
Qhapaq Ñan

(Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru)

No 1459

Official name as proposed by the State Party

Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System

Location

Provincias de Jujuy, Salta, Tucumán, Catamarca, La Rioja, San Juan, Mendoza
Republic of Argentina

Gobiernos Municipales de La Paz, Coroico, Guaqui, Desaguadero, Tiwanacu, Viacha, Laja
Plurinational State of Bolivia

Regiones de Arica Parinacota, Antofagasta, Atacama
Republic of Chile

Gobernación de Nariño
Republic of Colombia

Gobiernos Autónomos Descentralizados Municipales de Tulcán, Montúfar, Mira, Ibarra, Cayambe, Latacunga, Salcedo, Alausí, Cañar, Déleg, El Tambo, Cuenca, Azogues, Naranjal, Loja, Saraguro, Quilanga, Espíndola
Republic of Ecuador

Regiones of Cusco, Ancash, Junín, Puno, Huánuco, La Libertad, Piura, Lima
Republic of Peru

Brief description

Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System is an extensive Inca communication, trade and defence network of roads covering over 30,000 kilometres. Constructed by the Incas over several centuries and partly based on pre-Inca infrastructure, the network reached its maximum expansion in the 15th century, when it spread across the length and breadth of the Andes. The network is based on four main routes, which originate from the central square of Cusco, the capital of the Tawantinsuyu. These main routes are connected to several other road networks of lower hierarchy which created linkages and cross-connections. 720.79 kilometres of the Inca trail were selected to highlight the social, political, architectural and engineering achievement of this network along with its associated infrastructure for trade, accommodation and storage as well as sites of religious significance.

Category of property

In terms of categories of cultural property set out in Article I of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this is a serial nomination of 291 *sites*.

These 291 sites are grouped in 149 sections of the Qhapaq Ñan and contain 314 associated archaeological sites.

In terms of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (July 2013) annex 3, it is also a *heritage route*.

1 Basic data

Included in the Tentative List

20 July 2010 (Argentina)

20 July 2010 (Bolivia)

12 April 2011 (Chile)

26 July 2010 (Colombia)

13 March 2011 (Ecuador)

13 August 2010 (Peru)

International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund for preparing the Nomination

None

Date received by the World Heritage Centre

1 February 2013

Background

This is a new nomination.

Consultations

ICOMOS has consulted its International Scientific Committees on Cultural Routes, Archaeological Heritage Management, Earthen Architectural Heritage and several independent experts.

Technical Evaluation Mission

ICOMOS technical evaluation missions visited specific segments of the property within the following schedule:

25 September – 6 October 2013 (Argentina)

26 September – 8 October 2013 (Chile)

27 September – 8 October 2013 (Peru, North)

12 October – 16 October 2013 (Peru, South)

17 October – 22 October 2013 (Bolivia)

21 October – 28 October 2013 (Ecuador)

28 October – 1 November 2013 (Colombia)

25 October – 3 November 2013 (Peru, Centre)

Additional information requested and received from the State Party

ICOMOS sent a letter to the six States Parties on 24 September 2013 requesting additional information in form of an inventory or list of all individual component sites, the justification of the respective contribution of each component site to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and one map or at least one map per State Party at a scale of approximately 1:1,000,000. The States Parties were requested to provide one shared response to the issues raised. The States Parties provided additional information on 22 November 2013, which included a revised inventory of component sites, tables and explanatory notes on the validity of criteria in relation to

each Qhapaq Ñan segment and apologies that maps could not be provided as requested.

On 16 January 2014 ICOMOS addressed the States Parties with a second additional information request, suggesting a reduced selection of component sites and requesting further dialogues as to whether such reduced selection could seem feasible to the States Parties. The letter also requested additional information concerning the overarching management system and suggested a meeting to discuss the revised selection of components with the technical experts. The States Parties responded by letter on 12 February 2014 expressing concerns about the selection methodology applied to reduce the selection of site components but welcoming the idea of a meeting.

A first constructive meeting between ICOMOS and the representatives of the States Parties' Permanent Delegations to UNESCO was organized on 28 Friday February 2014 at the World Heritage Centre. The technical experts of the participating States Parties attended the meeting via online conferencing and made significant contributions. As a result of the meeting, an additional meeting with physical presence of the technical experts was suggested for 7 March 2014. It was agreed that this meeting would not provide for additional information to be presented but allow exchange on the methodologies applied for site selection and if appropriate revise the reduced list suggested by ICOMOS.

On 28 February 2014 ICOMOS also received additional information in response to its letter of 16 of January 2014. Following review of the additional information received, a final meeting took place on 7 March 2014, which included 11 technical experts and representatives of the Permanent Delegations of all participating States Parties as well as 6 representatives of ICOMOS. The meeting concluded in an agreed upon selection of property components. This selection was further confirmed in writing by all 6 States Parties which were received between 11 and 17 March 2014. The additional information provided at all stages of this exchange process is included under the relevant sections below.

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report

7 March 2014

2 The property

Note: Due to limitations on the length of evaluation reports, not all sites in this large series have been described in this report. In the nomination dossier and the additional information, each of the segments is described in text and images.

Description

The serial nomination of Qhapaq Ñan comprises a complex communication, trade and transport system which has been presented as a heritage route. As such it is based on its individual elements of architectural and engineering works but also includes the social, functional

and political relations between the different elements which have been nominated in 149 segments and 291 component sites.

The architectural expressions which are integrated in the Qhapaq Ñan have been divided into typologies under three distinct categories: (1) architecture associated with the road, (2) architecture of religion and power and (3) domestic architecture. The architecture of the road types is predominantly concerned with the technology of the road network construction as well as the auxiliary structures and their construction techniques, for example bridges either suspended on logs or cut in stone, terrace construction (andenes), as well as road surface and drainage channel design techniques. The roadside infrastructure includes storehouses (qolqas), signposts or markers and other elements that were created in other contexts but were referred to as reference points such as rock arts or petroglyphs.

The architecture of religion and power integrates buildings for administrative or gathering purposes, kallankas (large rectangular buildings), or palaces and smaller public buildings. The administrative and functional relations of the Qhapaq Ñan further recognize several different centres in the governance hierarchy. Religious structures are often temples or usnus (ceremonial platforms) but also chullpas (funerary towers) and include the often very sophisticated architecture of summit ceremonial sites. Smaller public buildings like tambos (wayside inns) or pukaras (fortresses or administrative structures) can be found at regular intervals and further orthogonal wayside structures the use of which could not be fully clarified but may be related to cattle gathering have also been included.

In the category of domestic architecture emphasis is given to villages and residential structures which developed alongside the Qhapaq Ñan. Here the predominant architectural types are kanchas (the most basic architectural residence unit), masmas (gabled houses with supporting pillars) and various forms of smaller dwellings described in examples observed along the road network. These also include the characteristic bohíos, small dwellings with circular floor.

In terms of road construction typologies the analysis in the nomination dossier distinguishes unobstructed natural and paved sections, sections which are terraced to pass along steep slopes, walled sections either on one side for stabilization on or both sides for protective purposes. Other road sections have been excavated from the rock surface, structured with stairs to allow for gradual climbs along slopes, elevated sections mostly based on stone elevation in sometimes flooded or swampy areas.

The following sections describe the key Qhapaq Ñan segments in the territories of the participating States Parties. The description highlights some of the different elements rather than aiming to present the complete selection of elements presented:

Argentina

Argentina presents five key sections to the Qhapaq Ñan proposal which are (1) Santa Ana – Valle Colorado, (2) Santa Rosa de Tastil – Potrero de Payogasta, (3) Potrero de Payogasta – Los Graneros de la Poma, (4) Los Corrales – Las Pircas, and (5) Ciénaga de Yalguaraz – Puente del Inca. These sections are presented in 20 sub-sections, 26 component sites and include 50 significant testimonies of architectural and engineering works as well as 33 associated archaeological sites. The length of road in the Argentinean sections of the serial nomination amounts to 118.8 kilometres. The overall size of the Argentinean components amounts to 632.98 hectares, which are surrounded by a buffer zone of 24,114.32 hectares.

The Argentinean components provide testimony to the southernmost of the four main roads, the Qollasuyu. The name of this southern expansion, which also comprises the Chilean parts, western Bolivia and southern Peru is derived from Qollas, a powerful kingdom previously located at the Lake Titicaca Basin, which resisted and rebelled against Inca control until their defeat opened the southward expansion of the Inca Empire. The Qollasuyu was not only the largest but also most diverse of the four suyus and covered deserts as well as the highest mountain ranges included in the Qhapaq Ñan route network. Although not very densely populated, the diversity of cultural traditions and peoples posed significant challenges to the Inca administration and control.

The site components in Argentina provide specific evidence of the road network joining mining operations with central as well as regional power and consumption centres. Key products traded from here were copper and gold but also agricultural produce. In terms of technical characteristics, the road segments in Argentina range from simple or raked to variations of clear and marked paths, paved roads, in particular with stone stairways on slopes, and elements supplemented by special technical devices, such as drains or bridges.

Bolivia

One main section subdivided into 4 subsections occurs in Bolivia, which is Desaguadero – Viacha; and its subsections: Desaguadero – Guaqui, Guaqui – Tiwanacu Cantapa, Cantapa – Yanamuyu Alto, and Yanamuyu Alto – Viacha. These subsections are presented in 9 component sites and include 8 associated archaeological structures. The lengths of the road components located in Bolivia amounts to 85.67 kilometres and the 9 component sites comprise 81.33 hectares and are surrounded by a buffer zone of 94.54 hectares.

The road segments in Bolivia illustrate the integration of earlier and ancestral knowledge into the expansion of the Inca road network, in particular the advantages gained from integration of earlier knowledge and technologies developed in road construction. Of the Inca era, the Bolivian components give evidence of Tambo architecture

as well as strong evidence of ritual and ceremonial elements. The Inca influence in the Bolivian section is indicated as specifically visible in the hierarchical organization which emerged from the Inca state and which created a number of local centres, defensive structures providing protection from groups in the Amazonia region, newly built road works with significant engineering achievements of the Inca era and the strong imprint of ceremonial centres, predominantly along the shores of the Titicaca Lake.

As previously indicated for the components in Argentina, the Bolivian contribution also reflects the main road of Qollayusu in the highlands of La Paz. In engineering typology, the roads include dirt/paved roads or simple footpaths, including original pre-Incan road sections as well as pathways of compacted earth or projections.

