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# ICOMOS

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21 December 2018

## **IUCN and ICOMOS Evaluation of Paraty Culture and Biodiversity – Nominated for inclusion on the World Heritage List**

### **Progress report on the evaluation and request for supplementary information**

Dear Ambassador,

Further to the above nomination to the World Heritage List, we are writing with information on progress with the IUCN and ICOMOS evaluation. As noted in previous correspondence, the Advisory Bodies seek 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 2019.

The joint IUCN and ICOMOS World Heritage technical evaluation mission to Paraty Culture and Biodiversity was undertaken by Mrs Doris Cordero for IUCN and Mr Luis Maria Calvo for ICOMOS, from 9 to 15 September 2018. 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.

From 19 to 28 November 2018, the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel evaluated the cultural and mixed properties nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List in 2019. The IUCN World Heritage Panel was held from 3 to 7 December 2018 and evaluated the natural and mixed properties. Both Advisory Bodies processes will conclude in March/April 2019, following which the evaluation reports will be issued to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

The nomination dossier, additional information, together with missions and desk review reports as well as other references regarding the nominated property were carefully examined by the ICOMOS and IUCN's Panel members to formulate their recommendations and considerations. The Advisory Bodies also carefully considered the documents received on 14 November 2018 via email.

ICOMOS thanks you for the availability of your Delegation to the meeting held on Friday 23 November 2018 with some representatives of the ICOMOS Panel. During the final part of the ICOMOS Panel meeting that followed, the ICOMOS Panel has identified areas where it considers that further information is needed.

The IUCN Panel greatly appreciated the efforts that have been made in relation to this nomination, including the additions of large forest areas of significant conservation value, which is in line with the World Heritage Committee's previous decision to defer an earlier nomination of this property. The IUCN Panel will be discussing the nomination again at the second meeting of the IUCN World Heritage Panel, to be held in March 2019. At this stage, the IUCN Panel noted a number of points where additional information is required from the State Party. The Panel also requested that IUCN make further analysis

regarding the aesthetic values of the nominated property, and to consider further the views of ICOMOS on matters regarding the linkage between nature and culture.

Therefore, ICOMOS and IUCN would be pleased if the State Party could consider the following points:

### **1. Description of the nominated property**

The ICOMOS Panel acknowledges that the history of occupation, exploitation and development of the territory by Europeans since the 16th century until nowadays is well described in the nomination dossier. What is less clear is the way indigenous communities have interacted with or impacted on the landscape and the extent to which these processes are still reflected in the landscape of the proposed property.

The ICOMOS Panel would appreciate to receive further details on the history of occupation and the settlement organization and patterns of the indigenous communities before the arrival of the Europeans, and how these have evolved since.

In order to better illustrate the cultural components described in the nomination dossier, the ICOMOS Panel would also like to request additional material in the form of plans, maps and photographs.

The ICOMOS Panel considers that the idea of a “cultural system” superimposed on a natural environment needs to be developed and described in a more organized way to build a more robust story. The cultural elements and features described in the text need to be related to the “cultural system”, in order to make understandable the historical processes, their hierarchy, nodal character, material proofs and so forth that underpin the system. It would be helpful if the State Party could provide a more detailed explanation of how the “cultural system” of the Paraty landscape works, and, in particular, the relationship among the various cultural elements that are seen to be part of this system.

Such more detailed documentation and evidence is needed to allow a clearer understanding of how the Paraty landscape is differentiated from other landscapes and how its integrity might be defined,

### **2. Selection of component parts**

In the request of additional information sent to the State Party on 17 October 2018, ICOMOS and IUCN requested further clarification regarding State Party's rationale for not including some elements (e.g. Paraty-Mirim) inside the boundaries of the nominated property, even though such elements are presented in the nomination dossier as important components. ICOMOS and IUCN appreciate the additional information provided on 14 November 2018 and the explanation provided by the State Party for the replacement of Juatinga Ecological Reserve by the continental portion of the Environmental Protection Area of Cairuçu as component 4 of the nominated serial property and for the addition of Morro da Vila Velha to component 5. We acknowledge the new denomination of this component, Paraty Historical Centre as component 5a, and Morro da Vila Velha as component 5b.

Whilst commending the effort of the State Party in addressing the issues raised during the IUCN/ICOMOS evaluation mission, the ICOMOS Panel notes that the precise rationale for the selection of the individual component parts has not been clearly set out, in relation to cultural elements. Currently there appears to be no clear rationale for why certain elements, related to those that have been included in the nomination, are excluded.

Therefore, the ICOMOS Panel would be pleased if the State Party could consider including the following cultural elements within the boundaries of the proposed property:

- Archaeological sites in the Ilha Grande Bay
- Settlements of indigenous groups also in the bay (e.g. Caiçara groups in Ilha do Algodão)
- IPHAN Historic Preserved Estates
- Caminho de Ouro historic trail (between the historic centre of Paraty and Serra da Bocaina)
- Historic protected fortifications around Paraty Bay and Ilha Grande Bay.

