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# World Heritage Patrimoine mondial

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CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD  
CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

CONVENTION CONCERNANT LA PROTECTION DU PATRIMOINE  
MONDIAL, CULTUREL ET NATUREL

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**Item 7 of the Provisional Agenda: State of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and/or on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

**Point 7 de l'Ordre du jour provisoire: Etat de conservation de biens inscrits sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial et/ou sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial en péril**

MISSION REPORT / RAPPORT DE MISSION

Kizhi Pogost (Russian Federation) (544)  
Kizhi Pogost (Fédération de Russie) (544)

20-25 February 2011  
20-25 Février 2011

This mission report should be read in conjunction with Document:  
Ce rapport de mission doit être lu conjointement avec le document suivant:

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**International Council on  
Monuments and Sites**

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**Conseil International  
des Monuments et des Sites**

**ICOMOS**

**REPORT ON THE REACTIVE MONITORING MISSION TO KIZHI POGOST**

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**20 - 25 February 2011**



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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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The mission members would like to especially thank the specialists of the Kizhi State Museum-Reserve for their exceptional hospitality, support, availability and assistance. They provided valuable information on the current situation of the World Heritage property during numerous working meetings and site visits. Particular thanks go to Ms Elvira V. Averianova, Director of the Kizhi State Museum-Reserve, who actively supported this mission and assisted in clarifying many of the complex issues.

Further thanks are due to the National Commission for UNESCO, in particular to Mr Grigory Ordjonikidze, Secretary-General, who made it possible to meet with other representatives from the expert community in Russia.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

In 1988 100 conservation experts of the ICOMOS International Wood and Vernacular Committees and the conservation specialists working group of socialist countries met at Petrozavodsk and Kizhi Pogost to discuss conservation strategies for this property. Two years later, in 1990, Kizhi Pogost was inscribed on the World Heritage List under criteria (i), (iv) and (v). A number of expert missions have taken place since 1990 to review the state of conservation of the property. All have highlighted the serious and specific challenges facing the property.

- **Issues:**

Since inscription the World Heritage Committee has on numerous occasions requested that:

- timber repair methods be changed
- that guiding principles for the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration that relate to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property be developed.
- an integrated Management Plan be developed for the property, and
- a Special State Board be established to coordinate the activities of stakeholders and agencies and the implementation of all World Heritage Committee's decisions concerning this property.

At its 34<sup>th</sup> session (34 COM 7B.94), the Committee noted with concern plans to develop new visitor facilities and a new visitor centre outside efforts to develop a property Management Plan and requested the State Party to prepare a detailed State of Conservation Report and progress report and a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value.

The Committee has repeated its concern over the continuing deterioration of the structural fabric of the Church of the Transfiguration, and has also reiterated its request to the State Party to progress on all issues mentioned over the previous decade. <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See Annex 5 for the full text of 34 COM 7B.94.

- **Strengths:**

Although there remain some significant gaps in the management of Kizhi Pogost World Heritage property and requests by the World Heritage Committee have been reiterated, there have been some improvements in recent years.

At its 34<sup>th</sup> session (Brasilia, 2009) the World Heritage Committee noted that:

- state funding had been secured;
- progress had been made on maintenance and monitoring.
- restoration works had begun on the Church of the Transfiguration.

Also, as requested by the Committee, the State Party submitted in **February 2011** a comprehensive status report <sup>2</sup> which responded to several of the requests made by the Committee over the last few years, including preliminary information on site boundaries and buffer zone, commencement of work on a Management Plan and the development of the restoration concept and status for the Church of the Transfiguration. The State Party's report also includes information on maintenance and protection of the Church of the Intercession and maintenance and protection of the Bell Tower.

The 2011 ICOMOS mission to Kizhi Pogost was invited by the National Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO in compliance with decision **34COM 7B.94**. The mission successfully concluded its technical review of the situation based on on-site visits, review of extensive documentation and working meetings with relevant stakeholders.

- **Observations of the mission:**

The mission noted that progress had been achieved in implementing or beginning to implement, some of the recommendations made by the Committee at its previous sessions. In particular, preparation and start of the overall restoration project for the Church of Transfiguration will, in time, address the continuing deterioration of the building and its impact on the authenticity and integrity of the property. The mission also noted the development and completion of risk preparedness measures, particularly fire protection.

Despite the start of the restoration project, the 2011 mission reiterates its serious concern about the state of conservation of the World Heritage property particularly with regard to the Church of Transfiguration. Due to the temporary steel structure, the building is not in danger of imminent collapse. However, the wooden fabric of the church is in an advanced and continuing state of deterioration. The project team have taken the recommendations of the 2010 mission into serious consideration and the technical review by the mission determined that the site preparations for conservation work to give the building permanent structural stability are well underway, the project has started and is progressing well. At the time of the mission (February 21-25, 2011) the 7<sup>th</sup> tier of logs (the lowest) has been removed, cleaned and assembled in the workshop for repair <sup>3</sup>. It is critical that work on the building not pause or be delayed if momentum is to be kept up and continuity maintained. If forward motion of the project is not maintained the risk of significant further loss of building fabric is extreme.

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<sup>2</sup> Titled, "The Detailed Report on preservation of Kizhi Pogost Monuments in 2010"

<sup>3</sup> Refer to Figures 1, 2,3,5,6,7.

Preventive maintenance work on the roof at the Church of the Intercession has been completed and work is underway on the porch <sup>4</sup>.

Despite its technical merits in several respects, the conservation project is strongly oriented to a series of technical solutions without explicit relation to the World Heritage property and its Outstanding Universal Value. Guiding Principles are needed to relate the conservation work to the key attributes of the property that convey its Outstanding Universal Value. Such principles will become increasingly important when they are needed to guide detailed decisions. It is essential for future decision making that Guiding Principles are developed on the basis of the Outstanding Universal Value and brought into the project.<sup>5</sup>

The mission noted that in order to preserve the Outstanding Universal Value of this property, it is essential that the implementation of the restoration project continue without delay. Delays will lead to loss of momentum, continuity, time and the risk of further loss of building fabric.

The mission also noted progress in the management of the Kizhi Museum Reserve. However, a number of measures based on the recommendations made by the Committee following the 2002 Workshop are yet to be fully implemented, in particular the development and implementation of a comprehensive Management Plan for the World Heritage property, which addresses tourism development, and is based on clear boundary and buffer zone definition among other things. The mission notes that work on these two documents has begun but will not be completed before 2012.

The mission regrets that further new development in the form of an artefact collection warehouse is being proposed for the island despite the World Heritage Committee's request in the 34<sup>th</sup> session that the State Party halt any development within the property and its setting in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

The initiative of the Kizhi Museum Reserve to establish a Special State Board to coordinate the implementation of World Heritage Committee decisions has been halted despite the World Heritage Committee's request to the State Party to establish this Board. The Museum Director explained that final approval of the membership of this board is with the Ministry of Culture.

The State Party's report included information on a skills and capacity building workshop presented for local carpenters. Although the Committee requested that the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies be involved, they were not invited to participate.

The Committee has regularly requested development of a fully integrated Management Plan for the site. The State Party reported that work on a Management Plan has been started - a summary outline was presented to the mission and is scheduled for completion in 2012. The mission noted that some elements of the management plan, for example fire protection, for the World Heritage Site are progressing well. Other parts of the management plan are badly needed and should be fully integrated. The Kizhi Museum reported that a tourism development plan and programme is part of the Management Plan for the World Heritage property now under development and which will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies for review and comments

As stated in previous missions and decisions of the Committee this integrated World Heritage Site Management Plan should address, in particular, the following issues:

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<sup>4</sup> Refer to Figures 4 & 8.

<sup>5</sup> For guiding principles refer to "Principles for the Preservation of Historic Timber Structures", ICOMOS, 1999 and "Kizhi Pogost – Conservation Concept Development Meeting", Helsinki, 1995.

- recognition of World Heritage Outstanding Universal Value as the core focus of all decision making for the site;
- emergence of new partners such as the Patriarchate whose full integration in decision making is critical; no official existing documents to date mention its involvement in management process;
- reference to the philosophical context within which decisions are to be made;
- the need to manage dramatically increasing tourism activity at the site in the context of maintaining its outstanding universal value;
- the need for design guidelines to ensure visitor facilities and other new buildings – if accepted as feasible - are compatible with the character of the site;
- land use and other aspects of development for visitor services or infrastructure
- overall enabling strategy related to risk preparedness and security;
- environmental issues, taking into account the World Heritage Committee recommendation of its 14<sup>th</sup> session in 1990 to maintain the present balance between the natural and built environment;
- definition of protected areas, site boundaries, buffer zones and related documentation;
- protection of the associated cultural landscape;
- care and protection of archaeological resources.

The State Party reported to the 2011 mission that a management plan, a land use plan, and efforts to more adequately define the buffer zone and protected areas were underway and would be completed in 2012.

The recommendations of the 2011 mission:

**Recommendation:**

The mission reiterates the recommendation of the 2010 mission that the State Party be requested to provide a detailed report on progress in preparing the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value and the draft Management Plan for presentation to the World Heritage Committee at its 36<sup>th</sup> session in 2012

**Recommendation**

The mission recommends that in order to preserve the Outstanding Universal Value of this property, it is essential that the implementation of the restoration project continue without interruption. Delays will result in further deterioration of the church, loss of momentum and continuity. The 7<sup>th</sup> tier should be repaired and reinstalled in the church by the end of 2011.

The mission also recommends that regular uploading of project photos to the web site previously set up for the purpose (2010) should continue as a very effective monitoring tool for the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre. .

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that the State Party and the Project Team urgently proceed with Stage 3 of the 7th Tier to allow the removed logs to be repaired and returned to their original positions in the building.

The mission further **recommends updating funding requirements** and the project schedule after completion of Stage 3 to ensure that **continuous financial support and approvals** will be provided for protection, restoration, and management of the property beyond 2014.

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that when contracting the work, the State Party investigate all possible means to ensure all bidding contractors have appropriate skills and quality

workmanship. It is also essential that the capacity of the museum carpentry staff be enhanced and maintained inside the framework of Russian tendering law.

**Recommendation**

The mission recommends that the State Party develop guiding conservation principles for the three buildings in the World Heritage property, based on their desired conservation state and the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, in order to take inform of decisions about repair, reinforcement and assembly approaches as well as a time frame for their implementation and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 November 2011**.

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that the State Party transmit preparation of the draft integrated Management Plan for review by the World Heritage Center and the Advisory Bodies before finalization by the State Party. The mission also recommends that all future construction development be deferred until the Management Plan has been completed and approved by the World Heritage Committee.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the Kizhi Museum develop and consider all options for artefact storage before selecting a solution to this problem. The analysis should also consider whether all collections must be on Kizhi Island for operational reasons, and the degree to which existing buildings can be used for this purpose.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the Kizhi Museum should ensure that tourism strategies which balance benefits with potential negative impacts.

It has been suggested by the State Party that the site be closed to visitors during the construction work. However, the 2010 "Detailed Report" indicates that limited visitor access has been provided successfully during 2010. The mission recommends that this should be continued if this can be done safely.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the Kizhi Museum include archaeological monitoring and rescue (or salvage) in the Management Plan, and archaeological monitoring and rescue archaeology should be implemented in areas impacted by construction.

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that capacity building and training should be implemented as a regular activity at the museum in the Management Plan.

**Recommendations:**

The 2011 mission recommends that the State Party submit draft documents on buffer zone boundaries and related protected areas for review by the World Heritage Center and the Advisory Bodies before final approval by the State Party.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that planning and design of **all** new construction should be done in the context of the overall Management Plan, land use plan and the need to maintain Outstanding Universal Value and protect the setting of the property. The design of new facilities – where feasible - must be done in accordance with standards and guidelines which regulate scale, massing, materials and siting to ensure compatibility with the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage property, its attributes and its setting.

#### Recommendation

The mission reiterates urgently its request to the State Party to establish a Special State Board to coordinate the implementation of World Heritage Committee decisions and other stakeholders.

#### Recommendation:

The mission recommends that the State Party implement the fire protection and security plans as presented because these will improve the level of protection and the quality of the environment near the World Heritage Site. Due to the added risk of fire during construction work the missions recommends that the State Party consider adding an indoor suppression system in the churches and the Bell Tower.

#### Recommendation

Taking into account the continuing efforts of the Kizhi Museum to improve maintenance, monitoring and development of infrastructure and progress with the conservation project, consideration of previous recommendations and beginning of work on land-use, buffer zones and the management plan, the mission recommends that Kizhi Pogost **not be inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2011**. However the mission also recommends that the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger could be discussed during the 36<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee if the State Party does not take into account its recommendations and has not implemented the necessary corrective measures in order to meet the recommendations identified during the 2010 and 2011 missions.

#### Recommendation

Given that the next 12 months will be a critical period if the Outstanding Universal Value of Kizhi Pogost is to be protected, the 2011 mission recommends that the planned follow-up monitoring mission in 2012 proceed in order to assess the progress of the conservation project and the development of the Management Plan in a timely fashion.

The mission recommends that regular uploading of project photos to the web site as previously set up for this purpose should continue as a very effective monitoring tool for the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre.

#### Recommendation

The mission recommends the State Party provide the next annual detailed "State of Conservation Report" on **1 February 2012**, before the 2012 mission takes place. This report should address the status of the various projects and all corrective measures.

#### Recommendation:

The mission recommends that the State Party continue its efforts to inform the world community about this project through its web site and other media.

## 1 BACKGROUND TO THE MISSION

### 1.1. Inscription History

The World Heritage property of Kizhi Pogost was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1990 (14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee).

The property is located on one of many islands in Lake Onega, in the Republic of Karelia. It comprises two 18th-century wooden churches (a winter church, the Church of the Transfiguration, a summer church, the Church of the Intercession), and a square bell tower, built in 1862, also in wood, and an enclosing pogost, or wall of stone and timber. These unusual constructions, in which carpenters created a bold visionary architecture, perpetuate an ancient model of parish space and are in harmony with the surrounding landscape.

The Committee made the following statement during the inscription of this site:

*“The Committee recommended that the authorities concerned maintain the present balance between the natural and built environment, since the introduction of new homes or wooden churches south of Kizhi Island alters the historical and visual characteristics of the site. The Committee congratulated the authorities concerned on the recent adoption of a conservation policy that is more in harmony with local traditions and expertise.”*

### 1.2. Inscription criteria and World Heritage values

The World Heritage Site of Kizhi Pogost was inscribed on the World Heritage List under criteria (i), (iv) and (v).

- **Criterion I:** Considered by Karelians as "the true eighth wonder of the world", Kizhi Pogost is indeed a unique artistic achievement. Not only does it combine two multi-cupola churches and a bell tower within the same enclosure, but these unusually designed, perfectly proportioned wooden structures are in perfect harmony with the surrounding landscape.

- **Criterion IV:** Among the five surviving pogosts in the extreme north-western Soviet territory, Kizhi Pogost offers an outstanding example of an architectural ensemble typical of medieval and post-medieval orthodox settlements in sparsely populated regions where evangelists had to cope with far-flung Christian communities and a harsh climate. Accessible by land or sea, the pogost grouped together religious buildings which could also be used for other occasional purposes; for example the narthex or nave served also as refectory and meeting hall. Another similar structure inspired by the same principles is the Scandinavian stavkirke.

- **Criterion V:** The pogost and the buildings that had been grouped together to form the site museum on the southern part of Kizhi are exceptional examples of the traditional wooden architecture of Karelia and more generally of that of northern Russia and the Finnish-Scandinavian region.

Russian carpenters, whose fame goes back to the Middle Ages to Novgorod, had carried the art of joinery to its apogee. Irreversible changes have caused this traditional skill to disappear. Hence, it is absolutely essential that ensembles like that of Kizhi Pogost be preserved for their illustrative value in the history of ancient techniques and for what they teach us of former ways of life.

### **1.3. Authenticity issues raised in the ICOMOS evaluation report at the time of inscription**

ICOMOS, aware of the exceptional beauty of the architectural landscape of Kizhi Pogost, recommended that the authorities responsible for the open air museum of history and architecture at Kizhi, (which currently receives 185,000 visitors a year), maintain the present balance between nature and the constructions. Adding homes or wooden churches to the southern end of the island of Kizhi would alter the historical and visual characteristics of the site.

ICOMOS, which followed with interest the previous restorations of Kizhi Pogost (reconstruction of the iconostasis of the Church of the Intercession during the 1950s; reconstruction by the architect Opolovnikov of the fortified enclosure in 1959), noted that in-depth studies were being conducted on the current restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration, whose interior was shored up and iconostasis dismantled in 1988, and that radically different projects have been proposed.

