

1. Introduction

1.1 - State Party

Israel

1.2 - Date of ratification of the World Heritage Convention

06/10/1999

1.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of Section I of the Periodic Reporting

Governmental institutions responsible for cultural and natural heritage
UNESCO National Commission
World Heritage property managers/coordinators
Non Governmental Organizations
ICOMOS International
ICOMOS national / regional
IUCN national / regional
External experts
Others

1.4 - Primary government authorities responsible for the implementation of the Convention

- Guy Kav-Venaki
Israel Chair Monitoring, Follow-Up and Periodic Reporting Team
Chairman

1.5 - Other key institutions responsible

- Dalit Atrakchi
Secretary General
Israel National Commission for UNESCO, Ministry of Education
Domain: Cultural & Natural
- Leora Berry
Head of Tangible Heritage Division
The Heritage Division, Prime Minister's Office
Domain: Cultural
- Arch. Doron Druckman / Arch. Yael Sivan-Geist
Deputy Director, Strategic Planning / Urban Preservation & Regeneration Consultant
Ministry of Interior, Planning Administration
Domain: Cultural
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Local Governments
Domain: Cultural & Natural
- Raanan Kislev / Hagit Lahiani
Director of the Conservation Department / Administrative Secretary
Israel Antiquities Authority
Domain: Cultural
- Dr. Tsvika Tsuk
Chief Archaeologist
Nature and Parks Authority
Domain: Cultural & Natural
- Omri Shalmon
General Director
The Society for Preservation of Israel Heritage Sites
Domain: Cultural
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Local Governments
Domain: Both

1.6 - Comments

2. Inventories / lists / registers for cultural and natural heritage

2.1 - Cultural Heritage (Level and Status)

National	Process well-advanced
Regional / provincial / state	Process commenced
Local	Process commenced
Other (please provide details in 2.7)	Not applicable

2.2 - Natural Heritage (Level and Status)

National	Process completed or continually updated
Regional / provincial / state	Process completed or continually updated
Local	Process commenced
Other (please provide details in 2.7)	Not applicable

2.3 - Are inventories/lists/registers adequate to capture the diversity of cultural and natural heritage in the State Party?

Inventories/lists/registers capture some of the diversity of cultural and natural heritage.

2.4 - Are inventories / lists / registers used to protect the identified cultural heritage?

Inventories / lists / registers are frequently used for the protection of cultural heritage.

2.5 - Are inventories / lists / registers used to protect the identified natural heritage?

Inventories / lists / registers are frequently used for the protection of natural heritage.

2.6 - Are inventories / lists / registers used for the identification of properties for the Tentative List?

Inventories / lists / registers are not actively used for the identification of properties for inclusion on the Tentative List.

2.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to inventories / lists / registers of cultural and natural heritage (questions 2.1 to 2.6)

1. Some registers have been made on the national and regional levels, by different bodies 2. These registers include at least 30,000 natural and cultural sites, in different levels of importance 3. There is no single comprehensive database which includes all the registers 4. There is a high difference between the lists on the local level. Some local authorities have made conservation registers.

3. Tentative List

3.1 - Potential future nominations (Property name / anticipated year of nomination)

Zippori / 2016 /
Ein Kerem / - /
Nazareth / 2016 /

3.2 - Tools used for a preliminary assessment of the potential Outstanding Universal Value

ICOMOS thematic studies
IUCN thematic studies
Filling the gaps – an action plan for the future by ICOMOS, Gaps analysis by IUCN
Others (please provide details in 3.7)

3.3 - Level of involvement in the preparation of the Tentative List

National government institution(s)	Good
Regional / provincial / state / government(s)	No involvement
Local government(s)	No involvement
Other government departments	Fair
UNESCO National Commission	Good
Local authorities within or adjacent to the property	Fair
Local communities / residents	Fair
Indigenous peoples	Poor
Landowners	Poor
Local industries	Not applicable
Non Governmental Organization(s)	Fair
Consultants / experts	Good
Site manager / coordinator(s)	Fair

3.4 - Was the authority(ies) listed in question 1.4 responsible for the approval and submission of the Tentative List?

