Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda: Establishment of the World Heritage List and of the List of World Heritage in Danger

8B. Nominations to the World Heritage List

SUMMARY

This Addendum is divided into four sections:

I. Examination of nominations referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee

II. Examination of nominations of natural, mixed and cultural sites to the World Heritage List submitted for examination in 2021 for which the evaluation missions took place late because of the sanitary situation

III. Examination of minor boundary modifications of natural, mixed and cultural properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List submitted for examination in 2021

IV. Statements of Outstanding Universal Value of properties inscribed at previous sessions and not adopted by the World Heritage Committee

Decisions required:

The Committee is requested to examine the Draft Decisions presented in this Document, and, in accordance with paragraphs 153, 161 and 162 of the Operational Guidelines, take its Decisions concerning inscription on the World Heritage List in the following four categories:

(a) properties which it inscribes on the World Heritage List;
(b) properties which it decides not to inscribe on the World Heritage List;
(c) properties whose consideration is referred;
(d) properties whose consideration is deferred.
In the presentation below, ICOMOS Recommendations and IUCN Recommendations are presented in the form of Draft Decisions and are extracted from WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B1.Add (ICOMOS) and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B2.Add (IUCN).

Though Draft Decisions were taken from IUCN and ICOMOS evaluation books, in some cases, a few modifications were required to adapt them to this document.

Disclaimer

The Nomination files produced by the States Parties are published by the World Heritage Centre at its website and/or in working documents in order to ensure transparency, access to information and to facilitate the preparations of comparative analysis by other nominating States Parties.

The sole responsibility for the content of each Nomination file lies with the State Party concerned. The publication of the Nomination file does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever of the World Heritage Committee or of the Secretariat of UNESCO concerning the history or legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its boundaries.

I. EXAMINATION OF NOMINATIONS REFERRED BACK BY PREVIOUS SESSIONS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex</th>
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**Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.7**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B2.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions 39 COM 8B.5, 40 COM 8B.11 and 43 COM 8B.5 adopted at its 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO Headquarters, 2016) and 43rd (Baku, 2019) sessions respectively,
3. Taking note that the nomination was referred three times, that the only evaluation mission for the nominated site took place in 2014, and that the maximum time foreseen for a referral procedure is three years, and also taking note that the boundaries proposed for the nominated property have been significantly modified throughout this period, including the removal of a buffer zone,
4. Defers the nomination of Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex, Thailand, under criterion (x), in order to allow the State Party to:

   a) Develop a new nomination, presenting a fully updated analysis of the current conservation status, integrity and protection and management of the nominated property relating to its revised boundaries, and justifying potential Outstanding Universal Value under criterion (x),
   b) Fully resolve concerns regarding rights, in line with paragraph 123 of the Operational Guidelines, and Decisions 39 COM 8B.5, 40 COM 8B.11 and 43 COM 8B.5, demonstrating that consensus of support for the nomination of the property has been obtained from all affected indigenous peoples and local communities, fully consistent with the principle of free, prior and informed consent,
   c) Work closely, and in full consultation, with the affected indigenous peoples and local communities, and with the Special Procedures Branch of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR) in order to fully and satisfactorily resolve issues raised by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples; the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment; and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders,
   d) Assess and provide the results of actions related to community engagement including completion of land ownership surveys, mapping of new “management boundaries for conservation” and providing security of land tenure and livelihoods as provided for under amendments to the National Park Act and Wildlife Conservation and Protection Act,
   e) Improve representation of local communities in Protected Area Committees, consistent with the outcomes of consultation and independent arbitration processes concerning the rights of affected indigenous peoples and local communities;

5. Recommends the State Party to establish an independent, third-party arbitration process, in consultation with UNESCO, and working closely with the Special Rapporteurs, via the Special Procedures Branch Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR), to address equitably the continued concerns of local communities in relation to the nominated property, and to respond effectively to the eventual recommendations of that process, prior to proceeding further with the nomination;

6. Encourages the State Party to continue enhancing collaboration with the State Party of Myanmar in transboundary conservation and management of the highly significant nature conservation values of the region, with a view to improving the integrity of the nominated property, and considering the opportunities for extending the nominated property and a future possible transboundary nomination.
II. EXAMINATION OF NOMINATIONS OF NATURAL, MIXED AND CULTURAL SITES TO THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST SUBMITTED FOR EXAMINATION IN 2021 FOR WHICH THE EVALUATION MISSIONS TOOK PLACE LATE BECAUSE OF THE SANITARY SITUATION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe [extension]</th>
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<tr>
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<td>States Parties</td>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina / Czechia / France / Italy / Montenegro / North Macedonia / Poland / Serbia / Slovakia / Switzerland</td>
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| Criteria proposed by States Parties | (ix) |


Technical note

Shall the Committee decide to approve the significant boundary modification of the Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe property as proposed in the Draft Decision 44 COM 8B.32, and therefore adopt the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value included in it, the Secretariat shall amend the Draft Decision 44 COM 8B.67 (see page 17 of this document), regarding Statements of Outstanding Universal Value of properties inscribed at previous sessions and not adopted by the World Heritage Committee, by removing this property from the Draft Decision.

Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.32

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B2.Add,

2. Recalling decisions 31 COM 8B.16, 35 COM 8B.13, 41 COM 8B.7, 42 COM 7B.71 and 43 COM 7B.13 adopted at its 31st (Christchurch, 2007), 35th (UNESCO Headquarters, 2011), 41st (Krakow, 2017), 42nd (Manama, 2018) and 43rd (Baku, 2019) sessions respectively,

3. Approves the significant boundary modification of the Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe, Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Ukraine, on the basis of criterion (ix), through the addition or modification of the following nominated component parts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czechia, France, Italy, North Macedonia, Poland, Slovakia and Switzerland:

- Vihorlat (Slovakia), as a boundary modification of the existing component part of the same name;
- Havešová Primeval Forest (Slovakia), as a boundary modification of the existing component part of the same name;
- Rožok (Slovakia), as a boundary modification of the existing component part of the same name;
- Udava (Slovakia) and Sužica - Bukovské Vrchy (Slovakia), as a boundary modification of the existing component part Sužica - Bukovské Vrchy (Slovakia);
- Cozzo Ferriero (Italy), as a boundary modification of the existing component part of the same name;
- Falascone (Italy), as a boundary modification of the existing component part Foresta Umbra (Italy);
- Pavari-Sfliz (Italy) [new component part];
- Pollinello (Italy) [new component part];
- Valle Infermale (Italy) [new component part];
- Prašuma Janj (Bosnia and Herzegovina) [new component part];
- Forêt de la Bettlachstock (Switzerland) [new component part];
- Valli di Lodano, Busai and Soladino Forest Reserves (Switzerland) [new component part];
- Jizera Mountains (Czechia) [new component part];
- Chapitre (France) [new component part];
- Grand Ventron (France) [new component part];
- Massane (France) [new component part];
- Diaboka Reka (North Macedonia) [new component part];
- Polonina Wetińska and Smerek (Poland) [new component part];
- Border Ridge and Gorna Solinka valley (Poland) [new component part];
- Terebowiec stream valley (Poland) [new component part];
- Wołosatka stream valley (Poland) [new component part];

4. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the property as a whole, including the modified and newly added components outlined above:

Brief synthesis

The "Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe" are a transnational serial property comprising 94 component parts across 18 countries. They represent an outstanding example of relatively undisturbed, complex temperate forests and exhibit a wide spectrum of comprehensive ecological patterns and processes of pure and mixed stands of European beech across a variety of environmental conditions. During each glacial phase (ice ages) of the last 1 million years, European beech (Fagus sylvatica) survived the unfavourable climatic conditions in refuge areas in the southern parts of the European continent. These refuge areas have been documented by scientists through palaeoecological analysis and using the latest techniques in genetic coding. After the last Ice Age, around 11,000 years ago, beech started expanding its range from these southern refuge areas to eventually cover large parts of the European continent. During this expansion process, which is still ongoing, beech formed different types of plant communities while occupying largely different environments. The interplay between a diversity of
environments, climatic gradients and different species gene pools has and continues to shape this high diversity of beech forest communities. These forests contain an invaluable population of old trees and a genetic reservoir of beech and many other species, which are associated with and dependent on these old-growth forest habitats.

Criterion (ix): The property is indispensable for the understanding of the history and evolution of the genus Fagus which, given its wide distribution in the Northern Hemisphere and its ecological importance, is globally significant. These largely undisturbed, complex temperate forests exhibit comprehensive ecological patterns and processes of pure and mixed stands of European beech across a variety of environmental gradients, including climatic and geological conditions, spanning almost all European Beech Forest Regions. Forests are included from all altitudinal zones from coastal areas to the treeline and, include the best remaining examples from the range limits of the European beech forest. Beech is one of the most important features in the Temperate Broadleaf Forest Biome and represents an outstanding example of the re-colonization and development of terrestrial ecosystems and communities since the last Ice Age. The continuing northern and westward expansion of beech from its original glacial refuge areas in the eastern and southern parts of Europe can be tracked along natural corridors and stepping stones spanning the continent. The dominance of beech across extensive areas of Europe is a living testimony of the tree’s genetic adaptability, a process which is still ongoing.

Integrity
The selected component parts represent the diversity of ancient and primeval beech forests found across Europe in terms of different climatic and geological conditions and altitudinal zones. The property includes component parts, which convey its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and represent the variability of European beech forest ecosystems. Together these component parts contribute to the integrity of the property as a whole. Additionally, each component part needs to demonstrate integrity at the local level by representing the full suite of natural forest development processes in its particular geographical and ecological setting within the series. Most of the component parts are of sufficient size to maintain such natural processes necessary for their long-term ecological viability.

The most significant threats to the property are logging and habitat fragmentation. Logging activities in the vicinity of component parts can cause microclimatic changes and nutrient mobilising effects, with negative impacts on the integrity of the property. Land use change in the surrounding landscapes can lead to increased habitat fragmentation, which would be of particular concern for smaller component parts. Infrastructure development is a potential threat only in the surroundings of a few component parts.

Climate change already poses a risk to some component parts and further impacts can be anticipated, including changes in species composition and habitat shifting. However, it should be noted that one of the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is its demonstration of the ability of beech to adapt to different ecological and climatic regimes throughout its range. Therefore, potential future changes need to be monitored and documented in order to better understand these processes.

The above-mentioned threats may affect the integrity of the component parts to a different extent and in different ways, for example through the reduction of structural diversity, fragmentation, loss of connectivity, biomass loss and changed microclimate, which reduce ecosystem functionality and adaptive capacity as a whole. To cope with these threats, buffer zones are established and are managed accordingly by the responsible management bodies.

Protection and management requirements
A strict non-intervention management is essential for the conservation of the OUV of this serial property across all its component parts. The majority of the 94 component parts are protected by law as strict forest reserves, wilderness areas, core areas of biosphere reserves or national parks (IUCN category I or II). Some of the component parts are protected and managed by Forest Management Plans (with regulations ensuring no logging in old-growth forests). As it is of uppermost importance to guarantee strong protection status in the long term, the protection status will be improved where needed.

To ensure the viability of the four component parts smaller than the established minimum size of 50 ha, an enlargement of the component parts with further non-intervention management will be considered by the States Parties. Additionally, an effective management of buffer zones to protect the property from external threats and to safeguard its integrity is of uppermost importance.

The integrity of each component part is the responsibility of the State Party and is ensured by the relevant local management units. For the coherent protection and management of the property, as well as to coordinate activities between the management units and the 18 States Parties, a functional organisational structure should be established. To ensure this aspect, an Integrated Management System was developed during the nomination process and will be maintained to allow effective and coordinated management and protection of the property as a whole. The Joint Management Committee, comprising representatives of all States Parties, formulated a Joint Declaration of Intent. This Declaration regulates and structures the cooperation between all the States Parties whose territory is included in the property and ensures the commitment to protect and strengthen the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. The position of a coordinator will be established and maintained to support the Joint Management Committee and the States Parties in their work.

The Integrated Management System and the management plans of the component parts will ensure a non-intervention management approach for the component parts while the buffer zones will be
managed to avoid negative impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property with a specific focus on ensuring integrity remains intact. To harmonise the management approach across the 94 component parts, the States Parties will develop common objectives and coordinated activities which will cover property and buffer zone management, monitoring and research, education and awareness raising, visitor management and tourism as well as financial and human capacity building. It is proposed to establish a coherent monitoring system based on selected ecological (proxy) indicators of integrity within all component parts to compare long-term development. It is imperative that each State Party provides clear and committed long-term funding arrangements, to support consistent national site management as well as coordinated management.

Special attention is required to ensure the configuration of the property such that each component part retains ongoing viability to evolve with unimpeded ecological and biological processes and without the need for substantial interventions. This includes the integration of surrounding forest ecosystems to provide sufficient protection and connectivity, especially for small component parts. All component parts have buffer zones of various configurations including surrounding protected areas (national parks, nature parks, biosphere reserves and others). These buffer zones will be regularly monitored to ensure protection under changing environmental conditions such as climate change. The boundaries of buffer zones should, where possible, be aligned with existing protected area boundaries and should be expanded to connect component parts where they are in close proximity. Finally, where appropriate, special ongoing emphasis is needed to ensure effective ecological connectivity between beech forests and the surrounding complementary habitats to allow natural development and adaptation of the forest to the environmental change.

5. Takes note of the following component parts in the present nomination, which are not recommended for inclusion in the serial property at the present time:
   - Fruška gora – Paprtaški do (Serbia);
   - Fruška gora – Ravne (Serbia);
   - Kopaonik – Kozje stene (Serbia);
   - Tara – Rača (Serbia);
   - Tara – Žvezda (Serbia);
   - Kyjovský prales (Slovakia);
   - Aigoual (France);
   - Sainte-Baume (France);
   - Saint-Pé-de-Bigorre (France);
   - Biogradska Gora 1 (Montenegro);
   - Biogradska Gora 2 (Montenegro);

6. Recommends before considering potential resubmission of these component parts in any future nomination:
   a) The State Party of Serbia to provide more detailed information on the type, scale, frequency and extent of any logging and forestry operations that may be implemented in the buffer zones of the nominated component parts in Serbia and their potential impacts on the property’s Outstanding Universal Value, together with a plan to minimize logging in the entirety of the defined buffer zones,
   b) The State Party of Slovakia to expand the buffer zone of the nominated Kyjovský prales component part and to connect this buffer zone to the buffer zone of the existing Vihorlat component part,
   c) The State Party of France, with the support of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN if requested, to significantly revise the nominated component parts of Aigoual, Sainte-Baume and Saint-Pé-de-Bigorre to enhance their integrity and to re-design and enlarge their buffer zones,
   d) The State Party of Montenegro, with the support of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN if requested, to merge the nominated component parts Biogradska Gora 1 and Biogradska Gora 2, and to align the zonation of the Biogradska Gora National Park in light of this and to revise current regulations, especially the Special Purpose Spatial Plan for Biogradska Gora National Park in order to align them with the protection of the nominated property’s Outstanding Universal Value. It is further recommended to develop an appropriate tourism management plan for the resulting area;

7. Also takes note of the following nominated component parts which are not recommended for inclusion in the serial property:
   - Chizé Component 1 North-West (France);
   - Chizé Component 2 South (France);
   - Fontainebleau (France);

8. Notes that the Fontainebleau nominated component part could potentially be considered in relation to the possible extension of the existing World Heritage property: Palace and Park of Fontainebleau, France;

9. Reiterates its requests to all States Parties involved in this transnational serial property, to ensure that buffer zone management supports undisturbed natural processes with special emphasis on dead and decaying wood, including ongoing monitoring of threats and risks, in line with Decision 41 COM 8B.7, with a clear, strict and consistent approach to buffer zone design and management, in line with Decision 42 COM 7B.71, as the only feasible way to protect the integrity of the small forest remnants included in this property, in line with Decision 43 COM 7B.13;

10. Also requests all States Parties involved in this transnational serial property to undertake a review of the consistency of component part design and buffer zone configurations across the entire transnational serial property, allowing for the expansion of undisturbed natural processes into the surrounding areas, so as to ensure the natural evolution and continued recovery of Beech Forests within the component parts and towards the surrounding areas, and to consider the proposals to strengthen the property accordingly;
11. Further requests the States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2023, a joint report on the state of conservation of the property as a whole, and the implementation and the review of boundary and buffer zone consistency, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 47th session;

12. Welcomes the enhanced cooperation between a large number of European States Parties to preserve primeval, ancient and old-growth Beech Forests across the continent.