Chile

Chile has proposed all its network segments on the level of sub-sections rather than sections of which it contributes five: Putre – Zapahuiria, Incahuasi – Lasana, Cupo – Catarpe, Camar – Peine, and Portal del Inca – Finca Chafaral. These sub-sections are presented in 34 segments according to dedicated inventory numbers, 51 component sites and include 138 associated archaeological sites. The overall length of the road components in Chile amounts to 112.94 kilometres and the component sites combined cover an area of 176.5 hectares which are surrounded by a buffer zone of 6,407.98 hectares.

Two main longitudinal routes are captured in the components of northern Chile, one leading to the Andean western slope highlands linking high plateaus and salt lakes and the second crossing lower altitudes, starting at the Arica coast and passing through the central valley towards headwaters of the Loa River. In Chile the Incas also faced great challenges, such as in the Atacama Desert, which they crossed in desire of southern mineral resources. Like the previous southern states of the Qhapaq Ñan, the Chilean components represent the extension of the Qollayusu. In terms of architectural structure they include tambos and tambillos, supply and administrative centres, strategic control posts, so-called chaskiwasis, food deposits, and places of worship.

Also in Chile, the Qhapaq Ñan integrates many pre-existing roads which were repaired or extended. While in the northern parts of the Chilean territory, the Inca governed and constructed several secondary and tertiary road connections, in the southern regions the roads were concentrated along the key routes required to ensure trade and exchange of mining products. Road typologies range from unobstructed roads to paved roads, at times with side walls or road side markers. The Chilean sections have also preserved the very characteristic milestones along the road side, in particular in remote and desert regions.

Colombia

Colombia contributes elements in one section of the Qhapaq Ñan, Rumichaca – Pasto, which it does not further divide into subsections or segments. The section is presented in 9 site components, which do not contain any associated archaeological sites. The 9 road segments combine 17 kilometres of road components and comprise an overall area of 8.42 hectares, surrounded by a buffer zone of 94.28 hectares.

In Colombia, the Qhapaq Ñan established a trade and communication network which allowed people to quickly access different altitudes of the steep landscape but also a variety of agricultural products produced in the region. The landscape is characterized by canyons in the mountainous territory as well as rocky outcrops and deep, gentle valleys. Most road segments of the Colombian components show terraced roads that were constructed over time as result of material accumulation next to initially built walls on steep slopes or segments where the path has been excavated and often cleared from the surrounding vegetation.

Ecuador

The Ecuadorian contribution differentiates between National Sections and Binational Sections shared with Perú and Colombia. Among the national sections the following are listed: Pulcas - Troya A, Pulcas - Troya B, Mariscal Sucre - El Tambo, La Paz - Quebrada Tupala, Loma Virgen – Chiquito, Juan Montalvo – Cabuyal, Píman – Caranqui, Campana Pucará – Quitoloma, Nagsiche – Panzaleo, Achupallas-Ingapirca, Palcañan Grande - Palcañan Chico, El Tambo - Honorato Vásquez, Cerro de Cojitambo (Loma Curiquina) - Rumiurco, Pachamama – Llaqueo, Llaviuco – Llaviuco, Mamamag-Mamamag, Paredones-Paredones, Hierba Buena - San Antonio, Santa Martha - Botija Paquí, Caragshillo - Cañaro – Tuncarta, Oñacapa - Loma de Paila (La Zarza), Ciudadela - Vinoyaco Grande, Quebrada Huatuchi - Plaza del Inca - Las Aradas, Jimbura - Puente Roto, San José – Llamacanchi - Las Limas. The sections are presented as 62 site components in 28 inventoried segments and include 50 associated archaeological sites. The length of the Ecuadorian Qhapaq Ñan components amounts to 113.73 kilometres. The size of all serial components in Ecuador is 41.98 hectares, which are surrounded by a buffer zone of 70.990 hectares.

The Ecuadorian components provide evidence to the architectural and engineering capacities of the Chinchaysuyu road expansion. The sections integrate considerable altitude differences from the coastal areas in the west to the high Andean peaks in the eastern part. Here the road network perhaps best illustrates the aim to connect the main centres of political, administrative economic, defence and ceremonial purpose with the shortest road connections possible in the given terrain.

In terms of road typology, the Ecuadorian sections include terraced and plateau road segments in the higher mountain ranges as well as cleared, unobstructed and

more rarely paved roads. Several associated archaeological sites illustrate ceremonial practices including usnu sites on mountain peaks. The binational sections which connect the Ecuadorian components to the sites in Colombia and Peru distinctly illustrate the transnational aspects of this heritage route.

Peru

The Peruvian segments of the Qhapaq Ñan, consist of 8 main sections, which are subdivided into 114 subsections, which will hence not be listed here. The eight main sections are composed of Plaza Inca Hanan – Hauk'aypata, Cusco – Desaguadero, Ollantaytambo – Lares-Valle Lacco, Vitkus – Choquequirao, Quewe – Winchiri, Xauxa – Pachacamac, Huánuco Pampa – Haumachuco, and Aypate – Las Pircas. The segments are presented in 140 component sites in 114 inventoried sections. These also include 85 associated archaeological sites. The length of the Peruvian components amounts to 720.28 kilometres and the overall territory comprised in the property boundaries is 11,406.95 hectares. These are surrounded by buffer zones of in total 663,069.68 hectares.

The Peruvian segments include the centre and core of the Qhapaq Ñan and the point of origin of the four main routes in the Hanan Hauk'aypata Square in Cusco. This centre defines the directions of the four suyus that connect the most remote parts of the Inca Empire. The central parts also best illustrate the complete range of planning of a large-scale territorial integration project and highlight many of the technologies utilized in conception, design and implementation of a road network which enables the policy of colonisation and integration of the Tawantinsuyu.

The Chinchaysuyu is the northern main branch and reaches from the Cusco valley into today's Ecuador and Colombia. The Antisuyu extends to the east and covers high plateaus and areas of the Amazon. It is only represented by Peruvian components in this serial nomination. The Qollasuyu connected the southern territories including today's Argentina, Bolivia and Chile. Finally the shortest of all suyus, the Kuntisuyu, connected Cusco westwards to the coastal areas. Also the Kuntisuyu is exclusively presented in the Peruvian components of this nomination.

The Peruvian component sites illustrate the most significant administrative centres in the heart of the Peruvian empire but also integrated the greatest variety in road and especially bridge construction technologies. The variety of typological features in architectural and engineering achievements is too great to list these in more detail. However, it can be noted that these segments present the skill and mastery of the Incan state system and its governance project in creating the Qhapaq Ñan, which not only enabled the expansion of the empire but also stabilized the state internally and provided its lifeline in trade, communication, administration and defence.

History and development

Since the 3rd millennium BC urban societies based on agriculture had been established in the central Andes as result of the development of irrigation systems which allowed for use of the often scarce water resources. Exploitation of mineral resources soon allowed for the production of metal tools and knowledge about organic fibres found in the natural resources for the production of textiles. Significant changes occurred in the region from the 6th century onwards when a civilization started to emerge around a spiritual centre and a distinctive hierarchical power structure, with primary and secondary chiefs alongside the common population. A severe prolonged agricultural crisis occurred in the 6th century due to climate change phenomena and disrupted regional and local rule and settlement patterns by mobilizing people to seek better living conditions, causing wars among different groups and territories. The Wari turned out most successful in these events and established their capital in Ayacucho as well as gaining access to sufficient agricultural resources. This allowed for the establishment of a first reign, which covered a larger region.

Another large empire pre-existing the Inca expansion is the one of Tiwanaku, which covered the present day territories of Bolivia, southern Peru and Chile and grew from 300 CE onwards towards its height in the 11th century. The Tiwanaku empire can however not be seen as a uniform governance system. It was rather a structure of hierarchies which involved local systems and identities which become part of the larger political system. In contrast to the later Inca Empire the Tiwanaku was based on its ability to encompass multiple political systems. Also in the northern Andes and western coastal regions numerous and diverse Andean societies preceded the Inca expansion and the integration of their infrastructure allowed for the fast expansion of both the Qhapaq Ñan and the Inca State.

The Incas started as no more than a tribal group based around the River Watanay, one of several hundred tribal groups who continued to regularly engage in warfare over territory. They directed their first conquests against Calca, situated north of Cusco and the Yucay Valley. Following this the Inca managed to obtain control of Cusco, a well established regional centre under Wari rule. They continued to expand eastwards along the high mountain plateaus towards the Titicaca Lake. The people of Charcas, Soras, Carangas, Caracaras, Lipes and Chicas who lived in the eastern valleys and the Bolivian high plateau and were fully incorporated by the Incas at this early stage.

The exact events that led to the formation of the Inca State remain disputed among archaeologists and historians. Likely scenarios highlight that the attack on Cusco by the Chancas, a political unit that had its centre in Andahuaylas at the end of the Wiraqocha government allowed the Incas to rise and soon take over its rule. The first key expansion was then started by Pachakuti, who occupied the territories of the Chancas, Soras, Lucanas and other neighbouring nations. From the middle of the

15th century onwards, the Inca territorial possessions were larger than those of any earlier political unit on the continent as well as any other political unit of their time.

The following ruler Topa Inca incorporated the powerful Chimor dominions on the north Peruvian coast. The northern border at this time reached closed to Quito in Ecuador, the southern to the Maule River in Chile. At the time of the eleventh Inca, Wayna Qhapaq, the territory was further expanded into northern Ecuador and south of Colombia. Through these expansions the Tawantinsuyu, soon incorporated the so-called four corners of the world in its influence and pacified lands across a large continent paving the way for coexistence of different people and cultural traditions. This vast expansion happened in little more than one century, which lasted most likely from 1430 to 1532. During this century, the Inca succeeded in uniting the different political entities, multiplied their agricultural and mining resources and integrated the economic and social achievements in a territory expanding more than 5,000 kilometres from north to south. Cusco was the centre of the political, administrative, social and military power of the Incas. The Inca rule was supported by a State Council of representatives of the people that had been subdued, at least one chief for each suyu.

The Incas pragmatically established diverse approaches to managing the wide territories which were controlled by use of arms, diplomacy and establishment of critical alliances. After occupying a territory the administration would conduct a census of people, land and products to judge the potential benefits of the region and calculate the tax incomes. Military defence service was based on the principle of mita, a concept of rotation according to which different groups would be responsible for defence at different times. The Inca economy was based on a system of vertical control, according to which the various ecological systems at different altitudes were managed in similar patterns.