Yes

3.5 - If not, what authority(ies) is responsible for the approval and submission of the Tentative List?

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3.6 - Do you intend to update your Tentative List within the next six years?

Yes

3.7 - Comments

1. Most recent addition to the Tentative list was made in 2004. 2. The INCU intends to update the list with the help of ICOMOS Israel. 3. For this, a public appeal was published in 2013 and some applications have been submitted. 4. Factors which might prevent sites from applying to the list: concern of obstruction in future development and lack of financial ability to prepare the background materials

4. Nominations

4.1 - Property

Name	Date of submission	Status
Extension of the inscribed site of Jerusalem - The Old City and Ramparts to include Mount Zion	2000-06-30	
Masada	2000-06-30	inscribed
Makhteshim Country	2000-06-30	deferred
Makhteshim Country	2004-12-06	withdrawn
Old City of Acre	2000-06-30	inscribed
White City of Tel-Aviv -- the Modern Movement	2002-01-28	inscribed
Tel Dan - the Triple Arched Gate	2003-07-28	withdrawn
Triple-arch Gate at Dan	2007-02-01	referred
The Triple-arch Gate at Dan	2009-01-27	
The Triple-arch Gate at Dan	2010-01-27	
The Triple-arch Gate at Dan	2010-10-06	
The Incense and Spice Road and the Desert Cities in the Negev	2002-01-28	referred
Incense Route - Desert Cities in the Negev	2003-01-31	inscribed
Biblical Tels - Megiddo, Hazor, Beer Sheba	2004-01-26	inscribed
Bet Shean Archaeological Site	2003-07-31	Incomplete
The Great Rift Valley Migration Flyway, the Hula	2005-01-27	deferred
Bahá'i Holy Places in Haifa and the Western Galilee	2005-01-27	referred
Bahá'i Holy Places in Haifa and the Western Galilee	2007-11-26	inscribed
Sites of Christianity in the Galilee	2008-01-28	withdrawn
Sites of Christianity in the Galilee	2009-01-30	withdrawn
Land of Caves and Hiding	2010-01-28	withdrawn
Caves of Maresha and Bet-Guvrin in the Judean Lowlands as a Microcosm of the Land of the Caves	2013-01-24	
Sites of Human Evolution at Mount Carmel: The Nahal Me'arot / Wadi el-Mughara Caves	2011-01-27	inscribed

Comment

1. Site of Caves of Maresha and Bet-Guvrin in the Judean Lowlands as a Microcosm of the Land of the Caves (1370) has been inscribed in June 2014 during the 38th session of the World Heritage Committee 2. Site of Beth She'arim (1643) has been submitted for evaluation in 2014.

4.2 - Involvement in recent nominations

National government institution(s)	Good
Regional / provincial / state government(s)	Poor
Local government(s)	No involvement
Other government departments	Fair
UNESCO National Commission	Good
Local authorities within or adjacent to the property	Fair
Local communities / residents	Poor
Indigenous peoples	Poor
Landowners	Good
Local industries	Not applicable
Non Governmental Organization(s)	Fair
Consultants / experts	Good
Site manager / coordinator	Good

4.3 - Perceived benefits of inscribing properties on the World Heritage List

Strengthened protection of sites (legislative, regulatory, institutional and / or traditional)	Some benefit
Enhanced conservation practices	Some benefit

Catalyst for wider community appreciation of heritage	Some benefit
Improved presentation of sites	Some benefit
Enhanced honour / prestige	High benefit
Increased funding	Low benefit
Additional tool for lobbying / political influence	Limited benefit
Stimulus for enhanced partnerships	Limited benefit
Increased recognition for tourism and public use	Some benefit
Stimulus for economic development in surrounding communities	Low benefit
Others (please provide details in 4.4)	Not applicable

4.4 - Comments

1. There is currently no natural sites in the Israel World Heritage List but such sites exist in the Tentative List. 2. Less-known sites are getting a higher boost in tourism, recognition and professional practices (of conservation & tourism), than the well-known sites. 3. It is recommended to strengthen the connection between sites, local communities and the scientific community.

