PROVISIONAL DRAFT

**Road map to draft the management plan for the WH property**

**um er-rasas**

INTRODUCTION

The “Analysis and Conclusion by World Heritage Center and the Advisory Bodies in 2013”(ref. State of Conservation of the WH property Um er -Rasas in whc.unesco.org/en/soc/1895) recalls the necessity for a management plan, either a thoroughly new one or building on the existing draft, that should include a conservation plan, an archaeological research policy and provisions for public use.

The following proposal for a road map to draft the Management Plan for Um er-Rasas is based on the option of updating and supplementing the existing management plan included in the nomination dossier. It contains, in fact, part of the information to be contained in a Management Plan.

In the context of preparing the new management plan any such information included in the former one must be confirmed or updated.  
It also needs to include new elements and information in the plan, appropriate to answer first all the issues highlighted by the documents of the UNESCO WHC since 2004 (Committee Decisions, State of conservation documents, Monitoring Missions 2005, 2006,2008).  
Another important source to take into account is the second cycle of Periodic Reporting Questionnaire as an important tool for self-assessment by the site managers, especially with regard to the critical aspects and the strengths of the property.

Other documents to be considered to draft the new management plan are all the documents produced by State Party and sent to the WHC **(**Progress Report 2007, State of Conservation Report 2008, 2009, 2011, 2013 and the report being drafted in 2015).

