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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Tanzania National
Commission for
UNESCO

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REPORT ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF NGORONGORO

CONSERVATION AREA (C/N 39)

- a. **State Party:** United Republic of Tanzania
- b. **Name of World Heritage Property:** Ngorongoro Conservation Area
- c. **Geographical Coordinates:** Latitude 3° 15'S and Longitude 35° 30'E
- d. **Date of Inscription on the World Heritage List:** 1979 as Natural World Heritage and 2010 as Mixed World Heritage Site
- e. **Organization responsible for the preparation of the report:**

Organization Name: Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA)

Name: Dr. Freddy Safieli Manongi

Title: The Conservator of Ngorongoro

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Date of Submission of Report: 1st December 2018

Signature on Behalf of State Party

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hamisi M. Malebo".

HAMISI M. MALEBO . PhD, FASI, FRSC

SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
UNESCO



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HAMISI M. MALEBO . PhD, FASI, FRSC

SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State of the United Republic of Tanzania continues to implement the UNESCO 1972 Convention and closely responds to the decision of the World Heritage Committee on issues regarding to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority.

The Authority sustains its efforts to curb poaching which has resulted to Zero poaching and led to elephant population recovery. The Authority monitors challenges that can change the attained positive trends and address them quickly.

As informed in the response with regards to decision 4, updates made in the Invasive Plant Strategy have enabled the authority to control invasive species. Also the progress has been made to update the GMP and it is in the final stage of completion.

The State Party invites World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property on 4-9 March, 2019 in order to provide advice to the State Party on the conservation of the additional set of footprints discovered at the Laetoli site in 2014, proposed Laetoli Hominid Footprints Museum, road upgrade project and proposed tourist developments as well as review progress in balancing conservation, livelihood and development needs.

No current conservation issues or any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, as such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.

3. Commends the State Party for achieving zero recorded elephant poaching within the property during the reporting period through the establishment of two new ranger posts in targeted poaching-prone areas, and encourages it to take an adaptive approach to anti-poaching and continue to monitor the rate of elephant population recovery;

Response:

The State Party continues to closely monitor through patrol and sharing of investigation information with other state organs for the purpose of discouraging any kind of attempts that may lead to poaching.

There has been no any reported incident of Elephants poaching for the year 2017/2018. These achievements are a result of the following efforts;

- Collaring, in which five elephants have been collared followed by establishment of transects in order to monitor groups movements especially on the NHFR
- Increased number of rangers that led to the increased number of patrols and patrol frequency.
- Establishment of new ranger posts especially on the southern circuit along the line close to the NHFR and,
- Two ranger posts have been constructed at Nasera rock situated on the North East side of the property and Engaruka located on the Eastern part of the property.

In the financial year 2018/19 the Authority has a plan to construct two more ranger posts in the areas which are foreseeable that may be prone to poaching.

4. Appreciates the inclusion of *Parthenium hysterophorus* in the Invasive Alien Plants Strategic Management Plan that has been implemented since 2011, and the progress reported to bring it under control inside the property;

Response:

The Authority through the department of Range and Wildlife Management continues to monitor the *Parthenium hysterophorus* in the property. Recently, the Authority has updated the Invasive Plant Strategic Management that accommodated the *Parthenium hysterophorus* and the Draft updated strategy has been shared to WHC on January, 2019.

5. Welcomes the State Party's reiteration that all development projects are subject to Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) in accordance with the guidelines of IUCN and ICOMOS, and submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies.

Response:

The State Party assures UNESCO that she will continue to abide by the Convention. Any development project will be subjected to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) both of which will be done in accordance with IUCN and ICOMOS guidelines respectively. The EIA and HIA will then be shared for review to the Advisory Bodies through World Heritage Center.

6. Also welcomes the continuation of dialogue with the local communities, the progress made to update the General Management Plan (GMP) for the property, and the State Party's intention to submit this plan to the World Heritage Centre for review.

Response

The State Party has received the Draft GMP the Authority and subsequently shared to various stakeholders for their final inputs during validation session.

The DRAFT GMP document has been shared to Advisory Bodies through World Heritage Center on January, 2019

7. Takes note of the strategy and the ongoing efforts in the construction of the southern Serengeti-Ngorongoro by-pass road to cater for public and commercial transportation;

Response:

The State Party through the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication (MoWTC) has received a grant from the German Bilateral Financial Cooperation, via the German Development Bank, KfW, to determine a route and carry out a Feasibility Study for a Southern Serengeti Bypass to provide better access to and from the north western Mara and Arusha Regions of Tanzania and to minimise traffic crossing the authority and Serengeti National Park, UNESCO Natural World Heritage Areas.

The Study has recommended a preferred route based on the two route options identified in a pre-feasibility study carried out by others i.e. Maswa - Lalago - Oldeani (the "Lake Eyasi Route") and Maswa - Lalago - Mbulu - Karatu (the "Mbulu Route"). The results of the Consultant's work show that the Mbulu Route, with the Haydom -Katesh Link Road, is the preferred option from the environmental, social, economic and technical points of view. This route is also the best option for reducing traffic across the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and Serengeti National Park and the existing Trunk Road Network around the core project area.

The Serengeti Bypass report has been shared in the previous report for review by World Heritage Center.

8. Commends the efforts being undertaken by the State Party to currently regulate the passage of heavy commercial vehicles on the Loduare gate to Golini road and further welcomes the steps accomplished so far towards hardening of this road for improvement of visitor experience and conservation purposes in line with Decision 36 COM 7B.35;

Response:

The state party keeps on controlling the passage of heavy commercial vehicles passing this road through the properties regulations and acknowledges to receive the appreciation towards the efforts for hardening the Loduare gate to Golini.

9. Acknowledges the submission of comprehensive ESIA/HIA report in this regard, which includes assessments of downstream impacts of opening new borrow pits and restoring

wetlands, and of all known cultural/archaeological sites, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;

Response

The State party takes note of appreciation on submission of comprehensive ESIA/HIA report and will continue to adhere to conduct EIA/ESIA for all development projects and submit to WHC

10. Also acknowledges the completion of the HIA for the proposed Laetoli Hominid Footprints Museum and associated facilities and also requests the State Party to ensure that further development of this project is postponed in order to take into account the outcomes of the Reactive Monitoring mission;

Response

The state party acknowledges taking note of appreciation for completion of the HIA for the proposed Laetoli Hominid Footprints Museum and associated facilities and abides with the decision to postpone further development in order to take into account outcomes of the Reactive Monitoring Mission which is planned to take place in March 4-9, 2019.

11. Also requests the State Party to invite a World Heritage

Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission to the property, in order to provide advice to the State Party on the conservation of the additional set of footprints discovered at the Laetoli site in 2014, proposed Laetoli Hominid Footprints Museum, road upgrade project and proposed tourist developments as well as review progress in balancing conservation, livelihood and development needs;

Response:

The State Party in collaboration with the World Heritage Center had made all necessary communication and agreed on new dates for the Advisory Mission.

In discussion it was tentatively planned that the Mission will take place on March 4-9 2019

12. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2018, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 43rd session in 2019.

Response:

The State Party submitted report on the state of conservation of the property by 14th December and hereby submits the revised State of Conservation report for review by the WH-center and subsequently for examination by the WH-Committee