Church of the Nativity and the Pilgrimage Route, Bethlehem (Palestine) (C 1433)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

28. Hebron/Al-Khalil Old Town (Palestine) (C 1565)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

29. Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir (Palestine) (C 1492)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

Note : the following reports on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic need to be read in conjunction with Item 36 below.

30. Ancient City of Aleppo (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 21)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

31. Ancient City of Bosra (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 22)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

32. Ancient City of Damascus (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 20bis)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

33. Ancient villages of Northern Syria (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 1348)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

34. Crac des chevaliers and Qal'at Salah El-Din (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 1229)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

35. Site of Palmyra (Syrian Arab Republic) (C 23)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

36. General Decision on the World Heritage properties of the Syrian Arab Republic

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

37. Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen) (C 611)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (pending receipt of new information)

38. Old City of Sana'a (Yemen) (C 385)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (pending receipt of new information)

39. Old Walled City of Shibam (Yemen) (C 192)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (pending receipt of new information)

NATURAL PROPERTIES

ASIA-PACIFIC

40. Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra (Indonesia) (N 1167)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late mission)

41. East Rennell (Solomon Islands) (N 854)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (State Party report on the state of conservation of the property not received)

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

42. Everglades National Park (United States of America) (N 76)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979

Criteria (viii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1993-2007, 2010-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

The property was re-inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger, on the request of the State Party, due to concerns that the property's aquatic ecosystem continues to deteriorate, in particular as a result of:

- Alterations of the hydrological regime (quantity, timing, and distribution of Shark Slough inflows)
- Adjacent urban and agricultural growth (flood protection and water supply requirements that affect the property's resources by lowering water levels)
- Increased nutrient pollution from upstream agricultural activities
- Protection and management of Florida Bay resulting in significant reduction of both marine and estuarine biodiversity

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4348>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1275>

Updated: see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4348>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/1062>

Updated: see pages <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4348> and <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4958/>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/76/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/76/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

April 2006: IUCN participation in a technical workshop to identify benchmarks and corrective measures; January 2011: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Water infrastructure (Quantity and quality of water entering the property)
- Housing (Urban encroachment)
- Surface water pollution and Pollution of marine waters (Agricultural fertilizer pollution, Mercury contamination of fish and wildlife)
- Water infrastructure (Lowered water levels due to flood control measures)
- Storms (Damage from hurricanes)
- Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species (Exotic invasive plant and animal species)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/76/>

Current conservation issues

A report on the state of conservation of the property was requested by the World Heritage Committee, only for its 43rd session in 2019 (Decision **41 COM 7A.1**). This request was based on the view expressed by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN in 2013 that the implementation of the corrective measures and improvement of the indicators of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) would likely take at least another ten years.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The World Heritage Centre and IUCN recommend that the World Heritage Committee retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.42

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision 41 COM 7A.1, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Recalls its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2019, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the adopted corrective measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;*
4. ***Decides to retain Everglades National Park (United States of America) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

43. Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System (Belize) (N 764)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

44. Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve (Honduras) (N 196)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1982

Criteria (vii)(viii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1996-2007, 2011-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Illegal logging
- Illegal land occupation
- Lack of clarity regarding land tenure
- Reduced capacity of the State Party
- General deterioration of law and order and the security situation in the region

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6236>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4439>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6236>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/196/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 8 (between 1982 and 2015)

Total amount approved: USD 223,628

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/196/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 80,000 (in addition to approximately USD 100,000 of in-kind technical assistance) under the management effectiveness assessment project “Enhancing our Heritage”

Previous monitoring missions

November 1995 and October 2000: IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions; 2003, 2006 and 2011: Joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions; October 2017: Advisory mission facilitated by the World Heritage Centre

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Financial resources
- Human resources
- Illegal activities (Illegal settlements, Illegal livestock grazing and agricultural encroachment, Illegal logging, Illegal commercial fishing, Poaching)
- Invasive/alien terrestrial species

- Land conversion
- Legal framework (Lawlessness and lack of law enforcement)
- Livestock farming/grazing of domesticated animals
- Management systems/management plan (Management deficiencies, Lack of clarity of the boundaries of the property, Lack of clarity regarding land tenure and access to natural resources)
- Water infrastructure (Potential impacts from hydroelectric development projects Patuca I,II and III)
- Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community
- Deforestation and forest degradation
- Overlap with important archaeological sites implying a need to harmonize management of cultural and natural heritage

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/196/>

Current conservation issues

On 2 February 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report including an annexed report on the Patuca III hydroelectric project, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/196/documents>. An Advisory mission financed by the World Heritage Fund was undertaken to the property in October 2017 with the objective to support the State Party on its path towards the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger. The mission report is also available at the above link.

The State Party's report responds to Decision **41 COM 7A.3** as follows:

