

APPENDIX 2

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CHONGONI ROCK ART SITE

Department of Antiquities, Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture

January 2004

Contact Person:

Dr. Elizabeth M. Gomani
Department of Antiquities
P. O. Box 264
Lilongwe
Republic of Malawi

Tel: 265 8 899 209
265 1 788 025

Fax: 265 1 788 268
265 1 788 772

e-mail: egomani@yahoo.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Introduction	2
2.	Mission of the Department of Antiquities	2
3.	History And Development	2
4.	Statement of Significance	4
5.	Legal Protection of Cultural Resources in the Chongoni	5
6.	Physical Description	5
6.1	Topography, geomorphology and climate	5
6.2	Vegetation of the site	6
6.3	The Rock Art	6
6.4	Archaeology	7
6.5	Vertebrates of the site	7
7.	Present Management of the Chongoni Rock Art	7
7.1	Management measures	7
7.2	Sources and Levels of Finance	8
7.3.	Current Visitor Facilities	8
8.	a) STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS	9
	b) SWOT ANALYSIS	15
8.1	Strengths	15
8.2	Weaknesses	15
8.3	Opportunities	15
8.4	Threats	15
9.	Management Goals	16
10.	Management Objectives	16
10.1	Management and Administration	16
10.2	Conservation and Protection	18
10.3	Education, Information and marketing	18
10.4	Research	18
10.5	Economic Benefit Distribution	19
11.	Envisaged Future Activities	19
12.	Needs for international assistance	19
12.1	Personnel and training needs	19
12.2	Equipment	20
12.3	Transport	20
12.4	Road maintenance	20
13.	Plan of Action	21
14.	Financing the implementation of the action plan	23

1. Introduction

This management plan was compiled to ensure effective conservation and to promote public appreciation of the rock art and archaeological resources in the Chongoni Forest reserve. In so doing, it is hoped that this plan will act as a tool for the implementation of Government policy on cultural heritage preservation for posterity, education and national identity under the direction of the Department of Antiquities.

The plan was prepared by the Department of Antiquities but with full consultation of all the stakeholders. The purpose of this consultation was to gather necessary information, determine values, identification of key values, goals, objectives, policies and strategies

2. Mission of the Department of Antiquities

The mission of the Department of Antiquities is to protect, preserve, conserve the immovable cultural heritage of Malawi and the associated cultural values and natural environment for posterity, educational, scientific, recreational and socio-economic growth of the communities around the heritage sites in particular and Malawi as a nation in general. This includes all archaeological, paleontological, rock art sites and all historical sites (monuments).

3. History and Development

In 1972, Professor J. D. Clark collected a few Early Stone Age artifacts in the Linthipe Valley just west of the Mountain (Clark, 1972; Cole-King 1973). This evidence suggests that occupation of the general area around the Chongoni Mountain began as early as the Upper Pleistocene.

However, substantive evidence of occupation between the Early Stone Age and the Later Stone Age is lacking. None of the excavated rock shelter sites in the area has produced archaeological material that is older than the Later Stone Age. The oldest date for these materials is about 2500 BP, obtained from the Chencherere II rock shelter (Clark, in Cader, 1984).

The Late Stone Age tool kit indicates that the inhabitants of the area were basically hunters and gatherers. But in addition to their economic activities, they engaged themselves in other social-cultural activities, part of which involved the production of rock art. It is generally agreed that the red schematic paintings were made by these people (Lindgren and Schoffeleers, 1978; Anati, 1986; Smith 1995).

During the early part of the first millennium AD., Iron Age farmers moved into the area from the north. The earliest date so far obtained for the presence of these farmers in the Chongoni area is the 3rd Century AD. By that time they were already interacting with the hunter-gatherers in what has been described as a symbiotic relationship. Gradually, however, the hunter-gatherers were being assimilated into the food producing economy. By the end of the 17th Century AD., stone tools were no longer being produced

(Mgomezulu, 1978). However, rock art continued to be made. In the Chongoni and surrounding areas the agriculturists had introduced new styles of rock art, which emphasised the production of naturalistic figures in predominantly white clay.

During the 15th Century, a new group of farmers, the Maravi Chewa arrived in central Malawi. These are believed to have come from the north-west Lubaland in south-east of the Democratic Republic of Congo. This group quickly integrated many different peoples under a more centralised authority, the Maravi Empire, which was ruled by a paramount chief called Kalonga. Its headquarters was located in eastern Dedza, but through time, its influence extended throughout central and southern Malawi and parts of Mozambique.