In political and administrative terms, the Inca created a monarchy like ruling class, where the key power lay in the figure of the king-like Inca as the self-proclaimed son of the sun. The Inca class, bound by wider blood ties to the ruler fulfilled all key administrative and governance positions. A third hierarchical level in society was formed by the so-called kurakas, lords of the dominated regions who represented the local people and were associated to the Inca regime. They retained control in the regions and created a more indirect form of Inca governance.

Although the Qhapaq Ñan is often referred to as a key element of the political, administrative, communication and defence structure of the Inca State, much of it already existed before the Inca occupied the respective territories. Two main roads ran along the Tawantinsuyu, the first along the lower coastal areas and the other on the highlands and mountain plateaus. Both were connected by several transversal roads integrating major centres into the network. While the Inca strengthened, maintained and expanded these roads, the new constructions were often networks of secondary roads which linked all the different

Tawantinsuyu populations. At specific intervals along the road and depending on the geography, the Inca constructed structures for the storing of food and other articles and for the refuge of traders and travellers. The largest and best supplied tambos were located in the great centres along the road.

The road network of the Qhapaq Ñan also facilitated the exploration of the continent by the first Spanish Conquerors who arrived from the north in 1526. The Spanish horsemen had military superiority over the Inca in terms of equipment and weapon technology. First battles between the Spanish – supported by several local groups annexed in Central America – and the Inca occurred on the territory of present Ecuador. The Spanish controlled most of the Inca territories by 1533 after they had deposed the ruler and made one of his brothers who was cooperative their assigned head of state. Three years later following some local feuds, the Spanish authorities took full control and the Inca retreated into the remote mountain territories where they ruled for another 36 years.

The end of the Inca Empire did by no means imply a reduction or destruction of the Qhapaq Ñan. It remained the key transportation, communication and trade network of the continent for the following centuries. Today, the remains of the Qhapaq Ñan road network are still used as key transportation roads across five countries, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia and Peru and reach into the south of Colombia. Parts of it have been adapted to modern means of transport and have been asphalted or even converted to motorway. Larger sections remain in their original materials of the Inca era and are used by pedestrians and with riding animals, in particular horses, donkeys and mules.

The Qhapaq Ñan is perceived as a practical and living heritage and is maintained and managed in traditional methods by the communities which live along its route. Today, the Qhapaq Ñan remains not only as a tangible road. It continues to exist in the collective memory and is the network that links the myths and tales of the past together. It is a strong connective element of the cultural traditions and intangible heritage practices in the far-stretched regions of the former Inca Empire.

3 Justification for inscription, integrity and authenticity

Comparative analysis

The comparative analysis presented compares the Qhapaq Ñan against other cultural routes, trade and communication networks at an international level. Other networks mentioned include the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, Mexico, inscribed as a heritage route on the World Heritage List (2010, (ii) and (iv)), the Incense Route, Desert Cities in the Negev, Israel (2005, (iii) and (v)), the Route of Santiago de Compostela, Spain (1993, (ii), (iv) and (vi)), and the Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range, Japan (2004, (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi)). In addition to the cultural routes, the

international comparative analysis also considers sacred mountain ranges or linear defence systems included in the World Heritage List, such as Frontiers of the Roman Empire, United Kingdom and Germany (1987, 2005, 2008, (ii), (iii) and (iv)), or the Canal du Midi, France, (1996, (i), (ii), (iv) and (vi)).

The international comparative analysis further explores the heritage routes included on tentative lists with a focus on Latin America and large scale international projects. Examples analysed include the Gold Route in Paraty and its landscape, Brazil, the Chinese Section of the Silk Road, China, the Silk Road Sites in India, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, the Quttinirpaaq in Canada, the Route of The Rivers in Guatemala, the African Slave Route, Timbo to Rio Pongo segment in Guinea, or the Huichol Route through the sacred sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuari Huajuye) in Mexico. ICOMOS considers that the international comparative analysis is extensive and justifies on a principle basis the Outstanding Universal Value of the Qhapaq Ñan.

The comparative analysis of the selection of sites within the wider Qhapaq Ñan network is presented in tabular format and based on a number of different qualifiers including historic and modern research available on a road segment and its associated structures, its state of conservation and protection by national legislation as well as the existing management mechanism and potential for future investigations.

It is justified that the selection presented was qualified according to their functional, social and cultural relations to the Qhapaq Ñan, the specific road and architectural typologies illustrated as well as the administrative and legal contexts. ICOMOS understands that the Qhapaq Ñan is presented as a cultural itinerary for which according to annex 3 of the *Operational Guidelines* the cultural significance is to be judged as a whole, where the route has a worth over and above the sum of the elements making it up and through which it gains its cultural significance. However, given that this route has been presented as a serial nomination of 291 component sites, ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis needs to qualify the specific contribution of each component in line with paragraph 137 of the *Operational Guidelines*, which stipulates that each component part should contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as a whole in a substantial, scientific, readily defined and discernible way.

In response to a request for additional information by ICOMOS the States Parties submitted further information on the specific contribution of each component site to the overall Outstanding Universal Value. Despite this information the discernible contribution of a smaller number of component sites did not seem clear, which was further discussed in the meetings arranged with the technical experts in Paris. Following these exchanges, ICOMOS can confirm that the comparative analysis justified the Outstanding Universal Value of the large

majority of component sites. The few sites, which could not be qualified at this stage in relation to their contribution to the Outstanding Universal Value, have been agreed to be excluded, in some cases with the potential of future additional information provided justifying their inclusion at a later stage. These sites are the segment Vilcanota - La Raya (PE-CD-05/C-2011), the segment Colquejahuá-Pacaje (PE-CD-07/C-2011), the segment Walla – Kintama (PE-OL-20/C-2011), including its five associated archaeological sites, the segment Toroyoq – Kutacoca (PE-VCH-25/CS-2011) including its 4 associated archaeological sites, the segment Ipsas Grande (PE-XP-28/C-2011), the segment Quebrada Escalera (PE-XP-29/C-2011), the segment Pachamama – Llaçao (EC-PL-15/CS-2011), the segment Oñacapa – Loma de Paila (La Zarza) (EC-OL-24/CS-2011) and the segment Jimbura – Puente Roto (EC-JP-27/C-2011).

In ICOMOS view it has been illustrated that the agreed upon selection of 273 component sites in 137 sections are the best representation of the specific phenomena the Qhapaq Ñan has to offer. The nomination file offers the impression that the choice made is rather exhaustive in presenting all segments and sections of the Qhapaq Ñan which are in acceptable state in terms of conservation and authenticity and which the concerned States Parties intend to preserve. It can therefore be concluded that apart from the excluded segments indicated for potential future integration, serial additions will be very limited.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis justifies consideration of the Qhapaq Ñan as a serial property and that the additional information provided in the course of an exchange process justifies the inclusion of 273 selected site components.

Justification of Outstanding Universal Value

The nominated property is considered by the States Parties to be of Outstanding Universal Value as a cultural property for the following reasons:

- The Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System is an extraordinary road network through one of the world's most extreme geographical terrains used over several centuries by caravans, travellers, messengers, armies and whole population groups amounting up to 40,000 people.
- Qhapaq Ñan by sheer scale and quality of the road, is a unique achievement of a built network linking the snow-capped mountain range of the Andes, at an altitude of more than 6,000 metres, to the coast, running through hot rainforests, fertile valleys and absolute deserts.
- The Andean Road System achieved mastery in the architectural and engineering technology used to resolve myriad problems posed by the Andes variable landscape by means of various road construction technologies, bridges, stairs, ditches and cobblestone pavings.
- The Qhapaq Ñan was the lifeline of the Tawantinsuyu, linking in a unique fashion towns and centres of

production and worship over a distance of more than 4,000km together under an economic, social and cultural policy in the service of the State.

ICOMOS considers that these arguments are justified and illustrate the Outstanding Universal Value of a serial property reflecting the key components of the Qhapaq Ñan. However, ICOMOS considered that these may not be justified for all 291 serial components. Following additional information exchanges with the States Parties at the request of ICOMOS, ICOMOS considers that 273 serial components clearly and discernibly contribute towards the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the property. ICOMOS considers that the substantial, readily defined and discernible contribution to the overall Outstanding Universal Value by each component site, as required according to paragraph 137b of the *Operational Guidelines* has not yet been justified for 13 property components and it was agreed upon with the concerned States Parties, that these will not be included among the sites which justify Outstanding Universal Value at this stage.

Integrity and authenticity

Integrity

In the context of this serial nomination, integrity has to be judged on the basis of whether the collection of serial components has the capacity to communicate the complete range of aspects required to illustrate the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, and on whether each of these components has the required completeness and intactness to fully contribute the aspect it represents. ICOMOS considers that on the basis of the documentation provided in the nomination dossier and the additional information provided, the number of the serial component sites is exhaustive enough and represents the variety of typological, functional and communicative elements, which allow for a full understanding of the historic and contemporary role of the Qhapaq Ñan. The overall series accordingly contains an appropriate number of elements to communicate the key features of the heritage route, despite the fact that these are fragmented in individual site components, which represent the best preserved segments of the previously continuous road network.

Based on its eight evaluation missions ICOMOS notes that for some of the serial components presented integrity cannot be fulfilled in regards to the completeness or intactness of the individual serial components. In several sections, the structures associated with the Qhapaq Ñan segments, including the road segments themselves, are in various states of neglect, and although they are repaired as needed to keep the road passable by the local populations do not always meet the requirement of integrity, as being intact and free of threats. ICOMOS observed waste deposits on road segments or in historic structures, illicit material (stone) extraction from the historic pathway cobblestones, general neglect and consequent decay, road surfaces covered by dirt, soil or

plants, silted or waste filled drainage channels as well as various other phenomena.

In a few cases, infrastructure developments have impacted on the integrity of the site components. In particular major highways or regional road networks bordering Qhapaq Ñan segments limit their ability to communicate the former remoteness of the road network. ICOMOS has accordingly suggested excluding a small number of components from the current selection in which the condition of integrity could not be easily confirmed. In this process, much attention was given to the fact that no sites were excluded which presented unique functional or typological elements which could not be found in other sections as such exclusion would have resulted in a reduction of the overall integrity of the series. The site components suggested to be excluded for concerns regarding their integrity are the segment Ciénaga de Yalguaraz-Puente del Inca, Tambillitos (AR-TAM-19/CS-2011), the segment Desaguadero – Viacha; Yanamuyu Alto Viacha; Quimsa Cruz – Ilata (BO-DV-04/CS-2011), the segment Colquejahuá-Pacaje (PE-CD-07/C-2011) to include the Apacheta structures, the segment San Agustín de Callo – Nagsiche – Panzaleo (EC-NP-10/CS-2011) and the segment Oñacapa – Loma de Paila (La Zarza) (EC-OL-24/CS-2011) to include the sacred site to which the road section provides access.