The members of the International ICOMOS Committees for the Conservation of Wood and for Vernacular Architecture, and the conservation specialists working group of socialist countries were invited to visit Kizhi in 1988. They subsequently drafted recommendations aimed at safeguarding to the greatest possible extent the structure's authentic elements: the logs, the planks, and the shingles regionally known as "lemekh".

### **1.4. Examination of the State of Conservation by the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau**

The state of conservation reports, as well as decisions of the World Heritage Committee adopted at its sessions from 14<sup>th</sup> (1990) to 34<sup>th</sup> (2010) are attached in Annex 5.

### **1.5. Justification of the mission**

The World Heritage Committee at its 34<sup>th</sup> session (July 2010) requested the State Party to invite an ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the property to assess its state of conservation.

The mission conducted by Mr. Andrew Powter, Mr. Sjur Helseth, Mr. Arnt Magne Haugen and Mr. Jørgen Holten Jørgensen, ICOMOS representatives met the representatives of the Russian National Commission for UNESCO, the museum Director and various members of the museum staff and the Project Team headed by Mr. Nicolaj Popov.

The Terms of Reference (Annex 1), Programme and composition of the mission team (Annex 2 and 3) of the mission are attached.

## **2 NATIONAL POLICY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY**

### **2.1. Protected area legislation**

Protected Area and Protective Legislation was outside the scope of the Terms of Reference of the 2011 mission so the 2011 mission has nothing further to report on this subject. Refer to the report on the 2010 mission.

## 2.2. Institutional framework

- **Coordination Mechanisms between Relevant Parties (refer also to the 2010 mission report)**

The 2010 mission concluded that the Russian federal authority (Ministry of Culture) has an overall responsibility for protection, of the World Heritage property. This was confirmed to the 2011 mission. Under this Federal authority the Direction of the Kizhi Pogost Museum-Reserve is in charge of monitoring and implementation of restoration works on the Kizhi Pogost monuments.

The 2010 mission was informed that the initiative of Kizhi Museum Reserve to establish a Special State Board to coordinate the implementation of World Heritage Committee decisions had been halted, despite the World Heritage Committee's request that the State Party establish this Board. The 2011 mission was informed that this board has been approved by all stakeholders except the Ministry Of Culture. The remaining matter to be resolved by the Minister of Culture of the Russian Federation is the precise membership of the board.

The 2010 mission noted the growing use of the site for religious purposes. The 2011 mission noted that the priest (Archpriest Nicolai Ozolin) in charge of the Kizhi Parish and the Patriarch have changed within the past year. This may result in a change of collaboration. The 2011 mission has no further information on this subject and recommends that future missions should address it with reference to the 2010 mission report.

- **New coordinating body for World Heritage Sites in Russia**

The Museum Director briefed the mission on establishment of a coordinating body for Russian World Heritage Sites, set up as an NGO to make up for the gap in Russian legislation which does not specifically apply to World Heritage Sites. Mr Makovetsky of the Russian Commission for UNESCO is to be President. Further information regarding the status, role and function of this body was not available.

## 3 IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF ISSUES / THREATS

### 3.1. Management

- **Management Plan**

At the present time there are 2 approved documents under which the site is managed:

- Master Plan 1972-95 (this plan has lost its status due to the transfer of the Kizhi Museum-Reserve to federal authority) and
- Technical and Economic Development Plan approved by the Government of Karelia on 1 March 2002.

Development of a new draft Master Plan was ordered by on 15 October 2003 by the Ministry of Culture of Karelia. The draft master plan was sent to the Ministry of Building of the Republic of Karelia in February 2004.

The 2010 mission noted documents (in Russian) presented by the Kizhi Museum (Master Plan of the Kizhi Museum Reserve and its protected area) but the State Party had not yet submitted this Master Plan for review at the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies. The 2011 mission received no information on the referenced Master Plan.

The World Heritage Committee has often repeated requests to develop a fully integrated Management Plan for the site, most recently at 34COM 7B.94.

The 2010 mission was informed about numerous documents concerning management of the Kizhi Museum Reserve and the restoration of the church of the Transfiguration, but none of these constitute a management and land use plan for the site. As a result, the 2010 and 2011 missions reaffirmed the urgent need for an integrated Management Plan to co-ordinate the activities of the many different stakeholders and agencies involved with site management, including the religious community, and recommended that this be developed on an urgent basis. Continuing unplanned development on Kizhi Island (see below) is another reason for the urgent need for a management plan.

The site manager informed the 2011 mission that the Institute of Economics of the Karelian Research Centre in Petrozavodsk has developed requirements and specifications for a Management Plan for the World Heritage site for the 2012 to the 2022 period. She tabled a summary which describes the objectives and the content of the plan. The finished and approved plan will be presented to the World Heritage Centre for review and approval in 2012. The summary table for the Management Plan is comprehensive and covers most of the required subjects including Outstanding Universal Value, The Quality Specifications require that the Management Plan be “developed in line with the recommendations of WHC-UNESCO” . Reference will be made to Finnish and German manuals for development of management plans for WHS. WHC and ICOMOS should also review the plan.

The 2011 mission advised the Kizhi Museum management team to expedite production of the plan and arrange for review of significant documents by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies at the draft stage **before** final approval at the Federal level. This is due to the difficulty of changing such documents after they have received Federal approval.

#### **Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the State Party expedite preparation of the draft integrated Management Plan for review by the World Heritage Center and the Advisory Bodies before finalization by the State Party.

The mission also recommends that all future construction development be deferred until the Management Plan has been completed and approved by the World Heritage Committee.

#### **. Buffer Zone and protected areas**

The 2011 mission was presented with draft and other documents containing:

- boundaries of the Buffer Zone
- boundaries of the World Heritage property
- boundaries of the protected areas
- development areas
- land use and regulations

The state of conservation report” for the end of 2010 (The Kizhi Federal Museum status report for 2010 “Detailed Report”, p. 5) also contains some information on this subject.

The presented documents are still drafts and were collected after the presentation and discussion. Boundaries of the protected natural landscape and the museum protected area coincide. The museum is awaiting approval by the Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation.

The mission notes that there has been progress on this subject. The mission advised that review and comment by the WHC and Advisory Bodies should precede final Federal Level approval

#### Recommendations:

The 2011 mission recommends that the State Party submit draft documents on buffer zone boundaries and related protected areas for review by the World Heritage Center and the Advisory Bodies before final approval by the State Party.

- **Land use and new development** (including landscape)

The mission was presented with a draft Land Use Plan in association with the buffer zone and protected area boundaries mentioned above. The preliminary Land Use Plan indicates five zones for construction development on the island. Defining these areas is a significant development in the planning process, however, the mission is concerned that the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value is not yet available and the regulations in the plan are not sufficiently precise. These proposed regulations control the use and location of buildings and development areas but not the physical properties or design of new buildings and infrastructure. Land use regulations should include the design characteristics of new development including visibility analysis, massing, materials, etc. While identification of land-use areas is important, the regulations regulating activities in each zone is crucial.

At the present time the mission is aware of following facilities being planned.

1. New visitor facility
2. Loading terminal at the north end of Kizhi Island.
3. New pier for tourist boats.
4. Warehouse for the artefact collection.
5. New fire command centre for protection of the Pogost ensemble.
6. New housing for the staff.

Other developments which have been implemented in the past without the benefit of a management plan and land use regulations include the carpentry workshop facilities and the new fire station.

The mission did not receive any new information on 1, 2 and 3, except that the visitor facilities building, subject of comments in the 2010 mission report, is being redesigned. A short presentation was made on the artefact warehouse to explain the requirements and the intended location of the planned artefact warehouse (see below)

#### Recommendations:

The mission recommends that planning and design of **all** new construction should be done in the context of the overall Management Plan, land use plan and the need to maintain Outstanding Universal Value and protect the setting of the property. The design of new facilities – where feasible - must be done in accordance with standards and guidelines which regulate scale, massing, materials and siting, to ensure compatibility with the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage property, its attributes and its setting.

- **Collection warehouse**

The Kizhi Museum presentation on the Artifact Collection Warehouse described the requirement for an environmentally controlled facility on the island to reduce seasonal relocation of artefacts between Kizhi Island and Petrozavodsk. The facility will include limited conservation workshops. The requirement is a reasonable one although it appears that not all artefacts (archaeological collections, for example) need to be kept close at hand on a daily basis.

The chosen site for this building is in the previously impacted “industrial area” close to the existing carpentry workshop and on the site of an existing timber storage shed. This zone is identified in the draft Land Use Plan as suitable for activities which “directly support conservation and protection of cultural resources”. The zone around the workshop is already impacted by previous development. The mission team travelled to the high ground nearby to

assess visibility and sightlines. The mission members agreed that the proposed location is the only place on the island where it is possible to place a building of this size. Due to the terrain and vegetation (in summer) visibility of this area is limited. The mission explained that this kind of analysis had a place in the land use plan. The mission suggested that options such as the use of existing historic buildings for this storage and the design characteristics of scale, massing and materials be taken into consideration. This point is in line with the Committee's concern regarding design of new construction (34 COM 7B.94) and *Operational Guidelines for World Heritage Sites*, paragraph 172. .

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the Kizhi Museum develop and consider all options for artefact storage before selecting a solution to this problem. The analysis should also consider whether all collections must be on Kizhi Island for operational reasons, and the degree to which existing buildings can be used for this purpose.

**. Tourism Management Strategy**

The 2010 mission noted efforts of the Kizhi Museum Reserve to improve tourist management. Visitation statistics are kept and the site limits the number of cruise ships to 6 at one time. The 2011 mission did not receive a tourism strategy for review although "Tourism Impact" is mentioned in part "4. Threats" of the summary management plan specification mentioned above. It is not clear that the concept and ramifications of "tourism impact" is well understood by museum staff in a way that translates into direct impact on the monuments.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the Kizhi Museum should ensure that tourism strategies balance benefits with potential negative impacts.

It has been suggested by the State Party that the site be closed to visitors during the construction work. However, the 2010 "Detailed Report" indicates that limited visitor access has been provided successfully during 2010. The mission recommends that this should be continued if this can be done safely.

**• Archaeological program and monitoring**

The Kizhi Museum Direction presented to the 2010 mission archaeological research carried out on the territory of the Reserve. The 2011 mission highlighted the need for archaeological monitoring and rescue particularly in areas impacted by construction directly under the Church of the Transfiguration. The 2010 "Detailed Report" described a small archaeological investigation adjacent the church.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the Kizhi Museum include archaeological monitoring and rescue (or salvage) in the Management Plan, and rescue archaeology should be implemented in areas impacted by construction.

**• Risk Preparedness** (fire prevention, detection, alarm & suppression; intrusion; lightning; visitor safety).

In 2009, a draft plan «Decreasing emergency situations on Kizhi Pogost» was developed in the Kizhi Museum. «Sever Stroy Project, » Company developed a project for an outdoor fire protection system for Kizhi Pogost and other wooden monuments under contract with the Kizhi Museum in 2009. This project includes the following:

- water supply point with a pumping station (water delivery at 200 liters per second);

- office with a centralized TV monitoring system which integrates all of the monitoring and control systems (alarm, video surveillance, remote control of the fire protection system, emergency power supply and others);
- circular water supply with fire robots;
- systems of video surveillance, alarm and control of Pogost monuments and engineering systems.

In 2010 the State Party reported that the management of the site security system is carried out by the personnel of the Security of the Kizhi Museum, Subdivision of the General Board of Ministry for Civil Defense, Emergency Management, and Natural Disasters Response of the Russian Federation and the Subdivision of Ministry of Internal Affairs for the Republic of Karelia.

The concept for the fire protection and security system described in the project had been previously approved in the All-Russia Research Institute of Fire Protection Technologies. Upon completion of the expert examination of this project, the Kizhi Museum plans to start construction of the outdoor fire protection system in 2011. Plans for upgrading the outdoor monitoring and fire extinguishing system as well as the plans for a new underground command center south of the church were presented to this mission. This system includes interior and exterior sensors and automated fire suppression monitors which are directed to the two churches and the Bell Tower. This new system has the added benefit that it moves the control centre to underground in a location some 300 metres south of the present above ground complex of buildings, wharfs, generator and moored fireboats. The existing facility will be removed, considerably enhancing the character of the area immediately adjacent to the Pogost.

With regard to the fire station, the mission notes that the upgrading of the fire station is completed and the capacity of the brigade and the equipment is impressive. This unit is well trained and equipped and has a response time of approximately four minutes.

The 2011 mission noted that fire protection measures are getting close attention. Although equipped with a detection system the mission pointed out the need for an indoor extinguishing system in the churches and the bell tower.

**Recommendation:**

The 2011 mission recommends that the State Party implement the fire protection and security plans as presented because these will improve the level of protection and the quality of the environment near the World Heritage Site. Due to the added risk of fire during construction work the mission recommends that the State Party consider adding an indoor suppression system in the churches and the Bell Tower.

- **Monitoring, documentation and maintenance.**

Since the 2010 mission, documentation and monitoring has continued particularly with respect to identifying locations and monitoring movement during the project on the Church of the Transfiguration. A geodetic survey has been completed on all three buildings to allow tracking of movement. No changes in height or rotation have been found.

In October and November 2010, Atrim Co., Ltd of St Petersburg carried out 3D laser scanning of the Church in its “as-found” position prior to dismantling the lower tier of logs.

The mission was briefed on completion of a detailed recording and condition survey of the VII tier of logs which was dismantled and relocated to the pre-assembly and repair facility at the workshop as Stage 1 and Stage 2. The 2011 missions noted that this is an impressive piece of work and commends the Project Team for it. (refer to 3.2 Factors Affecting the Property..., below, Annex 4 Guidelines for selecting log repair methods – Addendum February 25, 2011)

(See also the 2010 mission report and the State Party “State of Conservation report” for 2010)

- **Consultations with stakeholders, experts and NGOs**

Kizhi Pogost is a high profile and valued site in Karelia and Russia. It is normal that project activities there will raise the attention of other experts in the field, stakeholders, NGOs and the various media.

At the request of the UNESCO Moscow Office the World Heritage Centre requested that the 2011 mission meet with selected interested persons. On February 25 the mission met in Petrozavodsk with A. B. Popov and B.P. Orfinsky. E. Shurin was invited but did not attend.

The participants expressed their concerns about several aspects of the current project, past projects at Kizhi and management of World Heritage Sites in Russia. They particularly felt the need to be included rather than excluded from the project.

The mission drew some conclusions from this meeting. Some concerns expressed by the group were based on inaccurate, obsolete or misleading information. In other cases, their concerns were identical to those of the Mission and the WHC. In still others, their expectations or goals for the project are identical to those held for several years by ICOMOS.

One subject we disagree on is that the project should be halted for a complete reassessment. In the opinion of the mission this would place the integrity of the Kizhi churches in great danger.

In the opinion of this mission it would be useful if, for example, the Kizhi Museum held periodic briefing workshops at key stages of the work for interested public, experts and NGOs. Such workshops could explain what has been done, why it has been done, what should happen in the future and provide an opportunity for dialogue.

- **Capacity building**

The mission noted that the recommendations on training and education of carpenters have been followed with the exception that the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS were not involved. A 72 hour training course was developed and presented for the carpenters. The course covered:

- properties of wood,
- restoration of wood monuments,
- traditional carpentry,
- diagnosis and treatment of wood defects,
- fire safety.

This training was reported in the “State of Conservation, 2010” report p, 17.

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that capacity building and training should be implemented as a regular activity at the museum in the Management Plan.

- **Funding and approvals**

The «Plan of Measures for Maintenance and Protection of Kizhi Pogost Monuments (Kizhi Island, the Republic of Karelia) and development of infrastructure of the Kizhi Open-Air Museum of Architecture and Cultural History» was approved by the order of the Government of the Russian Federation № 1633-p on 7 November in 2008. This order guarantees government financing of programmes for protection, restoration, and development of infrastructure of the site during 2008-2014, including the multiyear financial allocations for the following activities:

- restoration of the Kizhi architectural ensemble - 334 mln. RUB;
- protection of Kizhi Pogost monuments- 62, 2 mln. RUB,
- preservation of Kizhi Pogost surroundings - 166, 3 mln. RUB.
- documentation development for the town planning and site boundary- 4,0 mln.RUB.

However, the 2011 mission has learned that other administrative requirements cause project approval to be given on a stage-by-stage basis. For example Stages 1 and 2 for dismantling the VII tier walls is approved and complete. Stage 3, repair and reinstalling in the building is funded but not yet approved. Although funds and approvals are flowing for various projects the major project at the Church of the Transfiguration is awaiting approval of its 3rd stage.

- this could result in delays in progress of the overall project,
- taking into account the scope of overall restoration/conservation work needed, current government financing to 2014 might not take the work to completion.

