



***Постійне представництво
України при ЮНЕСКО
Délégation permanente de l'Ukraine
auprès de l'UNESCO***

№ 2031/29-194/087/5/1-14

Paris, 30 January 2015

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the executive summary on the state of conservation of the property Kyiv: Saint Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra (Ukraine).

Please, accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Enclosure: 8 pages.

**Viktor Voitovych
Permanent Delegate p.i.,
Chargé d'affaires**

**Mr. Kishore Rao
Director
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Executive summary on the state of conservation of the property

Kyiv: Saint Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra (Ukraine) (c 527 bis)

Developing the Historical and Architectural Structure plan of the City of Kyiv as part of the Master Plan of Development of Kyiv till 2025 provides for a number of long-term measures to ensure the protection of Saint Sophia and Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra and the buffer zone of the property, including the exclusion all previously approved dissonant objects, as well as setting the stringent requirements for protection and high-rise building. Building on Klovsky descent, 7-A is defined as disharmonious in the Historical and Architectural Structure plan. To minimize the negative impact of the building silhouette on the city skyline the specialized project backlight silhouettes of monuments of cultural heritage is planned to be applied. At the moment the Historical and Architectural Structure plan is under consideration.

Besides, the development of a zoning plan of the central planning area of Kyiv has begun to determine the conditions and restrictions of land use while maintaining the historical and cultural heritage.

Kyiv City State Administration compiled the Program Manifesto on joint actions of state and territorial authorities, local authorities, NGOs and citizens aimed at preserving the cultural heritage and the further harmonious development of Kyiv, on the base of which the relevant Memorandum of cooperation was signed. A working group on the protection of historical and cultural heritage of Kyiv was also established.

The Institute of Monument Protection Research of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine prepared the Study of the Monastic Landscape of the right bank of Dnipro River adjacent to the World Heritage Site "Kyiv: Saint Sophia Cathedral and surrounding monastic buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra". It investigates the visual disclosure of the property, makes the impact assessment of high-rise construction near the buffer zone at the property and provides suggestions for high-rise buildings in the buffer zone.

The implementation of the Management Plan is carried out by the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv" and the Kyiv Pechersk Historical and Cultural Reserve, by the approval of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine, the central executive body in the field of cultural heritage protection. Unfortunately Ukraine hasn't received the technical review made by ICOMOS.

The specialists working in Kyiv-Pechersk Preserve effectuate a regular monitoring of cave complexes and underground structures by creating a network of observations by data collection and primary information processing in a computer database with further development of recommendations for optimal exploitation regimes on the basis of the information obtained.

The current repair and restoration works were carried out at the monuments of the property.

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**Kyiv: Saint Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-
Pechersk Lavra (Ukraine) (c 527 bis)**

**I. Response from the State Party to the World Heritage Committee's
Decision, paragraph by paragraph**

Decision 38 COM 7B.33

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Document WHC-14/38.COM/7B,**
- 2. Recalling Decisions 35 COM 7B.112, 36 COM 7B.90 and 37 COM 7B.88, adopted at its 35th (UNESCO, 2011), 36th (Saint-Petersburg, 2012) and 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013) sessions respectively.**
- 3. Acknowledges the detailed information provided by the State Party on the progress made in the implementation of its previous decisions.**
- 4. Reiterates its regret that the building on Klovsky descent has been completed despite the requests made at its previous sessions, and that, instead of modifying its height, mitigation through a lighting effect is envisaged, and also reiterates its request to the State Party to reduce its adverse effect by demolishing constructed levels to an appropriate scale.**

In the materials of the Historical and Architectural Structure plan, which is the integral part of the Master Plan of Development of Kiev, building on Klovsky descent, 7-A is defined as disharmonious and it cannot be adopted as a starting point for further urban development.

Today we use a methodology for the analysis of perception of any of the designed object in the historic part of Kiev, which proves instrumental maximum marks of objects that do not affect the perception of the panorama of the historical environment.

This methodology and specialized project backlight silhouettes of monuments of cultural heritage in conditions of insufficient illumination will be fully applied to the construction according to Klovsky descent, 7-A to minimize the negative impact of the building silhouette on the city skyline.

