

## Summary

### State of conservation report "Cultural and Historic Ensemble of the Solovetsky Islands" (Russian Federation, C 632) 2013-2014

World Heritage Committee decisions concerning "Cultural and Historic Ensemble of the Solovetsky Islands" taken at its 36-th and 37-th sessions and have been considered by the government authorities involved at the federal, regional and municipal levels, users of the property, i.e. Spaso-Preobrazhensky Solovetsky stavropegial Monastery and State Solovetsky historical, cultural and natural reserve museum, and other stakeholders.

The report on the state of conservation of the property has been drawn up in compliance with the decisions of the sessions as well as the comments and recommendations of the 2013 World Heritage Center/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission.

The most part of major restoration activities carried out at the Solovetsky Islands today is performed within the framework of "Culture of Russia" Federal Targeted Programme. In the process of restoration a number of buildings have assumed their former historic appearance, the rehabilitation of historical landscapes is carried out; the scientific studies have enhanced the understanding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

Government bodies, the Russian Orthodox Church and the local communities share desire for an overall restoration of the Ensemble of Solovetsky Monastery. The restoration work is performed in conformity with legislation in terms of reservation of World Heritage cultural properties.

Solovetsky reserve museum specialists have developed a retrospective statement of Outstanding Universal Value of the property to be submitted to the World Heritage Center in February 2014.

In August 2013 the World Heritage Center/ICCROM reactive monitoring mission attended the Solovetsky Islands (the World Heritage Center - Ms. Sidorenko Anna, Advisory Bodies - Ms. Lisitsina Katri, ICCROM). The experts examined the most part of the property, held a number of meetings with the representatives of the federal and regional authorities and other stakeholders.

Materials on the settlement development and the buffer zone usage have been submitted to the experts. The conservation state of the property is preliminarily evaluated as satisfactory; however there are recommendations to be considered in future.

Work on assessing conservation status of the whole archipelago and on identification of the boundary of the conservation area and water area is performed within the framework of a development strategy for the Solovetsky archipelago, a unique property of spiritual, historical, cultural and natural heritage.

Taking into account that the Outstanding Universal Value of the Solovetsky archipelago possesses not only cultural but also natural importance the Government of the Russian Federation in coordination with the Russian Orthodox Church and other stakeholders realize the necessity to organize a State natural Reserve at the archipelago. By the time preliminary work has been finished.

In 2014 a property management plan is to be developed, particularly: the issue is to be discussed with the stakeholders, other users' experience is to be studied, and consultations with international experts are to be held.