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PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

SECTION II

State of Conservation of specific World Heritage properties

State Party:VIET NAM.... Property Name: Ha Long Bay – World Natural Heritage Site

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 every 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

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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
- b. Name of World Heritage property
- c. Geographical coordinates to the nearest second
- d. Date of inscription on the World Heritage List
- e. Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of the report
- f. Date of report
- g. Signature on behalf of State Party
- **II.2.** Statement of significance
- II.3. Statement of authenticity/integrity
- II.4. Management
- **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

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II.1. Introduction

a.	Country (and State Party if different): Viet Nam	001
b.	Name of World heritage property: Ha Long World Natural Heritage	002
c .	The topographic map of the property	003
	Center point:	
		Į
	Northwest corner: 20° 45' - 20° 56'.	
	Southeast corner: 106°58' - 108°22'.	
d.	Give the date of inscription on the World Heritage List and subsequent extension (if applicable):	004
	On 17 th of Dec 1994 according to criteria (iii) The first time.	
	On 2 nd of Dec 2000 under criteria (i) the second time.	
	\checkmark	
e.	Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report.	
	Organization(s) / entity(ies): Ha Long Bay Management Department	005
	Person(s) responsible:	1
ļ	Address: 166 – Le Thanh Tong Rd	ļ
	City and post code: Ha Long City – Quang Ninh province – Viet Nam	
	Telephone: 084. 33. 824867	
	Fax: 084.33.821037	
	E-mail: btsthalong@ hn.vun.vn	
		<u> </u>
f.	Date of preparation of the report:	006
 .	September 2002.	1
		007
g.	Signature on behalf of the State Party	007
		-
	Tater	
	Signature:	
	Name:Dr TRUONG QUOC BINHFunction:Deputy Gen. Director Department of Conservation and Museology	
	Function: Deputy Gen. Director Department of Conservation and Museology	

II.2. Statement of significance

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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:
Cultural criteria: $i - ii - iii - iv - v - vi$
Natural criteria: i – ii – iv
Were new criteria added by re-nominating and/or extending the property after the original inscription? YES / NO
YES
If YES, please explain:
In 2000, Ha Long Bay was recognized the second time by UNESCO for its values of geography and geomorphology under the natural criteria (i) of International Convention on protection of the World cultural and natural heritage.
Please quote observations concerning the property made by the Advisory Body(ies) during the evaluation of the nomination:
Remarking on Halong's exceptional and global value for the WHC, Mr Jame Thorsell,
Senior Advisor of Natural Heritage (IUCN) said: "The tall of pillars of rock and rugged
islands rising from the water surface are unique with perfect picturesque scenery endowed
by nature and special archaeological heritage. It is worthy to be preserved and recorded in
the World Heritage List as a Natural Heritage site".
"Ha Long Bay is the finest example associated with tower karst and one of the world's best
typical sites of the mature range of fengcong and fenglin landforms There is no doubt
that Ha Long Bay is of international significance as a limestone karst landscape, which is
fundamentally important to the science of geomorphology. It contains the full range of
januamentaliy important to the science of geomorphology. It contains the full range of
foregoing and forelin loudforms and a large prite of estima and Toosther with He I are
fencong and fenglin landforms and a large suite of active caves. Together with Ha Long
Bay's beauty, the geological and geomorphologic value must be conserved for mankind's
Bay's beauty, the geological and geomorphologic value must be conserved for mankind's
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Bay's beauty, the geological and geomorphologic value must be conserved for mankind's
Bay's beauty, the geological and geomorphologic value must be conserved for mankind's benefit". Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World
Bay's beauty, the geological and geomorphologic value must be conserved for mankind's benefit". Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription and extension (if applicable): WHC of UNESCO has inscribed Ha Long Bay on the World Heritage List, saying that:
Bay's beauty, the geological and geomorphologic value must be conserved for mankind's benefit". Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription and extension (if applicable):

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Identify the actions taken as follow-up to these observations and/or decisions:

In 1994, Halong Bay was recognized as a world Natural heritage Area according to criteria (iii). On Dec 2000, the second time it was recognized under criteria (i) of the International Convention on protection of the World cultural and natural heritage.

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.:

Ha Long Bay has also been invaded by the sea and its marine invasion distinguishes it and makes it unique in the world. The geology of Ha Long Bay is associated with the value of its bio-diversity, archaeological culture, history and other significant values. Ha Long Bay is a unique landscape in the world, it can be regarded as an a live geological museum of 500 million years ago. The karst landscape of Ha Long Bay is of international significance and of fundamental importance to the science of geomorphology. Ha Long Bay is a mature karst landscape developed during a warm, wet, tropical climate and the characteristic of karst mature terrain is Fengling and Fengcong. It is a wonderful artistic work of Nature and its beauty varies according to one's location, the time of day and one's emotions. The stone mountains rising from the water surface are the best example of a long geological history. The aesthetic value of Ha Long Bay does not only lie in the shape of the mountains and the color of the sky, but is also hidden in its grottoes. Each has its different scale, shapes and beauty, which create such fascination such as: Sung Sot, Thien Cung, Dau Go, Trinh Nu, Me Cung, Tien Ong...

