

NORWAY

I.01. Introduction

Year of adherence to the Convention: 1977

Organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for preparation of report

- Directorate for Culture Heritage
- Directorate for Nature Management

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories

- Inventories for cultural and natural heritage are established at local, regional, national and Nordic level, and are used as a basis for selecting World Heritage sites

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List submitted in 1984
- Revision submitted in 2002 and 2004
- The Ministry of Environment is responsible for identifying the properties on the tentative list. The 2002 list was prepared by the Directorate for Nature Management on the basis of proposals in the Nordic Council of Ministers report "Nordic World Heritage" (NORD 1996:31) and in consultation with county level authorities and local communities

I.04. Nomination of Cultural and Natural Properties for the World Heritage List

Nominations

- Central government is responsible for preparing World Heritage site nominations and carries out the work in close cooperation with a broad range of relevant partners on various issues
- Motivations for nomination: honour/prestige, conservation of sites and increased funding

Inscriptions

- 4 cultural sites: *Bryggen* (1979), *Urnes Stave Church* (1979), *Røros Mining Town* (1980); *Rock Art of Alta* (1985); *Vegaøyan - The Vega Archipelago* (2004)¹

Benefits of inscription

- Honour/prestige, conservation of sites, increased funding, working in partnership and political pressure are considered benefits of inscription

¹ Also the transnational serial site: *Struve Geodetic Arc* (2005), as well as the *West Norwegian Fjords – Geirangerfjord and Nærøyfjord* (2005).

I.05. General Policy and Legislation for the Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage

Specific legislations

- Legislation for the identification and protection of national heritage are the Cultural Heritage Act (1978), the Protection of Nature and Environment Act (1970), the Planning and Building Act (1985), Act of June 2001 No. 79 relating to the protection of the environment in Svalbard and the Churches Act (1987)
- The Protection of Nature and Environment Act and the Plan and Building Act are under revision
- There is no specific planning legislation to protect World Heritage sites
- Management plans are required for cultural and natural heritage and are gradually more used as instruments in an overall strategic framework for the conservation of heritage sites

Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Protocol to the Hague Convention (1954), London Convention (1969), Granada Convention (1985), Valetta Convention (1992), Rome Convention (1995), Florence Convention (2000), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES Convention (1973), Bonn Convention (1979), Bern Convention (1979), Basel Convention (1989) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)

I.06. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- Ministry of Environment, the Directorate for Cultural Heritage, the Directorate for Nature Management, county administrations, municipalities, museums and national parks' visitor centres
- Services are provided at all levels and often in joint projects between different administrative levels
- The conservation of cultural and natural heritage is organised under the Ministry of Environment
- Involves private sector, local communities and NGOs

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- Cultural heritage research and development programmes; Changing Landscapes – use and management of cultural environments and natural resources, Cultural Heritage and Environment, Cultural Heritage and Cultural Environments in Integrated Coastal Zone Management, Landscape – Cultural Heritage – Materials, Landscapes as Cultural Heritage, The Rock Art Project, The Stave Church Programme, and the Qualitative and

Quantitative Evaluation of Resinous Pinewood for Production of Wood Tar

- Natural heritage research and development programmes; The National Programme on Municipal Investigations of Biological Diversity and Wildlife, The National Survey of Disturbance-free Countryside, The National Plan for setting aside Nature Conservation areas, and The National Register of Valuable Cultural Landscapes

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- World Heritage sites are funded by State-Party budget allowance and local/regional authority budget allowance
- The Norwegian Cultural Heritage Fund was established in 2002 provides grants that are supplement to existing funding sources in the cultural heritage sector
- The Nordic World Heritage Foundation, granted official auspices of UNESCO as International Centre (category 2) in 2003, was established in 2002 by the Norwegian Government to strengthen international cooperation for the implementation of the Global Strategy

I.09. Training

Professional and Institutional training

- Training needs for institutions and individuals concerned with the protection of World Heritage have been identified as knowledge of conservation and traditional building techniques, documentation of damages to rock art and conservation of rock art, competence in subjects related to cultural heritage management
- Key training institutions in the field of World Heritage protection are the national education system, international education programmes. There is cooperation between the Directorate for Cultural Heritage and several universities and colleges to develop courses in cultural heritage management

I.10. International Co-operation

- Cooperation with other States Parties for the identification, protection, conservation and preservation of World Heritage has been carried out through bi- and multilateral agreements, hosting and/or attending international courses/seminars and through the exchange of experts. A foundation to facilitate international cooperation has been established. A twinning agreement between the World Heritage sites Bryggen i Bergen and Ilha de Mozambique has been signed

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

Information and awareness raising on local, regional national or international level

- World Heritage sites are presented and promoted through publications, postcards, internet and CDs on an international, national, regional and local level
- The presentation and general awareness of World Heritage sites is not adequate, but measures to get more focus in the media, to provide leaflets in more languages and to post more and better information on the web is carried out to improve the situation
- Education programmes in the field of World Heritage protection are Network for Environment Teaching, WernerWeb (internet based environment information site for children and youths), and the Cultural Backpack for Schools

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strengths: Nomination processes includes a range of partners at all administrative levels, local communities, private sector and NGOs; Awareness of prestige and benefits from a World Heritage designation; Sound legislation, qualified institutions, and expertise for the protection of World Heritage; International cooperation through projects with other States Parties concerning World Heritage
- Weaknesses: Lack of awareness among the general public. Further funding needed

No proposed future actions