The 2011 mission and the Project Team estimate that the project will require five years to complete.. Approval delays may add still more time to the project with risk to schedule and continuity of management.

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that the State Party and Project Team urgently proceed with Stage 3 of the 7th Tier to allow the removed logs to be repaired and returned to their original positions in the building.

The mission further recommends updating funding requirements and the project schedule after completion of Stage 3 to ensure that continuous financial support and approvals will be provided for protection, restoration, and management of the property beyond 2014.

<b>3.2. Factors affecting the property</b>
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- **Statement of Outstanding Universal Values**

The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value is the reference point and focus of all decisions made at the site and should be the basis for developing the integrated Management Plan, project plans and other management activities and decisions. In January of 2011 the draft statement of Outstanding Universal Value for Kizhi Pogost World Heritage property was submitted to the World Heritage Center by the State Party for review. The 2011 mission was unable to clarify if this was considered by the State Party to be a draft or final document. It is urgent that the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value be finalized as soon as possible within the World Heritage Centre/ Advisory Body review process so it can play its key role in management planning for the property.

- **The condition of the churches**

The State Party maintains that the Church is not at risk due to the steel reinforcing structure installed in 1988. While this provides structural support, it does nothing to prevent ongoing deterioration of the fabric of the building. The *Outstanding Universal Value* of the Kizhi Pogost is still threatened by the deteriorated condition of the fabric of the Church of the Transfiguration and the Church of the Intercession.

The ongoing project is a response to this threat but there is strong potential for delays for a variety of reasons. Any delay at this critical stage would result in loss of continuity and a possible reassessment and change of approach. The work is going well and it should continue without interruption..

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that in order to preserve the Outstanding Universal Value of this property, it is essential that the implementation of the restoration project continue without interruption. Delays will result in further deterioration of the church, loss of momentum and continuity. The 7<sup>th</sup> tier should be repaired and reinstalled in the church by the end of 2011.

The mission also recommends that regular uploading of project photos to the web site set up for the purpose should continue as a very effective monitoring tool for the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre.

- **Concept plan and the project for restoration the Church of the Transfiguration**

The 2010 State Party "Detailed Report" is comprehensive and provides a detailed description of many aspects of the project and its progress. The mission notes that stages 1 and 2 are complete. These stages include lifting the church, removing approximately 12 lower layers of logs to the workshop and reassembling them, ready for individual repair. Stage 3, not yet begun will include reinstalling these logs in the church.

The project team has responded positively to the recommendations of the 2010 mission, regarding repair methods for logs. Detailed log by log and wall by wall analysis of the lower layers has been completed and was discussed. The document presented was an excellent foundation for discussing principles of the restoration as well as repair decisions for individual logs and assemblies.

The mission reviewed the plan to remove the more serious deformation of the Church of the Transfiguration, including reshaping of the layout. In the opinion of the mission these realignments are necessary even though they may result in challenges higher in the building.

Also on the positive side, the mission notes that the required infrastructure is operating. At the Church of Transfiguration, major work on the refectory is underway.

The mission noted that there is ongoing restoration work on several small buildings around the island.

- **Maintenance program at the Church of the Intercession**

At the Church of Intercession, repair work on the roof and domes has been completed and repair on the porch is ongoing. Interior stabilization has been installed. Maintenance, monitoring and management are being carried out.

- **Contracting:**

The mission was briefed on the matter that Russian law require use of competitive tenders on a lowest-cost basis for larger projects. This approach could present a real threat to the quality of the restoration work, as well as capacity building for the staff. There is also a contradiction between the need of high quality work on national monuments and the lowest cost tender system. The mission offered several suggestions for ensuring all bidders on such tenders are qualified and aware of the standard of quality expected from them.

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that when contracting the work, the State Party investigate all possible means to ensure appropriate skills and quality workmanship. It is also essential that the capacity of the museum carpentry staff be protected and maintained inside the framework of Russian tendering law.

- **Loss of agricultural function of land**

The use of land has changed in recent years, consequently very limited agriculture is being practiced and the land is reverting to its natural state. The detailed report mentions that regular clearing of landscape is being done but the mission is concerned that the issue does not get enough attention.

## **4 ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF THE SITE**

### **4.1. Review whether the values, on the basis of which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List are being maintained**

#### **The overall state of conservation of the property**

The ICOMOS experts, during their works at Kizhi Pogost in 1993-1995, stressed the need to start major repair and restoration works. Due to the lack of any restoration works during these 17 years, the overall structural stability of the wooden monument has become more fragile. At the present time the fabric and structure of the Church of the Transfiguration is in an advanced state of deterioration. Considerable historic fabric will have to be replaced during the course of the project but the monument **is not in danger of imminent collapse**.

The conservation work to give the building a permanent structural stability has started and is progressing. The building has been lifted and the bottom 12 layers of logs removed and reassembled in the workshop. Extensive workshops and other infrastructure have been established; steps have been taken to reduce the rate of insect attack and decay; conservation work has started on the Refectory part of the Church of the Transfiguration and the 7<sup>th</sup> tier of logs, that is the first 12 layers at the base of the church. Continuity and progress of the project are critical to maintaining the values of the property. A preventative maintenance program has been started on the Church of the Intercession.

Conservation of the iconostasis and icons is well advanced.

- **Implementation of the main stages of the restoration of the Transfiguration Church**

The 2010 mission made several recommendations regarding the proposed approach to repair or replacement of logs. The project team has acted upon these recommendations. The tendency to retain historic fabric is still strong, however the mission continues to stress other areas of authenticity, integrity and value.

Infrastructure and changing land-use continues to represent a threat to the World Heritage property's landscape context. These threats take two forms – disappearance of agriculture from the island and the need for and construction of infrastructure (facilities or housing).

The 2007 mission noted that delegated authorities and predictable funding for the duration of the project were obstacles but by the 2010 mission these issues had largely been addressed, and work had begun on infrastructure and smaller projects. The 2011 mission notes that funds are flowing to the project and appear to be adequate. However, the threat of delays due to delayed approvals continues to be a concern. The mission noted this with regard to approval to proceed with Stage 3 work on the 7<sup>th</sup> tier.

In order to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the Church, the 2010 mission recommended that the approach to the repair of individual logs based on gluing and patching be modified to accommodate the natural movement properties of wood. The 2011 mission reports that the recommended changes have been made as well. Discussion of repair

techniques continues and is reflected in the amended guidelines on log repair in Annex 4. The approach to log repair should be documented as part of the Conservation Approach for the building.

The workshop facilities and the building lifting equipment are now operational. These facilities and equipment will support the consecutive stage-by-stage restoration of the seven structural tiers of the church.

- **Project schedule**

A project schedule in which the main stages of the work are broken down, described and scheduled is now available. The mission considered that this needed to be modified and updated to take account of all 2010 and 2011 mission comments and recommendations.

- **Concept plan for restoration the Church of the Transfiguration**

Despite its technical excellence in many respects, the conservation project is strongly oriented to a series of technical solutions without any explicit relation to the World Heritage property and its Outstanding Universal Value. Guiding Principles are needed that relate the conservation work to the key attributes of the property that convey its Outstanding Universal Value. Such principles will become increasingly important when they are needed to guide detailed decisions. It is essential for future decision making that Guiding Principles are developed on the basis of a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value and brought into the project. In 2007 the Kizhi Museum Reserve described in its report how the level of integrity of the restored church can be guided by a number of key integrity statements:

- “the integrity of the church means that not a single detail of the church would be lost during the restoration;
- the integrity of the church means that the authentic members of the church would be restored with the maximum preservation of original shape and materials;
- the integrity of the church means that the authentic members of the church would obtain the ability to operate with optimal working load;
- the integrity of the church means that the cultural history would be preserved safely without any chances of destruction of its separate members during the restoration”.

After inspecting activities in the workshop and the pilot project on the Granary building, the 2010 mission noted that the interpretation of these principles is seriously problematic. The integrity statements under which the museum is operating balance concern for “original shape and materials” but on site application provides a strong emphasis on maximum protection of authentic historic material only. The Operational Guidelines requires balance in the different aspects of authenticity (point 82) and the ICOMOS Charter for conservation of historic timber structures establishes general principles in conserving timber structures and requires consideration of a more holistic solution (points 5, 8 and 9). The importance of authentic design and character is needed to be balanced with concerns about authentic material. All of this should be reflected in the Integrity and Authenticity sections of a retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value. While the project team have acknowledged these points, the Guiding Principles have still not been developed.

## 5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 Review any follow-up measures by the State Party to previous decisions of the World Heritage Committee on the state of conservation of the property and measures which the State Party plans to take to protect the outstanding universal value of the property

### 5.2. Recommendations for action by the State Party

The 2011 mission noted that there are still a number of issues at Kizhi Pogost World Heritage Site. Although a draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage property was submitted in January 2011, a number of the goals and deadlines set by the WHC in 2010 have not been met.. Most significant among these is a draft integrated Management Plan of the World Heritage property, including a tourism strategy, measures for monitoring the state of archaeological resources, measures for management of the agricultural landscape, risk preparedness measures, land-use and clear boundary and buffer zone definitions. Work on the Management Plan has begun, but it is at the very early stages and not scheduled for completion until 2012. Meanwhile proposals for new visitor and infrastructure development continue to be developed. These are serious shortcomings as these are essential World Heritage Site management tools.

Visitor facilities have been put on hold but another new project has been proposed.

The most critical issue at Kizhi Pogost World Heritage Site is the threatened state of the Church of the Transfiguration. The mission considered Sections 177-191 of the Operational Guidelines and concluded that if the current loss of fabric and design features is not halted the Outstanding Universal Value of the site of the site will be threatened. A project to conserve the churches has been funded by the State Party and is underway but is still at the early stages. The project has strong potential to address deterioration of fabric and structural deterioration over the 2011-2014 period but it is subject to delays such as the present delay in starting Stage 3 of the 7<sup>th</sup> tier.

At this stage of the project, delays will threaten the churches by allowing deterioration to continue, and cause loss of momentum and continuity. The project technical preparatory work is at a good stage. In order for this effort not to be wasted and the Outstanding Universal Value of the Church be protected, it is essential that the implementation of the project continue in a timely fashion, and that progress in this respect be closely monitored.

The 2011 mission notes that although positive progress has been made, 2011 – 12 will be a critical year for the Kizhi Pogost World Heritage property. The previously recommended joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission in 2012 is required in order to monitor these aspects of the project

The World Heritage Committee recommended changes to the approach to repair of timber and assemblies in accordance with ICOMOS guidelines. The project team has changed its approach to timber repair.

The project at Kizhi Pogost is one of the most challenging wood structure projects in the world today from both a technical and conservation point of view. The present web site at [www.kizhi.karelia.ru](http://www.kizhi.karelia.ru) is an excellent step toward sharing the project with the world heritage community.

## The recommendations of the 2011 mission:

### **Recommendation:**

The mission repeats the recommendation of the 2010 mission that the State Party be requested to provide a detailed report on progress in preparing the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value and the draft Management Plan for presentation to the World Heritage Committee at its 36<sup>th</sup> Session in 2012.

### **Recommendation**

The mission recommends that in order to preserve the Outstanding Universal Value of this property, it is essential that the implementation of the restoration project continue without interruption. Delays will result in further deterioration of the church, loss of momentum and continuity. The 7<sup>th</sup> tier should be repaired and reinstalled in the church by the end of 2011.

The mission also recommends that regular uploading of project photos to the web site previously set up for the purpose (2010) should continue as a very effective monitoring tool for the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre..

### **Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that the State Party and Project Team urgently proceed with Stage 3 of the 7th Tier to allow the removed logs to be repaired and returned to their original positions in the building.

The mission further recommends updating funding requirements and the project schedule after completion of Stage 3 to ensure that continuous financial support and approvals will be provided for protection, restoration, and management of the property beyond 2014.

### **Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that when contracting the work, the State Party investigate all possible means to ensure all bidding contractors have appropriate skills and quality workmanship. It is also essential that the capacity of the museum carpentry staff be protected and maintained inside the framework of Russian tendering law.

### **Recommendation**

The mission recommends that the State Party develop guiding conservation principles for the three buildings in the World Heritage property, based on their desired conservation state and the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, in order to inform decisions about repair, reinforcement and assembly approaches as well as a time frame for their implementation and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 November 2011.

### **Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that the State Party expedite preparation of the draft integrated Management Plan for review by the World Heritage Center and the Advisory Bodies before finalization by the State Party. The mission also recommends that all future construction development be deferred until the Management Plan has been completed and approved by the World Heritage Committee.

### **Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the Kizhi Museum develop and consider all options for artefact storage before selecting a solution to this problem. The analysis should also consider whether all collections must be on Kizhi Island for operational reasons, and the degree to which existing buildings can be used for this purpose.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the Kizhi Museum should ensure that tourism strategies balance benefits with potential negative impacts.

It has been suggested by the State Party that the site be closed to visitors during the construction work. However, the 2010 "Detailed Report" indicates that limited visitor access has been provided successfully during 2010. The mission recommends that this should be continued if this can be done safely.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the Kizhi Museum include archaeological monitoring and rescue (or salvage) in the Management Plan, and archaeological monitoring and rescue archaeology should be implemented in areas impacted by construction.

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that capacity building and training should be implemented as a regular activity at the museum in the Management Plan.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that the State Party submit draft documents on buffer zone boundaries and related protected areas for review by the World Heritage Center and the Advisory Bodies before final approval by the State Party.

**Recommendations:**

The mission recommends that planning and design of **all** new construction should be done in the context of the overall Management Plan, land use plan and the need to maintain Outstanding Universal Value and protect the setting of the property. The design of new facilities – where feasible - must be done in accordance with standards and guidelines which regulate scale, massing, materials and siting to ensure compatibility with the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage property, its attributes and its setting.

**Recommendation**

The mission reiterates urgently its request to the State Party to establish a Special State Board to coordinate the implementation of World Heritage Committee decisions and other stakeholders.

**Recommendation:**

The mission recommends that the State Party implement the fire protection and security plans as presented to the mission because these will improve the level of protection and the quality of the environment near the World Heritage Site. Due to the added risk of fire during construction work the mission recommends that the State Party consider adding an indoor suppression system in the churches and the Bell Tower.

**Recommendation**

Taking into account the continuing efforts of the Kizhi Museum to improve maintenance, monitoring and development of infrastructure and progress with the conservation project, consideration of previous recommendations and beginning of work on land-use, buffer zones and the management plan, the mission recommends that Kizhi Pogost **not be inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2011**. However the mission also recommends that the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger could be discussed during the 36<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee if the State Party does not take into account its recommendations and has not implemented the necessary corrective measures in order to meet the recommendations identified during the 2010 and 2011 missions.

#### **Recommendation**

Given that the next 12 months will be a critical period if the Outstanding Universal Value of Kizhi Pogost is to be protected, the 2011 mission recommends that the planned follow-up monitoring mission in 2012 proceed in order to assess the progress of the conservation project and the development of the management plan in a timely fashion. .

The mission also recommends that regular uploading of project photos to the web site as previously set up for the purpose should continue as a very effective monitoring tool for the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre..

#### **Recommendation**

The mission recommends the State Party provide the next annual detailed “State of Conservation Report” on February 1, 2012, before the 2012 mission takes place. This report should address the status of the various projects and all corrective measures.

#### **Recommendation:**

The mission also recommends that the State Party continue its efforts to inform the world community about this project through its web site, <http://kizhi/karelia.ru> and other media.