For several of the other site components in which the condition of integrity remains vulnerable, ICOMOS recommends that the States Parties develop criteria which illustrates intactness benchmarks defined in relation to the different technological and architectural categories identified and the different geographical regions and levels of remoteness. According to these benchmarks, the condition of integrity should be monitored in the future to ensure that intactness can be guaranteed in the long term and that the site components remain free from threats which may reduce the condition of integrity.

ICOMOS considers that the reduced selection of 273 site components agreed upon with the States Parties concerned presents a rich spectrum of various aspects which were related to the Qhapaq Ñan. Although fragmented, these sections allow for the perception of continuity over large distances and varying geographic terrains and accordingly present a significant percentage of elements which allow communicating a formerly continuous network in separate serial component sites. However, the distinct relations between different sites in terms of continuity or fragmentation only became clear during the technical expert meetings arranged at the request of ICOMOS and was made difficult in the nomination dossier by the fact that maps at appropriate scale which would allow for consideration of the interrelation between the components in the wider landscape of the Andes, could not be provided by the States Parties despite ICOMOS' request. Since ICOMOS learned during the consultation meeting that such maps are in fact available and a GIS system exists which allows the superimposition of the selected site components on various scales of maps and aerial photographs, ICOMOS

recommends that these maps are submitted to complete the documentation of the Qhapaq Ñan to allow for better future management and monitoring under the World Heritage system.

ICOMOS considers that the reduced serial selection of 273 site components in 137 sections of the Qhapaq Ñan meets the condition of integrity but remains very vulnerable in a number of cases. ICOMOS recommends that the condition of integrity is carefully monitored to retain a sufficient state of intactness of all property components.

Authenticity

The authenticity of the sites and segments is in the majority of cases very high and ICOMOS notes the generally limited amount of inappropriate human intervention and adequate maintenance. The nominated features retain their form and design and the variety of specific features and types presented in the nomination facilitate communication of the overall form and design of the network. The materials used are mainly stone and earth, with stone type varying from region to region, and repair and maintenance measures, where necessary are undertaken in traditional techniques and material. These are predominantly driven by the local populations, who remain knowledgeable of traditional road management techniques and who are the key partners in maintaining the roadbed and associated features.

At sites which have been of archaeological or cultural interest professional stabilization and restoration techniques have been applied but also these have been implemented with great respect to the original materials and substance. On the road sections, local management systems govern decision-making processes, often with a large degree of community involvement and these have retained authenticity as reuse of the historic materials remains more efficient than the introduction of new materials. The setting and visual surroundings of most Qhapaq Ñan sections as well as associated archaeological sites is very good and in many cases pristine. For several summit ceremonial sites, setting means a horizon range of 360 degrees with kilometres in all directions. The Qhapaq Ñan also passes through very beautiful landscapes, the beauty of which depends on fragile associated view sheds which need to be monitored to ensure that any modern developments in the landscape have as minimal visual impact as possible. Several sites are difficult to access and their remoteness has over centuries preserved them in a very good condition. However, there are occasional exceptions pointed out below and ICOMOS recommended that the cases concerned may have to be excluded from the nomination proposal.

The predominant location of Qhapaq Ñan segments in very rural settings has left them devoid of noticeable modern intrusions. Associated intangible values and management practices remain very strong, especially in the most remote sections of the road network and

contribute to the safeguarding of authentic management mechanisms. Finally, the information sources of spirit and feeling as well as atmosphere are very relevant to this nomination proposal as many of the communities have strong associations to the Qhapaq Ñan and continue to remain guardians of some of the ceremonial structures.

ICOMOS hence considers that the overall condition of authenticity is satisfactory and that the revised series of 273 component sites meets the condition of authenticity. A number of individual sites however illustrate aspects which reduced its authenticity and which may have to be addressed. These sites are the segment Desaguadero – Viacha; Yanamuyu Alto Viacha; Quimsa Cruz – Ilata (BO-DV-04/CS-2011) where motorized traffic has led to functional and material changes in the surface of the Qhapaq Ñan road and also limits the intactness of the section as described under integrity above. In the case of component Cienaga de Yalguaraz-Puente del Inca, Tambillitos (AR-TAM-19/CS-2011) the contemporary highway construction has limited the authenticity of setting.

ICOMOS considers that the authenticity of the whole revised series of 273 component sites has been justified.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the conditions of integrity and authenticity of the whole series have been justified, although the condition of integrity remains very vulnerable in a number of site components and need to be carefully monitored in the future.

Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The property is nominated on the basis of cultural criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi);

Criterion (i): *represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;*

This criterion is justified by the States Parties on the grounds that the Qhapaq Ñan constitutes the largest continuous archaeological network remaining. The creation of such a large communication, trade and defence network by the Inca Empire was one of native America's greatest cultural achievements and is a masterpiece of human creative genius.

ICOMOS considers that mastery might be an applicable term for the overall role of the Qhapaq Ñan in linking one of the largest Empires ever existing, in particular in view of its functional relation and complexity of use. However, given that many existing roads and structures of Pre-Inca origin have been integrated into this network it has not been demonstrated how the Qhapaq Ñan could be considered to represent a specific creative impetus at a moment of time, rather than a continuous and gradual development of a network over several centuries, which at its height supported a sophisticated governance and trade system. ICOMOS considers that the specific mastery of the Qhapaq Ñan lies rather in its being a unique testimony of the Inca Empire and its facilitation of communication

and exchange. Both aspects are better reflected in other criteria.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been justified.

Criterion (ii): *exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;*

This criterion is justified by the States Parties on the grounds that the Inca network was based on ancestral knowledge of Pre-Inca time which was combined with the local specific community knowledge to inform and enable a state organizational system, the Qhapaq Ñan, which facilitated the exchange of social, political and economic aspects of imperial policy.

ICOMOS considers that the Qhapaq Ñan exhibits important processes of interchange of goods, communication and cultural traditions within a cultural area of the world and allowed for the creation of a vast empire of up to 4,200km in extension at its height in the 15th century. Along the Qhapaq Ñan segments, roadside structures provide lasting evidence of valuable resources and goods traded along the network, such as precious metals, muyu (spondylus shell), foodstuffs, military supplies, feathers, wood, coca and textiles transported from the areas where they were collected, produced or manufactured, to Inca centres of various types and to the capital itself. Several communities, who remain custodians of components of this communication network, are living reminders of the exchange of cultural values and language.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified for the selected series of 273 site components in 137 Qhapaq Ñan segments.

Criterion (iii): *bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;*

This criterion is justified by the States Parties on the grounds that the Qhapaq Ñan is an exceptional and unique testimony to the Inca civilization based on the values and principles of reciprocity, redistribution, duality and a decimal organization which constructed a singular universe called Tawantinsuyu. The States Parties further highlights that this testimony was the life giving support of the Inca Empire integrated into the Andean landscape which embodied and summarised thousands of years of cultural evolution and was an omnipresent symbol of the Empire throughout the Andes.

ICOMOS considers that the Qhapaq Ñan is a unique testimony to the Tawantinsuyu, leading into the four parts of the world. The Qhapaq Ñan remains an exceptional and unique testimony to the Inca civilization and its values and principles of reciprocity, redistribution and duality.

ICOMOS considers that the arguments presented by the States Parties apply in that the Qhapaq Ñan provides an exceptional and unique testimony to Inca Empire and illustrates thousands of years of cultural evolution which became an omnipresent symbol of the Empire's strength and extension throughout the Andes.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified for the selected series of 273 site components in 137 Qhapaq Ñan segments.

Criterion (iv): be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;

This criterion is justified by the States Parties on the grounds that Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System, contains several elements with characteristic features in architectural typology, in terms of its walls, roads, steps, roadside ditches, sewage pipes, drains, etc., with construction methods that vary according to location and regional context. The States Parties further highlight that many of these elements were standardized architectural elements for the control of equal conditions along the road network.

ICOMOS considers that rather than the individual architectural elements but the complete Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System has to be considered as outstanding example of a type of technological ensemble which despite the most difficult geographical conditions created a continuously and functioning communication and trade system with exceptional technological and engineering skills in rural and remote settings. Several elements in various sections illustrate characteristic types of typological features in terms of walls, roads, steps and stairways, roadside ditches, sewage pipes, drains, etc., with construction methods unique to the Qhapaq Ñan. This uniqueness is often further stressed in specific approaches developed for particular geographical terrains and materials available in each region. ICOMOS further agrees with the statement presented by the States Parties that many of these typological elements were standardized by the Inca State, which allowed for the control of equal conditions along the road network and provides unity to the features all over the empire.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified for the selected series of 273 site components in 137 Qhapaq Ñan segments.

Criterion (v): be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;

This criterion is justified by the States Parties on the grounds that Andean civilians achieved high rates of

productivity and thus sustained the vast populations in multiple environments. It is argued, that the basis of this successful sustenance system was directly linked to the possibility of storage, direct access to various resources, a tax on work, shifts and relations between the core and periphery based on reciprocity and redistribution. The States Parties further illustrate that the Qhapaq Ñan is linked to areas of important biodiversity values.

ICOMOS considers that what is described under this criterion refers to a holistic system of knowledge and service exchange, including of skills, natural resources and agricultural products, rather than an outstanding example of land-use or human settlement. The aspect described is however valid but might be better reflected in the exchange of human values over a cultural area which is captured under criterion (ii). ICOMOS considers that the Qhapaq Ñan does not qualify this criterion.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been justified.

Criterion (vi): be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance;

This criterion is justified by the States Parties on the grounds that the Qhapaq Ñan continues to connect the communities residing in the area today and continues to be used as a road and means of transport, which keeps its memory and cultural practices alive. Among the intangible associations language and oral tradition feature prominently in that it lives on as part of the Tawantinsuyu vision of the world and is related to the traditions and ancestral techniques passed down from generation to generation.

ICOMOS considers that the associated living traditions and beliefs are in fact strong and that this criterion has high potential to be justified. However, ICOMOS considers that these associated living traditions and beliefs need to be better defined for each serial component to ensure that this criterion can be justified for the overall series.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been justified for the whole series at this stage.

ICOMOS considers that the serial approach is justified but ICOMOS considers that the reduced selection of 273 component sites in 137 segments is appropriate to represent the Outstanding Universal Value.