5. General Policy Development

5.1 - Legislation

Comment

Order of the Forests (1926) Wildlife Protection Law (1955) - Protects wildlife from threats of hunting & trading Law of Planning and Building (1965) - Includes mechanism for the protection of sites by registers & plans Law for the Preservation of the Holy Places (1967) - Protects religious sites Law of Antiquities (1978) - Protects sites built until 1700 AD Law of the National Parks, Nature Reserves, National Sites and Commemorative Sites (1998) Law for the Protection of the Coastal Area (2004)

5.2 - Legislation not listed in 5.1

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5.3 - Comment

1. The Law of Planning and Building (1965) grants authorities in the field of conservation to local conservation committees. 2. There is a high difference between the local authorities according to the status of conservation registers. 3. A comprehensive action in the area of conserving historic urban fabrics has been done by the larger local authorities. 4. National Plan no. 35 has designated ensembles for conservation.

5.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulations) adequate for the identification, conservation and protection of the State Party's cultural and natural heritage?

The legal framework is adequate for the identification, conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage.

5.5 - Can the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulations) for the identification, conservation and protection of the State Party's cultural and natural heritage be enforced?

Existing capacity/resources to enforce the legal framework could be strengthened.

5.6 - Other International Conventions adhered

Comment

ICRW 1946 Berne Convention 1948 International Plant Protection 1951 Convention for the Establishment of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization 1951 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict 1954 Statutes of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property 1956 UPOV 1961 CITES 1973 Ramsar 1973 Barcelona 1976 Bonn Convention/CMS 1979 Basel Convention 1989 CBD 1992 UNCCD 1994 UNIDROIT 1995

5.7 - Implementation of International Conventions into national policies

There is adequate coordination and integration.

5.8 - States Party's policies to give heritage a function in the life of communities

There are policies but there are some deficiencies in their implementation.

5.9 - Integration of heritage into comprehensive / larger scale planning programmes

There are policies but there are some deficiencies in their implementation.

5.10 - Comments

1. Sites established until 1700 AD are protected under the Law of Antiquities (1978). In order to protect later sites, an approval of a statutory plan is required. Including a site in a register of conservation does not grant automatic statutory protection 2. An addendum made by 1991 to the Law of Planning and Building (1965) defined site conservation as a topic with special status. The addendum orders establishment of local conservation committees and producing local registers of conservation.

6. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

6.1 - To what degree do the principal agencies / institutions responsible for cultural and natural heritage cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of this heritage?

There is some cooperation between the principal agencies / institutions for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage but improvements are possible.

6.2 - To what degree do other government agencies cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of natural and cultural heritage?

In general, cooperation exists between other government agencies and the principal agencies / institutions for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage but there are still deficiencies.

6.3 - To what degree do different levels of government cooperate in the identification, conservation, protection and presentation of cultural and natural heritage?

There is limited cooperation between different levels of government for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage.

6.4 - Are the services provided by the agencies / institutions adequate for the conservation, protection and presentation of World Heritage properties in your country?

There is some capacity to conserve, protect and present World Heritage properties but significant deficiencies remain.

6.5 - Comments

1. Inclusion of a site in a register of conservation does not grant automatic statutory protection or government budget (excluding antiquities). 2. Where statutory protection exists, it provides appropriate response to the field of conservation. 3. Some of the human resources does not have proper training.

7. Scientific and Technical Studies and Research

7.1 - Is there a research programme or project specifically for the benefit of World Heritage properties?

There is no research programme specifically addressing World Heritage.

