



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



PROVISIONAL AGENDA

5th UNESCO SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE SERIAL WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION OF THE SILK ROADS

**18 – 24 May 2009
Almaty, Kazakhstan**

Background and Workshop Objectives

In spite of its remarkable historical background and numerous historic and cultural sites in the region, Central Asia and western China remain one of the most under-represented regions on the World Heritage List, with no cultural or natural heritage properties from Kyrgyzstan or Tajikistan inscribed on the List.

As a follow-up to the Periodic Report for Asia, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS have been assisting States Parties in identifying new and under-represented categories of properties to be nominated for possible inscription on the World Heritage List. In this context, an initiative was launched in 2005 for the nomination of a serial and/or transnational World Heritage property representing the cultural phenomenon of the Silk Roads. The initiative involves for the time being six States Parties from East and Central Asia – the People's Republic of China and the Republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan – and has progressed over the last few years on the basis of a concept paper and through a number of regional workshops and preparatory work at the national level. At the same time, it is understood that the network of routes to which the name "Silk Roads" has been applied extended also beyond the land routes passing through the above-mentioned countries, and included land and sea routes in areas to their South (Indian Subcontinent), East (Korea, Japan) and West (Middle East, Caucasus and Mediterranean). The current initiative, therefore, might be seen as an initial step – and providing a methodological framework - towards a larger thematic initiative for the nomination of several other sites in many other countries.

As mentioned above, various consultation meetings among the participating countries were held in Turpan (August 2006, China), Samarkand (October 2006, Uzbekistan) and Dushanbe (April 2007, Tajikistan), where a "Concept Document for the Serial Nomination of the Silk Roads in Central Asia and China" was adopted. A Sub-regional Workshop on the Serial World Heritage Nomination of the Silk Roads was then jointly organized in Xi'an, China, from 2 to 5 June 2008 by the World Heritage Centre and China's State Administration of Cultural Heritage (SACH), in collaboration with the Xi'an Municipal Government of China, with financial support from the Netherlands Funds-In-Trust and the Italian Funds-In-Trust. The Workshop brought together the relevant authorities of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and China to further develop the preparation of Tentative Lists for cultural heritage sites along the Silk Roads. An action plan was developed during the Workshop to guide the work of the concerned States Parties. This Action Plan required the participating States Parties to carry out the following main activities:

- submit the national Tentative Lists of Silk Roads to the World Heritage Centre and ensure harmonization of the Tentative List (according to the Format adopted at the Xi'an Workshop);
- prepare statement of outstanding universal value for the potential sites to be included in the final World Heritage nomination and conduct comparative analysis;
- organize training activities on the introduction of overall management process and stress on legislation and documentation process.

Representatives and experts from Afghanistan, Japan and Mongolia also took part in the Workshop to discuss the possible future extension of the initiative to their countries.

It was agreed in Xi'an that another Sub-regional workshop on this initiative would be organized in one of the Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan or Kyrgyzstan) in spring 2009. With financial support from the UNESCO World Heritage Fund and the Norway Funds-In-Trust and in-kind contribution from the Kazakh authorities, thus, **a sub-regional Workshop will be organized in Almaty, Kazakhstan from 18 to 24 May 2009.**

This workshop aims to bring together the relevant authorities of each State Party in Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) and China, observers from

Afghanistan, India, Iran, Italy, Japan and other countries/institutions such as the International Institute for Central Asian Studies (IICAS, Samarkand, Uzbekistan) as well as international experts from UNESCO and ICOMOS. The objectives of the workshop are to:

- i. Review progress made by the participating countries in implementing the Action Plan as adopted in Xi'an in June 2008;
- ii. Further develop an agreed statement of outstanding universal value for the Silk Roads sites, identifying the criteria for inscription and assessing the conditions of authenticity and integrity. This will include consideration of the arguments that could be used to develop the required comparative analysis within the serial World Heritage nomination for the Silk Roads, both for the property as a whole and to justify the choice of the individual sites that compose it;
- iii. Discuss the implications of extending the nomination (or the future inscribed property) to sections of the Silk Roads in other regions of the world and agree on the most appropriate approach and process;
- iv. In light of the above, review and harmonize national Tentative Lists for the serial World Heritage nomination;
- v. Review, and agree on, the most appropriate standards for the documentation of the individual sites composing the property, as well as the most appropriate mechanism for ensuring a coordinated management of all the sites which would be part of the Nomination;
- vi. Exchange experiences on the preparation of the draft World Heritage nomination and agree on the next step for the serial WH nomination.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 18 MAY 2009

Arrival of international participants at Almaty International Airport, accommodation at the Hotel Alma-Ata

TUESDAY, 19 MAY 2009

08:30-09:30 Registration of participants

Plenary Session I **Opening Ceremony**
Chairperson:

09:30-10:30 Welcome speeches (UNESCO representative & officials of Kazak host)
Xx
Xx
XX

10:30-10:45 Introduction of the participants

10:45-11:00 Tea/coffee break

Plenary Session II **Introduction**

11:00-11:30 Introduction to objectives of the Workshop and adoption of the programme
Mr JING Feng, Asia and the Pacific Section, UNESCO World Heritage Centre

11:30-12:00 Presentation on the recent trends of serial and transnational World Heritage nominations and observation and suggestions on the Silk Roads World Heritage nomination
Mrs Susan DENYER, ICOMOS expert

12:00-12:30 Introduction of Silk Roads serial nomination process: Mr JING Feng, UNESCO World Heritage Centre

Observations and suggestions on the serial and transnational WH nomination of the Silk Roads
One regional expert

12:30-14:00 Lunch

Plenary Session III **Presentation by Country representatives**

Moderators: To be identified (TBI)

Each State Party will make a presentation on the progress made in implementing the Action Plan adopted at the Xi'an Workshop of 2008, including in preparing national Tentative Lists and preliminary drafting of texts for the serial and transnational nomination. Observer States Parties will also provide information on the status of the work within their countries.

