

# PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

# **SECTION II**

State of Conservation of specific World Heritage properties

# PERIODIC REPORTING FOR WELL PLANNED HERITAGE PRESERVATION

#### Background

The twenty-ninth General Conference of UNESCO, held in 1997, decided to activate Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention concerning the submission of periodic reports on the state of implementation of the World Heritage Convention (Section I) and the State of Conservation of World Heritage properties (Section II). The national authorities are invited to report on Section I, while Section II shall be prepared for each property inscribed on the World Heritage list by the person(s) directly in charge of the property's management.

The periodic reports prepared by the States Parties will serve a three-fold purpose:

- \* to assess the current state of all World Heritage related issues in a State Party,
- to help focus the Committee's as well as the State Party's future activities and funds,
- \* to strengthen sub-regional and regional co-operation between States Parties.

#### The Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

In 1998, at its twenty-second session, the World Heritage Committee approved *Explanatory Notes*, designed to be read in conjunction with the *Periodic Reporting Format*, in order to outline the information expected to flow from the periodic reporting exercise. To facilitate the preparation of the report, a *Questionnaire* was developed that the States Parties are encouraged to use. It closely follows the subjects referred to in the *Explanatory Notes*, but in contrast to the latter splits the subjects up into short questions to be answered in a few sentences or paragraphs. A second type of question requires the indication of YES or NO by circling or underlining the appropriate answer. All questions are clearly identified with a little number in the right hand column of the *Questionnaire*. To make the reporting results meaningful <u>every</u> one of these questions has to be answered. If no answer is possible, the reasons should be given. If the available space is not sufficient for the answer, the response should be continued on a separate sheet of paper, clearly indicating the number of the question the text refers to (e.g. 006).

#### **Benefits for the States Parties**

The *Questionnaire* was developed in such a way as to allow to extract and compile or compare relevant information from different States Parties or properties, facilitating the process of preparing the regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. The YES / NO questions make it possible to evaluate the reports quantitatively, but only the details that should be supplied in the related 'open question' make the answers meaningful and can be the basis for concerted actions to preserve a State Party's most valuable heritage for its transmission to future generations.

The information collected in this way will help the States Parties to assess their own strengths and weaknesses concerning the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, putting them in a position to (re)define policies and to request assistance in order to finance projects and / or training. On the other hand it allows the World Heritage Committee to collect information needed to devise *Regional Action Plans*, give well-informed advice to States Parties and to focus funds as well as attention on the region(s), States Parties and / or properties that need the collective support of the international community.

The preparation process of the regional periodic report will furthermore enhance regional cooperation through information meetings as well as through the better availability of regularly up-dated information on activities as well as contact addresses etc. The identification of the State Party's strengths makes it possible to exchange experiences and look for solutions to problems (e.g. of site conservation) within the region.

## Conclusion

Periodic Reporting is a participatory exercise, aiming to collect information on World Heritage related issues on a national as well as on the property level. The individual State Party reports will be collated into a regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. This information will enhance cooperation between the Committee and the States Parties and allow to focus funds and activities more efficiently, allowing the States Parties to protect their most valuable heritage more effectively for transmission to future generations.

# PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

# (FORMAT)

#### SECTION II: STATE OF CONSERVATION OF SPECIFIC WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### II.1 Introduction

- a. State Party: The Philippines
- b. Name of World Heritage property: Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park & World Heritage Site
- c. Geographical coordinates to the nearest second: 8°44' to 8°56' N

119°48' to 120°3'E

- d. Date of inscription on the World Heritage List: December 11, 1993
- e. Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of the report: Tubbataha Protected Area Management Board, WWF-Philippines
- f. Date of report: April 1, 2003
- g. Signature on behalf of State Party:
- **II.2.** Statement of significance: ?
- II.3. Statement of authenticity/integrity: ?
- **II.4.** Management: Tubbataha Protected Area Management Board (TPAMB)
- II.5. Factors affecting the property: ?
- II.6. Monitoring: ?
- **II.7.** Conclusions and recommended action:
  - a. Main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above)
  - b. Main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see Items II.4 and II.5. above)
  - c. Proposed future action/actions
  - d. Responsible implementing agency/agencies
  - e. Timeframe for implementation
  - f. Needs for international assistance.