Ha Long Bay is characterized by its great bio-diversity potential such as:coral ecosystem, "Tung" and "Ang" (Lagoon) ecosystem and limestone island ecosystem... At present in Ha Long Bay, around 400 species of fish, 500 species of zoobenthos, 160 coral species, 355 species of phytoplankton, 140 species of sea-weeds, 4 species of sea-grass... are listed.

Ha Long Bay also has a special value of culture and history, this is a place preserving the long history of development of the nation with many famous places such as: Van Don - an ancient trade port (1149), Bai Tho mountain - written relics of Vietnamese King - poet Le Thanh Tong (1468) and others. Ha Long Bay was the site of three famous battles involving the people of Vietnam in Bach Dang River. According to the evidences of archaeologists it

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also has been home to pre-historic Vietnamese dating from 25,000 to 3,500 years ago with	
three continuous cultures developing gradually such as: Soi Nhu, Cai Beo and Ha Long	
Culture.	
The aesthetic value and the value of geology and geomorphology are the characteristic	
values recognized by UNESCO.	
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? YES / NO	1
YES	
If YES, please explain:	010
Besides the aesthetic value and the values of geology and geomorphology recognized by	
UNESCO. Ha Long Bay has other values that have yet to be recognized. They are part of	
the heritage. These values must be considered and assessed. If it is possible, they should be	
submitted to the World Heritage Council. These values enrich the value of Ha Long Bay, by	'
recognizing them, the people will have a better awareness of the specific and outstanding	
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universal values of Ha Long Bay -World Natural Heritage.	
universal values of Ha Long Bay -World Natural Heritage.	
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: YES / NO YES	01
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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: YES / NO YES 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	; 01 ;
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: YES / NO YES 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): At the present, the borders of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone are still adequate to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage	; 01:
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: YES / NO YES 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): At the present, the borders of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone are stil adequate to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values. However, in the next few years, with the tourism and the socio-economic development of Quang Ninh Province in the area of the property and its buffer zone will not be adequate to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values. However, in the next few years, with the tourism and the socio-economic development of plana the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values. However, the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values. However, the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values. However, the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values. Morever in the buffer zone, there are other values such as: culural history, geology, bio-dversity.	() () () () () () () () () () () () () (
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II.2. continued

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Is the State Party actively considering a revision of the property boundaries or the bu zone? YES / Y	1 1
YES	
If YES, indicate what is being done to that end:	020
The actions that State Party had taken:	
• Established two monitoring environmental stations in Ha Long Bay.	
• Implementation of the project: "Research on Ha Long Bay environme management".	ntal
• Master plan on conservation management and development of the values of Wa Natural Heritage - Ha Long Bay to 2020.	orld
Master plan on development of Ha Long City to 2020.	
• Economic development of Quang Ninh Province in the period 2005 - 20/0	

II.3. Statement of authenticity / integrity

Have the World Heritage values identified above been maintained since the property's inscription? YES / NO	021
YES	
If NO, please describe the changes and name the causes:	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
Referring to IUCN's assessment on Ha long Bay's geology:	
"Ha Long Bay is the finest example associated with tower karst in the world and one of the	
best sites of natural of fengling and fengcong landforms It contains the full integrity of	ļ
geological processes on a large scale. Although the site was occupied by human being's a	
long time ago, it still retains its typical nature. HLB is considered as a WHS which	
contains large karst towers which are the best developed and most mature in the whole	
world ».	

Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription? YES / NO	024
NO	
If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity / integrity and name the main causes?	02
Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the	02
near future? YES /	
NO	
NO	
If YES, please explain and indicate how these changes might affect the World Heritage values of the property:	02
Changes that might affect the World Heritage values of the property:	
Environmental pollution;	
Economic development of Quang Ninh Province;	
Tourism development in the heritage area;	
• Investment and construction in the surrounding area and buffer zone of the property;	
Aquatic resources and coal exploitation in Ha Long Bay;	
• Population growth in Ha Long city and its surrounding area;	

II.4. Management

II.3. continued

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

Legal () / Contractual ()/

Traditional ()

Consciousness based on bringing people's right and property's protection together

II.4. continued

Please describe and assess the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements for the preservation of the values described under item II.2 at the national, provincial and/or municipal level:

After Ha Long Bay was recognized as a World Natural Heritage, the orientation of the Vietnamese Government and Quang Ninh People Committee on the conservation management and development the HLB's values was to regard as a priority to the conservation and a simultaneous socio- economic development of the province in an effective and sensible way according to Viet Nam law and international convention.

Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription? YES / NO
NO
If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity / integrity and name the main causes?
Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the near future? YES / NO
NO
If YES, please explain and indicate how these changes might affect the World Heritage values of the property:
Changes that might affect the World Heritage values of the property:
Environmental pollution;
Economic development of Quang Ninh Province;
• Tourism development in the heritage area;
• Investment and construction in the surrounding area and buffer zone of the property;
• Aquatic resources and coal exploitation in Ha Long Bay;
• Population growth in Ha Long city and its surrounding area;

II.4. Management

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Contractual ()// Traditional ()//

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On this basis, the Vietnamese Government has promulgated official documents for the management and conservation in order to satisfy the necessary requirements such as: circular letter of guidance about the protection of HLB's environment, decrees, and regulations In fact, Quang Ninh authority decided to establish Ha Long Bay Management Department and promulgated the regulation on Ha Long Bay management As as result, Ha Long Bay is not only controlled on a provincial scale but also on national scale.	
In general terms can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient? YES / NO	030
-	031
Ha Long Bay Management Department (HLBMD) not only controls and conserves Ha Long Bay by official documents and in coordination with relevant organizations but also pays attention to the important role of the local community in the management, conservation and development of Ha Long Bay's values. The community's awareness is very important for protection of site. To achieve this result, HLBMD introa'uced measures such as: propagation, education with the purpose of making the people understand about the Heritage's values and their responsibility to the Heritage's protection.	
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
- Cultural protection Law (2001).	
- The Environmental Protection Law (1993).	
- Decree No 85/CP (1993) from Government stipulating penalties for violation of protected marine resources.	
- Decree No 75/CP from Government implementing the Environmental Protection Law, issued on 18/10/1994.	
- Decree No 26/CP from government stipulating penalties for violation of environmental protection.	
- Decree No 40/CP from government ensuring security and domestic shipping traffic issued on 5/7/1996.	
- Circular letter of guidance about the protection of HLB's environment from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, issued on 14/12/1996.	
	 management and conservation in order to satisfy the necessary requirements such as: circular letter of guidance about the protection of HLB's environment, decrees, and regulations In fact, Quang Ninh authority decided to establish Ha Long Bay Management Department and promulgated the regulation on Ha Long Bay managementAs as result, Ha Long Bay is not only controlled on a provincial scale but also on national scale. In general terms can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient? YES / NO YES Please explain: Ha Long Bay Management Department (HLBMD) not only controls and conserves Ha Long Bay by official documents and in coordination with relevant organizations but also pays attention to the important role of the local community in the management, conservation and development of Ha Long Bay's values. The community's awareness is very important for protection of site. To achieve this result, HLBMD introduced measures such as: propagation, education with the purpose of making the people understand about the Heritage's values and their responsibility to the Heritage's protection. 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: Cultural protection Law (2001). The Environmental Protection Law (1993). Decree No 85/CP (1993) from Government stipulating penalties for violation of protected marine resources. Decree No 26/CP from government implementing the Environmental Frotection Law, issued on 18/10/1994. Decree No 40/CP from government stipulating penalties for violation of environmental protection.

II.4. continued

Describe the administrative and management arrangements that are in place for the property concerned, making special mention of the institutions and organizations that have management authority over the property as well as of the arrangements that are in place for the coordination of their actions:

After Ha Long Bay was recognized as a World Heritage Site, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam allowed Quang Ninh Provincial People's Committee to establish Ha Long Bay Management Department. The Department's responsibility is to directly manage Ha Long Bay, particularly the World Heritage Area, under the leadership of the Ministry of Culture and Information and Natural Commission of UNESCO Viet Nam.

All the organizations relating to HLB's management have important responsibilities as follows:

1. Quang Ninh Culture and Information Department: Professional coordination in management, conservation and development of HLB's values.

2. Department of Technology and Environment: Management, surveillance and protection of HLB's eco-environment.

3. Transport and Communication Department: Control all the activities of shipping traffic and marine port on Ha Long Bay.

4. Quang Ninh Police: Control and surveillance with the purpose of ensuring security and safety for activities in heritage area.

5. Quang Ninh Tourism Department: Control and surveillance on tourism activities in heritage area.

6. Quang Ninh Fishery: Management of fishing activities and seafood cultivation in heritage area.

7. Quang Ninh Forestry: Control, monitoring all the activities of protection, exploitation of forest products in the forest and islands on Ha Long Bay.

8. Ha Long People Committee: Implementation of general administrative management for activities of socio-economic and habitant development in heritage area.

9. Cam Pha, Van Don, Yen Hung, Co To and Cat Ba (Hai Phong) have coordination in administrative management for socio-economic activities in surroundings and buffer zone in heritage area.