Finally, other documents to be considered to derive any useful information are the plan produced after 2004 : “Preparation of a site management manual” dated 2005, Management Plan funded by the EU programme and written by EU experts, dated 2005-2006, Management Plan prepared by Sabal Zaben and Wolfgang Koellisch dated 2006.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PART.I  IDENTIFICATIONS AND DESCRIPTION |  |  |  |
| Cap. I  IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPERTY  a.State Party  b .Province, Region/Geographical Location  c . Name of Property  d. Geographical Coordinates  e. Maps and plan, showing the boundaries of the property and buffer zone  f. Area of the property and buffer zone h. Ownership | IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPERTY (Nomination File Cap. 1 pag. 1) | Update information about IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROPERTY (special attention to *Ownership, Area of Property, Maps and Plans*) | **MAP** (point e.)  The official map of the property (in whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093) does not contain a precise definition of the boundaries and is not updated to the many changes that have occurred since 2004. Afterwards the State Party has submitted a map displaying the original boundaries of the property at the same time as a proposal for boundary modification in order to establish a buffer zone but these maps still need some adjustments (see SOC 2013 in whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093/documents).  The second cycle of Periodic Reporting questionnaire (ref. point. 4.1.3.3) confirms that the buffer zones of the World Heritage property **(...) could be improved.**  It is suggested, therefore, to draft definitively a new updated map in which the boundaries of the property and the buffer zones are clearly defined (point e.)  The map will possibly contain:   * a legend in English or French referring to the "Boundary of the World Heritage Property" and "Buffer zone of the World Heritage Property"; * clearly labeled coordinate grid (it is suggested, if possible, to work on GIS); * a bar scale; * the orientation (i.e. "north" must be indicated); * the date the map was produced.   **AREA** (point f.)  In the context of the map updating it is suggested to verify the measurement of the areas of each component of the property and of the buffer zone, if it is necessary, in compliance with the results of the new map.  **GEOGRAPHICAL CORDINATES** (point d.)  Verify the geographical coordinates of each component related to a central point of each of them. (A clarification seems appropriate because the coordinates included respectively in Nomination File, World Heritage nomination scanner, Periodic reporting, WHC website do not match with each other).  **OWNERSHIP** (point h.)  Update the ownership due to the new acquisitions of areas by the DoA. |
| Cap. II  STATEMENT OUV | JUSTIFICATION FOR INSCRIPTIONS (Nomination File Cap. 4 pag. 2 ff)  AUTENTICITY AND INTEGRITY (Nomination File pag. 38) | Update Authenticity and integrity | Report the official S'OUV published on WHC's website updated to 2010 <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093>. |
| Cap. III  DESCRIPTION   1. Description of the site 2. History and development | DESCRIPTION (Nomination File pag. 12 ff) | Update DESCRIPTION enhancing differences with respect to the description of 2004, because of the restoration work, or other factors (new shelter of the Church of Saint Stephen, Stylite Tower, Visitor centre, fences, Paths, (new studies or others, etc.) |  |
| Cap. IV  HISTORY OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY OF UM ER RASAS |  | Add a new paragraph named *History of the world heritage property of Um er Rasas.* | It is suggested to insert a brief history of the exchanges between the State Party and UNESCO since the time of the inscription at the present time.  This can be useful to highlight topics and critical issues on the UNESCO site stressing in particular, those not yet resolved.  For the purpose it could be used as reference the summary document "History of the World Heritage site of Um er- Rasas" drafted in the expert mission in 13 -19 December 2014. |
| PART. II  MANAGEMENT PLAN AND OBJECTIVES |  |  |  |
| Cap. V  GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE | Agencies involved with the management plan (Nomination File pag. 43)  Recent level of management and contacts (Nomination File pag. 44)  Source of finance (Nomination File pag. 47)  Source of expertise (Nomination File pag. 47 ff)  2nd cicle Periodic Reporting questionnaire, section 4. 3 /4.4 | Add a new paragraph named *Governance* and *Management structure*  Update or confirm the MANAGEMENT PLAN AND OBJECTIVES, SOURCES OF FINANCE, SOUCE OF EXPERTISE (if needed, otherwise confirm information already given) |  |
| Cap. VI  Ownership, ZONING AND PROTECTION   1. Ownership 2. Zoning 3. Protection | Ownership of the site and ZONING (Nomination File pag. 39 ff)  Protective Measures and Means of Implementing them (Nomination File pag. 47 ff)  Agreed plans related to the property(Nomination File pag. 46 ff) | Deal in the same context the topics ownership, zoning and protection.  Update Ownership of the site and Zoning.  Update *Protective measures and Means of Implementing them.*  Update or confirm AGREED PLANS RELATED TO THE PROPERTY (if needed, otherwise confirm information already given) | **Ownership** (point a.)  Update the ownership due to the new acquisitions of areas by the DoA (see also Cap. I point h.).  This can be useful to indicate the boundaries of the areas corresponding to the different properties on a map similar to that used to draft the updated map of the property and its buffer zone.  It is suggested to provide updated information on the procedures for expropriation of areas currently under way (the DoA has reported having taken action to acquire part of the site still privately owned, about one third of the total area).  **ZONING** (point b.)  Update zoning (according to the most recent urban planning).  It is suggested to provide brief and schematic information on zoning and protective measures, if any, arising from it. For example, it is suggested to indicate the destination of use of the different zones of the property and of the buffer zone, the activities (eg. building, farming, grazing, etc.) that are permitted and those prohibited. Explain, if any, threatening effects arising from the current planning (for example, if any, new building close the site and the buffer zone).  It can be useful to show zoning on a map similar to that used to draft the updated map of the property and its buffer zone.  **PROTECTION** (point c.)  Update Protection Measures by law (Law of Antiquities, No21 for the year 1988, Bylaw No. 23 of 2014Management regulation of Tourist site and others, if any) with a brief indication of how they are practically implemented and of the direct consequences of their implementation. It would be important to indicate what activities that are permitted and those prohibited in the property and in the buffer zone, as well as a brief description of the procedures to obtain any permits.  It might also be useful to indicate on a map similar to the one on which were drawn the boundaries, the areas on which the measures of protection and zoning apply.  For updating this part, take into account the results of the second cycle of Periodic Reporting questionnaire. Regarding the protective Measures the State party has provided in PR the following answers:   * An adequate legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and/or Integrity of the World Heritage property (related to the property) exists but there are **some deficiencies in implementation (ref. point 4.2.2.2)** * An adequate legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and/or Integrity of the World Heritage property (related to the buffer zone) exists but there are **some deficiencies in implementation (ref. point 4.2.3.3)** * The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and/or Integrity **(ref. point 4.2.4.4)** * There is **acceptable** capacity/resources to enforce legislation and/ or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain **(ref. point 4.2.5.3)**   It is suggested to provide a brief description to explain these issues. |
| Cap VII  FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROPERTY | Factor impacting the site (Nomination File pag. 49 ff)  2nd cicle Periodic Reporting questionnaire, section 3. | Include the FACTORS IMPACTING THE SITE (it should be better calling it *Factors affecting the property)* chapter in the MANAGEMENT PLAN AND OBJECTIVES and update it (i.e. no mention of seismic activity to be found ”while in other documents it is mentioned) | Update the factors affecting the property also in compliance with those individuated in the Nomination File, appropriately confirmed or updated. For example, the case of enviromental pressure since rain, though not frequently, it’s a critical factor for the conservation of mosaics and ancient structures vulnerable to humidity because of the need of improve rainwater drainage system. Another case is that of natural disasters such as the earthquake risk to which the site appears to be vulnerable.  Important factors arising from UNESCO WHC documents necessarily be taken into account are:   * Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure (visitors’centre /visitors’ pathways) * Unstable structures and lack of security * Conservation, intervention and monitoring of the Stylite Tower * Lack of comprehensive conservation plan * Need for an archaeological research policy * Need for a public use plan   These items can be supplemented taking into account the individuation of factors in the section 3 of the 2nd cycle Period Reporting questionnaire. In this section many negative factors have been identified. These are current ones (housing, commercial development, industrial areas, temperature, dust, pests, illegal activities), and potential ones (transportation infrastructure, air pollution, solid waste, land conversion, grazing, wind, relative humidity, radiation/light, water, micro-organism, deliberate distruction of heritage, civil unrest, storms, flooding, drought, desertification, temperature change, other climate change impact, earthquake, erosion and siltation/deposition, fire, low impact research/monitoring activities, hight impact research/monitoring activities).  It is suggested to briefly describe the current negative factors, identifying the causes and consequences and impacts.  It is also suggested to identify among potential negative factors those actually relevant for the property and, in this case, describe them very briefly.  Add other relevant factors , if any, that are not already included in the documents cited. |
| Cap VIII ACTION PLAN |  | Add a new paragraph *Action Plans,* establishing a comprehensive Programme of Action Plans addressed to:   1. Contras potential or real risks (natural risks) 2. Protect and enhance the values of the site (i.e. conservation plan, use plan, etc.) 3. Increase capacity building (i.e. training courses, etc.) 4. Increase awareness and participation (i.e. establishing a schedule of meetings with stakeholders with the aim of getting information, spreading knowledge, facilitating collaboration) 5. Improve level of communication for different targets (local communities, general public, domestic or international visitors). |  |