

Summary

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

World Heritage Committee decision concerning the WHP "Cultural and Historic Ensemble of the Solovetsky Islands" taken at its 38-th session has been considered by the government authorities involved at the federal, regional and municipal levels and site managers, 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 38-th and previous sessions.

The main part of major restoration activities carried out at the Solovetsky Islands today is performed within the framework of "Culture of Russia 2012-2018" Federal 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 submitted to the World Heritage Center in February 2014 and currently returned for revision based on the comments of ICOMOS.

Order of the Government of Arkhangelskaya oblast from July 16, 2013 № 310-рр approved the development strategy of the Solovetsky archipelago. The main objectives of this Strategy are the conservation, management and development of the unique spiritual, historical, cultural and natural heritage of the archipelago.

A draft Concept of preservation of the cultural heritage of the archipelago is developed as part of the definition of priorities in the field of conservation and reconstruction, not only tangible, but also the intangible cultural and spiritual heritage of Solovetsky Monastery in 2013 – 2014.