ANNEX 1  
**REPORT ON THE REACTIVE MONITORING MISSION TO KIZHI POGOST  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
BY  
ICOMOS**

**February 20-25, 2011**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. Carry out a reactive monitoring mission, as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session (34 COM 7B.94), to assess the state of conservation of the World Heritage property of the Kizhi Pogost, Russian Federation, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1990;

2. Review the overall situation of the property of the Kizhi Pogost with regard to the state of conservation of the property and specifically any factors affecting the Outstanding Universal Value, authenticity and integrity of the property;

3. Review the status of any developments within the property, its setting and protected areas of the Kizhi Museum-Reserve (including possible new visitor facilities and a new visitor centre) and their possible impact on the Outstanding Universal Value, authenticity and integrity of the property;

3bis. Review the proposal for a new storage building for the museum's movable objects and assess the need for such facility on the island, the feasibility and impact of trying to meet storage needs within existing structures and the possible impact of such storage building on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, its character and setting;

4. Review implementation of all recommendations outlined in the World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission report of April 2010, including the correctives measures identified in that report, as requested by the Committee in its decision 34 COM 7B.94;

5. Review the conservation approach being taken to the Church of the Transfiguration to date, including:

- Conformity of current State Party restoration efforts to the restoration concept reviewed by the Committee and approved in previous sessions of the Committee;
- The extent and quality of timber repair restoration efforts undertaken since the mission of April 2010 relative to accepted international standards for such work (as embodied in the guidelines document provided by ICOMOS following that mission) and their impact on the Outstanding Universal Value, authenticity and integrity of the property ;

6. Review specifically status of State Party efforts (as requested by the Committee in its 34th session:

- To revise their timber repair and assembling methods for the Church of the Transfiguration in accordance with the guidelines document provided by ICOMOS following the mission of April 2010:

- To define guiding principles for the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration that relate to the authenticity and Outstanding Universal Value of the property;

7. Evaluate the progress made concerning the preparation of an integrated management plan for Kizhi Pogost, including a tourism strategy (in particular with regard to any eventual threat to the property from the fluvial tourism), risk preparedness measures; archaeological resource management, protection of the landscape setting, and clear boundary and buffer zone definitions in relation to the protected areas of the Kizhi Museum Reserve, monitoring measures and mechanisms, all as requested by the Committee in its 34th session;

8. Evaluate the progress made concerning the establishment of a Special State Board in charge of coordinating the activities of the many different stakeholders and agencies involved with the overall management of the World Heritage property, as requested by the Committee in its 34th session;

9. Evaluate the status of efforts by the Kizhi Museum Reserve, to collaborate with the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and the UNESCO Moscow office, to develop a capacity building programme for local experts involved in restoration and management activities in the Kizhi Museum Reserve, as encouraged by the Committee in its 34th session;

10. Prepare a detailed joint report considering Operational Guidelines paragraphs 178-186 (List of World Heritage in Danger), specifically reviewing the possibility of inclusion of the property in the List of World Heritage in Danger, including a desired state of conservation, a set of corrective measures, as well as a timeframe for their implementation for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 36th session in 2012, with a view of considering in the absence of substantial progress the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

## ANNEX 2

### Composition of the ICOMOS mission team

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## ANNEX 3

# REPORT ON THE REACTIVE MONITORING MISSION TO KIZHI POGOST RUSSIAN FEDERATION BY ICOMOS

20-25 February 2011

## Guidelines for Selecting Log Repair at Kizhi Pogost amended February 27, 2011.

By Andrew Powter, Sjur Helseth, Arnt Magne Haugen – ICOMOS.

### **Background**

The ICOMOS members of the 2010 mission offered to write some criteria to assist the project carpenters with making decisions about repairs during the project. These criteria are based on internationally recognized charters, standards, guidelines *and personal experience* for management of cultural property constructed of wood logs. Site staff are invited to consult The “Operational Guidelines for Implementation of the World Heritage Convention”, Section 82 at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines/> and ICOMOS Charter: “Principles for the Preservation of Historic Timber Structures (1999)” at [http://www.international.icomos.org/charters/wood\\_e.htm](http://www.international.icomos.org/charters/wood_e.htm) and Appendix 1.

*The 2011 mission found that the guidelines from the last mission have been fully considered by the project team, and found to be useful. During the mission some questions were raised by the project team so the mission has added additional log repair guidelines to this annex. The purpose of the added information is to expand and clarify the guidelines and to deal with new situations encountered over the past year. Criteria added by the 2011 mission are written in italics.*

### **Introduction**

During the UNESCO WHC/ICOMOS mission to Kizhi Pogost April 5-7, 2010, site staff made strong emphasis on conservation of authentic historic building fabric as the most important factor when deciding on repair methods. We found that this led to:

- large numbers of individual repairs in single logs;
- use of repairs which are not compatible with the shape, anatomy and natural characteristics of the wood
- *repairs that are not compatible with building traditions in the region*
- and use of adhesives, consolidants and other chemicals (some not yet tested).

This is an example of putting too much emphasis on “authenticity of fabric” when it is not warranted and causing major impact on “authenticity of design and character” of the buildings (figure 1). The goal should be to maximize protection of both forms of authenticity in a good balance rather than one at the expense of the other. The main reason for repairing a log is to restore its ability to carry out its structural function. When it cannot perform that function due to *natural deterioration processes* repair or replacement is necessary. When it can perform it, repair or replacement is not necessary.

### **Purpose of these criteria**

The purpose of these criteria is to assist the staff at Kizhi Pogost to make stronger conservation decisions about log repair and replacement for various museum projects which protect the character of the buildings they are working on and improving their durability. These criteria will help in balancing the various requirements to achieve good conservation practice.

## General Criteria

1. Extremes - There are two extremes in describing the conservation approach to the log structures at Kizhi Pogost:

- a. full dismantling of the building accompanied by extensive *perhaps too much*) replacement of fabric, and
- b. making many small and large repairs to maximize the retention of historic fabric .

The best conservation solution for these buildings lies somewhere between these two extremes. Since 1988 ICOMOS has consistently opposed dismantling of the structures due to the inevitable major impact it would have on the authenticity of the structure. In its charter (Principles for the Preservation of Historic Timber Structures (1999)), ICOMOS also emphasizes a repair strategy that allows the building to perform structurally in the traditional way, and based on traditional repair methods. *The other factor that must be taken into account is the anticipated service-life of the restored structure. We are facing the largest intervention on the churches since their construction in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It is not reasonable or useful to leave timber in the building which might fail within 10 years. A longer term repair is needed at this time.*

## Criteria

2. Effect of many repairs - It is critical to consider the impact repairs to individual logs will have on the collective assembly, such as the whole wall. There are two aspects to this potential impact – structural and aesthetic. This will help to ensure that overall structural requirements of the building and aesthetic objectives are met and the *non-traditional* appearance of a “patchwork” of repairs is avoided.

3. One log – As a principle, after conservation the majority of logs in the building should be one piece of wood with no repairs, that is, they should be either original unrepaired or new logs. The *reason for* this is to ensure structural and visual continuity of the building. It avoids a negative effect on the authenticity of the design. Due to more extensive damage to logs in the lower part of the building it can be expected that quite a few logs lower down in the building will be replaced.

4. One repair - Most logs being repaired should receive no more than one repair, or, one piece of new wood. This allows for repair of the corner notches and the ends of the logs where needed. It also allows for a larger repair when ½ of a log is deteriorated. The purpose of this criteria is that multiple repairs along the length of a log should not be done (Figure 6).

5. Two repairs – Some logs can have 2 repairs. This allows for repair of the corner notches and the ends of the logs at both ends where needed. A log which requires more than two repairs, for example both notches and the surface, should be replaced completely except in the case of criteria 6, below.

6. Logs of significant cultural value - When individual logs have significant cultural value such as artistic expression, high craftsmanship such as painted or carved decorations, and unique historic traces, extreme measures should be taken to ensure the conservation of those logs. Multiple repairs should still be avoided. Some logs which cannot remain as part of the building due to excessive repair yet contain examples of fine axe work should be catalogued, documented and become part of the museum collection.<sup>6</sup>

7. Natural dynamics of wood - Wood is a natural and organic material which absorbs and releases moisture on a daily or annual basis. As it does so it expands and contracts in a way

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<sup>6</sup> ICOMOS Charter: Principles for the Preservation of Historic Timber Structures (1999), point 8.

that is influenced by its density and other species characteristics. When new wood is patched into old it is essential that repairs be of the same species, moisture content and density as the wood being repaired. Also, repair patches must be shaped with *and fastened* to the old wood to allow for some differential movement and must be oriented with the grain and annular rings of the old wood (Figure 4). All members of the project team should have training in wood dynamics, traditional carpentry and application of conservation principles to avoid splitting, cracking, and other failure of repairs.

8. Use of chemicals – Contemporary, new and untested materials such as adhesives, consolidants, and fillers should generally not be used.<sup>7</sup> Adhesives try to reduce differential movement of wood but because of the tremendous forces of expanding wood they inevitably fail and create narrow cracks which hold moisture. Adhesives also create a plastic layer inside the wood and prevent moisture from escaping out of the wood.

9. Tinting - Wood repairs should not be coloured to match old wood because the applied colour will age differently from the wood. Untinted new wood will naturally weather to match old wood in 2-3 years. *Observed samples of tinting to match old wood are rarely successful.*

10. Training – There are three aspects to carpentry knowledge required by carpenter restorers. These are:

- traditional craftsmanship including use of traditional tools
- applying guiding principles for restoration (ICOMOS Charter)
- a deep understanding of wood structure and performance characteristics anatomy and performance in different environmental conditions.

All members of the project team should have training in wood dynamics, traditional carpentry and application of conservation principles to avoid splitting, cracking, and other failure of repairs.

11. Treatment of decay caused by cracks on the upper surface of logs – *A crack itself is not a problem, but when it leads to long term internal moisture levels which support wood decay it might be a problem. The most important question in such cases is if the damaged part of the log should be replaced, not how to deal with cracks.*

Option 1:

- *assess the extent of interior decay using a resistance drill.*
- *If the interior decay has been minimal over 300 years, then clean the crack with compressed air and take no further action.*
  
- *If the interior decay is more extensive, then drilling into the log from below to improve ventilation and drainage is an appropriate action in addition to compressed air cleaning. The holes should be between 10 and 15 mm.*

*(The project team proposed to use a wood cover-strip to prevent water from going into the most dangerous cracks in combination with cleaning and drilling. Such a cover-strip might be effective providing good ventilation paths are maintained to promote rapid drying. This kind of intervention should have very limited use and should be accompanied by long-term monitoring of moisture content levels inside the logs. If long-term monitoring proves that this is an effective method it can be retrofitted on the standing building.*

Option 2:

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<sup>7</sup> ICOMOS Charter: Principles for the Preservation of Historic Timber Structures (1999), points 13 and 14.

- Logs with significant load-bearing requirements and extensive internal decay should be replaced.

The choice between these solutions is not clearcut, and must be done on a case-by-case basis using careful judgement, and always considering the long term requirement of the structure. Considering these options the load-bearing capacity of the log should not be jeopardized within the predicted lifetime of the building.

12. Surface decay - should not be repaired unless the decay holds moisture, affects load bearing material or if it is extremely visually disturbing.

- If the log is fulfilling its technical purpose there is no need to repair decay on the surface.

Option 1:

- When the decay is not deep, reshape the log by carving away the decayed surface. This option should not be allowed to affect the technical function of the log.

Option 2:

- It is possible to do surface repairs time by time, but this should be used only to a small extent, and it must not be considered to be an overall solution

Option 3:

- If there is surface decay in the top or bottom of a log which could compromise the load-bearing parts of the log end, it should be repaired or changed.

Option 4:

- When there is surface decay both on top and bottom of the log in its full length, it should normally be replaced. If it is a smaller decayed part it may be repaired. Criteria 2 – “Effect of many repairs” should also be taken into account on this matter.

13. Joints – There are several aspects to consider in choosing the kind of joint to be used when logs are partially replaced. The technical function of the joint is crucial, but it is also important that the joints are not boldly expressed. The historical aspect is also important and the joint should always be of a kind correct for the historical period of the building. It is even better with a joint used during the construction of the building.

- Examples on the churches and in the region indicate that the vertically cut joint with a tenon and rectangular pegs is historically correct and technical suitable in most places in the building.
- When other joint designs may be required for technical reasons, lap joints in wall logs should be horizontal due to the extreme loads in the building.
- Criteria 2 – “Effect of many repairs” should also be taken into account on this matter.

## References

World Heritage Operational Guidelines for Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, Section 82.

Recognized attributes of authenticity:

- form and design
- materials and substance
- traditions & techniques

ICOMOS Charter: Principles for the Preservation of Historic Timber Structures (1999)

## Figures



Figure 1 – Although made with good workmanship, repetitive repairs to series of logs creates a non-historic pattern in the log work. A series of aligned vertical cuts would disturb the aesthetics of the historic construction even more. This approach should be avoided.



Figure 2 – Wood expands and contracts daily and yearly according to its structure. This contributes to the ultimate failure of glue joints which tend to be rigid.

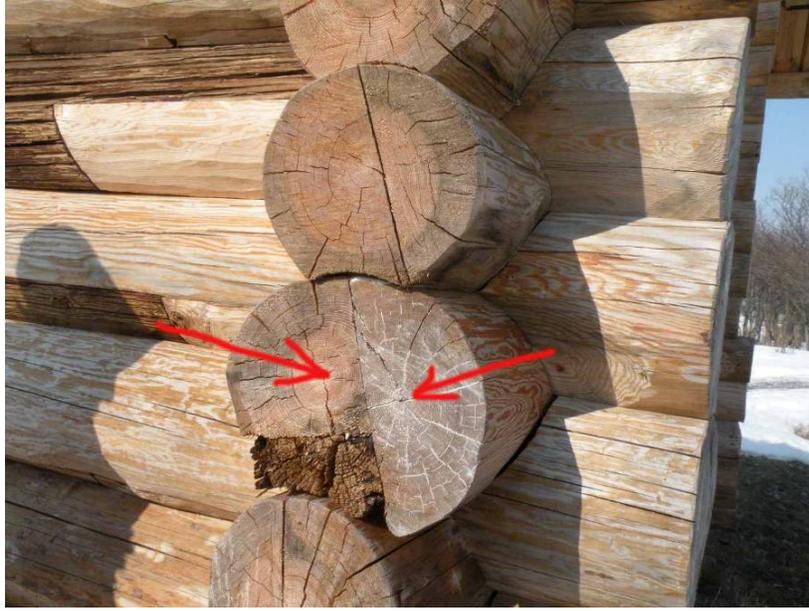


Figure 3 – From the pattern of annual rings we can see that this repair was made from two separate timbers. The connection between them is a weak point and will soon fail because all three pieces of wood will expand and contract differently .



Figure 4 – The best repair is a straight line joint with matching position and size of annular rings. Wood density and moisture content of repairs should match the historic material. This is quite a good match but the annular rings show a significant difference in the density of the two pieces of wood. They will expand and contract differently and should be allowed to do so.

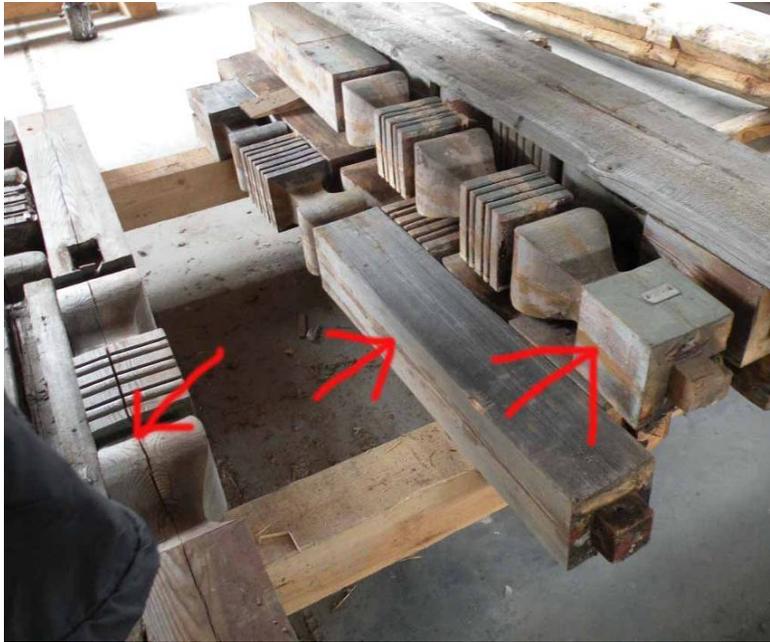


Figure 5 – Filling cracks in wood is not a good idea because it restrains the wood from expanding and contracting. The crack will move elsewhere.



Figure 6 – Multiple repairs in a single log are visually disruptive and non-traditional logwork. Although well made, these joints will have a negative impact on the aesthetic and design character of the building, especially if a single wall has many logs repaired like this.



Figure 7 – Carpenters should sign and date their work to show their pride in their work and for the historical record. .

