I.1 Introduction

Year of ratification * 1975

Organisation submitting the report
- Iranian Cultural Heritage Organisation
  Azadi Ave
  Tehran,
  Iran

I.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories
- Compilation of a national inventory began in 1931 and is ongoing.

The preparation of a Tentative List
- * 17 sites, revised in 1997.
- Local authorities and local populations are involved in the process.

Nominations and the nomination process
- 1979 * 3 nominations
  (a) Tchogha Zanbil
  (b) Persepolis
  (c) Meidan Emam, Esfahan
- 2002 Takht-e-Soleyman (to be examined 2003)
- 2003 3 proposed nominations (to be examined 2004)
  (a) Mausoleum of Sheykh Safi Ardebili
  (b) Pasargad
  (c) Naghsh-e-Rostam and Naghsh-e- Radjab
- Provincial officials of ICHO recommend nominations after evaluation against the WH Guidelines.

I.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning
- Cultural activities are organised to raise public awareness of properties’ heritage significance.

Participation of local communities
- There is no community participation in heritage protection, but some NGOs are involved under ICHO supervision.

Tourism Development
- The Iranian Travel & Tourist Organisation provides literature and trains guides.

Financial measures and budget allowance
- There is an annual budget for WH properties as part of the regular budget. No figures supplied.

Professional
- Approx. 1,300 people are employed in heritage management, conservation and presentation. There is a recognised need for more expertise and more links with the private sector.
- ICHO has its own Higher Education Center, and four universities offer BA and MA courses in heritage conservation. There are exchange arrangements with Oxford and Milan universities.
- More activities like the International Training Workshop on Earthen Architecture (Choga Zanbil 2002) are desirable.

New and improved services
- There are now regular inspections of World Heritage properties, an annual conservation workplan, and documentation of conservation treatments.

Issues to be addressed
- “Development is needed in the case of identification, research and conservation of sites.”

I.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising
- * International Assistance from WHF as follows:
  1986 $20,000 Technical, Photogrammetry Equipment (Tchogha Zanbil)
  1998 $15,000 Training, Stone Conservation (Persepolis)
  2001 $20,000 Training, Monitoring Seminar
  2002 $5,000 * Urban Conservation of Meidan Emam
- * Extra-budgetary funds mobilised by the UNESCO Division of Cultural Heritage include:
  1998-2003 US$587,853 Conservation, preservation TChogha Zanbil (Japan)

I.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures
- ICHO and local authorities produce literature, and organise events to raise awareness amongst decision-makers and the public.
- No school curriculum initiatives mentioned.
1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions

• Proposed future actions are concentrated on organising more training workshops, developing international exchanges with experts and obtaining exposure to new developments in conservation technology.

• Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed for organising international workshops and study visits to other World Heritage properties.