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**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION**

**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Forty-first session

**Krakow, Poland
2-12 July 2017**

**Item 7B of the Provisional Agenda: State of conservation of properties
inscribed on the World Heritage List**

SUMMARY

This document contains information on the state of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. The World Heritage Committee is requested to review the reports on the state of conservation of properties contained in this document. The full reports of Reactive Monitoring missions requested by the World Heritage Committee are available at the following Web address in their original language: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/41COM/documents>

All previous state of conservation reports are available through the World Heritage State of conservation Information System at the following Web address:

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc>

Decision required: The World Heritage Committee may wish to adopt the draft Decision presented at the end of each state of conservation report.

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REPORTS ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

NATURAL PROPERTIES

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

1. Bialowieza Forest (Belarus / Poland) (N 33ter)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979, extensions in 1992 and 2014

Criteria (ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/33/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/33/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

March 2004: Joint UNESCO/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; October 2008: Joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; June 2016: IUCN Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Illegal activities (illegal logging)
- Forestry/wood production (excess commercial logging)
- Bark beetle infestation of forest
- Alterations of the hydrological regime
- Border fence impeding mammal movements
- Ambiguity regarding the boundaries of the property
- Management systems/management plan (Need for a new Management Plan for Białowieża National Park (Poland); Lack of an integrated planning and management of the property and of a Transboundary Steering Committee with adequate human and financial resources)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/33/>

Current conservation issues

On 27 January 2017, the States Parties of Belarus and Poland submitted a joint report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/33/documents/> providing the following information:

- The bark beetle outbreak in the Polish part of the property continues, with dead stands covering respectively 3,500 ha, 935 ha, and 700 ha in Białowieża, Browsk and Hajnówka Forest Districts. No commercial logging is reportedly being carried out and activities termed sanitary cuttings are stated to be justified by the need to combat bark beetle infestation or the reconstruction of stands altered by human interventions in the past. Some sanitary cuttings have also been undertaken in the Belarussian part of the property;

- A total of 47,640 m³ of wood were harvested in 2016 in three forest districts within the Active Conservation Zone of the Polish part of the property (where sanitary cuttings are allowed), with sales of firewood comprising a total of 10,427 m³;
- A summary of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the amendment to the Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Białowieża Forest District and an evaluation of the potential impacts of the amendment to the FMP for the Białowieża Forest District on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property were submitted together with the report;
- In Belarus, changes were made to the zonation of the national park and its strict conservation zone was increased by 1,250 ha. A new Management Plan was developed for the Belovezhskaya Pushcha National Park in 2016;
- Work on the preparation of a Transboundary Management Plan for the property has commenced, but it is expected that it will take several years to complete it. A document titled “Draft assumptions for the Integrated Management Plan” was submitted by the States Parties.

On 21 March 2017, the State Party of Poland submitted a letter in response to the World Heritage Centre’s request to provide comments on third party reports about large scale logging occurring in the property. It noted that all actions commenced by the forest stands managers were consistent with the Conservation Measures Plan for the Forest Natura 2000 site “Puszcza Białowieska” and were necessary for the conservation of habitats and species under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives, as well as for ensuring public safety. On 10 April and 28 April 2017, it submitted further letters in response to media articles reporting clearcuttings as well as culling of European bison in Białowieża Forest. It noted, *inter alia*, that in 2016 an inventory was commissioned by the State Forests to explore the values of the property. The information collected by the inventory would help design measures to address the bark beetle outbreak. It is noted that 20 European bison are culled annually, targeting diseased individuals or those involved in human-wildlife conflict.

On 11 and 29 May 2017, the World Heritage Centre sent further letters to the State Party of Poland transmitting third party information reporting, *inter alia*, that large-scale logging would be carried out and that an infringement decision regarding Białowieża Forest in Poland was issued by the European Commission on 27 April 2017. At the time of the drafting of this report, no response from the State Party had been received.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The decision by the State Party of Belarus to increase the strict conservation zone of the Belarussian part of the property by 1,250 ha is welcomed.

The commencement of the work on the Transboundary Management Plan for the property is noted. While it is understandable that such a process might require more time to be completed, it should be recalled that the preparation of this Plan was already requested by the Committee at its 38th session in 2014 when it approved the extension of the Polish part of the property. Until such an integrated management framework is in place, the property will remain subject to different management regimes with different approaches and to decisions based on individual forest management plans.

The information provided by the States Parties regarding the so-called sanitary cuttings being undertaken in the Polish part of the property is noted. The sale for firewood in 2016 of 10,427 m³ out of 47,640 m³ of wood harvested in three forest districts, and the uncertainty about what happened with the remaining wood are noted with concern.

The conclusion of the submitted SEA that the amendment to the FMP for the Białowieża Forest District, which provided for an increase in tree felling, would not result in any negative impacts on the Natura 2000 site “Puszcza Białowieska” is questionable, in particular in light of the infringement decision issued by the European Commission, which clearly indicates that such negative impacts are likely. The evaluation of the potential impacts of the amendment to the FMP for the Białowieża Forest District on the OUV of the property submitted by the State Party of Poland mainly outlines the process by which the above-mentioned SEA was prepared and its main conclusions. Although the OUV of the property is mentioned in this document, the SEA itself is focused on the conservation of the Natura 2000 site and does not specifically assess potential impacts on the OUV of the property. The additional information submitted by the State Party of Poland also repeatedly notes that the forest management measures undertaken in Białowieża Forest are in line with the Conservation Measures Plan for the Natura 2000 site. In this context, it should be noted with utmost concern that the European Commission has issued a reasoned opinion as a next step in its infringement procedure, warning the

State Party of Poland over increased logging, which would be likely to adversely affect the conservation of the Natura 2000 site's habitats and species, causing irreparable biodiversity loss. Furthermore, the European Commission expressed concern over the removal of 100-year and older trees and over the fact that operations are being carried out in habitats that should be strictly protected. The reasoned opinion further notes that, according to the evidence available, these measures would exceed those that would be necessary for ensuring the safe use of the forest ([http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release MEMO-17-1045 en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-17-1045_en.htm)). It should be recalled that in its Decision **40 COM 7B.92** the Committee specifically requested the State Party of Poland to maintain the continuity and integrity of protected old-growth forest. Therefore, felling of trees in these areas raises serious concerns. Third party reports of logging targeting species other than those affected by bark beetle have also been received, which is also of particular concern given that such logging cannot be justified as so-called sanitary cuttings. It is recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to clarify this information, recalling that the Committee expressed its position that commercial timber extraction would represent a potential danger to the property in accordance with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

It is recommended that the Committee request the States Parties to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess whether the undertaken and planned forest management operations represent a danger to the OUV of the property, and to consider whether the property meets the criteria for inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.1

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.92**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),*
3. *Welcomes the decision by the State Party of Belarus to increase the strict protection zone of the Belarussian part of the property;*
4. *Notes the information provided by the States Parties regarding the activities termed sanitary cuttings undertaken in the Polish part of the property and the conclusions of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Amendment to the Forest Management Plan for the Białowieża Forest District but, noting that the separate evaluation of potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property mainly summarized the conclusions of the SEA, considers that the focus of the SEA on assessing potential impacts to the Natura 2000 site "Puszcza Białowieska", does not represent an adequate assessment of impacts on the OUV of the property;*
5. *Reiterates its position that commercial timber extraction within the entire property would represent a potential danger to the property in accordance with Paragraph 180 of the Operational Guidelines, and notes with utmost concern the infringement decision issued by the European Commission in relation to Białowieża Forest in Poland, which noted that increased logging is likely to adversely affect the conservation of the site's habitats and species as well as cause irreparable biodiversity loss, including through removal of 100-year and older trees, and that these measures would, according to the evidence available, exceed those that would be necessary for ensuring the safe use of the forest;*
6. *Reiterates its request to the State Party of Poland to maintain the continuity and integrity of protected old-growth forest in Białowieża Forest and strongly urges it to immediately halt all logging and wood extraction in old-growth forests, and to clarify*

third party reports about logging targeting species other than those affected by bark beetle, which cannot be justified as so-called sanitary cuttings;

7. *Requests the States Parties to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to evaluate current and potential impacts of ongoing and planned forest management operations on the OUV of the property and to assess whether the property meets the criteria for inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger;*
8. *While also noting the conclusion of the States Parties that the preparation of the Transboundary Management Plan for the property will require several years, also reiterates its request to the States Parties to prepare such a Plan as a matter of priority in order to ensure a coordinated approach to the management of the property and to guarantee that no actions can be allowed within the entire property that could negatively impact on its OUV;*
9. *Also requests the States Parties to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018, with a view to **considering in case of confirmation of ascertained or potential danger to Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

2. Wood Buffalo National Park (Canada) (N 256)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1983

Criteria (vii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/256/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: 0 USD

For further details, see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/256/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Existing and planned hydroelectric dams, including Site C
- Alberta oil sands mining
- Climate change
- Lack of adequate and comprehensive environmental monitoring
- Lack of engagement with First Nations and Métis in monitoring activities and insufficient consideration of traditional ecological knowledge
- Cumulative impacts

Illustrative material see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/256/>

Current conservation issues

From 25 September to 4 October 2016, a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission visited the property. On 31 March 2017, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property. Both reports are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/256/documents/>. Responding to Committee Decision **39 COM 7B.18** and the 2016 mission, the State Party reports as follows:

- Acknowledgement of challenges, particularly in the Peace-Athabasca Delta (PAD), and vulnerability of the property to the impacts of external developments and climate change, and commitment to major management responses in line with Parks Canada's legal obligation to maintain and restore the ecological integrity of the property;
- Acknowledgement of governance deficiencies, including water governance across jurisdictions and environmental assessment and monitoring, noting an ongoing review of federal environmental assessment processes expected to result in improvements of current practices;
- Support to the expansion of the scope of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), which should assess the cumulative impacts of all industrial developments on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, for completion by the end of March 2018 as requested by the Committee in 2015, including a full and effective involvement of First Nations in the process;
- No irreversible decisions will be taken as regards hydroelectric or oil sands development projects that may impact the property prior to the completion of the SEA, and commitment to keep the Committee informed of any impending regulatory decisions;
- A "genuine partnership" is envisaged with First Nations as part of a broader governmental commitment to a renewal of the relationship, based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation and partnership;
- The 2016 mission report is welcomed as a call to action. The State Party outlines its preliminary views, while promising a more detailed response at a later date, informed by the forthcoming decision of the Committee at its 41st session;
- Explicit support to all but one of the 17 specific recommendations of the mission report, thereby rejecting further assessment of the Site C hydropower project on the grounds of lacking legal mechanisms;
- Commitment to develop an Action Plan, compatible with the future Management Plan and a specific Area Management Approach for the PAD and based on the above mentioned recommendations, the best available science, local and indigenous knowledge and close collaboration among all involved stakeholders;
- Commitment to undertake an independent comprehensive analysis of the conservation importance and status of the Ronald Lake Bison Herd within a broader Species Recovery Strategy in full cooperation with First Nations.

On 21 April 2017, the Mikisew Cree First Nation submitted a response to the State Party's state of conservation report.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The acknowledgement of challenges, as well as the commitment of the State Party to an Action Plan are much welcomed and interpreted as a considerably changed position on the part of the State Party. There is full agreement that the challenges crystallized in the PAD, even though the multiple pressures do not originate in that particularly valuable part of the property. An Area Management Approach for the PAD, to be embedded both within the 2020 Management Plan and the envisaged Action Plan, is strongly supported. It is important to ensure that the elaboration of the Action Plan is based on a fair and transparent communication and negotiation with the broad range of stakeholders and rights-holders, and recognize the significant knowledge and dedication of First Nations, Métis, academia and non-governmental actors. This process is considered to represent a demanding opportunity to turn severe challenges into an example of participatory action. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to finalize the Action Plan as a matter of priority and clarify the timeline for its

completion. The State Party's commitment to undertake an analysis of the conservation importance and status of the Ronald Lake Bison Herd in full cooperation with First Nations is welcome in that regard, particularly in light of the mission's observation that reportable cattle diseases, including tuberculosis and/or brucellosis, continue to pose a complex conservation challenge.

The State Party's commitments are in line with broader processes underway, such as the review of the federal environmental and regulatory processes including environmental assessment. Encouragingly, the promise of a meaningful and respectful partnership with First Nations and Métis comes at a time of unprecedented federal commitment to renewing such relationships. Nevertheless, it faces a starting point characterized by longstanding tensions and issues of trust between Aboriginal Peoples and governmental and private sectors, and realizing this vision will require fundamental and consistent efforts, extending across generations. The State Party provides limited information on concrete mechanisms to improve water governance and environmental monitoring.

Recalling Committee Decision **39 COM 7B.18** requesting the State Party not to take any decision on development projects that would be difficult to reverse, its overall commitments in this regard are welcomed. It is appreciated that an environmental and social impact assessment in line with the IUCN World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment will be undertaken for proposed and future development projects, which may impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, including hydropower, Teck Frontier oil sands mine and all mineral exploration and exploitation. However, it is regrettable that these commitments currently exclude the Site C hydropower project. The ongoing absence of a specific assessment of Site C's potential impacts on the OUV of the property does not permit an informed judgment about irreversible decisions, and this absence should be rectified. It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to make every effort to understand the possible impacts of the Site C project on the OUV of the property before any further decisions are made that may be difficult to reverse, including but not limited to the expanded SEA. The State Party should also be requested to explore all options to ensure best practices are followed during all stages of the project, including impact prevention and mitigation, and regulating flow, should the Site C dam become operational.

It is understood that the State Party report is otherwise restricted to preliminary views on the way forward due to tight reporting deadlines. The 2016 mission considered the need for a major and timely response by the State Party to immediately develop a structured and adequately funded Action Plan, guided by the mission recommendations. In the absence of such a response, the mission concluded that the property would meet the criteria for inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*. It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide a refined response on the mission recommendations by 1 February 2018, along with an update on the progress achieved.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.2

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision **39 COM 7B.18**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),*
3. *Welcomes the State Party's acknowledgement of the property's challenges and vulnerability, and the commitment to embark on a major and participatory management response in the form of an overarching and coherent Action Plan, and requests the State Party to:*
 - a) *Allocate adequate resources for the elaboration and implementation of the Action Plan as a matter of priority, and clarify the timeline for its completion,*
 - b) *Ensure a process enabling fair, transparent and meaningful involvement of all legitimate stakeholders and rights-holders, including First Nations and Métis, based on mechanisms agreed by these stakeholders and rights-holders,*

- c) *Ensure the best possible coherence with all relevant planning schemes affecting the property, including at provincial and territorial levels,*
 - d) *Fully reflect the results of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), which should assess the cumulative impacts of all industrial developments on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and is scheduled for completion by the end of March 2018;*
4. *Also welcomes the State Party's support for the recommendations formulated by the 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission and also requests the State Party to fully implement all the mission's recommendations and to ensure refinement of its preliminary views on the concrete follow-up so as to fully and consistently reflect the management responses to these recommendations in the above-mentioned Action Plan, the 2020 Management Plan and the specific Area Management Approach for the Peace-Athabasca Delta;*
 5. *Further welcomes the State Party's commitment to invest in comprehensive and independent analysis of the conservation importance and status of the Ronald Lake Bison Herd, including threats to it posed by proposed development, within a broader Species Recovery Strategy and to dedicate, in full cooperation with First Nations, adequate attention and funding to the management of Wood Bison, including as regards the development of disease management options other than culling;*
 6. *Further requests the State Party to make every effort to assess and understand the potential impacts of the Site C hydropower project and of the various major dams on the Peace River on the OUV of the property and ensure the application of best practice at all stages of the project, including mitigation measures and strategic flow regulation;*
 7. *Also reiterates its requests to the State Party to assess the potential cumulative impacts of all developments on the OUV of the property in the form of an SEA, including hydroelectric dams, oil sands development, and mining, in line with the IUCN World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment and submit it to the World Heritage Centre as soon as it is available, for review by IUCN, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;*
 8. *Requests furthermore the State Party to conduct, in line with the IUCN World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by IUCN, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines:*
 - a) *An Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) of any other hydropower projects potentially affecting the OUV of the property,*
 - b) *An ESIA of any other oil sands development between the current northern frontier of the actively mined area and the property, which may affect the OUV of the property, including the Teck Frontier project,*
 - c) *A systematic risk assessment of the tailings ponds of the Alberta Oil Sands region with a focus on risks to the Peace-Athabasca Delta;*
 9. *Requests moreover the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, a refined response to the 2016 mission recommendations and report on the progress achieved with their implementation, and to submit by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including the Action Plan, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.*

8. Western Caucasus (Russian Federation) (N 900)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1999

Criteria (ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/900/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/900/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

April 2008: World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; May 2009: High-level visit by Director of the World Heritage Centre and the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee; May 2010: World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; September 2012: World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; November 2016: IUCN Advisory mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of Management Plan
- Weakening of conservation controls and laws
- Impacts of proposed tourism infrastructure development
- Road construction
- Deforestation

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/900/>

Current conservation issues

On 5 October 2016, following the reception of third party information and the review of IUCN, the World Heritage Centre requested the State Party to clarify the current status of the establishment of any biosphere polygons (areas for the development of socioeconomic activities) within the property as well as the status of decision-making regarding any proposed developments within those polygons.

An IUCN Advisory mission visited the property on 1-3 November 2016 to provide advice with regards to the recent legislative changes and possible impacts of existing development plans on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property as well as any issues related to the property's boundaries, taking into account the evaluation of past proposals for boundary modification.

On 18 November 2016, the World Heritage Centre sent another letter to the State Party asking it to provide comments on third party information concerning the possible impact of proposed amendments to the Law on Protected Areas, which would change the procedures for modification of boundaries of state nature reserves and national parks and the concerns expressed by third parties that such changes could facilitate exclusion of areas from the Caucasus Strict Nature Reserve for ski resorts development. On 16 February 2017, the World Heritage Centre sent a reminder to the State Party.

On 7 March 2017, the World Heritage Centre sent another letter notifying the State Party that, due to all the above-mentioned pressing conservation issues, a state of conservation report for the property will be presented at the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee and requesting its clarifications with regards to further third party information expressing concerns over a new law which would allow the creation of biosphere polygons within the territory of state nature reserves.

On 17 May 2017, the World Heritage Centre has transmitted further third party information about the leasing of land plots for tourism developments located close to the property's boundaries.

The State Party had not yet provided any response to these letters at the time of preparation of this report.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The numerous legislative changes regarding protected areas introduced by the State Party in recent years are cause for serious concern, as repeatedly expressed by the Committee since its 35th session in 2011.

In the absence of a response from the State Party to the letters from the World Heritage Centre seeking clarification regarding legislative changes, which might potentially affect the property and the plans for pursuing ski resort developments within the property, and considering that continuous degradation of the legal protection regime of protected areas constituting the property represents a potential danger to the property, in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*, it is recommended that the Committee reiterate its concerns and request the State Party to provide detailed information about all recently adopted legislative changes which may affect the property.

The plans for establishing biosphere polygons within the property were presented to the 2016 IUCN Advisory mission, which reviewed them. These proposed polygons included areas where two companies, Gazprom and Rosa Khutor, expressed their interest in developing large-scale skiing infrastructure. Based on the available information, the mission concluded that it is likely that these plans may potentially threaten the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and may have significant impact on its integrity. In this respect, it should also be recalled that the Committee has repeatedly reiterated its position that the installation of capital construction on the Lagonaki Plateau, including Mount Fisht and Oshten (all within the property), would also constitute a case for its inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines* (Decisions **38 COM 7B.77** and **40 COM 7B.101**), which should also apply to such construction in any other part of the property. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide detailed information regarding all relevant legislative changes, the current status of the planned biosphere polygons as well as any plans for tourism infrastructure development within the property.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.8

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.101**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Notes with concern the recent legislative changes adopted by the State Party, which may weaken the protection regime of the property and recalls its concerns over a number of previous legislative changes potentially affecting the property;
4. Considers that such continuous degradation of the legal protection regime of protected areas comprising the property represents a potential danger to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in line with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and requests the State Party to provide detailed information about all recently adopted legislative changes and measures taken to avoid negative impacts on the property;
5. Notes the conclusions of the 2016 IUCN Advisory mission that the recent plans for development of skiing facilities within the property may have significant impacts on the OUV of the property including its conditions of integrity;
6. Recalls that the Committee has repeatedly reiterated its position that the installation of capital construction on the Lagonaki Plateau, including Mount Fisht and Oshten, would

constitute a case for inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger, in line with Paragraph 180 of the Operational Guidelines, and considers that this also applies to such constructions in any other part of the property;

7. *Reiterates its concerns over potential development of large-scale skiing facilities within the property and also requests the State Party to confirm the current status of any existing plans for large-scale tourism and sport infrastructure within the property;*
8. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.*

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

14. Morne - Trois Pitons National Park (Dominica) (N 814)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1997

Criteria (viii)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/814/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 1998-2001)

Total amount approved: USD 14,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/814/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

March 2017: Joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Cable car construction project (issue resolved)
- Geothermal projects adjacent to the property

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/814/>

Current conservation issues

A joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission visited the property from 24 to 31 March 2017. On 7 April 2017, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property. The mission report and the State Party reports are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/814/documents>. The State Party provides the following information:

- In 2013, the exploratory and testing phase of the geothermal project in the vicinity of the property was completed at two fields (Wotten Wave and Laudat), both located outside of the boundaries of the property. Since then, no activities have been undertaken;
- Terms of References (ToRs) have recently been prepared for the development of an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the operational phase of the project and it is expected that the ESIA will be completed between June and August 2017. A copy of the ToRs was submitted together with the report;
- During the discussions with the mission, the State Party has accepted the mission's recommendation to include a specific assessment of potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property as part of the ESIA;
- A Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded project focused at strengthening the effectiveness of protected areas in Dominica is currently underway, which foresees the elaboration of a management plan for the property and the establishment of a buffer zone around it.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The mission has confirmed that the existing infrastructure related to geothermal development is located outside of the boundaries of the property and has concluded that it does not pose a threat to

its OUV. However, rigorous monitoring will be required to ensure that no negative impacts emerge in the future. The confirmation of the State Party that no activities have been undertaken since the finalization of the exploratory phase of the project in 2013 is noted. It will be crucial to ensure that the operational phase of the project does not commence unless it is clearly demonstrated that it will not result in any negative impacts on the OUV of the property, including its conditions of integrity. In this regard, the decision of the State Party to include a specific assessment of potential impacts on OUV in the ESIA to be developed for the operational phase should be welcomed. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit the ESIA to the World Heritage Centre as soon as it becomes available, for review by IUCN, and prior to making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*. Furthermore, it is recommended that the Committee also request the State Party to ensure that the operational phase of the project will not be permitted if it would have any negative impact on the OUV of the property.