## II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II

#### **II.9.** Documentation attached

# **II.1. Introduction**

a.	Country (and State Party if different):	001
b.	Name of World Heritage property: Tubbataha Reef Nat'l Marine Park (TRNMP) and WHS	002
c.	In order to locate the property precisely, please attach a topographic map showing scale, orientation, projection, datum, site name, date and graticule. The map should be an original print and not be trimmed. The site boundaries should be shown on the map. In addition they can be submitted in a detailed description, indicating topographic and other legally defined national, regional, or international boundaries followed by the site boundaries.	003
	The State Parties are encouraged to submit the geographic information in digital form so that it can be integrated into a Geographic Information System (GIS).	
	On this questionnaire indicate the geographical co-ordinates to the nearest second (in the case of large sites, towns, areas etc., give at least 3 sets of geographical co-ordinates):	
	From Pt. 1 119°50' latitude 8°43' longitude	
	To Pt. 2 119°48' latitude 8°43' longitude	
	To Pt. 3 119°47' latitude 8°05' longitude	
	To Pt. 4 119°47' latitude 8°48' longitude	
	To Pt. 5 120°00' latitude 8°57'20" longitude	
	To Pt. 6 120°02' latitude 8°57 longitude	
	To Pt. 7 120°04' latitude 8°56 longitude	
	To Pt. 8 120°04' latitude 8°54 longitude	
	To Pt. 1 119°50' latitude 8°43' longitude	
d.	Give the date of inscription on the World Heritage List and subsequent extension (if applicable): December 11, 1993	004
e.	Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report. Tubbataha Protected Area Management Board (TPAMB) & WWF-Philippines	
	Organization(s) / entity(ies): TPAMB/WWF-Philippines	005
	Person(s) responsible: Governor Joel T. Reyes/Marivel Dygico	
	Address: Tubbataha Management Office/ WWF-Philippines	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Flr., Basaya Bldg. 43 WESCOM Rd.	
	National Highway, San Miguel San Miguel, Puerto Princesa City	
	City and post code: Puerto Princesa City 5300, Palawan, Philippines	
	Telephone: +6348 434 5759/+6348 434-4156 & 434-2100	
	Fax: +6348 434 5759/+6348 434 2100	
	E-mail: tmo@mozcom.com/wwf-pal@mozcom.com	0.01
		006
f.	Date of preparation of the report: April 1, 2003	000

# **II.2. Statement of significance**

At the time of inscribing a property on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee indicates its outstanding universal value(s), or World Heritage value(s), by deciding on the criteria for which the property deserved to be included on the World Heritage List. Circle the criteria retained for the inscription:	008
Cultural criteria: $i - ii - iii - iv - v - vi$	
Natural criteria: $i - \underline{ii} - \underline{ii} - \underline{iv}$	
Were new criteria added by re-nominating and/or extending the property after the original inscription? $$\rm YES/\underline{NO}$$	009
If VES plage explain:	010
If YES, please explain:	010
Please quote observations concerning the property made by the Advisory Body(ies) during the evaluation of the nomination:	011
No data	
Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World	012
Heritage Committee at the time of inscription and extension (if applicable):	
No data	
Identify the actions taken as follow-up to these observations and/or decisions:	013
No data	

II.2. continued

Please propose a statement of significance by providing a description of the World Heritage value(s) for which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List. This description should reflect the criterion (criteria) on the basis of which the Committee inscribed the property on the World Heritage List and it should also detail what the property represents, what makes it outstanding, what the specific values are that distinguish the property as well as what its relationship with its setting is, etc.: Tubbataha is an excellent example of a coral atoll (the only one in the Philippines), is an important source of larvae for the greater Sulu Sea area, and a significant natural habitat for <i>in situ</i> marine and seabird biodiversity conservation, providing opportunity to better understand marine processes.	014
For the extension of a property or the inclusion of additional criteria a re-submission of the property may be considered. This might be regarded as necessary in order to recognize cultural values of a natural World Heritage property, or vice-versa, become desirable following the substantive revision of the criteria by the World Heritage Committee or due to better identification or knowledge of specific outstanding universal values of the property. Should a re-nomination of the property be considered? <u>YES</u> / NO	015
If YES, please explain: In the future. A bill is pending in the Philippine Congress for the enactment of the Tubbataha Law which extends the area of the park from 33,200 has. to 87,654.967 has. to include Jessie Beazley Reef northwest of TRNMP. Artifacts have been found in the Tubbataha Reefs. No study is being conducted as to the nature and origin of these artifacts. These may turn out to be of significant cultural significance once studied.	016
Are the borders of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone (still) adequate to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values: $\underline{YES} / NO$	017
If NO, please explain why not, and indicate what changes should be made to the boundaries of the property and / or its buffer zone (please indicate these changes also on a map to be attached to this report):	018

# II.2. continued

Is the State Party actively considering a revision of the property boundaries or the buffer zone? $\underline{YES} / NO$	019
If YES, indicate what is being done to that end:	020
The Tubbataha Protected Area Bill is presently filed in Congress and awaits approval.	