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<th>Property</th>
<th>As-Salt - The Place of Tolerance and Urban Hospitality</th>
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Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.34

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B1.Add,

2. Inscribes As-Salt – The Place of Tolerance and Urban Hospitality, Jordan, on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria (ii) and (iii);

3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

Brief synthesis

The city of As-Salt became the capital of Transjordan and a thriving trade centre during the late Ottoman period, experiencing a ‘Golden Age’ between the 1860s and the 1920s. The effects of the Ottoman ‘Tanzimat’ reforms brought enhanced security, administrative structures and trade. As-Salt became central to trade networks between the eastern desert and the west, and grew in wealth through the arrival and settlement of merchants from Nablus, Syria, and Lebanon who made their fortunes on trade, banking, and farming. This prosperity attracted skilled craftsmen and As-Salt was transformed from a modest rural settlement into a thriving town with a distinctive townscape and architecture.

The city features large public buildings and private residences characterised by a central hallway and three bays, constructed of yellow limestone. These demonstrate a mix of vernacular and modern architectural influences, and skillful craftsmanship. Adapted to the steep folded topography, the urban morphology of the historic urban core is characterised by network of interlinked stairways, alleyways, public squares and spaces, and streets. The result is a dense urban fabric connecting the city’s resident neighbourhoods with public spaces and streets. These tangible characteristics have shaped the urban cultures of the city, including distinctive cultural traditions of tolerance between people of different cultural groups and religions. Muslim and Christian communities share many traditions, demonstrated by a lack of physical segregation between them. These traditions of hospitality are understood to reflect a fusion of local cultures and the incoming bourgeois traders during the ‘Golden Age’ of As-Salt’s development, and include the social welfare system known as Takaful Ittima’ and the provision of hospitality in Madafas (guest houses, known locally as Dawaween).

The cultures of tolerance, hospitality, and social welfare practiced by the Bedouin peoples of the region were common throughout the area and have contributed to the construction of a modern Trans-Jordanian identity.

Criterion (ii): The historic centre of As-Salt demonstrates distinctive intercultural exchanges that resulted in transformations of the Levant in the late Ottoman period. These included flows of culture, people, skills, traditions and wealth within and between the cities of the region and beyond, and between diverse cultural and religious groups that comprised the urban population from the city’s ‘Golden Age’ to the present. These cultural exchanges involved the local Bedouin peoples, incoming merchants, craftsmen and traders, Ottoman officials and Christian missionaries. Together, the city’s architectural forms and building techniques, urban morphology, shared traditions and uses of public spaces, and the development of the places and practices of urban hospitality and mutual welfare demonstrate these intercultural exchanges. These are understood to represent a combination of local customs and new urban social norms.

Criterion (iii): As-Salt’s historic urban core is an exceptional example of the urban form and cultural traditions associated with the city’s ‘Golden Age’ period (1860s to 1920s). The city thrived and transformed as a result of the Ottoman Tanzimat reforms, demonstrated by the relatively intact urban fabric, stairways, and public spaces, as well as the large public buildings and private residences characterised by a central hallway and three bays, constructed of yellow stone. The urban form reflects and supports the traditions of joint habitation of Christian and Muslim communities, and specific forms of urban hospitality, many of which are continuing. As-Salt is distinctive in terms of its cultural practices of cooperation across religions and the absence of segregated neighbourhoods. Although these traits are not unique within the Levant, As-Salt is exceptional because of the intensity of these manifestations and the close connections between the cultural traditions and the urban fabric and forms. The particular urban tradition of providing Madafas (guest houses, also known as Dawaween) is an example of these characteristics, combining tangible and intangible attributes.

Integrity

As-Salt demonstrates integrity in relation to the continuity of the historic urban fabric, including the historic buildings, landscape setting, the network and hierarchy of stairways that organise the vertical movement between lower and upper levels, the presence of open spaces that support a multi-faith society, and the residential and religious buildings. The property is of adequate size, and its boundary

Nominations to the World Heritage List

WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add, p. 5
and buffer zone are appropriately delineated. The spirit and feeling of the place reside in both the tangible (buildings, houses, churches, mosques, Madafas, urban nodes, steps) and intangible attributes (close habitation of different cultural and religious groups, shared uses of public spaces, traditions of social welfare between neighbours). The integrity is vulnerable to development pressures, and has been affected by intrusive buildings and empty plots within the urban fabric that affect the property’s visual and intangible qualities.

**Authenticity**

The historic urban centre of As-Salt meets the conditions of authenticity through the continuity of the different elements of the city’s architecture and urban morphology, and in the continuing aspects of the traditions of hospitality. The authenticity of the structure, materials, form, and design of the historic buildings and urban fabric is satisfactory despite development and adaptive reuse projects. The distinctive yellow stone distinguishes many historic buildings within the larger urban core, and the authenticity is supported by the retention of the networks of public spaces, alleyways, and stairways. The strong visual and topological contribution of the setting and the continuity of use of many of the public buildings and spaces are important aspects of the authenticity of the property.

**Management and protection requirements**

Two national laws provide protection for the property. The Law of Architectural and Urban Protection (N° 5, 2005) is the primary national law for the protection of cultural heritage in Jordan; the Cities, Villages and Buildings Planning Law (N° 79, 1966) provides for the establishment of planning authorities and processes, including the regulation of construction. Implementation of protection is provided through the City Core Special Regulations which were endorsed by the Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs, the Higher City Planning Council of Jordan, and the As-Salt Greater Municipality in September 2014. These provide regulations for urban spaces, designation and grading of historic buildings, guidelines for conservation and new interventions, and guidelines for the design and enhancement of public spaces.

There is a long-standing commitment to the conservation of the tangible and intangible attributes of As-Salt through the efforts of the As-Salt Greater Municipality. The management system has been established, led by the As-Salt City Development Projects Unit, established in 2005 by the Municipality. The main mission of this office is to coordinate efforts for the safeguarding, conservation, and management of the historic city.

The Municipality is continuing a programme to fully document the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value, and record their state of conservation. The Conservation Management Plan is a satisfactory beginning, and the establishment of regulations and guidance for change, alteration and conservation works are under preparation. Important conservation and adaptive reuse projects have been completed, and others are underway and/or planned. Site-specific conservation plans are being completed for twenty-two of the city’s historic buildings as a basis for their conservation or adaptive reuse. Many of the essential management strategies and tools are yet to be developed, and the incorporation of provisions for the intangible cultural heritage aspects require greater attention. Visitor management and interpretation are the subject of new and continuing projects. The development of the nomination and the ongoing management of the property have involved the city’s communities.

4. **Recommends** that the State Party give consideration to the following:

a) Deepening the documentation of the intangible attributes, including the traditions shared by Muslim and Christian communities, and the Madafas and other social and financial systems of support within the communities,

b) Conducting an assessment of significant views within the property and buffer zone with the intention of ensuring that these are adequately incorporated into the planning of all new development proposals,

c) Completing the survey of the physical condition of historic buildings and other tangible attributes within the property and the buffer zone,

d) Completing the production of measured drawings for the historic buildings in the property so that there is a strong baseline documentation available for management and conservation decisions, including setting priorities for conservation works and expenditures,

e) Advancing as a priority the implementation of the Conservation Management Plan, including a timeline and indication of resources for its implementation,

f) Establishing Heritage Impact Assessment processes in line with the ICOMOS HIA guidance document that give priority to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property in the assessment of development proposals, and ensuring these processes are fully integrated into the legal protection regime and management system of the property,

g) Developing further the risk management system to manage seismic, flood, and fire risks, including evacuation plans as well as capacity building to ensure the effectiveness of the system,

h) Developing a new policy and associated strategies and actions within the Conservation Management Plan for the intangible cultural heritage of the property,

i) Developing as a priority implementation plans for the strategies oriented to the maintenance and repair of the tangible elements of the property,

j) Continuing to develop partnerships with private owners to ensure that buildings are maintained and repaired.
k) Developing a detailed interpretation strategy for the property, with clear timeframes and priorities for implementation,

l) Developing detailed plans for mobility, accessibility, and transportation that take into account the visual qualities of the city and the constraints of the stairways and public spaces.

m) Working with communities and local authorities to develop strategies, tools, and incentives to maintain the cultural practices of the city and avoid the possible gentrification of the historic urban core,

n) Fully implementing the proposed monitoring system after augmenting it to include monitoring the proposed intangible attributes by means of key indicators,

o) Applying the approaches of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (2011) when further developing the management system, plans, strategies, and actions.

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**Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.35**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B1.Add,

2. Inscribes Dholavira: a Harappan City, India, on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria (iii) and (iv);

3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

Dholavira: a Harappan city, is one of the very few well preserved urban settlements in South Asia dating from the 3rd to mid-2nd millennium BCE. Being the 6th largest of more than 1,000 Harappan sites discovered so far, and occupied for over 1,500 years, Dholavira not only witnesses the entire trajectory of the rise and fall of this early civilization of humankind, but also demonstrates its multifaceted achievements in terms of urban planning, construction techniques, water management, social governance and development, art, manufacturing, trading, and belief system. With extremely rich artefacts, the well preserved urban settlement of Dholavira depicts a vivid picture of a regional centre with its distinct characteristics, that also contributes significantly to the existing knowledge of Harappan Civilization as a whole.

The property comprises two parts: a walled city and a cemetery to the west of the city. The walled city consists of a fortified Castle with attached fortified Bailey and Ceremonial Ground, and a fortified Middle Town and a Lower Town. A series of reservoirs are found to the east and south of the Citadel. The great majority of the burials in the Cemetery are memorial in nature.

The configuration of the city of Dholavira, during its heyday, is an outstanding example of planned city with planned and segregated urban residential areas based on possibly differential occupational activities, and a stratified society. Technological advancements in water harnessing systems, water drainage systems as well architecturally and technologically developed features are reflected in the design, execution, and effective harnessing of local materials. Unlike other Harappan antecedent towns normally located near to rivers and perennial sources of water, the location of Dholavira in the island of Khadir was strategic to harness different mineral and raw material sources (copper, shell, agate-carnelian, steatite, lead, banded limestone, among others) and to facilitate internal as well as external trade to the Magan (modern Oman peninsula) and Mesopotamian regions.

**Criterion (iii):** Dholavira is an exceptional example of a proto-historic Bronze Age urban settlement pertaining to the Harappan Civilization (early, mature and late Harappan phases) and bears evidence of a multi-cultural and stratified society during the 3rd and 2nd millennia BCE. The earliest evidence can be traced back to 3000 BCE during the early Harappan phase of the Harappan Civilization. This city flourished for nearly 1,500 years, representing a long continuous habitation. The excavated remains clearly indicate the origin of the settlement, its growth, zenith and the subsequent decline in the form of continuous changes in the configuration of the city, architectural elements and various other attributes.

**Criterion (iv):** Dholavira is an outstanding example of Harappan urban planning, with its preconceived city planning, multi-layered fortifications, sophisticated water reservoirs and drainage system, and the extensive use of stone as a building material. These characteristics reflect the unique position Dholavira held in the entire gamut of Harappan Civilization.

**Integrity**

The ancient Harappan city of Dholavira was discovered in 1968 and excavated for 13 field seasons between 1989 and 2005. The unearthed excavations were simultaneously preserved and conserved, and display all physical attributes contributing to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, that is to say the proto-historic systems of urban planning, water management systems, architectural elements and design, traditional knowledge of art and technology preserved in situ. All the attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are located in the property area. Physical evidence of the entire 1,500 years of inhabitation are spanning from pre-Harappan to post-Harappan stages. The excavated remains at Dholavira, to a large extent, illustrate attributes associated with industrial activities (e.g.
bead manufacturing) and are indicative of the sophisticated life and exploitation of natural resources for nearly 1,500 years, trade, interregional relations and exchanges, the physical manifestations of these are largely found in situ. Conservation measures and consolidation of few areas have been carried out to prevent deterioration and have also been stabilized for ensuring preservation of its physical attributes. Guidelines for development and conservation need should be developed in the extended buffer zone.

**Authenticity**

The archaeological remains of the city of Dholavira include fortifications, gateways, water reservoirs, ceremonial ground, residential units, workshop areas, and cemetery complex, all clearly representing the Harappan culture and its various manifestations. The urban planning is evident from the in situ remains of the city that demonstrate systematic planning. The authenticity of the archaeological site is preserved through minimum interventions and scientific conservation principles and methods and in maintaining the exposed structures in their original configurations and in situ conditions and no additions or alterations have been made to the structural remains.

The excavated remains bear testimony to the style of construction, contextual evidence for architectural elements, and layout of a bead manufacturing workshop, that have been retained in situ to preserve their authenticity. The evidence of the configuration of the city, which has been well documented and preserved during excavation works, also bears testimony of the extensive planning, understanding of ratios and proportions and principles, alignment of the entire city in relation to cardinal directions, water harvesting, storm water drains, craftsmanship. These features are preserved extensively due to their construction in stone masonry with mud brick cores, and architectural features are in a good state of conservation.

**Management and protection requirements**

The archaeological site of Dholavira is protected and managed by the Archaeological Survey of India, an attached office and organization under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. The property is protected by national level laws that is to say the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958 (AMASR), amended therein in 2010; Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules of 1959; Ancient Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules of 2011 and The Antiquities and Art Treasures Act 1972 and Rules 1973. Decisions pertaining to its conservation, maintenance and management are governed by the National Conservation Policy for Monuments, Archaeological Sites and Remains 2014. Being designated as an “ancient monument” of national importance, the ancient site of Dholavira is protected by a Prohibited Area measuring 100 meters in all directions from the limits of the protected monument, and further beyond it, a Regulated Area of 200 meters in all directions, from the limits of the Prohibited Area. All activities in the areas adjacent to the ancient site of Dholavira remain subject to prohibition and regulation in the respect prohibited and regulated areas as per provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules 2011. The buffer zone covers the entire west strip of the Khadir Island, which ensures the protection of the wider setting of the property. The buffer zone, of which parts cover the Prohibited and Regulated Areas, overlaps with Kachchh (Kutch) Desert Wildlife Sanctuary which is protected by Forest Act (Wildlife Protection Act 1972). The Government of India is in the process of listing the ancient quarry sites in the buffer zone as of national importance.

The property area and buffer zone are managed by the Regional Apex Committee and Local Level Committee, with major stakeholders as the member. This participatory mechanism ensures the dialogue among different interest groups. The Site Management Plan has been approved and implemented by the Archaeological Survey of India.