- The Honduran Institute for Conservation, Forest Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife (ICF) continues to cooperate with the German government to consolidate mechanisms aiming at the promotion of more sustainable land and resource use, such as land registers, user agreements, community-based forest management and local watershed management agreements;
- In an effort to further clarify land and access rights, usufruct agreements continue to be formalized with individual resource users and communities engaged in forest management in the buffer zone of the biosphere reserve;
- In the cultural zone of the biosphere reserve, the ongoing land titling process in favor of the Miskito and Pech indigenous peoples has so far resulted in the titling of more than 400,000 ha;
- Supported by German cooperation, the ICF and Miskito and Pech peoples are starting to elaborate so-called life plans (planes de vida) – participatory plans aiming at guiding all aspects of community life at the level of territorial councils;
- The ICF and the Afro-Honduran Garífuna Council BARAUDA have signed a cooperation agreement with the objective to promote conservation and management of the Garífuna territory within the biosphere reserve; studies are underway to formalize land titling in the Garífuna community of Plaplaya;
- The ICF is collaborating with indigenous federations on natural resource management protocols aiming at harmonizing the legal norms in place with local indigenous worldviews;
- The establishment of military detachments supporting monitoring activities in areas of greatest pressure is presented as a mechanism to enhance management and conservation on the ground despite acknowledged resource limitations;
- The commitment to the Committee's recommendation to embark on a Significant Boundary Modification and to combine this procedure with the efforts towards the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger is renewed;
- Basic descriptive information and a timeline of events is provided on the Patuca III project.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The granting of rights to indigenous peoples and local, including Afro-Honduran, communities is welcomed, also as one step towards compliance with the corrective measures adopted by the Committee. Likewise, the continuation of bi-lateral cooperation in support of innovative governance and management solutions is appreciated. While the consolidation of local rights and responsibilities entails some delegation of governmental tasks, systemic underfunding and understaffing remain unresolved challenges. Sustained governmental funding continues to be a priority need, especially in light of the volatility of project funding, and in order to ensure adequate law enforcement, including in the core zone of the biosphere reserve, presence on the ground and systematic monitoring, harmonized under the existing integrated monitoring system (SIMONI). The risk of further illegal settlements in the core zone of the biosphere reserve and the property remains high. It is recommended that the Committee reiterate

its recommendation that the State Party maintain overflights and ground level surveys to detect illegal activities and new settlements as early as possible to enable immediate responses.

Despite still unclear boundaries, it is undisputed that the property and its buffer zone are located within the internationally recognized Biosphere Reserve. The efforts to grant meaningful local rights in the biosphere reserve therefore amount to an entirely new approach to the governance and management of the property. This changing reality is to be fully reflected in all efforts towards the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and the parallel Significant Boundary Modification. It is welcomed that the State Party endorses the Committee's consideration to manage both processes as one coherent effort on the understanding that a Significant Boundary Modification will have to follow the procedures of a new nomination. The State Party accurately points out that both processes require full local and indigenous consent to avoid that the boundary modification be interpreted as challenging existing sensitive management and tenure arrangements currently being agreed upon with indigenous peoples and local communities. However, to achieve the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger - in line with the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from this list (DSOCR) adopted in 2015 - it is neither possible nor desirable to re-create the exact same boundaries that existed at the time of the property's inscription in 1982. The boundary modification is a key element towards the removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger; both aim at satisfying currently unmet World Heritage requirements, while fully respecting the fundamentally altered governance and management approach and the evolving terms of engagement between governmental institutions and local communities and indigenous peoples. It is recommended that the Committee strongly encourage the State Party to initiate a participatory process to elaborate a proposal for a Significant Boundary Modification serving to consolidate promising changes in management and governance. Both the new nomination and the efforts to remove the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger must demonstrate the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of Río Plátano in a spatial configuration to be defined and according to the evolving governance and management. This implies not only the need to comply with World Heritage criteria, but also to meet the conditions of integrity and to have an adequate management system. In line with Paragraph 119 of the *Operational Guidelines*, it must be ensured that any sustainable use will not impact adversely on the property's OUV.

The information provided to date on the Patuca III (Piedras Amarillas) hydropower project does not address potential impacts on the OUV of the property, which is among the adopted corrective measures and has been requested in several past Committee decisions. The commitment of the ICF to request that the Dirección General de Evaluación y Control Ambiental (General Direction for Environmental Evaluation and Control) provide recommendations focused on the project's potential impacts to OUV is however noted. It is regrettable that earlier research on environmental flows to identify possible mitigation options does not appear to have continued. It is recommended that the Committee express its utmost concern about the apparent lack of information on possible impacts of the project on the property and the biosphere reserve, and request that the project not proceed until the above-mentioned assessment is concluded and reviewed by the Advisory Bodies.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.44

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.3**, adopted at its 41st session (Kraków, 2017),*
3. *Commends the State Party and governmental and non-governmental partners on continued progress made in land titling and granting negotiated local access to natural resources in the buffer and cultural zones of the biosphere reserve, encourages the State Party and partners involved to consolidate the innovative and promising governance mechanisms and urges the State Party to develop an effective and funded exit strategy to sustain these advances beyond the duration of external project support;*

4. Reiterates its strong concern that human, financial and logistical resources allocated by the State Party continue to be insufficient to ensure systematic law enforcement, presence on the ground and adequate monitoring of the property;
5. Reiterates its recommendation that the State Party maintain the overflights and ground level surveys to detect illegal activities and illegal new settlements as early as possible to enable immediate responses, avoiding evictions after the full establishment of settlements;
6. Also urges the State Party to take concrete steps to follow up on the updated conclusions and recommendations facilitated by the 2017 Advisory mission regarding the Significant Boundary Modification and the efforts to remove the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger - in line with the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) adopted in 2015 - with the technical support of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, as required;
7. Welcomes the acknowledgement of the possible benefits of a Significant Boundary Modification by the State Party, while fully respecting the interests, rights and aspirations of indigenous peoples, Afro-Honduran and Ladino (mestizo) communities;
8. Expresses its utmost concern that the State Party did not report on the possible impacts of the Patuca III project despite repeated requests, and requests the State Party to ensure that current and potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property are specifically assessed urgently, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and to ensure that the project will not proceed before this assessment is completed;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve (Honduras) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

AFRICA

45. Manovo Gounda St. Floris National Park (Central African Republic) (N 475)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late mission)

46. Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve (Côte d'Ivoire/Guinea) (N 155bis)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late receipt of the State Party report on the state of conservation of the property)

Note : the following reports on the World Heritage properties of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) need to be read in conjunction with Item 52 below.

47. Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 136)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1980

Criteria (vii)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1984-1992, 1996-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Increased poaching
- Pressure linked to the civil war, thereby threatening the flagship species of the property

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

A draft was prepared during the 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/136/documents/>) but indicators need to be quantified on the basis of the results of the aerial surveys

Corrective measures identified

Adopted in 2010, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4082>

Revised in 2016, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6652>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted in 2016, see page <https://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6652>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/136/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 14 (from 1980-2018)

Total amount approved: USD 353,270

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/136/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 937,000 from the United Nations Foundation, the Governments of Italy, Belgium and Spain and the Rapid Response Facility

Previous monitoring missions

2006, 2010 and 2016: Joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Armed conflict and political instability
- Poaching by nationals and trans-border armed groups
- Unadapted management capabilities to address the poaching crisis

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/136/>

Current conservation issues

On 15 February 2018, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/fr/list/136/documents/>, and which provides the following information on the implementation of the corrective measures.

- No cases of involvement of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) in poaching have been reported. A memorandum of understanding is renewed quarterly between Garamba National Park (PNG) and the FARDC for joint patrols. The Park has received necessary materials support to combat poaching and a new helicopter;
- No trans-border cooperation with South Sudan has been possible since the beginning of the civil war in July 2016;
- 21 guards retired in December 2017 and the recruitment of 50 new guards is planned for March 2018. The property has 216 rangers and 49 FARDC soldiers and a section of MONUSCO (Mission of the United Nations Stabilization Organization in the Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- During 2017, 497 patrols were organized including 193 mixed patrols (FARDC and PNG). The patrol effort now covers the entire park, as well as 40% of the adjacent hunting grounds. A joint commission for monitoring the actions of armed Mbororo cattle herders has been set up;
- Several studies to contribute to the sustainable development of communities around the property are underway and should lead to the development of a Land Use Plan and a Sustainable Agriculture Development Strategy. Other activities in support of community economic development were carried out in 2017 focusing on health services, fish farming and livestock breeding, support for micro-projects and youth awareness-raising;
- 39 telemetry collars were placed on elephants to enable their monitoring, improve ecological knowledge and respond quickly to poaching. The April 2017 aerial count revealed a total of 1,191 elephants. In 2017, 50 elephants were killed by poachers;
- 49 giraffes were counted and no cases of poaching were reported. Protection of the species is strengthened with the objective of increasing this population to at least 60 individuals by 2022;
- The process of finalizing the Integrated Management Plan is underway.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The State Party is continuing its efforts to strengthen surveillance and ecological monitoring as well as anti-poaching, while recognizing that the number of rangers remains insufficient. The fact that no FARDC member is no longer involved in poaching activities is welcomed. In addition, the patrol efforts cover the entire property and 40% of the hunting areas, a clear increase that makes it possible to approach the 50% requested in the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). It is recommended that the Committee commends the efforts by the State Party in strengthening surveillance in the property and in the hunting areas, and strongly encourages it to continue its efforts.

Despite this, the number of elephants killed in 2017 by poachers (50 individuals) remains high, although halved compared to 2016 (98). The April 2017 aerial census confirmed that the elephant population, now 1,191 individuals, has declined further since 2015 (1,500). This situation remains extremely worrying. It is the same for the giraffe, whose 49 individuals listed in the property constitute the only

population of the DRC. Efforts made by the State Party to strengthen surveillance and monitoring and to protect both species, including the installation of telemetry collars, are welcomed and are crucial to stem the declining trend of these populations and prevent these species from becoming extinct.

Instability in neighbouring countries is a permanent threat to the property. In addition to insecurity, the influx of refugees into the region is putting additional pressure on the property managers. The World Heritage Centre received information in December 2017 regarding the establishment of two refugee camps just 15 km from the property and which should accommodate up to 20,000 people. UNESCO sent two letters, in December 2017, respectively to the Governor of the Province of Upper Dangu and the Representative of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the DRC, to raise awareness about the status of the PNG as a property of World Heritage in Danger. They have been requested to take the necessary measures to relocate these camps outside the property and its buffer zone in order to reduce the already strong pressures on the natural resources of the property, particularly through poaching. No response was received at the time of writing this report. It is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to take the necessary and urgent measures to move these camps away from the property and its buffer zone.

The meetings held between the States Parties of the DRC, the Central African Republic, South Sudan and Uganda during the 40th session of the Committee in 2016 have unfortunately not yet resulted in a high-level meeting involving all relevant stakeholders and institutions, including UNESCO and MONUSCO, to improve security in the region and develop solutions to tackle poaching at the regional level. Given the situation in South Sudan and in Central African Republic, it seems unrealistic that, at the present stage, such a meeting could have tangible results on the ground.

It is regrettable that the State Party has still not submitted the finalized version of the DSOCR and it is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to submit this document urgently.

In view of the continuing threat posed by insecurity in the region and poaching, it is recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger and continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.47

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision 41 COM 7A.7, adopted during its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Congratulating the State Party for its continued efforts to strengthen surveillance, monitoring and control in response to the pressure of the international ivory trade, as well as the increase in the patrol effort covering the totality of the property and 40% of the hunting areas, requests the State Party to continue these efforts by strengthening the number of rangers;*
4. *Reiterates its call to all UNESCO Member States to cooperate in the fight against illegal wildlife trafficking, notably through the implementation of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), with the full participation of the countries of transit and destination;*
5. *Expresses its deepest concern at the continuing decline in the elephant population, as confirmed by the April 2017 inventory, despite the significant surveillance resources deployed, and the worrying situation of the giraffe, of which only 49 individuals remain in the property and throughout the country, and also requests the State Party to continue the efforts of ecological monitoring and protection of these species, including the installation of telemetry collars, to prevent the extinction of these two species;*

6. Reiterates also its deepest concern about the continuing insecurity around the property, which constitutes a permanent threat to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);
7. Also expresses its deepest concern about plans to set up two refugee camps in the vicinity of the property, which should accommodate around 20,000 people and which could increase the already heavy pressure on the natural resources of the property and possibly lead to increase the poaching;
8. Regrets that the State Party has still not submitted the finalized version of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and reiterates its request to the State Party to submit it urgently;
9. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
10. Decides to continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;
11. **Also decides to retain Garamba National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

48. Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 137)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1980

Criteria (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1997-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Adverse refugee impact
- Irregular presence of armed militias and settlers at the property
- Increased poaching
- Deforestation

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

A draft has been developed during the 2017 Reactive Monitoring mission (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/documents>), but the biological indicators still need to be quantified based on the results of a census of large mammals available at late 2018.