Shortly after 1835, the Chongoni area was disturbed by the passage of Zwangendaba's Ngoni who were fleeing Chaka in Zululand. The Ngoni initially pushed their way into southern Tanzania but after Zwangendaba's death, they split into several factions, which began to move backwards into Malawi and eastern Zambia. One of these groups, the Maseko Ngoni which was led by Chikuse, moved back all the way to central Malawi and settled around Domwe Mountain, a few tens of kilometres south of the Chongoni area.

Despite the small numbers of people involved, the Ngoni movements had tremendous impact on the existing populations. They terrorised and raided on the local people. Many people in the Chongoni area were captured and incorporated into the Ngoni political system. But others were forced to seek refuge in rock shelters in the mountains. However, despite the devastating impact of the Ngoni raids, the Ngoni influence was surprisingly limited. Chewa culture continued to predominate and most of their traditions were barely affected.

The period of the Ngoni invasions coincided with the coming of Europeans to Malawi. Notable among these was the missionary explorer, Dr. David Livingstone who made a number of trips up the Shire River between 1859 and 1864. In 1866, during his last trip, Livingstone passed through Dedza on his way to the Luangwa River in Zambia. During that time, reports of Ngoni raids were rife and it was such reports that scared Livingstone's porters into deserting him and later spreading false rumours that the Ngoni had killed him.

After Livingstone's death in 1873, there was an influx of European missionaries and settlers into Malawi, and it was the intervention of these early Europeans that finally subdued the Ngoni from their activities.

In 1924, Chongoni and the surrounding hills were proclaimed a Forest Reserve to protect the indigenous tree species and also to reserve land for the introduction of exotic soft woods for the timber industry. At that time, there were some 41 villages within the reserve. The boundaries were later revised in 1928 and again in 1930 in order to exclude all the villages. In 1960, when the main tarred Dedza to Lilongwe road was constructed through the southwest

section of the reserve, people encroached in the area South west of the road and in 1961, this area was excised. Similarly, the Mpata-Milonde area was excised in 1965 to end encroachment problems, which had, began in 1950. Since 1965, however, the boundary of the reserve has remained unchanged.

In the early 1950s, there were plans to establish a Forestry Training and Research Centre within the reserve. Construction of this Centre began in 1955 at the foot of the Chiwawo Hill. Later on, a Rest House was also build at the Centre to accommodate out of station Departmental staff on duty within the reserve.

The main planting programme of soft woods began in 1968 after a number of successful trials, which began in 1947. As part of this programme, a network of roads was constructed in the reserve. A labour compound to cater for the accommodation needs of forestry staff was also established at the foot of Kapulu Hill.

During the 1930's some people began to take interest in the rock paintings of Malawi and a number of sites in the Chongoni Forest Reserve and nearby hills were recorded (Metcalf, 1956; Rangeley, 1963). By the close of the 1950's several of these sites, including Chencherere, Mphunzi, Chigwenembe, Nsana wa Ng'ombe and Diwa had been publicised (Clark 1950, 1956, 1959). In January 1969, the Chencherere shelters were declared a protected national monument and opened to the public.

4. Statement of Significance

- More than just the particular density of sites, the rock art of Chongoni is of international importance because it has large and well-preserved rock paintings sites belonging to four important and rare African rock art traditions: two made by Chewa farmers and two by the hunter-gathering BaTwa Pygmies
- Chongoni Rok Art Site is one of the world's greatest concentrations of rock art known to have been made by women
- The sites have tremendous cultural significance as loci of traditional and religious ceremonies for the creators of the art as well as their descendents. Some of them are still being used for these ceremonies today.
- The rock art sites have very considerable historical significance as they record very important events such as the transition from the foraging lifestyle to food production, the Ngoni invasion of the Chewa and the coming of the white man.
- The sites have great educational value as places where teachers and students can visit to learn about the history and cultural heritage of Malawi.

- Although some research has been conducted in the area, there is still potential for archaeological, ethnographic and historical research, which can provide additional information to enhance the interpretation of the rock art.
- The area has potential economic value in that once it has been opened to the public it can create opportunities for income generation by the local communities and other stakeholders.
- The Chongoni area also has an aesthetic value in terms of the topography and vegetation. But even more, the symbolism depicted in the paintings themselves provides special and interesting challenges.

5. **Legal Protection of Cultural Resources in the Chongoni**

The rock art and archaeological sites in Malawi, including those in the Chongoni, are protected under the Monuments and Relics Act of 1990 (Appendix 7). According to this Act (Section 2), rock art and archaeological sites are monuments. As such, they can be declared as protected monuments or just be listed monuments.