4. **Recommend** that the State Party give consideration to the following:

a) Submitting a set of maps that follow the standard specified in Paragraph 132 and Annex 5 of the Operational Guidelines showing the expanded buffer zone. These maps should clarify that the 10-acre plot of land allocated by the State Government of Gujarat to the Archaeological Survey of India for constructing the museum and tourism amenities is not a part of the World Heritage property,

b) Declaring the ancient quarry sites in the buffer zone as of national importance,

c) Extending the Regulated Area, or granting a new legal provision, to the extended buffer zone for the protection of the archaeological remains and settings in this area,

d) Developing guidelines for development and conservation needs in the extended buffer zone,

e) Developing a long-term research strategy for the property and its buffer zone in order to better understand the values of the known archaeological sites in the extended buffer zone and to identify further areas of archaeological potential,

f) Incorporating Heritage Impact Assessment mechanism into the decision-making process of the management system,

g) Installing an instrumental monitoring system for a more robust monitoring,

h) Undertaking capacity building for site staff on conservation techniques and monitoring skills,

i) Establishing carrying capacity for the entire site, as well as for sensitive areas of the site,

j) Developing visitor number control policies and measures based on the established carrying capacity for anticipated increased visitation,

k) Undertaking capacity building for local residents so that they can have the necessary skills to


Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.42

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B.1.Add,
2. Decides not to inscribe Grobiņa archaeological ensemble, Latvia, on the World Heritage List.
i) Extend the buffer zone of the Desembocadura de Camarones component part to include the entire extent of the Restriction Area due to glissade hazard (ARRD) zone, and resolve the problem of the lack of a buffer zone between the nominated property and the industrial poultry farm. This is especially important in view of the proposed relocation of the illegal settlement now located in an area adjacent to the agro-industrial complex,

j) Finalize, approve, and make operational the Management Plan and management system;

3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

a) Completing basic installations such as fences to further assure the safety of visitors and the protection of the nominated property,

b) Resolving the legal disputes in the Desembocadura de Camarones component part and its buffer zone,

c) Undertaking the systematic documentation and inventorying of the archaeological information already collected, as well as the documentation of the areas of potential interest for future investigation through systematic surface surveys, geophysical investigation, etc.,

d) Completing and making operational the projected monitoring system, including for the mummiﬁed bodies and artefacts preserved in the different museums, and identifying indicators that are linked to all the attributes that support the proposed Outstanding Universal Value as well as to the identiﬁed threats,

e) Undertaking at the earliest possible opportunity conservation measures focused on general maintenance and on the identiﬁcation and rescue of unprotected archaeological remains on the surface,

f) Addressing the ethical issues regarding the excavation, curation, and exhibition of human remains,

g) Adhering to the principles of good governance by maintaining an open mind concerning the inclusion of stakeholders not yet participating in the protection and management of the nominated property, in line with paragraphs 40 and 117 of the Operational Guidelines,

h) Developing a Heritage Impact Assessment process within the frameworks for legal protection and management of the nominated property,

i) Assessing and mitigating any impacts the industrial poultry farm located in the Camarones River valley may have on the proposed Outstanding Universal Value and integrity of the nominated property.

### Property

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Franciscan Ensemble of the Monastery and Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption of Tlaxcala [extension of “Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl”]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ID. N°</td>
<td>702 Bis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Party</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criteria proposed by State Party</td>
<td>(ii)(iv)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.49**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B1.Add,

2. Approves the signiﬁcant boundary modiﬁcation of Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl, Mexico, to include the Franciscan Ensemble of the Monastery and Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption of Tlaxcala, on the basis of criteria (ii) and (iv);

3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

**Brief synthesis**

The Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl is a serial property with 15 component parts located in the states of Morelos, Puebla and Tlaxcala in Mexico, built as part of the evangelisation and colonisation of the northern territories of Mexico. The monasteries are: Atlatlahucan, Cuernavaca, Tetela del Volcan, Yautepec, Ocuilco, Tepoztlán, Tlayacapan, Totolapan, Yecapixtla, Hueyapan and Zacualpan de Amilpas in Morelos; Calpan, Huototzingo and Tochimilco in Puebla; and San Francisco in Tlaxcala. These monasteries are considered to represent good examples of the architectural style adopted by the ﬁrst missionaries – Franciscans, Dominicans and Augustinians – with spatial solutions and the architectural expressions that materialised the fusion and synthesis of heterogeneous elements. A considerable number of these buildings have an explicit military aspect, and compositional elements with deﬁnite Mudejar and Renaissance origins. The expression of the native culture is also present, from the open spaces used for worship to the work expressed in the decorations and the wall paintings.

The monasteries also represent an example of a new architectural concept in which open spaces are of renewed importance. The inﬂuence of this style is felt throughout the Mexican territory and even beyond its borders. The distinctive characteristic of these monasteries resides in the relationship between built and open spaces and, above all, in the emphasis placed on the wide forecourt or atrium with its individual posa and open chapels that offered a variety of solutions. The monasteries were founded in areas of dense indigenous settlement, with the object of providing focal points for urban settlements, a role which has survived to the present day.
The 15 monasteries all conform to an architectural model which spread rapidly over the region and contains certain basic elements common to this new type of monastic house: atrium (usually rectangular), church (usually simple in plan but of imposing size, with a single nave), and monastic buildings, usually located to the south of the church and disposed around a small courtyard or patio, designated as the cloister.

The great atrium, which are open spaces, surround the entire perimeter of the church (in some cases most of it). They are delimited by Navigating Chapels in the atrium’s internal perimeter, called the processional path, and the walls have small niches for the Viacrucis. Another important element is the Open church. The hydraulic structures also are elements of the exterior composition that conducted water from the upper part of the mountain for community use.

Criterion (ii): The considerable influence exercised by the architectural model of the Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl, which spread over a very wide area, is incontestable. They operated not only in the second half of the 16th century in the centre and south-east of Mexico, but continued with the expansion of colonisation and evangelisation of the lands to the north in the 18th century, reaching the present-day United States of America from the Atlantic to the Pacific coasts, in the form of a large number of smaller establishments known as “missions” rather than monasteries.

Criterion (iv): The Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl is a group of monasteries selected as being representative of a large total. They bear characteristic witness to a certain type of structure, architectural as well as urban, which served as the centre of new human establishments for the reorganization of an enormous territory and for the introduction of new social and cultural elements.

Integrity
Since each of the monasteries has preserved all of the original elements of its architectural complex, they are a complete representation of an actual 16th century Monastery. In general, they are in a good state of conservation and physical integrity has been maintained. Decay processes have been controlled by the year-long implementation of conservation projects. There are important challenges to be addressed regarding the physical setting of these monasteries, particularly in terms of controlling urban sprawl at diverse locations.

Authenticity
The level of authenticity in design and materials at the monasteries is high. After the Council of Trent many of the monastic buildings were converted to other uses and in the course of the 19th century new public buildings, such as schools and clinics, were built in the monastery precincts. However, the churches have all retained their original function and as a result have preserved the greater part of their original form and furnishings. The conditions of authenticity might be threatened by unpredictable natural phenomena, such as earthquakes and/or eruption of the Popocatepetl volcano, because of its proximity. In the case of the latter, there could be total or partial loss of the monasteries.

Protection and management requirements
The legal protection of the Earliest 16th-Century Monasteries on the Slopes of Popocatepetl involves three different levels of the government: federal, state and local. The legal instruments that ensure the protection of the property include the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States; the General Law of Human Settlements and the 1972 Federal Law on Historic, Archaeological and Artistic Monuments and Zones.

The management of the property is the co-responsibility of heritage authorities at the federal and state level and associated representatives from civil groups. Management and conservation centres aim at ensuring the stability of the monasteries and their elements through the implementation of conservation, maintenance and awareness-raising activities.

The efforts towards developing an overall management framework for the whole property, which should include a common risk management plan, a monitoring system, and interpretation, communication and tourism strategies, should be pursued and a dedicated management unit to coordinate its implementation should be set up.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

a) Submitting a minor boundary modification reflecting the below mentioned adjustments to the boundaries of the component part and its buffer zone, within a two-year period of the approval of the extension:

i) Adjusting the boundary of the component part to include the areas occupied by the former lower atrium and at least parts of the orchard, to protect the archaeological evidence of those spaces, even if this requires including areas now occupied by more recent constructions as the bulding space.

ii) If necessary, adjusting the delimitation of the buffer zone based on the modifications to be made to the boundaries of the component part, but also to better maintain the prominent role that the monastery has in the townscape of the historic centre.

b) Strengthening the urban planning regulations that allow protection of the viewsheds from and to the monastery,

c) Completing the replacement of the electrical system as soon as possible and installing an effective fire prevention system,

d) Strengthening the governance arrangements for the Franciscan Ensemble to facilitate collaboration between different actors involved in its management,

e) Continuing its efforts towards developing an overall management framework for the whole property (which should include a common risk
management plan, a monitoring system and interpretation, communication and tourism strategies) and setting up a dedicated management unit to coordinate its implementation.
III. EXAMINATION OF MINOR BOUNDARY MODIFICATIONS OF NATURAL, MIXED AND CULTURAL PROPERTIES ALREADY INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST SUBMITTED FOR EXAMINATION IN 2021

Alphabetical Summary Table and Index of Recommendations by ICOMOS and IUCN to the extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee (16 - 31 July 2021)

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<th>Recommendation</th>
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<td>City of Potosi</td>
<td>420 Bis</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czechia</td>
<td>Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem</td>
<td>1589 Bis</td>
<td>OK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Prehistoric Sites and Decorated Caves of the Vézère Valley</td>
<td>85 Bis</td>
<td>R</td>
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<td>France</td>
<td>Routes of Santiago de Compostela in France</td>
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<td>R</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata</td>
<td>829 Bis</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Portovenere, Cinque Terre, and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto)</td>
<td>826 Bis</td>
<td>OK</td>
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KEY

R Referral
OK Approval Recommended
NA Approval Not recommended
A. CULTURAL PROPERTIES

A.1. EUROPE - NORTH AMERICA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ID No.</td>
<td>1589 Bis</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Czechia</td>
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</table>


**Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.61**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B1.Add,  
2. Approves the proposed buffer zone for the *Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem, Czechia*;  
3. Recommends that the State Party considers setting up as matter of urgency appropriate Heritage Impact Assessment mechanisms able to assess whether any type of project, within the property, its buffer zone and wider setting, can result in negative impact on the attributes supporting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Prehistoric Sites and Decorated Caves of the Vézère Valley</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>85 Bis</td>
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</table>


**Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.62**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B1.Add,  
2. Refers the proposed buffer zone for *Prehistoric Sites and Decorated Caves of the Vézère Valley, France*, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:  
   a) Provide a timeframe for the municipal and/or inter-municipal approvals of the regulatory measures associated with the proposed buffer zone, and their incorporation in local town planning documents, in order to render them operational,  
   b) Provide a timeframe for the finalisation, adoption and implementation of the management plan for the property, especially with regards to tourism management and facilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Routes of Santiago de Compostela in France</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ID No.</td>
<td>868 Bis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Party</td>
<td>France</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


**Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.63**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B1.Add,  
2. Refers the proposed buffer zones for *Routes of Santiago de Compostela in France, France*, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:  
   a) Revise the buffer zone boundary of component part 017, Pons,  
   b) Ensure that all buffer zones of the property are covered by appropriate protection mechanisms, so that the entirety of each buffer zone is protected by the protection systems in place, in particular for the following component parts: 010, L’Epine; 011, Compiègne; 013, Folleville; 016, Aulnay; 020, Buisson-de-Cadouin; 023, Bazas; 027 et 028, La Sauve; 044 et 045, Conques; 048, Saint-Chely; 055, Auch; 056, Beaumont / Larressingle; 057, La Romieu; 062, Figeac; 067, Jézéau,  
   c) Provide, for the monumental component parts and the built ensembles, the schedule for the municipal approvals of the buffer zones and their protective measures,  
   d) Ensure, for the sections of the route (component parts 072 to 078), that all buffer zones of the property are covered by appropriate protection mechanisms, so that the entirety of each buffer zone is protected by the protection systems in place, and specify the regional and local protections in force,  
   e) Indicate, for the route sections (component parts 072 to 078), the means of controlling and regulating possible development projects with a strong distant visual impact;  
3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following points:  
   a) Submitting the property’s management plan, once finalised, to the World Heritage Centre for examination,  
   b) Updating the mapping so that the protected zones and the boundaries of the proposed buffer zones are shown on the same map for the sake of clarity and legibility.
Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.64

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B1.Add,

2. Refers the proposed buffer zones for Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata, Italy, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
   a) Explain the methodology used to delineate the boundaries of the proposed buffer zones, and clarify how the areas of cultural interest, historical spaces of significance, and other elements of the historic urban landscape included in the proposed buffer zones are functionally important as a support to the property and its protection, to be able to establish whether their inclusion/exclusion of the proposed buffer zones may affect the integrity of the historic urban landscape of the property,
   b) Clarify the reasons why some of the fragments of the original buffer zone were left outside the proposed revised buffer zones,
   c) Provide further information on legal protection in place within the areas of the buffer zones that neither are considered landscape assets nor are protected as cultural heritage, and the existing agreements between private owners of the land,
   d) Describe in details the management arrangements with timelines for the proposed buffer zones, especially with regard to urban development and socio-economic revitalisation in the area, in relation to the existing agreements, and clarify how the management of the buffer zones as historic urban landscapes, and within the premise of sustainable development, will be aligned with and complement the existing management plan of the inscribed property,
   e) Submit revised maps of an appropriate scale in line with the Operational Guidelines (Annex 5 and 11), showing the boundaries of the proposed buffer zones, and with clearly marked elements of the historic urban landscape of which the submitted proposal speaks, in order to demonstrate their relationship to the inscribed property and allow assessing potential impacts of future developments in the area of the proposed buffer zones on the inscribed archaeological areas.

A.2. LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.66

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add and WHC/21/44.COM/INF.8B1.Add,

2. Refers the proposed buffer zone of the City of Potosí, Plurinational State of Bolivia, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:


Nominations to the World Heritage List

WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add, p. 15
a) Elaborate a clear description of the limits of the buffer zone and clarify the rationale for the delineation of these boundaries, by taking into account the protection of the visually sensitive areas around the property, as mentioned in the Decision 38 COM 7B.38 (Doha, 2014),

b) Provide clear information on the legal and management aspects, such as land use regulations, that are applied in the regulation of the newly defined buffer zone, in order to understand how the buffer zone will provide an added layer of protection to the property, in compliance with paragraphs 104 and 105 of the Operational Guidelines,

c) Explain the scope of the different regulations in place in the buffer zone, especially regarding the overlapping of the different protection mechanisms.
IV. STATEMENTS OF OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED AT PREVIOUS SESSIONS AND NOT ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

**Draft Decision: 44 COM 8B.67**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add,

2. Adopts the Statements of Outstanding Universal Value for the following World Heritage properties inscribed at previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee:

   - Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Ukraine, Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe;
   - Azerbaijan, Historic Centre of Sheki with the Khan’s Palace;
   - Cambodia, Temple Zone of Sambor Prei Kuk, Archaeological Site of Ancient Ishanapura;
   - China, Migratory Bird Sanctuaries along the Coast of Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf of China (Phase I);
   - Czechia, Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem;
   - India, Jaipur City, Rajasthan;
   - Poland, Krezmionki Prehistoric Striped Flint Mining Region;
   - Portugal, Royal Building of Mafra – Palace, Basilica, Convent, Cerco Garden and Hunting Park (Tapada);
   - Portugal, Sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Monte in Braga;
   - Russian Federation, Central Sikhote-Alin;
   - Saudi Arabia, Al-Ahsa Oasis, an Evolving Cultural Landscape;
   - South Africa, Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>States Parties</td>
<td>Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Ukraine</td>
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<td>ID No.</td>
<td>1133 Ter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date of inscription</td>
<td>2007, 2011, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Brief synthesis**

The “Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe” are a transnational serial property comprising 78 component parts across 12 countries and 41 protected areas. They represent an outstanding example of relatively undisturbed, complex temperate forests and exhibit a wide spectrum of comprehensive ecological patterns and processes of pure and mixed stands of European beech across a variety of environmental conditions. During each glacial phase (ice ages) of the last 1 million years, European beech (Fagus sylvatica) survived the unfavourable climatic conditions in refuge areas in the southern parts of the European continent. These refuge areas have been documented by scientists through palaeoecological analysis and using the latest techniques in genetic coding. After the last Ice Age, around 11,000 years ago, beech started expanding its range from these southern refuge areas to eventually cover large parts of the European continent. During this expansion process, which is still ongoing, beech formed different types of plant communities while occupying largely different environments. The interplay between a diversity of environments, climatic gradients and different species gene pools has and continues to shape this high diversity of beech forest communities. These forests contain an invaluable population of old trees and a genetic reservoir of beech and many other species, which are associated with and dependent on these old growth forest habitats.