Corrective measures identified

Adopted in 2017, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/fr/decisions/6954>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/fr/decisions/6954>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 8 (from 1980-2018)

Total amount approved: USD 140 970

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/assistance/>



UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 1,003,900 from the United Nations Foundation (UNF), and the Governments of Italy and Belgium and by the Rapid Response Facility (RRF)

Previous monitoring missions

1996-2006: several World Heritage Centre missions in the framework of the DRC Programme;
December 2009 and April 2017: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Presence of armed groups, lack of security and political instability rendering a large part of the property inaccessible to the guards
- Attribution of mining permits inside the property (issue resolved)
- Poaching by armed military groups
- Bush meat hunting
- Villages in the ecological corridor between the highland and lowland sectors of the park
- Illegal mining and deforestation

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/>

Current conservation issues

On 15 February 2018, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/137/documents/>, providing the following information:

- Cooperation between the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN), the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) and the provincial authorities continues and the joint patrols have enabled access to areas until recently, occupied by armed groups;
- No legal mining concession is active in the property; however, ICCN has identified 26 artisanal camp sites of which five were active, but have since been closed following the passage of the patrols;
- In 2017, the level of surveillance coverage of Kahuzi-Biega National Park (PNKB) was about 36% of the area of the property (against 52% in 2016). This decline is due to financial difficulties experienced in 2017. Nevertheless, patrols have been organized in all the sectors of the property in cooperation with the local communities and with support from the provincial information services. They have resulted in a reduction in poaching, in particular chimpanzees and gorillas;
- The Park guards were provided with new patrol gear and with necessary materials support to combat poaching, a new surveillance post has been installed in the highland sector, eight new agents have been added to the staff and a rapid intervention team has been established. More than thirty agents have been trained in monitoring methods and/or the IMET management tool (Integrated Management Effectiveness Tool);
- The participative delineation process of the boundaries of the property continued in 2017. Three field missions enabled the delineation of 18 km at the level of the ecological corridor, and the installation of 38 signboards to mark the boundaries of the Park – that were destroyed by illegal occupants – and identify the illegal farms. The PNKB agents have thus recorded certain offences and registered 29 illegal farms located between the sectors of Kushanka and Kalubwe. In October 2017, ICCN requested the Governor of South Kivu Province to cancel these land titles;
- ICCN continues the activities benefiting the neighboring communities through support to local development projects.

Two requests for International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund has also been submitted to support aerial surveillance of the property and to the delineation of the Park boundaries.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

Cooperation between ICCN and the FARDC, having led to the visit of the PNKB Director in February 2018 to the Lulingu sector, occupied up to that date, is commendable progress. However, the security situation in the lowlands remains of concern. On 4 March 2018, a team comprising 27 ICCN agents and WCS (Wildlife Conservation Society) was kidnapped by militia while they were carrying out biological inventories in the Lulingu sector. Thanks to the intervention of ICCN and the provincial government, the entire team was freed on 24 March and all are sound and safe. It is recommended that the Committee

commend the courage of the ICCN teams who, too often, exercise their functions at the risk of their lives.

The reported reduction in the surveillance coverage of the property is a worrying issue. It is noted that the surveillance effort (98% of the patrols) concentrate on the highland sector. The 2017 Reactive Monitoring Mission noted that ICCN had very limited access to an important part of the property. It is recommended that the Committee express its deepest concern as regards the persistent insecurity in a large, part of the property due to the presence of rebel groups carrying out illegal activities, such as artisanal mining exploitation and poaching.

In spite of financial difficulties, ICCN continued the recruitment and training of guards and has acquired new material. The efforts of the State Party are appreciable and it is recommended that the Committee encourage it to deploy guards to all the sectors of the property, when security permits, to ensure adequate surveillance of the property.

As regards the issue of the ecological corridor, it is noted that ICCN is intensifying its efforts to implement the recommendations of the 2015 Forum. The ICCN organized field missions in cooperation with the South-Kivu Provincial Consultative Forestry Committee, a body regrouping different state services, including governorate and cadastral services. They resulted in the identification of 18 illegal farms and the request to cancel land titles. However, the situation has been continuing for far too long and ICCN has attempted for decades to evacuate these farms without success. The occupation of the ecological corridor remains one of the major obstacles for the removal of the PNKB from the List of World Heritage in Danger. Consequently, it is recommended that the Committee congratulate the State Party for the steps undertaken enabling the identification of the illegal farms and requests it to accelerate the cancellation process of the, land titles and the evacuation efforts of the illegal occupants. These actions are crucial to guaranteeing ecological continuity between the lowland and highland sectors of the property. The State Party shall submit to the World Heritage Centre the maps and all information to enable the evaluation of the impact of the encroachment on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property.

It is noted with regret that no information as to the state of wildlife is provided in the report. The global inventory of the PNKB, that was begun in 2014, has not yet been completed due to insecurity. The results of this study are crucial for the evaluation of the OUV of the property. Preliminary results concerning the gorillas in the Nzovu sector was very worrying. It is to be hoped that the results will be more encouraging in the other sectors. It is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to develop, with support from the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, indicators for the draft Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) as soon as the census information is available.