# **II.3.** Statement of authenticity / integrity

Have the World Heritage values identified above been maintained since the property's inscription? $\underline{YES} / NO$	021
If NO, please describe the changes and name the causes:	022
	022
What was the evaluation of the authenticity / integrity of the property at the time of inscription? (Please quote from the ICOMOS / IUCN evaluation):	023
Do not know. No data.	
	1

II.3. continued

Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties	
Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription? YES / NO	024
If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity / integrity and name the main causes?	025
Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the	026
near future? YES / NO	
If YES, please explain and indicate how these changes might affect the World Heritage values of the property:	027

# II.4. Management

How could the arrangements for the protection and the management of the property best be defined (more than one indication possible)? Legal (x) Contractual () Traditional ()

#### II.4. continued

Please describe and assess the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements for 029

· · · · ·	Section II: State of conservation of specific world Heritage properties	·
	the preservation of the values described under item II.2 at the national, provincial and/or municipal level:	
	The multi-sectoral TPAMB, with members from the national, provincial and municipal levels, has been effective in managing the property as evidenced by improved compliance by the private sector and Filipino fishermen in general. No major anthropogenic perturbations have occurred in the area in the last 7 years.	
	In general terms, can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient? $$\rm YES/\underline{NO}$$	030
	Please explain:	031
	The passage of the Tubbataha Protected Area Bill will provide for more stringent punitive measures for encroachment into Park waters. It will further strengthen the institution for management and provide annual funding allocation for management.	
		0.2.2
	Provide a list and summaries of laws and regulations concerning cultural and natural properties protection and management (including extracts of relevant articles from the Constitution, Criminal Law, Law/Regulations on Land-use, Environment Law and Forestry Law, amongst others). Please also attach any documentation available concerning these points:	032
	• <i>Republic Act No. 7611 (Strategic Environmental Plan for Palawan)</i> of 1992 provides the framework for the sustainable development of Palawan compatible with protecting and enhancing natural resources and the endangered environment.	
	• <i>Republic Act No.7586 (National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992)</i> aims to secure for the Filipino people of present and future generations the perpetual existence of all native plants and animals through the establishment of a comprehensive system of integrated protected areas.	
	• <i>Republic Act 8550 (The Philippine Fisheries Code)</i> was enacted in 1998 to ensure rational and sustainable development, management, and conservation of the fishery and aquatic resources in Philippine waters including the Exclusive Economic Zone and within adjacent high seas. It aims to guarantee the conservation and protection of the country's fishery and	

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

aquatic resources to achieve food security.

• *Republic Act 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act)* of 2001 was enacted to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity. It also aims to pursue, with due regard to the national interest, the Philippine commitment to international conventions, regulate the collection and trade in wildlife, and initiate or support scientific studies on the conservation of biological diversity. PCSD has the key role of primary implementor of this Act in Palawan, which is considered a special area due to RA 7611.

• *Republic Act 7160 (Local Government Code of 1991)* provides for genuine and meaningful local autonomy of territorial and political subdivisions of the State to enable them to attain their fullest development as self-reliant communities and make them more effective partners in the attainment of national goals. It is the policy of the State to require all national agencies and offices to conduct periodic consultations with appropriate LGUs, non-government and people's organizations, and other concerned sectors of the country before any project or program is implemented in their jurisdictions.