The commitment of the State Party to strengthen the management of the property, including through elaboration of a new Management Plan and establishment of a buffer zone, is welcomed. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to continue its efforts and to implement all recommendations of the mission on this matter, including its recommendation to further consolidate the governance of all protected areas in Dominica. Once the buffer zone of the Morne Trois Pitons National Park has been established, the State Party should be encouraged to submit, according to paragraphs 163-164 of the *Operational Guidelines*, a proposal to officially establish a buffer zone for the property, for examination by the Committee, through the Minor Boundary Modification process.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.14

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision 40 COM 7B.73, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),*
3. *Welcomes the commitment of the State Party to strengthen the management of the property, including through elaboration of a new Management Plan and establishment of a buffer zone and encourages it to continue its efforts in this regard and, once the buffer zone of the Morne Trois Pitons National Park has been established, to submit a Minor Boundary Modification proposal, according to paragraphs 163-164 of the Operational Guidelines, to officially establish a buffer zone of the property;*
4. *Notes the confirmation by the State Party that no activities related to the geothermal project in the vicinity of the property have taken place since the exploratory phase was completed in 2013, and also welcomes the State Party's decision to include a specific assessment of potential impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property in the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be prepared for the operational phase of the project;*
5. *Requests the State Party to submit the ESIA to the World Heritage Centre, for review by IUCN, as soon as it becomes available and prior to making any decisions regarding the operational phase of the project that would be difficult to reverse, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, and to ensure that this phase of the project will not be approved if it would have any negative impact on the OUV;*
6. *Also notes the conclusions of the March 2017 joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission, and also requests the State Party to implement all its recommendations;*

7. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above.*

15. Islands and Protected Areas of the Gulf of California (Mexico) (N 1182ter)

See Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add.2

AFRICA

18. Dja Faunal Reserve (Cameroon) (N 407)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/407/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 1987-1997)

Total amount approved: USD 84,700

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/407/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 60,000, UNESCO Netherlands Funds in Trust ; USD 200,000 in 2016, in the framework of the Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI) and USD 263 700 from Franz Weber Foundation for the sustainable conservation of the Dja Faunal Reserve

Previous monitoring missions

March 1998: UNESCO monitoring mission; June 2006, December 2009, February-March 2012 and November-December 2015: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of entire approval and implementation of management plan
- Agricultural and forest encroachment
- Mining exploitation project close to the property (issue resolved)
- Industrial agriculture in the buffer zone
- Threats exerted by commercial hunting and deforestation around the property
- Mékin hydroelectric dam
- Poaching

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/407/>

Current conservation issues

On 9 December 2016, the World Heritage Centre wrote a letter to the State Party requesting information concerning the partial impoundment of the Mékin Hydroelectric Dam, located in the periphery of the property, where work commenced on 11 November 2016 and which had caused a flood, cutting off the roads and damaging to the forests. In particular, the World Heritage Centre requested the State Party to report whether mitigation measures on the negative impacts had been undertaken prior to the operation, as outlined in the Environmental Management and Social Plan (PGES) of the project. On 15 February 2017, the World Heritage Centre sent a reminder to the State Party, further clarifying that the response of the State Party to the other elements contained in Decision **40 COM 7B.79** would be examined by the Committee at its 42nd session in 2018, as foreseen.

On 27 February 2017, the State Party sent a letter to the World Heritage Centre informing it that a mid-term report on the above-mentioned issue would be transmitted shortly. However, at the time of drafting this document, this report had not yet been submitted.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

It is recommended that the Committee express its utmost concern regarding the damage to the forests, but also to the fields and plantations of the local communities, caused by the partial impoundment of the Mékin Dam and the resulting flooding.

It should be recalled that during its 40th session, the Committee expressed its deep concern about the fact that the joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission of 2015 had noted that the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property would be seriously threatened, in the event that the Mékin Dam was completed without any mitigation measure in place to reduce the negative impacts of this project. The flooding blocked all the roads and paralysed the bridge on the River Lobo, cutting off traffic between Bengbis and Mayomessala; this situation indicates that the mitigation measures for the negative impacts of the dam to the local communities were not implemented, or at the least were not efficacious.

The Committee had, moreover, adopted the corrective measures proposed by the mission that recommended the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger. These measures request, among others, that the State Party urgently implement the PGES ensuring that the mitigation measures for the negative impacts of the dam on the property be carried out. It is therefore recommended that the Committee reiterate to the State Party the need to implement this corrective measure, and request it to provide detailed information on the mitigation measures taken after the impoundment of the dam.

It is also recommended that the Committee note with concern that the property remains in a very fragile situation as regards ascertained threats and that the State Party consider its possible inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, during its 42nd session in 2018 if substantial progress is not achieved in the implementation of Decision **40 COM 7B.79**.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.18

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.79**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Expresses its deep concern as regards the damage to the forests, but also to the fields and plantations of the local communities, caused by the flood provoked by the partial impoundment of the Mékin Dam, and as regards the extremely fragile situation of the property in the face of these threats;
4. Reiterates its deep concern regarding the fact that the joint World Heritage/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission of 2015 had noted that the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property was at risk from serious threats in the event that the construction of the Mékin Dam was completed without any mitigation measure in place to reduce the negative impacts of this project;
5. Again urges the State Party to urgently implement the Environmental and Social Management Plan (PGES) ensuring that the mitigation measures for negative impacts of the dam on the property are implemented;
6. Requests the State Party to provide detailed information on the measures undertaken to mitigate the impacts caused by the partial impoundment of the dam to the property;
7. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its

42nd session in 2018, with a view to considering, in the absence of significant progress in the implementation of the above-mentioned measures and those contained in its Decision 40 COM 7B.79, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

ARAB STATES

23. Socotra Archipelago (Yemen) (N 1263)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2008

Criteria (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1263/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1263/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

December 2012: IUCN mission; June 2014: IUCN/Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Legal frameworks, governance and management systems
- Ground transport infrastructure: road network
- Livestock grazing: sheep, goat and cattle
- Invasive species
- Fishing and collection of marine resources
- Solid waste: primarily in and around main settlements

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1263/>

Current conservation issues

On 13 February 2017, the World Heritage Centre sent a letter to the State Party to verify information provided in media articles concerning new development projects on the island of Socotra, as part of humanitarian aid provided by a foundation based in the United Arab Emirates.

Following this letter, the World Heritage Centre and IUCN have received further information from a third party about these developments, which are reported to include residential cities, ports, hotels, and roads, without prior assessment of impacts on the unique environment of Socotra and the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property.

At the time of writing this report, no response had yet been received from the State Party.

On 23 May 2017, the General Organization for the Protection of Historic Cities (GOPHCY) sent a letter to the UNESCO expressing concern over ongoing military operations within the property that might affect its OUV.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

It should be recalled that Socotra was hit by two devastating cyclones in November 2015, causing much damage to human settlements, as well as to the terrestrial and marine environments of the property, and that the Committee has expressed its concern that the vulnerability of the property to unsustainable resource use, soil erosion and habitat degradation was likely to have been further increased by the impacts of the cyclones (Decision **40 COM 7B.86**), which had not yet been fully assessed.

At its 40th session in 2016, the Committee welcomed the ongoing consideration by the Governorate of Socotra of a policy to cancel all previous decisions to expand main access roads within the property, which responds to a previous request of the Committee (Decision **37 COM 7B.9**, reiterated in Decision **39 COM 7B.6**) to ensure that the road network in the property is not expanded.

Finally, it should be recalled that in its 2016 report to the Committee (available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1263/documents/>), the State Party noted that rehabilitation of the sea port, which was damaged by the cyclones, would be limited to restoring it to its previous condition, and would not include any extensions.

In light of the above, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide to the World Heritage Centre further information on the development projects and alleged military operations on Socotra, for review by IUCN, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and that it request the State Party to ensure that any development on Socotra, including those that are part of humanitarian aid, is subject to a rigorous assessment of impacts on the OUV of the property, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment.

It is further recommended that the Committee reiterate its request to the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess its state of conservation, including in view of the impacts from the cyclones, and to support the State Party in identifying priorities for rehabilitation and management activities.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.23

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.86**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),*
3. *Reiterates its significant concern that the vulnerability of the property to pressures from unsustainable resource use, soil erosion and habitat degradation is likely to have increased following the impacts of the cyclones, and recalls its request to the State Party to ensure that the road network in the property is not expanded;*
4. *Calls on all UNESCO Member States to support emergency safeguarding measures, including through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund;*
5. *Recalls the State Party's commitment expressed in 2016 that the rehabilitation of the sea port, which was damaged by the cyclones, would be limited to restoring it to its previous condition, and would not include any extensions;*
6. *Requests the State Party and to provide further information on the development projects on Socotra to the World Heritage Centre and on alleged military operations, for review by IUCN, prior to taking any decisions regarding their implementation that would be difficult to reverse, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;*
7. *Also requests the State Party to ensure that any development on Socotra, including humanitarian aid-related development, is subject to a rigorous assessment of impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in line with IUCN's World Heritage Advice Note on Environmental Assessment, and to submit a copy of the completed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to the World Heritage Centre, for review by IUCN;*
8. *Reiterates its request to the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess its state of conservation,*

including in view of the impacts from the cyclones, and to support the State Party in identifying priorities for rehabilitation and management activities;

9. *Also reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.*

ASIA-PACIFIC

24. Great Barrier Reef (Australia) (N 154)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1981

Criteria (vii)(viii)(ix)(x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/154/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/154/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

March 2012: joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Changes to oceanic waters
- Ground water pollution
- Marine transport infrastructure (Coastal development, including development of ports)
- Non-renewable energy facilities (Liquefied Natural Gas export facilities)
- Other climate change impacts
- Storms
- Surface water pollution
- Temperature change
- Other (Grounding of ships)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/154/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 December 2016, the State Party submitted an update report on progress with the implementation of the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan (2050 LTSP) and the associated Investment Strategy, for review by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN. This report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/154/documents/>. The State Party also submitted an update on the coral bleaching in the property in 2016. In addition, the World Heritage Centre and IUCN were invited to a consultation meeting with the State Party in March 2017 for further updates on the status of the Investment Strategy, water quality targets and the coral bleaching in early 2017. They also consulted directly with the independent chairs of the Reef 2050 Advisory Committee and the Independent Expert Panel.

The State Party considers that the inception of the 2050 LTSP has been effective, that progress has been made, and that an Investment Framework is in place. Since the Plan's release, legislation has been passed to ban sea-based disposal of capital dredge material in the property, to restrict new port development within current port limits, and to prohibit major capital dredging for port facilities outside the four major priority areas. Progress is also being made towards improving monitoring and compliance with the regulated standards in relation to agricultural run-off, which is the major cause of poor water quality.

The Investment Strategy maps out AUS\$ 1,28 billion (approx. USD 950 million) against the 2050 LTSP actions over the next 5 years, excluding general investment such as the Reef Fund. Investments are subject to 5-year adaptive management cycles based on monitoring of performance. Priority funding gaps are identified and a framework to mobilise large-scale private sector and further philanthropic investments to complement government funding is being implemented. The majority of investment is directed to water quality where collective investments of up to AUS\$ 573 million (approx. USD 434 million) are committed during the next five years.

The State Party further notes that against the backdrop of the 2050 LTSP implementation, the property was severely affected by the global mass coral bleaching event resulting from climate change and a particularly strong El Niño effect during the summer of 2015-2016.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The specific request made by the World Heritage Committee in 2015 (Decision **39 COM 7B.7**) for this progress report, and its request that the overall state of conservation of the property be reviewed at its 44th session in 2020, should be recalled.

The initial work in the inception of the 2050 LTSP and the development of a comprehensive, multi-year Investment Strategy that sets out priority targets and funding gaps are highly welcomed. Via the 2050 LTSP and its supporting initiatives, there has undoubtedly been an unprecedented level of increased effort to reduce pressures affecting the property, provide an integrated vision for its future protection, and establish concerted management cooperation across different levels of government. This effort is a marked departure from past practices and deserves full recognition.

However, despite the positive achievements in the Plan's inception and the establishment of the Investment Strategy, progress towards achieving water quality targets has been slow, and the most immediate water quality targets set out in the 2050 LTSP are not expected to be achieved within the foreseen timeframe. The World Heritage Centre and IUCN consider that the implementation of the Plan will need to accelerate to ensure that the intermediate and long-term targets of 2050 LTSP are being met, in particular regarding water quality. It is also noted that important legislation regulating land clearing has not been passed yet, and that increased efforts are needed to ensure that all important legislation necessary to deliver the 2050 LTSP outcomes is put in place.

Climate change remains the most significant overall threat to the future of the property. It is recommended that the Committee express its serious concern at the coral bleaching and mortality that occurred in 2016 and at the second event underway in early 2017. While the long-term effects of these events cannot be fully evaluated yet, their scale serves to underline the severity of the threat to the property from climate change. At the site level, there is a need to consider how these mass bleaching events influence the effectiveness of the 2050 LTSP in its current form, notably in relation to the most urgently needed measures and improvements that contribute to the property's resilience. Considering the global nature of both the causes and the scale of the impacts of recent mass coral bleaching across many World Heritage properties, this issue is discussed in Document WHC/17/41.COM/7.

It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to accelerate its efforts to reach the water quality targets set out in the 2050 LTSP and to ensure that all measures which are necessary to achieve them are taken. As per the Committee's Decision at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015), it remains essential, beyond this interim consideration of the plan's inception and the Investment Framework, that the Committee evaluate the overall state of conservation of the property at the time when the first five-year targets under the 2050 LTSP are expected to be met. This evaluation should include an assessment of the effectiveness of the State Party's response to the recent bleaching events in the framework of the implementation of the 2050 LTSP. It is therefore recommended that the Committee reiterate its request (Decision **39 COM 7B.7**) to the State Party to submit a report on the state of conservation of the property, demonstrating effective and sustained protection of the property's OUV and effective performance in meeting the targets established under the 2050 LTSP, linked to the findings of the 2014 and 2019 Great Barrier Reef Outlook Reports, for review at its 44th session in 2020.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.24

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **39 COM 7B.7**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),
3. Welcomes the progress made with the inception and initial implementation of the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan (2050 LTSP) and the establishment of the Investment Framework, and expresses its appreciation for the significant efforts by all those involved in the implementation of the 2050 LTSP;
4. Strongly encourages the State Party to accelerate efforts to ensure meeting the intermediate and long-term targets of the plan, which are essential to the overall resilience of the property, in particular regarding water quality;
5. Notes with serious concern the coral bleaching and mortality that affected the property in 2016 and 2017;
6. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an overall report on the state of conservation of the property demonstrating the effective and sustained protection of the property's Outstanding Universal Value and effective performance in meeting the targets established under the 2050 LTSP, linked to the findings of the 2014 and 2019 Great Barrier Reef Outlook Reports, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

32. Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex (Thailand) (N 590rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2005

Criteria (x)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/590/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/590/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

February-March 2012: Joint UNESCO/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; January 2014: IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission; December 2016: IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Illegal activities (Poaching and illegal logging)
- Ground transport infrastructure (Road expansion, in particular regarding Highway 304)

- Forest fragmentation (connectivity and the need for ecological corridors)
- Land conversion (Encroachment)
- Management systems/management plan
- Impacts of tourism/visitor/recreation
- Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure
- Water infrastructure (Dams)
- Livestock farming/grazing of domesticated animals (Cattle grazing) (issue resolved)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/590/>

Current conservation issues

From 13 to 19 December 2016, an IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission visited the property, and on 30 January 2017, the State Party submitted a report on its state of conservation. Both reports are available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/590/documents>. The State Party responds to the Committee's decisions as follows:

- Continued commitment to strengthening international cooperation in order to address illegal logging and trade of Siamese Rosewood. Among other achievements:
 - On 21 June 2016, the Thai Cabinet approved a policy framework concerning cooperation between Thailand and Cambodia on addressing this issue along the international border,
 - In September 2016, the listing of Siamese Rosewood on Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has been upgraded by changing Annotation 5 to Annotation 4, which controls trade in all products of Siamese Rosewood,
 - The 3rd Regional Dialogue on Preventing Illegal Logging and Trade of Siamese Rosewood was held in Bangkok from 29 to 31 March 2017, and was attended by delegations from Cambodia, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam;
- Financial and material resources for the protection of Siamese Rosewood and wildlife have increased. The number of criminal cases related to illegal logging of Siamese Rosewood in the property is demonstrating a declining trend, following a peak in 2014;
- A detailed update is provided regarding the implementation of the Action Plan to Prevent and Suppress Illegal Logging and Trade of Siamese Rosewood in Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex 2014-2019 (hereafter "the Action Plan"), including the intensification of patrol efforts using Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) and the Network-Centric Anti-Poaching System (NCAPS);
- No poaching of other species of flora or fauna is reported;
- No new cases of resort development have been recorded in the property since December 2014, and 111 existing cases have been settled, representing 675 ha. 332 cases (representing 787.6 ha) remain in the judicial process, of which 246 are under investigation. So far, restoration of some 141 ha has been undertaken;
- Confirmation that constructions which may have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property will not be allowed. Should a decision be made to further pursue the proposed expansion of Highway 348 and the construction of the Huay Satone Dam, the World Heritage Centre and IUCN will be informed in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and IUCN

The 3rd Regional Dialogue held in March 2017, which saw the participation of a large number of international organizations, including IUCN, resulted in further commitments by the participating countries to implement the CITES Appendix II listing of Siamese Rosewood, including by developing a Regional Strategy and Action Plan, to ensure the survival of this species. It is recommended that the Committee commend the State Party for the leadership demonstrated in strengthening international cooperation to address illegal logging and trade of Siamese Rosewood, and that it encourage the State Party to continue its efforts in that regard, in particular to strengthen international cooperation on law enforcement and the prosecution of cases.

The December 2016 mission recognized the State Party's efforts to address illegal logging in collaboration with international partners, and considered that the application of the NCAPS, which is based on camera traps sending alerts to rangers as soon as they are triggered, could make a step change in the effectiveness of actions. Nevertheless, the mission also noted that local media reports about legal actions and seizures of rosewood around the property both during and after the mission indicated that, while the number of criminal cases related to illegal logging is showing a decline, it continues to occur regularly. It is therefore recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the Action Plan, in close collaboration with international partners, and take into account the recommendations made by the mission in that regard.

It is also recommended that the Committee note with appreciation the State Party's confirmation that no new cases of resort development have been recorded inside the property since December 2014, along with the progress reported with the ongoing investigations of cases of encroachment and with the restoration of encroached land. Nevertheless, the mission noted that existing encroachment continues to be a major challenge in parts of the property, and it is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the recommendations made by the 2014 Reactive Monitoring mission regarding this issue and to report specifically on progress achieved.

The mission further noted the State Party's commitment to avoid and mitigate impacts on the property's OUV from the expansion of Highway 304, as requested by the Committee (Decision **39 COM 7B.17**), and from the construction of the Huay Samong Dam, but raised concerns about the fact that the proposed expansion of Highway 348 and the proposed Huay Satone and Lam Prayathan dam projects, all within the property, are still being proposed by the Department of Highways and the Royal Irrigation Department, respectively. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to assess alternatives to the expansion of Highway 348 that avoid negative impacts on OUV, and to permanently cancel plans for any construction of dams with reservoirs inside the property's boundaries. It is further recommended that the Committee request the State Party to also fully implement all the other recommendations of the 2016 mission.

Finally, the mission concluded that the overall state of conservation of the property remains good, as demonstrated by healthy and growing populations of a number of key wildlife species. Therefore, and provided that the State Party's efforts to halt illegal logging of Siamese Rosewood continue, the property's inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger is not recommended at this stage. However, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit a report on the state of conservation of the property by 1 February 2018, for examination by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, to confirm continued progress. If in three years' time (at the 44th session of the Committee, following expiration of the Action Plan in 2019), the State Party cannot convincingly prove that the situation has improved, or if at any time there is evidence that the present situation regarding illegal logging of Siamese Rosewood deteriorates further or that other valuable species start to be targeted by logging or poaching, it is recommended that the Committee reconsider whether immediate inclusion of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger is warranted, in accordance with Paragraph 180 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.32

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.90**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Commends the State Party for the leadership demonstrated in strengthening international cooperation to address illegal logging and trade of Siamese Rosewood and its efforts to halt illegal logging in the property, in collaboration with international partners, and encourages the State Party to continue its efforts to implement the Action Plan to Prevent and Suppress Illegal Logging and Trade of Siamese Rosewood in Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex 2014-2019 (hereafter "the Action Plan") and

further strengthen international cooperation, in particular on law enforcement and prosecution of cases;

4. Considers that, following the completion of the Action Plan in 2019, an improvement in the situation regarding illegal logging of Siamese Rosewood should be convincingly demonstrated by the Committee's 44th session in 2020, and also considers that, if at any time there is evidence that the situation deteriorates or that other valuable species start to be targeted by logging or poaching, this would represent a potential danger to the property, in accordance with Paragraph 180 of the Operational Guidelines;
5. Noting with appreciation that no new cases of resort development have been recorded inside the property since December 2014, as well as the progress reported with ongoing cases and with the restoration of encroached land, requests the State Party to continue to implement the recommendations made by the 2014 Reactive Monitoring mission regarding encroachment and to report specifically on progress achieved;
6. Notes with appreciation the State Party's commitment and efforts to avoid any negative impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property from the ongoing expansion of Highway 304 and the construction of the Huay Samong Dam;
7. Notes with concern that the expansion of Highway 348 and the construction of the Huay Satone dam within the property are still being proposed, and also requests the State Party to assess alternatives to the expansion of Highway 348 that would avoid negative impacts on OUV, and to permanently cancel plans for any construction of dams with reservoirs inside the property's boundaries, including the Huay Satone and the Lam Prayathan dam projects;
8. Further requests the State Party to fully implement all the recommendations of the 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission;
9. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for evaluation by the World Heritage Centre and IUCN, and if, in their opinion, progress is insufficient, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018;
10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2019**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and on progress towards achieving the targets of the Action Plan, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session in 2020.

