## State of Conservation of the World Heritage Properties in the Asia-Pacific Region

# CHINA (PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF)

# Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian

## **II.1 Introduction**

Year of Inscription 1987

#### Organisation Responsible for the Report

 The People's Government of Fangshan District No. 12, East Chengguan Street, Fangshan District, Beijing PRC Tel: (010) 69313975; Fax: (010) 69313975

## **II.2 Statement of Significance**

Inscription Criteria C iii, vi

#### Statement of Significance

- Proposed as follows:
  - "The property is a world-famous site of prehistorical man. It has the richest, most complete and most representative materials among sites of the same period, and is of significant value in the research and reconstruction of early human history."

#### **Status of Site Boundaries**

- The demarcation line and buffer zone are considered as adequate.
- There is no need for revising the site boundaries.

## **II.3 Statement of Authenticity/Integrity**

#### Status of Authenticity/Integrity

- No change to authenticity and integrity
- No foreseeable change to the authenticity/integrity in the near future.

## II.4 Management

#### Administrative and Management Arrangements

- The report cites 3 major legal instruments.
- For effective protection legislation is the best.
- Need to revise actual arrangements, by rising agreement between Municipal Government of Beijing and the Government of Fangshan District.

- An overall protection and development plan for Peking Man Site at Zhoukoudian is being developed.
- Future actions include formulating and implementing the management plan for the WH Site according to the law.

### Present State of Conservation

• In 2004, all polluting enterprises will be closed down.



- At present, seven projects are underway, renovation of "two star toilets", reparation of the main entrance and replacement of the enclosing fences.
- In the protection area and the environmental impact areas, 6170 sq m of buildings have been demolished. The total green area has reached 100 *Mu* (6.66 hectares).

#### **Staffing and Training Needs**

- No staff number or description provided.
- Staff number is sufficient.
- Training needs: scientific monitoring, scientific management and scientific protection.

#### **Financial Situation**

- Based on tickets sales. Total funding 2001: 700,000 Yuan (US\$84,750) while spending amounted 800,000-900,000 Yuan (US\$96,650–US\$108,730). In 2003, the financial department of Fangshan District will provide fixed financial support.
- Available funding not sufficient, needs mainly to be covered by the State.
- \* US\$1 million from UNDP and World Bank.
- \* International Assistance from WHF as follows: (i) 1998, US\$26,000 Technical Co-operation for audio recording facilities and equipment.

#### Access to IT

- 3 sets of computers with Internet and email access.
- No use of GIS.

#### Visitor Management

- Visitor statistics available since 1989, with 45,000 visitors in 2001.
- Existing facilities: museum halls (video, audio equipment and interpretation services), public toilets, parking lot, shops, ticket office and long benches.
- Facilities needed: exhibition halls, multi-purpose tourist centre, star-level bio-toilets, reasonable parking grounds.

- Under preparation: overall criteria for protection and management of Peking Man Site and formulation of a plan to renovate the site and its surroundings.
- WH values communicated through publicity on values through free interpretation services, distribution of brochures, and relevant video playing.
- Education: no formal education programmes, but the site is a young people's education base in Beijing.
- Role of the inscription to the WH List: increased tourism influx, enhanced research plans and awareness in construction activities.

## **II.5 Factors Affecting the Property**

#### **Threats and Risks**

 Negative impacts mainly from the threat of residents in the surrounding areas and the nearby cement production industry. They have negative impacts on the overall landscape and safety of the property.

#### **Counteractive Plans**

- A plan to invest 200 million Yuan (US\$24.16 million) for a cement production line in a remote mountainous area far from the Site.
- Areas, which need improvement: improvement of the surrounding areas of the property, urgent formulation and implementation of protection programmes, completion of tourist service facilities.
- Factors affecting property: due to the active efforts of the local government, impacts have decreased greatly and are continuing to diminish.
- Action taken or will be taken in the future: resettlement of local residents, closure and rehabilitation of small businesses. An overall reforestation effort made to improve the ecological environment of this WH Property.

## **II.6 Monitoring**

#### **Monitoring Arrangements**

- No formal monitoring system, plans exist for the future.
- Partners: The Bureau of Environmental Protection, the CAS, and The Bureau of Fire Control.
- Improvements: in monitoring technology, method and equipment.

## "Negative impacts mainly from the threat of residents in the surrounding areas and the cement production industry nearby. They have negative impacts on the overall landscape

and safety of the WH property."

#### **Monitoring Indicators**

Proposed indicators: (i) dust sedimentation rate, (ii) cavity breath (crack width), and (iii) vegetation growth rate.

# II.7 Conclusions and Recommended Actions

## Conclusions and Proposed Actions

- Values: with concerted efforts the world heritage value has remained intact since 1987.
- Management and factors affecting property: due to

financial, personnel and technical restrictions, work is not completely satisfactory. The main factors affecting the Site include residents and industrial and mining enterprises within the surrounding areas.

- Future actions: (i) closure of polluting enterprises, improvement of the surrounding areas; (ii) planting trees to restore the original appearance; (iii) building up a new museum and carry out education.
- Timetable for the implementation of actions: 2003-2006.

## \* State of Conservation Reports

1994 Bureau, WHC-94/CONF.001//3b - State of conservation at the request of the authorities: Locality 1 is now a 46m deep trench. Archaeological strata as the cave roof are instable. The trench should be roofed to prevent further erosion. Recommendation to prepare a master plan giving priority to the remodeling of the museum facilities and Locality I-Upper Cave. A specialist in museum design needs to be commissioned.

1996 Committee, WHC-96/CONF.201//7B – The September 1996 UNESCO mission noted a number of major problems, including the complete halt of site excavations, the need for a better presentation of the site museum and a lack of researchers. The Bureau requested the Chinese authorities to inform the Committee of the management and research programme for this site.

2001 Bureau, WHC-2001/CONF.205//5 - 1. In 1999, a joint ICOMOS/ICCROM mission recommended both short and long term actions to address issues relevant to sustainable conservation and development of the site. 2. Numerous independent reports expressing alarm over the state of conservation. Locality 1 and other excavated caves exposed and suffer erosion and plant growth. 3. Information received concerning the closure of the site-museum due to financial constraints.

The Bureau requested the State Party to inform the Committee on the results of action taken on the recommendations of the 1999 ICOMOS/ICCROM Joint Mission and to provide information concerning the measures taken to address the conservation and management challenges facing the site. The Bureau encouraged the State Party to elaborate an international assistance request for the development of a comprehensive conservation and management plan for the site. Finally, the Bureau requested the Centre to assist the State Party in submitting a state of conservation report for examination by the Bureau at its 26<sup>th</sup> session.