



FORMAT FOR THE SUBMISSION OF STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORTS BY THE STATES PARTIES

Archaeological Site of Ani / TURKEY / 1518

1. Executive Summary of the Report

During the 40th session (Decision: 40 COM 8B 28), World Heritage Committee has requested works to be carried out for Archaeological Site of Ani. The works carried out about each request has been stated below.

a) enhance research and documentation of the natural landscape, urban development, architectural structures and underground spaces in the Archaeological Site of Ani and its buffer zone in order to ensure their inclusion in conservation and site management strategies and plans,

The research and documentation studies on the natural landscape, urban development, architectural structures and underground spaces in the property and its buffer zone have been increased in recent years. To ensure the inclusion of natural landscape and underground spaces in the property in conservation strategies and plans and for further protection of physical and visual integrity of the site; the borders of 3rd degree archeological site were enlarged with the decision of the related Regional Preservation Council.

b) further present an accurate and balanced representation of the complex history and development of the property,

The information boards on the property have been reviewed and redesigned in order to provide a more proper definition of the monuments.

c) further improve the Strategic Conservation Master Plan in order to present a more comprehensive needs assessment of each listed monument, as well as the required interventions and priority areas, as the basis for conservation and monitoring of the property,

The Master Plan prepared by the Ministry with scientific support from academicians was approved by the Ministry on the 3rd of February, 2016. It includes an updated SWOT analysis as well as interrelated policies and principles reviewed in reference to the management plan. The logical framework of the plan and the conservation works planned for each monument are presented in two separate tables. Additionally, the priority for actions is represented on spatial level through the maps attached to the plan. The Plan will be updated and improved in line with the occurring necessities and new researches. The table that shows implementation level of short term actions of master plan is attached (Annex 1).

d) find alternative solutions for the current inappropriate use of pasture areas and of the rock-cut caves in Bostanlar Creek and Arpaçay Creek within the 1st Degree Archaeological Conservation area,

Monitoring by excavation team, museum directorate and gendarmerie is held for preventing the animals from entering the site while information and awareness raising meetings are also scheduled every year and regularly performed by excavation team.

e) improve the interpretation and presentation of the property,

Information boards were reviewed and redesigned under the surveillance of excavation team. Implementation of the Landscaping Project is still ongoing and expected to be finalized by the 1st of November, 2018.

f) ensure the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the management of the property, as well as international cooperation for conservation and restoration work,

The members of boards are reviewed, revised and approved by the Ministry on the 22nd of February, 2017.

g) develop a monitoring plan for the seismic activity of the micro-zone of the property,

Developing a monitor plan of such kind will be included into the scope of management plan in its comprehensive revision by 2020.

h) integrate a Heritage Impact Assessment approach into the management system, so as to ensure that any project regarding the property be assessed in relation to its impacts on the attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;

ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessment for Cultural World Heritage Properties was shared with all the relevant institutions and committees throughout Turkey. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism has periodically noticed regional institutions and committees on the preparation of an Impact Assessment Report related to the development activities especially for the registered sites in the World Heritage List.

Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value

For the implementation of short term actions defined in the Strategic Conservation Master Plan, archaeological fieldwork studies were carried out during the 2016 and 2017 excavation sessions.