MIXED PROPERTIES

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

34. Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid region (the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) (C/N 99ter)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979, extension in 1980

Criteria (i)(iii)(iv)(vii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/99/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 1986-2011)

Total amount approved: USD 20,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/99/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 20,000 (UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice)

Previous monitoring missions

September 1998: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN mission; December 2013: Joint ICOMOS/UNESCO Advisory mission; April 2017: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/ management plan
- Buildings and development
- Ground transport infrastructure
- Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure (proposed Galičica Ski Centre)
- Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/99/>

Current conservation issues

On 14 March 2017, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/99/documents> and detailing progress in a number of conservation issues as follows:

- The revised Management Plan is to be adopted by the State Party upon completion of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA);
- The establishment of a management committee to control development pressures and interventions at the property has begun and the procedure for appointing committee members is in its final stage;
- A Draft Plan for Integrated Protection of the Old Town Nucleus of Ohrid was prepared in 2016 and adopted on 23 February 2017; the preparation of urban plans for 19 complexes within the city of Ohrid are expected to be finalized during 2017;
- Technical documentation for a number of large-scale infrastructure works are being prepared (in particular the Railway Corridor VIII, Highway A2 and expressway A3);

- Urban planning documentation is being prepared for seven development or tourism zones, one of which covers some 290 ha (Ljubanishta 2, previously cancelled) and for one sport airfield in Kalishte, Struga, as well as for the construction of piers and pontoons in Ohrid, the repair of piers in St Naum, Radozhda, Trpejca, Peshtani and the construction of a platform near Ohrid airport and of a pedestrian path in Ohrid;
- Updates on the wastewater drainage project funded by European Investment Bank for villages within Debarca, Struga and Ohrid municipalities;
- The State Party continues to cooperate in the framework of the Upstream Process towards the extension of the property to the Albanian side of the lake.

The following additional information was provided to the World Heritage Centre in May 2017: An environmental analysis of the Lagadin Beach landscaping project, a draft version of the Tourism Development Strategy for Ohrid Municipality (both in Macedonian), a report from the Hydrobiological Institute outlining factors affecting the current situation of pollution and changes to the water level in Lake Ohrid and a number of inventories and maps prepared by the National Institution for the Protection of Monuments of Culture and Museum – Ohrid with cultural attributes located within the boundaries of the property.

From 9 to 14 April 2017, a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission visited the property. The report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/99/documents/>.

The mission discussed with the authorities the overall state of conservation of the property and provided technical assistance on the scope and development of a SEA, which should comprehensively assess the potential individual and cumulative impacts of all above-mentioned projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies

Some useful steps have been undertaken by the State Party in implementing the 2016 Committee's recommendations (preparation of the Draft Plan for Integrated Protection, establishment of the management committee), however, some important milestones are still pending such as the adoption of the revised Management Plan, pending the completion of a SEA, and the preparation of 19 detailed urban plans which were still at a preliminary stage at the time of the 2017 mission. As the Management Plan is not yet in force, several infrastructure and tourism facility projects have been approved or are being elaborated without a comprehensive, specific assessment of their cumulative impacts on the OUV of the property and its supporting attributes, and solid waste and waste water are still inadequately managed. A comprehensive SEA and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for all these projects and plans was requested by the Committee in 2016 but is yet to be prepared. The State Party stated during the mission that this will be included in the SEA process of the Management Plan.

The mission expressed concern about increased traffic and tourism pressure and related inappropriate infrastructure projects, including the proposed development of the Galičica ski resort, and the incremental and uncoordinated urban developments. These pressures could deteriorate key attributes of the natural and cultural values of the property (such as the overall form of the monumental urban ensemble and the lake region's biodiversity), if no immediate measures are taken. In addition, inadequate treatment of wastewater and solid waste may cause eutrophication and pollution, undermining the oligotrophic quality of the lake water, on which its outstanding biodiversity depends.

The mission also reviewed the railway construction project that connects Kičevo (outside of the property) with the Albanian border, and which has reached its executive phase, and concluded that it could be acceptable if the mission recommendations are fully implemented.

It should also be noted that some large-scale infrastructure projects, which are part of the Pan European Corridor VIII, have been developed and agreed upon with international entities (European Union). However, no early information was provided to the World Heritage Centre, as stipulated in Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to allow for a preliminary assessment of the potential negative impacts on the property. Additionally, for the railway and road connection project within European Corridor VIII, although an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was elaborated, their potential negative impacts on OUV and related attributes were not specifically assessed.

Taking into account that the World Heritage Committee, at its 38th session (Doha, 2014), urged the State Party to identify alternative routes that do not cross the property, the mission visited several locations and received information about the chosen location. While the construction of the railway

that connects Kičevo (outside of the property) with the Albanian border passing through the property could be considered acceptable in principle, if properly planned and implemented with all the precautionary measures, the Mission recommended that the authorities submit to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, first, a comprehensive comparative study of alternative routes including those that do not pass in close vicinity of the lakeshore, and in particular avoiding one of the last well-preserved stretches of the lakeshore on the Albanian-Macedonian border.

The 2017 mission concluded that some of the proposals for large-scale infrastructure and construction projects, such as sub-sections (a) and (e) of the A3 road and the Galičica ski resort within the property could lead to irreversible changes to the property, in combination with the developments and transformations that have already occurred in the urban settlements and lakeshore since its inscription.

The mission strongly recommended to completely abandon the Galičica ski centre project, keep the internal national park zoning as is, and consider developing ecotourism options that would not negatively impact the property.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to halt the construction projects of the Galičica ski resort, as well as the sub-sections (a) and (e) of the A3 road.

It is also recommended that the Committee reminds the State Party that all projects including those submitted to major donors such as the European Union which may have potential negative impacts on the OUV of the property, should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for review in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

Considering the level of threats to the property, the mission identified a set of recommendations, some of which need to be prioritized and fulfilled over the next two years, in addition to those adopted in 2016 that still need to be fulfilled. The findings of the mission suggest that the overall state of conservation can be considered as vulnerable, and if the priority recommendations are not implemented within the suggested two-year timeframe (i.e. in 2019), the property may meet the criteria for inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger. It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit, by 1 February 2018, a progress report on the implementation of these priority recommendations for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies. If in their assessment insufficient progress is being made, the property will be examined by the Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.34

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision 40 COM 7B.68, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),*
3. *Notes with appreciation the steps taken by the State Party in relation to:*
 - a) *The finalization process of the Management Plan for the property, and the preparation of the Draft Plan of Integrated Protection for the Old Town Nucleus of Ohrid,*
 - b) *The establishment of the management committee to coordinate natural and cultural heritage activities, as a management structure to control development pressures and interventions at the property,*
 - c) *The development of detailed urban plans for each of the 19 complexes, which are part of the monumental ensemble, in line with the existing regulatory framework, to ensure the enforcement of provisions and the control of activities that might impact the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;*

4. Reiterates the request to the State Party to develop a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) that comprehensively assess the cumulative impacts of all infrastructure and development plans and other major projects on the property's OUV based on the recommendations and advice provided by the 2017 mission, as well as any necessary Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA), and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, before any further work is undertaken;
5. Requests the State Party to halt the construction projects of the sub-sections (a) and (e) of the A3 road and the Galičica ski resort within the property, which may have negative impacts on its OUV;
6. Also requests the State Party to urgently undertake a comprehensive comparative study of alternative routes for the railway of the Pan European Corridor VIII, including those that do not pass in close vicinity of the lakeshore, and in particular avoiding one of the last well-preserved stretches of the lakeshore on the Albanian-Macedonian border;
7. Further requests the State Party to fully implement all the recommendations of the 2017 mission;
8. Encourages the States Parties of Albania and of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, with the support of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to continue to cooperate in the framework of the Upstream Process towards the preparation of a transboundary extension of the property to include the Albanian part of Lake Ohrid, in order to strengthen the protection of the OUV of the property, including its conditions of integrity;
9. Considers that the overall state of conservation of the property is increasingly vulnerable, and if the priority recommendations are not implemented within the two-year timeframe (i.e. in 2019) suggested by the mission, the property may face potential danger, in line with paragraphs 179-180 of the Operational Guidelines;
10. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, a progress report on the implementation of the above for review by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and if in their assessment insufficient progress is being made, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018;
11. Finally requests the State Party to submit, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

36. Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu (Peru) (C/N 274)

See Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add.2

CULTURAL PROPERTIES

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

42. Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) (C 1033)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2001

Criteria (ii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

March 2006: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the “Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn”; September 2012: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the “Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn” and “Historic Centre of Vienna”; November 2015: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to “Historic Centre of Vienna”

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Housing: High-rise construction projects in Central Vienna (proposed Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus project)
- Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure: High-rise construction project of Vienna Main Train Station
- Legal framework: Lack of effectiveness of the overall governance of the property
- Legal framework: Lack of appropriateness of planning controls in the ‘High-Rise Concept 2014’ and the ‘Glacis Master Plan’

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/>

Current conservation issues

On 2 February 2017, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/documents>, which summarizes actions taken in response to Decision **40 COM 7B.49** and responds to third party information received by the World Heritage Centre from June 2016 to April 2017 and transmitted to the State Party, as follows:

- The design of the Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus has been revised; the height of the residential component has been reduced from 75m to 66.3m and the area occupied by the high-rise component has also been limited, recognizing that the projected high-rise would negatively impact the visual integrity and Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, including the visual axis from the Upper Belvedere Palace;
- The City of Vienna intends to analyze the existing urban planning instruments, particularly the ‘High-Rise Concept’ and ‘Glacis Masterplan’ in order to clarify, whether they take sufficient

account of the protection of the OUV of the property and if necessary to make required modifications;

- There is a current proposed project involving substantial changes to two buildings in the Karlsplatz-area: Wien Museum and Zurich Cosmos Insurance/Winterthur Building. These buildings date from the second half of the 20th century and are located in the eastern area of the square in the vicinity of the baroque "Karlskirche". The City of Vienna has indicated that the planning process has considered the visual and spatial qualities of the "Karlskirche" and advises that the reshaped buildings will not negatively impact on the appearance of the historic ensemble, as the maximum height will not exceed the deck-edge of the "Karlskirche" and there are no protrusions proposed. Responding to concerns about the historic roofscape expressed by the 2012 mission, a study on historic roof constructions in the Historic Centre of Vienna is being undertaken by the Federal Monuments Authority in collaboration with the City of Vienna. The study focus is baroque roof constructions with the aim of providing comprehensive information on their current condition and subsequently developing instruments for their safeguarding.

The State Party subsequently provided additional visualizations for the projects in the Karlsplatz-Area and on 10 April 2017 submitted a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus project. ICOMOS has undertaken a technical review of this additional information.

On 5 May 2017, the State Party informed the World Heritage Centre that the City Council of Vienna passed a resolution clarifying the planning instruments for urban development. According to this resolution, urban planning measures for the necessary further evolution of the city centre of Vienna shall not compromise the authenticity of the property and shall ensure that no new locations will be decreed for high-rise buildings and no further storeys shall be added to existing high-rise buildings in the 1st municipal district "Innere Stadt" nor being planned or decreed. The State Party has clarified that this resolution would not prevent the Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus from proceeding, as this project would be located outside the 1st municipal district, within the area covered by the Glacis Master Plan and the area's suitability for high-rise construction was determined prior to the new Council resolution.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The changes made to the Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus project are insufficient to comply with both the 2015 mission recommendations and the subsequent Committee Decision **40 COM 7B.49**. The minimal reduction of height by 8.7m (from 75m to 66.3m) and amended footprint of the residential component are negligible compared to the total project height, number of storeys and building volume. This project is not prevented by the resolution of the City Council of Vienna dated 5 May and could proceed if the Council were to create the necessary legal basis.

Visualizations of the revised and rescaled Inter-Continental Hotel project provided in the recently-submitted HIA demonstrate that the proposed buildings would still have a substantive inappropriate negative visual impact on both the close context (being an integral part of the World Heritage property), and on the vistas on the property when observed from significant distant points, particularly the Belvedere Gardens. The HIA does not acknowledge the substantial adverse effects that the revised project would have on the OUV of the property.

The precedent set by other recent high-rise buildings in the surrounding area, does not, as suggested, justify the construction of any new high-rise building that could have a negative impact on the OUV of the property. The argument that the new facility has merit because it will "*enhance Vienna as capital of music*" provides no substantive justification. Any decision by the City Council of Vienna to approve the land use and development, thus creating the legal basis for implementing the revised project, would be pre-emptive and inappropriate at this time and inconsistent with the Committee's request that the State Party halt further approvals for high-rise projects.

Despite previous indications that the problematic planning controls would be analyzed, there has been no substantive action taken to repeal or amend them, although the City Council of Vienna has very recently passed a resolution which seeks to ensure no new high-rise locations, in addition to the existing ones, will be decreed within the property. This resolution does not cover areas outside the 1st municipal district, does not reverse high-rise locations previously determined and, without actual change to the planning controls themselves, could be reversed in future by another resolution of the

City Council of Vienna. Therefore, while recognizing that the resolution addresses the Committee's concerns, it does not fulfill the Committee's specific request. The urgency of this issue was clearly articulated in the 2015 Reactive Monitoring mission report, which highlighted that these tools, could lead to "a serious deterioration of its architectural and town-planning coherence, a serious loss of morphological integrity", and result in damage to OUV.

The Karlskirche is a major Baroque period work within the property. In its vicinity, there are two buildings for which large extensions are planned. Graphic and photographic documents submitted to date do not adequately evaluate these proposed projects and their potential impact on the Karlskirche and the surrounding urban context. Additional visual simulations of the planned interventions as observed from ground level are required to understand precisely and evaluate their potential impact on the Karlskirche and Karlsplatz and on the OUV. There is no basis for the assumption that the new built forms will be appropriate because the maximum heights do not exceed the "deck edge of the Karlskirche".

The study on historic roof constructions in the Historic Centre of Vienna is a welcome initiative, which seeks to address an important, but neglected, aspect of the property, highlighted in the 2012 and 2015 mission reports, in the light of adverse changes to the historic roofscapes over recent decades. It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party to adopt a moratorium on projects that involve any modification of the roofscape of the Historic Centre until the study has been completed.

The OUV of the property remains in danger from lawfully designed and constructed buildings that are permitted by the existing planning controls; particularly the 'High-Rise Concept' and 'Glacis Masterplan'. The current Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus was conceived within the parameters allowed by these controls. Furthermore, retention of the OUV of the property must encompass more than the identification of those visual axes and visual links, which have particular significance to the city-scape.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.42

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **39 COM 7B.94** and **40 COM 7B.49**, adopted at its 39th (Bonn, 2015) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,*
3. *Also recalling the concerns expressed by the 2012 mission regarding the critical level of urban development reached since inscription and its cumulative impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, the need for new tools to guide the development process towards sustainable development that protects the attributes of the OUV, and the specific recommendations of the 2015 mission to the property,*
4. *Noting the information provided by the State Party including design changes and a Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus project, the resolution of the City Council of Vienna dated 5th May 2017, the intention to analyze and review existing urban planning instruments, and the advice regarding proposed projects in the the Karlsplatz-area,*
5. *Welcomes the study on historic roof constructions in the Historic Centre of Vienna by the Federal Monuments Authority in collaboration with the City of Vienna, and requests the State Party to adopt a moratorium on projects that involve any modification of the roofscapes within the property, until the study has been completed;*

6. Notes with regret that the changes made to the proposed Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus project do not comply with the previous requests of the Committee, and that the proposed project remains inconsistent with the recommendations of the 2012 and 2015 missions and would adversely affect the OUV of the property if implemented in its current form, and therefore reiterates its requests to the State Party to submit a further revised design to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, before any decisions are made regarding its implementation, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;
7. Reiterating its concern that the High-Rise Concept abolishes exclusion zones for high-rise buildings in the Vienna urban areas, without having applied appropriate instruments of control for height, volume and urban density respecting the OUV of the property, and that the Glacis Master Plan permits the construction of buildings of a scale that would have an adverse impact on the urban form and character of the Glacis area, expresses its regret that these instruments have not been repealed or substantially amended, and therefore also reiterates its request to the State Party to facilitate the preparation of revised planning rules and guidelines, which:
 - a) Establish parameters for the urban density as well as specific standards for building height and volume for the property and buffer zone,
 - b) Safeguard the urban morphology that is an essential attribute of the property,
 - c) Encourage sustainable development in the property and its buffer zone in harmony with its OUV,
 - d) Require that all high-rise projects are evaluated through a comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), prepared in accordance with the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties, including reference to 3D visual simulations, so that the effects of the proposed development on the OUV of the property can be properly considered;
 - e) Incorporate the intent of the resolution of the City Council of Vienna, dated 5 May 2017 within the revised planning rules and guidelines;
8. Also requests the State Party to facilitate review of the designs for the proposed developments in the Karlsplatz-area, having particular regard to the setting of the Karlskirche, and to ensure that the proposals are evaluated through a comprehensive HIA, prepared in accordance with the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage properties, and that comprehensive documentation, including adequate scale drawings and visualizations of the planned interventions as observed from ground level, are submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, before any decision is made regarding the future of these projects;
9. Urges the State Party not to amend the current land use and development plans and to halt any further approvals for high-rise projects, pending the preparation of the revised planning rules, and submit the proposed designs and related HIAs for any future high-rise projects to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;
10. Regrets that the State Party has not complied with the requests expressed by the Committee in Decision **40 COM 7B.49**, in particular related to the lack of change to existing planning controls and the inadequate extent of change proposed for the Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus project;
11. Considers that the current planning controls pose serious and specific threats to the OUV of the property, such that the property is in danger, in accordance with Paragraph

179 of the Operational Guidelines and ***decides to inscribe the Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) on the List of World Heritage in Danger***;

12. *Further requests* the State Party, in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, to develop a set of corrective measures, a timeframe for their implementation, and a Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018;
13. *Finally requests* the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.

43. Ancient City of Nessebar (Bulgaria) (C 217)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1983

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/217/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 1991-1995)

Total amount approved: USD 23,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/217/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

November 2010: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; November 2012: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of a management plan (issue resolved)
- Urban development pressure
- Lack of an urban master plan and of a conservation master plan of monuments and archaeological sites (issue resolved)
- Illegal constructions (issue resolved)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/217/>

Current conservation issues

Following consultations with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS held in January and February 2017, the State Party submitted a detailed state of conservation report on 26 February 2017, with several annexes, accessible at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/217/documents/>, which informs on the following:

- Response to previous Committee recommendations;
- Delay in approving and implementing the Management Plan due to:

- Negative advice of the Ministry of Finance for an ad-hoc National Fund “Nessebar-World Heritage” separate from the State Budget and for Value Added Tax exemption for Nessebar residents,
 - Negative advice from the legal directorate of the Ministry of Culture on the proposal for a separate Act on the Preservation and Development of the Ancient City of Nessebar,
 - Reported inconsistencies between the boundaries of the property and its buffer zone as they are shown in the draft Management Plan and those mentioned in protection regimes adopted in 2015 based on the Ordinance n. 174/1991 (2km of buffer zone around the peninsula) corresponding to boundary clarifications carried out in 2008 and finalized with Decision **32 COM 8D**;
- A working group was established by the Ministry of Culture to revise and achieve approval of the Management Plan by the Council of Ministers, including a proposal for financing required activities;
 - Protective status of Nessebar was strengthened by order of the Minister of Culture No. RD9P-14 (5 June 2015);
 - Draft proposals for related protection regimes and conservation prescriptions have been prepared;
 - The general development plan for Nessebar was drafted and submitted for conciliation with the Ministry of Environment and Water together with Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report;
 - A detailed development plan will be prepared for the property and its buffer zone in December 2016;
 - Moratorium on new constructions remains valid, though some building permits have been issued for allowed activities;
 - An underwater archaeological survey was conducted before approval of Reconstruction and Modernization of Fishing harbour – Northern dike – Nessebar;
 - Conservation works at protected monuments and archaeological sites are being carried out or funded;
 - Documentation of the street silhouettes of Nessebar is ongoing with a view to recover the traditional skyline;
 - Removal of illegal buildings is ongoing (12 in 2015 and 3 more in 2016);
 - The Ministry of Transport, Information Technologies and Communications is aware of the prohibition of port infrastructure and the ban on future construction or development of the harbour; no project proposal related to the Concession of the Nessebar Port Terminal has been received, a proposal by the concessionaire includes the development of a car park;
 - The project for Reconstruction and Modernization of Fishing harbour – Northern dike – Nessebar will not be commenced without the result of a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and a positive advice in its regard by ICOMOS and decision by the Committee.

On 3 May 2017, the State Party informed the World Heritage Centre that the Municipality of Nessebar clarified that the reconstruction plan, namely the enlargement of the existing fishing port “Severna Buna-Nessebar”, has been abandoned. Only its modernisation will be carried out in order to preserve the fishery as the traditional local livelihood. Such a modernisation project will include public works, rehabilitation and modernisation of the existing fishing port infrastructure as stipulated by the new European Union (EU) regulations regarding the implementation of the goals and objectives of the revised EU Common Fisheries Policy.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Despite some progress in implementing the Committee’s decisions, several crucial measures are not yet implemented, namely the protection regimes and conservation prescriptions, the development of a detailed Master- and Conservation Plans for the property and its buffer zone, the approval of the Management Plan – or even not initiated, e.g. sustainable mobility plan, technical guidelines for the vernacular architecture, instruments for careful arrangements of monuments’ setting. Moreover, an ill-

conceived development approach based on mass tourism is continuing a pattern that has already caused irreversible changes along the coast near and brought excessive pressures on Nessebar. The conservation approach is still piecemeal: safeguarding measures are not part of a comprehensive proactive strategy combining law enforcement, conservation and promotion within one integrated Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)-based vision for the future of the property.

The lack of structural and strategic planning and the sectorial approach of the different branches of the state administration, which limit their consideration to their strict jurisdiction, hinders the efforts being made and some decisions, e.g. the concession given for the Port Terminal, may lead to negatively impacting proposals.

The proposed infrastructure projects are incompatible with the OUV, attributes and vulnerabilities of Nessebar. Envisaging Nessebar Port Terminal as a gateway for ships as large as 35,000 Gross Registered Tonnage (GRT) and 180m long, as reported by the Ministry of Culture in its letter of 17 April 2015, points towards unsustainable forms of development and indicates a preoccupying misunderstanding of sustainable development and World Heritage status. A concession issued for use of the Port Terminal for large-scale ships is very alarming and represents a potential danger (e.g. negative impacts from modified sea currents and water movements caused by approaching and departing ships); however, careful and light intervention to recover the terminal area is needed, based on a different, more compatible strategy.

It is noted that the reconstruction/enlargement plan of the existing fishing port “Severna Buna-Nessebar” has been abandoned and only its modernisation will be carried out. Taking into account that an intense tourism-oriented use of the fishing harbour is expected, with increased traffic, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to halt any works until a HIA for the modernization of the existing fishing port is carried out in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines.

The conservation of the property requires a much stronger inter-sectorial approach, a shared vision for the future of Nessebar as a World Heritage property, as well as a strong cooperation among different branches of the public administration and the private sector to achieve shared benefits compatible with World Heritage status. Such a vision and cooperation are missing.