**Criterion (ix):** The property is indispensable for the understanding of the history and evolution of the genus Fagus which, given its wide distribution in the Northern Hemisphere and its ecological importance, is globally significant. These largely undisturbed, complex temperate forests exhibit comprehensive ecological patterns and processes of pure and mixed stands of European beech across a variety of environmental gradients, including climatic and geological conditions, spanning almost all European Beech Forest Regions. Forests are included from all altitudinal zones from coastal areas to the treeline and include the best remaining examples from the range limits of the European beech forest. Beech is one of the most important features in the Temperate Broadleaf Forest Biome and represents an outstanding example of the re-colonization and development of terrestrial ecosystems and communities since the last Ice Age. The continuing northern and westward expansion of beech from its original glacial refuge areas in the eastern and southern parts of Europe can be tracked along natural corridors and stepping stones spanning the continent. The dominance of beech across extensive areas of Europe is a living testimony of the tree’s genetic adaptability, a process which is still ongoing.
Integrity

The selected component parts represent the diversity of ancient and primeval beech forests found across Europe in terms of different climatic and geological conditions and altitudinal zones. The property includes component parts, which convey its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), and represent the variability of European beech forest ecosystems. Together these components contribute to the integrity of the property as a whole. Additionally, each component part needs to demonstrate integrity at the local level by representing the full suite of natural forest development processes in its particular geographical and ecological setting within the series. Most of the component parts are of sufficient size to maintain such natural processes necessary for their long-term ecological viability.

The most significant threats to the property are logging and habitat fragmentation. Logging activities in the vicinity of component parts can cause microclimatic changes and nutrient mobilising effects, with negative impacts on the integrity of the property. Land use change in the surrounding landscapes can lead to increased habitat fragmentation, which would be of particular concern for smaller component parts. Infrastructure development is a potential threat only in the surroundings of a few component parts. Climate change already poses a risk to some component parts and further impacts can be anticipated, including changes in species composition and habitat shifting. However, it should be noted that one of the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is its demonstration of the ability of beech to adapt to different ecological and climatic regimes throughout its range. Therefore, potential future changes need to be monitored and documented in order to better understand these processes.

The above-mentioned threats may affect the integrity of the component parts to a different extent and in different ways, for example through the reduction of structural diversity, fragmentation, loss of connectivity, biomass loss and changed microclimate, which reduce ecosystem functionality and adaptive capacity as a whole. To cope with these threats, buffer zones are established and are managed accordingly by the responsible management bodies.

Protection and management requirements

A strict non-intervention management is essential for the conservation of the OUV of this serial property across all its component parts. 69 out of 78 component parts are protected by law as strict forest reserves, wilderness areas, core areas of biosphere reserves or national parks (IUCN category I or II). Five component parts are protected and managed by Forest Management Plans (with regulations ensuring no logging in old-growth forests) however in four component parts the full area inscribed is not fully covered with the highest legal protection status necessary to ensure non-intervention management. As it is of uppermost importance to guarantee strong protection status in the long term, the protection status will be improved where needed.

To ensure the viability of the four component parts smaller than the established minimum size of 50 ha, an enlargement of the component parts with further non-intervention management will be considered by the States Parties. Additionally, an effective management of buffer zones to protect the property from external threats and to safeguard its integrity is of uppermost importance.

The integrity of each component part is the responsibility of the State Party and is ensured by the relevant local management units. For the coherent protection and management of the property, as well as to coordinate activities between the 41 management units and the 12 States Parties, a functional organisational structure should be established. To ensure this aspect, an Integrated Management System was developed during the nomination process and will be maintained to allow effective and coordinated management and protection of the property as a whole. The Joint Management Committee, comprising representatives of all States Parties, formulated a Joint Declaration of Intent. This Declaration regulates and structures the cooperation between all the States Parties whose territory is included in the property and ensures the commitment to protect and strengthen the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. The position of a coordinator will be established and maintained to support the Joint Management Committee and the States Parties in their work.

The Integrated Management System and the management plans of the component parts will ensure a non-intervention management approach for the component parts while the buffer zones will be managed to avoid negative impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property with a specific focus on ensuring integrity remains intact. To harmonise the management approach across the 78 component parts, the States Parties will develop common objectives and coordinated activities which will cover property and buffer zone management, monitoring and research, education and awareness raising, visitor management and tourism as well as financial and human capacity building. It is proposed to establish a coherent monitoring system based on selected ecological (proxy) indicators of integrity within all component parts to compare long-term development. It is imperative that each State Party provides clear and committed long-term funding arrangements, to support consistent national site management as well as coordinated management.

Special attention is required to ensure the configuration of the property such that each component part retains ongoing viability to
evolve with unimpeded ecological and biological processes and without the need for substantial interventions. This includes the integration of surrounding forest ecosystems to provide sufficient protection and connectivity, especially for small component parts. All component parts have buffer zones of various configurations including surrounding protected areas (national parks, nature parks, biosphere reserves and others). These buffer zones will be regularly monitored to ensure protection under changing environmental conditions such as climate change. The boundaries of buffer zones should, where possible, be aligned with existing protected area boundaries and should be expanded to connect components where they are in close proximity. Finally, where appropriate, special ongoing emphasis is needed to ensure effective ecological connectivity between beech forests and the surrounding complementary habitats to allow natural development and adaptation of the forest to the environmental change.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Historic Centre of Sheki with the Khan’s Palace</th>
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**Brief synthesis**

The historic city of Sheki, lying in a forested valley of the eastern Caucasian mountains, has ancient origins, dating back to the 6th century BCE. The current historic centre results from its reconstruction, after a mud flood in 1772, on higher ground in a mountain valley east of the previous site. Due to the natural limitations of the valley, the historic area has retained its overall urban form, but has expanded within the original building lots, following traditional typological patterns. The traditional buildings with their typical high saddle roofs, deep verandas and gardens are the key characteristics of the historic urban landscape, within the spectacular setting of the forested mountain slopes.

Being in contact with important trade routes, the region of Sheki has been subject to a variety of cultural influences. Christianity was here introduced as early as the 1st century CE, and Islam in the 7th century. During its recent history, it has been under various realms, including the Safavids, Ottomans and Qajars until the 18th century. In 1743, Sheki was established as the first and the most powerful of a series of Khanates in Caucasus, representing a new administrative system in the region. This was followed by Russian rule in the 19th century. These different cultures have also influenced the features of architecture, of which the Khan’s Palace is an outstanding example, also reflected in many of the interiors of wealthy merchant houses such as fireplaces (bukharas), decorations, and a vernacular type of windows (shabaka) etc. The fortress, the Khan Palace, and the caravanserais, reflect the important administrative and commercial role of the city.

As a trading centre, in contact with Asia and Europe, and also as a part of Silk Road route, the principal economy of Sheki, from the ancient times, has been based on silkworm breeding, the trading of cocoons and raw silk, and the development of various crafts, which continue in the region. These activities were favoured due to its particularly suitable climatic conditions. At the same time, the morphology of the urban fabric and its growth patterns were a direct result of the topography of the site, and the economic developments and the activities related to the silk trade. Houses were built with high-pitched roofs for breeding the silkworms in the airy spacious attics. Extensive commercial relations with other regions that mainly included trades of silk products, triggered the building of new caravanserais, shops, public fountains, mosques, public baths, and storage buildings in a very short period of time after 1772. One caravanserai and some shops are still used by local people for various trade purposes.

The urban pattern of the city of Sheki is determined by the water harvesting and management. The city is in the catchment area of the Kish river in a space drained by streams that have been intercepted and transformed into a network of channels over time. Added to this water supply are the waters from mountain glaciers and meteoric glaciers. The hydraulic network is diversified, distinguishing the fresh and less potable waters according to the different origins; spring, rainwater and torrent. An elaborate distribution system manages the water network up to the residential houses and productive gardens, structuring the urban plot and the division into neighbouring areas. The cultivated plots, each with a house on one side, are a distinctive character of the city of Sheki.

The gardens partly comprised of mulberry trees combined with their residential houses constituted a production system based on the series of operations related to the feeding and breeding of the silkworm and its processing. Thus, a type of ‘garden city’ was created in which the elements of aesthetic and symbolic value were integrated with functional and utilitarian characters.

**Criterion (ii):** As the major cultural and commercial centre in the region, the Historic Centre of Sheki exhibits an important interchange of multiple cultural influences, which have their origin in its history over two millennia, but developed particularly under the Safavid, Ottoman and Qajar influences, and the later impact of Russian rule. Sheki in turn influenced a wider territory of Caucasus and beyond. The current urban form, which dates back to the new construction after the flood of 1772, continued earlier building traditions responding to the local climatic conditions, and the requirements of the traditional economy and crafts activities. In
particular construction elements and details of Sheki’s domestic architecture, such as balconies, doors, arches, and fences, reflect oriental characteristics that later evolved under Russian influence.

Sheki is also an exceptional testimony to the feudal system of the Caucasian khanates, which developed from 1743 to 1819, as expressed in the architecture of the Khan’s palaces, the interiors of wealthy merchant houses, and the fortifications.

Criterion (v): Completely realized according to ancient rules, the Historic Centre of Sheki represents an extraordinary example of a planned productive ‘garden city’, as exemplified in its hydraulic water system for driving mills and irrigation, productive structures related to sericulture, and the peculiar organization of the houses aligned with their cultivated fields, all set within a forested landscape setting.

Integrity

The Historic Centre of Sheki contains all the elements that justify its Outstanding Universal Value. Together with its setting, the settlement forms a coherent ensemble that has also retained its visual integrity intact. The boundaries of the property contain all the planned historical city with its productive garden houses, fortifications and monuments such as the fortress, the Khan Palace, and the caravanserais, that together reflect the residential, administrative and commercial role of the city. The water system, repartition in neighbourhoods (mehelle) and many traditional activities are mainly still intact and efficient. These represent the complete range of the attributes of the property that reflect a planned productive ‘garden city’ capital of the Sheki Khanate and subsequent Russian rule.

The integrity of the property is though vulnerable to new construction in the property and the lack of conservation of some historic buildings. Some newly built houses, modified residential buildings, and buildings that are in a critical condition all require varying degrees of immediate intervention. The Conservation Strategy guided by Restoration Manual will address the current shortcomings in the near future.

Authenticity

The Historic Centre of Sheki has retained its historical authenticity in relation to the intactness of its urban typology and overall form, and most private residences and some public buildings still reflect their former traditional use and functions. Sheki has also retained its traditional mechanisms for property maintenance and community involvement through neighbourhood representatives and a council of elders.

The essential part of the monumental complexes are intact and are part of extensive conservation and restoration programmes, carried out and in progress. Despite the existence of some inappropriate interventions and use of modern materials that affect authenticity, the Restoration Manual will set out required standards and the use of traditional materials.

The residential houses of Sheki have been gradually restored, many following traditional typological patterns of growth, but not all interventions have respected the authenticity of traditional materials, processes and design. 1,933 houses (71.6%) out of the 2,755 residential houses inside the property and its buffer zone maintain their authenticity having evolved over time according to functional transformations that did not affect the architectural typology or materials, or have minor changes, such as extensions. All the houses will be subject to preservation, guided through a Conservation Plan and a Restoration Manual.

Protection and management requirements

The Historic Centre of Sheki and the Khan’s Palace (120.5 ha) has been protected since 1967 as part of the “Yukhari Bash” State Historical and Architectural Reserve (283 ha) under the Law on the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments. It is also under strict protection within the general urban master plan of the city as a conservation area.

The setting is protected at two levels, a buffer zone (146 ha) surrounds the property at up to 200 meters, and beyond that there is a much larger zone for terrain control. The buffer zone is legally part of the “Yukhari Bash” architectural reserve, while the zone for terrain control remains within the reserve’s buffer zone which is also protected by the law. The forested setting of the property needs to be protected not just for its environmental value but also for its visual and cultural value, as a support for the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

The Historic Centre of Sheki is under the management of the State Tourism Agency and its newly created Reserves Management Centre, together with other relevant stakeholders.

The Action Plan on Conservation and Rehabilitation of Historical Centre of Sheki and the Restoration Manual are both resource and guidance documents, which will form the basis for the development of planning guidelines and stronger protection for individual buildings. This process must be carried out by involving private individuals and the population through incentives for the restoration carried out respecting the historical and architectural character of the place and the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value. An overall Conservation Master Plan also needs to be developed.

A management plan drafted in English will be adopted, implemented and translated, as envisaged in the Action Plan, and this will
include strengthening the mandate and resources of the management team. Future management should strengthen the role of traditional governance structures, such as the Council of Elders, and the neighbourhood representatives in decision-making and management processes, and develop a tourism strategy to constrain the development of tourism facilities.

There is also a need to develop a monitoring system focused both on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the management plan.

As the property is in a zone of high seismic activity, its lower level is at high risk of serious floods, and its forested setting could be vulnerable to forest fires, a comprehensive approach to risk preparedness and mitigation needs to be developed in an Emergency Plan.

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<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Temple Zone of Sambor Prei Kuk, Archaeological Site of Ancient Ishanapura</th>
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**Brief synthesis**

Sambor Prei Kuk Temple Zone is part of the remains of ancient Ishanapura "the temple in the lush forest", which was the capital of the Chenla Empire that flourished over much of Southeast Asia in the late 6th and early 7th centuries AD, and whose architectural achievements laid the foundations for those of the later Khmer Empire. The extensive Temple Zone of 840 hectares lies to the east of the remains of the moated city and is linked to the river Stung Sen and a possible harbour of Ishanapura by three earthen causeways between 600 and 700 metres in length.

Within the Temple Zone, an outstanding ensemble of 186 fired brick temples with sandstone detailing reflects the introduction of technical and spiritual ideas of the Hindu Hariharan and Saka Brahmana cults from India and Persia respectively and the resulting convergence of these with animist and Buddhist elements that produced the unique Sambor Prei Kuk artistic style, which later heralded the Khmer style developed in Angkor. Inscriptions in Sanskrit and old Khmer on some of the temples reflect the adoption of a "God-King" in the centralized state, while others record temple activities, the names of kings and other individuals, details of religious and political life, and suggest the overall boundaries of the empire. The temple reliefs are the first signs of visual narratives in temple decoration which go beyond the earlier standard heraldic displays of deities in small medallions or small figures riding mythological animals.

There are three main temple complexes of Prasat Yeai (Southern Group), Prasat Tao (Central Group), Prasat Sambor (Northern Group, including the Prasat Sandan Group and Prasat Bos Ream). Each has a central tower on a raised platform surrounded by smaller towers and other structures, and are enclosed by square brick and/or laterite walls, two for the central and south groups but three for the Prasat Sambor complex with each outer wall extending to 389 metres. These three groups contain 125 individual temples with 46 other temples and structures in the surrounding area including the Prasat Trapeang Roepek and Prasat Kuok Troung groups. To the north, a satellite zone of 16 temples in the Prasat Srei Krup Leak and Prasat Robang Romeas groups display the architectural transition from the earlier Zhenla (Chenla) architectural style to that of Sambor Prei Kuk. In this area extensive archaeology layers built upon each other remain to be uncovered.

The temples are constructed in a variety of shapes, configurations, and sizes, but of special note are 11 octagonal temples, designed in accordance with the general principles of the ancient Indian Manuals of Architecture, (although with no known Indian precedent). These are seen to represent the flying octagonal palace of Indra or Vimana Trivishata, the heaven of Indra and of 33 gods. The outside walls are decorated with Hindu iconography, and in six temples there are exquisite sculptural depictions of flying palaces.