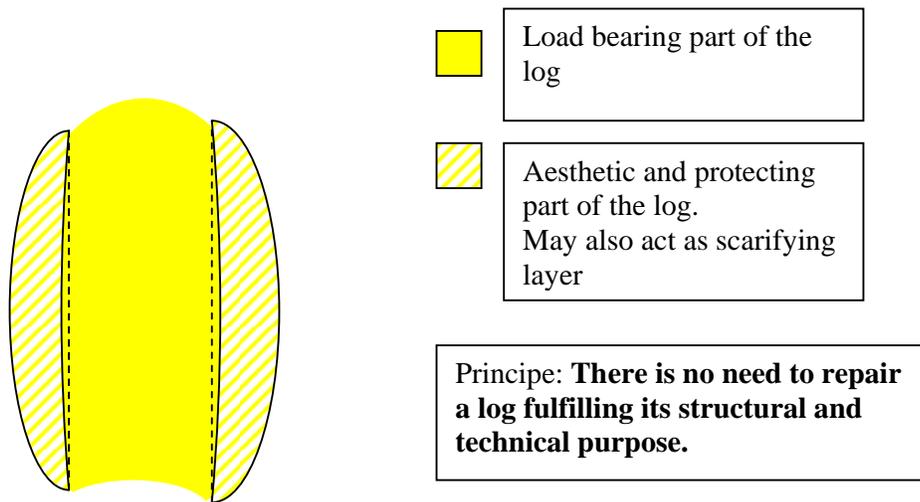
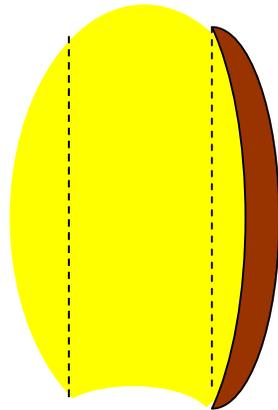


Figure 8



Wood of good condition

Decayed wood

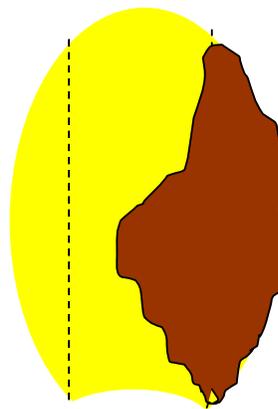
Main rule: **Do nothing!**

Possible exceptions which demand a completely new log:

- A structurally critical log
- A log extremely exposed to water or other treats

Possible exceptions to be repaired with attaching a new surface are extreme visual disturbance.

Figure 9



Wood of good condition

Decayed wood

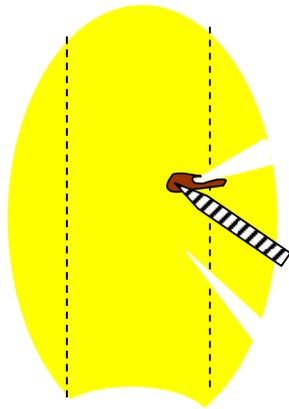
Main rule: **Change the log completely!**

Possible exceptions are logs with decorative paint, woodcarving or outstanding and unique historical traces

A good option is to store this unique and outstanding log at a museum and replace it with a new in the building.

A constructive critical log should not be repaired but replaced.

Figure 10



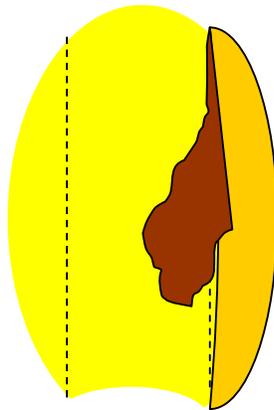
	Wood of good condition
	Decayed wood

Main rule with cracks in general:  
**Do nothing!**

Possible exception; deep cracks collecting water and with ongoing fungi activity.

Drilling of drainage holes is to be considered.

Figure 11



	Wood of good condition
	Decayed wood

Main rule: Do not hide the original log!

The dangerous problem with new surfaces is that decay might develop hidden behind a fresh surface. Glue might accelerate the problem to.

Figure 12

## ANNEX 4

### Evaluation of state of conservation by the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau

#### **34th session of the World Heritage Committee**

##### Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- b) Absence of an integrated management plan that addresses overall management of the World Heritage property ;
- c) Tourism development pressures affecting the property.

##### Current conservation issues

The World Heritage Committee during its 33rd session, appreciating the continuing efforts by the Kizhi Museum Reserve to improve maintenance, monitoring and presentation of the World Heritage property, regretted that the State Party had not implemented any of the activities requested by the Committee and strongly urged the State Party to establish a Special State Group to coordinate the implementation of all Committee decisions concerning this property. The Committee, concerned about the continuing deterioration of the structural fabric of the Church of the Transfiguration and management of the property, reiterated its request to the State Party to increase progress on all issues mentioned over the last decade including the submission of a detailed report on the main restoration works for the Church of the Transfiguration, of a draft integrated management plan for Kizhi Pogost including a tourism strategy and risk preparedness measures, and revised boundaries for the property and its buffer zone in relation to protected areas of the Kizhi Museum Reserve. The Committee, requested the State Party to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, a desired state of conservation, a draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, a set of corrective measures, as well as a timeframe for their implementation and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session in 2010, with a view to considering in the absence of substantial progress the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

As requested, the State Party submitted to the World Heritage Centre on 29 January 2010 an informative report whose details responded to some of the requests made by the Committee over the past years, including the management issues and restoration concept for the Church of the Transfiguration. The report is organised in four sections: 1. «Measures of Kizhi Pogost Maintenance» (management and boundary issues, monitoring, environment and landscape protection, historical research, tourism development activities, infrastructure development, funding); 2. restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration; 3. maintenance and protection of the Church of the Intercession of Holy Mary; 4. maintenance and protection of the Bell Tower.

The State Party reports that at the federal level, funding has been secured by State order of 7 November 2008 “*Plan of measures for protection of Kizhi Pogost and development of infrastructure of the Kizhi Federal Museum of Architecture and Cultural History*” approved by the Government of the Russian Federation. Approximately 400 million roubles have been allocated for the treatment of the Kizhi Pogost monuments in 2009-2014, 80% of which is dedicated for the Church of the Transfiguration.

This report is clear and helpful in understanding the current situation, and the forces and factors at play which need to be addressed by management, and the policies, regulations and initiatives undertaken co-operatively by various key actors at Federal, State and local

levels. The report provides the clearest picture of the state of conservation of the property received by the World Heritage Centre since inscription in 1990.

The report provides clarity on many key issues such as the measures in place to monitor and to respond to the possibility of fire. The report illustrates that most of the regulations and decrees being described as in place date from 2008, 2009 and 2010. It also states that after two decades of discussion, debate, planning efforts to repair and restore the Church of the Transfiguration are finally beginning.

However, as complete as it is, the report is not organized to respond directly to the requests made by the Committee in its Decisions at the 33rd session and at earlier sessions.

A joint World Heritage Centre-ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission was carried out from 5 to 7 April 2010. Recommendations and key findings are as follows:

*a) Church of the Transfiguration*

The mission noted that the fabric and structure of the Church of the Transfiguration are continuing to deteriorate and are now in a perilous state.

Over the course of more recent years the States Party has made significant progress in preparing for a major repair and restoration project at the church. Steps have been taken to reduce the rate of insect attack and decay and conservation work has started on the Church of the Transfiguration and a preventative maintenance program has been started on the Church of the Intercession. Predictable regular funding is now in place for 2009-2014 as a result of adoption of the Order "Plan of measures for maintenance and protection of Kizhi Pogost monuments".

The mission observed that there has been good progress on development of the conservation project concept and on the conservation work itself. However, the mission had serious concerns about the technical approach to conservation of wood, the apparent lack of understanding of the dynamics of wood, as well as the potential for too much dismantling of the Church of the Transfiguration in one phase of the work.

Chemical preservatives are being used for stored logs, new roofs and in decayed areas. Unidentified chemical consolidants and fillers are being proposed for use for conservation work on the Church of the Transfiguration. The mission noted that the Kizhi restorers have little information about these products and estimates that these methods are of limited effectiveness, are untested, are absolutely contrary to international standards and guidelines that are relevant to this project. The mission recommends that the State Party be urged to avoid the use of wood preservatives, consolidants and chemical fillers due to their environmental impact, short period of testing, limited effectiveness and potential to reduce durability.

In order to sustain the Outstanding Universal Value of the Church, the mission recommended that the approach to the repair of individual logs based on gluing and patching be modified. The mission recommended that a revised approach needs to be set out and agreed as the Conservation Approach for the building.

The mission also considered that the conservation project is strongly oriented to technical solutions without any explicit relation to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. The importance of authenticity of materials needs to be balanced with concerns about authentic form and design. All of this should be reflected in the Integrity and Authenticity sections of a retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value.

Guiding Principles are needed that relate the conservation work to the key attributes of the property that convey its Outstanding Universal Value. Such principles will become increasingly important when they are needed to guide detailed decisions. The mission considered that it was essential for future decision making that Guiding Principles are developed on the basis of a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value and brought into the project.

Concerning structural stability, the mission recommended that the State Party use the temporary supplementary structural support during the project and then remove it. The mission also recommended that permanent supplementary and reinforcing structure be added to the building only if absolutely necessary, and that structural elements should be reinforced as needed rather than installing general strengthening.

In order to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, the mission stressed that project implementation must continue with no interruption. There is need to ensure that funding continues after 2014, as the overall restoration will not have been completed. The mission also stressed the need to prepare a capacity and skills building strategy with regular training courses involving those responsible for restoration activities in the Kizhi Museum Reserve.

The ICOMOS team during the mission prepared a set of guidelines for timber repair “Criteria for selecting log repair at Kizhi Pogost” to counter a presumption that maintaining authentic historic building fabric was the most important factor when deciding on repair methods. This was prepared to address the large numbers of individual repairs in single logs; the use of repairs which are not compatible with the shape, anatomy and natural characteristics of the wood and the use of adhesives, consolidants and other chemicals (some not yet tested).

#### *b) Monitoring*

The mission welcomed the monitoring reports reviewed, in particular “Wood-science monitoring of the Kizhi Open-air Museum Monuments” (Forest Research Institute, Karelian Research Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences, Petrozavodsk, 2009) and “Complex of land measuring on walls deformation monitoring of the Churches of Transfiguration and Intercession and the Bell tower on Kizhi” (Institute of restoration of historic and cultural monuments “Spetzprojectrestavratsija”, Moscow, 2009).

#### *c) Boundary issues*

While the boundaries for the protected zones of the Kizhi Museum-Reserve have been identified, the mission noted that the boundaries of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone are still unclear. The mission recommends that the State Party clarifies this boundary issue by 1 February 2011 in a way that protects the property and its setting and relates to the protection of the whole island as a Heritage site, as is proposed. The mission also noted concern at development proposals within certain areas of the Kizhi Museum Reserve and considered that these should be immediately halted.

#### *d) Co-ordination and management*

The initiative of Kizhi Museum Reserve to establish a Special State Board to coordinate the implementation of World Heritage Committee decisions has been stopped despite the World Heritage Committee’s request to the State Party to establish this Board. The mission recommends implementing this Committee’s decision as a matter of urgency.

The mission noted documents (in Russian) presented by the Kizhi Museum (Master Plan of the Kizhi Museum Reserve and its protected area) that had not been submitted for review and that they did not indicate the boundaries of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone. The mission expresses its concern that all protected areas regulations established within this Master Plan have been adapted to development activities and that the Kizhi

Museum Reserve has the intention to develop new visitor facilities and to build a new visitor centre, in conformity with regulations of this Master Plan.

The mission recommends to halt any inappropriate development and new constructions within the property, its buffer zone and protected areas of the Kizhi Museum-Reserve, and submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, all projects for review and comments prior to any approval.

The mission noted delays in State Party efforts to respond to the Committee's request to develop a fully integrated management plan for the site, largely as a result of different interpretations by the national authorities of the intent of this request. The mission report notes in detail the issues to be addressed in the integrated management plan (including using Outstanding Universal Value as the core focus of all decision making for the site; formal inclusion of new partners and stakeholders such as the Church; the need to reference the overall context for decision-making, ensuring management and provision of facilities for dramatically increasing tourism numbers, respecting the setting of the property, balancing natural and built environment concerns, integrating provisions for risk preparedness and security, and clarifying boundary issues and protection, etc.).

The mission noted in the State Party report that the management plan and a tourism development programme will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies for review and comments.

In follow-up to the above recommendations, the mission proposed a set of corrective measures to be addressed by the State Party and a timeframe for their implementation. The mission report is available on-line at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/34COM/>.

The World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS consider that the State Party should implement the defined corrective measures as a matter of urgency.

The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies note that the most critical issue at Kizhi Pogost is the seriously threatened state of the Church of the Transfiguration. In considering Sections 177-191 of the *Operational Guidelines*, it can be concluded that if the current loss of fabric and design features is not halted immediately the Outstanding Universal Value of the property will be threatened. The conservation work at the church of Transfiguration has been started, and it is crucial that it continue with no further delays.

The World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies do not consider it advisable for Kizhi Pogost to be placed on the World Heritage List in Danger at this stage. A further reactive monitoring mission is recommended in 2011 to monitor progress in responding to all the issues above, and to further report to the World Heritage Committee at its 36th session in 2012, with a view to then considering, in the absence of substantial progress, the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies are pleased to understand that repair and restoration works on the Church of the Transfiguration has now begun under stable financial conditions, and urge the authorities to continue this work, without further delays. The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies also underline that the current approach to timber repair must be revised to follow the guidelines document prepared by the mission following its site visit and that there is a need to define Guiding Principles for the work that relate to the authenticity and Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies wish, in the interests of improving the co-ordination and integration of property management, to reiterate the importance of establishing the Special State Board previously requested by the Committee, and the rapid

completion of an integrated management plan of the property, including monitoring activities, risk preparedness, tourism strategy and protection of the landscape setting.

**Decision 34 COM 7B.94**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-10/34.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **33 COM 7B.117**, adopted at its 33rd session (Seville, 2009),
3. Notes that stable funding for the property has been secured through State Order and the continuing efforts by the Kizhi Museum Reserve to improve maintenance, monitoring and presentation of the World Heritage property;
4. Also notes the results of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the property in April 2010;
5. Notes furthermore the significant progress made in the management of the Kizhi Museum Reserve and the preparation and commencement of the restoration works of the Church of Transfiguration and urges the State Party to continue these efforts;
6. Strongly requests the State Party to revise the timber repair and assembling methods in accordance with the guidelines document provided by ICOMOS following the mission, and to define guiding principles for the restoration that relate to the authenticity and Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
7. Notes with concern proposals by the Kizhi Museum Reserve to develop new visitor facilities and a new visitor centre, in conformity with regulations of the Kizhi Reserve Master Plan and also urges the State Party to halt any developments within the property, its setting and protected areas of the Kizhi Museum-Reserve, and to submit to the World Heritage Centre, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, all projects for review and comments prior to any approval;
8. Requests the State Party to implement all recommendations outlined in the World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission report of April 2010, including the correctives measures identified;
9. Reiterates its requests to the State Party to:
  - a) *Provide a draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value as a basis for developing an integrated management plan for the property, and guiding principles for conservation,*
  - b) *Prepare and implement an integrated management plan, including a tourism strategy, risk preparedness measures, archaeological resource management, protection of the landscape setting, and clear boundary and buffer zone definitions in relation to the protected areas of the Kizhi Museum Reserve, monitoring measures and mechanisms,*
  - c) *Establish a Special State Board in charge of coordinating the activities of the many different stakeholders and agencies involved with the overall management of the World Heritage property;*
10. Encourages the State Party, and in particular the Kizhi Museum Reserve, to collaborate with the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and the UNESCO

Moscow office, to develop a capacity building programme for local experts involved in restoration and management activities in the Kizhi Museum Reserve;

11. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2011**, a detailed state of conservation report, including a progress report and all relevant documents on the implementation of the corrective measures;
12. Further requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission in 2011 to assess the state of conservation of the property;
13. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2012**, a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property including a report on all issues mentioned above and all relevant documents on the implementation of the corrective measures, for examination by the Committee at its 36th session in 2012, **with a view to considering in the absence of substantial progress the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

***33rd session of the World Heritage Committee, Seville, Spain / 22-30 June 2009***

***Main threats identified in previous reports***

- a) Structural integrity of the Church of the Transfiguration
- b) Absence of an integrated management plan that addresses overall management of the World Heritage property
- c) Tourism development pressures affecting the property

***Current conservation issues***

The World Heritage Committee, since its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007), has requested the State Party to begin immediately necessary repair and restoration works for the Church of Transfiguration, and to confirm arrangements delegation of authority for these restoration works, as well as their funding. The World Heritage Committee at its 32nd session (Quebec City, 2008) requested that the State Party provide a detailed progress report on the restoration works, and the draft integrated management plan for Kizhi Pogost including a tourism strategy, risk preparedness measures and maps indicating the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone, all for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 33rd session in 2009, with a view to considering, in the absence of substantial progress, the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger. The State Party report, received on 30 January 2009, provides a comprehensive summary of activities which have taken place on the property during 2008. This report highlights the following positive actions undertaken by the State Party to benefit the property:

- Decree № 1633-p (7 November 2008) The Schedule of Measures on Preserving Kizhi Ensemble and developing infrastructure of the “Kizhi” Museum aimed at preservation (restoration, conservation and integral protection) of the monuments on Kizhi including those in the World Heritage property, including spending provisions to improve reliability of the Island’s power supply;
- Order № 282 (December 2008) concerning the preservation of the Kizhi Pogost architectural ensemble and development of infrastructure for the “Kizhi” Museum”;
- The report claims that these documents provide a basis for a plan for museum management including strategies of tourism development, risk preparedness and determination of the buffer zone borders, all now being realized;
- A Republic of Karelia Executive Order (to be approved in 2009) regulates the protected area borders, conditions for building use and management within the protected zone limits in order to protect the territory adjacent to the monuments from illegal activity.