#### II.4. continued

concerned, ma management au	dministrative and management arrangements that aking special mention of the institutions a uthority over the property as well as of the arra n of their actions:	and organizations that have	033
The TPAMB is	s composed of:		
-	Governor Joel T. Reyes, representing PCSD	Chairman	
•	PENRO Reynaldo Crisostomo	Vice Chair	
•	Commander, Western Command, AFP	Member	
•	Commander, Naval Forces West, PN	Member	
•	District Commander, CGD-Pal	Member	
•	Mayor, Cagayancillo	Member	
•	Chair, Environment and Natural Resources		
	Committee, Cagayancillo SB	Member	
-	ENRO- Province	Member	
•	PCSDS	Member	
•	Executive Director, Philippine Commission		
	On Sport Scuba Diving, DOT	Member	
	Provincial Officer, BFAR	Member	

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention

	Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties	
-	President, WWF-Philippines Member	
•	Project Manager, Conservation International Member	
-	Chairperson, Saguda Palawan Member	
*PCSD/S-Pala	wan Council for Sustainable Development/Staff	
	ncial Environment and Natural Resources Office, Department of	
Environment a	nd Natural Resources	
ENRO-Provin	ce-Environment and Natural Resources Office-Province	
BFAR-Bureau	of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture	
TPAMB meet Navy, Philipp meets once a TPAMB, etc.	f policy are discussed and decided upon by members of the TPAMB. The s quarterly. An Executive Committee composed of 6 members (Philippine ine Coast Guard, PCSDS, PENRO, Saguda Palawan, WWF-Philippines) month to decide on matters of operation, endorse plans and programs to the The Tubbataha Management Office (TMO) executes all decisions of the its Executive Committee and is charged with the day-to-day affairs of the	
Please indicate	e under which level of authority the property is managed: Local (x)	034
	Regional (x)	
	National (x)	
Other (	please describe):	
	e the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the entity(ies) directly r the management (conservation, preservation, visitor management) of the	035
Governor Joel	T. Reyes	
Chairman, TP.	AMB	
Tubbataha Ma	nagement Office	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Flr., Basay	•	
Ŧ	way, San Miguel	
Puerto Princes		
	-	
Palawan, Phili	рршев	
		026
Is it necessary	to revise the administrative and management arrangements for the property? YES / $\underline{\rm NO}$	036

#### II.4. continued

Is ther	e a management plan for the property? $\underline{YES} / NO$	038
	S, please summarize, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when:	039
Strateg	gies stipulated in Management Plan under implementation since 1996:	
1.	Curtail resource destruction through effective patrols	
2.	Create the TPAMB and establish the TMO.	
3.	Actively pursue community development in the Cagayancillo Islands	
4.	Develop a long-term monitoring scheme to address the management needs of TRNMP	
5.	Develop a management scheme to the expansion of TRNMP	
This p	lan is under review. The major components identified in the revised Plan are:	
1.	Conservation Management	
2.	Conservation Awareness	
3.	Regulation, Policy and Advocacy	
4.	Ecosystem Research and Monitoring	
5.	Sustainable Resource Management	
the value of the v	report on legal and administrative actions that are foreseen for the future, to preserve lues described under item II.2 (e.g. passing of legislation, adjusting administrative and gement arrangements, implementing or drawing up of a (new) management plan, etc.): ge of TRNMP Law on of Management Plan	040

Please provide detailed information, particularly in cases where changes have occurred since the inscription of the property, on the following matters: • Conservation

041

Make reference to all major interventions at the property and describe its present state of conservation:

Major interventions are in the lines of programs listed in 039.

#### II.4. continued

• <u>Ownership</u> Make reference to all major changes in ownership of the property and describe the	042
present state of ownership:	
The property is owned by the State.	

	Please, give a detailed description of the staffing of the site:	043
	15-member TPAMB	
	6-member Executive Committee	
	Tubbataha Management Office with following staff:	
	Park Manager	
	Techincal Assistant	
	2 Marine Park Rangers	
	Attached to TMO with ranger functions are:	
	3 Philippine Navy personnel	
	2 Philippine Coast Guard personnel	
1		
	Is the staffing level sufficient for adequate management of the property? YES / <u>NO</u>	044
	Is the summing level sufficient for adequate management of the property: $1257 \frac{100}{100}$	
	If NO, what should be done to improve the situation?	045
	The implementation of the revised TRNMP Management Plan will require additional technical staff.	

## II.4. continued

Does the staff need additional training? <u>YES</u> / NO	046
If YES, what are the training needs for your staff?	047
Attached personnel have very low level of environmental awareness. Continuous change in	

manpower as a result of temporary nature of assignment of military personnel prevent TPAMB from developing high level of awareness among rangers.

Equipment maintenance trainings are imperative.