The extensive ensemble of religious buildings and their ancillary structures together with 102 hydraulic features display achievements in planning, technical ingenuity, execution, and resource management not previously seen in Southeast Asia.

**Criterion (ii):** The Sambor Prei Kuk architectural and artistic style of the Temple Zone of Ishanapura, as exemplified in the layout, architectural forms and sculptured reflects on 186 fired bricks temples with sandstone detailing, presents a vivid convergence of spiritual and technical influences between Hindu cults predominantly from India and Persia and elements of animism and Buddhism, which became a model that spread to other parts of the region and eventually led to the crystallization of the unique Khmer style of the Angkorian period.

**Criterion (iii):** The Temple Zone of Sambor Prei Kuk of Ancient Ishanapura, in terms of the scale and scope of its surviving buildings and watercourses, is an outstanding testimony to the cultural traditions of the Chenla Kingdom, which flourished over much of Southeast Asia in the late 6th and early 7th centuries AD, and whose architectural achievements laid the foundations for those of the later Khmer civilization in the Angkorian period.

Nominations to the World Heritage List

WHC/21/44.COM/8B.Add, p. 21
Criterion (vi): The temple inscriptions in the Khmer language of the Temple Zone of Sambor Prei Kuk reflect the concept of the God-King, which according to legends originated invat Phou, was further developed during the Angkor period, and then much later influenced Thailand’s four pillared administrative system in Ayutthaya. It remained a concept that was fundamental to the political and governance systems of Cambodia and Thailand until the beginning of the 20th century.

Integrity
The property covers the Temple Zone of Sambor Prei Kuk and its entire surroundings together with the wooded area that is the origin of the site’s current name. All the still-standing buildings, most of the known remains of the hydraulic elements, all causeways and all the currently known temples and areas identified as holding further of archaeological remains of temples are contained within the boundaries.

The Temples zone has suffered from the ravages of time, vagaries of climate and recent historical events as well as forest encroachment, all of which have led to the degradation of some monuments. Over time, parts of the monuments and objects belonging to the temples have been moved and/or looted. However, the main disaster was the international conflict that placed Cambodia in a war zone from the late 1960s to the early 1990s. Despite these tragic events, the major temples retain their original form and materials, despite repairs and modifications carried out from the 7th to the 11th century. Although a number of decorative elements, statues, and inscriptions remain in situ, most of the important sculptural masterpieces are in storage or exhibited in museums. Archaeological surveys have indicated that many of the buried structures are in good condition. The system of dykes, canals, and hydraulic features, numbering 102 sites, are intact, with many still in use today.

Authenticity
Despite decay, the still-standing temples display authenticity in form and design and demonstrate Indian cultural and architectural influence during the Chenla period in a unique Sambor Prei Kuk Style. In terms of materials, the remnant features retain their original substance because of sympathetic restoration to damaged brickwork that continues traditional techniques and the use of old bricks. This helps maintain the authenticity of form, function, and visual qualities. In addition, and by comparison with Angkor, there have been relatively fewer physical interventions and no hypothetical reconstruction. Minor reconstruction activity has occurred in some temples, but mainly to ensure structural stability and all restoration interventions are reversible. Many other temple remains are highly vulnerable and await consolidation and conservation.

Protection and management requirements
The Temple Zone of Sambor Prei Kuk, archaeological site of ancient Ishanapura and buffer zone is protected by the Royal Decree of 24 December 2014 and by the Law on the Protection of Cultural Heritage (Royal decision NS/RKM/0196/26 dated 25 January 1996). Within this framework, the National Authority for Sambor Prei Kuk (NASPK) is responsible for the overall management of the property and its buffer zone, including conservation, protection, restoration, development activities in progress, as well as for the interpretation of its heritage values for visitors. Work is guided by a Management Plan. Conservation activities are carried out in accordance with a fifteen-year Conservation Plan, based on a detailed risk analysis of the temples, and in accordance with a Conservation Manual that delineates conservation approaches for the highly fragile temples and their sensitive surroundings.

NASPK is supported by a local NGO, "The Conservation and Development Community for Sambor Prei Kuk", established in 2004 with the agreement of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, which has played a crucial role in the sustainable conservation of cultural heritage and in developing engagement with the local community.

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<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Migratory Bird Sanctuaries along the Coast of Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf of China (Phase I)</th>
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<td>ID No.</td>
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Brief synthesis
The Migratory Bird Sanctuaries along the Coast of the Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf of China (Phase I) is situated in the largest intertidal mudflat system in the world and protects globally significant biological diversity. The serial property is an irreplaceable and indispensable hub for over 400 birds species, and critical for the over 50 million migratory birds moving along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, which spans some 22 countries across two hemispheres from the Arctic to South-East Asia and Australasia. The global importance of the wider coastal area is further evidenced by several Ramsar sites, some of which fully or partially overlap with the property. The property is a promising beginning to identify, conserve and manage the most meaningful representations of a larger, globally significant, yet highly vulnerable, natural heritage system.

The two component parts of the property are both located on the coast of the Yellow Sea in Jiangsu Province. Jointly, the Migratory Bird Habitat in the South of Yancheng, Jiangsu and the Migratory Bird Habitat in the North of Yancheng have a total area of 188,643 ha, along with two separate buffer zones totalling
some 80,056 ha. The property’s two component parts are about 30 km apart, separated by the Dafeng Port, and represent Phase I of a much larger serial site nomination.

**Criterion (x):** The property supports some 680 species of vertebrates, including 415 species of birds, 26 species of mammals, 9 species of amphibians, 14 species of reptiles, 216 species of fish, as well as 165 species of zoobenthos. Large aggregations of birds depend on the coast as stop-over, moultin, staging, wintering, foraging and/or breeding grounds. The property’s tidal flats are of exceptional importance for the conservation of the world’s migratory birds, supporting globally significant numbers, including rare and threatened species. The Phase I tidal flats offer critically important seasonal habitats for more than 10% of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway populations, including two of the world’s rarest migratory birds – the Spoon-billed Sandpiper and Nordmann’s Greenshank. These remaining natural habitats are vital for the very survival of these birds and a wide array of other threatened species including the Black-faced Spoonbill, Oriental Stork, Red-crowned Crane and Great Knot.

**Integrity**
The property makes a significant contribution to the viability of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, one of the world’s most important flyways and arguably the most at risk and fragile. The two component parts of the property include clear boundaries for adequate protection of birds when they are on-site. It is, however, important to understand that the birds depend on wider coastal habitats such as reed beds and groves and hence protection and restoration efforts in these areas are equally important. The property comprises large tracts of mudflats, beaches and other key stopover habitats for migrating birds. The intertidal mudflats, marshes and shallow waters are exceptionally productive and provide spawning and nursery habitat for many fish and crustacean species. In particular, the intertidal mudflats attract a high diversity and enormous number of resident and migratory birds. The main body of the marine deposition plain and mudflat was formed before 1855, when the Yellow River changed its course. This intertidal mudflat is still mainly in the process of accumulation owing to marine hydrological processes, which have shaped the crucial habitat for migratory birds. Large rivers (including the Yellow River, Yangtze River, Yalu River, Liao River, Luan River and Hai River) provide the crucial underpinnings of this system as they continuously discharge sediments into the Yellow Sea and Bohai Gulf, accumulating to form a series of different habitat types all critical for various migratory birds.

The entire coastline lies within a densely populated and intensively used part of China that has been subject to very substantial anthropogenic modification and impact over a long period. While human activity has transformed vast tracts of the coast and tidal wetlands, encouraging policies (that promote a more ecologically sustainable society) are emerging to halt the transformation of the remaining natural areas and to even reverse trends by restoring key migratory bird habitats. To add complexity, however, many of the underlying factors of change, such as pollution, marine traffic, the modification of major rivers and their sediment loads, wind energy and infrastructure on land and in the sea, stem from outside the property including the coast and near-shore waters.

**Protection and management requirements**
The two component parts are both state-owned and fully protected by law. “Ecological Red Lines”, designated by the Government of China, identify the natural coastline proposed for retention within the overall system. Resource use and access in the coastal areas is severely restricted. The two component parts have the protection status of National Nature Reserves with the exception of the Tiaozini area. Some fishing and harvesting rights are allocated to local resource users in shallow nearshore waters, including mudflats. All public facilities and infrastructure are state owned and the control of natural resources is publicly administered. National and provincial laws and regulations protecting the property include: the Constitution of the People’s Republic of China, Environmental Protection Law, Forest Law, Marine Environment Protection Law, the Regulations on Nature Reserves and the Regulations of Jiangsu Province on Wetland Protection and Tourism. The Tiaozini area is protected by the provincial wetland conservation regulation of 2013 and its previous National Nature Reserve status should be reinstated to fulfill the commitment to its protection made at inscription.

Most tourism use is physically separated from the protected areas and limited to visitor centres. Future planning and management for each of the component parts of the property needs to ensure that there are no unacceptable negative effects of development on biodiversity and threatened species, including any negative effects of tourism (which should be appropriately scaled and low impact), wind turbines, pollution (including noise pollution), land reclamation, and infrastructure development. Specific strategies are required to be implemented to ensure conservation of areas above the tidal areas and to restore degraded wider systems that are important to support the core habitat within the property.

In light of the enormous past transformation of, and profound impacts on the coastal and intertidal ecosystems and ongoing high pressures and threats, it is clear that a more ambitious spatial approach is required if the property is to remain viable in the longer term. It is thus critical to follow-through on commitments...
by the State Party to extend the property as Phase II by adding key areas along the Chinese part of the Yellow Sea and Bohai Gulf. At the national level, there is a clear and needed commitment to consolidate the serial property by adding suitable component parts along the coastline of the Yellow Sea and the Bohai Gulf.

Spanning beyond China's borders, the intertidal wetlands of the Yellow Sea-Bohai Gulf support crucial habitats for birds migrating along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. Beyond the national level, there is further and related World Heritage potential, which deserves to be considered as the involved countries intensify efforts towards a harmonized conservation and management strategy of the most valuable regional stepping stones of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. Effective conservation and management of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway will require international cooperation involving all the States Parties along the flyway. The initial efforts of the three States Parties in the central hub of the flyway are encouraging and should be continued and expanded, including under the World Heritage Convention and other international initiatives.

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<th>Property</th>
<th>Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem</th>
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**Brief synthesis**

The Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem is situated in the Polabská nížina (Elbe Lowland), in the Střední Polabí area. The property features a flat landscape, with sandy soils and includes fields, meadows, fenced pastures, a landscaped forest, a forested area as well as buildings and farmsteads, all designed with the main objective of breeding and training the Kladruber horses, which were used in ceremonies by the Habsburg imperial court.

In 1563, the Emperor Maximilian II of Habsburg founded a stud farm there and on 6 March 1579 his successor, Emperor Rudolph II of Habsburg granted it a charter as the Imperial Court Stud Farm. Since the early 17th century the stud farm, in close interaction with the surrounding landscape, has specialized in breeding ceremonial carriage horses of the gala carrossier type, solely to satisfy the demand of the Imperial Court. To date, the historic farmsteads located within the property have been in operation and they represent functional centre points of the unique landscape.

The Landscape at Kladruby nad Labem represents an outstanding and complete example of a horse – centred cultural landscape which has organically evolved and was, at the same time, intentionally and progressively designed as highly specialized ornamented farm – ferme ornée – dedicated to the breeding and training of ceremonial carriage horses and reflecting at the same time the Habsburg's aesthetic ambitions. The historical tripartite structure of this fluvial area is still clearly discernible, with its old meanders and oxbow lakes, which were turned into a late 'romantic' designed landscape, the 'classical' regular fenced and tree-delimited pastures, the straight tree-lined avenues, the network of irrigation canals, fed by the Kladrubský náhon, the forest to the north, providing for a range of resources, the different farmsteads, all serving distinct functions, the stud architecture and the dependent village. Kladruby nad Labem's tangible landscape features, along with the local knowledge and way of life, exceptionally reflect the single function for which the landscape was consistently modified and adapted: horse-breeding and training the special Kladruber horses which can be seen as living monuments.

This property represents an exceptional example of landscape reflecting the development of a specific equestrian culture in Europe, at the time when absolute monarchs were in ascendance.

**Criterion (iv):** The Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem is an exceptional example of a landscape which has been consistently and intentionally modified through the centuries, utilizing the principles of Classicist and Romantic Landscaping, to create a suitable environment for the purpose of horse-breeding and training of draft ceremonial horses, exceptionally reflecting the development of the Habsburgs and their representational needs at a time when absolute monarchs were in the ascendance. The property also represents a complete example tangibly reflecting the development of a specific equestrian culture in Europe spanning over four centuries, focused on breeding and training of ceremonial carriage horses.

**Criterion (v):** The Landscape at Kladruby nad Labem exceptionally reflects the use and purposeful adaptation of the geomorphological, pedological and hydrological features and environmental resources of a fluvial area throughout the centuries for horse-breeding and training. The current organisation of the landscape, with its still-evident tripartite structure, with old meanders and oxbow lakes turned into a designed landscape, the fenced and tree-delimited pastures, the avenues, the network of irrigation canals, the stud architecture and the dependent villages, along with the local knowledge and way of life dependent on stud operation and horse-breeding, represents an outstanding example of human interaction with the environment devoted to the breeding and training of the Kladruber horses.
Integrity
To date, the Landscape has been preserved, within its historical borders and area that in the past corresponded to the size of the herd needed to supply the required number of trained ceremonial carriage horses set by the Imperial Court. The utilitarian character of the landscape is still fully manifested in the preserved functional integrity of its composition and in its main attributes that consist of pastures of adequate size for the herd, grassland for hay production, arable land for production of grain fodder, forests for timber production used as building material and fuel, sufficient water supply, roads and drives necessary for training carriage horses in hand; functionally diversified sets of buildings, traditional knowledge developed along the centuries on the horses and their needs and on their environment.

The Landscape still provides all the resources necessary for successful breeding of these horses and the environment for their training. Horse breeding is carried out in functionally diversified historic stables and other complementary structures. The sets of buildings at all farmsteads reflect the requirements for carriage horse stabling that have been developed over many years starting from the early 19th century and they have been recently restored.

The integrity of the formal composition of the Classicist part of the Landscape has been only partially preserved e.g., in the roads lined with trees, watercourses, the grid of pasture units. The integrity of the landscape composition of the romantic picturesque park at Mošnice has also been preserved – the carriage bridle way from which fan-like vistas open at a rich assortment of solitary trees and group plantings arranged according to the compositional principles of perspective, the former river meanders oxbow lakes and naturally regenerating alluvial vegetation in the relict of the flood plain forest. The integrity of the productive forests in the northern part of the property is essentially expressed by the network of straight clear-cut strips and forest avenues used for horse training.

Authenticity
The functional authenticity of the property has been preserved; the Landscape is still used for breeding and training of carriage horses of the gala carrossier type, specifically the Kladruber breed. The tripartite composition of this landscape, with its classicist and romantic designed elements have been preserved and discernibly reflect the need of this century – long exploitation programme for horse breeding and training. Linear planting (tree-lined walkways, avenues, windbreaks, and planting along watercourses) dividing the landscape composition have also been preserved in the form of native species and overall pattern. The network of watercourses, which is important for both the function and composition of the landscape, has been preserved in the same structure as it was in 1876. Traditional materials are used for its maintenance. A similar approach is used for the maintenance of pasture fencing. The historic urban structure of settlements has not been compromised by the industrial development of modern times, and the original links with countryside have been preserved.

Protection and management requirements
The overall governance/management system for the property and its buffer zone relies on legal and planning instruments at the national, regional and local level. State and local entities guarantee the implementation of measures which they are responsible for and which contribute to the implementation of protection and management.

