

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

> Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

World Heritage

AMENDMENT

Item of the Agenda	7A
Amended Draft Decision	42 COM 7A.4
Amendment submitted by the Delegation of	Azerbaijan
Date	25.06.2018

TEXT

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 **some part heart** of the Temurid town planning has been lost, that **some** traditional dwelling houses in the core of the medieval town have been destroyed, and that the some 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 after the indicated deadline 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;

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;

69. 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,

711. 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;

812. Deeply regrets that the entreaties of the World Heritage Committee at its 39th, 40th, and 41st sessions failed to protect the property;

910. 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, State of conservation of the properties WHC/18/42.COM/7A, inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger notably to ensure that effective and active measures are taken for the protection and conservation of such heritage,

10. Also notes that, **although** the 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; and State Party in close consultation with WHC will prepare the new Management Plan for protection of the Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz;

11. Notes with satisfaction the new approach and recent initiatives, including Decree of the Government, of the State Party related with adoption of the Road Map on protection of the Historic Center of Shakhrisyabz;

12 13. Decides to retain to delete the Historic Centre of Shakhrisyabz (Uzbekistan) in 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;

13 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.