Ha Long Bay Management Department is a main organization in management, conservation and development of the values of Ha Long Bay. Other local organizations coordinate with HLBMD in heritage management relating to theirs tasks and professions.

Please indicate under which level of authority the property is managed:

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Local ()

Regional ()

National (/)

Other (please describe):

Please provide the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the entity(ies) directly 035

Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties	
responsible for the management (conservation, preservation, visitor management) of the property:	
Head of HLBMD: Mr. Ngo Van Hung.	
Address: The Ha Long Bay Management Department	
166 - Le Thanh Tong Rd, Ha Long City, Quang Ninh province, Viet Nam	
Tel: 084.33.824811	
Fax: 084.33.827031	
Email: <u>btsthalong@hn.vn.vnn</u>	
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Is it necessary to revise the administrative and management arrangements for the property?	030
YES/NO	
YES	
If YES, explain why this is the case:	03
With a current administrative and management arrangement of Ha Long Bay Management Department, it is necessary to have adjustments and amendments as follows:	
1. Replacement of Ha Long Bay Management Department by "Ha Long Bay Heritage Management Center" and reinforce the powers and tasks of this Center.	
2. Amendment of establishments belonging to the Center such as: Project Department; Ha Long Bay Information, and Tourist Guide Center; Planning - Economic Department; External Relations Department.	
3. Promulgation and amendment of some official documents only for heritage's management.	
4. Establishment of "Heritage's Inspection Department" instead of the Inspection Department in order to reinforce the function and inspection powers in monitoring and stipulating penalties for violations in the heritage area.	
It is necessary that the relevant organizations adjust greater coordinations between management organizations.	

II.4. continued

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	s there a management plan for the property? YES /	038
	NO YES	
	f YES, please summarize, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when:	039
	At present, the Ha Long Bay Management Department implements certain programs and plans for Ha Long Bay:	
-	The master plan on the WHA's management, conservation and promotion to the year of 2020 based on archived study data. This plan defines objects and directions for management, conservation and development of HLB's values in the next 20 years, such as: Investment, exploitation and development of tourism, heritage's management plans and urgent actions for HLB's value protection.	

HLB development plan in the period of 1998 - 2003: This is a short-term plan (in 5 years) in order to respond immediately to requirements of management, conservation and investment for heritage tourism development. Quang Ninh tourism development plan in the period of 1995 -2010: This plan outlined and oriented to tourism development in Quang Ninh Province in general and especially in the heritage area. Master plan for socio-economic development of Ha Long City from now to 2020: This plan is for social, cultural and economic development of Ha Long City as it relates to Ha Long Bay. Ha Long Bay environmental management in 1998-1999: This plan indicates pollution risks or harmful influences on the Heritage and outlines the guidelines, policies and measures as well the management and environmental protection of Ha Long Bay. 040 Please report on legal and administrative actions that are foreseen for the future, to preserve the values described under item II.2 (e.g. passing of legislation, adjusting administrative and management arrangements, implementing or drawing up of a (new) management plan, etc.):

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

Changes have occurred since the inscription of Ha Long Bay (concerning conservation):

- Establishing professional organization of HLB's conservation management.

- Promulgating official documents for heritage management.

- Stopping all illegal activities in heritage area. Heritage's values have been preserved.

- Implementing construction and investment projects in heritage in order to enrich heritage's values.

- Some values of heritage have been recognized and exploited effectively.

• <u>Conservation</u>

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

Present state of conservation in Ha Long Bay:

Ha Long Bay is a large area connecting with many neibouring areas and it is managed by different organizations. For this reason, it makes the management of heritage more difficult and complicated. Before the recognition of Ha Long Bay, there were a lot of activities damaging heritage, such as: tree cutting, limestone exploitation, explosives, coral and port plant exploitation, community's poor awareness to heritage protection, the confusion of tourism activities in Ha Long Bay.

After recognition of Ha Long Bay, heritage management has paid attention to the above. From the point of view of Quang Ninh People Committee, management, conservation and development of the values of Ha Long Bay is to: attach importance and give priority to conversation, simultaneously developing and exploiting properly and appropriately potential of heritage in the strategy of socio-economic development of the Province, according to Viet Nam Law and International Convention

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).

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At the present, Ha Long Bay has good management and conservation; its values have been well preserved, such as scenery. bio-diversity, geology and cultural history. Functional organizations have collaborated their activities in conservation and management of Ha Long Bay. Investment and construction projects have obtained good results so far, heritage tourism has been much improved. Pollution is problem still.

Establishment of official documents responding to urgent requirements facilitating investment and infrastructure construction for tourism.