The property is included in the Kladrubské Polábi Conservation area, designated with provision ref n. MK 72096/2015 pursuant Act n. 20/1987 as amended. It has been protected as a unique example of a landscape shaped for horse breeding and training. The Stud Farm itself is a National Heritage site as per Government Decree 132/2001 and some parts of the landscape are included in Natura 2000 network as a Site of Community Importance as per Government Decree n. 73/2016 amending GD n. 318/2013. Other sites within the property are covered by heritage protection status. The Kladruber horse breed also enjoys legal protection since 2002 as a living monument. Formal designation of Kladrubský náhon as cultural heritage reinforced the overall legal protection of the property in 2019.

The basic protection instrument for the property is the Heritage Act n. 20/1987, which stipulates obligations for the owner, user, public administrations, juridical and physical persons with regard to protected heritage but it is also covered by the provisions of Act No. 114/1992 Coll., on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended.

Since 2017, the implementation of provisions of the Heritage Act for the Kladruby nad Labem are under the responsibility of the Municipal Authority of Přelouč. Several territorial plans complement legal protection for the property.

Most of the property is owned by the State and is under the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, managed by the following entities: National Stud Farm Kladruby nad Labem, the River Elbe Authority and Czech Land-Use Authority.

The Management system is based mostly on state-driven bodies, which have elaborated management instruments to guarantee the management and implementation of their operational activities. A memorandum for establishing a Steering Group was signed in 2016 and was renewed in June 2018. It has coordination, overseeing and advisory tasks.
A number of management instruments and mechanisms exist for the property. A management plan for the stud farm was prepared in 2010, updated in 2012 and under revision as of 2018. An Agreement on general Principles of Restoration and further development of the Area of the NHS of the Stud Farm at Kladruby nad Labem (May 2017) guides protection and management of the property as a national heritage site (NHS). The forest is covered by a Forest Management Plan containing guidelines and recommendations and is valid from 2016 through 2025.

Medium- and Long-term sustenance of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property needs management coordination, stability, sustainability and implementable management instrument based on tested formulas, integrating risk and visitor management as well as Heritage Impact Assessment mechanisms and opportunities for strengthening the property’s integrity locally.

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Brief synthesis

The City of Jaipur is an exceptional example of indigenous city planning and construction in South Asia. In a remarkable difference from the existing medieval practices where settlements developed in a more organic manner (that grew over a longer period of time, in layers, in response to local geography, topography, climate and socio-cultural systems including caste system and occupation), Jaipur was conceived and developed in a single phase in the 18th century CE with a grid-iron model inspired from the Prastara plan of the Vastu Shastra, a treatise of traditional Hindu architecture. This town plan later became a trendsetter for many 19th century CE towns in Rajasthan State and India. Built under the patronage of Sawai Raja Jai Singh II (ruled 1700 – 1743 CE), a project approach was taken towards the city construction where most of the city infrastructure, public and royal spaces were completed within a span of four years, from 1727 – 1731 CE along with special royal invitations to several traders inviting them to settle in this newly envisaged trade and commerce city.

Unlike other medieval cities of the region, Jaipur was deliberately planned as a new city located on the plains and open for trade, as opposed to cities on hilly terrain and military cities of the past, though its planning still responded to the surrounding hill tops in all topography. The site selected within the valley that lay to the south of the Amber hills was comparatively flat and undeveloped. It was also adequately protected, nestled within hills having an array of forts and defence posts. Thus, the new city could be planned as an inviting trade and commerce city with an ambitious vision of the ruler Sawai Jai Singh II and his architect-planner Vidyadhar.

The design of the new city was a breath-taking departure from the prevalent practices in city development in the sub-continent. Its urban morphology reflected the coming together of cultural elements from eastern and western planning, expressing a culture of a ‘trade and commerce city’ and townscape that is unparalleled anywhere in South Asia. Envisaged as a trade capital, the main avenues of the city were designed as markets, which still remain as characteristic bazaars of the city, Chandrap, or designed large public squares at the intersection of roads, is another feature that is distinct to Jaipur as are its single and multicourt havelis and haveli temples. Besides an exemplary planning, its iconic monuments such as the Govind Dev temple, City Palace, Jantar Mantar and Hawa Mahal excel in artistic and architectural craftsmanship of the period.

Jaipur is an expression of the astronomical skills, living traditions, unique urban form and exemplary innovative city planning of an 18th century city from India.

Criterion (ii): Jaipur is an exemplary development in town planning and architecture that demonstrates an amalgamation and important interchange of several ideas over the late medieval period. It shows an interchange of ancient Hindu, Mughal and contemporary Western ideas that resulted in the customised layout of the city. It is believed that Raja Jai Singh arrived at the final layout after a thorough analysis of several town plans sourced from across the globe. Following the grid-iron plan prevalent in the west but with traditional zoning, superimposed by the desire to rival Mughal cities, Jaipur reflected new concepts for a thriving trade and commerce hub that became a model for the later towns in the adjoining Shekhawati region and others parts of Western India.

Criterion (iv): Jaipur represents a dramatic departure from extant medieval cities with its ordered, grid-like structure— broad streets, crisscrossing at right angles, earmarked sites for buildings, palaces, havelis, temples and gardens, neighbourhoods designated for particular castes and occupations. The main markets, shops, havelis and temples on the main streets were constructed by the state, thus ensuring that a uniform street facade was maintained in Jaipur. The city planning of Jaipur remains a unique response to the terrain that amalgamates ideas from an ancient Indian treatise to contemporary global town plans and Imperial Mughal architecture to finally produce a monumental urban form, unparalleled in its scale and magnificence for its times. While the grid iron pattern of planning has been used historically in city planning, its application at such a monumental scale for a planned trade
city, along with its particular urban form, makes it an important example in the history of urban planning of the Indian subcontinent. The continuity of the architecture and urban form is enhanced by the functions of trade and craftsmanship that reflect the living heritage character of this innovative urban settlement.

**Criterion (vi):** Historically, the city is said to have housed “chattis karkhanas” (36 industries), the majority of which included crafts like gemstones, lac jewellery, stone idols, miniature paintings, each with a specified street and market some of which continue to exist. During 19th century, the local crafts received further momentum with British period influences in special exhibitions held in United Kingdom, establishment of institutions such as the Rajasthan School of Arts and Albert Hall Museum. While the local traditions of guilds continued, formal institutions for crafts, policies and programmes by Government and the private sector further contributed to national and international recognition of Jaipur crafts in the 20th and 21st centuries. There are 11 surviving crafts, and continuing building crafts of Jaipur contribute much to the conservation works of the city, and the renowned craftsmen from Jaipur continue to conserve and restore historic structures across many cities in India.

**Integrity**

The inscribed area of the historic walled city of Jaipur within the walls and gates includes all of the attributes of the property (18th century town plan with its grid iron plan, chaupars, chowkris, city wall and nine city gates; urban form with 11 bazaar facades, shop typology along bazaars, havelis and haveli temples along bazaars and at chaupars, iconic monuments, gates leading to inner streets; craft streets and bazaar areas). The inner areas of chowkris and the related old havelis are not attributes of the property.

The city gates and associated sections of walls, all major monuments and bazaars remain in generally good condition despite increasing development pressures. Aspects such as underground Metro lines have been incorporated on the East West axis with due consideration that the architectural icons and urban character of the walled city area remain unchanged, although there has been the loss of mature trees in several chaupars.

The boundaries of the property conform to the original 18th century plans of Sawai Jai Singh II and relate to the surrounding topography as well as the original vision for the planned city. The size and scale of all town planning elements such as width of roads, hierarchy of public spaces, open spaces, waterbodies, built form all are intact as per the original plan. The iconic built heritage structures retain their original form, character and architectural style. Though some areas of bazaars and inside havelis in chowkris are undergoing major changes, but most are still intact form and location.

Issues include unauthorised new constructions and additions, some affecting parts of the city wall, new construction affecting the upper facades of some bazaars, communication towers, and the development of open spaces for carparks.

The detailed heritage inventory for all attributes should be completed for the property.

The buffer zone includes the natural terrain and surrounding peaks that governed the set out and alignment of the town plan. The surrounding peaks and skyline outside the property are protected from the visual impacts of development by urban controls.

**Authenticity**

The spatial organization of the historic walled city of Jaipur continues to reflect the 18th century grid-iron plan. The architectural components like the gates and city walls, bazaars, chaupars and chowkris, historic structures, havelis, religious buildings, and water structures reflect the urban ensemble of the walled city of Jaipur as conceived from the 18th to the early 20th centuries. The materials and substance are largely original, primarily lime and stone. The bazaars (market areas) have been recently conserved using traditional materials. In some cases, 20th century structures use cement concrete but recreate the original architectural vocabulary.

The use and function of most royal and public spaces and monuments are now adapted as contemporary public monuments. Shops, temples and private houses largely retain their original use.

**Protection and management requirements**

The Municipalities Act of 2009 (amendment) and Jaipur Building Byelaws 1970 guide the architectural control on the urban character of Jaipur which has helped in retaining the original architectural form of the bazaars. As per the Jaipur Master Plan 2025, the walled city area is a specially designated heritage zone and any work related to heritage conservation is guided by detailed heritage management plans and project reports implemented through mandated government agencies. The development and implementation of a Special Area Heritage Plan will include conservation measures and enhance the state of conservation.

Architectural control guidelines and other measures are needed to improve legal protection, and otherwise to improve the coordination and effectiveness of protection for all attributes.

The Jaipur Heritage Management Plan (2007) provides the vision for Jaipur Heritage and is legislated through the Jaipur Master Plan 2025 (see Annexure II, i). The property will be managed as per overall guidelines and the framework outlined in the Jaipur Master Plan 2025 under Section 2- Development Plan for U1 Area. The walled city has been
recognized as a special area for heritage conservation under the Development Plan and shares the vision outlined in the Jaipur Heritage Management Plan 2007. As the Jaipur Heritage Management Plan has been implemented in various phases and synchronized with other plans, a comprehensive management strategy with an action plan protecting the attributes will serve as an extension to the Jaipur Heritage Management Plan for the management and monitoring of the property.

The extension and enhancement of the management system is needed, to cover all attributes and provide for a coordinated management supporting administrative tools and decision mechanisms. The management system shall include a detailed monitoring program and an overall interpretation and presentation policy and program.

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<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Krzemionki Prehistoric Striped Flint Mining Region</th>
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**Brief synthesis**

Krzemionki Prehistoric Striped Flint Mining Region (in short: Krzemionki) is located in the north-eastern fringe of the Świętokrzyskie (Holy Cross) Mountains in central Poland on both sides of Kamienna River. It is a serial property comprised of four component parts: the principal Krzemionki Opawskie Mining Field; two smaller mining fields, Borownia and Korycizna, aligned on the same geological structure; and the Gawroniec prehistoric miners’ permanent settlement that received semi products of flint axes from the mines for finishing and polishing prior to distribution. The property dates from 3,900 BCE to 1,600 BCE (Neolithic to Early Bronze Age) and is one of the largest known complexes of its type in the Neolithic Period. It is also the most completely preserved and wholly readable socio-technical system of prehistoric underground flint mining and processing and illustrates the greatest range of prehistoric flint mining techniques known in a single property. Attributes include great chambers with a floor area of over 500 m² that are unknown from any other site. At the property, a unique type of flint – striped flint banded in exceptional zebra-like patterns of alternating shades of grey – was mined and fashioned into axes and distributed in a verifiable radius of 650 km from the complex, in present-day Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Belarus and Lithuania.

A diverse range of mine types are also identified with different surface expressions in a remarkably intact anthropogenic surface that presents a rare prehistoric industrial landscape of shaft depressions and up-cast waste, remnants of flint workshops, miners’ camps and communication routes. Gawroniec Settlement, integral to the functioning of the deposit management system, is a legible testimony to the organisation of a prehistoric community based around mining.

**Criterion (iii):** Krzemionki Prehistoric Striped Flint Mining Region is illustrative of the living and working patterns of settled prehistoric communities that distinguish the Neolithic period from that which preceded it. The serial property bears witness to the economic and social organisation of segments of the Neolithic society, which were linked to the extraction of flint and its use for the production of polished axes.

The attributes of the property, including the integral Gawroniec Settlement are further enhanced by the proven distribution of striped-flint axes that have been identified in a radius of over 650 km from the complex – the largest recorded range for prehistoric flint axes which act as significant indicators for prehistoric movements.

**Criterion (iv):** Krzemionki Prehistoric Striped Flint Mining Region represents an exceptional type of Neolithic mining landscape, bearing witness both to a complex technical and social system and to human adaptation to the conditions of natural resource exploitation that is a landmark in the history of mining. It provides evidence that the prehistoric period brought flint mining to produce tools in the largest known example for the prehistoric exploitation of flint. The serial property illustrates diverse underground prehistoric mining structures comprising open-pit, niche-gallery, gallery, pillar-chamber and chamber mines – and primary workshops, which survive intact in well over 4,000 shafts and pits.

**Integrity**

Krzemionki Prehistoric Striped Flint Mining Region, as a whole, comprises the best preserved, most technically diverse and complete prehistoric flint mining assemblage known in a European context. All attributes necessary to express the Outstanding Universal Value are included in the serial property that represents the exploitation of the only known deposit of striped flint to be mined in prehistory. Principle features and attributes have been confirmed in detail using a combination of archaeological research methods, including Airborne Laser Scanning that has accurately mapped the sites in 3D under forest cover. The permanent settlement site, on a promontory in open agricultural fields, was archaeologically excavated in the late-1940s and 1950s and the boundary exceeds the archaeological site boundary that contains all known evidence of prehistoric settlement.

The property does not suffer from current adverse development or neglect. The preserved visual setting of the property is protected by means of restrictive buffer zone management and the rigorous application of heritage impact
assessments including to quarries used in recent times.

**Authenticity**

Krzemionki Prehistoric Striped Flint Mining Region is authentic in all its attributes, expressed by information sources, that include: the well preserved form and structure of the underground structures, such as shafts, chambers, communication galleries, transport corridors, supporting pillars or waste heaps of mining and processing, as well as the aboveground industrial mining landscape consisting of shaft depressions and waste tips, remnants of flint workshops, miners’ camps and communication routes. The majority of the mining fields are left unexcavated. At Krzemionki Opatowskie Mining Field, a small segment of the mining field has been excavated archaeologically and, after some conservation work, illustrates a combination of attributes that have remained almost unchanged for over 5,000 years. Attributes of Gawroniec Settlement are equally easily legible in terms of location and setting, form, and archaeological evidence that is tangible proof of organisation and process directly tied to the mining fields. Archaeological excavations were conducted between 1947 and 1961 and apart from plentiful waste from flint processing, dateable evidence included pottery (large storage vessels, funnel-shaped flasks and vases, ceramic pipes, and ceramic weaving spindles) and organic remains which were radiocarbon-dated to between 3,500 and 3,200 BCE.

**Protection and management requirements**

The property is under full legal protection in its entirety. The management system for Krzemionki Prehistoric Striped Flint Mining Region is implemented by the 'Krzemionki' Archaeological Museum and Reserve (Muzeum Archeologiczne i Rezerwat „Krzemionki”), a local museum which takes the lead role in the management and protection of Krzemionki. Its activity has been adapted and extended to the other three component parts in the series, as part of a new property management plan process. A cultural park is being created (2020-2025) to facilitate the preparation of a local spatial development plan in integration with the management plan, which will enable planned and coordinated execution of the tasks and protection of the wider setting of the property.

**Brief synthesis**

The Royal Building of Mafra consists of a Palace, which integrates a Basilica, with its axial frontispiece uniting the King and the Queen wings, a Convent, the Cerco Garden and a Hunting Park (Tapada).

It represents one of the most magnificent works undertaken by King João V, who had exceptional cultural and economic conditions that allowed him to stand out among other European monarchies as a powerful sovereign of a vast multicontinental empire.

