"DİYARBAKIR FORTRESS AND HEVSEL GARDENS CULTURAL LANDSCAPE"

STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORT, 2018

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Executive Summary of the Report

This report was prepared as per Decision 41.COM 7B.50 of the World Heritage Committee, about "Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape", taken in the 41st session of the Committee held in Krakow, Poland.

Decision 41.COM.7B.50 acknowledges the efforts made by Turkey to implement the previous recommendations of the Committee, as well as the initiatives taken to protect the property and its buffer zones, and underlines the importance of preventing any further damage to the property. The Committee also encourages Turkey to continue with work related to rehabilitation of Suriçi district that is located within the buffer zone.

Accordingly, conservation works in the World Heritage Site, together with its buffer zones, and in particular, rehabilitation works in the areas of Suriçi District that were damaged as a result of terror activities in previous years, continues intensely with the coordination of related institutions and organizations. Documentation, project, and restoration works in the property are carried out by interdisciplinary teams of experts. Information on the related works being carried out in Suriçi district are summarized in the first part of this Report. Responses to the requests mentioned in Decision 41.COM.7B.50, about the Master Plan, the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment Report, and invitation a World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, are provided in the second part of this report. Diyarbakır City Walls and Bastions as well as İçkale (Inner Castle) walls and bastions constitute an important part of the World Heritage Site. Information on the projects that form the basis of analytical evaluation of the walls and the bastions in light of scientific studies, and their restoration, is also presented in this report (Part 3.).

The main objective of the works carried out in the World Heritage Site and the buffer zones is to conserve the authenticity and integrity of the property and strengthen the public interaction with the property, by taking into consideration the basic requirements of the people living in the region. Accordingly, projects mentioned in the report (Part 4), such as the Landscaping Project for Areas Outside the City Walls, Tigris Valley Eastern Suriçi Landscaping Project are undertaken with this main objective in mind.