II.4. continued

• <u>Ownership</u>

Make reference to all major changes in ownership of the property and describe the present state of ownership:

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In 1962, Ministry of Culture and Information recognized Ha Long Bay as a National Protection Area. Before the establishment of Ha Long Bay Management Department, the heritage's management belonged to Quang Ninh Department of Culture and Information. In December of 1995, after 1 year since Ha Long Bay was recognized as World Natural Heritage, the Ha Long Bay Management Department was established. Its function is to manage and preserve HLB and to develop and maintain its values. The HLBMD belongs to Quang Ninh People Committee, under the leadership and direction of the Ministry of Culture and Information and Natural Commission of UNESCO in Viet Nam.

Please, give a detailed description of the staffing of the site:

The organization arrangement of HLBMD is as follows:

- Head of the HLBMD: responsible for General direction such as: organization, investment and finance.

- 01 Deputy Head of the Department: responsible for permanent direction of all the units belonging to the Department.

- 01 Deputy Head of the Department: responsible for professional activities.

The functions of the units in the Department is as follows:

- Professional Department (08 staff): with the functions of researching, promoting the values of heritage, revising development projects, consulting and proposing HLB's management and conservation measures to leaders of the Department.

- Caves and Grottoes Management Department (90 staff): With the functions of direct management and service for visitors at the visiting points in the caves and grottoes in Ha Long Bay.

- Tourist Guide Information Center (32 staff): With the functions of making publicity and guidance for visitors in Ha Long Bay.

- Ha Long Bay Rescue Center (5 staff): Organizing all rescue activities in Hc Long Bay.

- Inspection Team (7 staff): Controlling and stimulating penalties for illegal activities in Ha Long Bay.

- Accounting Department (6 staff): Managing, supervising and dealing with financial

activities of the Department.

- Organization and Administration Department (7 staffs): Organizing personnel organization of the Department and stationary and document archiving.

- Ha Long Bay Service Center (67 staff): Transporting visitors, organizing all the visiting and entertainment activities in Ha Long Bay.

Is the staffing level sufficient for adequate management of the property? YES / NO NO

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YES /

If NO, what should be done to improve the situation?

Due to the management area of the heritage site which is very large, the number of staff is inadequate and lacks the technical facilities necessary for management, it is necessary to improve this situation as follows:

- Improving facilities and material supporting the heritage's management.

- Strengthening staff qualified numbers with professional degrees in response to the working requirements.

- Strengthening capacity of the leadership and staff of the Department.

- Strengthening legislative tools for HLB's management.

II.4. continued

Does the staff need additional training?

YES

If YES, what are the training needs for your staff?

The capacity of management, professional skills, knowledge of foreign ianguages, experiences in tourism services of staff of the Department should be improved.

Describe the funding and financial situation of the property, indication sources, level and regularity of financing:

The funding and financial situation of the property from government of Viet Nam's budget and visiting tickets.

The revenue and expenditure situation of the Department in recent years:

- The total revenue from visiting fee in 1997: 1,483,376,000 VND.

The total expenditure in 1997: 3,267,560,000 VND.

- The total revenue from visiting fee in 1998: 4,800,011,000 VND.

The total expenditure in 1998:5,470,899,000 VND.

- The total revenue from visiting fee in 1999: 9,957,145,000 VND.

The total expenditure in 1999: 9,833,714,000 VND.

- The total revenue from visiting fee in 2000: 16,576,470,000 VND. The total expenditure in 2000; 7,309,041,910 VND. - The total revenue from visiting fee in 2001: 22,590,600,000 VND. The total expenditure in 2001: 12,256,655,377 VND. (The total expenditures include salary, recompense, petrol, construction, advertisement, reparation, maintenance and other constantly expenditures). 049 Is the available funding sufficient for adequate management of the property? YES / NO NO 050 If NOT, describe the financial resources that would be required for the management of the property: At the present, the available funding of the Department is only sufficient for constantly expenditures of the Department. It is inadequate for programs and projects with great capital, such as: machinery, facilities for management and research... We need assistance by funding and technical support from UNESCO and international organizations for scientific research programs.

Indicate International Assistance from which the property has benefited:

The Heritage has benefited from International Assistance, such as:

- Ha Long Bay Environmental Research and Management Project (sponsored by JICA).

- Ha Long Bay Passport Project (supported by Holland Embassy).

- Promoting capacity of Ha Long Bay Management Department Project.

- Studying Ha Long Bay geology assistance Project.

- Ha Long Eco-Museum's Pre-feasibility Studying Project (sponsored by UNDP and UNESCO).

- Improving awareness and education of community Project (sponsored by FiFI).

• World Heritage Fund:

Invested 16,954 USD for buying equipment and 8,700 USD for studying Ha Long Bay geology project by IUCN experts carried out.

II.4. continued

UNESCO International Campaign:

Under the assistance of UNESCO, HLB gradually participates in the international activities, drawing many international organization's attention to HLB, the skill management capacity of the staff are improved. The HLBMD has higher position in the short time.

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).