It is finally recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger and continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.48

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,*
2. *Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.8**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),*
3. *Expresses its relief as regards the liberation of the agents of the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) taken hostage by an armed group and commends the courage of the field staff of the property who exercise their functions under extremely difficult conditions and often at the risk of their lives;*
4. *Also expresses its utmost concern as to the persistent insecurity prevailing in a large part of the lowlands and the decrease in surveillance coverage of the property over the period under consideration;*

5. *Notes with satisfaction the recruitment and training of new guards and the infrastructures established to strengthen surveillance and encourages the State Party, when security permits, to deploy personnel to all the sectors of the property to ensure an effective surveillance;*
6. *Warmly welcomes the identification, together with the South-Kivu Provincial Consultative Forestry Committee, of illegal farms installed in the ecological corridor, and requests the State Party to accelerate the cancellation process of the land titles in order to evacuate the illegal occupants, which is crucial in guaranteeing the ecological continuity between the lowlands and highlands of the property, and to submit to the World Heritage Centre the maps and all relevant information to evaluate the impact of the encroachment on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;*
7. *Urges the State Party to continue with the implementation of the corrective measures, as updated during the 2017 mission;*
8. *Regrets that the security problems have delayed the global census of the property, which was begun in 2014, and reiterates that the results of these studies are crucial for the evaluation of the OUV of the property;*
9. *Also requests the State Party to develop, in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, indicators for the draft Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as soon as the final results of the wildlife inventory are available;*
10. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;*
11. *Decides to continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism;*
12. ***Also decides to retain Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

49. Okapi Wildlife Reserve (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 718)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1996

Criteria (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1997-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Impact of the conflict : looting of the infrastructures, poaching of elephants
- Presence of gold mining sites inside the property

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

Adopted in 2009 and revised in 2014, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5983>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted in 2009 and revised in 2014, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5983>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5983>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/718/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 1993-2012)

Total amount approved: USD 103,400

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/718/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 1,450,000, from the United Nations Foundation (UNF), Government of Belgium, the Rapid Response Facility (RRF) and the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (UNPF)

Previous monitoring missions

1996 and May 2006: UNESCO World Heritage Centre monitoring missions; 2009 and 2014: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Extensive poaching of large mammals, in particular elephants
- Mining activities inside the property
- Uncontrolled migration into the villages located within the property
- Illegal timber exploitation in the Ituri Forest, which might affect the property in the near future
- Planned rehabilitation of the National Road RN4 crossing the property, for which no proper Environmental Impact Assessment was conducted

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/718/>

Current conservation issues

On 15 February 2018, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/718/documents/>, that provides the following information:

- Cooperation between the Congolese Institute for Conservation of Nature (ICCN) and the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) continues and joint patrols are organized on a regular basis;
- The mining permit granted to the KiloGold Society has been cancelled. However, numerous artisanal mining exploitations continue to be active in several sectors of the property;
- Several meetings between the ICCN and the provincial authorities have been held regarding the control of illegal residents. It was decided to establish a permit system, using non-forgable cards, and funds are being sought for its implementation. The National Road 4 (RN4) remains closed to night traffic;
- The preparation of a new Integrated Management Plan (PAG) is not finalized due to lack of funds and therefore remains a priority for 2018. The validation of the boundaries of the Central Integral Conservation Area (ZCIC) located on the Wamba and Watsa Territories was foreseen for February 2018;
- The Committees for Visits and Passage (CSP) ensure the respect of the Guidelines for Access to Natural Resources in the Delimited Agricultural Zones bounded by the property. They will constitute the means of management for the subsistence zones (agriculture, hunting) and will be indicated in the PAG. They have been jointly approved by the authorities and local communities and by ICCN in November 2017;
- Several efforts have been made to strengthen and revitalize the surveillance mechanisms, notably the training of Police Officers (OPJ), awareness-raising of justice stakeholders concerning the new law on nature conservation, the purchase of new uniforms and equipment, and the installation of two stations in the northern sector of the property;
- Due to lack of funding, no new recruitment of guards was undertaken. Nevertheless, the foot patrols covered 49.5% of the property in 2017 and were reinforced by two overflights that have confirmed the continuing illegal mining exploitation in the property;
- The creation of three Forestry Concessions for Local Communities (CFCL) in the periphery of the property is imminent, with the objective of reducing the negative impacts of the unsustainable exploitation of these forests and reduce pressure on the property.

Two murderous attacks have been perpetrated, respectively on 14 July 2017 and on 17 February 2018, against the ICCN teams. Unfortunately, eleven guards were killed and six others seriously wounded. They demonstrate the level of insecurity in and around the property and the difficulties encountered by the ICCN teams who exercise their functions too often endangering their lives.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

Insecurity in the region remains a permanent threat that continues to complicate the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property. The ambush at Eringeti is proof of this, and it is recommended that the Committee condemn these attacks and address its condolences to the families of the guards killed during operations to protect the property.

The coverage of the property by foot patrols (49.5% in 2017) has again diminished in comparison to 2016 (52%), highlighting their difficulty to fully access the property, notably due to insecurity. Moreover, the number of guards, 126 persons, does not enable ICCN to ensure an adequate surveillance of the property, slowing down patrol efforts to terminate poaching and artisanal mining exploitation in all sectors of the property. It is recommended that the Committee express its concern as regards the persistent insecurity that has led to a reduction in the surveillance coverage since 2015, and reiterates its request to the State Party to reinforce the number of guards as well as the budget for the property.

Efforts made to train the guards as OPJs and strengthen the capacities of the justice stakeholders are positive. These efforts have enabled ICCN to conclude four complaints to the justice. The implementation of most of the recommendations of the Mambasa Round Table (May 2013) is also to be welcomed and has enabled the tempering of relations between the inhabitants of the Okapi Wildlife Reserve (OWR) and ICCN.

The continuing illegal artisanal mining exploitations in the property remain an important threat to the protection of its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and the urgent evacuation of the illegal occupants is a major priority.