ICOMOS considers that criteria (ii), (iii) and (iv) have been justified for the series of 273 serial components in 137 segments, including 303 associated archaeological sites. ICOMOS considers that this series meets the condition of integrity and authenticity but that integrity remains vulnerable in several components and requires constant monitoring.

4 Factors affecting the property

One of the threats most often occurring to the road segments of Qhapaq Ñan stems from agriculture or more precisely the accelerated ploughing/tiling of soil in the immediate vicinity of the historic road segments. Some of this is done by traditional agricultural techniques such as wooden plough, but much is now ploughed by vehicular equipment such as tractors. Whereas farming is an acceptable and traditional way to utilize adjacent lands within the buffer zone, caution still needs to be taken to ensure that significant portions of the historic road are not irreversibly impacted.

In important landscape settings of the Qhapaq Ñan network, incompatible visual intrusions are a considerable risk factor. Several examples of structures creeping into the previously pristine cultural landscapes through which the cultural route passes, have been observed by ICOMOS. These intrusions are most often seen in form of communication towers and transmission lines. In the management of the property it should be considered that the night sky has to be seen as part of the visual setting, in particular at and around ceremonial sites. Local communities continue to utilize the star constellation in the night sky to mark their lunar calendar constellations, which can be considered part of the associated living traditions to the property. ICOMOS considers that light pollution of the night sky by artificial lighting introduced by infrastructure developments must be strictly controlled.

In some sections of the Qhapaq Ñan mining of metals and minerals continues to be a risk for the setting but also the illicit extraction of stone from the road network structures reutilized in contemporary buildings has been observed. Urban development and encroachment remains a continuous risk for road segments which are located in the proximity of urban agglomerations or human settlements and this risk is larger the closer the segment is located to one of the key urban centres along the Andean road system.

The States Parties provided tables which analyse for each component site the impact of development pressures including potential urban and rural expansion, infrastructure works, unauthorized or inappropriate usage as well as mining and other resource extraction activities. ICOMOS notes that single or several of these factors are said to be relevant for a number of sites according to the information provided and recommends that the impact of these adverse effects is constantly monitored and evaluated to ensure the integrity of these serial components.

ICOMOS considers that the main threats to the property are agricultural expansion, urban and infrastructure development and visual intrusions in often pristine landscapes. Among the natural factors wind and water erosion as well as landslides and avalanches have to be seen as major risks.

5 Protection, conservation and management

Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

The serial nomination is presented in 291 serial components in 149 segments, of which ICOMOS and the concerned States Parties agreed to consider a reduced selection of 273 site components in 137 sections for potential inscription on the World Heritage List. The initial submission suggested an overall area of 11,406.95 hectares surrounded by buffer zones of in total 663,069.68 hectares. Each serial component is surrounded by a buffer zone and in some cases several serial components share a mutual buffer zone.

With the reduced selection of 273 site components in 137 segments of the Qhapaq Ñan, the total property size has been slightly reduced to 11,296.97 hectares, and the total surrounding buffer zone now measures 627,019.30 hectares. The remaining total road length of the selected sections of the Qhapaq Ñan amounts to 697.45 kilometres.

ICOMOS recommends that boundary changes are made for a small number of component sites. For the separate segments of Cerro Jircancho – Cerro Torre (PE-HH-52/CS-2011) and Maraycalla – Inca Misana (PE-HH-53/CS-2011), which already share a common buffer zone it is recommended to extend the property boundaries which are currently defined by management considerations to become one long segment combining both smaller sections currently designated.

In other cases, ICOMOS recommends minor revisions to the buffer zone to ensure the future protection of the properties. For the segment of Angualasto (AR-ANC-13/CS-2011) it is recommended to extend the buffer zone where it currently coincides with the site boundaries to include the nearby hills and the road structures. For the archaeological sites of Molle (PE-XP-38/S-2011) and Huaycán de Cieneguilla (PE-XP-39/S-2011) ICOMOS recommends to establish a shared buffer zone, to support their historic interrelation and preserve the shared landscape features in the wider surroundings. The buffer zone currently discussed and agreed upon with the community at segment Pancca-Buena Vista-Chuquibambilla (PE-CD-06/CS-2011) requires to be legally formalized.

In the long-term, ICOMOS recommends to review the concept of buffer zone designation as parallel strips alongside of road segments towards more dynamic buffer zone designations which take into account the features and view sheds of the surrounding landscape. In reference to the importance of the landscape features around the Qhapaq Ñan segments, ICOMOS recommends to conduct Heritage Impact Assessments for any development which would be visible from a property component, regardless of whether the development location is formally designated as a buffer zone.

ICOMOS considers that the boundaries and buffer zones of the revised selection of 273 serial components are adequate. ICOMOS recommends an extension to combine two site components as well as revisions to or formalization of four buffer zones to provide increased protection for these serial components.

Ownership

The ownership situation of the serial components is presented in tabular format and divided into private and public ownership models. In several participating States Parties, the overwhelming form of ownership is public. In Peru the percentage of private property among the sites put forwards is significant.

Argentina

In Argentina the majority of the included 13 property components are in public ownership. Exceptions are formed only by the segments Las Peras-Sauzalito (AR-PPG-05/CS-2011) and Ciénaga De Yalguaraz-San Alberto (AR-CYSA-17/CS2011), which are exclusively in private ownership. In two additional segments, the property is shared by public (municipal) and private owners, which are Santa Rosa De Tastil (AR-SRT-02/CS-2011) and Abra De Chaupiyaco-Las Capillas (AR-ACHC-03/CS- 2011). Two other segments have constitutional ownership, which means that the property cannot be owned as in the case of Quebrada Grande-Las Escaleras (AR-QGE-01/C-2011) and Los Corrales-Las Pirca (AR-LCLP-10/CS-2011).

Bolivia

All 3 segments contributed by Bolivia are exclusively in public ownership.

Chile

All 34 segments contributed by Chile are exclusively in public ownership.

Colombia

All 9 segments contributed by Colombia are exclusively in public ownership.

Ecuador

All 24 segments contributed by Ecuador are exclusively in public ownership.

Peru

The majority of properties in Peru are under constitutional designation and hence do not have formal owners. However, Peru also contributes two 100% privately owned properties as well as partially privately owned, which often refers to the traditional guardian ownership of local communities. The two complete segments in private ownership are Pancca- Buena Vista, Chuquibambilla-Qhesqa (PE-CD-06/C-2011), Q'omer Moqo- Nicasio (PE-CD-08/C-2011).

A number of properties are in complete public ownership, either at the municipal, provincial or regional level. These are the Plaza Inca Hanan Hauk'aypata (PE-PH-01/CS-2011), the segment Paucarcol- La- Yanamayo (PE-CD-

09/CS-2011), Kancharani-Andenes (PE-CD-10/C-2011), Sipampa-Pomata (PE-CD-13/C-2011), Arbol- Era- Parcco Chua Chua (PE-CD-15/C-2011), Huacahuasi – Tambohuaylla (PE-OL-16/CS-2011), Inca Chaka – Qollotayoc (PE-OL-17/C-2011), Choquecancha - Killa Khawarina (PE-OL-18/CS-2011), Paucarpata-Ichuka (PE-OL-19/CS-2011), Tawis - Puente Ollanta (PE-OL-21/CS-2011), Inca Mach'Ay-Samarinapata (PE-VCH-23/CS-2011), Kutacoca-Choquequirao (PE-VCH-26/CS-2011) and Puente Q Eswachaka (PE-PQ-27/C-2011).

Protection

As a transnational serial property, the Qhapaq Ñan covers the jurisdiction of six countries at national and local levels, including, in one instance, regulations of seven regional authorities. A number of international joint declarations and Statements of Commitment have been signed by the participating States Parties between 2010 and 2012 which highlight their agreement to protect the segments of the Qhapaq Ñan at the highest possible level. The protection put in place in light of these agreements shall be described for the respective States Parties below:

Argentina

In Argentina the serial components have been protected according to the Law for the Protection of the Archaeological and Paleontological Heritage, which considers “movable and immovable property or vestiges of any nature located on the surface, underground or submerged in waters (...) providing information about socio-cultural groups that inhabited the country.” The law makes obligatory after designation that all types of exploration and research carried out on site or any kind of other development planned in its vicinity requires authorization. Due to the federal governance of Argentina, the formal protection through gazetting of the sites was issued at the provincial level which is the highest national authority to provide such protection, in which the national legislation acts as an overall framework. ICOMOS considers that the legal protection of the serial components in Argentina is adequate.

Bolivia

In Bolivia, legal protection of the Qhapaq Ñan segments is established in direct reference to the 2008 Political Constitution of Bolivia's Plurinational State, which establishes that the “cultural heritage of the Bolivian people is inalienable, non-seizable and imprescriptible”. Supreme Decree No. 05918 of 1961 remains the reference framework for the implementation of the constitution in this context and regulates the designation of artistic, archaeological, historical and monumental heritage as national monuments. The 3 segments contributed by Bolivia have been designated as such and ICOMOS considers that they are accordingly protected at the highest national level.

Chile

In Chile, the protection of cultural heritage is regulated by National Monument Law 17.288 of 1970. Following the provisions of this law, the Qhapaq Ñan segments have been designated as archaeological sites and in a few

cases as national or historic monuments, all of which range on the same highest national level. The law includes direct references to the protection of the visual and social context of archaeological sites in stipulating that the environmental character of certain populations or places with archaeological ruins needs to be maintained. The legislation provides sufficient protection to the historic remains by prohibiting removal, destruction, excavation, transferral of ownership, acceptance of deterioration or modification in any manner and well as high scrutiny or approval procedures for excavations or scientific interventions.

Colombia

In Colombia, the Constitution of 1991 defines heritage of national interest to be “inalienable, imprescriptible and non-seizable” and stipulates that such heritage resources need to be transferred into public ownership. Law 397 of 1997 and 1185 of 2008, the National Law of Culture and its latest update and addition regulate the designation of cultural heritage sites. The Law allows for any tangible property to be declared as monument, or area of historical, archaeological or architectural conservation. Following declaration the law provides guidelines concerning protection, management, dissemination and sustainability of the archaeological heritage and references to necessary changes in land-use planning. ICOMOS considers that through the protection under the Laws of 1997 and 2008 the serial components in Colombia enjoy adequate protection at the highest national level.