7.2 - Research projects

- Continuous Research in the Nahal Me"arot - University of Haifa / Continuous
Local
Cultural
<http://geodep.haifa.ac.il>
Research has been taking place since the 1970's. The research helped with the evaluation of the findings as an OUV and led to the inscription of a World Heritage Site.
- Workshop on Optimizing Community Benefits in and around Culture-based World Heritage Sites / July 2011
Local
Cultural
<http://ctpr.haifa.ac.il/>
The workshop used case of the Old City of Acre as a cultural tourism laboratory in order to detect and analyze the complex array of factors that shapes the interrelations between a World Heritage Site which forms a cultural tourism attraction and the immediate community hosting it.
- Israel National Biodiversity Plan / 2010
National
Natural
<http://www.sviva.gov.il>
A research which is mapping the threats and risks who may affect the biodiversity in Israel and establish methods for monitoring, protection, conservation, awareness-raising and presentation of the state's biodiversity.
- Practical Conservation Workshop / 2014-2016
National
Natural
<http://www.iaa-conservation.org.il>
The first practical workshop in Israel which is intended for professionals working in fields of conservation
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7.3 - Comments

1. It is recommended to strengthen the connections between the sites and the academic research. 2. A research done by The Heritage Division at the PMO has recommended to establish a library which will include the different publications related to heritage. Nowadays, such publications are spread

among a variety of institutions in the country. The SPIHS has began a database of documentation files.

8. Financial Status and Human Resources

8.1 - Sources of funding

National government funds	Major source of fixed term funding
Other levels of government (provincial, state, local)	Minor source of sustained funding
International assistance from the World Heritage Fund	Not applicable
International multilateral funding (e.g. World Bank, IDB, European Union)	Minor source of fixed term funding
International bilateral funding (e.g. AFD, GTZ, DGCS, GEF, etc.)	Not applicable
NGOs (international and / or national)	Not applicable
Private sector funds	Minor source of fixed term funding
Other (Please specify in 8.6)	Not applicable

8.2 - Involvement of State Party in the establishment of foundations or associations for raising funds and donation for the protection of World Heritage

No

8.3 - National policies for the allocation of site revenues for conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage

No

8.4 - Is the current budget sufficient to conserve, protect and present cultural and natural heritage effectively at the national level?

The available budget is inadequate for basic conservation, protection and presentation and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to conserve and protect cultural and natural heritage.

8.5 - Are available human resources adequate to conserve, protect and present cultural and natural heritage effectively at the national level?

Human resources are inadequate for conservation, protection and presentation needs of cultural and natural heritage.

8.6 - Comments

There is no government funding intended specifically to initiated site conservation. The current budget is insufficient for initiating actions related to development and rehabilitation of sites. Budgets are spread around some bodies- and as a result, there is no correlation between the site's importance and the ability to fund it. However, the general budget is continually growing.

9. Training

9.1 - Formal training / educational institutions / programs

- Technion – Israel Institute of Technology / National / Cultural
MARCHII - Specialization in Conservation of (Historic) Buildings and Sites

- Western Galilee College / National / Cultural
BA in Conservation of Sites and Monuments
- Bar-Ilan University / National / Cultural
MA+Doctorate in Preservation and Development of Cultural Landscape and Cultural Heritage. Program also includes external courses for decision makers.
- Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design / National / Cultural
Bezalel has an MA program in Urban Design with an impact on Conservation studies, since 2009. The program has a cooperation with Bezalel's UNESCO Chair in Urban Design and Conservation Studies.
- International Conservation Center - Citta di Roma / National / Cultural
Practical Conservation Course as well as programs for planners in the field of conservation

9.2 - Training needs

Conservation	High priority
Education	High priority
Promotion	Low priority
Interpretation	Medium priority
Administration	Medium priority
Visitor management	Low priority
Community outreach	Medium priority
Risk preparedness	Very low priority
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Low priority
Other	

9.3 - Does the State Party have a national training/ educational strategy to strengthen capacity development in the field of heritage conservation, protection and presentation?