Sections 13, 24 and 56, summarised together, state that no person shall, without the prior written consent of the Minister (responsible for culture) make any alteration to, destroy or damage any protected monument or relic or listed monument or do anything that can cause or likely to cause damage to them. Anybody contravening these provisions shall be guilty of an offence whose penalty shall be a fine of K10,000 and imprisonment for three years.

Section 4 of the same Act, while mandating the Chief Antiquities Officer with the responsibility of overseeing the protection of monuments and relics, further mandates him/her to publicise information on these monuments and relics and promote them for public appreciation, education and tourism.

The cultural resources in the Chongoni have benefited further from the fact that the Chongoni is a forest reserve protected under the Forestry Act (amended 1997). Section 5 (I) of this Act also mandates the Director of Forestry to promote forest recreation and tourism in the forest areas. The rock art sites form the bulk of the tourist destinations within the forest reserve and are therefore subject to proper protection and management for sustainable tourism.

It is in the light of these provisions in the two Acts that necessitate a management plan for the cultural resources in order to achieve the objectives of Government policy on cultural heritage preservation.

6. **Physical Description**

6.1 **Topography, geomorphology and climate**

The Chongoni Forest Reserve is located on the upland plateau area some 10 km north west of Dedza Boma. The reserve is within the “High Altitude zone” (Brown and Young, 1964) which is

characterized by two types of land forms namely; hills with steep slopes, of which the Chongoni mountain is the biggest, and wide valley areas with undulating hills and moderate slopes.

The area experiences a cool wet climate. Annual mean temperatures range between 17° and 20°C. During the cold season, which is from June to September, temperatures can become uncomfortably low especially during the night, and, in higher areas they are often close to freezing. Mean annual rainfall is between 890 and 1270mm. Much of the rain falls between October and April.

6.2 Vegetation of the site

The protected Forest Reserve still maintains its natural vegetation, which is mostly *Brachystegia* woodland. The flat top of the Chongoni Mountain is covered by montane grassland with scattered pockets of evergreen scrub while the wide valley areas contain numerous grassy dambos. Some of this natural vegetation has however, been replaced by introduced pine and eucalypts. The Forest reserve has at least two endemic plant species.

6.3 The Rock Art

About one hundred and twenty-seven rock art sites have been identified in the Chongoni Forest Reserve. The rock art of the Chongoni area consists entirely of rock paintings. These are found in rock shelters, which served as dwelling places for the prehistoric inhabitants of the area, as well as on big and small rock boulders that are not shelters.

The paintings are of two broad types. The first type is the red schematic paintings, showing various geometric designs which include paralleled and wavy lines, rayed or concentric circles; patterned rectangles; empty ovals and ladder designs. These paintings are the oldest and believed to be the work of the Later Stone Age people.

The other broad type is the white paintings that have been attributed to the Iron Age agriculturists who came in the area later. Some of these paintings are schematic, just like the red paintings, but the majority depicts zoomorphic and anthropomorphic figures. The most common figures are spread-eagled designs that many believe represent animals like lizards, crocodiles, and chameleons. Other figures resemble the costumes that are used by Chewa Nyau Secrete Society, implying that they reflect the concepts, beliefs and traditions of this society.

The Red schematic paintings are known throughout Malawi. The white paintings, on the other hand, are not as wide spread. Very few white paintings have been recorded outside the Chongoni area and the few that have are usually the schematic type, like the red paintings.

6.4 Archaeology

One hundred and ninety five (195) archeological sites have been recorded within the Forest Reserve. The cultural material discovered included stone tools, pottery, iron tools, human burials, shells, glass beads, grinding stones, plant and bone remains. The bone remains suggest a more diversity faunal life than the current situation. This suggest that there is need to conserve what is there now to prevent complete loss of animals

6.5 Vertebrates of the site

Chongoni Forest reserve is home for twelve amphibian species that belong to seven genera and five families, eighteen species of reptiles that belong to over thirteen genera and nine families including snakes and lizards, 26 bird families and 75 bird species and forty-five mammal species that belong to eighteen families and thirty nine genera. The bird species include some that are migratory. Chongoni alone supports about 37% of the amphibians about 29% of the reptiles that occur in Malawi.

7. Present Management of the Chongoni Rock Art

7.1 Management measures

The existence of rock paintings within the Chongoni Forest Reserve and nearby hills was known from the 1930s; and at the close of the 1950s a number of sites, including Mphunzi, Chencherere, Chigwenembe, Nsana wa Ng'ombe and Diwa had been publicized. In January 1969, the Chencherere shelters were declared a protected national monument and opened to the public. The management measures put in place at Chencherere included:-

a wire fence to control access into the shelters and to protect the paintings from direct contact.

direction signs and information panels on metal sheets fixed on metal poles.