### **3. Boundaries and ecological connectivity between component parts**

IUCN noted that the conservation value of the nominated property relies not only on the conservation of the nominated component parts, but also the assurance of connectivity for mobile species and ecosystems between the different components. This is a clear anticipated function of the buffer zone, but it is not very clear how the buffer zone will be managed to maintain such good connectivity. Please would

the State Party provide further information on this matter, and notably the specific plans and the committed implementation activities in the buffer zone to ensure connectivity is maintained and improved.

#### **4. Legal Protection**

ICOMOS and IUCN took note of the changes in the boundaries of the nominated property, through inclusion of the entire Federal Environmental Protection Area of Cairuçu as a component part, and the changes to the boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone that result from this change. We would be grateful for a brief analysis of the relative strength of protection measures that are in place of this FEPA designation, compared to the protection status of the previously included component, and also details of the potential to provide additional protection to this component in the future.

#### **5. Conservation Measures**

The nomination dossier makes reference to a number of threats, such as those from the nuclear energy facilities in and adjacent to the buffer zone, threats from pollution and oil spill risks, as well as growing pressure for tourism, and consideration of climate change impacts. However, the nomination provides little specifics on the measures that are required, and those that are in place, to address the identified threats to the nominated property. We would therefore be grateful if the State Party could provide clear information on the threats it considers exist to the nominated property and elaborate (a) its view on the management response required to each threat, (b) the measures that are in place to provide a response to each threat, (c) any gaps or weaknesses in current that response that are identified by the State Party and (d) the plans to strengthen response to address any identified gaps.

Furthermore, the ICOMOS Panel understands that one of the problems facing Paraty is the effectiveness of the wastewater and sewage system. Therefore, we would be pleased if the State Party could provide further details on the measures in place to mitigate the impact of this problem.

Finally, we would be grateful for clarification regarding whether the State Party foresees the development of a Disaster Risk Management Plan for the nominated property.

#### **6. Management Systems**

There appears to be a need to strengthen further and make fully operational the joint management plan for the nominated property as a whole (Annex 6, Volume 2 of the nomination). Please could the State Party indicate its intentions to revised and strengthen this plan, and the means that are being put in place to ensure implementation should the nominated property be inscribed on the World Heritage List. Amongst the issues for consideration would be governance systems, legal protection regimes, harmonized planning between the different PAs, and management of natural, cultural and traditional use aspects.

#### **7. Community Involvement**

The nomination dossier indicates that there was a dialogue with the local communities. The IUCN and ICOMOS Panels would be grateful for a detailed understanding regarding (a) the extent or level of involvement of the local and indigenous communities in the nomination and the management of the nominated property and (b) the ways the processes of nomination and inscription in the World Heritage List will proactively acknowledge and benefit the local and indigenous communities, including through support for local businesses arising from World Heritage management. Please could further information be provided on the governance arrangements for the integration of local and indigenous communities into the management system of the nominated property?

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 2019**, 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 the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (a.balsamo@unesco.org), IUCN Headquarters (christelle.perruchoud@iucn.org) and ICOMOS Headquarters (apsara.sanchez@icomos.org) would also be helpful.

Taking into account your response, IUCN and ICOMOS will formulate their final recommendation to the World Heritage Committee which will meet from 30 June to 10 July 2019 in Azerbaijan.

In the interest of ensuring dialogue with the States Parties, ICOMOS and IUCN would be ready for a Skype call to clarify any of the above points, or other matters related to the nomination dossier, if that might be considered to be helpful.

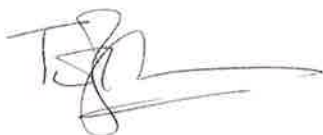
ICOMOS and IUCN are available to meet you in Paris if this would be helpful. You or your representatives are also most welcome to visit IUCN's headquarters in Switzerland to meet in person if you wish, on this nomination, or on any other matter of interest.

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) or Mrs Gwenaëlle Bourdin, Director of the ICOMOS Evaluation Unit (Tel: +33 (0)1 41 94 17 59, email: gwenaelle.bourdin@icomos.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 also note that from 1 January 2019 there will be a change in World Heritage arrangements in IUCN. Peter Shadie will be taking over the role of Director, the IUCN World Heritage Programme for 2019-20, and Tim Badman will be moving to manage a new assignment in IUCN. Peter Shadie will be available for any discussions required on this letter, or any other matters regarding IUCN's evaluation of the nomination.

Please allow us to reiterate our thanks for your support of the World Heritage Convention and for the conduct of ICOMOS/IUCN joint mission. We look forward to your kind cooperation in furnishing responses to the abovementioned points.

Yours sincerely,



Tim Badman  
Director  
IUCN World Heritage Programme



Gwenaëlle Bourdin  
Director  
ICOMOS Evaluation Unit

Cc: Division of Cultural and Multilateral Agreements (DAMC), Mr Gustavo da Veiga Guimarães, Chief of DAMC  
UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Mr Mauro Rosi and Mr Alessandro Balsamo  
IUCN Regional Office for South America, Mr. Alvaro Vallejo Rendon, Regional Director