The report also notes the following work carried out at Kizhi Pogost monuments in 2008: *Church of the Intercession*: Weatherproofing of the octahedron and shingles, heat treatment of the damaged parts of the framework in the cellar and the refectory attic of the church, and improvements to the ventilation system in the attic; *Bell Tower*: Heat treatment of the elements damaged by wood-borers, repair of the northern porch, and the cleaning of the space between two log frameworks to improve ventilation and prevent biodeterioration. *Church of the Transfiguration*: Improving attention to monitoring and risk preparedness (fire control) equipment and systems, including creation of a working group focused on risk management, charged with preparation of a Disaster Risk management plan for Kizhi Pogost. The report also makes reference to the publication of a set of guidelines ("*Maintenance of wooden architectural monuments*"), summarizing site experiences in adoption of the monitoring system and maintenance of wooden architectural monuments, and increasing attention given to exposing site news through all forms of local media. However, as with reports submitted in previous years, this report prepared only by the site's local management authority without any involvement of the national authorities, does not respond to the concerns and issues raised by the World Heritage Committee at its 32nd session (Quebec City, 2008)

The suggestion in the State Party report that the late 2008 Executive Order and Decree of the Russian Federation provide a basis for development of the requested integrated management plan illustrates that as in past years, the State Party has not understood the nature of the management instrument requested by the World Heritage Committee, nor the urgent need to prepare a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value to ensure management decision-making and planning is rooted in respect for the site's World Heritage values. The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies are very concerned that the Federal authorities are still not involved in the process concerning the preparation and implementation of a comprehensive management plan for this property, which should include tourism development, an overall vision for the property as well as clear boundary and buffer zone definition (including the potential revision). The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies underline that the State Party did not establish a Special State Group requested by the World Heritage Committee and remind the importance of the participation of all stakeholders concerned at all levels to the process of the safeguarding, protection and management of the property, as well as the preparation of the state of conservation reports requested by the World Heritage Committee. Given the ongoing severe structural deterioration, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies believe that it is of the utmost urgency that the State Party launches the necessary restoration works requested by the World Heritage Committee for more than a decade. The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies consider that the values recognized in this property at its inscription are threatened by the lack of restoration actions and that this property should be inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**Decision: 33COM 7B.117**

*The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Having examined Document WHC-09/33.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision **32 COM 7B.104**, adopted at its 32nd session (Quebec City, 2008),
3. Appreciating the continuing efforts by the Kizhi Museum Reserve to improve maintenance, monitoring and presentation of the World Heritage property,
4. Regrets that the State Party has not implemented any requested activities and strongly urges the State Party to establish a Special State Group in charge to coordinate the implementation of all World Heritage Committee's decisions concerning this property;
5. Expresses its deep concern over the continuing deterioration of the structural fabric of the Church of the Transfiguration;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to progress on all issues mentioned over a decade including the following documents:
  - a) Detailed report on the main restoration works,

- b) Three copies of the draft integrated management plan for Kizhi Pogost including a tourism strategy (in particular with an accent on any eventual threat to the property from the fluvial tourism), risk preparedness measures,
- c) Revised and approved documents concerning protected areas of the Kizhi Museum Reserve including the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone;
- 7. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2010**, with a progress report on the implementation of the above mentioned activities, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session in 2010;
- 8. Also requests the State Party to develop, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, a desired state of conservation, a draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, a set of corrective measures, as well as a timeframe for their implementation and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2010**, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 34th session in 2010, **with a view to considering in the absence of substantial progress the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger**;
- 9. Further requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission to the Kizhi Museum Reserve to assess the state of conservation of the property.

**32nd session of the World Heritage Committee, Quebec City, Canada / 2 - 10 July 2008**

**Current conservation issues**

- a) Structural integrity of the Church of the Transfiguration
- b) Absence of an integrated management plan that addresses overall management of the World Heritage property
- c) Tourism development pressures affecting the property

As requested by the World Heritage Committee, the State Party submitted to the World Heritage Centre on 5 February 2008 the state of conservation report which only partially responds to the requests made by the World Heritage Committee.

The State Party informed that significant progress had been achieved in implementing the decisions by the World Heritage Committee, in particular the implementation of technical preparatory work for restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration, as well as the reinforcement of risk preparedness measures. The first pilot restoration works have started by the Kizhi Museum Reserve Direction in compliance with the request by the World Heritage Committee.

However, in the Explanatory Note annexed to the State Party report, the Director of the Kizhi Museum Reserve underlined that, at this stage, the complete restoration works cannot be started without clearly designated delegated administrative and executive authority for this project, although the World Heritage Committee requested at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007) that the State Party start immediately with the repair and restoration works of the Church of Transfiguration.

The World Heritage Centre noted that the report was prepared by the Directorate of the Kizhi Museum Reserve. As site manager, the Director provided very detailed and complete information on its activities concerning this World Heritage property, including environmental and landscape issues.

The information requested by the World Heritage Committee, which is missing in the State Party report (e.g. draft of the integrated management plan for Kizhi Pogost; maps indicating the boundaries of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone), should be provided by the Federal authorities. It seems that they are still not actively involved in the process concerning

the restoration works or the preparation and implementation of a comprehensive management plan for this World Heritage property, which should include tourism development, an overall vision for the site as well as clear boundary and buffer zone definition (including its eventual revision).

The World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS underline the importance of the participation of all stakeholders concerned at all levels to the process of the safeguarding, protection and management of the World Heritage property, as well as the preparation of the state of conservation reports requested by the World Heritage Committee. Taking into account the importance and difficulties of the restoration works of the Church of the Transfiguration, as well as specificities of the fluvial tourism development the State Party could be invited to create a Special State Committee or Group with two commissions, one in charge of the restoration works, other of the management and tourism development issues.

**Decision: 32COM 7B.104**

*The World Heritage Committee,*

1. Having examined Document *WHC-08/32.COM/7B*,
2. Recalling Decision **31 COM 7B.88**, adopted at its 31st session (Christchurch, 2007),
3. Urges the State Party to start immediately with the repair and restoration works of the Church of Transfiguration;
4. Notes the continuous efforts by the Directorate of the Kizhi Museum Reserve in the management of the World Heritage property, which represents a small part of the territory of the Reserve and encourages the site management to continue its work towards an integrated management plan for the property;
5. Also urges the State Party to urgently confirm the implementation of the necessary administrative arrangements concerning the delegation of authorities for the restoration works, as well as the funds made available for restoration works for the duration of the project;
6. Invites the State Party to establish a Special State Group in charge of effective coordination, in close collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, of the implementation of the World Heritage Committee's decisions and the recommendations by the Reactive Monitoring missions concerning this property;
7. Requests the State Party, in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS, to prepare a draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, including the conditions of integrity and authenticity, for the consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its 33d session in 2009;
8. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2009**, a progress report on all issues mentioned above, including the following documents:
  - a) detailed progress report of the restoration works;
  - b) three printed and electronic copies of the draft integrated management plan for Kizhi Pogost including a tourism strategy, risk preparedness measures and maps indicating the boundaries of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone;
  - c) revised and approved documents concerning protected areas of the Kizhi Museum Reserve including the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone;for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 33rd session in 2009, **with a view to considering, in the absence of substantial progress, the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

<p><b>30th session of the World Heritage Committee, Vilnius, Lithuania, 8-16 July 2006 Document WHC-06/30.COM/7B.ADD</b></p>
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*Main threats identified in previous reports:*

- a) Structural integrity of the Church of the Transfiguration as well as the overall restoration and conservation project to replace the scaffolding within the Church;
- b) Tourism development pressures affecting the property;

c) The need to strengthen management of the property.

*Current conservation issues:*

The Russian Federation has submitted two reports to the World Heritage Centre concerning the state of the conservation of the World Heritage property dated 12 July 2005 and December 2005 and received on 8 February 2006.

These reports do not meet the expectations of the World Heritage Committee as expressed in its decision at its 29th session. Both reports were prepared by the local management authority (Kizhi Museum) and do not show any involvement on the part of the national authorities in this process. They do not address any of the main recommendations made by the Committee concerning provision of information on the management of the property, updates on the status and determination of the buffer zone, information on risk preparedness measures in place for the entire property, and clarification on the impact of tourism on the values of the inscribed property. While to some extent both reports provide information on aspects of the construction work plan for the Church of the Transfiguration, the precise budget data requested is not provided, and the "Detailed Report" describes information that at the time of the 30th session will be 19 months out of date. The "Brief Report" of December 2005, together with its attached photos and chart showing "main stages of the restoration of the Transfiguration Church and the schedule of their implementation (1999-2014)" provides some updated information but is of limited value as the report is only one page in length.

The response of the State Party to the requests made by the World Heritage Committee at its 29th session is entirely inadequate, maintaining a pattern repeated over many years for this property of providing limited information to the Committee, prepared by the local management authorities without any understanding of the nature of the Committee's requests. There is no evidence, in spite of the detailed planning and scheduling being carried out for the restoration work on the Church of the Transfiguration at the local level, that the national authorities have committed themselves to fund this work. No detailed budget for this work is available showing budget commitments over time. Nor is there any evidence of effort to address the larger over-arching issues important for the site and State of conservation reports of properties inscribed WHC-06/30.COM/7B.Add, p. 31 on the World Heritage List - ADDENDUM stated by the Committee in its recommendations: development of a management plan (which would address boundary issues, buffer zone definition and risk preparedness), and development of a tourism strategy.

A meeting of 100 conservation experts to identify conservation strategies for this property was already organized in 1988, two years before it was inscribed on the World Heritage List. A number of expert missions have taken place since to review the state of conservation of the property. All have highlighted the serious and specific dangers facing the property. Little evidence of commitment at the national level has come forth in those many years to provide confidence that the outstanding universal value recognized by the inscription is maintained.

ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre consider that the property should be placed on the World Heritage List in Danger, and that the property should not be removed from this List until the following benchmarks are agreed upon and reached:

- a) Completion of restoration work on the Church of the Transfiguration;
- b) The development and implementation of a comprehensive management plan for the property (addressing tourism development, risk preparedness, boundary definition and buffer zone issues).

The State Party should provide, by 1 February 2007, the outline plans and a timescale for the development of a comprehensive management plan and strategy, to provide a clear description of the restoration concept guiding the works on the Church of the Transfiguration, and a detailed long term (10 year) budget commitment for all activities on the site, prepared and endorsed by the concerned national authorities and the Ministry of Culture. Detailed

benchmarks could then be agreed upon between the Advisory Bodies, the World Heritage Centre and the authorities.

An additional brief report with an explanatory note on the most important activities of the preparatory period and some updated information by the Kizhi Federal Museum was transmitted by the national authorities on 8 June 2006.

The report mentioned new information concerning, in particular the assembly and adjustment of the fire alarm system inside and outside of the Church, as well as the replacement of the old electric supply cabinet and installation of a new power supply, communication and alarm systems.

Some information concerning new restoration approaches and preparation of timber conservation was also provided. The report mentioned in particular, that the main cross has been reinforced temporarily with metallic plates and that the zones infected by wood beetles have been identified. The entrance of the Church has been repaired and a metallic tie-bar installed in the northern wall of the refectory.

An attached chart showing the “main stages of the restoration of the Transfiguration Church and the schedule of their implementation (1999-2014)” is the same as provided in the previous reports. The report further notes that the annual monitoring of the stability of the property conducted by the Institute “Spetsproectrestavratsiya” shows continued stability of all monuments and indicates that none of them is considered to be in danger.

By letter of 9 June 2006, the authorities of the Russian Federation underline that they consider that the State Party is fulfilling its obligations concerning the protection of the property and object to the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

However, the latest report provides no information concerning the detailed budget and funding sources, the overall state of conservation of the property, nor details of management measures for the property or the determination of the buffer zone, as requested by the Committee. As a result, the requests for information made by the Committee at its 29th session in Durban remain unanswered.

### **Decision 30 COM 7B.72**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document *WHC-06/30.COM/7B.Add*,
2. Recalling Decisions **28 COM 15B.95** and **29 COM 7B.83**, adopted at its 28th (Suzhou, 2004) and 29th (Durban, 2005) sessions respectively,
3. Notes with great concern that the reports provided by the State Party do not respond to the requests made by the Committee at its 29th session;
4. Urges the State Party to collaborate closely with the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre to elaborate detailed benchmarks (completion of restoration work on the Church of the Transfiguration; and the development and implementation of a comprehensive management plan for the property, which addresses tourism development, risk preparedness, boundary definition and buffer zone issues);
5. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission to the property to assess the state of conservation and the factors affecting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and strongly urges the State Party to work jointly with this mission;
6. Requests the State Party to provide the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2007**, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 31st session in 2007, with a detailed report, a timescale and a work plan for:
  - a) A comprehensive management plan, including a tourism strategy, risk preparedness measures and clear boundary and buffer zone definitions;

- b) The preparation of a buffer zone for the property;
7. Invites the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2007** an overall restoration concept for the Church of Transfiguration, as well as a report on the status and the likely impact of proposed interventions on the authenticity and integrity of the property.

[29th session of the World Heritage Committee](#),  
Durban, South Africa, 10-17 July 2005  
Document WHC-05/29.COM/22 / Document WHC.05/29.COM/7B.Rev

*Current conservation issues:*

The Russian authorities submitted a progress report on an international workshop for the Conservation of the “Church of the Transfiguration of Kizhi Pogost” (18-20 December, 2003) to the World Heritage Centre on 2 February 2005. The report reviews the main recommendations of the August 2002 International Workshop: A planned approach to restoration of the Church over four main stages up to 2014 is briefly described. The stages include: (1) preliminary works (1999-2002); preparation period (2002-2006); main restoration works (2006-2012); final period (2010 – 2014); (2) The report describes expenditures in 2003 and 2004 in line with the overall plan of expenditures; (3) The report further notes submission by the Administration of “Kizhi Pogost” of a financial plan for conservation and restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration until 2010 to the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, which was approved; (4) The representatives of “Kizhi Pogost” also noted that funding has been neither sufficient nor regular; (5) The report notes that participants expressed appreciation for the high quality of the design and restoration works carried out from July 2002 until December 2003 by the project leaders and site managers of the museum-reserve; Nevertheless, the report leaves a number of questions open for review.

While the World Heritage Committee, in its Decision **28 COM 15 B. 95**, calls for the “Russian Federation to collaborate closely with the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre regarding the developments of the conservation works”, the international workshop of December 2003 was organised without the involvement of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies. Hence, it is difficult to compare the conclusions of the 2003 Workshop with those resulting from the 2002 Workshop, and assess progress made in meeting earlier recommendations. Given the serious nature of the structural problems of the Church of the Transfiguration, and the decade ahead before planned works are to be completed, it would be useful to have detailed information concerning monitoring methods in place to measure any change in the structure. The work plan contained in the report does not provide sufficient information or details to secure the large amount of funding necessary. Given that funding is described as inadequate and irregular, it would be useful for the Russian authorities to describe the full amount of funds required, the nature of commitments of all concerned to support the work, any expected shortfalls, and fund-raising plans to cover outstanding commitments. The World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS appreciate the continuing efforts by the State Party to improve the state of conservation of the Church of the Transfiguration.

However, the State Party needs to look beyond the problems of the Church of the Transfiguration to the management problems of the overall property, as recommended by the 2002 Workshop. It would be particularly useful for the Russian authorities to clarify current efforts to strengthen the management regime for the island property, including: clarification of the boundaries and management strategies and the buffer zones of the property; clarification of risk preparedness measures in place for the entire property; clarification of tourism management in the region in relation to the values of the inscribed property. Given the management needs of the property, it would also be useful for the Russian authorities to give priority to printing the Russian translation of the ICCROM Management Guidelines for World Heritage Properties. As has been noted by the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS on several occasions, and as contained in the recommendations of the 2002 International

Workshop, the author/translator and the Advisory Bodies and World Heritage Centre have already contributed substantially to the development of this manuscript. The Russian authorities should complete this long outstanding project. The situation of Kizhi Pogost was further discussed at a meeting at the World Heritage Centre with the Permanent Delegation of Russia and the Chairperson of the Russian World Heritage Committee on 25 April 2005.