- 5. Urges the State Party to finalize and adopt documents, regulations and measures specified in all its previous decisions to prevent any inappropriate development and potential threats to the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);**

Developing the Historical and Architectural Structure plan of the City of Kyiv as part of the Master Plan of Development of Kyiv till 2025, provides for a number of long-term measures to ensure the protection monuments, including the preservation of universal values pearls - Saint Sophia and Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra and the buffer zone of the property. All previously approved dissonant objects were excluded and stringent requirements for protection and high-rise building were set during developing the structure plan. Today the Historical and Architectural Structure Plan has passed examination and approval of Ukrderzhkheksperytyzy, but there are some comments of Cultural Heritage bodies and the professional community and since the beginning of December 2014 it has been staying on further revision and approval of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine.

After correcting abovementioned comments and approval of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine, the Historical and Architectural Structure Plan, which reflects all warnings UNESCO, will be provided to the Kyiv City Council for consideration and approval.

Also inform that on the basis of the Kyiv City Council decision dated 20.09.2012 №69/8353 "About the Development of Zoning Plan of Kyiv" the development of a zoning plan of the central planning area of Kyiv has began at the end of 2013, including detailed zoning scheme of buffer zone of the reserve, their modes of use, developed by the experts from the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv" involving executive authority to determine the conditions and restrictions of land use while maintaining the historical and cultural heritage, thereby avoiding the risk of uncontrolled development of historic areas. Park area, which today is a part of the landscape monument "Historical Kiev landscape of mountains and valley of the Dnipro River" and integrates protective zones of Sophia and Lavra ensembles into one comprehensive buffer zone is proposed as an area of particularly strict protection (new construction and superstructure are forbidden). These materials (finalized) were submitted for consideration in the further development zoning plan of the central part of Kyiv in October 2014.

In the end of April 2014 executive body of Kyiv City Council (Kyiv City State Administration) during a joint meeting with the participation of public bodies of cultural heritage, Planning and Architecture Department and the National Union of Architects of Ukraine was compiled Program Manifesto on joint actions of state and territorial authorities, local authorities, NGOs and citizens aimed at preserving the cultural heritage and the further harmonious development of Kyiv, which added dissonant list of objects that are built, under construction (construction suspended) or have permission of State architecture and building inspection of Ukraine Declaration on further construction.

On the basis of the abovementioned Manifesto a Memorandum of cooperation between the Department of City Planning and Architecture of Kyiv City State Administration, Cultural Heritage Department of Kyiv City State Administration and Kyiv National Union of Architects of Ukraine for the preservation of cultural heritage and further harmonious development of Kyiv was signed in May 2014.

In addition, 10 September 2014 established a working group on the protection of historical and cultural heritage of Kyiv purpose of which - generate a list of

high-profile buildings that affect the value of the outstanding property, objects further review in respect of urban, monument protection, land legislation and decision-making for each of the objects, as well as developing strategies to advance and formation mechanisms of counteraction to prevent similar situations in the future. The group included representatives of relevant ministries, including the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine as well as representatives of the Kyiv City Council deputies and the public.

Also, we inform you that based on the Decision of Kyiv City Council №6/6 on June 6, 2014 "On the Temporary Control Committee of Kyiv City Council for checking the legitimacy of the Kiev City Council adopted after May 2006" was created the abovementioned committee, the main task of which is checking the legitimacy of decisions adopted after the May 2006 concerning land allocation in the central part of the city, particularly within the buffer zone of a World Heritage site, the legislation of Ukraine and the interests of the local community of Kyiv, determine the cancellation or amendment of these decisions. At the next meeting the committee will be considered tasks for taking effective measures to protect the buffer zone proposal to resolve the legal principles of preservation of cultural heritage and support of implementation of all guarantees provided by international obligations and applicable law.