There is no national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation, protection and presentation but nonetheless this is being done on an ad hoc basis.

9.4 - Comments

1. In addition to the list given in question 9.1, there is a variety of academic programs & certification studies related to world heritage. 2. A process focused on forming a national format for training in the field of conservation has begun. Alongside, some courses for decision makers has been made by the Ministry of Interior.

10. International Cooperation

10.1 - Cooperation with other States Parties

Contributions to private organisations for the preservation of cultural and natural heritage
Sharing expertise for capacity building
Hosting and / or attending international training courses/seminars
Distribution of material / information

10.2 - Twinned World Heritage properties with others

No

10.3 - Comments

1. In addition to the mentioned above, Israel has a large number of bilateral agreements in the field of environmental protection.

11. Education, Information and Awareness Building

11.1. Media used for World Heritage sites promotion

11.1.1 - Publications

Information
Awareness Raising

11.1.2 - Films / TV

Not applicable

11.1.3 - Media campaigns

Information
National
Regional
Local

11.1.4 - Internet

Information
Awareness Raising
Education
International
National
Local

11.1.5 - Postage stamps, medals

Awareness Raising
National

11.1.6 - World Heritage Day

Not applicable

11.1.7 - Translation and diffusion of publications made available by the World Heritage Centre

Information
Awareness Raising
Education
National

11.1.8 - Other (please specify in 11.1.8)

Information
Awareness Raising
Education
International
National

11.1.9 - Comments

1. There is a gap between the levels of awareness to heritage among different sections of the society in Israel. It is recommended to raise awareness among all sections in general, and particularly in some specific sections.

11.2. Education, Information and Awareness Building

11.2.1 - Strategy to raise awareness among different stakeholders

There are no strategies to raise awareness about conservation, protection and presentation of World Heritage but nonetheless this is being done on an ad hoc basis.

11.2.2 - Level of general awareness

Private Sector	Poor
Youth	No awareness
Communities living in/around heritage sites	Fair
Tourism industry	Fair
Decision makers and public officials	Poor
Indigenous peoples	No awareness
General public	No awareness

11.2.3 - Does the State Party participate in UNESCO's *World Heritage in Young Hands programme*?

The State Party does not participate in UNESCO's *World Heritage in Young Hands programme* but intends to do so.

11.2.4 - Level of frequency of activities

Courses for teachers for the use of the <i>World Heritage in Young Hands Kit</i>	Never
Courses/activities for students within the school programmes	Never
Youth Forums	Never
Skills-training courses for students	Never
Organized school visits to World Heritage properties/cultural and natural sites	Never
Activities linked to heritage within the framework of UNESCO Clubs/Associations	Never
Other (comment below)	Never

11.2.5 - Comments

1. Heritage programs should be implemented into elementary & high-school syllabi. Sites are geographically spread and it is possible to attribute sites to schools in its area. 2. A research done by 2012 showed poor acquaintance with heritage among youth people, in spite of the numerous visits to heritage sites. The general public showed medium acquaintance with heritage. 3. Some bodies has made programs for integrating heritage within the communities nearby.

12. Conclusions and Recommended Actions

12.1. State Party's implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*

12.1.1 - Identification of heritage

Identification of heritage
Inventories capture some of the diversity of cultural and natural heritage.
Inventories / lists / registers are not actively used for the identification of properties for inclusion on the Tentative List.

12.1.2 - National Inventories

National Inventories
National : Process well-advanced

National Inventories
Regional / provincial / state : Process commenced
National : Process completed or continually updated
Regional / provincial / state : Process completed or continually updated

12.1.3 - Tentative List

Tentative List
Yes

12.1.4 - Legal framework

Legal framework
Existing capacity/resources to enforce the legal framework could be strengthened.