Ecuador

Also in Ecuador the new Constitution adopted in 2008 contains the category of “inalienable, indefeasible and imprescriptible heritage”, designated at a national level. The process of designation is identified in the so-called “Codification of the Cultural Heritage Law” of October 2004, which stipulates that immovable archaeological monuments can be designated as cultural heritage property. The undertaking of activities in violation of the provisions of the Law, which include unauthorized repair, rehabilitation, restoration or modification of the properties of cultural heritage, carries heavy penalties and pursues legal procedures. The site components which Ecuador contributes to the Qhapaq Ñan have been formally designated according to the described law and in ICOMOS’ view accordingly are subject to adequate legal protection.

Peru

In Peru, Law No. 28.296 the General Law of the Nation’s Cultural Heritage provides the regulatory framework for official heritage designation. Following its provisions, archaeological sites, monuments and a number of other categories can be declared national heritage which implies protection at the highest national level. The site components of the Qhapaq Ñan in Peru have been designated under the two categories of “pre-Hispanic archaeological monuments” and “archaeological cultural landscapes”. In addition to the national heritage designation, Peru has issued a Supreme Decree

No. 031-2001-ED, which provides preferential attention to the Andean Road System, known as Qhapaq Ñan in the investigation, protection, conservation and enhancement of the national heritage resources.

ICOMOS considers that the legal protection in place for the reduced selection of 137 segments and 273 site components is adequate.

Conservation

The serial components proposed have been inventoried during the preparation of the nomination and the nomination and its annexes contain a useful database of the serial components. As part of the preparatory surveys, the state of conservation of each site has been recorded in a two-step survey approach. In the first step an assessment of the state of conservation, vulnerability, and threats posed by the natural, cultural and social environment were recorded. This assessment is extended by analyses of the state of conservation of each component site in a second step, which will serve as a baseline for future decision-making processes regarding the type of intervention to be carried out on different serial components including preservation, restoration, upgrading, and maintenance works.

The state of conservation varies considerably between the different road segments and often decreases with the remoteness of the site. Often, roadbeds and associated features or archaeological sites do not have cyclical maintenance programs, except through interventions by the local populations to maintain their use as needed for transport and communication. Although, this may seem to lack governance and sophistication, the system has worked well over many centuries. Use of the historic road segments for vehicular or motorized traffic varies from segment to segment but poses a risk to the state of conservation in several areas. Some segments have obviously been used by vehicular traffic for decades, but this has also left its marks and does not strengthen the authenticity of the sites in question.

In a number of component sites ICOMOS observed conditions of progressive deterioration and decay of structures. Especially structures of earthen architecture seemed very vulnerable to the often difficult climatic conditions and changes over different seasons. ICOMOS recommends that conservation plans are developed for all segments which raise concern in terms of their state of conservation and further that urgent stabilization measures need to be undertaken at a number of specific sites. These include for example the bohio structures in Bohio Calle Larga (EC-PTA-02/CS-2011) or the settlement structures in Santa Rosa de Chontay (PE-XP-36/S-2011) and Angualasto (AR-ANC-13/CS-2011).

ICOMOS considers that despite the fact that active conservation activities are rare and focused mostly on the key archaeological sites, the traditional conservation and maintenance system sustained by the local population is often effective, yet also in need of support

through official agencies and conservation institutions. A few sites require urgent stabilization activities to prevent disintegration or collapse.

Management

Management structures and processes, including traditional management processes

The States Parties have designed two overarching management frameworks, one for the candidature phase of the nomination and a second that will become operational once the inscription is achieved. The preparatory management framework is said to be coordinated by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and consists of a Management Committee composed by the Permanent Representatives of the six concerned States Parties to UNESCO. Following the inscription this international management committee will further include the Advisory Bodies and International Partner agencies.

One of the key tasks during the nomination phase of this Management Committee is to ensure the exchange of information between the States Parties and the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies. ICOMOS notes that based on its experiences in additional information requests this arrangement did not seem particularly effective in practice.

During the consultation meetings with the technical experts it became clear that the international Coordination Committee was to be replaced by regional networks among the participating States Parties to facilitate the overarching management cooperation. The State Party of Peru indicated the establishment of a technical coordination secretariat in Cusco where information will be gathered and communication to the participating states and where frequent meetings among the technical experts will be organized. ICOMOS considers such linkages of technical experts through a permanent regional secretariat more promising than an overarching management framework which would in the long-term be directed by institutions based in Paris.

Within the national contexts management systems have been developed in various degrees of formalization, some of which are being actively implemented in cooperation with the local communities and include concerns of perpetuation of the living traditions associated with the Qhapaq Ñan. The majority of these management systems appear to be systems of traditional management which have been in existence for centuries and have developed from the local community levels up to formal and informal understandings with the concerned governmental channels. However, ICOMOS considers that more discussion is needed to stress the importance of preserving the actual road trace in areas that are being cultivated by the communities and that future awareness-raising activities might be directed to these aspects.

During the ICOMOS technical evaluation missions, several local communities explicitly expressed their

interest in tourism activities which they intend to be managed and driven at the community level. ICOMOS considers that based on the complexity and partial remoteness of the serial components management coordination between local levels and the States Parties represents an enormous amount of work and planning. Several of the States Parties have successfully embarked on this task by initiating documented planning processes with community members and authorities to develop close working relationship between the local communities and the State Party representatives at the regional or provincial levels.

The territories of the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System are seismically active areas and especially the architectural structures seem to be endangered by earthquakes. Floods, volcanic activity and landslides are identified as additional reasons for potential disasters. However, ICOMOS considers that the nomination presented gives little indication that adequate risk protection schemes are in place to ensure safety of humans as well as cultural resources in the event of natural disasters and that such risk preparedness and disaster management plans need to be developed, in particular for site components which include architectural structures in regions of high seismic activity.

Policy framework: management plans and arrangements, including visitor management and presentation

An overall policy framework for the Qhapaq Ñan was created with the Management Strategy document for the Qhapaq Ñan undersigned at high level by the six States Parties on 29 November 2012. In addition to this multinational agreement management plans are intended to be developed at a regional level for each individual section of the road network. Based on training workshops for professionals in the regional administrations of each participating State Party (Paris 2009, Quito 2010, Salta 2010 and Lima 2010), management strategy frameworks were developed and taught for implementation as management plans in the different segments. The workshops further developed matrices to permanently monitor the progress of development and implementation of the Management Plan for each section of the Road.

The management strategy framework illustrates the initial implementation of key management aspects, in particular the social and participation strategies intended to enable local communities to develop owner- and guardianship of the Qhapaq Ñan nomination and its serial components. The community workshops and initiatives undertaken to this end are documented in text and image. In addition the safeguarding of the associated intangible cultural heritage elements plays a prominent role in the strategic management framework.

Limited presentation and interpretation facilities are available along the Qhapaq Ñan segments. Local communities however are more than glad to share their experiences and stories with visitors, but no systemized

method is in place to communicate the Outstanding Universal Value to the visitor.

Involvement of the local communities

Widespread attempts have been made to involve local communities in the nomination and management of the Qhapaq Ñan, which is essential given the crucial role of communities in the maintenance and use of the heritage resource. In several cases successful partnerships emerged between the State Party and the local community representatives, in particular because the Qhapaq Ñan project has always attempted to assist the communities with a lot of problems that had no more than perhaps indirect relationship with the nomination process, but that were key elements to reinforce awareness and support. Many of these problems relate to land tenure. Traditional land owners often do not have formal title deeds that prove their land ownership and have become worried in the process of preparing the nomination that investments may be intended on their lands. However, most of these concerns seem to have resolved and the process has helped to integrate the community's management system into a much wider system, helping to improve social relationships between provincial and national authorities, and local as well as indigenous communities.

Among the communities encountered during the technical evaluation missions, ICOMOS did not feel restraint or disapproval of the nomination initiative. On the contrary the community representatives were very supportive. However, given that not all communities concerned by the vast initiative could be consulted there may always be exceptions to this general impression.

ICOMOS considers that the traditional community based management in cooperation with national and regional institutions is effective and continues the management traditions and systems that have been operational for several centuries. However, ICOMOS considers that the overarching management framework and the establishment of the international technical secretariat in Cusco need to be finalized to ensure effective communication and the functionality of the overarching management framework in the future.

ICOMOS considers that the overarching international management system needs to be finalized through the establishment of a permanent technical coordination office. ICOMOS further considers that the traditional management systems at individual site level are effective but that for several serial components in particular near urban agglomerations management plans should be prepared.

6 Monitoring

Tables entitled key indicators for measuring the state of conservation are included in the nomination dossier. However, these tables contain the same information as

the property inventories which are the name of a section, location of the section, length of section and a one-time judgement on the state of conservation. These tables are followed by a number of tables showing national and international partners, including ICOMOS, which will be involved in the monitoring procedures.

ICOMOS considers that the monitoring section does not at present contain monitoring indicators and that these have to be established to allow for future systematic monitoring which is essential for a property of such size and expansion. These monitoring indicators should be developed in terms of object of study or documentation, means of measurement and benchmarks for judgement of change in condition, periodicity of the monitoring exercise, responsible institution to carry out monitoring and plans for the distribution or sharing of results among the different management levels.

ICOMOS considers that the monitoring indicators developed are not yet adequate and that the monitoring system needs to be augmented to allow for the generation of meaningful data.

7 Conclusions

The Qhapaq Ñan Andean Road system is presented with 291 component sites which are grouped in 149 sections and contain 314 associated archaeological sites, spreading over a territory of more than 5,000km. In ICOMOS' view not all of these sites illustrate the same quality level in terms of their contribution to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as well as their state of conservation and conditions of integrity and authenticity. ICOMOS proposed to the nominating States Parties a reduced selection of component sites which in its view fulfilled the relevant criteria which would allow for World Heritage Listing and illustrated Outstanding Universal Value.

These selected serial components include sections of the Inca communication, trade and defence network as well as religious and administrative auxiliary structures and domestic architecture. Based on an initial selection suggested by ICOMOS, dialogue with the States Parties allowed for further clarification concerning the contribution of a number of component sites to the Outstanding Universal Value. This allowed for an expansion of the reduced ICOMOS selection as well as an agreement between ICOMOS and the States Parties for a selection of 273 component sites in 137 segments and including 303 associated archaeological sites to be considered as justifying Outstanding Universal Value. The overall presentation of Outstanding Universal Value for the Qhapaq Ñan is convincing and ICOMOS considers that this selection of serial components representing the Qhapaq Ñan qualifies for inscription on the World Heritage List.

ICOMOS considers that the typological framework developed for the Qhapaq Ñan is an excellent theoretical framework for the conceptualization of this nomination. ICOMOS notes that it has greatly assisted the appreciation and understanding of the different typological elements that make up the vast variety of architectural and engineering skills that the Qhapaq Ñan represents. ICOMOS further notes that functional and social relations between different components as well as the traditional management and guardianship of local communities played a decisive role in the selection of site components.