14:00-14:30 Kazakhstan

14:30-15:00 Kyrgyzstan

15:00-15:30 Tajikistan

15:30-16:00	Turkmenistan
16:00-16:20	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:20-16:50	Uzbekistan
16:50-17:20	China
17:20-17:35	Afghanistan
17:35-17:50	Iran
17:50-18:05	Japan
18:05-18:20	India
18:20-19:00	Discussions on the formulation of a Working Group to finalize the Statement of Outstanding Universal (SoOUV) and advise on the harmonization of Silk Roads Tentative Lists submission.

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2009

08:00-09:00 *Breakfast*

Plenary Session IV
An agreed statement of outstanding universal value for the Silk Roads sites, identifying the criteria for inscription and assessing the conditions of authenticity and integrity
Moderators: TBI

09:00-09:30 Introduction of the concept of statement of OUV and providing guidance on the application of cultural criteria for the World Heritage nomination by Susan Denyer.

09:30-12:30 Discussions on the draft statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the Silk Roads sites, identifying the criteria for inscription and assessing the conditions of authenticity and integrity.

10:45-11:00 *Tea/coffee break*

11:00-12:30 Continuation of discussions

12:30-14:00 *Lunch*

Working Groups +Plenary V
Continuation of the discussion of an agreed statement of outstanding universal value for the Silk Roads sites, identifying the criteria for inscription and assessing the conditions of authenticity and integrity
Moderator +Rapporteurs, TBI

14:00-18:30 Small working group discussions on the SOUV with guidance of ICOMOS and WHC and then getting everybody together and having the Rapporteurs of each group making a presentation.

16:00-16:20 *Tea/coffee break*

16:20-18:30 Continuation of working group discussions

19:00-20:30 *Dinner*

THURSDAY, 21 MAY 2009

08:00-09:00 *Breakfast*

**Plenary
Session VI**

Discuss the comparative studies for the serial World Heritage nomination of the Silk Roads and implications of future extensions

Moderators: TBI

09:00-12:30

Presentation on the good comparative analysis in relation to the criteria retained under SoOUV, Susan Denyer

The participants will focus on the discussion of the comparative studies for the serial World Heritage nomination of the Silk Roads.

10:45-11:00

Tea/coffee break

11:00-12:30

Continuation of discussions

12:30-14:00

Lunch

**Drafting
Workshop**

Continuation of the discussion of the comparative studies for the serial World Heritage nomination of the Silk Roads

14:00-15:30

Small working group discussions on the comparative analysis of the Silk Roads as a whole and the individual sites selected against similar ones in other countries. Also, integrate the harmonization of national Tentative Lists in the process.

15:30-16:00

Tea/coffee break

16:00-18:30

Discuss the implications of extending the nomination to sections of the Silk Roads in other regions of the world and agree on the most appropriate approach and process for future extension(s).

19:00-20:30

Dinner

FRIDAY, 22 MAY 2009

08:00-09:00

Breakfast

**Plenary
Session VII**

Standards of documentations and coordination of the overall management mechanisms of the cultural heritage sites for the nomination

Moderators: TBI

09:00-9:30

Review of potential cultural heritage sites and suitable ways of documentations
Tim Williams, UCL, UK

9:30-10:45

Working group discussions and agree upon on the standards of cocumentations and the coordination of the overall management mechanisms of the cultural heritage sites of the Silk Roads

10:45-11:00

Tea/coffee break

11:00-12:30

Continuation of discussions

12:30-14:00

Lunch

Concluding session	Exchange of experiences on the preparation of the draft World Heritage nomination and agree on the next step for the serial WH nomination Moderators: TBI
14:00-15:30	Country presentations on the preparation of draft World Heritage nomination(s) and discussion on the possible way forward.
15:30-17:00	<i>Tea/coffee break</i> following by the break for the participants and drafting group may put together key results of the Workshop for review in the plenary.
17:00-19:00	Presentation on the main outcomes of the Workshop (to be drafted by UNESCO and ICOMOS+ Regional Expert +Rapporteurs)
Closing ceremony	
19:00-20:30	<i>Dinner on behalf of the Kazakh Ministry of Culture and Information</i>

SATURDAY, 23 MAY 2009

08:00-09:00 *Breakfast*

FIELD VISIT TO THE TAMGALY WORLD HERITAGE SITE

SUNDAY, 24 MAY

Departure from Almaty (in accordance with each participant's travel schedule), field visit to cultural heritage sites in Kyrgyzstan for UNESCO team.