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H. E. Mr Yang Shen  
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75732 Paris Cedex 15

20 December 2017

## IUCN Evaluation of Fanjingshan – Nominated for inclusion on the World Heritage List

### Progress report on IUCN evaluation and request for supplementary information

Dear Ambassador,

Further to the above nomination to the World Heritage List, I am writing with information on progress with the IUCN evaluation. As noted in previous correspondence, IUCN seeks to develop and maintain a dialogue with States Parties during the evaluation process of all nominations. As per the Operational Guidelines (paragraph 149 and Annex 6 - *Evaluation procedures of the Advisory Bodies for nomination*), this letter also provides the short interim report outlining the status and any issues relevant to evaluations, which is requested to be sent by IUCN before 31 January 2018.

The IUCN World Heritage technical evaluation mission to Fanjingshan was undertaken by Mr Cyril Grueter and Mr Remco van Merm from 10-16 October 2017. The evaluators greatly appreciated the excellent support and co-operation provided by your colleagues in the preparation and implementation of the mission, and the kind welcome of the State Party throughout the mission. Please convey our sincere thanks to all of the officials, scientists and contributors that assisted the mission.

The IUCN World Heritage Panel is in the course of examining World Heritage nominations for natural and mixed properties, and cultural landscapes. This process will conclude in March/April 2018, following which the IUCN evaluation report will be issued to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre. At its first meeting held in the week of 4 December 2017, the IUCN Panel examined in detail each nomination dossier, reports and desktop reviews of field evaluators and external reviewers, as well as other references regarding the nominated properties.

The Panel greatly appreciated the efforts that have been made in relation to this nomination, and will be discussing the nomination again at the second meeting of the IUCN World Heritage Panel, to be held in March 2018. At this stage, the Panel noted a number of points where additional information is required, and we would be grateful for the State Party's response on the following points:

1/ Please provide copies with an adequate translation of the key points in English (or French) of the following **documents**:

- a copy of the detailed relocation plan (see page 77 of the management plan);
- a copy of the plan to reduce permanent human population within the nominated property (see page 82 of the management plan);
- the Master Plan of the Eco-tourism Development of the Guizhou Fanjingshan National Nature Reserve (2014-2023).

2/ Please provide a complete report on the **consultation process** that took place with local communities during the nomination process, and the responses of communities to this consultation.

3/ In relation to the two documents above related to relocation and reduced permanent human population, please provide full details of the consultation that has taken place with affected communities on these matters, and the responses from any people affected by possible relocation to this proposal.

4/ Please provide information on the following requests related to species conservation in the nominated property:

- further detailed information on the activities being permitted in the Community Preservation Zone, in particular regarding the "taming of wild animals" (page 54 of the management plan).
- further information on the impacts of nearby Salamander farming facilities on the nominated property, including in relation to the risk of disease transmission to wild populations, and the potential risk of restocking farmed Salamander with individuals from the wild.
- further detailed evidence of the occurrence of cat species within the property, in particular Leopard (*Panthera pardus*) and Clouded Leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*).

4/ Please provide copies of the most recent reports of **ecological monitoring** that has been undertaken within the property.

5/ Please provide a detailed clarification including in relation to boundaries and management approaches that will enable the IUCN Panel to fully understand the relationship of the nominated property with the **Biosphere reserve**.

We would appreciate your response to the above points as soon as possible, in order to facilitate the evaluation process, but **no later than the 28 February 2018**, as per paragraph 148 of the Operational Guidelines. Please note that any information submitted after this date will not be considered by IUCN in its evaluation for the World Heritage Committee. It should be noted, however, that while IUCN will carefully consider any supplementary information submitted, it cannot properly evaluate a completely revised nomination or large amounts of new information submitted at the last minute. So we request to keep your response concise and respond only to the above requests.

**Supplementary information should be submitted officially in three copies to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre in order for it to be registered as part of the nomination.** An electronic copy of any supplementary information to both the UNESCO World Heritage Centre ([a.balsamo@unesco.org](mailto:a.balsamo@unesco.org)) and IUCN Headquarters ([christelle.perruchoud@iucn.org](mailto:christelle.perruchoud@iucn.org)) would also be helpful.

Taking into account your response, IUCN will formulate its final recommendation to the World Heritage Committee which will meet from 24 June to 4 July 2018 in Bahrain.

In the interest of ensuring full transparency and dialogue regarding the IUCN evaluation process, we are happy to respond to any questions you may wish to raise regarding IUCN's work on the World Heritage Convention, including the above points. I am traveling to Paris on a regular basis and could be available to meet if this would be helpful, or would be pleased to organise a meeting via skype or conference call as an alternative. I would also emphasise that both you or your representatives are also most welcome to visit IUCN's headquarters in Switzerland to meet in person if you wish, on this nomination, or on any other matter of interest.

Please do not hesitate to contact Ms Christelle Perruchoud, World Heritage Evaluations and Operations Officer (Tel: +41 22 999 0358; Fax: +41 22 999 0002; email: [christelle.perruchoud@iucn.org](mailto:christelle.perruchoud@iucn.org)) if you have any questions regarding this request, or if you would wish to arrange a meeting or phone call to discuss this request.

Please allow me to reiterate our thanks for your support of the World Heritage Convention and for the conduct of IUCN's recent mission. We look forward to your kind cooperation in furnishing responses to the abovementioned points.

Yours sincerely,



Tim Badman  
Director - World Heritage Programme