Taking into account a substantial systemic difficulty in establishing priorities for the property and coordinated collaboration among all stakeholders concerned, it is recommended that the Committee invite the State Party to strengthen the property’s management system, and in particular to reinforce the existing institutional framework by establishing all relevant decision-making bodies and groups that develop and adopt a vision for the future of the property and a strategic programme for its implementation. It is also recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to finalize and adopt the Management Plan of the property, as well as to implement all relevant measures and plans to support the appropriate implementation of its decisions in order to prevent any threats to its (OUV).

While progress has been made, essential legal instruments and management documents are not yet finalized and approved. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to explore possibilities to amend or integrate national legislation with provisions that favour mechanisms for the streamlining of funding for heritage conservation and maintenance based on an updated comparative study on the legal frameworks of other countries, particularly within the EU, with a particular focus on the legal framework concerning taxation, fiscal incentives or exemption, VAT application, reduction, etc. as a means to support cultural heritage conservation, management and promotion, in line with international policies and best practices.

If an OUV-based policy and appropriate regulations are not immediately introduced by the national and municipal authorities to prevent inappropriate developments, existing infrastructure projects and inappropriate development could jeopardize the property’s OUV and could represent potential danger, in conformity with Paragraph 179 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

While taking note that the State Party proposed to invite an Advisory mission to the property to review the infrastructure project proposals, however, it is rather recommended that the Committee request the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess its state of conservation and the implementation of its Decisions.

It is recommended that the Committee provide the State Party with an opportunity to address these longstanding concerns and to implement its Decisions; but if these actions are not completed promptly, then consideration of the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger would be warranted.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.43

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **37 COM 7B.73**, adopted at its 37th session (Phnom Penh, 2013),
3. Acknowledges that some progress has been achieved by the State Party in implementing the recommendations of the Committee and the 2010, 2012 and 2015 missions, as well as the commitment demonstrated towards the protection the property and the collaborative dialogue established with ICOMOS;
4. Welcomes that the reconstruction/enlargement plan of the existing fishing port “Severna Buna-Nessebar” was abandoned and requests the State Party to carry out a HIA for the modernization of the existing fishing port in conformity with the ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for World Heritage cultural properties and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before any decision is made;
5. Express its concern regarding proposed infrastructure projects, incompatible with the values, attributes and vulnerabilities of the property, as well as development approach based on mass tourism, which are representing potential threats to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;
6. Urges the State Party to halt any unsustainable form of development, such as to open the Nessebar Port Terminal for large ships, and also requests the State Party to recover the terminal area using careful and light intervention compatible with the World Heritage status of the property;
7. Invites the State Party to devise a radically different strategy for the sustainable and compatible development of Nessebar that reduces development pressure, by relocating plans and projects for any cruise terminals, or tourist, commercial or fishing ports for large ships elsewhere along the coast outside the visibility area from Nessebar and to develop a sustainable mobility plan to ensure the smooth circulation of residents, visitors and goods;
8. Also urges that the State Party introduce all relevant provisions regarding the World Heritage into national legislation, as well as develop and adopt an OUV-based policy, appropriate regulatory instruments and mechanisms to prevent, at the planning and programming stage, inappropriate developments, which could jeopardize the property’s OUV and could represent a potential danger, in conformity with Paragraph 179 of the Operational Guidelines;
9. Also invites the State Party to strengthen the property’s management system, address and resolve weaknesses in management, by reinforcing existing institutional framework and establishing an all relevant high-level inter-ministerial committee, decision-making bodies and working groups that develop and adopt a vision for the future of the property, including strategic programme for its implementation;
10. Requests the State Party to adopt all relevant measures and plans (Management plan, Master Plan and Conservation Plan), as well as to enforce the protection regimes and the conservation prescriptions, to support the appropriate implementation of its decisions in order to prevent any threats to its OUV;

11. Also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess its state of conservation and ascertain the progress made by the State Party ;
12. Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019, **with a view to considering, in case of confirmation of the ascertained or potential danger to Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

46. Budapest, including the Banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and Andrassy Avenue (Hungary) (C 400bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (ii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/400/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/400/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount provided: 800 million HUF (ca. 2.7 million EUR) EU support for the “Street of Culture” project

Previous monitoring missions

March 2005: World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission; November 2007: ICOMOS Advisory mission; February 2013: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Demolition and inappropriate development in the buffer zone known as the ‘Jewish Quarter’
- Inappropriate use of public areas and street amenities
- Lack of conservation of residential housing in the area inscribed as World Heritage
- Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure (increased traffic volume)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/400/>

Current conservation issues

On 2 December 2016, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, the executive summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/400/documents/>. Progress on a number of issues regarding conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous session is presented in the report as follows:

- Information concerning revised institutional and legal framework for the World Heritage, as well as the current status of the Management Plan of the property and the strategy for the extension of its buffer zone;

- Detailed information regarding regulations and rules for concluding agreements by the Municipalities with partners (a Partnership Plan) established in order to prevent serious deterioration of architectural and urban coherence;
- Information about a system of Budapest Metropolitan Building Renovation Grants and District grants;
- Reports regarding several completed, on-going and planned projects, including: the Royal Garden Bazaar project, the Kossuth Lajos Square renovation project and the Liget Budapest project, the National Hauszmann Plan (projects in the area of the Buda Castle Quarter), the Pest embankment, the former Radetzky barracks, the planned temporary sporting structures, RAK-PARK project (renovation of the section of downtown Pest along the Danube between Kossuth Square and Fővám Square) and the Hospitaller's Order Hospital project;
- Numerous Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) submitted for evaluation by the Advisory Bodies, amounting to thousands of pages, much in Hungarian.

The report also foreshadows potential additional developments related to the State Party's bid to host the Summer Olympics in 2024, noting that in May 2016, the State Party provided notice of its intention to authorize constructions within property Budapest, on the banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and András Avenue, for the purposes of Olympic venues, entertainment and social facilities and temporary changes.

In February 2017, the State Party submitted additional detailed information to the previous report submitted in June 2016 regarding proposals for an extensive campaign of restoration/reconstruction works within the Buda Castle Quarter - the 'National Hauszmann Plan'. The areas affected by the Plan include the Royal Palace district and Saint George square, the Civic Town, Szentháromság Square, Viennese Gate, Erdélyi Bastion, some areas beyond the castle and the Castle Quarter's defensive constructions.

On 4 May 2017, the State Party also submitted clarifications regarding the planned skyscraper in the District 11th of Budapest.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

In accordance with the Governmental Resolution 1312/2016 (VI. 13.), the Gyula National Heritage Preservation and Property Management Center, operated as a mid-level governing body for heritage preservation, ceased to exist on 1 January 2017. Its tasks will be taken over by several legal successor organizations, and it is expected that the World Heritage tasks will come under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister's Office.

The new public procurement process regarding the elaboration of the Management Plan, including possible extension of the buffer zone, which will be conducted by the Prime Minister's Office, is expected to take place in 2017. While a moratorium on the issuing of permits for demolitions and construction within the property was not introduced, the State Party advised that the so-called ban on alterations exists or existed in several districts of the city.

It is recommended that the Committee encourage the State Party to finalize the Management Plan of the property, as well as to implement all relevant measures and plans, defining appropriate degrees of intervention for each element of the property, to support the appropriate implementation of its decisions in order to prevent any threats to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

In June 2016, the State Party submitted a briefing report on proposals for an extensive campaign of restoration/reconstruction works within the Buda Castle Quarter - the 'National Hauszmann Plan'. The areas affected by the Plan include the Royal Palace district and Saint George square, the Civic Town, Szentháromság Square, Viennese Gate, Erdélyi Bastion, some areas beyond the castle and the Castle Quarter's defensive constructions. In view of the number and variety of the planned interventions, ranging from the architectural restoration of monuments and reconstruction of buildings, to contemporary interventions and urban infrastructure projects, the State Party has invited an ICOMOS Advisory mission. The mission shall review and analyze all the documentation for all revised, planned, ongoing or implemented projects submitted by the State Party, such as completed Royal Garden Bazaar project, completed Kossuth Square development project, modified Liget Budapest project, RAK-PARK project and National Hauszmann Plan for the Buda Castle Quarter, developments proposed as part of the 2024 Summer Olympics bid, including all HIAs.

On 13 December 2016, the Secretariat transmitted to the State Party, for comments, information concerning a high-rise building construction received from a third party. The State Party clarifications of 3 May 2017 are noted, and in particular that in December 2016, the Assembly of the Municipality of Budapest had modified the setting regulation of Budapest to allow buildings up to 120 metre high in the 11th District. The Prime Minister's Office responsible for the protection of cultural heritage - including World Heritage –does not consider that this revision properly reflects World Heritage rules and is also not in favor of the specific proposed high rise construction for the adverse impact it would have on the cityscape. So far, no request for building permission has been requested.

It is recommended that the World Heritage Committee request the State Party, should the conclusions of the analysis by the Advisory mission indicate any potential negative impact on the OUV of the property, to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess the potential impact of the developments proposed on the OUV of the property. Meanwhile, it is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to halt further permissions for major projects.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.46

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision 39 COM 7B.79, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),*
3. *Welcomes the efforts made by the State Party to improve the protection of all components of the property and its buffer zone and encourages it to sustain these efforts to prevent any loss of authenticity and integrity due to the planned developments in the property or its buffer zone which could constitute a threat to the property;*
4. *Nonetheless express concern at the modification to the setting regulations of Budapest approved by the Municipality of Budapest in December 2016 to allow tall buildings up to 120 metre height in the 11th District, part of the wider setting of the property, which would adversely impact on World Heritage cityscape and protected views, and urges the State Party to consider how World Heritage protection can take precedent over this regulation;*
5. *Reiterates its request that the State Party finalize, as soon as possible, the Management Plan of the property, including details of the protective measures and reference to decision making framework in regulatory regimes, as well as a proposal for enlargement of the buffer zone and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;*
6. *Notes with concern that a number of large-scale development projects proposed within the property, its buffer zone and its wider setting which may substantially impact on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;*
7. *Noting that the State Party invited an ICOMOS Advisory mission in order to review and analyze all ongoing and planned interventions, recommends that this mission take place by end of 2017 and also urges the State Party to halt further permissions for major projects until this assessment has been undertaken;*
8. *Should the conclusions of the analysis by the Advisory mission indicate any potential negative impact on the OUV of the property, also requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to*

assess the potential impact of the developments proposed on the OUV of the property, in light of the conclusion of the analysis by the Advisory mission;

9. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.*

48. Venice and its lagoon (Italy) (C 394)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/394/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/394/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Programme for the Safeguarding of Venice: since 1966 more than 1,500 projects worth over 50 million euros (mainly conservation and restoration projects)

Previous monitoring missions

October 2015: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/RAMSAR Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure
- Inadequate planning tools
- Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation, including damage to building fabric and cultural context, through conversion of residences for tourist accommodation or commercial use
- Proposals for large infrastructure, navigation and construction projects (including new off-shore platform, new terminals, tourist port and large leisure facilities) in the Lagoon and its immediate setting
- Potential negative environmental impacts triggered by motor boats, cruise ships and oil tankers
- Concern over the announcement of a universal exhibition in Venice (issue resolved)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/394/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2017, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of Decision **40 COM 7B.52**, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/394/documents/>. Progress on a number of issues regarding conservation and the implementation of the 2015 Reactive Monitoring mission recommendations is presented in the report as follows:

- Commitment of the City of Venice for the protection and conservation of the property, characterized by a complex economy, which relies on the strategic importance of the Port of Venice and the related Porto Marghera industrial hub, is highlighted by the State Party;

- Signature, by the Italian Government and the City of Venice in November 2016, of a “Pact for the development of the City of Venice” (allocation of 457 million euros). The Pact highlights a joint intention to resolve problems relating to navigation in the lagoon, environmental sustainability, architectural restoration, urban maintenance and tourism. It was also presented by the Mayor of Venice during his visit to UNESCO in January 2017;
- Updating of the territorial planning, preparation of a Strategic Plan and establishment of a “Technical Working Group” by the Venice City Council;
- “Sustainable Tourism Strategy of Venice and its lagoon: management, mitigation, awareness-raising” project is being developed within the framework of the national “Tourism Development Strategic Plan” and a “Destination Management Plan 2016-2018”;
- Enforcement of the new strict measures for water traffic containment and control;
- Progress on the mobile barriers (MOSE), which will be able to adapt to potential climate change effects and are expected to be completed in late 2018;
- Allocation of funds to develop a solution that would allow larger ships to reach the Venice Maritime Station without passing through the San Marco basin or the Giudecca canal;
- Allocation of funds to develop Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) for all ongoing and planned projects. The proposed HIA, to be completed by 2018, will involve all relevant stakeholders and be carried out in accordance with ICOMOS guidance and the “Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective in the *World Heritage Convention*”;
- Buffer zone proposal being considered by all relevant stakeholders, planned to be submitted to the World Heritage Centre by February 2018.

While the 2015 Reactive Monitoring mission expressed its concern that the Historic Centre of Venice is losing its architectural and urban coherence, the State Party notes that the Veneto Region, the Prefecture of Venice, the City of Venice, the City of Venice Metropolitan Area, MiBACT, the State Museums of the Veneto and the Patriarchy of Venice have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to implement the “PSBC (*Piano di Salvaguardia dei Beni Culturali*) Cultural Heritage Preservation Plan”. The State Party also highlights that the current building regulations remain adequate and include measures to support owners of buildings in the historic centre.

On 3 May 2017, the State Party submitted additional information on the state of conservation of the property. This included details regarding the following:

- Continued efforts to explore possible solutions to resolve the issue of big ships entering the lagoon, including a new unified administrative system and the possibility of using existing port channels to avoid the excavation of new channels;
- Blue Flag Initiative, a voluntary agreement signed by over 40 shipping companies that commit to restricting harmful emissions within the port area of Venice;
- More detailed information on MOSE system, as well as mitigation of climate change effects and drafting of a Climate Plan by the City;
- Updated information on the development of a “Sustainable Tourism Strategy of Venice and its lagoon: management, mitigation, awareness-raising”, using the consultative model proposed by the UNESCO Sustainable Tourism programme, as well as a detailed implementation plan;
- Updated information on the morphological and environmental plan of the Venice Lagoon.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party confirms that all of the institutions involved are working collaboratively in an engaged manner to protect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and that, having recognized the major risks to the property threatened both by material factors and by other intangible factors, it is committed to carrying out relevant measures, although details of what is planned have still to be provided.

The State Party is proposing to introduce new measures within the framework of the newly developed “Pact for the development of the City of Venice” for the elaboration of projects to allow large ships to reach the Venice Maritime station without passing through the San Marco basin and the Giudecca

canal. To this end, the authorities are exploring a variety of options, including the use of existing port channels (Canale Vittorio Emanuele III) in order to avoid the excavation of new ones. However, a detailed timeframe and feasibility plan of the project, including the necessary Impact Assessments, has so far not been presented.

It is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request that the State Party submit, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, details of proposed developments, together with all relevant cumulative HIAs and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) with a focus on the potential impact of projects on the OUV of the property.

The progress towards the completion of the MOSE defence system planned by the end of 2018 is also noted. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to provide detailed and updated information on this important project, including its management and maintenance systems.

The “Venice Blue Flag” voluntary agreement signed by over 40 shipping companies is a notable area of accomplishment that has been renewed every year since its inception in 2007. The agreement ensures that shipping companies restrict harmful emissions in the lagoon area and commit to the history of the city by sharing its values with passengers.

The announced drafting of a Climate Plan by the municipal authorities is welcomed. Venice is in a privileged position as actions taken at the property attract considerable attention and it might have the potential to influence the adoption of good management practices elsewhere. It is recommended that the Committee request that the authorities develop the proposed Climate Plan taking into account the “Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage properties.”

New details provided by the State Party on plans for HIAs and the sustainable tourism strategy for the property are also welcomed. They will be carried out using the relevant UNESCO policy tools, such as the Sustainable Tourism Programme and the “Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective in the World Heritage Convention.”

Although progress has been made with the implementation of some of the 2015 Reactive Monitoring mission recommendations, it is noted that a number of important recommendations have not yet been fully addressed, such as the need to ensure a long-term equilibrium for the Lagoon environment based on detailed assessments of its eco and cultural systems and the cumulative impact of various projects.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Committee reiterate its request that the State Party implement all recommendations put forward in its decision **40 COM 7B.52**, including all immediate, short, medium and long-term measures and recommendations of the 2015 mission previously endorsed by the Committee.

It is further recommended that the Committee reiterate its request that the State Party update the Management Plan, in order to sustain in the long term the OUV of the property, and its landscape and seascape setting.

In this regard, it is furthermore recommended that the Committee request that the State Party submit to the World Heritage Centre a detailed road map for the way forward with measurable benchmarks and an Action Plan to deliver what is required to maintain and enhance the OUV of the property.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.48

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **38 COM 7B.27** and **40 COM 7B.52**, adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014) and 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016) sessions respectively,*
3. *Notes with appreciation that the State Party and all the institutions involved, having recognized the major risks to the property, are working collaboratively and in an engaged manner to protect the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;*

4. Notes that progress has been made towards the implementation of some of the 2015 Reactive Monitoring mission recommendations endorsed by the Committee and reiterates its request that the State Party continue to implement all the recommendations put forward in the Decision **40 COM 7B.52**, including immediate, short, medium and long-term measures;
5. Acknowledges the drafting of the Climate Plan and encourages the State Party to take into account the “Policy on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties” in the development of the plan, considering that ‘Venice and its Lagoon’ is in a privileged position and might have the potential to influence monitoring and adaptation processes that can be applied elsewhere;
6. Welcomes the details submitted regarding the new sustainable tourism strategy that will make use of the consultative model proposed by the UNESCO Sustainable Tourism Programme;
7. Also notes that the State Party is exploring an option of using existing port channel (Canale Vittorio Emanuele III) with a view to halt the passage of large ships through the San Marco basin and the Giudecca canal, and to avoid the excavation of new ones and requests the State Party to submit detailed plans and a detailed timeframe for the implementation of the selected solution;
8. Also reiterates its request that the State Party submit, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, details of any newly proposed projects, together with all relevant cumulative Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA), with a specific section focusing on their potential impact on the OUV of the property;
9. Also acknowledges progress made towards the completion of the MOSE defence system and also requests the State Party to provide detailed and updated information on this project, including its management and maintenance systems;
10. Further reiterates its request that the State Party update the Management Plan and revise its planning approach in order to sustain in the long term the OUV of the property, its landscape and seascape;
11. Further requests the State Party to provide a much clearer detailed road map for the way forward, with measurable benchmarks and a detailed Action Plan to deliver what is needed, commensurate with the major threats to the property;
12. Requests furthermore the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Committee a detailed report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including a detailed road map on the way forward, by **1 December 2018** for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019, **with a view to considering, if adequate progress in the implementation of the above recommendations has not been made, the inscription of the property on the List of the World Heritage in Danger.**

49. Cultural and Historic Ensemble of the Solovetsky Islands (Russian Federation) (C 632)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1992

Criteria (iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/632/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/632/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

August 2013: joint UNESCO/ICCROM/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; July 2015: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Inadequate coordinated management between national, local and religious authorities
- Lack of monitoring mechanisms
- Lack of appropriate legal measures and rules for conservation, restoration, management and use of World Heritage properties of religious interest
- Poor state of conservation of the monastic irrigation system
- Inappropriate location of the planned Museum Complex
- Construction of an airport building
- Lack of adequate development control processes

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/632/>

Current conservation issues

On 28 February 2017, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/632/documents>. Although it acknowledges the complexity and extent of the property covering a group of islands within the Solovetsky archipelago, it reports on the following, in relation mostly to the main island:

- **Master Plan:** Amendments have been made to the Master Plan, and Arkhangelsk region has developed a roadmap for their implementation in 2017-2018;
- **Management Plan:** Work on a management plan has now started and will be developed during 2017;
- **Monastic irrigation system, pilgrimage routes and historic roads:** Work is underway to survey these systems, which are acknowledged to be in a highly urgent condition, but due to the complexity of the systems and over a century of neglect, work plans have not yet been defined which could address risks and ecological impact;
- **Museum Complex:** Following a meeting with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS in November 2016, revised plans for the museum building, in the same location as the original building, have been submitted for review by ICOMOS;
- **Airport:** A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is underway for the proposed airport buildings and runway and no work has started yet;
- **Other development projects:** The report also contains details of other proposed major projects for which HIAs are being prepared. These include an administration building for the Government

of Arkhangelsk Region, a district hospital building, waste recycling and disposal complex, a secondary school building (120 students), a nursery school building (110 children), a Cultural Centre building, an apartment block to replace dilapidated and hazardous housing, and dock construction.

Moreover, a draft retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) has been submitted and will be reviewed by the Committee under item 8E.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

As highlighted by the State Party, most of the hydrological regime of the archipelago has been neglected for more than a century. It is noted with concern that, due to this neglect of the lakes, canals, dams and constructions for regulating water drainage, traditional water regulation practice is being lost, resulting in dramatic changes to the landscape and its once productive meadows and lakes.

While emergency prevention works began in 2016, it is noted that the waterworks are generally in a highly negative condition.

It is recommended that the Committee reiterate its concern regarding the alarming state of conservation of the monastic irrigation system, and request the State Party to define, implement and secure resources for all necessary mid- and long-term preventive conservation and maintenance measures, as a matter of urgency.

It is also highlighted that the main island is under considerable pressure from various constituencies, and reconciling the needs of the church, local communities and visitors, while respecting the OUV of the property, is a challenge. Plans for major developments are currently being drawn up for the communities' essential services and to facilitate tourism, and these need to be clearly integrated within an agreed development and conservation framework and based on an approved Statement of OUV.

It is recommended that the Committee express concern that, notwithstanding the commitment shown by the State Party to undertake HIAs for these developments, it is difficult for these to be carried out satisfactorily on a one-by-one basis without assessing the overall cumulative impact, and without the necessary planning frameworks being in place.

The State Party noted the development, as requested by the Committee, of the Master Plan, the Management Plan based on a cultural landscape approach, and a Conservation Plan to set out conservation approaches for monastic buildings, the monastic irrigation system, pilgrimage routes and vernacular timber buildings, and the overall landscape of the islands.

It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre drafts of all above-mentioned plans, for review by ICOMOS.

These plans, once completed and approved, must provide the context for possible development proposals. The plans also need to clearly indicate the full extent of the transformations planned for the near future and how they can be accommodated without negative impacts on OUV.

It is noted that the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation has issued a Decree to create a working group to classify the archipelago and adjoining territories as Cultural Heritage objects of federal significance, namely as religious and historical sites.