Trainings on data gathering to enable rangers to contribute to research as they are they only people in the site on a year-round basis.

Conduct of cross visits to expand worldview of rangers especially on marine protected areas (MPA) and conservation in general.

Conflict resolution is vital as the rangers come from different agencies and are assigned in Isolation for 2 months at a stretch.

Describe the funding and financial situation of the property, indication sources, level and regularity of financing:				048		
Breakdown of Operating Costs (in USD) and fund sources. 2001						
Activity	Phil. Navy	Coast Guard	WWF	Total		
Park Administration			24,000	24,000		
Enforcement	28,000	7,000	20,000	55,000		
Information			16,000	16,000		
Research and Monitor	ring		20,000	20,000		
Total	28,000	7,000	80,000	115,000		
Is the available funding sufficient for adequate management of the property? $\underline{YES}$ / NO The funding is adequate for now (2000-2003) while the WWF-Philippines is in place.				049		
If NOT, describe the property:	financial resourc	es that would be	required fo	r the manage	ement of the	050

Indicate International Assistance from which the property has benefited:

• World Heritage Fund:

051

#### II.4. continued

<ul> <li>UNACOM conducted a series of trainings for TPAMB members and donated a scuba compressor in 1999.</li> <li>National and/or regional projects of UNDP, the World Bank or other agencies:</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>National and/or regional projects of LINDP, the World Pank or other agencies:</li> </ul>
• National and/or regional projects of LINDP, the World Pank or other agencies:
• National and/or regional projects of ONDF, the world bank of other agencies.
GEF-UNDP
Bilateral co-operation:
Government of Japan
Marine Parks Center of Japan
• Other assistance:
Henry Foundation
Packard Foundation
WWF-Philippines
WWF-US

Describe the IT (computer) equipment of the site and/or management office and assess its effectiveness:

Acer Celeron Laptop Computer Pentium 3 Desktop Computer

Are you using (multiple indications are possible):

057

PC(x) Apple() Mainframe()

Please, give the number of available computers: 2	058	
Does an operational access to the Internet exist? $\underline{YES} / NO$	059	

#### II.4. continued

Is e-mail used for daily correspondence?	<u>YES</u> / NO	060
Is there a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the site?	<u>YES</u> / NO	061
It belongs to WWF-Philippines but is made available to the TPAMB when requi	red.	
If YES, what software do you have and how is the GIS used?		062
ArcInfo, Arcview		

List scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the 063 site: 1982, April 8-May 6: NRMC, BFAR and UP-MSI, General Survey 1984, April 4-13: Alan White, Dissertation Research Study 1989, April 28-May 5: B. Sta. Cruz, J. Walters, A. White, Survey 1991, April 30-May 11: SUML, PCAMRD and PAWB, General Survey 1991, October 25-30: M. Heegard, A. Jensen, Bird Survey 1992, April 16-26: Earthwatch Expedition, Broad Survey 1992, May1-11: SUML, PCAMRD and PAWB, General and Plankton Survey 1993, May 12-16, P Magsalay and A. Toledo, Bird Survey 1995, April 1-8: SUML and DENR, General Monitoring of TRNMP 1995, May: R. van Woesik, Coral Survey of the Tubbataha Reefs 1996, March: A. Manamtam, Survey of Seabirds in Tubbataha, Cavili and Cagayancillo 1996, March: DENR, MPCJ. Resource Survey and Conservation of TRNMP 1996, April 16-26: A. White & volunteer divers. 2<sup>nd</sup> Expedition for Monitoring TRNMP 1997, UP-MSI, WWF-Phils. Monitoring TRNMP 2000, May: CRMP, Sulu Fund, Earthwatch Expedition. Survey of TRNMP 1998-2002-WWF-Phils. Ecosystems Research & Monitoring of TRNMP

Describe financial and human resource inputs for the research programmes and or facilities: Financial Inputs: ><USD36,000 annually

Personnel: 1 Research Officer

5 Research Assistants

4 boat crew

Facilities: Boat, research equipment

Describe how the information / results are disseminated?

Annual Research and Monitoring Report for TRNMP disseminated to national and local agencies.

065

Research results incorporated in information and education materials.