051

052

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

• National and/or regional projects of UNDP, the World Bank or other agencies: Ha Long Eco-museum's Feasibility Studying Project.	053
• Bilateral co-operation: In cooperation with China, Australia and Thailand.	054
• Other assistance:	055
 Describe the IT (computer) equipment of the site and/or management office and assess its effectiveness:	056
At the present, we have 12 computers used for management and conservation activities in which 2 computers accessing to the internet. However, theirs effectiveness is not very high, they are used mainly for documents typing and saving. All the computers of the Department don't have GIS system, so the exploitation information on internet is ineffective.	
Are you using (multiple indications are possible):	057
PC(x)	
Apple ()	
Mainframe () Celeron, Pentum II, Pentum III.	
Please, give the number of available computers: 12	058
Does an operational access to the Internet exist? YES / NO	059
YES, there are 2 computers accessing to the Internet.	

II.4. continued

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Is e-mail used for daily correspondence? NO	YES /	060
YES		
Is there a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the site?	YES / NO	061
NO		
If YES, what software do you have and how is the GIS used?		062
NO		

	List scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the site:	063
	Scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the site as follows:	
	- Ha Long Bay environmental management research.	
	- Ha Long in pre-historic time.	
	- History of Ha Long geology.	
	- Vegetation of Ha Long.	
	- Bio-diversity of Ha Long Bay.	
	- Meteorology and hydrographic of Ha Long Bay.	
1	- Researching and general management of sea edge area of Vietnam.	
	- Natural and bio-diversity conservation of Ha Long Bay - Cat Ba with the participation of local community.	
t	Describe financial and human resource inputs for the research programs and or facilities:	064
	Financial and human resource input for the research programs and facilities was supported from:	
	- International Assistance.	
	- Financial resource of the Department.	
	- Annual budget of the Government for science research subjects.	
	Describe how the information / results are disseminated?	06
	All the information and results are disseminated by books, newspapers, science reports.	

II.4. continued

3

Are there any visitor statistics for the site?	YES /	066
NO		
YES		
If YES, please summarize the statistics and attach to this report:		067
These followings is statistics of visitors in Ha Long Bay in recent years:		
- In 1995: 200,000 visitors.		
- In 1996: 300,000 visitors.		
- In 1997: 370,000 visitors.		
- In 1998: 430,000 visitors.		
- In 1999: 620,000 visitors.		
- In 2000: 900,000 visitors.		
- In 2001: 1,200,000 visitors.		
- In 2002: 1,700,000 visitors (according to the estimation).		

W	hat visitor facilities do you have at the property?	06
-	VHF Communication System.	
-	Tourist boats.	
-	Tourist guides Information Center located at Bai Chay Tourist Wharj and in visiting points in Ha Long Bay.	
-	Service – centre provide for visitors all tourist products such as: boat, souvenirs, drinking, food and entertainment activities.	
-	Ha Long Bay Rescue Center.	
-	In heritage area, HLBMD invested to build supplementary works for visiting activities of tourist such as: Viewing points, path, gangway, electric light in caves and grottoes, entertainment centers and WC	
W	hat visitor facilities are you in need of?	06
-	Binocular equipment at viewing point on Titop island.	
-	At the Tourist Whaft, information for visitors must be interpreted by computer system before they chose a suitable trip.	
Is	a public use plan (tourism / visitor management plan) in existence for the property? YES/NO	07
NO		

II.4. continued

If YES, please summarize, if NO explain if one is needed:	071
Local community plays an important role in the management of tourism activities. Their participation in management activities creating more jobs for themselves and reducing social evil. By this way, they will understand by themselves their responsibility to HLB's values as well as their revenue.	

Indicate how the property's World Heritage values are communicated to residents, visitors and the public (please attach examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and pr.nt-outs and/or the address of a web-page):

At the present, HLB's values are communicated to residents, visitors and the public by different communication channel, such as: Web-site on the internet, national and local television, newspapers, leaflets, videos, posters, CD and VCD....

Address of a web- site of Ha long Bay is: halongbay.halong.com.vn

Are there educational programmes concerning the property aimed at schools? YES / NO

073

YES

If yes, please describe:

Increasing the Ha long Bay promotion activities into public domestic and international media to enhance local community and tourists' conserving awareness, taking heritage education program into school. In 2001, this program has been applied into schools at Ha Long City, and it will be developed into school within Quang Ninh province and in the whole nation. 074

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

The recognition of Ha Long Bay puts an active influence on Vietnam tourism in general and Quang Ninh tourism in particular. The number of visitors to Ha Long Bay increases (in average of 30 - 45%), creating more jobs for local people and more revenue for government's budget. The awareness and responsibility of local people to their revenue protection as well as heritage's value conservation have been much improved. The recognition of Ha Long Bay attracted the attention of research institutes, national and international scientists.

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.