The Committee has repeatedly expressed concern about the location and scale of proposals for a museum building. The 2015 ICOMOS Advisory mission supported the transfer of the museum function from the Monastic complex to a new building, facilitating the revival of monastic life within the traditional buildings, but it did not support the work that had already started on a large museum complex on a prominent site – the plans for which were not submitted to the World Heritage Centre. At its 40th session, the Committee requested the State Party to halt all works, demolish what had been built and submit new proposals. In November 2016, during a meeting at the World Heritage Centre, the State Party submitted revised proposals for the same location, without offering alternatives. The meeting did not approve any proposals, and the plans are under review by ICOMOS.

It is noted that the State Party invited an Advisory mission to review the project proposals of a new museum building in the vicinity of the Solovetsky Monastery.

However, in view of the considerable development pressures on the main island, and the current proposals for major new building complexes (such as hospitals, schools and apartment blocks) in advance of an approved and implemented management and planning framework, it is recommended

that the Committee request the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to consider the overall challenges facing the Solovetsky archipelago and the scope of the proposed developments over the next decade, and to advise on whether and how this can be satisfactorily accommodated within the sensitive landscape of the main island, and whether the current management structures are effective enough to ensure new development does not erode the special characteristics of the main island and impact adversely on OUV, and how these structures might be strengthened.

The mission should also assess current conditions at the property, evaluate potential impacts of development proposals, and review if the property is faced with threats, which could have deleterious effects on its inherent characteristics and meets the criteria for inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger, in line with Paragraph 179 of the *Operational Guidelines*. Considering the vulnerable environment, it is recommended that the State Party invite a representative of IUCN to participate in the mission, as all possible risks and ecological impact of active intervention in the established hydrological balance and ecosystem of the property shall be assessed.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.49

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision 40 COM 7B.56, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),*
3. *Acknowledges the progress made by the State Party to address the decisions of the Committee, notably the issuing of a Decree establishing a working group in charge to progress with classification of Solovetsky archipelago and adjoining territories as Cultural Heritage objects of federal significance, namely as a religious and historical site;*
4. *Notes the progress with the development of the Master Plan of the Solovetsky settlement and the Management plan, and requests the State Party to pursue this work and submit these draft documents to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;*
5. *Notes with great concern the negative condition of the monastic irrigation system, with its lakes and canals, and also requests the State Party, as a matter of urgency, to develop a Conservation Plan for the overall property, to adequately plan and implement conservation measures, as well as to define and implement, immediately, all relevant preventive conservation measures regarding the monastic irrigation system, as well as to secure all relevant funds for mid- and long-term conservation and maintenance measures;*
6. *Welcomes the assurance of the State Party that Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) will be undertaken for all projects;*
7. *Notes with concern that the Solovetsky main island is currently facing many development projects related to the need to upgrade housing, education and health facilities, and tourism facilities, on the island, and also notes with concern that proposals for large building complexes are being considered in advance of the Master Plan, the Management Plan and the Conservation Plan being completed, approved and implemented; and without a formally approved Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);*

8. *Noting that new revised plans have been submitted for the Museum Complex, reiterates its previous concerns regarding its inappropriate location and urges the State Party to remove the parts already constructed, and consider a more appropriate design and location for the Museum, and to report progress to the World Heritage Centre by **1 December 2017**, for review by the Advisory Bodies;*
9. *Further requests the State Party not to resume work on this project until all revised proposals and possible alternative location have been fully reviewed by the Advisory Bodies and examined by the World Heritage Committee;*
10. *Requests furthermore the State Party to invite a World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, in consultation with IUCN, in the light of the considerable challenges facing the property, which should assess the overall issues concerning the Solovetsky archipelago, consider the revised plans for the museum building and the full scope of the development that is being proposed over the next decade, to advise on whether and how this might be satisfactorily accommodated within the main island, and whether the current management structures are effective enough to ensure new development does not erode the special characteristics of the main island and impact adversely on OUV, and, if not, how these might be strengthened;*
11. *Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.*

52. Historic Areas of Istanbul (Turkey) (C 356)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1985

Criteria (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/356/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 16 (from 1986-2004)

Total amount approved: USD 452,208

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/356/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 211,900 (Conservation of Hagia Sophia); USD 36,686.30 (Convention France-UNESCO); USD 155,000 (in the framework of the International Safeguarding Campaign for Istanbul and Göreme)

Previous monitoring missions

November 1997: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; October 1998: World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; January 2000, May 2001, 2002, December 2003, December 2004: World Heritage Centre missions; April 2006, May 2008, April 2009, November 2012: World Heritage Centre / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; December 2016: Reactive monitoring mission World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Continued degradation of the vernacular architecture within the protected zones (particularly Ottoman-period timber houses in the Zeyrek and Süleymaniye core areas)
- Quality of repairs and reconstruction of the Roman and Byzantine Walls and associated palace structures, including Tekfur Saray and the "Anemas Dungeon" (Blachernae Palace)
- Development
- Absence of a World Heritage management plan (issue resolved)
- Lack of coordination between national and municipal authorities and of decision-making bodies for safeguarding World Heritage at the site
- Impacts of new buildings and new development projects on the World Heritage property, mainly within the framework of Law 5366, and lack of impact studies before large-scale developments are implemented
- Adverse impacts from the new metro bridge across the Golden Horn as well as from the Eurasia Tunnel Project (issue partly resolved)
- Eurasia Tunnel approach road of eight-lane at Yenikapı and Samatya

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/356/>

Current conservation issues

A joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission visited the property in December 2016 (mission report available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/356/documents>). Subsequently, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report on 31 January 2017, which is available at the same address. Progress on a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous sessions is presented in these reports, as follows:

- The revision of the *Historic Peninsula Management Plan* was completed in August 2016 taking into account the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee and ICOMOS;
- Eurasia tunnel project: Some improvements have been achieved in the design of the eight-lane approach road along the edge of the Sea of Marmara shore next to the Sea Walls, in response to the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), only undertaken after approval of the project. The tunnel operation building and some of the toll kiosks have been moved to the Asian side and the height of the ventilation chimney has been reduced to 5 metres. Pedestrian crossings at Yenikapı and Samatya have been introduced to reinforce city-sea connections. The road south of the Marble Tower has been re-routed to reunite it with the Land Walls. The Eurasia Tunnel opened in December 2016;
- Yenikapı land reclamation project: A large 20-metre high, white Activity Tent of 6,500 square metres is being constructed. An HIA is being undertaken simultaneously to its construction;
- Silhouette Master Plan: The Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality has prepared 3D Surface Models of the Historic Peninsula utilizing laser technology (LIDAR) as a basis for a 3D model to allow more detailed examination of the impact of new projects;
- Renewal Areas Projects: The Municipality of Fatih has revised its renewal area projects on a 'parcel-based approach' to include street fabric and infrastructure as well as the restoration and conservation of structures. Outline details are provided on renewal area projects in the neighbourhoods of Arnavut, Atik Mustafa Paşa (Ayvansaray), Küçük Mustafa Paşa and Haraççı Kara Mehmet, Yedikule Yenikapı Coast Beyazıtğa (Wall No. 1) and Ereğli, Nişanca and its Associated Area, and Aksaray and its Associated Area;
- Ottoman timber houses: Grants for basic repair have been reintroduced. Although this measure is welcome, the December 2016 mission noted that the overall state of conservation of the remaining timber houses, as a result of decay and demolition through urban renewal schemes continues to raise serious concerns;
- Conservation projects: Work has been completed on the conservation of the Belgradkapı and Seyyid Nizam Mosques, the Akdeniz Madrasa and the Zeyrek Sheikh Süleyman Masjid (in collaboration with the State Party of Italy). Work is on-going on the Spice Bazaar, the Karadeniz Madrasa and Tanneries, the Mahmutpaşa, Rüstempaşa and Zeyrek Mosques, the Chora, and the Hagios Georgios Church. Large-scale restoration and reconstruction projects have been approved by the Conservation Board for all areas. Projects are being initiated for 5.6km of the

Land Walls, parts of which the mission noted were in serious and urgent need of conservation, and for the Hagia Sophia medrese;

- New Projects: A Planetarium and large new Istanbul City Museum within the Topkapı Cultural Park have been approved. The Dardanelles 1915 Museum including a four-storey performance hall has been submitted for approval.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The mission considered the impact of the Eurasia Tunnel approach road and the Yenikapı land reclamation scheme, the state of conservation of the Ottoman timber houses and the Land Walls and the revision of the Management Plan.

The potential 'severe negative impact' on the southern edge of the historic peninsula of the Eurasia Tunnel approach road, an eight-lane urban expressway with two grade-separated interchanges at Yenikapı and Samatya, assessed by the previous mission in 2012, has been confirmed by the 2016 mission. The development of an HIA was carried out after the project was given approval, leaving little room for addressing the recommendations by the Committee on improvements to be made to mitigate its impact. A positive change has been the re-routing of the road south of the Marble Tower, reuniting it with the Land Walls.

The Yenikapı land reclamation project has significantly changed the shape of the peninsula. A large white 'Activity Tent' was in course of construction in late 2016. Taken together, the mission considered that these have caused moderate harm to people's ability to appreciate the historic form and some views of the silhouette of the peninsula. The HIA for the land reclamation project was undertaken after most of the work was completed and while construction of the Activity Tent was on-going.

The common factor in all recent major infrastructure projects, since the Haliç metro bridge, has been the decision to proceed with the implementation of the projects in advance of HIAs being undertaken and of engagement with the Committee. Furthermore, no project details or HIAs have been provided to the World Heritage Centre for the major new Urban Renewal, conservation projects and approved or proposed new buildings mentioned in the State Party report, apart from for the Zeyrek mosque, nor were details of these provided to the mission.

The amount of resources being directed at conservation projects is impressive but so far no details of any of the major projects, such as those for the Land Walls and the the Bucoleon Palace, have been submitted for review, even though the Committee has been requesting these since 2004.

While welcoming the introduction of grants for the repair of Ottoman timber houses, the mission highlighted the continuing degradation of many of these structures for which the Committee has requested action since 2004. In the meantime, urban renewal projects have resulted in some being demolished that were considered irreparable. As urban renewal projects are being actively developed in seven extensive areas, there is an urgent need for the development of the overall long term conservation strategy for the Ottoman houses, as requested by the Committee, so that clear parameters can be provided to demonstrate that these projects will not result in further demolition.

While the Management Plan has been revised, and this is welcomed, it still needs further work to include a detailed list of the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), which should underpin its policies, inform the development of major projects and provide the basis of HIAs.

It is recommended that the Committee express concern that the pace of change in the Historic Peninsula is resulting in a plethora of major projects, both for conservation and new construction, for which no details or HIAs have been provided for review before decisions are taken, and in a large number of renewal area projects which bring many social benefits, but for which no details have been provided to address concerns, expressed by the Committee over more than a decade, that they will prioritize new construction over restoration, leading to further erosion of the attributes of OUV.

To encourage an immediate and proportional response to these structural problems that have the potential to cumulatively impact on OUV, it is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to clearly define the attributes of OUV in the Management Plan; to ensure the World Heritage Centre is notified of all major projects along with HIAs; and to develop a long-term Conservation strategy for the Ottoman timber buildings, all by 1 February 2018.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.52

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **39 COM 7B.83**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),
3. Welcomes the re-routing of the Eurasia Tunnel approach road to the south of the Marble Tower, thus reuniting it with the Land Walls;
4. Notes with concern, nonetheless, that the eight-lane Eurasia Tunnel approach road with two grade-separated interchanges at Yenikapı and Samatya, has had overall a severe impact on the southern edge of the historic peninsula, cutting off the city from the sea, and confirming the potential 'severe negative impact' assessed by the 2012 Reactive Monitoring mission;
5. Notes that the Yenikapı reclamation project has significantly changed the shape of the historic peninsula; and that a large white 'Activity Tent' is in course of construction, which taken together, impact on the historic form and some views of the silhouette of the peninsula;
6. Regrets that the Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) for these projects and engagement with the Committee were only undertaken after approval had been given, as has been the case with all recent major infrastructure projects, since the Haliç metro bridge, thus leaving only minor opportunities for amendment;
7. Also notes that a similar situation prevails for the already approved Planetarium and Istanbul City Museum within the Topkapı Cultural Park, and the Dardanelles 1915 Museum and four-storey performance hall, that have been submitted for approval; and requests the State Party to submit full details of all these projects to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
8. Expresses concern that in spite of requests for action since 2004, and a request for the development of a long term conservation strategy, the corpus of Ottoman timber houses continues to deteriorate, with some being demolished as part of Urban Renewal Projects;
9. While also welcoming the revision of the Management Plan, further notes that it still needs to be supplemented with full details of the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) to underpin its policies, inform the development of major projects and provide the basis of HIAs;
10. Further expresses concern that although Urban Renewal areas can provide social benefits, no reassurances have so far been provided that the many areas now being renewed will not suffer loss of historic fabric;
11. Notes furthermore that as the pace of change in the Historic Peninsula is resulting in a plethora of major projects, both for conservation and new construction that have the potential to cumulatively impact highly negatively on OUV, and considers that as an immediate, firm response is needed to these structural problems, also requests the State Party to:
 - a) Define the attributes that convey the OUV of the property in the Management Plan and where necessary survey and document these attributes, before the Plan is approved,

- b) *Commit to ensuring that all proposed or ongoing major projects which may affect the OUV of the property are subject to HIAs and notified to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before an irreversible commitment is made,*
 - c) *Submit to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies, details of current major new projects for the Planetarium and Istanbul City Museum within the Topkapı Cultural Park, the Dardanelles 1915 Museum and performance hall; and for current major restoration projects, including the rehabilitation of the Land Walls, the Bucoleon Palace, the reconstruction of the Hagia Sophia medrese, and the Zeyrek and Chora mosques,*
 - d) *Devise an overall long-term conservation strategy for the Ottoman/vernacular timber buildings, based on documentation of what remains and an emergency plan to stem ongoing decay and loss;*
12. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.*

53. Kiev: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kiev-Pechersk Lavra (Ukraine) (C 527bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1990

Criteria (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/527/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 1998-2009)

Total amount approved: USD 44,720

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/527/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

May 1999: ICOMOS expert mission; April 2006: expert mission (Italian Funds-in-Trust); November 2007: World Heritage Centre information meeting for site managers; March 2009, November 2010 and April 2013: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of legal framework and planning mechanisms
- Lack of management system and mechanisms of coordination between all stakeholders including the City Municipality
- Lack of management activities
- Urban development pressure
- High-rise buildings that could compromise the panorama of the historical monastic Dnieper river landscape (built)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/527/>

Current conservation issues

On 31 January 2017, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/527/documents/>, providing information on conservation works, as well as progress in implementing the recommendations of the Committee, as follows:

- *Historical and Architectural Structure Plan of Kyiv*: The Structure Plan has been prepared and now requires approval by concerned parties and the Ministry of Culture. Long-term measures for protection of monuments and strict conditions for construction within the property and the buffer zone are being developed;
- *Zoning Plan*: Elaboration of the zoning plan for the Central Planning Area of Kyiv is ongoing. The historic landscape hills of Kyiv Hills and the valley of the river Dnieper have been included in the protection zone of Saint Sophia and Lavra, and a proposal for strict protection, banning new construction and additional building levels, will be considered by the Institute of Master Plan of Kyiv City;
- *Moratorium*: There is a moratorium on construction and sale of land pending approval of the Structure Plan and Zoning Plan;
- *Klovsky Decent, 7a*: The building on Klovsky Decent is not in public ownership and implementation of the Committee request to demolish its visually-intrusive levels is impossible, owing to absence of legal mechanisms to enforce purchase or demolition of floors and lack of resources;
- *Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra*: Emergency measures to prevent possible landslide risk on the slope of the Economic Courtyard of the Monastery, including rehabilitation activities on the territory of the Lavra are complete. These activities were presented to the 2013 Reactive Monitoring mission. The Rehabilitation Activities Plan for the Monastery courtyard foresees reconstruction of lost buildings, but has not been implemented;
- *Kyiv Master Plan*: Revisions to the Master Plan and the Architectural Interim Town Plan of Kyiv are at their final stage. By Order of the Ministry of Culture, protected zones of the ensemble, strict conditions for town planning, and use regimes for the preparatory documentation stage for new buildings and reconstruction of existing buildings have been adopted;
- *Management Plan*: The draft Management Plan was provided to the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS in November 2016.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The State Party has instigated measures to address urban development issues, through proposed amendments to legislation and revisions to the Master Plan. In the absence of a detailed Urban Development Plan, elaboration of legal and stringent regulations, and thorough analysis of traditional urban landscape, these efforts do not yet adequately address the threats to the property.

The joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission carried out from 21 - 25 March 2017 concluded that, while the general state of conservation of the property remains satisfactory, the impact of previous inappropriate town planning, lack of regulations and overall strategic vision pose a threat to the vulnerable Dnieper river landscape, the visual integrity of the property and thus to its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

Once adopted, the newly developed Structure Plan and the Zoning Plan should become important tools for controlling development in the buffer zone. However, continuing development project proposals located in the buffer zone highlight the continuing lack of adequate regulations and overall vision. Regrettably, owing to legal and budgetary constraints the adverse effect of the high-rise building on Klovsky Decent on the visual integrity of the property cannot be reversed.

The mission recommended that comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) be prepared, including 3D visual simulations, of all potential projects to ensure the impacts on the property and its visual integrity can be considered and avoided and that, in the meantime, a legal ban on all previously delivered and planned permits for constructions in the buffer zone of the property and its vicinity should be imposed. Furthermore, an 'Urban Development Concept' should be developed prior to the adoption of the Urban Master Plan. Stringent regulations to prohibit high rise buildings within the buffer

zone, maintain the height of buildings undergoing renovation should be developed and implemented. Amendments to the law on the Protection of Cultural Heritage introducing a legal definition of World Heritage should also be adopted.

The mission concluded that works completed at the Monastery of Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra have no adverse effects on OUV, but recommended that, prior to further planned construction and rehabilitation works, a long-term programme should be developed applying the principles and requirements of the Nara Document of Authenticity (1994) and the Riga Charter (2000). Monitoring mechanisms to survey stability of structures should be installed for monuments at risk.

Weaknesses in management observed by previous missions remain unresolved; institutionalized coordination and cooperation in management of the property needs to occur within the framework of the Management Plan, which should be finalized, adopted and implemented as a matter of priority.

The cumulative effects of intrusive developments continue to violate the urban integrity of the property. Concerns about this impact have been raised consistently by the Committee since 2008. While progress has been made, essential legal instruments and management documents are not yet finalized and approved. If regulations are not immediately introduced by the national and municipal authorities to prevent use of the permissions delivered before the existing moratorium introduced by the Municipality of Kiev, uncontrolled urban development could jeopardize the property's OUV and could represent potential danger, in conformity with Paragraph 179 of the *Operational Guidelines*.

It is recommended that the Committee provide the State Party with an opportunity to address these longstanding concerns and to implement the 2017 mission recommendations; but if these actions are not completed promptly, then consideration of the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger would be warranted.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.53

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.6**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),*
3. *Acknowledges the measures taken by the State Party to address urban development issues, notably through amendments to legislation and ongoing revisions to the Master Plan enhancing cultural heritage protection of the property;*
4. *Notes the conclusions and recommendations of the March 2017 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission, notably that, while the general state of conservation of the property remains satisfactory, the impact of inappropriate town planning, lack of regulations and overall strategic vision pose a threat to its visual integrity and thus to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property;*
5. *Requests the State Party to:*
 - a) *Finalize, adopt and implement the Management Plan for the property as a matter of priority,*
 - b) *Prepare an inventory of existing licensed constructions, and particularly approved tall buildings, in the protected area,*
 - c) *Carry out comprehensive Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) including 3D visual simulations of all potential projects to ensure the impacts on the property and its visual integrity can be considered and avoided,*

- d) *Impose a legal ban on all previously delivered and planned permits for constructions in the buffer zone of the property and its vicinity until these HIAs have been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies,*
 - e) *Facilitate urgent finalization and adoption of the Master Plan of Kyiv, which should incorporate an Urban Development Concept, and the Zoning Plan of Kyiv Central,*
 - f) *Impose stringent regulations to prohibit high rise buildings within the buffer zone, maintain the height of buildings undergoing renovation,*
 - g) *Adopt and implement the amended Law of Ukraine on the Protection of Cultural Heritage including a legal definition of World Heritage;*
6. *Also requests the State Party to address and resolve weaknesses in management observed by previous missions, by ensuring institutionalised coordination and cooperation in management of the property within the framework of the Management Plan;*
 7. *Recommends the State Party to develop a long term programme applying the principles and requirements established in the Nara Document of Authenticity (1994) and the Riga Charter (2000) prior to further planned reconstruction and rehabilitation works at the Monastery of Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra;*
 8. *Also recommends monitoring mechanisms to survey stability of structures be installed at all monuments at risk;*
 9. *Further requests the State Party to implement previous Committee decisions and the recommendations of the 2017 mission;*
 10. *Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019, **with a view to considering, in the case of confirmation of the ascertained or potential danger to Outstanding Universal Value, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.***

55. Palace of Westminster and Westminster Abbey including Saint Margaret's Church (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (C 426bis)

See Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add.2

56. Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (C 373bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1986

Criteria (i)(ii)(iii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/373/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/373/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

October 2015 and January/February 2017 : joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Need for information on the management (issue resolved)
- Site Museum project (issue resolved)
- Upgrading of the A303 trunk road project
- Risks of collapse of Silbury Hill (issue resolved)
- Infrastructure development pressure
- Lack of visitor management (issue resolved)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/373/>

Current conservation issues

On 30 March 2017, the State Party submitted a state of conservation report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list373/documents> and which responds to issues identified in the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), reports on management achievements and implementation of previous Decisions, and the current status of the proposed major road project, noting:

- The closure of the A344 road in the property which allowed the reinstatement of the link between Stonehenge and its Avenue (ceremonial approach);
- A new visitor centre;
- The publication of an integrated management plan for Stonehenge and Avebury;
- A new joint Research Framework;
- The development of a strategy to address road and traffic challenges at Avebury;
- That the Local Development Framework protects the property from inappropriate development.

Road and traffic affect the integrity, condition and setting of the property and the experience of visitors and local people. The main A303 road runs for 5.5km across the centre of the property and was noted as an issue at the time of inscription. The State Party is now committed to addressing its impact as part of a major infrastructure project to upgrade a road route between London and the West of England. A feasibility study for this overall A303/A358/A30 route corridor was prepared in 2014.

The State Party position is that a road improvement scheme for the Stonehenge section that includes a twin-bored tunnel of at least 2.9km, with dual carriageway approach roads on either side, has the potential to deliver benefits by removing the surface road from the central parts of the property.

For the Stonehenge part of the project, a technical advisory working group, was convened including English Heritage (now Historic England), the National Trust and Wiltshire Council, and the local planning authority.