# II.4. continued

If YES, please summarise the s	tatistics and attach to	this report:	06
	2001	2002	
Number of Guests	692	642	
Number of Trips	66	59	
Average Age of Visitors	37	39	
Male	69%	77%	
Female	31%	23%	
Filipinos	30%	44%	
Asians	28%	7%	
Europeans	23%	28%	
Americans	16%	5%	
Others	3%	16%	
What visitor facilities do you h	ave at the property?		06

069
070

# II.4. continued

	f NO explain if one is needed:		
Entry permits are issued by the TPAMB in Puerto Princesa City prior to visits to the Park.			
The schedule of fees is as follows:			
Vessel Entry	USD50		
Foreign Guest	50		
Locals/Expats	25		
Dive Master	5		
Repeat Guests for	r the season half price		
	World Heritage values are communicated to residen h examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-		
and the public (please attact the address of a web-page)			
and the public (please attact the address of a web-page)	h examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-		
and the public (please attact the address of a web-page)	h examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-		
and the public (please attact the address of a web-page)	h examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-		
and the public (please attactive address of a web-page)	h examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-		

If yes, please describe:074Photo exhibits in schoolsDistribution on book marks and leaflets with messages re TRNMPJingle writing contestQuiz and video showing

What role does World Heritage inscription play for the site concerning the visitor number, the research programmes and/or the awareness building activities?

The World Heritage status of TRNMP attracts visitors to the Park and fosters increased appreciation for its resources.

It also qualifies TRNMP as part of international initiatives on MPA management such as the IUCN/WCPA MPA Management Effectiveness Initiative and Conservation Finance for Sustainable Management.

# **II.5.** Factors affecting the property

Please comment on the degree to which the property is threatened by particular problems and risks, such as development pressure, environmental pressure, natural disasters and preparedness, visitor / tourism pressure, number of inhabitants. Also mention all other issues that you see as problematic.

The stance of the national government on poaching in Park waters is an environmental threat to the Park. Too much leniency in the disposition of cases against foreign nationals (poachers) may attract more incursions.

The mooring system in place pauses some risk to users. Although advised to untie from the moorings during inclement weather, some users disobey the rule, endangering themselves and their guests. There is a possibility the buoys can be dragged to the reef edge and fall when there are big waves exacerbated by strong currents.

The embedment system of mooring is a more acceptable system because coral damage caused by dragging the concrete sinkers during bad weather is eliminated.

Another El Nińo event will further damage the corals in TRNMP.

The present peace and order condition in the country may be considered a threat to tourism. Visitor numbers have dwindled since the hostage-taking incident in Puerto Princesa City in 2000. Being in the Sulu Sea, Tubbataha is perceived as a high-risk destination by tourists.

## II.5. continued

Is there an emergency plan and / or risk preparedness plan for the property in existence? $$\underline{\rm YES}$ / NO$$	077
If YES, please summarise the plan and provide a copy:	078
Emergency plan for possible terrorist attack on tourists.	
Emergency plan for medical/diving incidents	
If NO, describe what is being done – and by whom – to counteract the dangers that threaten or may threaten the property:	079
Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable and/or towards which the State Party is working:	080
Strengthened litigation and prosecution of cases.	
Improved mooring system.	
Peace and order climate in the Philippines.	

#### II.5. continued

Give an indication if the impact of the factors affecting the property is increasing or 081

decreasing: Increasing.

What actions have been effectively taken, or are planned for the future, to address the factors affecting the property?

Dialogue with public prosecutors and judges. Petition national government for stricter handling of Chinese poaching cases in the Philippines.

Preparation of project proposal for the embedment system of mooring.

# II.6. Monitoring

 If applicable, give details (e.g. dates, results, indicators chosen) of any previous periodic or reactive monitoring exercises of the property:
 083

 1997 to date (between April-September)-monitoring of resources within TRNMP conducted by WWF-Philippines.
 000

 Coral cover decreased due to El Nino in 1998 but maintained to present. Fish biomass increased. Will forward 2002 monitoring results when published.
 084

 Is there a formal monitoring system established for the site?
 YES / NO
 085

 WWF-Philippines Tubbataha Project research team conducts annual biophysical monitoring of TRNMP.
 085

# II.6. continued

If not already in place, is the establishment of a formal monitoring system planned? YES / NO	086
If YES, please outline the functioning of that system, taking into consideration the key indicators you will be asked to define below (see 089 / 090):	087
Are there any indicators established for monitoring the state of conservation of the property? YES / NO	088
If YES, please provide up-to-date information with respect to each of the key indicators established and/or used. Care should be taken to ensure that this information is as accurate and reliable as possible, for example by carrying out observations in the same way, using similar equipment and methods at the same time of the year and day. Name and describe the key indicators for measuring the state of conservation of this property:	089
If NO indicators have been identified and / or used so far, please define key indicators for future use in monitoring:	090