Quang Ninh in general, Ha Long in particular is one of three economic points in the North of Vietnam. Besides heritage's outstanding values, Ha Long also has various potentials for economic development, such as: transport and communication, marine port, tourism, fishery... Along the shore-side of Ha Long, it is Ha Long City and Cam Pha town which is in urbanization process. Hon Gai and Cam Pha dispose the greatest coal reserve in all Vietnam. As a result, the HLB's environment and values has great challenges.

At the present, heritage has many influences as follows:

- Urban development.

- Visitor growth.

- Coal exploitation in the shore-side area.

- Shipping traffic activities in Ha Long Bay.

- Fishing and seafood cultivation.

- Population growth.

- Climate unusual changes.

Currently, Quang Ninh People Committee and Ha Long Bay Management Department had management plans in order to reduce and overcome these influences.

II.5. continued

Is there an emergency plan and / or risk preparedness plan for the property in existence? YES /	077
NO	
YES	
If YES, please summarise the plan and provide a copy:	078
If NO, describe what is being done – and by whom – to counteract the dangers that threaten or may threaten the property:	079
Now we have "Sea – Rescue Center" is always ready to counteract the dangers that threaten or happened on the Bay.	
 Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable and/or towards which the State Party is working:	080
The areas in Ha Long Bay where improvement of Vietnamese government would be desirable: caves, beaches, and the most beautiful scenery and bio-diversity areas.	
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II.5. continued

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

In Ha Long Bay, the impact of the factors affecting the property is increasing.

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

Actions have been effectively taken or are planned for the future to address the factors affecting the property as follows:

- Strengthening legislative capacity in heritage conservation and management.

- Implementing supplying and drainage water Project in Ha Long and Cam Pha.

- Ha Long City development planning in the period of 1995 - 2020.

- Construction of a new Tourist Wharf.

- Master plans on conservation and development of the HLB's values in 2020.

- Construction of store and treatment area for dirty water and waste of Ha Long City.

- All waste from ships and tourists must be collected to be treated on land.

- Investment and construction of news visiting points in the surrounding area and buffer zones of HLB in order to reduce visitors number in Absolute Protective Zone of heritage.

II.6. Monitoring

If applicable, give details (e.g. dates, results, indicators chosen) of any previous per reactive monitoring exercises of the property:	riodic or ⁽	083
Is there a formal monitoring system established for the site? YI NO, there isn't any formal monitoring system of the Department established for the		084
If YES, please give details of its organization:		085

II.6. continued

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	If not already in place, is the establishment of a formal monitoring system planned? YES / NO	086
	YES	
	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
	- Water quality.	
	- Bio-diversity.	
	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
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ł	If NO indicators have been identified and / or used so far, please define key indicators for future use in monitoring:	090
	Key indicators for future use in monitoring:	
	- The quality of HLB environment.	
	- Land using.	
	- The management and use of mangrove.	
	- Coral reefs.	

II.6. continued

Indicate which partners, if any, are involved or will be involved in the regular monitoring exercise:

At the present, the environmental monitoring belongs to the Quang Ninh Department of Science, Technology and Environment. The Institute of Oceanography in Hai Phong has two national monitoring points in Ha Long Bay (Cua Luc and Tra Bau). The HLBMD applied these results for heritage management.

Identify the administrative provisions for organizing the regular monitoring of the property:

At the present, HLBMD and Quang Ninh People Committee have cooperation with research organizations to make the survey in Ha Long, such as: machinery and human support, transport and financial assistance for researches in heritage area.

Describe what improvement the State Party foresees or would consider desirable in ⁰⁹³ improving the monitoring system:

When the Ha Long Bay environmental management project has been finished, the government planned to construct a sea monitoring station in Bai Chay - Ha Long - Quang Ninh with the first investment capital of 1,000,000 USD. This station will be operated during 24/24 hours in 24 monitoring points in order to qualify Ha Long Bay environment quality, coal exploitation, land using, bio-diversity and climate changes in Ha Long Bay...

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:

II.7. Conclusions and recommended actions

Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above):

At the present, HLB's values are still well preserved:

- Ecology system: Its value is still conserved, flora and fauna in mangrove are still well developed. Especially, on the limestone islands the flora is increased, the coral reefs are still in good state.

- Geological value: Limestone exploitation, explosives have been stopped, HLB's protection awareness of local community is much improved. In caves and grottoes, the visitor number is increased at allowable level.

- Cultural: Archeological relics were well preserved, some of them are used only for research. Intangible culture especially in fishing villages of HLB have been researched and collected in order to develop this value.

- HLB's environment in general is still well protected.

