

## DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

### 1.1 Introduction

**Year of ratification** 1998

#### Organization submitting the report

- National Bureau for Cultural Property Conservation (NBCPC),  
Central District  
Pyongyang,  
DPRK
- Korean Cultural Preservation Center (KCPC)

### 1.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

#### The status of national inventories

- National inventories are identified jointly by the KCPC and NBCPC.
- Properties are classified into 'National Treasure' sites or 'Conservation sites' according to historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific or aesthetic value.

#### The preparation of a Tentative List

- 7 cultural sites submitted to WHC in 2000.

#### Nominations and the nomination process

- Koguryo Mural Tombs nominated in 2002
- The nomination process, \* supported by the WH Centre, included data collection, aerial photographs (in 2001), and on-site identification in collaboration with the local government authorities and provincial people's committees.

### 1.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

#### Integration of heritage and planning

- Relevant laws include the: Land Law of the DPRK (1977); Protection of the Environment (1986); Protection of Cultural Property (1994); Protection of Scenic Spots (1995); and Cabinet Resolution No.24.
- These laws provide "the basis of clear understanding of the time-honoured history and homogeneity of the nation as well as its brilliant culture and beautiful nature."
- Laws are integrated into the urban, agricultural, and 'national land development master plan'.

#### Participation of local communities

- Local community involvement is reported to have significantly helped the work of the WH experts.

#### Tourism Development

- Camera shooting regulations are in place around the Koguryo Mural Tombs since 2002.
- A new NBCPC department in charge of visitors to scenic areas was created in April 2002.
- The 'National Cultural Heritage' quarterly magazine was launched by KCPC in 2002.

#### Financial measures and budget allowance

- "Lots of funds" for the presentation of cultural and natural properties. No figures supplied.

#### Professional

- KCPC has a current staff of about 100 archaeologists, conservation scientists & other experts.
- Course in restoration with regards to painting techniques started in August 2002.

#### New and improved services

- The NBCPC was established in February 2002 under the Cabinet, independently from the Ministry of Culture, to improve conservation effectiveness.
- Since 1998, wood conservation and rainwater infiltration studies have been carried out.
- Archaeological work undertaken at the Honam-ri Tomb group in April-May 2001.

#### Issues to be addressed

- Focus on recruiting specialist staff and training young multidisciplinary conservation experts.
- Provision of laboratory equipment.

### 1.4 International co-operation and fund raising

#### National and International Fund Raising

- \* International Assistance from the WHF as follows:  
1999 \$20,000 Training, Tentative Lists  
\$5,000 Promotional, Translation of the Convention & Operational Guidelines  
\$30,000 Preparatory, Tentative List (cultural)  
2001 \$4,700 Preparatory, Tentative List (cultural)
- \* International Assistance from UNESCO CLT/CH through extra-budgetary funds as follows:  
2001-02 US\$101,000 Technical equipment: Koguryo Tombs/mural paintings (Republic of Korea)  
2003-06 US\$500,000 Conservation equipment Koguryo Tombs/mural paintings (Republic of Korea)

### *1.5 Education, information and awareness-building*

#### **Information and awareness measures**

- Photo exhibition on Koguryo Mural Tombs held in the 'Korean Central History Museum' in August 2000.

### *1.6 Conclusions and recommended actions*

#### **Conclusions and proposed actions**

- "More attention should be paid to the enhancement of public awareness with a view to involving [a] broader strata of people in the process of WH nomination."
- "Links and co-operation should be strengthened not only with the relevant international organizations but also with the individual State Parties to the Convention."
- Timeframe of proposed actions 2003-2008: (i) creation of a national association responsible for the WH Convention; (ii) Kaesong Historic Area WH nomination; (iii) additional legal provisions; (iv) establishment of a KCPC training centre; (v) production of multimedia programmes; (vi) increase staff and equipment.