ICOMOS considers that the 273 serial components selected in 137 segments of the Qhapaq Ñan meet criteria (ii), (iii) and (iv) in relation to the cultural interchanges and trade as well as communication processes reflected by this massive road network, the testimony it provides to the organisation and administrative system of the Inca Empire as well as the exception architectural and engineering typologies illustrated for this particular stage in history which allowed for the internal cohesion of one of the largest empires ever existing.

The reduced selection of component sites meets the qualifying conditions of authenticity and integrity. However, the condition of integrity remains very vulnerable in some components and ICOMOS recommends that a revised monitoring system provides adequate focus on the regular monitoring of intactness of the site components. ICOMOS notes that the Qhapaq Ñan passes through very beautiful landscapes, the beauty of which depends on fragile associated view sheds which need to be monitored to ensure that any modern developments in the landscape have as minimal visual impact as possible.

While the boundaries and buffer zones seem adequate for an initial recognition and protection of the Outstanding Universal Value, ICOMOS recommends reviewing the general concept of buffer zone designation as parallel strips alongside of road segments towards more dynamic buffer zone designations which take into account the features and view sheds of the surrounding landscape. In reference to the importance of the landscape qualities alongside the Qhapaq Ñan road segments, ICOMOS recommends conducting Heritage Impact Assessments for any significant development which would be visible from a property component, regardless of whether the development location is formally designated as a buffer zone.

Traditional protection, management and maintenance processes which are strongly built on the participation of local communities seem effective and continue to operate as they have for several centuries. However, ICOMOS considers that the overarching international management cooperation is yet to be finalized through the establishment of an international technical cooperation secretariat which was suggested to be based in Cusco. ICOMOS recommends that the overarching management cooperation would preferably be channelled through close

links among the technical experts in the region rather than through Paris based institutions.

8 Recommendations

Recommendations with respect to inscription

ICOMOS recommends that the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, with exception of the following site components: Tambillitos (AR-TAM-19/CS-2011), Quimsa Cruz – Ilata (BO-DV-04/CS-2011), Jimbura - Puente Roto (EC-JP-27/C-2011), Oñacapa - Loma de Paila (La Zarza) (EC-OL-24/CS-2011), Nagsiche – Panzaleo (EC-NP-10/CS-2011), Pachamama – Llacao (EC-PL-15/C-2011), Vilcanota – La Raya (PE-CD-05/C-2011), Colquejahuá – Pacaje (PE-CD-07/C-2011), Walla – Kintama (PE-OL- 20/C-2011), Toroyoq – Kutacoca (PE-VCH-25/ CS-2011), Ipas Grande (PE-XP-28/C-2011), and Quebrada Escalera (PE-XP- 29/C-2011), be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii), (iii) and (iv)**.

Recommended Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System is an extensive Inca communication, trade and defence network of roads and associated structures covering over 30,000 kilometres. Constructed by the Incas over several centuries, the network reached its maximum expansion in the 15th century, when it spread across the length and breadth of the Andes. The network is based on four main routes, which originate from the central square of Cusco, the capital of the *Tawantinsuyu*. These main routes are connected to several other road networks of lower hierarchy which created linkages and cross-connections. 273 component sites in 137 segments encompassing 697.450 kilometres of the Inca trail highlight the Qhapaq Ñan's architectural and engineering achievement along with its associated infrastructure for trade, storage and accommodation as well as sites of religious significance. The road network was the outcome of a political project implemented by the Incas linking towns and centres of production and worship together under an economic, social and cultural programme in the service of the State.

The Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System is an extraordinary road network through one of the world's most extreme geographical terrains used over several centuries by caravans, traveller, messengers, armies and whole population groups amounting up to 40,000 people. It was the lifeline of the *Tawantinsuyu*, linking towns and centres of production and worship over long distances. Towns, villages and rural areas were thus integrated into a single road grid. Several local communities who remain traditional guardians and custodians of Qhapaq Ñan segments continue to safeguard associated intangible cultural traditions including languages.

The Qhapaq Ñan by its sheer scale and quality of the road, is a unique achievement of engineering skills in most varied geographical terrains, linking snow-capped mountain ranges of the Andes, at an altitude of more than 6,000 metres high, to the coast, running through hot rainforests, fertile valleys and absolute deserts. It demonstrates mastery in engineering technology used to resolved myriad problems posed by the Andes variable landscape by means of variable road construction technologies, bridges, stairs, ditches and cobblestone pavings.

Criterion (ii): The Qhapaq Ñan exhibits important processes of interchange of goods, communication and cultural traditions within a cultural area of the world which created a vast empire of up to 4,200km in extension at its height in the 15th century. It is based on the integration of prior Andean ancestral knowledge and the specifics of Andean communities and cultures forming a state organizational system that enabled the exchange of social, political and economic values for imperial policy. Several roadside structures provide lasting evidence of valuable resources and goods traded along the network, such as precious metals, *muyu* (spondylus shell), foodstuffs, military supplies, feathers, wood, coca and textiles transported from the areas where they were collected, produced or manufactured, to Inca centres of various types and to the capital itself. Several communities, who remain custodians of components of this vast Inca communication network, are living reminders of the exchange of cultural values and language.

Criterion (iii): The Qhapaq Ñan is an exceptional and unique testimony to the Inca civilization based on the values and principles of reciprocity, redistribution and duality constructed in a singular system of organization called *Tawantinsuyu*. The road network was the life giving support to the Inca Empire integrated into the Andean landscape. As a testimony to the Inca Empire, it illustrates thousands of years of cultural evolution and was an omnipresent symbol of the Empire's strength and extension throughout the Andes. This testimony influences the communities along the Qhapaq Ñan until today, in particular with relation to the social fabric of local communities and the cultural philosophies that give meaning to relationships among people and between people and the land. Most importantly, life is still defined by links among close kin and an ethic of mutual support.

Criterion (iv): The Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System is an outstanding example of a type of technological ensemble which despite the most difficult geographical conditions created a continuous and functioning communication and trade system with exceptional technological and engineering skills in rural and remote settings. Several elements illustrate characteristic typologies in terms of walls, roads, steps, roadside ditches, sewage pipes, drains, etc., with construction methods unique to the Qhapaq Ñan while varying according to location and regional context. Many of these elements were standardized by the Inca State,

which allowed for the control of equal conditions along the road network.

Integrity

The series of sites inscribed as the best representation of the Qhapaq Ñan is exhaustive enough and illustrates the variety of typological, functional and communicative elements, which allow for a full understanding of its historic and contemporary role. The number of segments is adequate to communicate the key features of the heritage route, despite the fact that these are fragmented in individual site components, which represent the best preserved segments of the previously continuous road network.

For a number of site components the condition of integrity remains vulnerable and it is recommended that the States Parties develop criteria to define minimum intactness in relation to the different technological and architectural categories identified and the different geographical regions and levels of remoteness. According to these criteria, the condition of integrity should be monitored in the future to ensure that intactness can be guaranteed in the long term and that the site components remain free from threats which may reduce the condition of integrity.

To ensure that the distinct relations between different sites in terms of continuity despite their fragmentation can be well understood by future visitors, it is recommended that appropriate maps or a GIS system be developed which illustrates the functional and social relations between the different site components and highlights their role in the overall Qhapaq Ñan network.

Authenticity

The authenticity of the Qhapaq Ñan component sites is very high in that the characteristic features retain their form and design and the variety of specific well-preserved types of architectural and engineering achievements facilitate communication of the overall form and design of the network. The materials used are mainly stone and earth, with stone type varying from region to region, and repair and maintenance measures where necessary are undertaken in traditional techniques and material. These are predominantly driven by the local populations, who remain knowledgeable in traditional road management techniques and who are the key partners in maintaining the roadbed and associated features.

At sites which have been of specific archaeological or cultural interest professional stabilization and restoration techniques have been applied and implemented with great respect to the original materials and substance. On the road sections, local management systems govern decision-making processes, often with a large degree of community involvement and these have retained highest degrees of authenticity as reuse of the historic materials remains more efficient than the introduction of new materials.

The setting and visual surroundings of most of Qhapaq Ñan's components is very good and in many cases pristine. For several summit ceremonial sites, settings include horizon ranges of 360 degrees for many kilometres in all directions. The Qhapaq Ñan also passes through very beautiful landscapes, the beauty of which depends on fragile view sheds associated which need to be monitored to ensure that any modern developments in the landscape have as minimal visual impact as possible.

Several sites are difficult to access and their remoteness has over centuries preserved them in a very good condition. A majority of Qhapaq Ñan components is located in rural settings which fortunately left them free of noticeable modern intrusions. Associated intangible values and management practices remain very strong, especially in the most remote sections of the road network and contribute to the safeguarding of authentic management mechanisms. The information sources of spirit and feeling as well as atmosphere are very relevant as many of the communities have strong associations to the Qhapaq Ñan and continue to remain guardians of some of the ceremonial structures.

Management and protection requirements

As a transnational serial property the Qhapaq Ñan covers the jurisdiction of six countries at national and local levels, including, in one instance, regulations of seven regional authorities. A number of international joint declarations and Statements of Commitment have been signed by the participating States Parties between 2010 and 2012 which highlight their agreement to protect the segments of the Qhapaq Ñan at the highest possible level. The protection put in place in light of these agreements follow the respective national heritage legislations and provide protection at the highest national level to all property components.

The States Parties have designed two overarching management frameworks, one for the candidature phase of the nomination and a second that will become operational once the inscription is achieved. The preparation phase was guided by a Paris-based international Coordination Committee while the overarching management framework following World Heritage inscription is guided by regional networks among the participating States Parties. The State Party of Peru committed to support the establishment of a technical coordination secretariat where information will be gathered and communicated to the experts in all Qhapaq Ñan states and where frequent meetings among the technical experts will be organized.

Within the national contexts management systems have been developed in cooperation with the local communities and include concerns of perpetuation of the living traditions associated with the Qhapaq Ñan. The majority of these are traditional management systems which have been in existence for centuries and have developed from the local community levels to more formalized agreements with the concerned governmental authorities. The

importance of preserving the actual road trace in areas that are being cultivated by the communities should be highlighted as part of the management agreements.

Several local communities explicitly expressed their interest in tourism activities which they intend to be managed and driven at the community level. Limited presentation and interpretation facilities are at present available along the Qhapaq Ñan and local communities sharing their experiences and stories with visitors are a key basis of interpretation.

