ANNUAL REPORT ON THE CONSERVATION
OF THE WORLD HERITAGE

2015

State Party : REPUBLIC OF PERU
Name of the property : CHAN CHAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ZONE

Trujillo, January 2016
I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2015 Annual Report on the Conservation of the Chan Chan Archaeological Zone is referred to in Decision 39 COM 7A.4, adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th Session, held in the city of Bonn, Germany, from June 28 to July 8, 2015. Through this Decision, the Committee requests Peru to send, by February 1, 2016, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the recommendations set forth in Paragraph 5, which will be examined by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th Session to be held in 2016, with the purpose of considering a potential removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The Peruvian Government maintains its political decision to continue promoting and financing the implementation of the Master Plan for the Conservation and Management of the Chan Chan Archaeological Complex through the Ministry of Culture (central office, Decentralized Directorate of Culture of La Libertad and Special Chan Chan Archaeological Complex Project).

The Ministry of Culture continues to develop the relevant actions and efforts according to its competencies for the protection and conservation of the cultural property and its surroundings. In 2015, the execution of Public Investment Projects was continued in the fields of archaeological research, conservation and social use of the different zones of the archaeological complex as well as maintenance activities, representing an investment of over 7 million Soles.

The strengthening of the Pan American Centre for the Conservation of Earthen Heritage is highlighted with the implementation of the Earthen Architecture Laboratory and the execution of research programs relating to technology in construction materials, meteorological factors and volumetric surveys with the use of state-of-the-art technologies. The results from the research programmes contribute to improving the knowledge of the Property and constitute the scientific basis for the conservation works.

The Peruvian State, through the Ministry of Culture, has continued to implement the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Prevention Programme in 2015, an initiative that is unprecedented in history and benefits the Chan Chan Archaeological Complex, among other heritage sites, and which was allocated a budget of over 4 million Soles. Protective works were carried out, such as temporary roofing and coverings, as well as preventive and control measures against increases in water table levels through the maintenance and cleaning of drains, among other activities.

The support of national and international institutions continues within the framework of cooperation agreements, especially in the fields of conservation and monitoring of the water table level of the archaeological complex. Likewise, since 2002, and with the main objective of collaborating in the implementation of the Chan Chan Master Plan, the Italian Mission in Peru (MIPE) continues to carry out research activities in connection with the use of the territory, the degradation of structures, and the technical training of the specialists of the Ministry of Culture. In November 2015, the Italian Mission conducted the training course on
“Augmented reality for the detection of hidden archaeological remains: high reliefs of Chan Chan,” on the topic of the transfer of technology to the specialists of the Ministry of Culture and the use of state-of-the-art instruments for the registration of heritage sites, data processing, and the development of augmented reality products.

With reference to the public use of the property, the Architecture and Urban Planning Room of the Site Museum was renovated; in addition, a document for the updating of the museographic script has been prepared, aimed at optimizing the presentation of the history and the Exceptional Universal Values of Chan Chan. Furthermore, a process is being followed to enter into an international cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Culture and the National COPESCO Plan for the execution of the Public Investment Project “Improvement and Expansion of Public Tourism Services at the Chan Chan Site Museum in the district of Huanchaco, province of Trujillo, department of La Libertad.”