Beginning with the choice of the architect Johann Friedrich Ludwig, a Swabian with training in Rome - this project symbolised an international affirmation of the Portuguese ruling dynasty. The ongoing fascination experienced by the monarch for the Rome of the great popes in the Baroque period led him to commission the work of important artists for Mafra, which ultimately became one of the most relevant sites of Italian Baroque outside Italy.

On the occasion of the consecration of the Basilica, on October 22nd 1730, the King’s birthday, the monument was not yet concluded but the project was well defined and in an advanced stage of implementation: a grandiose building complex integrating seamlessly a royal palace, a basilica and a convent with its library. The Royal Palace endowed with two turrets that, functioning independently, were the private apartments of the royal couple; the church, a Basilica decorated with 58 statues by the best Roman and Florentine artists, and an unprecedented set of French and Italian ecclesiastic vestments; two towers on the facade containing two carillons ordered from Flanders and constituting a unique bell heritage worldwide; a Library containing works of great cultural and scientific interest, and one of the few that was allowed to incorporate "banned books", a remarkable collection of incunabula and manuscripts, as well as a bibliographic collection with a wide range of publications from the 15th to the 19th centuries. From the mid-eighteenth century the new stone altar pieces of the Basilica were carved, a work of Alessandro Giusti, an Italian artist who founded, in Mafra, a school of sculpture. It was also in Mafra that Joaquim Machado de Castro, the most important Portuguese sculptor of the 18th century, received his training, furthermore, it was on the immense construction site of Mafra that the knowledge and practices were acquired and then applied for the reconstruction of Lisbon after the devastation caused by the 1755 earthquake. Noteworthy are also the six historic

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<th>Property</th>
<th>Royal Building of Mafra – Palace, Basilica, Convent, Cerco Garden and Hunting Park (Tapada)</th>
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MC 30  organs of the Basilica, ordered to the Portuguese organ masters, António de Machado Cerveira and Peres Fontanes at the end of the 18th century and designed and built to play simultaneously.

The Cerco Garden started out as a convent enclosure at the disposal of the friars and also for the purpose of court. As early as in 1718, King João V ordered the planting of all kinds of existing wild trees in the Empire in well distributed beds and wide paths which favoured the organisation of the area in symmetrical plots, however its current layout results from subsequent adaptations. The garden includes a large central lake into which converge the watercourses of the Tapada and an adjoining well associated with a noria. This also contains the unusual Ball Game Field, built on the orders of the Regular Canons of Saint Augustine, when they occupied the Convent between 1771 and 1792.

The Hunting Park (Tapada) was created in 1747 as a private hunting ground for the monarch, as well as for agriculture and livestock breeding, in order to serve the needs of the Palace and the Convent. In late 19th century and in the beginning of the following century, the Hunting Park was the privileged stage for the hunting parties of King Carlos I, who went as far as to build a pavilion, within the approximately 1,200 hectares that make up this property.

Altogether, the Royal Building of Mafra with the Cerco Garden and the Tapada offer a rare and almost complete example of baroque estate comprising a multifunctional palace, a formal garden and a Tapada, which have been elsewhere lost.

Criterion (iv): The Royal Building of Mafra reflects the materialization of absolute power from the time of the King João V, as well as a strategy for consolidation of the Portuguese empire and national sovereignty, affirmation of the dynastic legitimacy, a closer proximity to the international sources of authority, namely of the Papacy of Rome, as well as distancing from the Spanish Crown. The international dimension of the Portuguese empire and the grandeur of its sovereign are at the origin of the gigantism of this construction and the aesthetic options taken, directly inspired by some of the best examples of Baroque architecture in the city of Rome. Other features in this Monument contribute to making this royal residential complex one of the most important in Europe, considering not only its size and constructive accuracy, but also some integrated pieces such as the Carillons and the Organs of the Basilica, musical sets of exceptional relevance in the world. The Hunting Park (Tapada) is an example of large-scale landscape creation forming a territorial unit management umbically connected with the Palace and the Convent.

Integrity
The Royal Building of Mafra has preserved most of its historical, architectural and artistic characteristics and includes all attributes justifying its Outstanding Universal Value. The works carried out throughout the centuries have preserved the building, its proportions and volumes, extending its life without changing its physiognomy and functions, as well as the Tapada in its initial extension; on the other hand, only part of the Cerco Garden reflects its original layout, having been modified and reduced to enlarge the Palace. However, altogether, the complex has survived almost intact and continues to illustrate the ideological values and aesthetic principles of the first half of the 18th century. Noteworthy are the consistency of design, rhythm, symmetry, aesthetic quality and harmony, the dignity of the work, the impeccable quality of the project details and implementation, the constructive competence, the good distribution of resources, the prudent administration of construction and the efficient creation of spaces according to the needs. Threats to the property are mainly related to the severe thermal amplitudes and the saline winds of the Atlantic coast, as well as the danger of forest fires in the summer. Improvements in the grounds immediately adjacent to the Palace would strengthen the integrity of property.

Authenticity
During its almost 300 years of existence, the Royal Building of Mafra did not register any significant alterations that compromised its authenticity, namely, as regards its design, form and materials used, only registering small reversible changes. From the point of view of restoration and preservation, the restoration of the six Organs of the Basilica, the Throne Room, and the Carillons (in the programming phase) can be highlighted. Despite the political, economic and social transformations that took place between the 18th century and the present day, the Royal Building adjusted itself to several different functions without, however, losing its basic characteristics. Although it ceased to be a state residence as a consequence of the Implantation of the Republic in 1910, it gained a museum status and public fruition; due to the extinction of religious orders in 1834, the Convent began to host military institutions to this day. The Basilica ceased to be a royal chapel, housing the parish’s headquarters in 1836; and the Library preserves its mission to support study and research. Further documentation and cartographic inventory of the Tapada landscape and historic features would contribute to strengthen the overall authenticity of the Complex and the understanding of its historic development.

Protection and management requirements
The Royal Building of Mafra is classified as a National Monument by a Decree issued on January 10th 1907, published in the Governmental Journal no. 14 of January 17th

The main law guaranteeing legal protection to the Royal Building of Mafra is Law n. 107/2001, establishing the foundations for the policies and the system of norms of protection and enhancement of cultural heritage. In order to ensure the application of this law, Decree no. 140, of June 15th 2009, established the legal framework for studies, projects, reports, works or interventions on classified properties, stipulating the need for prior and systematic evaluation and monitoring of any works susceptible of impacting on their integrity, so as to avoid any disfiguration, dilapidation, loss of features or authenticity, which can be ensured by appropriate and thorough planning by duly qualified persons. Furthermore, there is a policy of responsible management that focuses upon environmental solutions and on maintaining a constructive and open dialogue with partners and, among others, with the council to mitigate potential negative impacts from undue usage of areas surrounding the monument, as duly stipulated by Decree no. 309, of October 23rd 2009, which establishes the restrictions appropriate to protecting and enhancing the areas around such cultural assets.

The General Directorate for Cultural Heritage was established by Law Decree n. 115/2012: its mission is to oversee the implementation of the protection and guarantee the management, safeguarding, conservation and restoration of protected cultural properties in Portugal.

The National Palace of Mafra, as a museum, is also subject to the provisions of the Museum Framework Law n. 47/2004 and enjoys a Safety Plan, a compulsory instrument according to the law.

The Tapada is subject also to the provisions of Law Decree n. 151-B/2013 and subsequent modification, Environmental Impact Assessment, and Forest management plan approved in 2014.

A cooperation protocol was signed in 2019 and a cooperation unit was established among the key responsible entities: the General Directorate for Cultural Heritage, the School of Arts, the National Tapada of Mafra, the Municipality of Mafra and the Parish of Santo André in Mafra. A robust management structure, based on strong coordination, a unified approach and clear commitments are necessary to guarantee the long-term sustenance of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and its full enjoyment.

Moreover, a conservation programme, including definition of clear priorities and sources of funding, should be developed by the responsible managing institutions. A conservation plan for the Cerco Garden should be also developed by the Municipality.

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**Brief synthesis**

Located in the city of Braga, in the North of Portugal, the sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Monte is built facing west and has expansive views, at times of the ocean itself, overlooking the whole city of Braga, the Bracara Augusta founded in roman times of which it is historically inseparable. The sanctuary is a type of architectural and landscape ensemble rebuilt and enhanced throughout a period of over 600 years, mainly defined by a long and complex Viae Crucis expanding up the hill, leading pilgrims through chapels that house sculptural collections evoking the Passion of Christ, fountains, sculptures and formal gardens. It is inscribed in an enclosure of 26 ha, totally accessible to the public. It belongs to the Confraternity of Bom Jesus do Monte, the institution that continuously overlooks the place for almost 400 years.

The landscape and architectural ensemble of the Sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Monte is part of a European project for the creation of Sacri Monti, spurred by the Council of Trent, embodying a sacred mount which has witnessed several moments in the history of the city of Braga and its archdiocese, reaching a unique formal and symbolic complexity and an unprecedented monumental character and dimension in the context of European sacred mounts, with a baroque style and a grand religious narrative, typical of the Counter-Reformation.

It is a complete and complex manifestation resulting from a creative-genius, a monumental stairway where the conception models and aesthetic preferences clearly represent the different periods of its construction, culminating in a piece of great unity and harmony. It is organized in two sections: (1) the moments before Jesus Christ’s death, ending in the church and (2) the glorious life of Christ resurrected culminating in the Yard of the Evangelists. Enclosure and sanctuary blend together resulting in a cultural landscape.

The study made on Bom Jesus do Monte has shown that the history of its construction is extremely rich in events and initiatives, highlighted by important personalities, allowing for several time periods to be defined, since its inception to the present day. Its evolution throughout the centuries has allowed for a continual integration of the elements, within the same religious narrative, reaching its highest point during the baroque period. Its execution was possible through an extraordinary mobilization of resources, namely through alms and offerings, representing a continued and determined effort throughout generations, over a
period of more than six centuries. The result is a high quality and solid construction, with a concentration of artistic and technical expressions, a landscape where, together with water, granite is celebrated, sculpted within a luxurious "nature", perfectly integrated into the landscape.

Criterion (iv): The sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Monte is an extraordinary example of a sacred mount with an unprecedented monumentality determined by a complete and elaborate narrative of the Passion of Christ of great importance to the history of humanity. It embodies traits that identify roman Catholicism, such as externalization of celebration, community sense, theatricality, and life as a permanent and inexhaustible journey.

The sanctuary stands out due to its impact and affirmation in the landscape, the architectural and decorative originality of its stairways, the strong sensations generated when visiting it, specific to its baroque character. The unity of the sanctuary within its enclosure is a distinctive factor that generates tremendous formal and functional harmony. It is a masterpiece resulting from creative genius, integrating a set of monumental stairways, displaying models of design, taste and aesthetic preferences of each period of construction, integrated in an ensemble of great unity and harmony constituting a cultural landscape. The unity of the architectural ensemble and its high artistic quality result from its overall design and organization, structure and composition, as well as from the predominant use of granite, which endows the sanctuary with a significant sculptural and plastic dimension. Retaining and dividing walls, stairways, buildings, fountains, pavements, ornaments and an impressive and unprecedented set of statues are all made of granite, resulting in a work of high construction quality. The contrast between the whitewashed granite, on the one hand, and the surrounding lush green park and wood, on the other, decisively contributes to the sanctuary's baroque character. The property reflects also a concentration of technical ingenuity (hydraulics, supports for the terrain, built structures, mechanics) and of artistic expression (architecture, sculpture, painting).

Integrity
The formal and functional composition of the sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Monte and its enclosure, as evolved, remains intact overall and its essential character has been preserved.

The historical physical context has remained practically intact up to the present day and, although it combines several stages of evolution of significant artistic interest, the ensemble has retained its overall integrity, in terms of materials and modes of execution. The history of the property reveals that the sanctuary's physical dimension has evolved to ensure its religious dimension, while it has simultaneously affirmed itself as a place of villegiatura. This physical expansion has broadly encompassed the legacies handed down from previous historical periods. Today, the sanctuary and its enclosure retain all the elements that reflect the values and importance of the property.

The attributes of the structural and ornamental materials: granite walls, stairways, patios, gardens, chapels, church, fountains and statues, associated with the presence of water and of decisive importance for the property's artistic and symbolic dimension and for interpretation of the overall narrative of the property, as well as the surrounding woodlands and park have remained intact, and guarantee the completeness of the narrative and integrity of the ensemble.

The general state of conservation of the property is good. Recently, a project regarding the requalification of the heritage was carried out, namely through the preservation and restoration of façades and roofing of the church, ten chapels of the Via Crucis, including their exterior and interior sculptures and murals, and some stretches of the stairways. A new phase is about to start, to further improve the condition. The hotel units and other facilities surrounding the Sanctuary such as the funicular, Casa das Estampas, Colunata de Eventos recently underwent restoration works and are thus in a good state of conservation. The park and the wood are also in a good general state of conservation except for some steepest areas, and the presence of old decaying trees and some invasive species.

The sanctuary of Bom Jesus and its enclosure represent almost four centuries of continued management of the property by a single entity: the Confraternity of Bom Jesus do Monte, established in 1629.

Urban expansion and visitor pressures require close monitoring; the removal of the terrace bar should be finalised, and fire risk management enhanced.

Authenticity
The property is generally authentic in terms of its location, setting, form and design, materials and substance, and continuing religious use.

The sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Monte in Braga dates back to at least the 14th century. It progressively acquired importance and religious and cultural significance, especially from the early 17th century onwards, after the Confraternity of Bom Jesus do Monte was founded. Since then, documents relating to the initiatives that were taken to enhance the sanctuary, including those which made it possible to expand its physical space and enhance the complexity of its forms and composition, have been recorded in the minutes of the meetings of the Board of the Confraternity. Monographs written about the sanctuary, descriptions provided by travellers and scholars, engravings and paintings,
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peoples continue to be closely linked with the forest landscape.

Beyond its sheer size, the serial extension is significant as World Heritage protection now applies to both main slopes of the range, which are markedly distinct in terms of relief, climate, vegetation, landscape and biodiversity. The altitudinal gradient ranges from sea level to some 1,900 m.a.s.l., adding further ecosystem and habitat diversity. The mountains are renowned for extraordinarily high numbers of plants and invertebrates by the standards of temperate regions and a high degree of endemism. The Amur Tiger, the world’s largest cat also known as the Siberian Tiger, is the most spectacular representative of the fauna. The Sikhote-Alin Mountains are home to almost the entire remaining population of this endangered and culturally revered tiger subspecies, the undisputed flagship and umbrella species of the region.

Criterion (x): Despite ongoing large-scale logging in the region, much of the Sikhote-Alin Range continues to be covered in natural vegetation with large remnants of intact forests in its less accessible reaches. The property boasts intact representations of one of the world’s most diverse temperate forest landscapes on both the eastern and western slopes of the central Sikhote-Alin Mountains. Forest types vary according to aspect and along the altitudinal gradient from sea level to almost 2,000 m.a.s.l., transitioning into tundra vegetation in the highest elevations. The combination of glacial history, location, climate and relief has permitted the evolution of highly diverse temperate forests with unique species assemblages showing boreal, temperate and subtropical faunal and floral elements, recognized as a global “Centre of Plant Diversity”. The recorded 1,200 species of vascular plant species, including some 180 trees and shrubs, is extraordinarily high for a temperate forest and comprises numerous endemics. The more than 400 documented vertebrate species include an impressive 65 mammal species. For several of these, the mountain range is either the southernmost distribution limit, for example for Wolverine, or the northernmost, such as for the majestic Amur Tiger. For the latter, and many other species, Central Sikhote-Alin is of critical conservation importance. Further notable and charismatic species include the long-tailed Goral Goat, Siberian Musk Deer, both Himalayan Black Bear and Brown Bear, Lynx, as well as spectacular, endangered birds like the Blakiston’s Fish-Owl, the world’s largest owl, the scaly-sided Merganser and the red-crowned Crane.