In the 1980's the Mphunzi rock paintings, in the buffer zone, were also opened to the public and sign-posts were fixed to direct visitors to the sites. Two caretakers were employed to look after the sites and guide visitors. No caretakers were employed at Chencherere because it was assumed that since the sites were inside a protected forest reserve they would be safe.

These management arrangements have not been effective, especially at Chencherere. The wire fences, metal poles and sheets have all been stolen. Some of the paintings have been tampered with and some have disappeared completely.

Systematic survey and recording over the past three decades have revealed many more sites in the area. These sites have not been opened

to the public for fear of the problems experienced at Chencherere. Despite such policy, many of these sites are visited by unguided tourists and local people who inflict damage to them. Hence the need for a good management plan to ensure their protection.

The unique combination of red and white paintings has attracted more research attention to the Chongoni Rock Art Site than in any other area in Malawi. See for example Clark, 1956; Metcalfe, 1956; Franzen, 1977; Lindgren and Schoffeleers, 1978; Anat, 1986; Juwayeyi, 1990, 1991; Juwayeyi and Phiri 1992; Smith 1995. A number of these researchers have also done conservation work at some of the sites.

In this plan in order to minimize the exposure of the site for vandalism, only few selected sites will be opened to the public once the site is listed. The sites opened will be selected in a way that they will be easily accessible. Selection will take into account the quality and quantity of the sites that will be satisfactory to the visitor and close to the place where the interpretation centre will be. At the moment discussions are under way with the Departments of Forestry, Tourism and the local community for the best place to be the site for the interpretation centre (see 9.3).

7.2 Sources and Levels of Finance

The Ministry of Finance provides the annual funding for the activities of the Department of Antiquities. This money is supposed to cater for all the Department's activities, including the conservation and management of rock art. At present, the Department does not have a permanent station at Chongoni so that expenditures in relation to the rock art there are incurred only when carrying out regular inspections and when something has to be done in terms of maintenance, conservation and research.

For continuous effective management of the rock art, a temporary management regime has been put in place. The personnel comprise a manager (PO), a Technical Officer (TO) and two Technical Assistants (TAs). Their responsibilities are to make regular visits to the site and report back to the office on matters such as security, conditions of conservation of the sites. Besides, they will continue conducting lectures and providing guided tours to schools and the general public. They will also maintain signposts and information panels. However, plans are underway to establish a permanent station within the area. This would be in the form of a Cultural Resources Interpretation Centre with satellite stations for staff to manage the station. Such a Centre will need its own budget that will be independent of the Department's budget. For that to happen there is need of an independent pay point for the site. The Department of Antiquities through the mother Ministry, Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture is liaising with the government's Accountant General, Ministry of Finance for the establishment of a point for the site.

7.3 Current Visitor Facilities

The Department of Forestry runs a nice Rest House, which is at the Malawi College of Forestry, with a restaurant and refreshment facilities. Dedza Boma, which is only 10 km south east of Chongoni Reserve, also has good rest houses and shops, which can be used by visitors to the Chongoni Rock Art Site. Other facilities at Dedza Boma include petrol stations, police station, banks, hospital, post office, a pottery with an international standard tea-room, bars and markets. The roads within the Chongoni forest reserve are also well maintained and passable by almost all 4 x 4 vehicles. The Chongoni Lay Training Centre at the foot of the Chongoni Mountain on the West is also a good place to begin a tour if the sites on the mountain slopes and vehicles can be parked there. The area is less than one hour from Malawi's capital Lilongwe and it is alongside a major national arterial tar road.

8. a) STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

The Department of Antiquities falls under the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture. The Cultural Section is divided into five divisions. These are the Departments of Arts and Crafts, Antiquities, Censorship Board, Museums of Malawi and National Archives of Malawi. Besides these public institutions, there are parastatals and non-governmental organizations whose activities are associated with those of Antiquities. Below is an outline of internal stakeholders, institutions within the government, and external stakeholders, institutions outside the government.