The State Party invited an initial UNESCO/ICOMOS Advisory mission in October 2015, to advise on the overall processes. The mission report is available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list373/documents> and informed Highways England's development of possible route options. Public Consultation on two preferred route options involving a 2.9km tunnel occurred during January and February 2017.

A second Advisory mission to consider the emerging proposals occurred in February 2017. The mission report acknowledges the responses to the first advisory mission recommendations, particularly on processes, archaeological investigations and assessments, but notes that some matters are yet to be implemented. This second mission recommends that a non-tunnel by-pass to the south of the property be re-considered and that further work should also occur on longer tunnel options, particularly in relation to portal location and potential impact on the overall Stonehenge cultural landscape and the setting of the property.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Considering the iconic status of the property, the State Party and its agencies should continue to proceed thoroughly and cautiously, to ensure that the optimal solution is identified and implemented for the widening of the A303. The governance and decision making processes for the project is sophisticated, but has not afforded sufficient priority to the OUV of the property. While a range of issues and factors must be balanced, the appropriate approach is to avoid adverse impacts on the OUV of the property. It is not considered satisfactory to suggest that the benefits from a 2.9km tunnel to the centre of the property can offset significant damage from lengths of four lane approach roads in cuttings elsewhere in the property.

The State Party and its relevant agencies have responded to the recommendations of the first mission, but some matters, such as establishing a 'scientific committee' are yet to be implemented.

Following the first mission a broad range of options remained under consideration, although media attention has focused on a tunnel proposal of at least 2.9km. Additional research, archaeological investigations and iterations of Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) have identified that an alternative bypass route (the F10) would have no impact on OUV and could bring significant benefits to the property and the wider Stonehenge landscape, and therefore warrants further consideration, even though it was ruled out prior to the public consultation in early 2017.

The 2.9km tunnel options presented in the public consultation would cause adverse impact on the OUV of the property from their approach roads and associated portals. Both portals would have visual impact, but the extent of new roads beyond, within the property, is of greater concern. The potential impact of some 2.2km of four lane approach roads in cuttings on the Stonehenge landscape could fundamentally compromise the OUV of the property.

If the western portal were to be moved to or outside the property boundary, the approach roads (and their impacts) would shift outside the property, where dual carriageways are already planned. Determination of the precise location would require further investigations as well as consideration of the best alignment for a longer tunnel.

The current positioning of the eastern tunnel portal to the east of the 'Avenue', on-line on the current path of the A303 road, but still within the property, mitigates its impact, but further adjustment of the location for this portal, closer to Countess Roundabout, should be considered, noting that other issues, including potential impacts on Blick Mead and Vespasian's Camp archaeological sites, where recent investigations have uncovered new significant archaeological finds, must also be addressed.

The project is a government project, and it is therefore within the power of the State Party and its agencies to decide when to lodge applications or take other actions which trigger commencement of statutory timelines. Therefore, it should be possible to align the project process with the timeframe of the Committee statutory meetings. Achieving an optimal outcome requires a continuing, thorough, reflective, process. Provision should be made to ensure that the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and the Committee can continue to contribute to the evaluation and decision making processes at appropriate stages.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.56

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM.7B.116**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Takes note with satisfaction of the management achievements, and progress with implementation of previous Committee Decisions, to address protection and management issues identified in the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) for the property;
4. Commends the State Party for having invited two Advisory missions to advise on the process for determining and evaluating options for the proposed upgrading of the main A303 road across the property, as part of a wide major infrastructure project;
5. Expresses concern that the 2.9km Stonehenge tunnel options and their associated 2.2km of dual carriageway approach roads within the property that are under consideration, would impact adversely the OUV of the property;
6. Urges the State Party to explore further options with a view to avoiding impacts on the OUV of the property, including:
 - a) The F10 non-tunnel by-pass option to the south of the property,
 - b) Longer tunnel options to remove dual carriageway cuttings from the property and further detailed investigations regarding tunnel alignment and both east and west portal locations;
7. Encourages the State Party to address the findings and implement the recommendations of both Advisory missions and to invite further World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory missions to the property, to be financed by the State Party, in order to continue to facilitate progress towards an optimal solution for the widening of the A303 to ensure no adverse impact on the OUV of the property;
8. Requests the State Party to manage the timing of the consent and other statutory processes for the A303 trunk road project to ensure that the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and the World Heritage Committee can continue to contribute to the evaluation and decision-making processes at appropriate stages;
9. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

61. City of Quito (Ecuador) (C 2)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1978

Criteria (ii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/2/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 16 (from 1981-1999)

Total amount approved: USD 391,800

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/2/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

November 1988: expert mission; March 2009: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; October 2013: ICOMOS Advisory mission; December 2016: ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Urban development pressures affecting the authenticity of the property
- Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure (works in the Tower of the Complex of the *Compañía de Jesús*)
- Management systems (weaknesses in the decision-making mechanisms regarding conservation)
- Transportation infrastructure (construction of metro, including underground station)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/2/>

Current conservation issues

On 24 March 2017, the State Party submitted a report, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/2/documents>, which was submitted following reception of the report on the ICOMOS Advisory mission carried out in December 2016 and incorporates responses to its recommendations as follows:

- The report describes in detail the management structure for the property, emphasizing that the responsibility for the “registration, inventory, restoration, conservation, and protection, and in general, in the intervention and management of archaeological, urban, and architectural heritage of the Metropolitan District of Quito” is delegated to the Metropolitan Institute of Patrimony (IMP). This is overseen by a broadly composed Commission of Historic Areas and Heritage and guided by the Plan for Territorial Development and Planning (PMDOT) (2015-2025), in which cultural heritage is one of the central policies;
- Currently, a Comprehensive Action and Management Plan for the Historic Centre of Quito is under elaboration that will replace the Special Plan of the Historical Centre of 2003, in order to incorporate new policies and priorities and to respond to present conditions such as the loss of residential population. In parallel, a Vision for the Historical Centre 2040 is developed;

- The State Party provides responses to all past recommendations made by the Committee and ICOMOS missions, in areas of metro construction, risk preparedness, Compañía de Jesús project, interventions in public spaces and management structure and planning;
- As for the selection of the location of the metro station in the historic centre, the State Party reports on the analysis of eleven possible alternatives (attached as Appendixes 11 and 12 of the State Party report). All studies, from different perspectives, confirm that Plaza San Francisco is the best possible location. The Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) of San Francisco, Plaza Grande, Plaza del Teatro and 24 de Mayo conclude that only in “*Plaza San Francisco, impacts can be managed in advance, that is change can be prevented through the implementation of previous technical measures.*”

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

In January 2015 and May 2016, ICOMOS undertook technical reviews of the construction of the Quito metro including the project for the construction of the metro station at the San Francisco. Ultimately, an ICOMOS Advisory mission took place from 7 to 10 December 2016 to follow up on the matters detailed in Paragraph 7 of Decision **40 COM 7B.5**. The report of the mission addresses the following issues:

- *Metro of Quito:* The Advisory mission reviewed 11 possible locations and comparative studies provided by the State Party, including HIAs for stations at 24 de Mayo, Plaza Grande, Plaza San Francisco and Plaza del Teatro. All studies point to the San Francisco location as being the most suitable in terms of space for construction. The mission advised that if the State Party decides to proceed with this location, it should urgently prepare and submit a report on the institutional and administrative arrangements that have been made regarding planning and construction, including archaeological research and potential emergency intervention, that will allow the monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the impact of the works and decision-making on the continuity of the works. The mission also provided extensive technical recommendations on the construction and preventive measures that should be taken in case of the construction of the station at San Francisco. The State Party has subsequently confirmed the selection of Plaza San Francisco and the construction of a station under the square has commenced. The State Party also informs that it has accepted all of the other Advisory mission recommendations. Archaeological excavations at the Plaza San Francisco have been initiated. While evidence of several construction phases have been identified, no conclusions about the occupation at the site or construction of the San Francisco Convent could be drawn due to the fact that excavations are limited to the area of construction of the metro;
- *Management and conservation issues:* The elaboration of a new Management Plan is conceived in three stages: diagnosis (presently under implementation), definition of strategic lines of action and elaboration of the management model. The 2016 mission considers that the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property is not sufficiently recognized as a transversal reference. It states that both text and graphics should prioritize the OUV of the property, so that the development of the diagnosis and the following stages are directed towards the objective of the plan: the management of the property and the maintenance of its OUV. Since the devastating earthquake of 1987, risk management is incorporated in policies and planning at all levels of government. For the cultural heritage, adequate norms and guidelines exist for pre-, during and post-earthquake intervention. The response to the damages caused by the earthquake of April 2016 was effective;
- *Church and Convent of Compañía de Jesús:* The 2016 mission analyzed the project for the Jesuit Culture Centre-Museum in the Church and cloister that will include areas for the Jesuit fathers, a hotel, cultural and religious activities. The intervention is considered an adequate response to the cultural, historical, artistic and architectural values of the Compañía de Jesús Complex. Its execution does not jeopardize the OUV of the property and positive impacts are expected in the process of integral recovery of the building;
- *Public Spaces:* Interventions in public spaces are of limited quality and show that an integrated Management Plan is urgently needed.

In conclusion, important progress has been made in the areas of institutional framework and management planning, as well as in the execution of the project at the Compañía de Jesús.

As to the construction of the metro, it is understood that the sole underground station in the historic centre will be located under the highly emblematic and significant square of San Francisco. The State Party should be urged to take extreme care to preserve the coherent urban ensemble of the square and its surroundings and to take the necessary preventive measures for vibrations during and after the construction phase, and for the paving of the square. Considering that the square may have been the area of interaction between the indigenous population and colonizers, particular attention should be given to archaeological research, detailed documentation of all the paving before work commences, and monitoring during the works and, if needed, emergency interventions. In addition, measures should be developed to ensure the continued traditional use of the square and to manage real estate development appropriately.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.61

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.5**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),*
3. *Taking note of the information provided regarding the management structure and planning mechanisms for the historic centre of Quito, recommends that the State Party further clarify roles, responsibilities and interactions of institutions at various levels of government and requests the State Party to provide the Comprehensive Action and Management Plan as soon as it becomes available, to the World Heritage Centre, for evaluation by the Advisory Bodies;*
4. *Regarding the metro project and the possible location of the main station in the historic centre, regrets that the State Party has commenced the implementation of the metro station at one of the most emblematic and significant attributes of the property, the Square of San Francisco;*
5. *Urges the State Party to take the necessary measures to ensure the continuing urban coherence of the Square as a key attribute of Outstanding Universal Value and to ensure the full implementation of the recommendations of the 2016 ICOMOS Advisory mission;*
6. *Also requests the State Party to prepare and submit a report on the institutional and administrative arrangements that have been made regarding planning and construction of the metro line and underground station, including archaeological research, potential emergency interventions, and any changes to the paving of the square;*
7. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.*

AFRICA

71. Island of Saint-Louis (Senegal) (C956bis)

See Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add.2

ARAB STATES

74. Tipasa (Algeria) (C193)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1982

Criteria (iii)(iv)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger 2002-2006

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/193/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 6 (from 1989-2001)

Total amount approved: USD 75,900

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/193/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 9,564 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust

Previous monitoring missions

2002: World Heritage Centre and experts missions; March 2006: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2017: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission.

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Natural degradation caused by littoral erosion, marine salt and vegetation covering part of the inscribed sectors
- Deterioration of the remains due to vandalism, theft and uncontrolled visitation causing accumulation of rubbish
- Urbanization on the outskirts of the property where, in the absence of a defined buffer zone, illegal construction provokes land disputes
- Lack of capacities for site conservation, unsuitable restoration techniques, and poor conservation conditions for the archaeological remains
- Proposed port development
- Management activities

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/193/>

Current conservation issues

On 1 December 2016, in response to Decision **39 COM 7B.47** (Bonn, 2015), the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, an analytical summary of which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/193/documents/> and which contains the following information:

- *Conservation of the property:* a programme of regular maintenance and weeding of the site as well as security missions have been undertaken by the State Party. A permanent control of the state of conservation of the property is established, including documentation of the site, control of the archaeological structures around the property and the Royal Mausoleum of Mauretania, and objects exhibited at the museum or kept in reserve. In addition, a signage study and a demarcation operation of the Mausoleum of Mauretania were carried out;
- *Promotion of the archaeological site:* Promotion and awareness-raising activities for the general public, especially young people, through cultural programmes have been carried out. In order to prevent natural risks that threaten the property, programmes of cooperation and exchanges with

the universities for documentation and 3D scanning of the archaeological site have been set up. However, no additional information on this subject is mentioned;

- *Plan for the Protection and Development of Tipasa Archaeological Sites (PPMVSA)*: Protection and enhancement actions were carried out in consultation with the various directorates of the Wilaya concerned. These actions include a regular review by the Directorate of Culture of applications for building and extension permits in order to guarantee the visual integrity of the archaeological site, the installation of a lighting system for the Royal Mausoleum of Mauretania, reopened to the public, and the recuperation of a reception area at the Mausoleum. Nevertheless, all the projects registered under the PPMVSA are affected by budgetary restrictions. The report also raises the issue of rainwater, evacuated by natural runoff passing through archaeological remains, and describes the measures taken to reduce its effects;
- *Reinforcement of the Tipasa cliff*: Work is underway in accordance with the study carried out as part of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the project for the enhancement of the Tipasa Port, transmitted to the World Heritage Centre in March 2016.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Note should be taken of the regular monitoring of the state of conservation of the property and its development as well as its promotion to the general public by the State Party.

The submission by the State Party of a first version of the HIA of the port development project, including a description of the current state of the site and its condition after the project was completed, is welcomed.

In April 2017, a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission was able to address the issue of the content of this HIA. The mission recommended the resumption of this study on the basis of the ICOMOS Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage Properties. Concerning the work of protection of the cliff against the waves that was in progress during the mission, the latter recommended reconsidering the design of the project component, which foresees the construction of an embankment wall composed of geo-synthetic inclusions at the foot of the cliff. In order to seek a more technically- and landscape-friendly solution, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for consideration by the Advisory Bodies. Concerning the pressure related to the development of the city of Tipasa, the mission was informed by the Ministry of Culture that a guidance note was sent to all local persons concerned whether directly involved in the management of World Heritage sites or implicated in the installation of development projects likely to affect the OUV of these sites. Thus, any project likely to have an impact, including visual impact on a given property, must be approved by the Ministry of Culture.

The problem of natural rainwater run-off in the East and West parks and its stagnation, as in the case of the amphitheatre, is likely to accentuate the deterioration of the archaeological structures and should be given special attention by the State Party. The mission recommends conducting archaeological surveys to identify the old water drainage systems and explore the possibility of making them operational as a first step in addressing this problem.

The project to enhance the port and the protected area, a model of which was presented to the mission, requires technological improvements and a revision of the landscape project, particularly regarding the choice of materials in order to ensure its integration within the property. The mission found that the jetty built in front of the port between 2006 and 2009 for climatic reasons constitutes a real visual rupture with the sea as viewed from the port. This jetty should be integrated into the enhancement project and also adapted so as to mitigate its visual impact and integrate it into the landscape. Moreover, the mission recommended the extension of the buffer zone to the maritime area to prevent future interventions likely to have an impact on the visual integrity of the property and its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

In order to address the issues related to the conservation and management of the property identified during the mission, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to undertake the organization of an expert meeting, in order to examine experiences of other World Heritage sites where problems similar to those of Tipasa have been addressed and satisfactory solutions envisaged.

It is also recommended that the Committee request the State Party to finalize the updated Management Plan, the structure of which was made available to the advisory mission, to forward it to the World Heritage Centre for consideration, and to continue the implementation of the PPMVSA.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.74

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **39 COM 7B.47**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),
3. Takes note of the progress made by the State Party in the regular monitoring of the state of conservation of the property and its promotion to the general public, and the transmission to the World Heritage Centre of the first version of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the project for the enhancement of the port of Tipasa;
4. Encourages the State Party to pursue the implementation of the Plan for the Protection and Development of Tipasa Archaeological Sites (PPVMSA) and the guidelines for monitoring the urban development around the property, including the impact on the visual integrity of the property;
5. Reiterates its request to the State Party to submit the updated Management Plan, when finalized, to the World Heritage Centre for examination by ICOMOS;
6. Expresses its concern about the possible negative effect of rainwater runoff and its stagnation on the archaeological structures, and urges the State Party to consider the solution proposed by the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission of April 2017 concerning the conduct of archaeological surveys to identify and operationalize the old rainwater drainage systems;
7. Requests the State Party to take into account the recommendations of the 2017 advisory mission and in particular:
 - a) Continue the HIA of the port enhancement project on the basis of the Guidance on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage Properties drawn up by ICOMOS in 2011, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for examination by the Advisory Bodies,
 - b) Suspend the placing at the foot of the cliff of an embankment wall composed of geo-synthetic inclusions pending further reflection in order to find a more suitable solution from a technical and landscape point of view, and submit it to the World Heritage Centre for examination by the Advisory Bodies,
 - c) Integrate the landscaping of the jetty built between 2006 and 2009 with the port enhancement project in order to mitigate the jetty's visual impact and integrate it into the landscape,
 - d) Consider extending the buffer zone to maritime space to prevent future interventions likely to have an impact on the visual integrity of the property and its Outstanding Universal Value,
 - e) Organize an expert meeting to examine experiences at other World Heritage sites where issues similar to those of Tipasa have been addressed and satisfactory solutions envisaged;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

75. Qal'at al-Bahrain – Ancient Harbour and Capital of Dilmun (Bahrain) (C 1192ter)

See Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add.2

76. Ancient Thebes and its Necropolis (Egypt) (C 87)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979

Criteria (i)(iii)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/87/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (from 2001-2001)

Total amount approved: USD 7,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/87/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 1,131,000 from the Japanese Funds-in-Trust 2002-2004 and 2008 (wall paintings restoration in the tomb of Amenophis III)

Previous monitoring missions

2001: ICOMOS mission; 2002: hydrology expert mission; July 2006 and May 2007: World Heritage Centre missions; April 2008, May 2009 and April 2017: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS missions

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Rising underground water level
- Risks of flooding (Valleys of Kings and Queens)
- Absence of a comprehensive Management Plan
- Major infrastructure and development projects taking place or scheduled
- Uncontrolled urban development
- Housing and agricultural encroachment on the West Bank of the Nile
- Demolitions in the villages of Gourná on the West Bank of the Nile and transfer of the population
- Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system
- Deliberate destruction of heritage
- Neglect of important modern heritage, namely Hassan Fathi's buildings in New Gourná

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/87/>

Current conservation issues

The State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property in February 2017, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/87/documents/>, providing information on conservation works, progress in implementing the recommendations of the Committee, and proposed projects.

The Ministry of Antiquities is coordinating with the stakeholders to complete the Management Plan, for the property by the end of 2017.

Physical conservation works, including masonry repair and cleaning of inscriptions, have occurred at the Karnak, Luxor and Madamud temples, and the Avenue of the Sphinx. Archaeological excavations and research projects by international missions have been carried out at the Temple of Ptah and Karnak. On the West Bank, the lighting project has been completed and the tombs of Nefertari and Seti I, three tombs in Deir El-Madina and three Tombs of the Nobles have been opened for visits. Further conservation, management and visitor service works are proposed at Karnak and Luxor, as

well as completion of works at the Avenue of the Sphinx and construction of a visitor centre and museum.

There are many other conservation and management issues facing the property, including encroachments, invasive grass and animals, deterioration of floor tiles, groundwater and sanitation problems.

As requested by Decision **39 COM 7B.49**, the State Party invited a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission, which occurred in April 2017. The mission noted that some actions recommended by previous missions have been actioned, but expressed great concern about the substantial and cumulative adverse impact of major projects on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property. The mission also observed specific conservation issues including:

- Exposure to weathering of the fragile excavated areas in front of the Karnak Temple,
- Restoration works undertaken on tombs and other monuments lacking a harmonized approach and prior approval from the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies,
- Damage along the Avenue of the Sphinx,
- Structural stability of tomb TT.55 (Ramesseum)
- Structural stability of the 9th Pylon and the adjacent tower crane,
- Structural stability of the visitors centre in Deir el Bahri,
- Adverse effects of bird and bat droppings across the property,
- Damage to temple inscriptions from visitor touching,
- Inappropriate tourism infrastructure at the temple complex of Mut.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The 2017 mission noted that some actions recommended by previous Committee decisions have been taken; these include the restriction of access to the property by tour buses and works in front of the temple of Deir el Bahri, the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens along with various conservation works. However, a number of high-priority decisions have not been implemented or planned. These include an integrated Management Plan and tourism control strategy, the revision of the 2030 Masterplan to integrate conservation of OUV across all projects, the submission of full information about all projects in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, as well as the riverbank's landscaping, traffic control, visual impact and draining problems of its retaining wall, and its connection with the Karnak temple and plaza.

The mission expressed great concern about the substantial and cumulative adverse impact on the OUV of new projects implemented within the property and its buffer zone, the threats on the authenticity and integrity of the property including natural decay and structural problems, the absence of effective and comprehensive management arrangements at national and local levels, the lack of a conservation plan for the property, and the poor human and technical resources mobilized. The mission also noted that the management of the property is affected by over-emphasis on tourism development, which has resulted in major projects such as the imposing concrete seating structure in front of the sacred lake of the Karnak Temple complex, and the works to the Avenue of the Sphinx. The mission concluded that an integrated management plan that focuses on conservation and protection, should guide the State Party's actions within the property and its buffer zone, while initiatives related to social and economic development of local inhabitants should not adversely affect the property's OUV, as per the World Heritage Sustainable Development Policy.

Moreover, the mission noted the focus on ancient archaeology has led to neglect or destruction of features from later periods to expose Pharaonic remains (such as along the Avenue of Sphinx and in New Gurna) or to imposing landscaping projects (as occurred at the plaza at the main entrance of the temple at Karnak); it also regretted that it could not inspect important parts of the property, including the Tomb of Seti and the shrine of Hatshepsut, all the closed tombs in the Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Queens, the New Gurna site of the Noble Tombs and has not been provided with relevant documentation.

The Management Plan for the property, including a revised Statement of OUV are needed urgently; it should include a conservation plan setting out priorities and needs of different components of the property in terms of preservation, maintenance and restoration, and ensuring harmonized approaches and techniques to that effect. The authorities involved in managing the property need to ensure effective management, strengthen co-ordination, allocate adequate human resources and build

capacity. The proposal by the UNESCO Office in Cairo to establish a series of capacity-building workshops dedicated to elaborating the Management Plan for the responsible Thebes Antiquities staff, is an encouraging perspective but cannot cover the needs.