6. **Also urges the State Party to complete development and ratification of the new cultural heritage legislation and the plans for the protection of the buffer zone, to complete and issue the Urban Master Plan, including zoning regulations with particular emphasis on the establishment of no-construction zones, strict limits to development rights, which should take into consideration the OUV of the property, its specific landscape setting, as well as important views and inter-visibility lines, and to implement the moratorium on high rise and inappropriate constructions.**

The Institute of Monument Protection Research of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine prepared the Study of the Monastic Landscape of the right bank of Dnipro River adjacent to the World Heritage Site "Kyiv: Saint Sophia Cathedral and surrounding monastic buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra", ordered by the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv". It investigates the visual disclosure of the property, makes the impact assessment of high-rise construction near the buffer zone at the property and provides suggestions for high-rise buildings in the buffer zone. This work was reviewed and approved by the joint decision of the Scientific Councils of the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv" and the National Kyiv-Pechersk Historical and Cultural Reserve. After review and approval by the Scientific and Methodological Council for Cultural Heritage Protection mentioned documents will be sent to the Kyiv City Administration for consideration in urban planning.

The full-scale inventory survey of the buffer zone of the architectural ensemble of St. Sophia Cathedral was done in order to elaborate special zoning plan for the world heritage site and its buffer zone and adjacent territories.

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The draft decree of Verkhovna Rada "On Regulating the Urban Development Activities and Preserving the Traditional Character of Historical Center of Kyiv" together with a cover note were prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine for a review (letter №68/01-18/08 of 17.03.2014).

The proposals of protection of the territory of the St. Sophia Cathedral's architectural ensemble from negative impact of the urban environment were drawn up and submitted to the Permanent Commission for Culture and Tourism of the Kyiv City Council (letter № 73/01-17/06 of 27.10.2014), namely:

- Expand the network of hydrogeological monitoring to the territory of the buffer zone of St. Sophia Cathedral's architectural ensemble, create 15-20 monitoring boreholes;
- Repair all water supply engineering facilities within the boundaries of the buffer zone to prevent leakage;
- Prohibit vehicle parking within the boundaries of Sofiyska square;
- Reduce transport pressure in the territory of buffer zone;
- Implement restrictions and limitations for transformations in the buffer zone, including the underground construction ban within the boundaries of hydrogeological protection zone, prohibit any new construction in the severe restriction area, reduce the height of new constructions in the other territories of the buffer zone to 15, 20 and 25 meters.

7. Encourages the State Party to continue its efforts with the finalization of the Management Plan taking into account the recommendations made by the ICOMOS technical review and to clarify methods of implementation, and requests the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies to advise the State Party on completing the Management Plan.

In 2013, the joint team of the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv" and the Kyiv Pechersk Historical and Cultural Reserve prepared the Management Plan for the property at the request of the World Heritage Committee (Sessions 33-37). The document was approved by the Scientific and Methodological Council on Cultural Heritage Protection of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine and submitted for review to the World Heritage Center. The Management Plan is the first document to contain the statement of OUV a justification of criteria of the property.

The National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv" asked the National Commission of Ukraine for UNESCO (Letter № 46/01-17/04 of 06.08.2014) for assistance in contacting ICOMOS with a request to provide a technical review of the Management Plan for the World Heritage Site "Kyiv: Saint Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra" in order to update the plan with the recommendations given by the experts. Unfortunately, no review was provided by ICOMOS. As soon as the review is sent to the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv" and the Kyiv Pechersk Historical and Cultural Reserve, all recommendations made by the ICOMOS expert will be appropriately applied in the Management Plan.

The Management Plan of the Property will be submitted to the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine for approval and implementation after the receipt of the recommendations of ICOMOS technical evaluation and its finalization according to them. The realization of the Management Plan will be provided by the Administrations of the National Kyiv-Pechersk Historical and Cultural Preserve and National Conservation Area "Saint Sophia of Kyiv". Also Management Plan will be transferred to the local authority of cultural heritage protection to participate within the competence in the implementation of this document. The control over the implementation of the Management Plan will be provided by the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine as a central executive authority responsible for the formation and implementation of the State policy in the field of cultural heritage protection.

8. **Also requests the State Party to ensure the implementation of the Management Plan by a qualified management team underpinned by effective consultation with local stakeholders, specialists and conservation experts.**

The implementation of the Management Plan is carried out by the organizations directly involved in the management of the components of the property, i.e. the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv" and the Kyiv Pechersk Historical and Cultural Reserve, by the approval of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine, the central executive body in the field of cultural heritage protection.