### **Decision 29 COM 7B.83**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document **WHC-05/29.COM/7B.Rev**,
2. Recalling its Decision **28 COM 15B.95**, adopted at its 28th session (Suzhou, 2004),
3. Thanks the State Party of the Russian Federation for the progress report on the organisation of the restoration works of the Church of the Transfiguration and the continuing efforts to improve the state of conservation of the property,
4. Regrets that the State Party did not provide a detailed report, as requested by the World Heritage Committee, on the progress of the actual conservation works, detailed budget and funding sources as well as the overall state of conservation of the property;
5. Notes with concern the continuing uncertainty of funding for the restoration works and the overall inconsistent information on the management of the property;
6. Urges the State Party to collaborate closely with the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre regarding the development of the conservation works and the management of the property;
7. Considers that in view of the lack of information on the state of conservation of the property and lack of follow-up to the recommendation of the 2002 Workshop and the recommendation of the Committee, the threats to the property are considerable;
8. Requests the State Party to submit reports by **1 February 2006** to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 30th session (Vilnius, 2006), containing the following:
  - a) a detailed work plan with precise budget;
  - b) a comprehensive report on the steps of the conservation works including information on the impact of interventions on the conservation works;
  - c) information on the management measures for the property;
  - d) an update on the status and determination of the buffer zone;
  - e) information on risk preparedness measures in place for the entire property; and
  - f) clarification on the management of tourism in the region in relation to the values of the inscribed property;
9. Decides to consider, on the basis of this report, whether or not the property should be inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**28th session of the World Heritage Committee,**  
**Suzhou, China, 28 June - 7 July 2004**  
**Document WHC-04/28.COM/26 ; Document WHC-04/28.COM/15B**

#### *Conservation issues:*

From 18 to 20 December 2003, a workshop on the conservation of the Church of the Transfiguration was held in St. Petersburg at which participants were informed of the progress made for the preparatory works for the conservation project as well as follow-up actions to the recommendations made by the Committee and the International workshop of August 2002 were discussed.

The main steps of the restoration project have been approved as well as the workplan for the creation of the infrastructure for the works to be carried out (moorage for boats, construction site, energy structure, wood storage and procurement, fire protection, lodging for workers, etc). The financial plan of the restoration project has been submitted and approved by the Ministry of Culture. However, the participants mentioned insufficient and irregular funding for the conservation project.

The Russian National Committee for World Heritage together with the Ministry of Culture will be preparing a proposal concerning the approval of the buffer zone taking into account the possible enlargement of the site. Monitoring of the state of the Church of the Transfiguration is ensured by the site manager together with architects and restorers.

The workshop participants reiterated the request that the ICCROM Guidelines for management of cultural sites be translated into Russian.

The Centre has asked for more detailed information regarding some of the issues discussed during this second workshop. In particular, details on the overall budget of the project, information on the current state of conservation of the church and the follow-up to the recommendations made by the first workshop. At the time of the preparation of this document, no information was received from the State Party.

ICOMOS and ICCROM commented that national level financing is unpredictable and insufficient and that no matter how much care and study is given to analysis of conservation problems, without commitment of necessary funding in a timely manner, the threats to this site remain severe and unimpaired.

#### **Decision 28 COM 15B.95**

The World Heritage Committee<sup>46</sup>,

1. Thanking the authorities of the Russian Federation for their continued commitment to analyze conservation problems of the Church of the Transfiguration through the holding of workshops,
2. Notes with concern the lack of funding and hereby lack of commitment by the Russian Federation for the conservation project without which the threats to this property remain severe and unimpaired;
3. Regrets that the State Party did not provide a progress report as requested by the Committee (Decision **27 COM 7B.74**);
4. Urges the authorities of the Russian Federation to collaborate closely with the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre regarding the developments of the conservation works;
5. Requests the State Party to submit, by 1 February 2005, a report on the commitment of the necessary funds to carry out the work plan for 2004 and 2005 as well as on the progress made in the conservation works with information on the impact of interventions of the conservation works, in order that the World Heritage Committee can examine the state of conservation of the property at its 29th session in 2005.

**[27th session of the World Heritage Committee,](#)  
UNESCO Headquarters, 30 June - 5 July 2003  
Document WHC.03/27.COM/07B**

Following the request by the 25th session of the World Heritage Committee to elaborate « a work plan for the safeguarding of the site » and the approval of funds under emergency assistance, the “International Workshop on Kizhi Pogost and the Preservation and Conservation of Wooden Structures of the Church of the Transfiguration” was held from 31 July to 5 August 2002, St. Petersburg-Kizhi Pogost. It was organized by the UNESCO Chair

in Urban and Architectural Conservation (Moscow), in collaboration with the UNESCO Moscow Office and the World Heritage Centre.

The extensive discussions during the workshop and the site visit to Kizhi Pogost resulted in a full report of the meeting and a document with recommendations, which was transmitted to the appropriate authorities and organizations and bodies, for consideration and follow-up. The recommendations concern the following points:

1. The presentations on the project of the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration enhanced the dialogue between the Russian and the international participants and the confidence of all in the careful, systematic and thorough approach in place for the conservation of this property. The care with which this project has been undertaken could provide useful lessons on the safeguarding of complex wooden structures, the promotion of the protection and conservation of wooden heritage in Eastern Europe, and for exemplary international cooperation involving different stakeholders, international organizations (UNESCO, ICOMOS, ICCROM, etc.) as well as national and international experts.
2. While recalling the resolution of the Novgorod Meeting (17 September 1999) to examine the possibility of inscription of Kizhi Pogost on the List of World Heritage in Danger, the participants noted that a multi-disciplinary project team has been assembled and is working actively on the project. There is an extensive restoration plan, which has received Government approval and funding.
3. The participants discussed extensively the state of conservation of the Church of the Transfiguration and the restoration project planned for it. The participants expressed their appreciation to the authors of the current project for the quality of analysis evident in their work, for their efforts to learn from the results of past interventions, for their efforts to work in continuity with the findings of the ICOMOS-Russian conservation plan of 1993-1995 and for their commitment to cautious approaches which would minimize the replacement of original material.
4. While expressing support in general for the approach proposed and its guiding philosophy, the participants expressed the need to be cautious in implementation and therefore propose: to ensure comprehensive monitoring of impacts of interventions described in detailed plans and to use a careful approach to ensure respect for the heritage values and a full re-examination of the basic principles and strategies of the adopted restoration approach; Concerning the question of chemical treatment of the logs, the World Heritage Committee and the Advisory Bodies are asked to provide general advice for the preservation of wood.
5. During the field visit to the site, the participants also reviewed the situation regarding the other buildings included in the site, and encouraged the Russian authorities to develop plans for the long-term maintenance of all wooden structures, in the World Heritage property and its environment, to ensure that the World Heritage values and the integrity of the site are preserved.
6. Concerning the surroundings of the World Heritage site, the participants were informed of ongoing conservation efforts for the 84 buildings comprising the Open Air Museum. They urged that the integrity of this unique landscape be maintained in its overall management.
7. It is recommended that reports on the progress of the project and its results, as well as the monitoring of the state of conservation be regularly transmitted to the World Heritage Committee. It is further recommended that the expertise and insights of the international experts, and in particular members of the ICOMOS International Wood Committee, involved with this site since 1988 be called to maintain the professional dialogue now in place.
8. The workshop suggested that a meeting of all Russian speaking World Heritage site managers and national coordinators be organized, in collaboration with the East

European Centre of the countries of the CIS for the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, proposed by Russia.

9. The workshop proposed to extend the ICCROM digest of Kizhi international co-operation activities to include all Russian activities, the contribution of ICOMOS Germany relating to structural renewal and restoration of the iconostasis and a list of all documents available to be published.
10. In order to ensure regular update on activities and other necessary information on World Heritage to be made available to all persons involved, the participants recommended that the Moscow Office update the existing web site with Russian material and that the Russian World Heritage Committee take responsibility to maintain contact with all site managers. Furthermore, it was recommended that the Management Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Sites (Jokilehto/Fielden, ICCROM 1992) (translated into Russian), be published.

#### **Decision 27 COM 7B.74**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Recalling its decisions taken at the 25th extraordinary session of the Bureau in 2001 (Helsinki);
2. Expresses its appreciation to the authorities of the State Party for their commitment to the preservation of the property;
3. Takes note of the report and recommendations provided by the International Workshop with regard to the future conservation of this property under threat;
4. Encourages the State Party, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to continue to collaborate and to closely follow the future development of the conservation works;
5. Requests the State Party to provide an updated report the World Heritage Centre by 1 February 2004 on progress made in order that the World Heritage Committee can examine the state of conservation of the property at its 28th session in 2004.

#### **Recommendations of International Workshop on Kizhi Pogost (August 2002)**

##### **International Workshop on Kizhi Pogost and the preservation and conservation of wooden structures of the Church of the Transfiguration 31 July to 5 August 2002, St. Petersburg - Kizhi Pogost**

In 1988 a first international meeting was organised with 108 experts of whom 40 were international. This was initiated by the Soviet Union authorities and was the first meeting where the Russian authorities presented the problems of the site to discuss the conservation approaches for the site. In addition, both the ICOMOS Wood and Vernacular Committees participated as well as the working group of experts of Socialist countries. The conclusion focussed on three areas:

- a. the Church of the Transfiguration should not be disassembled
- b. preference for traditional approach for maintenance
- c. overall integrated management

Following the meeting, the Russian authorities nominated the site for inscription on the World Heritage List in 1989, which after positive evaluation by ICOMOS was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1990 by the Committee, with a provision concerning the balance between the natural and the built environment.

In 1992 a detailed monitoring report was presented by ICOMOS to the World Heritage Committee, highlighting the main problems which included the structural analysis, the lack of

fire protection, the biological and chemical wood decay, the iconostasis and issues of authenticity.

Between 1993 and 1995 a number of missions took place to Kizhi Pogost and a conservation concept development meeting took place in Helsinki (Finland) in March 1995 which prepared a conservation approach for the complex log buildings of the World Heritage site. The consensus reached in March 1995 focussed on four goals:

- the protection of the World Heritage values;
- the function of the church as part of the open air museum;
- the maintenance programme and
- to ensure suitable environment;

Additional studies were requested concerning geotechnical issues, soil conditions and humidity.

Monitoring activities continued since 1995 including a WMF projects for the fire protection of the Church of the Transfiguration. Several bi-lateral projects took place including four mission to the site by the Bavarian Administrators (German) which dealt with the issues of photogrammetry and restoration.

The World Heritage Committee subsequently discussed the state of conservation of the site at its sessions in 200 and 2001 requesting this technical workshop, for which emergency assistance was provided.

The extensive discussions during the workshop and the site visit to Kizhi Pogost resulted in a number of recommendations, which the participants transmit herewith to the appropriate authorities and organizations and bodies, in particular to the World Heritage Committee, for consideration and follow-up.

1. The presentations on the project of the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration enhanced the dialogue between the Russian and the international participants and the confidence of all in the careful, systematic and thorough approach in place for the conservation of this property. The care with which this project has been undertaken could serve as a source of lessons for safeguarding of complex wooden structures, the promotion of the protection and conservation of wooden heritage in Eastern Europe, and for exemplary international co-operation involving different stakeholders, international organizations (UNESCO, ICOMOS, ICCROM etc.) as well as national and international experts.
2. While recalling the resolution of the Novgorod Meeting (17 September 1999) to examine the possibility of inscription of Kizhi Pogost on the List of World Heritage in Danger, the participants noted that a multi-disciplinary project team has been assembled and is working actively on the project to a project schedule. Under these circumstances it is not necessary to include this property on the Danger List. There is an extensive restoration plan which has received Government approval and funding.
3. The participants discussed extensively the state of conservation of the Church of the Transfiguration and the restoration project planned for it. The participants expressed their appreciation to the authors of the current project for the quality of analysis evident in their work, for their efforts to learn from the results of past interventions, for their efforts to work in continuity with the findings of the ICOMOS-Russian conservation plan of 1993-1995 and for their commitment to cautious approaches which would minimize the replacement of original material.

While expressing support in general for the approach proposed and its guiding philosophy, the participants expressed the need to be cautious in implementation and therefore propose:

- a) to ensure comprehensive monitoring of impacts of interventions described in detailed plans and work drawings now under preparation in order to be aware of unforeseen consequences and to guide updating and adjustment of the design as required by unforeseen conditions ;
- b) if there are unintended consequences which begin to threaten basic assumptions about the ability of the approach to retain a significant proportion of the original material and maintain authenticity, the participants would recommend, in line with the requirements of national legislation and the need to ensure respect for the heritage values recognized during World Heritage inscription, and a full re-examination of the basic principles and strategies of the adopted restoration approach;
- c) to be aware that in particular some elements of the current proposal may require adjustment or reconsideration, including the use and aesthetic and functional design of the reinforced concrete ring-beam at ground level, the design of the reinforcement of the timber structure;
- d) the participants stressed the importance of accommodating and living with non-threatening deformations in wooden elements and in accepting to the degree compatible with structural soundness, the irregularities which time has conferred upon the building;
- e) to further clarify the details of the means for reinforcement of the timber structure including means for dealing with excessive compressive stresses at corners of the structure, means for providing lateral stiffness to resist horizontal forces such as wind, means for correcting differential settlements and related structural inclinations, and means for accommodating annual vertical expansion and contraction of the structure;
- f) to carefully consider the transfer of forces to the building when the steel structure is removed and the amount and method of load transfer from the historic building structure to the new reinforcing structure.
- g) to review the arrangements for the transition between the current reinforcement structure and the future intended reinforcement within the lower octagon;

Furthermore, the participants welcomed the offer of the Norwegian expert to facilitate the use of the lifting technology for which a patent is held in Norway through making available the services of the system's inventor.

4. Concerning the question of chemical treatment of the logs, the World Heritage Committee and the Advisory Bodies are asked to provide general advice for the preservation of wood. The participants noted that:
  - a) Chemical treatments which will give the required protection in the conditions at Kizhi and take into account current international standards, environmental impacts and the health of employees and visitors are not available; local and natural materials should be investigated;
  - b) Special attention should be given to the dry rot fungus attack in the crawl spaces of the churches and less attention could be given to damage caused by secondary organisms (wood destroying insects and fungi) ;
  - c) Replacement of materials should be limited to those with significant damage;
  - d) Disposal of wood which has been chemically treated in the past should take into account international standards, environmental impact and health.
5. During the field visit of the site the participants also reviewed the situation regarding the other buildings included in the site, the Church of the Intercession, the Bell tower and the Pogost wall, and were informed that a restoration project for the Church of the Intercession is underway with funding foreseen for 2002 and 2003. The participants of the workshop encouraged the Russian authorities to develop plans for the long-term

maintenance of all wooden structures, in the World Heritage property and its environment to ensure that the World Heritage values and the integrity of the site are preserved.

6. Concerning the surroundings of the World Heritage site, the participants were informed of ongoing conservation efforts for the 84 buildings comprising the Open Air Museum. The workshop, recalling the 1990 World Committee decision « to maintain the present balance between the natural and built environment », urged that the integrity of this unique landscape be maintained in its overall management. The possibility of an extension of the existing World Heritage site of Kizhi Pogost to include the entire protected area was also discussed. The participants stressed the importance that the Russian authorities at minimum define the protected area as a bufferzone appropriate for the protection of the site and submit it to the World Heritage Committee. This could enhance the ecological and visual integrity of the site.
7. Concerning the question of an international advisory committee composed of ICOMOS, ICCROM and UNESCO as well as international experts, the workshop did not consider this necessary. However, it is recommended that reports on the progress of the project and its results, as well as the monitoring of the state of conservation be regularly transmitted to the World Heritage Committee. It is further recommended that the expertise and insights of the international experts, and in particular members of the ICOMOS International Wood Committee, involved with this site since 1988 be called upon informally (by e-mail or other means) to maintain the professional dialogue now in place.
8. The workshop recalled the World Heritage regional periodic reporting exercise scheduled for Europe in 2005/2006 and that Kizhi Pogost will be included in these reports. The workshop suggested that a meeting of all Russian speaking World Heritage site managers and national co-ordinators be organized. The workshop participants supported the proposal by the Russian Federation to establish in Moscow on the basis of the UNESCO Chair in Urban and Architectural Conservation the East European Centre of the Countries of the CIS for the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. The workshop recommended to the Russian National World Heritage Committee together with the appropriate State Institutes to reinforce activities in organizing a regular system of monitoring of World Heritage properties in Russia and in the CIS countries.
9. The workshop proposed to extend the ICCROM digest of Kizhi international co-operation activities to include all Russian activities, the contribution of ICOMOS Germany relating to structural renewal and restoration of the iconostasis and a list of all documents available to be published.
10. In order to ensure regular update on activities and other necessary information on World Heritage to be made available to all persons involved, the participants recommended that the Moscow Office update the existing web site with Russian material and that the Russian World Heritage Committee take responsibility to maintain contact with all site managers. The site management team agreed with UNESCO to include links to local web-pages on Kizhi on the UNESCO World Heritage web-page and the UNESCO Moscow web-page to ensure continued dialogue and information for the general public. The participants recommended that the site management team ensure optimal use of the Russian version of the World Heritage Education Kit « World Heritage in Young Hands » for its educational and awareness building activities.
11. The workshop requested the World Heritage Committee to provide funding for the official translation of documents into Russian (e.g. new Operational Guidelines). Furthermore, it was recommended that the Management Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Sites (Jokilehto/Fielden, ICCROM 1992), which have been translated into Russian, be published.