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Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see items II.4. and II.5. above):	09
The main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the heritage:	
- Checking waste resources that polluted HLB's environment.	
- Impacts on HLB's values have been managed effectively.	
- Dirty water and waste from mines and from the daily life of local people must be treated before running to the sea.	
- Tourism activities and the exploitation of HLB's values have been controlled strictly by functional organizations.	
- Fishing activities and seafood cultivation must follow the regulations of government.	
- Urbanization and transgression to the sea have been planned and managed.	
Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:	09
In the future, HLBMD will focus on developing these following actions:	
- Construction of Ha Long Eco-museum in order to have better protection and development of HLB's values.	
- Development of new tourism centers in surrounding areas such as: Quan Lan, Ngoc Vung, Tra Co	
- Development and diversification of tourism types in heritage area in order to attract the visitors' attention to other tourism activities such as: heritage tourism, eco-tourism and cultural tourism	
- Estimating and mapping HLB's bio-diversity aimed to nominate this value in the World Natural Heritage Inscription List.	
 Mapping archeological relics in heritage area. 	
Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 005):	09
The agencies responsible for implementation of these actions:	
- Ha Long Bay Management Department.	
- Hai Phong Institute of Oceanography.	
- Vietnam Institute of Archeology.	
- Hai Phong Institute of Aqua-culture Research.	
- National Institute of Ecology and Natural Resource.	
- Quang Ninh Department of Culture and Information.	
- Quang Ninh Department of Science, Technology and Environment.	
- Quang Ninh Tourism Department.	
- Quang Ninh Fishery Department.	
- Quang Ninh Department of Agricultural and Rural Development.	
- Quang Ninh Provincial People Committee.	
- Ha Long City People Committee.	

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- Cam Pha District.

Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above: *From year 2002 to 2005.*

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II.7. continued

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

YES If YES, please explain: <i>HLBMD has so far contacted with management units of other properties both within and</i> <i>out side our country:</i> - <i>Relics Conservation Center in Hue;</i> - <i>Hoi An Cultural Heritage Center;</i> - <i>Que Lam Center (in China);</i> - <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority;</i> - <i>James Cooke University in Australia;</i>
 If TES, please explain: HLBMD has so far contacted with management units of other properties both within and out side our country: Relics Conservation Center in Hue; Hoi An Cultural Heritage Center; Que Lam Center (in China); Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority;
out side our country: - Relics Conservation Center in Hue; - Hoi An Cultural Heritage Center; - Que Lam Center (in China); - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority;
- Hoi An Cultural Heritage Center; - Que Lam Center (in China); - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority;
- Que Lam Center (in China); - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority;
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority;
- James Cooke University in Australia;
- Marine Science Research Institute in Australia;
- Nationa! Resources Information Center in Australia.
- AIT in Bangkok.
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:
Experiences Of Ha Long Bay could be shared with other State Parties dealing with similar problems:
- We have to outline master plans and management strategy on heritage conservation.
- It is very necessary to collaborate with local community in management and conservation of heritage.
- Sharing benefits from heritage with local community.
- Sustainable developing of heritage on the basis of ensuring the balance between conservation and exploitation of heritage's values.
- Bringing socio-economic development of local community and heritage conservation together.
Provide the name(s) and address(es) of organization(s) or specialist(s) who could be contacted for this purpose:

Agency / Organization: Hai Phong Institute of Oceanography Person responsible: Mr. Nguyen Van Tien. City and post code: 84.31. Telephone: 84.31.846 523. Fax: 84.31.846 521.

Agency / Organization: Vietnamese Institute of Archeology. Person responsible: Mr. Ha Huu Nga City and post code: 84.4. Telephone: 84.4.8263858.

Agency / Organization: Aquaculture Research Institute. Person responsible: Mr. Do Van Khuong. City and post code: 84.31. Telephone: 84.31.836135. Fax: 84.31836812.. E-mail:<u>dokhuong@hn.vnn.vn</u>

Agency / Organization: Vietnamese Marine Biology Alliance. Person responsible: Ms. Nguyen Thu Hue. City and post code: 84.4. Telephone: 84.4.9420481. Fax: 84.4 9420484. E-mail: <u>nthue@imamarinelife.org.vn</u>

Agency / Organization: Institute of Economic Research and Aquaculture Planning Person responsible: Mr. Nguyen Chu Hoi. City and post code: 84.4. Telephone: 84.4.7718451. Fax: 84.4.7716054. E-mail: <u>nchoi@hn.vnn.vn</u>

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

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beenon n. state of conservation of specific workd mentage properties	
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
YES	
What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the exercise?	107
The perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the exercise:	
- Having overall view to heritage.	
- Giving necessary requirements with the management and conservation of a world heritage.	
- By this lesson, the managers of heritage have to estimate their management by themselves and outline necessary action plans.	
- Approaching to the new ways of reporting.	
Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:	108
- Improving knowledge and understanding new requirement of heritage management.	
- Strengthening the cooperation between World Heritage Council and HLBMD.	

II.9. Documentation attached

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The State Party is invited to supply the materials listed below. Please check those items that were attached.				
1.	()	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.	()	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		