1. Internal Stakeholders Analysis

	Organization	Area of Influence/Need/Impact
i	Management Unit of the Ministry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Overall direction ❖ Advisory service ❖ Policy formulation and development ❖ Planning ❖ Evaluating ❖ Monitoring ❖ Managing ❖ Internal auditing ❖ Vehicle and office space management ❖ Creation of enabling environment ❖ Sourcing of financial and material resources
ii	Youth Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Formulation and implementation of the National Youth Policy ❖ Coordination of all Youth affairs ❖ Monitoring youth activities ❖ Provision of technical and professional assistance to the capacity building of youth NGO's ❖ Empowerment of youth through life skills

Internal Stakeholders Analysis Continued

	Organization	Area of Influence/Need/Impact
iii	Accounts Section of the Ministry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Financial management and advisory ❖ Salaries ❖ Allowances ❖ Revenue collection and banking ❖ Reconciliation of accounts books
iv	Human Resource Management unit of the Ministry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Recruitment and selection ❖ Promotions ❖ Termination of employment ❖ Staff development ❖ Personnel needs assessment and training ❖ Performance appraisals ❖ Terminal benefits ❖ Discipline ❖ Grievance management ❖ Budgeting for human resource ❖ Policy interpretation
V	Sports Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Formulation and implementation of sports policy ❖ Provision and proper management of stadium and recreation facilities ❖ Supervision of sports activities through Malawi National Council of Sports ❖ Research into traditional games ❖ Maintenance of external sports cooperation and exchange ❖ Provision of entertainment ❖ Collection, documentation, preservation and securing of sports data
vi	Cultural Section Headquarters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Administration of cultural and copyright issues ❖ Participation in intra- and inter-ministerial meetings ❖ Maintenance of external cultural cooperation ❖ Communication and coordination with international cultural institutions ❖ Secretarial Services for Cabinet Committee ❖ Maintaining contact with traditional cultural authorities in the rural areas ❖ Supervision of budget for the cultural section
vii	National Archives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Storage and conservation of documented records ❖ Policy initiation and implementation ❖ Provision of ISBN ❖ Provision of documented records for research, reference and posterity ❖ Advisory services on records management

Internal Stakeholders Analysis Continued.

	Organization	Area of Influence/Need/Impact
viii	Museums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Exhibition in Museum galleries ❖ Provision of exhibition services ❖ Conservation and preservation of cultural heritage ❖ Research in ethnology and anthropology ❖ Information dissemination ❖ Provision of technical services
ix	Antiquities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Data collection, documentation and publication ❖ Collection and storage of old coins ❖ Information dissemination ❖ Inventory of immovable cultural heritage, archaeological and palaeontological sites and specimens ❖ Policy initiation and implementation ❖ Conservation and preservation of natural and cultural heritage ❖ Monument conservation and preservation ❖ Research on archaeology, paleontology, history and anthropology
x	Censorship Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Classifying articles of entertainment and publication according to target age groups ❖ Inspection of public entertainment places ❖ Issuing and revoking of entertainment licenses and permits ❖ Consumer advice and civic education on classification matters ❖ Research on classification, acceptable and unacceptable public morals and ethics ❖ Policy initiation and implementation ❖ Promote morality, decency, propriety and respect for human beings
xi	Arts and Crafts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Policy initiation and implementation ❖ Inventories for artists and their works ❖ Collection, documentation, presentation and preservation of arts and crafts and intangible heritage ❖ Provision of entertainment ❖ Provision of advisory and educational services on arts and crafts ❖ Information dissemination ❖ Research on arts and crafts

2. External Stakeholder Analysis

Organization	Area of Influence/Need/Impact
Ministry of Tourism, Parks and Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Promotion of heritage ❖ Promotion of cultural history research ❖ Protection against possible negative impact on cultural heritage
Ministry of Education, Science and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Promotion of a reading culture ❖ Inclusion of heritage material in the curriculum ❖ Promotion of the use of archives through the study of history ❖ Promotion of cultural outreach programmes ❖ Promotion of Physical Education
Ministry of Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dissemination of information about cultural heritage to the public ❖ Folk and popular media through the Ministry's planning unit ❖ Provision of print and audio-visual material ❖ Licensing and accreditation of foreign film crews
Ministry of Gender and Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dissemination of information on the importance of values of traditional values and games to the human race ❖ Preservation of traditional cultural values
Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Allocation of land for development of infrastructure ❖ Demarcation and mapping of land for national monuments
Ministry of Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Office space ❖ Certification of physical infrastructure
Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Provision of finances ❖ Budget allocation and administration ❖ Financial advice ❖ Establishment of warrants ❖ Authorization of donor funding ❖ Authority for disposal of government assets ❖ Provision of advise in project and economic trends
Ministry of Economic Planning and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Provision of monitoring and evaluation services ❖ Sourcing of financial resources
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Promotion of natural heritage research ❖ Conservation of natural and cultural heritage ❖ Construction of wind breaks