**Helsinki, Finland, 11-16 December 2001**  
**Document WHC-01/CONF.208/10**

New information:

The National Commission of the Russian Federation submitted a report on the state of conservation on 2 October 2001 which has been sent to ICOMOS and ICCROM for comments. In general, the report confirms that the wooden structure of the Church is in an alarming state of dilapidation and that urgent restoration measures should be undertaken. Action required: The Bureau may wish to examine information that will be provided by ICCROM and ICOMOS at the time of its session and take the appropriate decision thereupon, and review whether or not the site should be included on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

**Decision adopted / Document WHC-01/CONF.208/24**

**VIII.148** The Committee examined the state of conservation of the site and took note that an emergency assistance request for an international technical workshop had been approved by the former Chairperson of the Committee. This workshop would also include the elaboration of a workplan for the safeguarding of the site.

**III.149** The Delegate of the Russian Federation informed the Committee that the workshop will be held from 31 July to 5 August 2002. During this workshop the participants will be given the opportunity to study the project that has been developed and approved by experts. He thanked the Committee and the Director of the UNESCO Moscow Office for their support.

**VIII.150** Speaking on behalf of ICCROM and ICOMOS, ICCROM congratulated the Russian authorities for their initiative to organise a workshop to develop a workplan for the safeguarding of the site. He stressed that the international workshop should, apart from looking at the severe structural problems of the Church of the Transfiguration, focus on the ensemble of buildings as well as on a wide set of issues: the biological deterioration of the wood, structural stability, conservation of icons and management of visitors. The initial multidisciplinary conservation plan, adopted for the site in 1995, although never implemented, remains an excellent starting point to address the "old" as well as the new issues such as the potential development of mineral deposits in the landscape around Kizhi Pogost. In conclusion, in addressing the structural problems, ICOMOS and ICCROM stressed the importance of providing a scientific review of all options available for the stabilisation of the Church in order to assure that an appropriate solution respecting the authenticity of the structure can be found.

**VIII.151** The Committee took note of the information provided by ICCROM and thanked the authorities of the Russian Federation for having initiated the process to ensure the protection of the site. In view of the alarming state of conservation of the site, the Committee requested the Secretariat to work in close collaboration with the authorities of the Russian Federation and the Advisory Bodies with regard to the international workshop on conservation measures for Kizhi Pogost. Furthermore, the Committee requested the State Party to provide a detailed update of the situation, by 1 February 2003, and requested the Centre to provide a full report on the results of the workshop, in collaboration with the authorities of the Russian Federation and the Advisory Bodies, for its twenty-seventh session in June 2003.

**Bureau of the World Heritage Committee,**  
**Paris, 25 - 30 June 2001**  
**Document WHC-2001/CONF.205/10**

**V.279** The Bureau requested the Russian authorities to submit a report on the state of conservation of the site by 15 September 2001 to assess, at its twenty-fifth extraordinary

session, the ways in which the Bureau may be able to collaborate with the Russian authorities to ensure proper conservation of the site.

**Extraordinary Session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee,**  
**Helsinki, Finland, 7-8 December 2001**  
**Document WHC-01/CONF.208/4**

**III.198** The Bureau took note of the information contained in the World Document WHC-01/CONF.207/3. It also took note that a request for emergency assistance from the State Party to hold an international workshop at the site had been received by the Centre and was approved on 14 October 2001 for a total amount of US\$ 29,540. This workshop would also include the elaboration of a workplan for the safeguarding of the site.

**III.199** The Delegate of Finland underlined that the site has been facing permanent and continual problems since its inscription, notably with regard to the conservation work, management and security measures. He proposed that given an increasing number of wooden churches are being inscribed on the World Heritage List, or were being proposed for inscription, a network of experts and responsible persons at the different sites could be created to respond to different problems. He also recommended that in the future, direct assistance from the Committee to the responsible person at the site be proposed.

**III.200** Recalling the structural problems encountered at the site, the Representative of ICCROM indicated that a multidisciplinary conservation plan had been adopted for the site in 1995 but that it had never been implemented. He supported the proposal of the Delegate of Finland and informed that ICCROM would provide assistance, recommending, however, that this approach be global and that all questions affecting the site be treated.

**III.201** The Representative of ICOMOS commended the Delegate of Finland for this proposal. He indicated that the services of the International Committee for Wood and Vernacular Architecture of ICOMOS were at the disposal of the Committee for the study suggested by the Delegate of Finland.

**III.202** After this debate, the Bureau adopted the following recommendation for examination by the Committee at its twenty-fifth session:

"The Committee takes note of the information provided by ICCROM and thanks the authorities of the Russian Federation for having initiated the process to ensure the protection of the site. In view of the alarming state of conservation of the site, the Committee requests the Secretariat to work in close collaboration with the authorities of the Russian Federation and the Advisory Bodies with regard to the international workshop on conservation measures for Kizhi Pogost. Furthermore, the Committee requests the State Party to provide a detailed update of the situation, by 1 February 2002, and requests the Centre to provide a full report on the results of the workshop, in collaboration with the authorities of the Russian Federation and the Advisory Bodies, for its twenty-sixth session in June 2002."

**World Heritage Committee, SESSION XVIII,**  
**Phuket, Thailand, 12-17 December 1994,**  
**Document WHC-94/CONF.003/16**

It was recalled that since 1991 ICOMOS had presented to the Committee and the Bureau reports on its involvement in the monitoring of this site and on the efforts to conserve and restore its monuments. ICOMOS reported that the legal protection of the monument and the buffer zone had been considerably improved and that a conservation professional had been assigned. The workplan for 1994 had been completed and included:

- the installation of a system of lightning protection as part of a major reworking of fire protection and security at the site;

- studies of wood deterioration conditions;
- measurement of deformations by hand and photogrammetric techniques;
- analysis of defects to the iconostasis. Completion of the structural analysis is scheduled for the end of January 1995.

A short and a long-term budget and workplans had been established and ICOMOS involvement was foreseen for its implementation. In view of the financial constraints in the Russian Federation, ICOMOS recommended the following:

- high priority be given to undertaking with the Russian and other national authorities, a full discussion of feasible alternative strategies for continued support and activity in conjunction with the already planned March 1995 concept selection meeting;
- on-going monitoring activity be continued; and
- other funding sources be identified and coordinated with the approved conservation plan and priority site needs.

The Committee endorsed these recommendations and requested ICOMOS in consultation with the Secretariat to implement them.

The Committee adopted several ICOMOS recommendations concerning the site:

- endorsed the ICOMOS proposed selection meeting for Helsinki March 1995 held to determine a suitable conservation approach for the Church of the Transfiguration.

*The ICOMOS conservation study of 1993-95 mandate was completed with elaboration of a conservation goals and approach document prepared March 1995 by Andrew Powter, Maija Kairemo and the international and Russian team; subsequently endorsed by the Russian Ministry of Culture. This concept has provided a base for the development of the current Church of the Transfiguration restoration scheme.*

*A detailed implementation plan for restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration (including year by year work phases and funding requirements) was made available to participants by the restoration project team.*

- the committee endorsed further ICOMOS recommendations regarding:

- a) monitoring activity be continued;

*Monitoring activity has continued from the 1995 completion of the ICOMOS conservation plan, including, in particular the support given this activity by the World Monuments Fund for the purchase of equipment.*

- b) other funding sources be identified for implementation of the conservation plan.

*Discussions are continuing concerning sources of funding for the conservation of the site. Urgent attention must be given to strengthening efforts in this area and specific projects should be identified which can be submitted to international bilateral funding agencies.*

<p><b>17th session of the Committee World Heritage Cartagena, Colombia, 6-11 December 1993 Document WHC-93/CONF.002/14</b></p>
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At the seventeenth session of the Bureau, ICOMOS informed about its involvement in the conservation efforts for Kizhi Pogost and that an expert mission would be undertaken to the site. The Bureau approved a technical assistance request to support this mission with funds

provided under the Canadian Green Plan. The mission took place in summer 1993 and a full report was available. In collaboration with the Russian counterparts, the mission addressed issues such as legal protection, conservation management, fire protection, iconostasis conservation, documentation, and monitoring, history and authenticity, biological/chemical deterioration, structure and conservation philosophy and goals.

Based on the findings of the mission, ICOMOS recommended that in 1994 high priority be given to finding means to support the following study and decision-making activities:

- monitoring and documentation
- completion of all required preliminary studies and
- reaching consensus on the conservation concept
- completion of individual conservation studies and
- their consolidation within a comprehensive and
- integrated conservation plan.

A major conservation project at the site could then start in 1995.

The Committee commended ICOMOS for its excellent collaboration with the Russian authorities and experts and the collaboration provided by the Governments of Canada, Finland and Norway and the individual ICOMOS members who participated in the mission. The Committee endorsed the recommendations formulated by ICOMOS.

The Committee adopted the recommendations of the August 1993 report on the ICOMOS mission to Kizhi Pogost as part of the ICOMOS conservation study of 1993-95 calling in particular for:

- completion of all required preliminary studies in order to reach consensus on the conservation concept, and to ensure their development within a comprehensive and integrated conservation plan;

*See Phuket, December 1994 World Heritage Committee report, below)*

<p><b>16th session World Heritage Committee, Santa Fe, USA, December, 7-14 1992 Document WHC-92/CONF.002/12</b></p>
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With the help of slide illustrations, the ICOMOS Representative introduced the status of the site of Kizhi Pogost, explaining the nature of the problems and the manner in which urgent problems were determined. This presentation was followed by a discussion during which several technical questions were raised. The Committee decided to support the coordination effort undertaken by ICOMOS for this site, and requested that a report be provided during the next meeting of the Bureau in view of implementing an assistance project. The Committee adopted the recommendation formulated in the ICOMOS report.

The Committee supported ICOMOS coordination efforts for this site and adopted ICOMOS recommendations which suggested need for:

- further structural analysis of the timber churches.

*Fully carried out during the ICOMOS conservation study of 1993-95 and the current Church of the Transfiguration project, 1999-2002.*

- fire protection of timber buildings.

*Fire protection has been fully integrated into the Kizhi Museum management team;*

*The 1<sup>st</sup> stage of the Kizhi Pogost basic protection scheme, supported by the World Monuments Fund is expected to be complete in October 2002;*

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> stage fire protection of the site: feasibility study complete and now under discussion;*

*The Ministry of Culture fire protection system for the island now under development; 1<sup>st</sup> phase funds are allocated, and tender call is underway.*

- detailed analysis of biological/chemical decay of the timber structures.  
*Carried out during the ICOMOS conservation study of 1993-95;*
- conservation analysis of artwork removed from the Church of the Transfiguration  
*Analysis carried out prior to and during development of ICOMOS conservation study of 1993-95; iconostasis and all constituent icons and elements are now in appropriately designed storage conditions on Kizhi Island and restoration of individual elements is proceeding. Training and advice has also been provided by ICOMOS Germany in summer 1994. Completion of restoration work with present resources expected to require 8-9 years.*
- detailed and accurate documentation of the structures by photogrammetric and other means  
*Carried out in support of ICOMOS conservation study of 1993-95; also addressed by ICOMOS Germany experts in summer 1993 (Strehler) ; further addressed during development of current Church of Transfiguration project.*
- detailed analysis of the degree of original material remaining in the structure (survey of authenticity)  
*Carried out during development of the ICOMOS conservation study of 1993-95.*
- development of adequate legislative protection for the inscribed site  
*The 2002 Masterplan makes provision for use of land within the protected area: regrettably the boundaries of the museum remain undefined and the museum itself is not owner of the lands on which their buildings sit. These unresolved issues should be addressed urgently.*

**14th session World Heritage Committee,  
Banff, Alberta, Canada, 7-12 December 1990,  
Document CLT-90/CONF.004/13**

The Committee recommended that the authorities concerned maintain the present balance between the natural and built environment, since the introduction of new homes or wooden churches south of Kizhi Island alters the historical and visual characteristics of the site.

The Committee congratulated the authorities concerned on the recent adoption of a conservation policy that is more in harmony with local traditions and expertise.

**The International meeting for the conservation of Kizhi Pogost  
September 1988**

The meeting recognized the following priority considerations.

- in order to maintain material authenticity, the need to give preference to traditional repair methods rather than experimental disassembly of the building.

This approach has been maintained in the development of restoration proposals for the Church of the Transfiguration.

- the need for a coordinated approach to management of the site and all its aspects
- that the site be proposed by the Russian authorities for inscription on the World Heritage List.

**INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON  
KIZHI POGOST  
AND THE PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF WOODEN STRUCTURES OF THE  
CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION  
31 JULY TO 5 AUGUST 2002  
ST. PETERSBURG - KIZHI POGOST, RUSSIA**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP AND THE  
PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF WOODEN STRUCTURES OF THE  
CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION**

The extensive discussions during the workshop and the site visit to Kizhi Pogost resulted in a number of recommendations, which the participants transmit herewith to the appropriate authorities and organizations and bodies, in particular to the World Heritage Committee, for consideration and follow-up.

1. The presentations on the project of the restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration enhanced the dialogue between the Russian and the international participants and the confidence of all in the careful, systematic and thorough approach in place for the conservation of this property. The care with which this project has been undertaken could serve as a source of lessons for safeguarding of complex wooden structures, the promotion of the protection and conservation of wooden heritage in Eastern Europe, and for exemplary international co-operation involving different stakeholders, international organizations (UNESCO, ICOMOS, ICCROM etc.) as well as national and international experts.
2. While recalling the resolution of the Novgorod Meeting (17 September 1999) to examine the possibility of inscription of Kizhi Pogost on the List of World Heritage in Danger, the participants noted that a multi-disciplinary project team has been assembled and is working actively on the project to a project schedule. Under these circumstances it is not necessary to include this property on the Danger List. There is an extensive restoration plan which has received Government approval and funding.
3. The participants discussed extensively the state of conservation of the Church of the Transfiguration and the restoration project planned for it. The participants expressed their appreciation to the authors of the current project for the quality of analysis evident in their work, for their efforts to learn from the results of past interventions, for their efforts to work in continuity with the findings of the ICOMOS-Russian conservation plan of 1993-1995 and for their commitment to cautious approaches which would minimize the replacement of original material.

While expressing support in general for the approach proposed and its guiding philosophy, the participants expressed the need to be cautious in implementation and therefore propose:

- a) to ensure comprehensive monitoring of impacts of interventions described in detailed plans and work drawings now under preparation in order to be aware of unforeseen consequences and to guide updating and adjustment of the design as required by unforeseen conditions ;
- b) if there are unintended consequences which begin to threaten basic assumptions about the ability of the approach to retain a significant proportion of the original material and maintain authenticity, the participants would recommend, in line with the requirements of national legislation and the need to ensure respect for the heritage values recognized during World Heritage inscription, and a full re-examination of the basic principles and strategies of the adopted restoration approach;
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Furthermore, the participants welcomed the offer of the Norwegian expert to facilitate the use of the lifting technology for which a patent is held in Norway through making available the services of the system's inventor.

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Russian World Heritage Committee to take responsibility to maintain contact with all site managers. The site management team agreed with UNESCO to include links to local web-pages on Kizhi on the UNESCO World Heritage web-page and the UNESCO Moscow web-page to ensure continued dialogue and information for the general public. The participants recommended that the site management team ensure optimal use of the Russian version of the World Heritage Education Kit « World Heritage in Young Hands » for its educational and awareness building activities.

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## ANNEX 5 Pictures



Figure 1 – Church of the Transfiguration with the 7<sup>th</sup> tier of logs and the Refectory removed.



Figure 2 – Lifting set-up at the Church of the Transfiguration



Figure 3 – Temporary bracing at the Church of the Transfiguration.



Figure 4 – Repairs to the porch of the Church of the Intercession.



Figure 5 – log storage



Figure 6 – The 7<sup>th</sup> tier of logs reassembled for analysis and repair.



Figure 7 – Typically deteriorated logs from the 7<sup>th</sup> tier.



Figure 8 – Newly repaired domes on the Church of the Intercession.