Some territories of the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System are seismically active areas and especially the architectural structures seem to be endangered by earthquakes. Adequate risk protection schemes need to be developed to ensure safety of humans as well as cultural resources in the event of natural disasters.

An overall policy framework for the Qhapaq Ñan was created with the Management Strategy document undersigned at high level by the six States Parties on 29 November 2012. In addition to this multinational agreement management plans are intended to be developed at a regional level for each individual section of the road network. The management strategy framework illustrates the initial implementation of key management aspects, in particular the social and participation strategies intended to enable local communities to develop owner- and guardianship of the Qhapaq Ñan and its serial components. Further management and conservation plan components remain under development and should integrate adequate risk preparedness and disaster management as well as visitor management strategies.

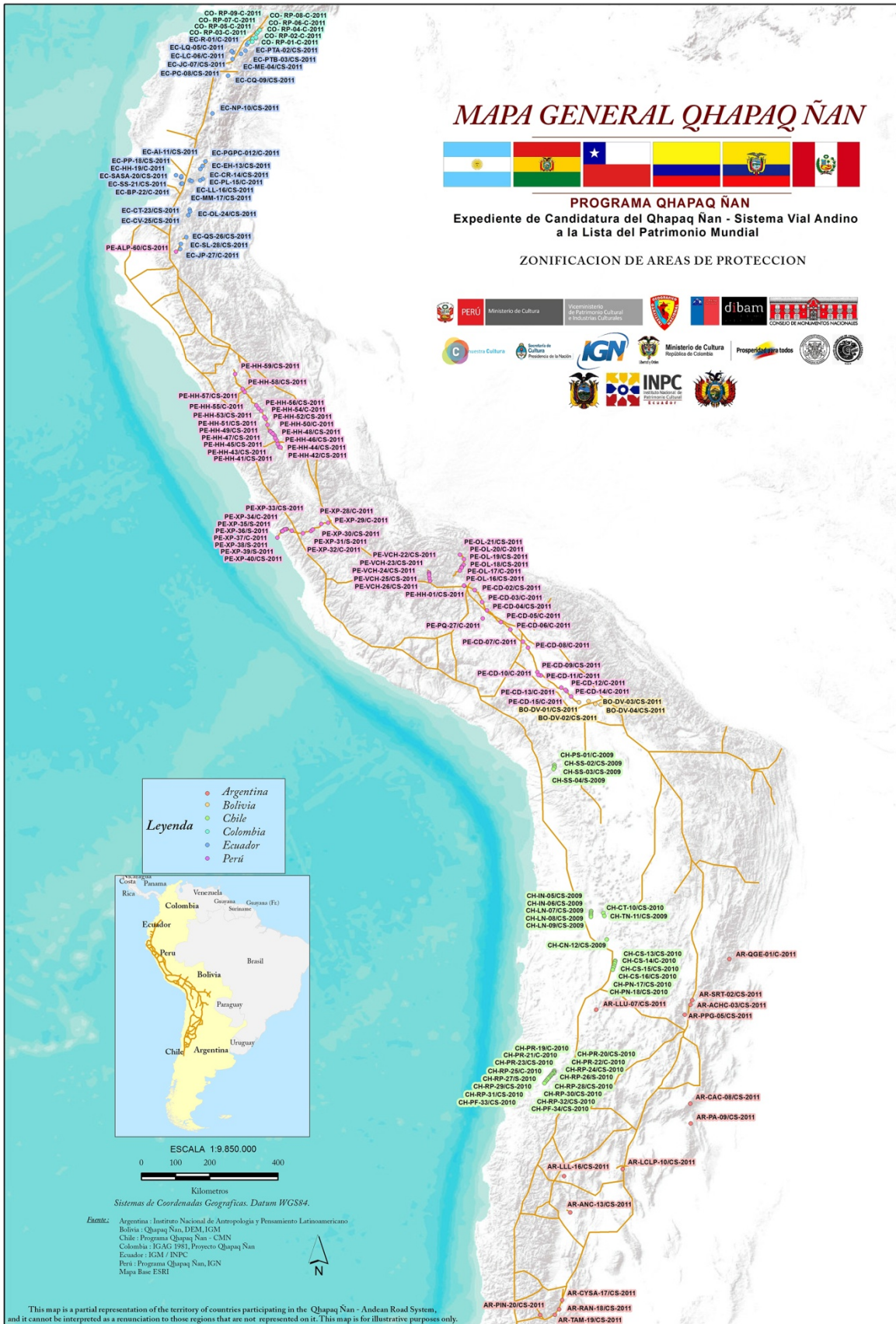
Additional recommendations

ICOMOS further recommends that the States Parties give consideration to the following:

- Finalizing the establishment of the international technical cooperation secretariat to ensure effective communication as well as the functionality of the overarching management framework in the future;
- Establishing a monitoring system including specific indicators for monitoring exercises to ensure the regular documentation of the state of conservation of this extensive and often remote serial property; in this context in particular develop criteria to define minimum intactness in relation to the different technological and architectural categories identified and the different geographical regions and levels of remoteness to allow for adequate monitoring of the condition of integrity to ensure that intactness can be guaranteed in the long term;
- Finalizing Management and Conservation Plans, including risk preparedness and disaster management strategies in earthquake prone regions, for each of the segments and submit the documents to the World Heritage Centre;

- Submitting adequate maps illustrating the functional relations between different site components to complete the documentation of the Qhapaq Ñan to allow for better future management and monitoring under the World Heritage system, and consider making such maps available to visitors for better understanding of the role of individual site components in the overall heritage route;
- Extending the buffer zone of Angualasto (AR-ANC-13/CS-2011) to include the nearby hills and the road structures;
- Establishing a shared buffer zone of the archaeological sites of Molle (PE-XP-38/S-2011) and Huaycán de Cieneguilla (PE-XP-39/S-2011) to preserve the shared landscape features in the wider surroundings;
- Formalizing the buffer zone currently discussed and agreed upon with the community at segment Pancca-Buena Vista-Chuquibambilla (PE-CD-06/CS-2011);
- Connecting the separate segments of Cerro Jircancha – Cerro Torre (PE-HH-52/CS-2011) and Maraycalla – Inca Misana (PE-HH-53/CS-2011), which already share a common buffer zone by extending the property boundaries which are currently defined by management considerations to become one longer segment combining both smaller sections currently designated;
- Reviewing the general concept of buffer zone designation as parallel strips alongside of road segments towards more dynamic buffer zone designations which take into account the features and view sheds of the surrounding landscape;
- Conducting, in the meantime, comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) according to the ICOMOS Guidance provided for cultural World Heritage properties, for any significant development which would be visible from a property component, regardless of whether the development location is formally designated as a buffer zone to preserve the important landscape features around the Qhapaq Ñan road segments;
- Submitting, by 1 February 2016, a report to the World Heritage Centre outlining progress made in the implementation of the abovementioned recommendations for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session in 2016.

ICOMOS is at the disposal of the States Parties to provide detailed recommendations in relation to conservation and management of specific sites.



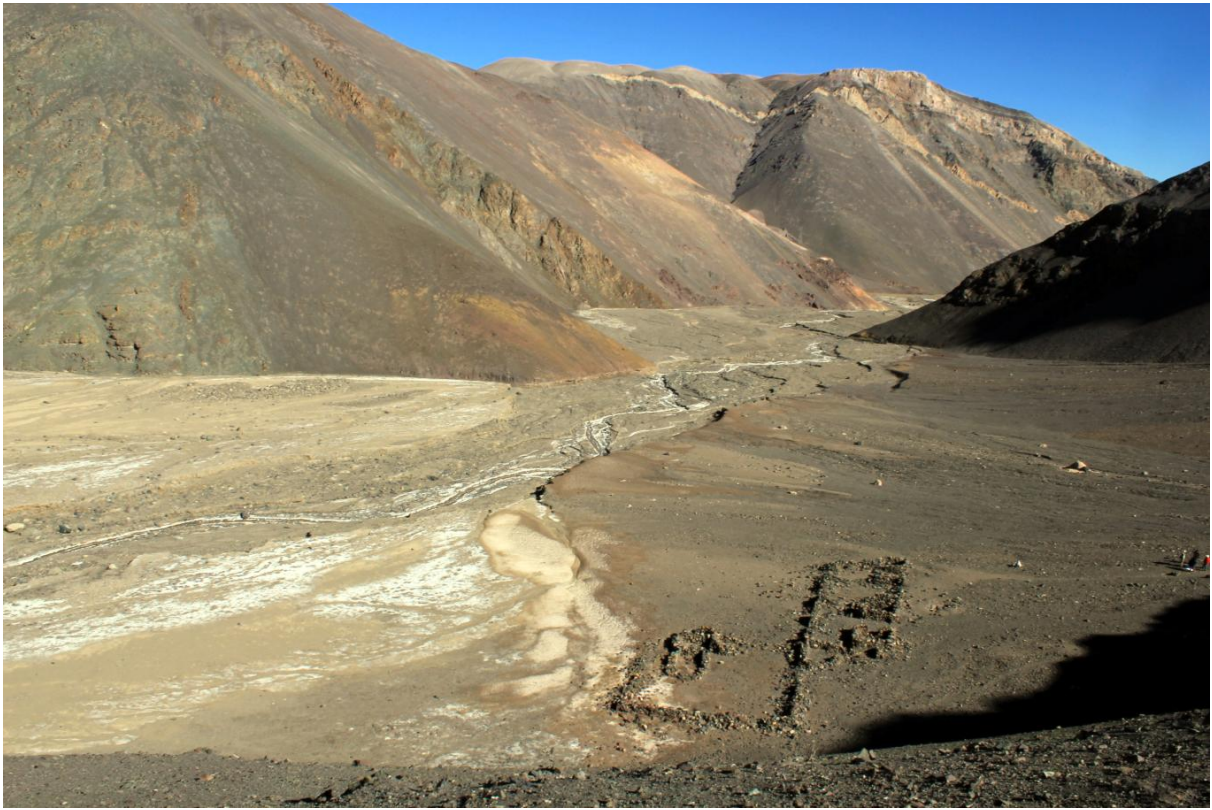
Map showing the location of the nominated properties



Santa Ana - Valle Colorado sub-section (Argentina)



Tiwanacu - Cantapa (Bolivia)



Portal del Inca - Finca Chañaral sub-section (Chile)



Guapuscal Bajo segment (Colombia)



Ingapirca associated archaeological site (Ecuador)



Puente Q'eswachaka (Peru)