External Stakeholder Analysis Continued

Organization	Area of Influence/Need/Impact
Ministry of Health and Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dissemination of culturally acceptable HIV/AIDS and reproductive health messages ❖ Family life education ❖ Discouraging some negative and risky cultural traditions, e.g. those that contribute to the spread of HIV/AIDS and violate the rights of women ❖ Disease control ❖ Dietary advice ❖ Dressing of wounds and fractures ❖ Mortuary services
Ministry of Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Licensing of entertainment premises in District Assemblies ❖ Provision of rural cultural activities and infrastructure ❖ Provision of historical data from the districts ❖ Preservation of traditions ❖ Preservation and conservation of heritage sites
Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Provision of security services ❖ Provision of immigration formalities
Ministry of Defense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ National security ❖ Ownership of some monuments (war memorials)
Ministry of Public Works and Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Provision of road, air, and rail network ❖ Registration of vehicles for government ❖ Vehicle hire facilities ❖ Certification of physical infrastructure
Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Maintaining International relations ❖ Window to and from the world
Technical Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Provision of vocational and entrepreneurial skills ❖ Certification of skills
Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Provision of legal services
Office of the President and Cabinet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Policy direction ❖ Senior postings, promotion and discipline ❖ Authority to fill vacancies ❖ Servicing of Cabinet Committees ❖ Welfare of public servants ❖ Welfare of persons with disabilities ❖ Production of government gazettes and other government stationery
Ministry of Water Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Provision of safe water
Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Food security
Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Creating employment possibilities

External Stakeholder Analysis Continued

Organization	Area of Influence/Need/Impact
Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Industry	❖ Marketing of Malawi's cultural products
Ministry of Persons with Disabilities	❖ Provision of opportunities for people with disabilities
Electronic and Print Media	❖ Promotion of cultural activities ❖ Information dissemination
Tourism Industry (apart from Ministry of Tourism)	❖ Sponsoring and promoting cultural activities
Cultural Societies	❖ Support the activities of Cultural Divisions ❖ Assisting the Ministry in mobilizing resources from donors
Music Industry	❖ Promotion and organization of musical activities
University/Educational institutions	❖ Involve students to participate in cultural activities ❖ Initiating and conducting research on cultural heritage
Religious Institutions	❖ Participation in and initiation of cultural development programmes ❖ Ownership of monuments ❖ Ownership of archival material ❖ Exhibition of cultural material ❖ Propagation of moral values
Literally Institutions	❖ Promotion of writers and reading culture ❖ Provision of reading material on culture
Traditional Institutions	❖ Formation of village committees on cultural activities ❖ Preservation of cultural traditions ❖ Participation in conservation and implementation of cultural and natural heritage ❖ Organization of cultural festivals
National Aids Commission	❖ Coordination of the National AIDS strategic Plan ❖ Funding for research on traditional cultural practices
UNESCO	❖ Mobilization of resources for cultural development ❖ Provision of training opportunities
UNICEF	❖ Policy direction on children and the youth ❖ Mobilization of financial resources for youth activities
COSOMA	❖ Protection of artists' rights and works from piracy
Human Rights Commission of Malawi	❖ Protection of human rights ❖ Sensitization the public of their rights
Law Commission	❖ Provision of legal advice

SWOT ANALYSIS

8.1 Strengths

- The sites are located in a protected forest reserve. This has greatly enhanced their protection from human vandalism.
- The sites are located close to major population centres of Dedza Boma, which is only 10 Km away, and Lilongwe, which is only 86 Km away. This makes it very easy for many people to patronize the sites.
- The sites are easily accessible because of their proximity to the main road and the good road network within the Forest Reserve.
- There is willingness from the stakeholders to cooperate in managing the sites.
- There are two good guesthouses, one at the Malawi College of Forestry within the forest reserve and another at Dedza Boma which provide accommodation to overnight visitors.
- Some of the sites continue to be used by the local community for their traditional ceremonies. This enhances a sense of ownership and responsibility.
- There is a positive attitude by the local community towards the sites.

8.2 Weaknesses

- Lack of management plan
- Not all the sites are properly documented. This work is currently in progress
- There is lack of adequate awareness by the local community on the importance of the sites
- Lack of a vehicle for mobility
- Weak enforcement of the Forest and the Monuments and Relics Acts. This is due to shortage of staff to patrol the sites
- There is inadequate technical capacity for a conservation programme of the sites
- Budget constraints