The State Party should be reminded of the need to comply with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, and be requested to provide documents that were not available to the 2017 mission; these include processes followed in the conservation of the Noble tombs TT.112 and TT.131 and the basis on which methods of intervention were decided, the project of the lighting and security cameras, the underground water project design and implementation, and flood channeling and the Flood Emergency Plan established for the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.76

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decisions **37 COM 7B.48** and **39 COM 7B.49**, adopted at its 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013) and 39th (Bonn, 2015) sessions respectively,*
3. *Notes the physical conservation works, including cleaning of inscriptions, masonry repair and stabilization, which has occurred at the Karnak, Luxor and Madamud temples, and the works undertaken and proposed for the Avenue of the Sphinx;*
4. *Also notes the conclusions and recommendations of the World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission undertaken in April 2017 and urges the State Party to implement the mission report recommendations;*
5. *Regrets that the State Party has not fully complied with the requests expressed by the Committee in Decisions **37 COM 7B.48** and **39 COM 7B.49**, and considers that the continuing absence of the Management Plan, the lack of adequate human and technical resources and the growing number of development projects at the property are exerting a growing impact on its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV);*
6. *Expresses concern with regard to the over-emphasis on tourism in the overall management of the property, and the resulting destruction or neglect of attributes that do not belong to the period of Pharaonic Egypt;*
7. *Also urges the State Party to revise the 2030 Masterplan for the property to integrate the conservation of the OUV across all projects within the property;*
8. *Further urges the State Party to expedite the preparation of the previously-requested Management Plan, incorporating a conservation plan which establishes priorities, needs and harmonized approaches, and a tourism control strategy and comprehensive tourism management plan;*
9. *Requests the State Party to invite representatives from the UNESCO Office in Cairo to visit the property at the earliest opportunity in order to inspect the Tomb of Seti, the Shrine of Hatshepsut, the closed tombs in the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens and the Gurna site of the Noble tombs;*
10. *Also requests the State Party to submit a revised Statement of OUV, which incorporates newly-discovered archaeological remains within the property and its buffer zone;*

11. *Encourages the UNESCO Office in Cairo to conduct capacity-building workshops, which may improve the management of the property;*
12. *Reiterates its previous requests to the State Party to provide, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, detailed information on the planning and design of proposed and on-going projects, in particular those related to infrastructure development and the programme of works, and Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) where appropriate, for review by the Advisory Bodies, prior to approval and implementation;*
13. *Further requests the State Party to submit the following documentation, which was not available to the 2017 mission experts, to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies:*
 - a) *A report on the documentation process followed in the conservation of the noble tombs TT.112 and TT.131 including the basis on which the methods of intervention were decided,*
 - a) *Comprehensive documentation on the project of lighting and security cameras with details regarding its implementation,*
 - b) *A report on the underground water project design and implementation,*
 - c) *A complete report on the flood channeling and the Flood Emergency Plan established for the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens;*
14. *Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.*

**78. Memphis and its Necropolis – the Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur (Egypt)
(C 86)**

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1979

Criteria (i)(iii)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/86/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 4 (from 1991-1995)

Total amount approved: USD 81,450

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/86/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount provided to the property: USD 100,000 for the Sphinx of Giza, Special Account for the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of Egypt: USD 2,203,304 dollars for the development of the management plans for the World Heritage sites of Historic Cairo, Memphis and Luxor

Previous monitoring missions

1993, 1995, 1998, 1999, 2001, November 2014: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory missions; July 2015: ICOMOS Advisory mission; March 2017: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Advisory mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Growing number of visitors (issue resolved)
- Uncontrolled development of the nearby village (issue resolved)
- Deterioration of the monuments (issue resolved)
- Tunnel construction project
- Urban encroachment
- Infrastructure and tourism developments
- Development and Urban Infrastructure projects (including Ring Road project)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/86/>

Current conservation issues

A joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Technical Assistance mission visited the property from 5-9 March 2017. The mission was preceded and facilitated by a meeting held in Cairo on February 13, 2017 by the Director of the World Heritage Centre with the national authorities in charge of the Ring Road project. The mission report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/86/documents>. The State Party did not submit a state of conservation report, as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 40th session but provided regular updates on the proposed Tunnel Project. The mission was invited by the State Party to give guidance on implementing Decision **40 COM 7B.22** of the **Committee** in relation to plans for the Cairo Ring road.

The Committee at its 19th session (Berlin, 1995) had asked the State Party to halt construction of a Ring road through the Giza Plateau. Subsequently, a road to the North of the Giza Plateau was developed. This is no longer sufficient to address the traffic needs of the rapidly developing Cairo Metropolis. As a result, the State Party is considering plans for a 6-8 lane tunnel under the Giza Plateau. At its 40th session in 2016, the Committee requested the State Party to provide a traffic management study of the wider area that would justify the need for the Tunnel Project, and to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed tunnel on the basis of a detailed Tunnel project.

Following discussions with the State Party in September 2016, ICOMOS provided it with advice on details of the data and other background documents necessary for the production of an HIA that could consider potential impacts of a proposed tunnel on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property. Based only on previous documentation and reports, this document advised a four-stage process: (a) the assembly of preliminary data, (b) preliminary engineering design, (c) drafting of a Retrospective Statement of OUV (RSOUV) and (d) scoping for a HIA. The mission aimed to provide more advice on the first two aspects and recommended that as a basis for the preparation of a HIA, the following stand-alone documents should be developed:

- An archaeological report containing comprehensive archaeological data, detailed archaeological investigation/sampling strategy;
- A traffic management study report: providing justification for the proposed Ring road link through the World Heritage property based on a long-term traffic vision, beyond 2035;
- Preliminary engineering design drawings and supporting technical reports.

It also recommended that these stand-alone project documents be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by ICOMOS in advance of the HIA being undertaken (and also submitted for review).

The mission report provided the following additional information:

- The State Party confirmed the existence of management plans, at various state of completion, for the four component sites of the serial property (Giza Pyramids, Sakkara, Dahshour and Mitrahina);
- The mission recommended that the four plans be brought together as one harmonized plan;

- The mission recommended that the State Party bring to a total end any further illegal uses and encroachment of the property, and repair the damages caused by illegal quarrying, and waste incineration site and reinstate the landscape;
- A RSOUV has been completed by the State Party and reviewed by ICOMOS, and will be considered in Agenda item 8E of the Committee;
- The mission advised on the need for a setting study to be undertaken as a basis for identifying an appropriate buffer zone.

On 9 May 2017, the State Party sent additional documents, which included a Management Plan for the property, maps, documents related to the tunnel, a traffic study and a PowerPoint presentation showing the removal of waste material in the property. Due to the amount of information provided at a late stage in the drafting process, the analysis of these documents could not be completed prior to the drafting of the present report.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The February 2017 UNESCO mission and the two Advisory missions to the property (in 2015 and early 2017) to consider the Ring road/Tunnel proposals have demonstrated the commitment of the State Party to engage fully with the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and the Committee over the possible development of an appropriate scheme for Tunnel across the Giza Plateau.

The report of the last mission has set out clearly the three types of documentation (archaeological, traffic management and design reports) necessary to underpin a satisfactory HIA that could determine the potential impact of the proposed road on the property. The mission highlighted the fragmentation of the archaeological evidence and the need to assemble all known archaeological, historical and photographic data as well to undertake surveys, aerial photographs, satellite mapping etc. for the archaeological report. This should cover the whole property in order to understand how this part of the Giza Plateau is linked to the other areas. It also stressed the need for the traffic management study to demonstrate a credible assessment of alternative routes using established traffic engineering principles and a long-term traffic vision for the city. The design details for the Tunnel Project need to cover the approach roads to the tunnel together with any physical interventions such as lighting, ventilation, emergency exits, etc.

As part of the mission, a site visit was undertaken to the line of the proposed tunnel and this revealed that the planned ring road of 1995 had been partially constructed across a 5km stretch, impacting adversely on the landscape. The abandoned road had facilitated illegal traffic, numerous dumps of soil/rock and construction debris, and large scale illegal sand quarrying. Two of the quarries reflected near-industrial exploitation, while the dumps extend from the El Faiyum-Desert Road across a large area of the property. Google Earth maps reveal many thousands of individual piles dumped from around 2000 to 2011. The waste incineration contributes to highly negative air quality around the Pyramids. All in all the degradation impacts adversely on the setting of some of the key component sites of the property.

The development of plans for the Tunnel have brought into focus the management and protection arrangements for the property and the need to strengthen them, both in terms of management systems and protection, especially in terms of landscape. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to undertake work on finalizing a single enforceable Management Plan for the property as a priority, to strengthen the overall co-ordination and management of the property and reinforce the management and conservation of the property by the Ministry of Antiquities; to investigate national legislation specific to World Heritage properties, and to define a buffer zone and submit a request for Minor Boundary Modification. The latter is particularly needed in the Giza pyramids area to protect the property from the increasing urban pressure in Cairo.

There is also clearly a need to stop illegal activities within the property that impact highly adversely on its open desert landscape, and it is also recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to activate immediate measures.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.78

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.22**, adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),
3. Welcomes the engagement of the State Party with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in the development of proposals for a Cairo Ring Road tunnel across the Giza Plateau, and notes the two Advisory missions that have been invited by the State Party and which were undertaken in 2015 and early 2017;
4. Notes that the planned Ring Road of 1995 had been partially constructed across a 5km stretch of the Giza Plateau, impacting adversely on the landscape and that the abandoned road has facilitated dumping, waste incineration, and large-scale sand extraction;
5. Encourages the State Party to develop, as effectively as possible, the three technical reports on traffic management, archaeology and design details as a basis for a sound Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed Tunnel, and to submit these to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, before the HIA is undertaken and subsequently submitted for review;
6. Requests the State Party to strengthen the protection and management of the property and also encourages it to:
 - a) Finalize a single enforceable Management Plan for the property as a priority, based on the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value to be approved,
 - b) Reinforce the overall co-ordination and management of the World Heritage property, and reinforce the management and conservation of the property by the Ministry of Antiquities,
 - c) Investigate national legislation specific to World Heritage properties,
 - d) Define a buffer zone and submit a Minor Boundary Modification request accordingly;
7. Urges the State Party to stop immediately illegal activities in the property associated with dumping, waste incineration and sand extraction, and all encroachment, including through physical barriers and boundary' protection, as well as proactive enforcement mechanisms, and to activate immediate measures, as highlighted by previous missions, for the removal of illegally dumped fill material from the World Heritage property and for the necessary repair and reinstatement of the landscape;
8. Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.

81. Um er-Rasas (Kastrom Mefa'a) (Jordan) (C 1093)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2004

Criteria (i)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger None

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2007-2009)

Total amount approved: USD 34,750

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: USD 6,000 from the Italian Funds-in-Trust

Previous monitoring missions

March-April 2005: ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; November 2006: Joint World Heritage Centre/ ICOMOS mission; March 2008: Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS mission; July 2008: World Heritage Centre expert mission for the Stylite Tower

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Lack of Management systems / plan / structure
- Unstable structures and lack of security
- Lack of comprehensive conservation plan
- Important tourism development project with new constructions

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1093/>

Current conservation issues

The State Party did not submit a report on the state of conservation, as requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015).

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Regrettably, the State Party has not provided a report on the progress achieved in a number of conservation issues previously addressed by the Committee, including completing and adopting a Management Plan (which must include a comprehensive Conservation Plan and archaeological research policy), addressing public access and use of the property, and resolving the vulnerabilities of the property, most notably the Stylite Tower.

Despite some progress having been made since the inscription of the property in 2004, these issues have yet to be fully resolved and continue to be a concern. It is therefore recommended that the Committee reiterate all requests included in Decision **39 COM 7B.53** (Bonn, 2015).

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.81

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision **39 COM 7B.53**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),*
3. *Regrets that the State Party did not submit a report on the state of conservation of the property, as requested by the Committee at its 39th session in 2015;*

4. *Reiterates its request to the State Party to complete the Management Plan, which must include a comprehensive Conservation Plan and archaeological research policy, and integrate a Public Use Plan;*
5. *Requests the State Party to report on the implementation of the conservation measures at the Stylite Tower before detailed work is planned;*
6. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2018, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 42nd session in 2018.*

84. Ksar of Ait Ben-Haddou (Morocco) (C 444)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (iv)(v)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/444/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 3 (from 2001-2007)

Total amount approved: USD 52,333

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/444/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

September 2003: Reactive Monitoring mission; November 2003: World Heritage Centre mission; April 2006: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission; February 2007: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Partial abandonment of the property
- Gully erosion leading to rock falls
- Increased offences in old Ksar and degradation
- Delays in the establishment of a technical and administrative structure responsible for the property
- Uncontrolled tourism and visitor pressure
- Floods at the end of 2014
- Possible impact due to the opening of the bridge connecting the two banks of the Wadi el-Maleh on the property

Illustrative material: see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/444/>

Current conservation issues

On 22 March 2017, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/444/documents/>, and which reported on the following progress:

- The management plan is being finalized by the Centre for the Conservation and Rehabilitation of the Architectural Heritage of the Atlas and Sub-Atlas Regions (CERKAS) in collaboration with

civil society and other stakeholders. This management plan is based on the creation of income-generating cultural activities and the realization of facilities that have the potential to enhance the site and its presentation. It will be submitted to the competent authorities for approval in October 2017 on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the inscription of the property on the World Heritage List;

- The special financial account intended to facilitate the financing of interventions for the restoration and rehabilitation of the property has been submitted to the Ministry of the Interior and does not appear to be operational at this time;
- A pedestrian footbridge, prohibited to all vehicles, connecting the two banks of the Wadu el-Maleh has been built in the buffer zone in the narrowest part of the Wadi with the aim of facilitating access to the ancient Ksar and encouraging the return of the inhabitants to the old Ksar. It will also serve tourists and help to improve access to the old Ksar and facilitate the installation of the necessary infrastructure and the creation of income-generating activities;
- In September 2016, the State Party initiated a first phase of restoration of Ksar dwellings for an amount of 2 million dirham (roughly USD 200,000) for an eight-month period. This operation will be followed by two next phases for a total amount of 7 million dirham (approx. USD 700,000) financed by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Policy and the National Agency for Development of Oasian and Argan Zones. The specifications for this restoration work have been prepared by CERKAS and will be followed up together with other partners;
- Also in 2016, the report indicates that work to extend and reinforce the 1506 provincial road leading to the Aït Benhadou site and the development of the séguia (irrigation canal) through the Ksar have been conducted by the State Party.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

The restoration work undertaken in collaboration with CERKAS since September 2016, the report of which does not provide any details, would require consultation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for technical advice prior to the work. Therefore, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, to transmit to the World Heritage Centre all information and technical details of such restoration work as well as that envisaged for the second and third phases before their implementation, for consideration by the Advisory Bodies. The same applies to projects concerning the roads and the irrigation canal carried out in 2016 within the property or its buffer zone.

Concerning the construction of a footbridge linking the two banks of Wadi el-Maleh that corresponds to the alternative chosen by the State Party to replace the bridge project, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to confirm the sustainability of this choice and its actual impact on the Ksar by conducting an impact assessment on the property to ensure that it will not affect its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

Given that the special financial account is not yet operational, it would be important to know whether the State Party will be able to undertake the necessary measures for the conservation and management of the property. It is also recommended that the Committee reiterate to the State Party its recommendation to adopt the historic urban landscape approach as an additional tool for the sustainable management of the property.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.84

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **39 COM 7B.58**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),
3. Encourages the State Party to continue the finalization of the management plan and the timetable for its implementation and to submit it to the World Heritage Centre for consideration by the Advisory Bodies;

4. *Noting with concern that restoration works have been carried out in the property since September 2016, with no details having been provided to the World Heritage Centre in advance, requests the State Party, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, to provide further details on the restoration work undertaken since 2016 and to transmit the technical details of the work planned for the second and third phases of this project prior to their implementation for consideration by the Advisory Bodies;*
5. *Reiterates its request to the State Party to provide additional information on the special financial account for the conservation of the property;*
6. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre information on the commissioning of the bridge between the two banks of Wadi el-Maleh within the property, accompanied by a heritage impact assessment, for examination by the Advisory Bodies;*
7. *Reiterates its recommendation to the State Party to adopt an integrated approach focusing on the historic urban landscape as an additional tool for sustainable management of the property;*
8. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.*

ASIA-PACIFIC

86. The Great Wall (China) (C 438)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 1987

Criteria (i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/438/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/438/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Partial collapse of some platforms (issue resolved)
- Ground transport infrastructure
- Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation
- Interpretative and visitation facilities

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/438/>

Current conservation issues

On 19 May 2015, the World Heritage Centre requested comments from the State Party after receiving third-party information indicating that the construction of a high-speed railway between Beijing and Zhangjiakou may pose a threat to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property. The main issue appeared to be the construction of an underground railway section below the Great Wall, along with an underground station and ground-level station building at Guntiangu, which may affect the property's integrity and authenticity.

On 26 September 2016, the World Heritage Centre sent another letter to the State Party, asking for comments on the restoration work undertaken at a five-mile section of the Great Wall located in Suizhong County, Liaoning Province, as third-party reports indicated that the materials used were not consistent with the original ones, which may have a negative impact on the OUV of the property. The World Heritage Centre also reminded the State Party about the May 2015 letter, but received no response at that time.

On 6 December 2016, the World Heritage Centre requested China to submit a report on the state of conservation of the property for consideration by the World Heritage Committee. The report provided by the State Party on 13 March 2017 is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/438/documents>. In an annex to the report is a letter dated March 2016 regarding the proposed Beijing to Zhangjiakou high-speed railway, which the World Heritage Centre had unfortunately not received. The report and its annexes address a number of conservation issues, and notably the following:

- The efforts to record and catalogue the constitutive elements of the Great Wall between 2006 and 2012, as part of the Great Wall Resource Survey and the Resource Identification programme;
- The legal framework for the protection of the property at national and local levels and its enforcement, i.e. the Regulation on the Protection of the Great Wall adopted in 2006;
- The policies and practices in place for the conservation and management of the property, informed by scientific research;
- The cultural and social importance of the Great Wall and the educational programmes that highlight its values and engage with the population;
- Details of works undertaken at the Damao Mountain Section of the Great Wall in Suizhong County, Liaoning Province;
- Information about the proposed construction of the Beijing–Zhangjiakou railway line, including the different options considered and the proposed station building at Guantiangou. However, the State Party did not submit documentation related to any Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed project.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

As an exceptionally large human-built feature, the Great Wall constitutes an outstanding example of how architecture can integrate into the landscape on an extremely vast scale, and it is therefore essential to protect and conserve it to the highest standards. The State Party should be commended for its considerable efforts to protect and conserve this large-scale complex property.

The legal framework for the protection of the Great Wall has been revised and updated several times since the inscription of the property and its implementation appears to be largely successful, notably thanks to the Regulation on the Protection of the Great Wall adopted in 2006. It is therefore recommended that the Committee also commend the State Party for its efforts in this regard and encourage it to continue finalising and implementing all provincial programmes for the protection of the Great Wall.

However, as pointed out in the Statement of OUV, “the authenticity of the setting of the Great Wall is vulnerable to construction of inappropriate tourism facilities” and “the visual integrity of the Wall at Badaling has been impacted negatively by [the] construction of tourist facilities and a cable car.” In this regard, new projects that continue to threaten the main perspectives towards and from the property remain a source of concern, especially if they lead to increasing visitor numbers without implementing appropriate measures to mitigate the impacts of mass tourism.

The construction of a high-speed railway line linking Beijing and Zhangjiakou is a prime example of such potentially damaging projects, as the line would pass underneath the property and its buffer zone through a tunnel and involves the construction of an underground station and a ground building at Guantiangou, near the Badaling section of the wall. While the State Party has advised that the visual impact of this project will be limited and that the explosives used to create the tunnel will have no structural impact on the property, the cumulative impacts of this project, along with the impacts already mentioned in the Statement of OUV, cannot be neglected. Furthermore, the State Party does not indicate how the station may influence the already high number of visitors, or what preventive measures have been introduced to address this issue. Furthermore, an HIA is required for projects of this magnitude, in line with the 2011 ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage Properties, so that the effects of the proposed development on the OUV of the property can be properly considered and appropriate mitigation measures implemented. It is therefore recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to carry out an HIA and to also take all necessary measures to mitigate the impacts of mass tourism on the property and look for ways to minimize the cumulative impacts of projects on the OUV of the property, and especially the main sight lines to and from the Great Wall.

Finally, the State Party’s report indicates that some of the works at the Damao Mountain Section of the Great Wall in Suizhong County, Liaoning Province, were carried out using unsuitable restoration methods, which lead to results incompatible with the fabric and appearance of the rest of the Great Wall. While the Committee could express appreciation for China’s proactive approach to the conservation of some structurally unsound sections of the Great Wall, it is also recommended that the Committee urge the State Party to ensure that all works are carried out in accordance with

international conservation standards, and that no irreversible damage is done to the fabric of the property.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.86

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Commends the State Party for its efforts towards the protection and conservation of this vast cultural property, especially with regard to the systematic cataloguing of all elements of the Great Wall and the introduction, revision and/or implementation of national and provincial legal frameworks, and encourages the State Party to proceed with the adoption of all provincial programmes for the protection of the Great Wall as soon as possible;*
3. *Takes note of the information provided on the proposed high-speed railway line linking Beijing and Zhangjiakou, which is to pass underneath the property via an underground tunnel and foresees the construction of an underground station and a ground building at Guntiangu, within the boundaries of the property, and urges the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), to be prepared in line with the 2011 ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for Cultural World Heritage Properties, for review by the Advisory Bodies; and to ensure that the HIA includes consideration of all potential impacts on the integrity and authenticity of the property, along with appropriate mitigation strategies, including:*
 - a) *Physical impacts from tunnelling and construction activity,*
 - b) *Visual impacts on sightlines and views, and*
 - c) *Alternative options which can reduce such impacts;*
4. *Notes with concern that the State Party has not indicated how the proposed new station may influence the already high number of visitors, or what preventive measures have been introduced to address this issue and also urges the State Party to:*
 - a) *Ensure that the potential impacts arising from increased visitation are also addressed in the HIA,*
 - b) *Take all necessary measures to mitigate the impacts of mass tourism on the property, and*
 - c) *Take all necessary measures to minimize the cumulative impacts of tourism infrastructure on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, especially with regard to sight lines to and from the Great Wall;*
5. *Requests that the State Party ensure that the construction of the aforementioned high-speed railway line and the proposed station at Guntiangu does not proceed to a point where it is no longer possible to implement changes recommended through the HIA process;*
6. *Also takes note of the information provided on the works carried out at the Damao Mountain Section of the Great Wall in Suizhong County, Liaoning Province, and also encourages the State Party to continue its regular conservation and protection efforts to ensure the structural stability of all extant sections of the Great Wall;*

7. Also notes with concern that some of the works were carried out using unsuitable methods, leading to results which are incompatible with the fabric and appearance of the adjoining sections of the Great Wall;
8. Also requests the State Party to ensure that all works are carried out in accordance with international conservation standards, and that no irreversible damage is done to the fabric of the property and reminds the State Party to inform the World Heritage Centre about any major development project that may negatively impact the OUV of the property, before any irreversible decision is made, in line with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;
9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

88. Silk Roads: the Routes Network of Chang'an – Tian-shan Corridor (China / Kazakhstan / Kyrgyzstan) (C 1442)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2014

Criteria (ii)(iii)(v)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1442/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 0

Total amount approved: USD 0

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1442/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Total amount granted: UNESCO/Japan FiT project "Support for documentation standards and procedures of the Silk Roads World Heritage Serial and Transnational Nomination in Central Asia" (Phase I, USD 985,073 from 2011 to 2015); UNESCO/Japan FiT project "Support for Silk Roads World Heritage Sites in Central Asia" (Phase II, USD 697,796 from 2015 to 2018)

Previous monitoring missions

March 2016: ICOMOS Advisory mission to the Talgar component site in Kazakhstan; November 2016 : joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to eight component sites of the serial property in Kazakhstan (Talgar, Kayalyk, Karamergen, Aktobe, Kulan, Kostobe, Ornek sites and the Akyrtas archaeological complex)

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Management systems/management plan (Need to implement the timetables for developing detailed management plans; Need for strategies for conservation of component sites; Need for visitor management strategies, including interpretation)
- Impacts of tourism/visitor/recreation;
- Urban development (Comparative fragility of many sites)
- Ground transport infrastructure (Proposals for a major road and bridge directly across the Talgar component site in Kazakhstan)
- Housing (Residential development in the buffer zone, near the Talgar Citadel in Kazakhstan)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1442/>

Current conservation issues

A joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission visited all eight component sites of the serial property in Kazakhstan (Talgar, Kayalyk, Karamergen, Aktobe, Kulan, Kostobe, and Ornek sites and the Akyrtas archaeological complex) from 31 October to 9 November 2016. The mission report is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1442/documents>. Subsequently, the State Party of Kazakhstan submitted a state of conservation report on 1 March 2017 (available at the link above) before the mission report had been received.

