Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

NIUE ISLAND

I.1 Introduction

Year of ratification 2001

Organisation submitting the report
• The Huanaki Cultural Centre and Museum under the Department of Community Affairs.

I.2 Identification of cultural and natural heritage properties

The status of national inventories
• This is an ongoing activity and yet to be completed.

The preparation of a Tentative List
• Tentative List has not been prepared yet and requires training.

Nominations and the nomination process
• No nominations but foreseen nominations for both natural and cultural significance.

I.3 Protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

Integration of heritage and planning
• World Heritage Convention is considered to be covered by the Cultural Council Act 1986.
• National Committee for World Heritage is under consideration.
• Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Department has the legislation for the Terrestrial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act 1997.
• The Land Ordinance 1969 gives the government rights to protect natural and cultural areas.

Participation of local communities
• “Communities are very protective of their inherited traditional artefacts as well as practices and land rights”.
• The Environment Section of Community Affairs is active in the promotion and conservation of the environment.
• The Village Council Ordinance 1967 gives the villages responsibilities in the protection of natural and cultural sites.

Tourism Development
• No information provided.

Financial measures and budget allowance
• No figures supplied.

Professional
• A list of scientific and technical research papers have been provided.

New and improved services
• Different departments have developed their own policies that relate to some of the objectives in protection and conservation and identification of sites.
• The Environmental Bill is being reviewed.
• The Forestry National Policy will be completed by the end of the year.

Issues to be addressed
• There is a need of awareness concerning World Heritage Convention at all levels of the Government.
• Lack of trained and/or technical staff.
• Training in natural and cultural conservation is required.

I.4 International co-operation and fund raising

National and International Fund Raising
• No information provided.
• * International Assistance from WHF as follows: 2003 $20,000 Preparatory Assistance for Tentative List workshop

I.5 Education, information and awareness-building

Information and awareness measures
• The Environment Department has conducted some awareness programmes on conservation.

I.6 Conclusions and recommended actions

Conclusions and proposed actions
• There is a lack of expertise and funds to implement conservation programmes. In this regard, Niue Island intends to submit a proposal to UNESCO for assistance for education and awareness programmes.
• Awareness among government officials, departments and NGOs required.