All the issues beyond the competence of the two abovementioned organizations shall be managed with the assistance of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine and with participation of the relevant authorities and organizations. In order to ensure the implementation of the Management Plan, the Ministry shall initiate the relevant budgetary funding at the request of the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv" and the Kyiv Pechersk Historical and Cultural Reserve.

9. **Also encourages the State Party to continue monitoring, conservation and repair works within the property, and, in particular, the stabilisation work on the Varangian caves;**

The specialists working in Kyiv-Pechersk Preserve effectuate a regular monitoring of the territory, historic buildings, including cave complexes and underground structures by creating a network of observations (of the monuments technical state of conservation, their temperature and humidity conditions, the dynamics of deformations on buildings and structures, modifications of the day surface, groundwater level etc.), by data collection and primary information processing in a computer database with further development of recommendations for optimal exploitation regimes on the basis of the information obtained.

10. **Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre by 1 February 2016, a progress report, including a 1-page executive summary, on the state of conservation of the property and**

the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016.

II. Other current conservation issues identified by the State Party

The maintenance and repair operations recently performed by relevant departments of the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv" include restoration of the monumental frescoes and mosaics in the northern part of underdome space and in the south-western cruciform pillar of the central drum, conservation of murals in the north-eastern pre-altar compartment, urgent conservation operations in south-western corners of the cathedral's loft, preventive conservation of the iconostasis and metallic floor slabs in the nave.

The conservation of the archaeological remnants of ceramic floor was carried out in the course of current repair of the exhibition halls of the Refectory Church, an architectural monument of 18th century. Now, it houses the permanent exposition "The temple. The city. The state" which includes medieval items from the storage collection of the conservation area.

Engineering equipment, namely air condition system was installed and adjusted in the Metropolitan's Residence, an architectural monument of 18th century.

Following operations were also carried out by the relevant department of the National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv": current repairs of façades, socles, foundation masonry and water drainage of the buildings.

In June – August of 2014, the employees of Archeological Research Department of the conservation area in cooperation with the researchers from the Institute of Archeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine started the archeological excavation in the territory of the Metropolitan's Garden, to the north from Zaborovskiy Gate. The research is focused on the area where the foundation of the medieval temple (early 11th century) was discovered by Dmytro Mileiev in 1909. All archeological operations are performed according to the documents and procedures set by the current legislation of Ukraine.

Pharmaceutical garden was laid in the Metropolitan's courtyard according to the approved St. Sophia Architectural Ensemble Environmental Development Plan.

On the 28th of September, 2014, on the initiative of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Czech Republic, the memorial sign dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of the Solemn Oath of the Voluntary Battalion "Česká družina" was installed on the Monastic Wall, an architectural monument of 18th century.

Besides that, During the report period repair and restoration works were carried out on the range of monuments of Kyiv-Pechersk Preserve namely in the interiors of the Refectory Church with a Refectory, on the facades of the Church of the Nativity of the Virgin, in the Dormition Cathedral interiors, on the Debosquette sustaining wall. Furthermore immediate emergency restoration and conservation

works were conducted at the Church of Our Savior on Berestove. The first stage of the restoration works of the Dormition Cathedral Bell tower was accomplished.

According to the long-term action plan of repair and restoration works on the monuments of Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra Ensemble, as well as works on the reconstruction of lost buildings, works on engineering protection of the territory and landslide events, which is a part of the Plan of the Organization of the Territory of the National Kyiv-Pechersk Historical and Cultural Preserve approved by the Order of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine of 04.07.2013 № 604 a brethren's building №40 was reconstructed on the remains of the foundations of the building of background construction lost in the middle of the twentieth century.

III. Major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) within the protected area that are envisaged.

The restoration of St. Andrew's Church, located in the buffer zone of the World Heritage Site "Kyiv: Saint Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra", is planned to be continued.

All actions will be prepared and undertaken in conformity with the procedures set by the current legislation for scientific and planning documents and upon the approval by the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine.