The establishment of a permit system to control traffic of the RN4 and the migratory flux is warmly welcomed and should, beforehand, be accompanied by a census of the current residents in the property. However, the study requested by the Committee (**40 COM 7A.39**) to evaluate the impacts due to the increase in the number of inhabitants in the villages along the RN4, on the use of land around the villages has not yet been carried out.

The additional delay in the finalization of the PAG due to lack of funds is regrettable. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to update the PAG and implement it, integrating the provisions relating to the different zones in the property, including the ZCIC, the subsistence zones and the CFCLs.

No information has been communicated by the State Party as concerns the accomplishment of the indicators for the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). It is recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger and continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.49

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.9** adopted during its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Condemns the violence perpetrated against the staff of the property and in particular the guards, killed during surveillance operations of the property, and addresses its most sincere condolences to their families;
4. Reiterates its concern as regards insecurity which has again led to a reduction in surveillance coverage, and reiterates its request to the State Party to rapidly strengthen the number of guards as well as the budget for the Okapi Wildlife Reserve in order to

extend the coverage of the patrols and progressively gain control of the property and drastically reduce poaching that affects the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);

5. *Appreciates the efforts made to strengthen the capacities of the justice stakeholders and the guards and to implement the recommendations of the Mambasa Round Table of May 2013, having achieved a tempering of relations between the Okapi Wildlife Reserve and the local communities and their involvement in the management of the property;*
6. *Warmly welcomes the establishment of a permit system to control the use of the National Road 4 (RN4) and the number of illegal residents, also requests the State Party to update the data concerning the number of residents in the property and also reiterates its request to the State Party to assess the impacts of the increase in populations on the land-use in the property and the villages located along the RN4;*
7. *Reiterates its concern in the face of continuing illegal artisanal mining exploitation in the property and urges the State Party to undertake urgent measures to evacuate these illegal quarries and ensure their rehabilitation;*
8. *Further requests the State Party to update the Integrated Management Plan (PAG), integrating provisions relating to the different zones of the property including the subsistence zones, the Central Integral Conservation Area and the Forestry Concessions for Local Communities, and ensure its immediate implementation;*
9. *Moreover, reiterates its request to the State Party to provide data concerning progress accomplished with regard to the goals defined in the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);*
10. *Finally, requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated state of conservation report and the implementation of the above points, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;*
11. *Decides to continue to apply the Reinforced Monitoring Mechanism for the property;*
12. ***Also decides to retain Okapi Wildlife Reserve (Democratic Republic of the Congo) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

50. Salonga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 280)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

51. Virunga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo) (N 63)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late mission)

52. General Decision on the properties of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information and late mission)

53. Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar) (N 1257)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)

54. Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger) (N 573)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1991

Criteria (vii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 1992-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

The region having recently suffered from military conflict and civil disturbance, the Government of Niger requested the Director-General of UNESCO to launch an appeal for the protection of the site

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

In progress

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/325>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

In progress

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 7 (from 1999-2013)

Total amount approved: USD 172,322

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

May 2005 and February 2015: IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Political instability and civil strife
- Poverty
- Management constraints (lack of human and logistical means)
- Ostrich poaching
- Soil erosion
- Demographic pressure
- Livestock pressure
- Pressure on forestry resources
- Gold panning

- Illegal activities (increase in poaching threats and timber harvesting)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/>

Current conservation issues

On 2 February 2018, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/573/documents>, providing the following information:

- Eight park rangers were recruited in 2017, bringing the total number of park rangers to 23. These are assisted by 20 voluntary guards recruited from local communities. The provision of an all-terrain vehicle, three motorcycles, and anti-poaching and ecological monitoring equipment has enhanced surveillance of the property;
- In 2017, seven cases of illegal wood cutting and transport have been recorded in the property, with no cases of poaching. A perceived reduction in these illegal activities is attributed to the permanent presence of park managers, an adaptive approach to surveillance, and the existence of informant networks;
- An International Assistance Request (IAR) was submitted for the development in 2018 of a Management Plan and Surveillance Plan;
- The threat of invasive alien species (IAS), particularly *Prosopis juliflora*, will be addressed in the Management Plan. In the meantime, degraded areas are being restored in line with the annual work plan for the property, with 370 ha, including 30 ha affected by *Prosopis juliflora*, having been restored in 2017;
- Dama Gazelle is being monitored through a system of camera traps, which will also be put in place for Cheetah. Barbary Sheep are being monitored through direct or indirect observations during wildlife counts;
- North African Red-necked Ostrich is no longer present in the property. Support for the captive breeding programme in Iférouane remains inadequate, and it is fully dependent on external funding for the provision of fodder. A business plan will be developed as part of the Management Plan to secure the funding required to ensure the effectiveness of the breeding programme;
- No gold mining occurs within the property, but permits for the exploration and exploitation of uranium, oil and gold have been attributed in its close vicinity, and illegal gold panning continues in its vicinity. Impacts on habitats and species are noted, including as a result of deforestation and poaching. Surveillance has been accordingly intensified to monitor impacts and the implementation of mitigation measures, leading to a reported decrease in the 2017 threat level, compared to 2016.

The report further notes impacts from climate change and the need for climate change adaptation programmes, and reiterates the need to secure wildlife corridors in order to facilitate the migration of wildlife from the property to other protected areas as part of the second phase of the Niger Fauna Corridor Project (Projet Niger Fauna Corridors – PNFC).

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The State Party is continuing its efforts to implement the corrective measures, in particular to continue to improve surveillance and monitoring at the property, including through the recruitment of additional park rangers and engagement of local communities. The development of a Surveillance Plan and a Management Plan remain urgent needs, and the submission of the IAR in that regard is noted. The International Assistance Panel in January 2018 reviewed this request and sent it back to the State Party for revision, however, a revised version was not received in time for consideration at the April 2018 Panel. It is therefore recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to submit a revised IAR in line with the comments made by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN.