8.3 Opportunities

- There are a number of schools around the sites, which can be used for education purposes. The schools can also be used to disseminate the message about the importance of the sites
- The sites offer great research opportunities in a number of fields such as archaeology, history and ethnography
- The sites have a great tourism potential
- The current Forestry Management Policy that encourages community participation offers an opportunity for cultural

management participation and a sense of ownership and responsibility

8.4 Threats

- The majority of the people in the local community are poor due to high unemployment. Some of them depend on the forest products such as charcoal and firewood for survival
- Local hunters use the sites as resting camps and make fires that damage the paintings
- Lack of awareness on the importance of the sites has led to vandalism of the sites, information panels and protective fences
- Uncontrolled tourism has led to a lot of vandalism especially in the form of defacement
- Wood logging for charcoal reduce the natural habitat for faunas
- Possible privatization of the Forest Reserve
- Some research practices can be a threat e.g. extracting pigment samples for analysis
- Natural phenomena such as rock weathering, flaking and salt formations are big threats to the paintings
- Herd boys graze their cattle on the hills and sometimes use the shelters as resting camps

9. Management Goals

The Chongoni Rock Art Site will be managed to:

- Preserve all the cultural values of the area for posterity
- Make it a show-case for educating pupils, visitors and the general public about the history and cultural heritage of Malawi
- Strengthen the area as an additional tourist destination thereby bringing economic benefits to the local community and the nation as a whole
- Maintain continuity of the social/cultural traditions of the local community that date from prehistoric times as recorded in the rock art
- Maintain it as a source of information on Malawi's history and culture

10. Management Objectives

10.1 Management and Administration

To manage the rock art and other cultural resources in the Chongoni area in a manner that is coordinated and open to participation by all interested and affected parties

Strategies

- Set up a committee of all the stakeholders that would be meeting periodically e.g. once every three months

- Recruit 16 staff members (possibly from the local communities) for the management and administration of the rock art to be based at the proposed Interpretation Centre. These staff members will consist of:
 - a) **Conservator/Manager (PO)**
His/her responsibilities will be:
 - To run the interpretation center and supervise all conservation activities of the site
 - To monitor the state of conservation of rock painting from time to time and report the finding to the Department of Antiquities Headquarters quarterly
 - He will be responsible for the on the job training for the junior staff
 - He will be organizing and carrying out awareness campaigns in schools and colleges
 - He will be working in collaboration with the forestry officials in the formulation of forest management plans
 - b) **One Senior Assistant Conservator (STO)**
 - He will be involved in the conservation activities of the rock art
 - He will assist the manager in his supervisory role
 - c) **One Assistant Conservator/Inspector (TO)**
 - He will be inspecting all sites in the area and reporting on the state of Conservation of the rock art
 - d) **One Conservation Assistants (TA)**
 - Assisting on the inspection of sites and general protection of the forests
 - e) **Two Tour Guides (TA)**
 - These will provide guided tours to the rock art sites to make sure that the sites are not tampered with.
 - f) **Ten Patrolmen (TA)**
 - These will work hand in hand with the forestry patrolmen in the prevention of illicit cutting down of trees, hunting in the forest and controlling cattle grazing in the forest
 - Controlling the re-use of rock shelters by people
 - Reporting to the authorities on vandalism to the sites i.e. graffiti
 - Assisting the forestry patrolmen in maintaining fire breaks, roads and bridges

10.2 Conservation and Protection

To ensure adequate protection and conservation of all the cultural sites in the Chongogni area.

Strategies

- Carry out site surveys to document the rock art
- Carry out regular site inspections to monitor the state of conservation of the rock art
- Embark on a programme to remove where possible, graffiti, bird and insect nests, termite and ant lines, and vegetation on rock painted surfaces
- Where possible, control the effects of natural deterioration
- Establish sub-stations and recruit staff who will be patrolling the sites from those stations
- Encourage local communities to continue use of designated no-go sites for their religious and traditional ceremonies

10.3 Education, Information and marketing

To disseminate information to the general public on the cultural resources of Chongoni area.

Strategies

- Establish a Cultural Resources Interpretation Centre within the Chongoni area where all the information on the rock art and other sites can be obtained. The possible places are the Chongoni College of Forestry and Namoni Katengeza C. C. A. P. Church. These were chosen to take advantage of some facilities that are already in existence such as:

Guesthouse for overnight accommodation
Restaurant or refreshment facilities
Car parking
Lavatories
Shop

- Erect sign posts to direct people to the sites and information panels explaining, if possible, the meaning of the art
- The interpretation centre should have a site museum, a lecture room, a library, its own shop and parking area
- Organise guided tours to the sites
- Produce brochures and pamphlets on the rock art that can be distributed through hotels, airports, bookshops and the Interpretation Centre itself

10.4 Research

To promote controlled research, which would support conservation and management as well as enhance understanding and interpretation of the rock art and other cultural resources

Strategies

- Encourage archaeological, historical, ethnographical, faunal and floral research whose results can be published and/or displayed in the Interpretation Centre. All such research would be carefully regulated in order to ensure professionalism.
- Use the research results to formulate preservation and conservation measures for the cultural aspects, the fauna and flora of the site

10.5 Economic Benefit Distribution

To ensure that economic benefits are brought back into the local communities.