12.1.5 - Implementation of international conventions within national policies

Implementation of international conventions within national policies

12.1.6 - Communities

Communities
Local communities / residents: Fair
Level of involvement / consultation of local landowners: Poor
Level of involvement / consultation of local industries: Poor
Local communities / residents: Poor
Indigenous peoples: Poor
Landowners: Good

12.1.7 - Larger-scale planning

Larger-scale planning
There are policies but there are some deficiencies in their implementation.

12.1.8 - Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation
There is limited cooperation between different levels of government for the conservation and protection of cultural and natural heritage.

12.1.9 - Scientific and Technical Studies and Research

Scientific and Technical Studies and Research
There is no research programme specifically addressing World Heritage.

12.1.10 - Financial status

Financial status
The available budget is inadequate for basic conservation, protection and presentation and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to conserve and protect cultural and natural heritage.

12.1.11 - Human resources

Human resources
Human resources are inadequate for conservation, protection and presentation needs of cultural and natural heritage.

12.1.12 - Training

Training
Ad hoc basis for national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation.

12.1.13 - International cooperation

International cooperation
Contributions to private organisations for the preservation of cultural and natural heritage
Sharing expertise for capacity building
Hosting and / or attending international training courses/seminars
Distribution of material / information

12.1.14 - Education, Information and awareness building

Education, Information and awareness building
Private Sector : Poor
Youth : No awareness
Communities living in/around heritage sites : Fair

12.2. Actions for the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* (identified from table 12.1).

12.2.1 - Please select the top issues (up to six)

Please refer to question 5.2

12.3. Priority Actions Assessment

12.3.2 - Priority actions assessment

2 Inventories / lists / registers for cultural and natural heritage						
		Action	Short description	Authority(ies) responsible	Timeframe	May this action require International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund?
2.3	Inventories capture some of the diversity of cultural and natural heritage.	It is recommended to establish a national database which includes all the registers, in national, regional and local levels.	Some registers have been made on the national, regional and local levels, by different bodies and with a different emphasis. There is no single comprehensive database which includes the whole diversity of cultural and natural heritage	The State of Israel with the help of the Israel National Commission for UNESCO, Israel Antiquities Authority, the Society of Preservation of Israel Heritage Sites, Nature and Parks Authority, ICOMOS Israel and Academic institutions	As soon as possible.	Yes
5 General Policy Development						
5.7	There is adequate coordination and integration.	Enhancing the cooperation and coordination between the stakeholders related to conservation, protection and presentation of heritage.	An institutional division leads to lack of national conservation policy. There's a good cooperation & coordination between the stakeholders related to heritage.	The State of Israel with the help of the Israel National Commission for UNESCO, Israel Antiquities Authority, the Society of Preservation of Israel Heritage Sites, Nature and Parks Authority and ICOMOS Israel	Ongoing process	Yes
9 Training						
9.3	Ad hoc basis for national strategy for capacity development in the field of heritage conservation.	Not applicable	There is a significant number of academic programs and professional courses in the field of heritage.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

12.3.3 - Additional actions for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention

A lack of permanent and significant budget makes it difficult to initiate actions in all fields of cultural and natural heritage.

13. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

13.1 - Was the questionnaire easy to use and clear to understand?

Yes

13.2 - Please provide suggestions for improvement:

A clear distinction between sections relating to World Heritage and sections relating to heritage in general would be helpful.

13.3 - Please rate the level of support from the following entities for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire

World Heritage Centre	Fair
UNESCO (other sectors)	Not applicable
UNESCO National Commission	Good
ICOMOS International	Not applicable
IUCN International	Not applicable
ICCROM	Not applicable
ICOMOS national / regional	Good
IUCN national / regional	Not applicable

13.4 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

All required information was accessible

13.5 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from the previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	No follow-up
Advisory Bodies	No follow-up
State Party	Fair
Site Managers	Not applicable

13.6 - Comments

A technical problem prevented us from selecting the recommended actions in section 12. Therefore, only 3 options were available.

14. Thank you