#### II.6. continued

Indicate which partners, if any, are involved or will be involved in the regular monitoring exercise:	091
Identify the administrative provisions for organizing the regular monitoring of the property:	092
Describe what improvement the State Party foresees or would consider desirable in improving the monitoring system:	093
In specific cases, the World Heritage Committee and/or its Bureau may have already examined the state of conservation of the property and made recommendations to the State Party, either at the time of inscription or afterwards. In such cases the State Party is requested to report on the actions that have been taken in response to the observations or decisions made by the Bureau or Committee. Give details, if applicable:	094

# II.7. Conclusions and recommended actions

Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values o the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above):	f 0
Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see items II.4. and II.5. above):	0
Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:	0
Conservation Management	
Conservation Awareness	
Policy and Advocacy	
Ecosystem Research and Monitoring	
Sustainable Resource Management	
Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 005):	0
	0
Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above.	0
Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above: All programs will be implemented for 5 years or until Management Plan review proces	

# II.7. continued

Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from the World <sup>100</sup> Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):

Mooring buoy installation

Are there any contacts with management units of other properties within or outside your country? $\underline{YES} / NO$	101
If YES, please explain:	102
Met managers of other properties during ITMEMS2 in Manila. No prior contacts because attempts to make contact with some of them were not answered. Future contacts with other site managers more promising because of personal meeting.	
Please indicate which experience made during the periodic reporting exercise and/or during the on-going conservation / protection efforts of the property could be shared with other States Parties dealing with similar problems or issues:	103
Provide the name(s) and address(es) of organization(s) or specialist(s) who could be contacted for this purpose:	104
Agency / Organization: Tubbataha Management Office, Tubbataha Protected Area Management Board	
Person responsible: Governor Joel T. Reyes, Chairman, TPAMB/Angelique M. Songco, Park/Site Manager, TRNMP	
Address: Tubbataha Management Office, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Flr., Basaya Bldg., National Highway, San Miguel	
City and post code: Puerto Princesa City, 5300, Palawan, Philippines Telephone/Fax: +6348 434 5759	

E-mail: tmo@mozcom.com

## **II.8.** Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II

Was sufficient and adequate information made available to the responsible authorities and individuals during the preparation phase of the Periodic Reporting exercise (information given, meetings etc.)?	105
Yes	
Was the questionnaire clear and did it help to comply with the reporting requirements of the State Party?	106
Needed help with some questions but most questions were clear.	
What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the exercise?	107
Encourages in-depth review of initiatives and helps keep managers in proper tract. If given more time, we would have maximized lessons from this whole exercise and improved accomplishment of questionnaire.	
Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:	108
It will be good to receive feedback on the report accomplished (e.g., how to improve accomplishment of report, what areas are perceived by the "observer" as needing improvement in the actual management of the property, etc.).	
WHC can help us identify potential sources of financial support for specific activities such as the mooring buoy project for TRNMP.	
Provide TRNMP personnel with training on topics relevant to staff needs. Ranger, law enforcement, conflict resolution, cross visits, and other trainings will be very helpful for the enhancement of capability.	
Provide TMO with relevant literature which will serve as reference in various issues in the management of TRNMP.	

# II.9. Documentation attached

The State Party is invited to supply the materials listed below. Please check those items that were attached.				
1.	(x)	Maps and plans showing the general location of the property, its boundary and buffer zone as well as the necessary detail of the property itself (see question 003 for specifications)		
2.	(x)	Photo of general view (aerial view) of the property		
3.	( )	Illustrations of the state of conservation of the site (photographs, slides and, if available, film/videos)		
4.	( )	Details of the important aspects of the property (landscapes, animal and vegetable species, monuments etc.)		
5.	( )	Photos illustrating the main threats to the site and its surroundings		
6.	( )	Extracts of relevant laws and regulations concerning the protection of cultural and natural heritage at national, provincial and municipal levels		
7.	( )	Copies of the management plan of the site as well as extracts and/or copies of other plans relating to the site (e.g. emergency plan, use plan, etc.)		
8.	( )	Indicative bibliography		