The information provided by the State Party on illegal logging and poaching should be further clarified, as it is on the one hand reporting a reduction of reported cases, while on the other hand noting impacts on habitats and wildlife from deforestation and poaching, among other impacts related to the presence of uranium, oil and gold exploration and exploitation permits in the vicinity of the property. The presence of these permits is of significant concern, and it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide maps clearly showing the location of these permits in relation to the property. The State Party should further ensure that all exploration and exploitation activities are subject to a prior Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, to ensure that these activities do not have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property. These EIA should be submitted to the World

Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, prior to authorizing these activities, in line with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

The lack of adequate support to the captive breeding programme of Red-necked Ostrich at Iférouane is of concern. Noting the critical importance of captive breeding programmes for the recovery of this species in Niger, it is recommended that the Committee request the State party to seek expert advice on how to improve the programme and reiterate its request to the State Party to secure the necessary funding for its effective operation, and to closely collaborate with other States Parties to develop and implement a regional action plan for the conservation of this species. It is also recommended that the Committee again strongly encourage the State Party to seek the expert advice of the IUCN Species Survival Commission Conservation Planning Specialist Group to evaluate and improve the efficiency of the programme and to develop a strategy for a potential reintroduction of the species.

It is noted that monitoring of other species is occurring in the property. However, the State Party did not provide any data resulting from these monitoring programmes. Noting that the 2015 mission to the property concluded that Cheetah was considered locally extinct unless proven otherwise, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to clarify whether any new information about the presence of Cheetah has emerged since the mission. Similarly, while the State Party's efforts to restore degraded areas, including those affected by the invasive *Prosopis juliflora*, are appreciated, no data are provided regarding the extent of the invasion and its impacts on OUV. Such data, both as regards the populations and trends of key species and the spread of IAS, are needed to inform management decisions, as well as for the development of a proposal for the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). It is therefore recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to seek advice from the World Heritage Centre and IUCN with a view to preparing a DSOCR, and that it retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.54

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.15**, adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Welcomes the State Party's continued efforts to implement the corrective measures, in particular the recruitment of additional staff for the property and the continued engagement of local communities to enhance surveillance of the property, and requests the State Party to continue and further strengthen these efforts;
4. Noting that the development of a Surveillance Plan and a Management Plan remain urgent needs, also welcomes the State Party's initiative to submit an International Assistance Request (IAR) with the aim of addressing these needs, and encourages the State Party to submit a revised IAR in line with the comments provided by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN;
5. Notes with significant concern that support for the captive breeding programme of Red-necked Ostrich in the property remains inadequate, and reiterates its request to the State Party to secure the necessary funding for the effective operation of the captive breeding programme through close collaboration with other States Parties to develop and implement a regional action plan for the conservation of this species, and strongly encourages the State Party to seek expert advice of the IUCN Species Survival Commission Conservation Planning Specialist Group to evaluate and improve the efficiency of the programme and to develop a strategy for a potential reintroduction of the species;

6. Also notes with significant concern the reported presence of uranium, oil, and gold exploration and exploitation permits in the close vicinity of the property, as well as the continuation of illegal gold panning, and also requests the State Party to provide maps clearly showing the location of these permits in relation to the property, and to ensure that all exploration and exploitation activities are subject to a prior rigorous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, to ensure that these activities do not have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and submit these EIA to the World Heritage Centre for review by IUCN, prior to authorizing these activities, in line with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;
7. Also reiterates its request to the State Party to provide detailed information and data on poaching and timber harvesting within the property and its vicinity, as well as the actions taken to combat these threats;
8. Also noting the State Party's ongoing efforts to monitor key species in the property, and to restore degraded areas, including those affected by the invasive alien species (IAS) *Prosopis juliflora*, further requests the State Party to clarify whether any new information regarding the presence of Cheetah has emerged since the 2015 mission to the property, which considered this species to be locally extinct, and further reiterates its request to the State Party to:
 - a) Submit to the World Heritage Centre the monitoring results for each species in order to demonstrate their conservation status and trends,
 - b) Design and implement, in consultation with IUCN's Species Survival Commission Invasive Species Specialist Group, an eradication plan or IAS Management Plan for *Prosopis juliflora*, as appropriate;
9. Also encourages the State Party to seek advice from the World Heritage Centre and IUCN with a view to preparing the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
11. **Decides to retain Air and Ténéré Natural Reserves (Niger) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

55. Niokolo-Koba National Park (Senegal) (N 153)



Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1981

Criteria (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2007-present

Threats for which the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Poaching
- Livestock grazing
- Dam construction project at Sambangalou

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger
Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4087>
Revised (finalization of indicators) in 2015, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6232>

Corrective measures identified

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6232>

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

Adopted, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/6232>

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/153/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 9 (from 1982-2017)

Total amount approved: USD 206,799

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/153/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

2001, 2007 and 2010: Joint World Heritage Centre / IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions; 2015: IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Poaching, capture and relocation of wildlife
- Drying up of ponds and invasive species
- Illegal logging
- Livestock grazing
- Road construction project
- Potential dam construction
- Potential mining exploration and exploitation
- Loss of chimpanzee habitat

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/153/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2018, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report for the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/153/documents/> and provided information on the implementation of Decision **41 COM 7A.16**, as follows:

- Creation of four new guard posts, with four other posts in the process of being created. Twenty-two posts are operational, as well as three zonal and mobile brigades, which have been strengthened with staff, logistics and equipment. 226 km of the trails in the strategic zones have been rehabilitated;
- Results of the 2016 and 2017 ecological monitoring indicate viable populations of the flagship species such as the lion, wild dog, chimpanzee, Derby eland, and suggest a positive progressive tendency in numbers and rate of encounter;
- Regular monitoring of a dozen or so ponds, most of which retain water throughout the dry season. Activities to combat invasive species continue and research is ongoing for the total eradication of the *Mimosa pigra* within the property;
- Awareness-raising in the communities focused on respect of property boundaries, as well as gradual participation of the communities in its management: creation of mini borings, water holes, irrigated areas and fish ponds in the bordering villages of the property, considerably reduce the encroachment of livestock and grazing in the property;
- Suppression of the gold-mining activities in the Mako area through a reinforced surveillance mechanism;
- Monitoring impacts of the gold prospecting project at Mako (Pétowal Mining Company, PMC), including monthly controls of surface and underground water quality at the project site and in the surrounding area;

- Creation of conservation areas outside the property in the bordering communities of Tomboronkoto, with support of the PMC, to compensate the impacts of its project, notably to improve the conservation of priority species such as the chimpanzee;
- No funds are available for the construction of the Sambangalou dam. Studies are ongoing to determine the inter-connectivity of the waters of the Gambia River and the ponds located in the property.

In May 2017, the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee approved a request for International Assistance to update the Management Plan for the property, to be completed in August 2018.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The State Party continues to make efforts to implement the corrective measures. Progress has been achieved in the intensified protection project area implemented by the National Parks Directorate (DPN), PMC and the NGO Panthera, covering the south-eastern part of the property. The introduction of the SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) system to monitor the efforts of the patrols is also warmly welcomed.

The State Party's report indicates positive tendencies of the species monitored by the bio-monitoring programme. However, as the database only covers two years, more time is required to confirm these tendencies, both as regards the number of flagship species and their rates of encounter. Also, more data must be collected to confirm the downward trend in poaching. It is recommended that the State Party provide SMART data on the coverage of the property by the patrols.

Although the ongoing updating of the Management Plan, thanks to International Assistance, is welcomed, as of April 2018, activities foreseen for this activity have not yet been initiated. Therefore, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to ensure that this updating be carried out without delay.

The potential impacts of the Mako gold prospection project remain a serious concern. The efforts of the State Party and the PMC to ensure a monitoring of the impacts have been noted; however, no report resulting from this monitoring has been submitted by the State Party, except hydrological data concerning the quantity of water in the River Gambia. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a monitoring report, including an analysis of the data on the quantity and quality of the surface and underground water above and below the Mako gold prospection project. It is also appropriate to recall that the Committee had expressed its serious concern as regards the potential impacts of the project on the chimpanzee populations within the concession. It is therefore recommended that the Committee also request the State Party to provide specific and detailed data on the monitoring of the chimpanzees (habitat utilization, areas of vital importance, etc.), to enable an assessment of the actual impacts of the project on this species, as well as an evaluation of the efficacy of the conservation areas created outside the property with a view to mitigating these impacts and improving the conservation of the species.

The current studies to determine the inter-connectivity of the River Gambia and the ponds located in the property are an important step towards assessing the impacts of the Sambangalou dam project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property. This project remains a potential threat to the property and must be the subject of a detailed Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), that includes and evaluation of the impacts on the OUV of the property, in conformity with the IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note: environmental assessment. It is further recommended that the Committee request the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of the development of this project.

It is regrettable that no information has been provided concerning the closure of the basalt quarry at Mansadala, foreseen for 2018. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to rapidly confirm whether the closure of the quarry has been effected as foreseen, recalling that this date has already been postponed several times.

Despite the progress accomplished, more time and efforts are required to ensure that the positive tendencies are maintained for at least three consecutive years, as stipulated by the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). Consequently, it is recommended that the Committee maintain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 42 COM 7A.55

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A,
2. Recalling Decision **41 COM 7A.16**, adopted during its 41st session (Krakow, 2017),
3. Warmly welcomes the continued efforts of the State Party in the implementation of the corrective measures, in particular those concerning the anti-poaching mechanism, the ongoing updating of the Management Plan of the property and the implementation of an ecological monitoring system, the combat against invasive species, the development of grazing areas and the reduction of livestock encroachment in the property, as well as the gradual participation of the communities in the management of the property, and requests the State Party to continue its efforts;
4. Takes note of the positive tendencies of the species monitored by the bio-monitoring programme but considers that the data base must be extended before these tendencies are confirmed, and notes a reduced level of poaching;
5. Reiterates its concerns concerning the impact of the Mako gold prospection project on the OUV of the property and takes note of the efforts of the State Party and the Pétowal Mining Company (PMC) to ensure a monitoring of these impacts, but regrets that no monitoring report on the quality of the waters has been provided and also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a monitoring report, including an analysis of the data on the quantity and quality of the surface and underground waters above and below the project;
6. Recalling its deep concern as regards the potential impacts of the Mako gold prospection project on the chimpanzees, further requests the State Party to provide specific and detailed data on the monitoring of this species, to enable an evaluation of the actual impacts of the project, as well as an assessment of the efficacy of the conservation areas created outside the property with a view to mitigating these impacts and improving the conservation of this species;
7. Also considers that the current studies to determine the inter-connectivity of the waters of the River Gambia and the ponds located in the property are an important step towards providing an assessment of the impacts of the Sambangalou dam project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and reiterates its request to the State Party to develop an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) of the project, in conformity with the IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note: environmental assessment, and to keep the World Heritage Centre informed of its progress, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, as requested for many years;
8. Further requests the State Party to confirm, without delay, whether the closure of the basalt quarry at Mansadala has been effected as foreseen, recalling that the closure date has already been postponed several times;
9. Finally, requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019;
10. **Decides to retain Niokolo-Koba National Park (Senegal) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

56. Selous Game Reserve (United Republic of Tanzania) (N 199bis)

See Document WHC/18/42.COM/7A.Add (late supplementary information)