Although the 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission noted that a majority of the recommendations put forward by the March 2016 ICOMOS Advisory mission had not been implemented, the report submitted by Kazakhstan shows progress with a number of conservation issues addressed by the Committee at its previous session. The following summary brings together the outcomes of the mission and the information provided by the State Party.

- Talgar Component Site in Kazakhstan :
 - The new road through the component site was formally suspended via a protocol decision by the vice Prime Minister of Kazakhstan of 27 October 2016. However, the mission noted that further works had been undertaken between the 40th session of the Committee and that date;
 - In January 2017, the State Party of Kazakhstan submitted five possible alternative routes; while none went through the property, all crossed its Buffer Zone. In April 2017, an ICOMOS Technical Review was sent to Kazakhstan, which noted that all five options would have potentially negative impacts on the component site's contribution to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the serial transnational property. The report of the Reactive Monitoring mission also concluded that these proposals were not in line with Decision **40 COM 7B.34**, which requested the State Party to explore other routes outside the boundaries of the Talgar component site and its Buffer Zone, both of which are already protected from major development by national heritage legislation and by the Deputy Prime-Minister of Kazakhstan's order, in October 2016, to develop a bypass road without affecting the Buffer Zone;
 - The Reactive Monitoring mission therefore recommended that a new route be developed beyond the buffer zone, that the heavy damage inflicted by the road work on the archaeological site be restored, and that the partially constructed bridge over the Talgar River be dismantled, as requested by the Committee. The mission also noted that the archaeological fabric had undergone significant reconstruction and recommended that this be halted and a reconstruction project submitted for review. It further requested that the damaging uncontrolled and illegal residential development in the buffer zone be halted, and that a new Master Plan for the wider area be developed;
- Other Component Sites in Kazakhstan:
 - *Road Construction*: The Reactive Monitoring mission noted that considerable threats to the OUV would arise from high-speed roads passing through or near components sites. Part of the territories of the archaeological sites and buffer zones in Aktobe and Kulan are already cut off by the Western Europe-Western China highway and Kayalyk is under threat from a project to widen the strategic Almaty-Ust-Kamenogorsk road, which, if implemented, would cause significant damage to the site. For Kostobe, there is a plan to build a two-lane paved road with parking and other tourist facilities in the Buffer Zone, and in Akyrtas, construction of a new two-lane paved road crossing the site and its buffer zone is progressing at a rapid pace;
 - *Development*: The mission noted that many urban development projects proposed within the sites could represent threats to the OUV of the property;
 - *Reconstruction*: At Aktobe, the mission noted that the Citadel has undergone strengthening with backfill, thus changing its geometry, and that parts of the site had been 'reconstructed' for tourists. In Akyrtas, reconstruction had also been undertaken over the past year;

- *Management Plans, Governance and Resources:* The mission recommended the development of management plans for all eight component sites of the serial property in Kazakhstan, as requested by the Committee at its 38th and 40th sessions, which should be submitted by 1 December 2017. Other recommendations included the establishment of a Kazakh National Steering Committee and the development of effective coordination with China and Kyrgyzstan for the overall serial transnational property. The State Party of Kazakhstan reported that resources have been allocated in 2017 for the preparation of management plans for the eight component sites and for improvements to monitoring;
- *Conservation:* The Reactive Monitoring mission noted the need for improved conservation, underpinned by additional academic and archaeological research, to control deterioration. The State Party of Kazakhstan indicated that funds have been allocated in 2017 for cultural heritage and archaeological studies. It also noted that, while international assistance provided through the UNESCO/Japan Funds-in-Trust project is not currently coordinated by the Ministry of Sports and Culture of Kazakhstan, it will be in the future;
- *Boundaries:* The mission reported the urgent need for a clarification of the component sites' boundaries, as they do not match what was set out at the time of inscription, nor do they coincide with national protective designations. The State Party of Kazakhstan has reported that funds have been made available to prepare detailed maps;
- *Legal Framework:* The mission recommended improving the legal protection for all eight component sites of the serial property in Kazakhstan. The State Party reports that a revised version of the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On the protection and use of objects of historical and cultural heritage" is planned for 2018;
- *Awareness raising:* The State Party of Kazakhstan reports that for 2017-18, funds have been allocated to define the tourism potential of the component sites.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Talgar Component Site in Kazakhstan:

The November 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission noted that the Committee requested the State Party of Kazakhstan to halt any further road construction, but construction did not stop until October 2016, allowing the archaeological site to suffer further damage. Furthermore, none of the recommendations of the 2016 ICOMOS Advisory mission concerning the road issues have been followed, which suggests that the management structures at the component site and their links and coordination with national agencies, the Ministries of Kazakhstan and other States Parties involved in the Silk Roads World Heritage property need to be greatly strengthened. Additionally, the five options for a bypass road put forward by the State Party in January 2017 would also have negative impacts on the component site.

The construction of the road and the associated bridge has inflicted serious damage on the historic structures and archaeological layers of the Talgar site and its overall morphology. The site has also suffered from reconstruction work and illegal, uncontrolled residential developments near its boundaries. All of this implies that the state of conservation of the site has deteriorated sharply since its inscription in 2014, despite the existing national legal protection for both the component site and its Buffer Zone. It is therefore recommended that the Committee express its deep concern that the damage has reached levels that put the site and the overall property under threat, and that it endorse the recommendations of the 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission and emphasize that new options should be developed for the Birlik-Almalyk-Kazstroy-Ryskulov-Ak-Bulak road beyond the territory of the component site and its Buffer Zone. Furthermore, the Committee may wish to request that reconstruction work and illegal residential development work be halted, that the bridge be dismantled, and that remedial measures be developed urgently to strengthen the overall legal, planning and management frameworks of the site and its setting.

Other Component Sites in Kazakhstan:

Concerning road construction and development, it is recommended that the Committee also express its deep concern that road construction has already been carried out at Aktobe and Kulan, causing significant damage to the sites, and that Kayalyk, Akyrtas and Kostobe are threatened by planned or ongoing road construction.

There is also deep concern that in all sites except Karamergen, threats arising from urban development (e.g. administrative and sporting centres, industrial utilities and waste landfill sites) impact adversely on the perception of the sites in relation to the Silk Roads and the beauty of their settings. In the case of Kulan, it is recommended that the Committee request the State Party of Kazakhstan to take immediate action to halt the implementation of the Master Plan of Kulan, any other development on private land, and to clarify land ownership status. It must be noted that no information on any of these road or development projects was submitted at the time of inscription in 2014, nor has any information been submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies since then.

The absence of Management Plans for all component sites and their landscape settings needs to be addressed urgently, as deadlines set by the Committee at the time of inscription and at subsequent sessions have not been met. Concomitantly, unclear boundaries, the absence of a comprehensive legal protection, inappropriate development and the construction of infrastructure projects, have put the sites under both ascertained and potential threat.

The majority of the recommendations put forward by the 2016 Advisory Mission have not been implemented, nor have the Committee's requests from the 40th session relating to the protection and management of the property. Urgent reviews are now needed and, in the meantime, all work should be halted while the full extent of the existing damage is detailed and the full potential impacts of the projects are assessed.

Overall, it is recommended that the Committee further express its concern that most of these component sites in Kazakhstan have been impacted so adversely in a comparatively short space of time since inscription and that the state of conservation of these sites now represents a potential threat to the integrity of the overall serial transnational property.

Finally, it should be recalled that at the time of inscription, the great strength of the Silk Roads serial transnational property was the existence of an Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee (ICC), established prior to the nomination, in May 2009. For the Chang'an-Tianshan corridor, the formal agreement between all the participating States Parties (China, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan) was signed in May 2012 and a more detailed agreement was signed in February 2014. This arrangement refined the management mechanisms and set out suggestions for exchange and collaboration on conservation, interpretation, presentation and publicity as a means of working towards coordinated approaches for all sites along the heritage corridor. International collaboration needs to be strongly supported by national collaboration, and thus the challenge to better protect and manage the serial transnational World Heritage property lies in the coordination at both national and transnational levels. It is therefore recommended that the Committee request the State Party of Kazakhstan to establish a World Heritage Steering Committee for the Silk Roads in Kazakhstan and develop effective coordination with China and Kyrgyzstan for the management of the overall serial property through the existing agreements and arrangement.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.88

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision **40 COM 7B.34** adopted at its 40th session (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016),*
3. *Takes note of the conclusions and recommendations of the November 2016 Reactive Monitoring mission to the eight component sites of the serial property in Kazakhstan;*
4. *Expresses its deep concern that the component sites of Talgar, Kayalyk, Aktobe, Kulan, Kostobe, Ornek and Akyrtas in Kazakhstan have been impacted so adversely in a comparatively short amount of time since the time of inscription that their state of conservation is now a potential threat to the integrity of the overall serial transnational property;*

5. *Notes that road construction at the Talgar component site was only halted in October 2016, leading to further, highly negative and serious damage to the historic structures and archaeological layers of the site and its overall morphology; also notes that five options for the revised line of the Birlik-Almalyk-Kazstroy-Ryskulov-Ak-Bulak road were put forward by the State Party of Kazakhstan in January 2017, but that all cross the Buffer Zone and would have a highly negative impact on the component site; and therefore requests the State Party of Kazakhstan to develop new options for an alternative route outside of the territory of the component site and its Buffer Zone, in line with the request of the Committee, and to dismantle the half-built road bridge;*
6. *Further notes that the Talgar component site has been adversely impacted by considerable reconstruction of the archaeological fabric, and also requests the State Party of Kazakhstan to halt this work and to submit to the World Heritage Centre a detailed report on reconstruction work, both planned and undertaken, for review by the Advisory Bodies;*
7. *Notes furthermore that the Talgar site has been damaged by uncontrolled and illegal residential development in the Buffer Zone, and further requests that this be halted and that a new Master Plan for the wider area be developed and submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before it is approved or adopted;*
8. *Also expresses its deep concern that road construction has already been carried out at the Aktobe and Kulan sites, as part of large-scale strategic infrastructure projects, thereby causing significant damage, and that similar projects are planned at Kayalyk, while local paved roads are planned or under construction at Akyrtas and Kostobe; and deeply regrets that the World Heritage Centre was not informed about any of these projects before irreversible decisions were made, which goes against Paragraph 172 of Operational Guidelines;*
9. *Further expresses its deep concern that in all component sites in Kazakhstan, except Karamergen, urban development impacts adversely on the perception of the sites in relation to the Silk Roads and the beauty of their settings, and requests furthermore the State Party of Kazakhstan to halt all such development immediately, to revise the relevant Master Plans, and especially the Kulan Master Plan, and to submit them to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;*
10. *Requests moreover the State Party of Kazakhstan to clarify the boundaries of the component sites, as they do not appear to be in line with the information submitted at the time of inscription; to clarify land ownership within the sites and their buffer zones; and to ensure that all sites benefit from the highest national protection in their entirety;*
11. *Reiterates its request that Management Plans for all eight component sites of the serial property in Kazakhstan and their landscape settings be developed as a matter of urgency and be submitted to the World Heritage Centre by **1 December 2018** at the latest, along with an update on progress by **1 December 2017**;*
12. *Requests in addition the State Party of Kazakhstan to establish a World Heritage Steering Committee for the Silk Roads in Kazakhstan and to develop effective coordination with China and Kyrgyzstan for the management of the overall serial property through the existing agreements and arrangements;*
13. *Finally requests the State Party of Kazakhstan, in close consultation with the States Parties of China and Kyrgyzstan, to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2018**, a joint updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee*

at its 42nd session in 2018, with a view to considering, if insufficient progress has been made, the possible inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

89. Historic Monuments and Sites in Kaesong (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) (C 1278rev)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2013

Criteria (ii)(iii)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1278/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 2 (from 2006 to 2009)

Total amount approved: USD 55,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1278/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

N/A

Previous monitoring missions

N/A

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Impacts of tourism/visitor/recreation (Need to develop tourism management and interpretation plans)
- Management systems/Management Plan (Need to further develop the monitoring system to ensure coordination between the monitoring bodies)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1278/>

Current conservation issues

On 9 May 2017, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which was due for 1 December 2016. It is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1278/documents/> and provides the following information:

- An international training workshop on tourism management was held in 2014 and the Tourism Management Plan (including the Interpretation Plans) was completed in December 2015 in close collaboration with the UNESCO Office in Beijing and ICOMOS. A pilot project was initiated in February 2016 to examine the efficiency of the plan. Based on the positive outcome, the plan has been submitted to the Government for endorsement and adoption.
- A conservation and management campaign was launched in March and April 2016, involving 50,000 citizens who actively participated in the repair and environmental improvement of historic sites and the World Heritage property. All repair and improvement activities were conducted in accordance with the Guidelines for Protection and Management of the Historic Monuments and Sites in Kaesong adopted in 2013.
- Conservation of the mural paintings in the Mausoleum of King Wang Kon has been carried out to prevent further detachment.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Despite the regrettable delay in submitting the state of conservation report, the efforts of the State Party to complete the Tourism Management Plan (including the Interpretation Plans) are acknowledged and the State Party should be encouraged to proceed with its timely adoption and implementation.

The previous recommendation of the Committee, made at the time of inscription, that the State Party further develop the monitoring system to ensure coordination between the monitoring bodies, remains important. It is therefore recommended that the Committee reiterate its previous recommendation to the State Party and further request the State Party to submit a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the progress achieved, for examination by the Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.89

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision **39 COM 7B.62**, adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),*
3. *Notes the efforts of the State Party to complete the Tourism Management Plan (including the Interpretation Plans) and encourages its timely adoption and implementation;*
4. *Requests the State Party to report on the tangible results achieved on the further development of the monitoring system at the property;*
5. *Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.*

94. Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape (Lao People's Democratic Republic) (C 481)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List 2001

Criteria (iii)(iv)(vi)

Year(s) of inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger N/A

Previous Committee Decisions see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/481/documents/>

International Assistance

Requests approved: 1 (1999)

Total amount approved: USD 13,000

For details, see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/481/assistance/>

UNESCO Extra-budgetary Funds

Project funded by Japan: USD 379,040 (1996-97); Projects funded by Italy through the Lerici Foundation: USD 482,194 (1996-2004; 3 project phases): Phase I (1996-1997) = USD 161,124; Phase II (1998-1999) = USD 164,000; Phase III (2003-2005) = USD 157,070

Previous monitoring missions

January/February 2011: UNESCO Expert Mission; November 2011: France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement Programme mission; February 2012: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission; April 2013: France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement Programme mission, March 2014: France-UNESCO Cooperation Agreement Programme mission; February 2015: joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission

Factors affecting the property identified in previous reports

- Ground transport infrastructure (New infrastructure construction, including new proposed roads)
- Housing (New constructions contributing to the haphazard densification of the main monumental complex)
- Management systems/Management Plan (Lack of a coordinated management mechanism)
- Impacts of tourism/visitors/recreation
- Interpretative and Visitation facilities (Parking lot and visitor centre)
- Human resources (Lack of sufficient professional staff)

Illustrative material see page <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/481/>

Current conservation issues

On 15 March 2017, the State Party submitted a report on the state of conservation of the property, which is available at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/481/documents> and provides information on the implementation of the previous recommendations made by the Committee (**39 COM 7B.68**), as follows:

- *The road network project* (routes 14A and 14B) and the traffic management requirements have been adopted by local and national authorities. The area roadmap was confirmed by the Inter-ministerial meeting at the national level in March 2016. This road network and traffic management scheme was incorporated into the final document of the Champasak Cultural Landscape Master Plan (see below);
- *A new landscape study* of the monument has been carried out, following the fire that destroyed the sala in 2015, to ensure an appropriate preservation of the cultural landscape. It has resulted in a new monument zone plan, which was approved by the local Heritage Committee in November 2016 and endorsed by the provincial Heritage Committee in December 2016;
- The newly-adopted *Champasak Cultural Landscape Master Plan (MP)* was under preparation since 2012 and takes into account the landscape dimension beyond the property, from Ban That to Pakse. The attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property and their relationship to the Cultural Landscape and the town of Champasak have been defined in the report of the Master Plan, which was approved by the provincial Government on 18 February 2016. In conjunction with the MP, construction and zoning regulations have been prepared. The complete final document was approved by the Ministry of Public Works and Transport on 19 May 2016;
- The provisions of the *Management Plan* have been developed into an Action Plan, to ensure that the actions reflect the property's OUV. It was developed in cooperation with UNESCO Office in Bangkok and completed by the Vat Phou Champasak World Heritage Site Office. The building regulations are being supported by the "Governor's Decree Concerning Implementation of Regulations for the Administration of Construction for the Land Use Plan of the Vat Phou Champasak World Heritage Site" to further sustain the effective management of the property. The validated regulatory documents are being disseminated throughout the villages during 2017;
- *Coordination and cooperation* is being ensured at local and national level, as well as between the Lao stakeholders and the various foreign collaborators. The International Coordinating Committee of Vat Phou Champasak meets at least once a year. The last meeting held in November 2016, under the dual presidency of the Governor of Champasak Province and the Ambassador of the

Republic of South Korea to Laos, concluded the wish to further strengthen scientific coordination between the different stakeholders.

Analysis and Conclusions of the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM

Efforts undertaken by the State Party are welcomed, especially the development and adoption of a road network and management scheme, the monument zoning plan together with construction and zoning regulations, and the completion of the Champasak Cultural Landscape Master Plan.

However, the report does not provide any further response or solutions to the new constructions that were highlighted in the previous report and which cause a densification of the main monumental complex. No information was provided either on how the construction and zoning regulations will be implemented or enforced. It is also not clear from the report whether tangible progress has been made with implementing the provisions of the Management Plan and the monitoring framework. It is recommended that the Committee request the State Party to finalize the Management Plan, as a matter of priority, and to provide a final draft to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies.

The Lao Government has addressed the recommendations of the previous Reactive Monitoring mission and the Committee's requests by incorporating the road network and traffic management scheme into the final version of the Master Plan. Progress on its implementation should be monitored and reported to the World Heritage Committee.

The tightening of the development control system, which should be undertaken before Route 14A is reopened to traffic and which shall prevent new construction along the section of Route 14A from km29 to km34, has been incorporated into the revised Building Code and other regulations included as Annexes 2 and 3 of the Master Plan. It is recommended that the Committee be kept informed whether the revised regulations are enforced effectively or not.

A new landscape study of the area of the monument was undertaken in 2016, resulting in a new Monument Zone Plan. The Master Plan was developed using a landscape approach, as requested, in which the physical attributes justifying the OUV were re-considered. Inter-agency coordination and cooperation is explained in the Master Plan and appears to work satisfactorily, yet progress and effectiveness should be monitored.

The need for meaningful dialogue with villages within the property through an awareness-raising program for residents and consultation with the concerned villages, is addressed in the Master Plan in relation to the establishment of control for urban development. The production of simplified documents for the use of residents appears to be very top-down process, rather than a two-way consultation. Nevertheless, the Management Plan does recognize that "*protecting and managing the development of the classified site is largely based on this distribution [of simplified documents] and on dialogue with the local population*". This should be carefully monitored.

Finally, it is noted that the Master Plan guides tourism development and outlines sustainable tourism and ecotourism principles.

Draft Decision: 41 COM 7B.94

The World Heritage Committee,

1. *Having examined Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add,*
2. *Recalling Decision **39 COM 7B.68** adopted at its 39th session (Bonn, 2015),*
3. *Welcomes the progress made by the State Party, especially with the development and adoption of a road network and management scheme, the Monument Zoning Plan together with construction and zoning regulations, and the completion of the Champasak Cultural Landscape Master Plan;*
4. *Regrets that the State Party has not finalized the Management Plan and requests the State Party to finalize it, as a matter of priority, and to provide a final draft to the World*

Heritage Centre, along with the new Monument Zone Plan resulting from the recent landscape study, for review by the Advisory Bodies;

5. *Acknowledges the adoption of the Champasak Cultural Landscape Master Plan, which addresses recommendations made by the 2015 Reactive Monitoring mission and by the Committee, and also requests the State Party to:*
 - a) *Monitor and report on progress made with the implementation of the road network and traffic management scheme,*
 - b) *Ensure that the revised building and other regulations are enforced effectively to prevent new construction along the section of Route 14A from km29 to km34,*
 - c) *Monitor and report on the effectiveness of inter-agency coordination and cooperation;*

6. *Further requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2018**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.*

95. Kathmandu Valley (Nepal) (C 121bis)

See Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add.2

96. Fort and Shalamar Gardens in Lahore (Pakistan) (C 171)

See Document WHC/17/41.COM/7B.Add.2