Strategies

- Employ as many people as possible from the local communities for the various jobs that would be required
- Encourage the local community to set up tourism related businesses

11. Envisaged Future Activities

- Conduct awareness campaigns in English and Chichewa, the local language for the area, on the need for conservation and management of the rock paintings. This will be achieved through:
 - Lectures in schools, colleges
 - Holding panel discussions on electronic and press media
 - Producing documentaries on the rock art
 - Fencing some sites to open for the public
- Improve the services of staff at the center by providing training to enhance protection of the sites against vandalism and fire
- Involve the local communities to provide guided tours to the sites
- Involve tourism in the marketing of the site as well as providing necessary training skills to the tour guides
- Closely work together with research institutions to further carry out research in the area
- Closely work together with the local communities, Department of Forestry, District Forestry Office, District Environmental Office and non-governmental organizations with interest in heritage conservation and management to enhance the protection of the forest reserve and all other natural and cultural resources embodied in it.

12. Needs for international assistance

12.1 Personnel and training needs

The need for well-trained personnel to effectively and efficiently execute conservation and management duties for the upkeep of the site,

the interpretation center and further research activities for the site cannot be overemphasized. Therefore, competent conservation and management measures will require training.

12.2 Equipment

The interpretation center will require a computer and its accessories (printer), overhead and slide projectors, compass and Global Positioning System (GPS)

12.3 Transport

For the smooth running of activities between the Department of Antiquities and the center, there is need for a vehicle. The Department of Antiquities is facing hardships in terms of mobility. The institution has one vehicle at the office. The Department is responsible for all immovable cultural heritage of Malawi. This heritage is scattered across the country and need to be inspected now and again. When several activities are happening concurrently at different ends of the country, the Department relies on borrowing from the Ministry Headquarters which does not have enough either. So the provision of the vehicle would be a high relief, as this will create mobility independence and flexibility in carrying out management and conservation activities.

12.4 Road maintenance

The Department of Forestry has established a very good road network within the Chongoni Forest Reserve. However, most of these roads are in bad conditions and to some extent inaccessible especially during the rainy season. The idea is to maintain the main roads to become all weather roads. Bridges will also need maintenance.

13. Plan of Action

ACTIVITIES	DURATION	IMPLEMENTER	COSTS
Recruitment of staff	1 month	Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture	K150,000
Setting up stakeholder committee	1 month	Local chiefs, Departments of Antiquities, Forestry, Tourism	K80,000
Construction of 15 staff houses	12 months	Contractor	K5,000,000
Inspection and monitoring of sites.	Every 2 months	Department of Antiquities	K90,000 per year
Site surveys and documentation	2 months	Dept of Antiquities staff and researchers	K180,000
Control of natural deterioration	Continuous	Dept of Antiquities	K40,000 per year
Conservation programme	Continuous	Dept of Antiquities	K50,000 per year
Encourage local communities to continue using the sites	Continuous	Dept. of Antiquities, Dept. of Forestry and the local community.	K20,000 per year
Construction of barriers and walk-ways	2 months	Dept. of Antiquities	K70,000

Plan of Action continued.

ACTIVITIES	DURATION	IMPLEMENTER	COSTS
Construction of interpretation centre (site museum), purchase of a 4 x 4 vehicle, computer, overhead projector, scanner, slide projector, Global Positioning System (GPS) a Brunton Compass	12 months	Contractor in consultation the Departments of Antiquities and Forestry	K3,000,000
Erection of sign-posts and information panels.	1 month	Dept. of Antiquities	K70,000
Production of brochures	3 months	Dept. of Antiquities and Tourism	K300,000
Training of tour guides	3 months	Depts. of Tourism	K80,000
Construction and maintenance of roads to the sites	3 months	Contractors	K1,500,000
Organizing guided tours	Continuous	Dept. of Antiquities, Department of Tourism, tour operators	K50,000 per year
Carry out research	3 months	Archaeologists, historians, Ethnographers	K200,000
Encourage local entrepreneurs to set up businesses e.g. curio shop, restaurants etc.	2 seminars	Local entrepreneurs, Dept. of Antiquities, Tourism	K80,000

14. Financing the implementation of the action plan

As indicated in section 12 above, there is need for international support in order for the plan of action, section 13. Besides international support, the Department is shall seek support from the private sector within the country. Therefore, the Department of Antiquities will work tirelessly to contact as many possible donors for their support. The government as the main source of funding for the Department will play a major role in providing the required resources as per her capacity.