Integrity

When the Sikhote-Alin Zapovednik was first established in the 1930s, it was the largest strictly protected area in Russia and encompassed what is today Bikin National Park within its boundaries. Following major reduction in size in the 1950s, the zapovednik was subsequently enlarged again to its present size. The combination of large surface area, remoteness, difficult access and longstanding protection status has ensured the effective conservation of the zapovednik as a significant example of the eastern slope of the mountains facing the Sea of Japan. While the Goralij Wildlife Reserve adds important complementary coastal and marine conservation values to the serial property, it is more vulnerable to threats and edge effects. The inscription of Bikin National Park as a serial extension has strongly increased both the scale and ecological representativeness of protected lands. The roadless national park’s large scale, relative isolation and spatial configuration in line with the natural boundaries of the middle and upper reaches of the Bikin River watershed make for a high degree of naturalness and integrity. Historic human impacts include high levels of trapping for the fur trade and escape of farmed American mink into the wild decades ago.

Protection and management requirements

The three protected areas jointly constituting the serial property are all state-owned in their entirety. The main drivers of forest loss and degradation in the region, industrial logging and mineral exploration and extraction, are legally excluded throughout the property. The history of the Sikhote-Alin Zapovednik dates back to the 1930s; like all federal strictly protected areas in the Russian Federation, it is administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in line with federal protected area legislation and specific regulations, whereas the relatively small Goralij Wildlife Reserve is administrated by a regional Hunting Department as a species management area. The more recent extension followed the creation of Bikin National Park in 2015 and the approval of corresponding regulations in 2016. A noteworthy particularity of Bikin National Park is the granting of far-reaching subsistence hunting and harvesting rights to indigenous peoples within substantial zones of the national park based on longstanding negotiation predating the establishment of the national park. The expectation is that indigenous peoples have strong incentives to restrict resource use to sustainable levels and play an important role in terms of defending their resources against poaching and illegal harvesting. The indigenous use rights are not derived from national park status per se, but based on corresponding stipulations in the applicable decree, which makes them potentially vulnerable to legal and policy changes. The overarching coordination of the management of the three components of the serial property is of utmost importance, fully taking into account that each has its own management category and that two governmental levels are involved. The small Goralij Wildlife Reserve is the most vulnerable component due to its small size and comparatively easy access.
The Amur Tiger has been fully protected from hunting since 1947. Past population collapses, in part due to poaching, are a reminder of the vulnerability of this iconic flagship species. Permanent and major efforts within and beyond the property are needed to prevent the extinction of the species, including, but not limited to, law enforcement. Some poaching, illegal fishing and illegal harvesting are reported, requiring decisive management responses. Other concerns include fires, the importance of which may increase in light of anticipated climate change and improved access to the mountain range. As pressure on timber, medicinal plants and wildlife in the broader forest region is expected to further increase, the future integrity of the property will depend not only on the effectiveness of managing the three component parts, but on coordinated management of the entire serial property and its buffer zones. Similarly, the consolidation of the growing protected area network in the region is an investment in the integrity of the property; some of the protected areas in the region may be considered as potential further serial extensions of the property in the future. Efforts to maintain connectivity at the landscape level, including but not limited to effective buffer zone arrangements and measured land and resource use are needed to ensure the future integrity of the property and the survival of its flagship, the Amur Tiger. It is clear that the latter requires the continued involvement of all sectors and governmental levels, as well as of local communities and indigenous peoples.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Al-Ahsa Oasis, an Evolving Cultural Landscape</th>
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**Brief synthesis**

Al-Ahsa Oasis is located in the eastern part of the Arabian Peninsula, bordered on the north by Abqaiq province, on the east by the Gulf, on the west by the desert of Ad-Dahrn and on the south by the desert of Ar-Rub‘ Al-Khali (the Empty Quarter). The oasis landscape that evolved over millennia presents a way of life typical of the Gulf region of the Arabian Peninsula. The cultural landscape consists of gardens, canals, springs, wells, an agricultural drainage lake, as well as historic buildings. Al-Ahsa Oasis is composed of twelve component parts forming the largest oasis in the world with more than 2.5 million palm trees, urban fabric and archaeological sites that represent the evolution of an ancient cultural tradition and the traces of sedentary human occupation in the Gulf region of the Arabian Peninsula from the Neolithic Period up to the present. The landscape of Al-Ahsa in the past and now represents the different phases of the oasis’s evolution and the interaction of natural and cultural heritage.

**Criterion (iii):** The continuity of the oasis agricultural tradition is represented by an organically evolved cultural landscape with an agricultural organization based upon the distribution of the spring water through a network of open-air canals. Al-Ahsa Oasis cultural landscape materializes the vivacity and modernity of this specific land-use tradition and shows its continuing relevance at the local and regional scale.

**Criterion (iv):** This large cultural landscape is composed of different zones covering the oasis’ gardens, mountains, caves, villages, mosques and springs, but also archaeological sites and a small section of the historic centre of Al-Hofuf with the main monuments embodying the political control over the area and its commercial role throughout the past centuries. The vestiges of the villages, fortresses, mosques, markets and houses, though often in a ruinous shape, preserve a complete catalogue of the architectural elements composing the urban settlement of Al-Ahsa from the early Islamic period to the Saudi Kingdom.

**Criterion (v):** The oasis is an outstanding example of traditional human settlement developed in a desert environment exemplifying the intimate link between landscape, natural resources and the human efforts to settle the land. The rich water table close to the surface permitted the growth of a large oasis settlement. Water was originating from surface springs and drawn from wells reaching the shallow water table. Some of these springs and wells are still visible in the site, living memory of the traditional farming techniques.

**Integrity**

The property shows the sustainable evolution of the oasis and of its associated human settlements, where the physical and functional relations between the natural landscape, the water springs, the water canalization system, the villages, and the cities create a continuously evolving human-created oasis environment. Al-Ahsa Oasis remains today the largest agricultural area in the Arabian Peninsula, and a working and living environment that has developed in direct continuity with its origins and its past.

The component parts of the property possess an evident topographical integrity presenting the ensemble of the elements that characterize and make an oasis possible: water springs, caves, mountains, flatlands, modern and historic canals and water lifting mechanisms, human settlements and natural drainage areas. The continuing use of the oasis as major agricultural zone where high-quality dates are produced and exported throughout the world, and the persistence of traditions and built elements from the past eras, are authentic in use preserving
both the agricultural and the settlement / commercial integrity of the oasis functions.

Throughout the millennia, while constantly evolving, the integrity of relationships between the palm groves, the water sources and canals, the human settlements and the natural landscape has remained constant, adapting to the needs of the human societies that developed in the area. Water distribution and water abduction modifications in the past 40 years have aimed to maintain the very agricultural function of the oasis.

The extraordinary integrity of this urban / natural landscape can still be fully appreciated when observing from an elevated point the “sea” of palm trees and gardens that extends in every direction almost endlessly. The sheer size of the property permits to ensure the complete representation of all tangible attributes of the cultural landscape and of the social processes conveying its Outstanding Universal Value. The oasis constituting elements are contained within the boundaries of the property and clearly manifest their significance and exceptionality.

The unique scale of Al-Ahsa Oasis, the largest oasis in the world, is mirrored by the very size of the property, while its historic depth and the complexity of traditional oasis agricultural methods are represented by the major archaeological zones within the property, covering thousands of years of human settlement, and by the persistence of traditional oasis agricultural crops beside the dominant date palm, including the red rice variety typical of Al-Ahsa. The integrity of the property is reinforced by the continuity of human presence in the oasis villages and by the existence of both traditional historic souks (like Al-Qaysariyah in Al-Hofuf) and modern markets for the exchange of agricultural and handicrafts products of the oasis.

Landscape views and intangible attributes relating, for example, to food traditions, work songs and clothes contribute to expressing the property’s Outstanding Universal Value. All the integrity aspects (composition, relationships and functionality of attributes) necessary to sustain the Outstanding Universal Value are represented, and the serial site as a whole, with its component parts, allows the expression of the significance of the property to the highest degree.

Authenticity

The oasis was, and remains, a major source of agricultural crops, the most important of which is palm dates. Al-Ahsa oasis, with its different and interconnected sectors, was the largest oasis in the world and the largest producer of dates even before the 1960s and the introduction of “mass production” techniques. Palm dates are the main agricultural staple of Al-Ahsa oasis, local communities are involved in packaging and making use of modern technologies to assure the wide spread marketing and distribution of their product. The State Party supports grassroots organic farmers, and the Saudi Government graciously donates the surplus of palm dates from Al-Ahsa to the United Nations World Food Programme.

Strict regulations for farms permit developments only on the edges of roads and highways, as well as up to 15% of the agricultural parcel set in private farms for agricultural services or rural housing under the controls of the municipal building code. Moreover, a royal decree prevents the conversion of agricultural parcels into urban uses. In addition, development of the surrounding areas in Al-Astar Lake is still under evaluation and has not been adopted nor developed.

Protection and management requirements

Al-Ahsa Oasis is protected under the Saudi Law of Antiquities, Museums and Urban Heritage, Royal Decree No. 9/M (dated 09/01/1436 AH corresponding to 01/11/2014). The Antiquity Law introduces and details the concept of Urban Heritage protection, paving the way for effective protection of historic monuments and districts inside the Oasis. Article 46 of the law defines the coordination mechanism between relevant governmental entities pertaining to the protection and development of urban heritage areas.

Archaeological sites and listed historic buildings are also protected by the 09/01/1436 AH Law and are managed by the Saudi Commission for Heritage.

Environmental protection of the nominated property is covered by Articles 15, 16, 17 and 32 of the 1992 Basic Law of Governance (referred to as “the constitution of Saudi Arabia”).

Development is regulated by the Public Environmental Law (No. M/34 dated 16 October 2001).

Urban regulations on the local level are defined by Al-Ahsa 2030 Master Plan and the Indicative Plan Report for Al-Ahsa Metropolitan area (2014), which synchronizes studies, approval plans, and regulations that are issued by Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs. The Plan protects agricultural land located within an urban context, which is relevant to component part As-Seef and buffer zones ii and iii.

The Ministry of Environment Water and Agriculture (MEWA) and its affiliate Al-Hassa Irrigation and Drainage Company (HIDC) regulate water management for landscape and agricultural lands. They function under the “Regulation Concerning the Protection of Water Sources”, issued by Royal Decree No. M/34 of year 1400 H/1979 AD.

The property is currently managed by five national level main stakeholders and ten local level main stakeholders. The “Oasis Higher Management Committee” under the direction of Al-Ahsa Governor, which meets on a monthly
basis, carries out the coordination of all stakeholders. A Management Scheme, formally approved by the Governor of Al-Ahsa, aims to better coordinate and integrate management mechanisms of the oasis at Municipal and Provincial levels on the one hand, and to coordinate field activities with the headquarters of the Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs and the other relevant governmental entities on the other hand.

The Management Scheme consists of a 'Higher Committee' (HC) and a 'Site Management Unit' (SMU) based in Al-Ahsa Municipality. The Site Management Unit will take on the role of site manager and will be responsible for verifying all planning regulations for the property, its buffer zones and the larger urban and natural setting, in order to ensure their conformity with the requirements and principles of the World Heritage Convention. An independent 'Scientific Committee' will be established to provide technical advice to local leadership for the management of the property.

Within the framework of the Management Plan Guidelines, a number of initiatives for the conservation and development of the oasis have been identified such as: landscape initiatives, architectural and urban initiatives, archaeology and cultural initiatives. An Action Plan is to be completed. The Higher Committee will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Action Plan.

The intended development of a comprehensive strategy for the sustainable development of the oasis will include risk preparedness. The Site Management Unit will oversee the realization of the risk management strategy in coordination with national security and civil defence.

Sustainable cultural tourism strategy is one of the priorities of the site management plan, with the intention to offer a holistic presentation of the property including tangible and intangible aspects. It is part of a large-scale regional tourism plan for the Eastern Province and the Gulf coastal area.

The management plan foresees an important role for the civil society and local community in supporting the sustainable development and conservation of the property.

The management of the oasis should include a specific component of studying, understanding, monitoring and conserving the biodiversity of the oasis as an integral part of its heritage protection and sustainability.

The monitoring regime, once in place, could be improved by more precise periodicity.

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**Brief synthesis**

The Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains contain an outstanding record of some of the oldest, most diverse, and best-preserved volcanic and sedimentary rocks on the early Earth. These outcrops have been intensively studied for more than a century, and provide key insights into early Earth processes including the formation of continents, surface conditions 3.5 to 3.2 billion years ago, and the environment in which life first appeared on our planet.

Encased by large granite bodies and buried by a thick layer of sedimentary strata, this 340-million-year long record of Archaean lavas and sediments has largely escaped both metamorphism and erosion for all of that time. The geosites provide some of the earliest evidence of the chemical composition of our oceans and atmosphere and of the way continents are formed – all unique attributes of our planet. The Outstanding Universal Value of the property lies in both the remarkable state of preservation of the geosites, their variety, and their close proximity. There are literally hundreds of geosites of interest which, when their information is combined, allow the Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains to tell a richly consistent and as yet only partly explored story of how life on Earth began.

**Criterion (viii):** The property is a unique remnant of the ancient Earth’s crust, containing among the oldest, and best-preserved sequence of volcanic and sedimentary rocks on Earth. These highly accessible ancient exposures present a continuous 340-million-year sequence of rocks, starting 3 600 million years ago. Their physical, chemical and biological characteristics provide an unparalleled source of scientific information about the early Earth – including the origin of continents, deposits of the hottest lavas ever to flow on Earth, repeated meteorite bombardments, anoxic oceans and atmosphere – that formed the environment in which primitive unicellular life first appeared on our planet. The outstanding value of these rocks lies in the large number of sites and features that, when combined, provide a unique, and as yet only partially explored, scientific resource.

**Integrity**

The entire 113,137 ha property lies within the Barberton Greenstone Belt and covers some 40% of that geological complex. The property's boundary encloses a fully representative sample of 154 registered rock outcrops and is configured as a single, contiguous entity representing the key attributes of the property's Outstanding Universal Value within the context of land use compatible with World Heritage...
designations. All of the key features of early Earth crustal evolution are represented by world-class geosites that are reasonably undeformed and only very slightly metamorphosed in some cases.

The property does not have a conventional buffer zone and is safeguarded through existing land use zonation as defined in national planning and environmental legislation. Nevertheless, it is important to continually strengthen the enforcement mechanisms for planning and environmental legislation.

Greenstone belts such as Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains host significant proportions of some of the world’s mineral resources; thus, mining will be a threat in any greenstone belt worldwide except the most remote. The level of threat in the property is not high by comparison with other greenstone belts worldwide and is now largely under control due to the relatively high standards of South African environmental law. However, ongoing prospecting demand pressure continues. The threat of mining persists and will require careful monitoring.

Protection and management requirements


Ensuring coordinated and cohesive planning and management across the various parts of the property will require finalization and effective implementation of the proposed Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains Integrated Management Plan as an agreed joint management framework.

Prior to inscription, the State Party committed to increased staffing capacity with specific geoheritage technical capacities. It will be important to maintain and further enhance levels of qualified geoheritage expertise and to better balance planning and management emphasis between biodiversity and geodiversity in light of the property’s Outstanding Universal Value.

Land-owners within the property have signed a resolution committing themselves and their properties to support the proposed World Heritage Site on condition that they are afforded formal representation on all decision-making structures and that their land ownership rights are protected. The sustained cooperation of relevant land-owners will be important to foster and maintain as it is crucial to ongoing protection and ensuring visitor access to key geosites. The geosites are easy to access by researchers and the visiting public in attractive surroundings with a comfortable climate, which supports appreciation of their remarkable geological heritage value.