

ICOMOS

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МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ СОВЕТ ПО ВОПРОСАМ ПАМЯТНИКОВ И ДОСТОПРИМЕЧАТЕЛЬНЫХ МЕСТ

Our Ref. GB/AS/1589/IR

Charenton-le-Pont, 21 December 2018

H. E. Mr Petr Drulak
Permanent Delegation of the Czech Republic
to UNESCO
Maison de l'UNESCO
1, rue Miollis
75732 Paris CEDEX 15

World Heritage List 2019

**Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem
(Czech Republic) – Interim report and additional information request**

Dear Ambassador,

As prescribed by the revised Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention and its Annex 6, the Advisory Bodies have been requested to submit a short interim report for each nomination by 31 January 2019. We are therefore pleased to provide you with the relevant information outlining issues related to the evaluation process.

The ICOMOS technical evaluation mission to the “Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem” was carried out by Monica Luengo (Spain) in August - September 2018. The mission expert highly appreciated the availabilities and support provided by the experts in your country for the organization and implementation of the mission.

On 12 October 2018, a letter was sent by ICOMOS to request further information regarding management, conservation, development projects and involvement of local communities. Please convey our thanks to all the officials and experts for the additional information you provided on 9 November 2018 and for their continued cooperation in this process.

At the end of November 2018, the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel evaluated the cultural and mixed properties nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List in 2019. The additional information, together with mission and desk review reports were carefully examined by the Panel members. This process will conclude in March 2019.

We thank you for the availability of your Delegation to the meeting held on Saturday 24 November 2018 with some representatives of the ICOMOS Panel. The exchanges during this meeting were of great help for the discussions at the ICOMOS Panel meeting. Following the completion of their deliberations, the ICOMOS Panel has identified areas where it considers further information is needed.

While the ICOMOS Panel considered that the “Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem” might have the potential to meet the requirements for Outstanding Universal Value, this has not yet been demonstrated.

Therefore, we would be pleased if the State Party could consider the following points:

Historic – cultural thematic framework

The ICOMOS Panel noticed that the nominated property could be seen as an expression of a vast theme as horses have played a significant role throughout the centuries in human life until recently. However, the Nomination dossier presents a very specific facet of the human interaction with horses and of the mutual impact of this interaction on humans, horses and the landscape. It would be important for the nomination to frame the broader thematic historic – cultural context in which the nominated property is developed. This exercise may assist in identifying key parameters / factors that define horse-breeding in relation to the horse needs, horse-types sought, natural landscape characteristics and the way these were shaped during the process. In this way, the nominated property can be better placed in its proper wider perspective, also in relation to other properties closely related to horse -breeding.

The additional information already provided represents a solid basis on which to expand upon the knowledge that developed around horse – breeding, the necessary requirements, both in terms of needed environment and of operating spaces, also in comparison with other places where horses were bred. It would be helpful if the State Party could bring into light the specificity of the nominated property in relation to horse breeding compared to many others that still survive and particularly those which belonged to the Habsburgs.

Boundaries of the nominated property and of the Buffer Zone

The ICOMOS Panel is thankful for the additional explanation provided during the discussions of the Panel meeting on the rationale for the delineation of the boundaries. However, the ICOMOS Panel would like to receive further clarifications on the rationale for the delineation of the boundaries of the nominated area, in relation to the historic extension of the estate, the nationally protected heritage site and the outline of the boundaries presented in the 2012 – Management Plan, as the exclusion of some lands from the nominated property boundaries does not appear fully clear.

Additionally, the ICOMOS Panel has noted that the boundaries of the Buffer Zone coincide with those of the nominated property in at least two stretches, at the South of the nominated property. It would be important to understand the reasons of this choice and how and what type of added layer of protection to the nominated property will be guaranteed and through what instruments.

Development projects

The ICOMOS Panel noted that the nominated property has undergone several interventions and restoration/ reconstruction works and that other ones are going on or are planned.

The scale and number of the proposals might lead to changes not fully managed in their consequences and potential impact on the values of the nominated property, if they are not properly assessed in advance. In this regard, it would be important to understand whether an overall conservation plan has been elaborated, what is the overall conservation strategy and vision for the nominated property.

It is further suggested that a comprehensive assessment of the impacts of the projects based on the Heritage Impact Assessment is carried out before they are implemented. It is also crucial that established conservation principles, such as minimum intervention, compatibility and sustainability are consistently applied.

Management of visitation

The Nomination dossier mentions that the Region has developed a tourism strategy; however, an ad-hoc visitation strategy for the nominated property does not seem to have been elaborated or it has not been presented. Considering the tiny size of the villages within the nominated property and its immediate vicinity, and taking into account the increase of notoriety that the nomination process will cause, it is important that a comprehensive reflection is made on the issue and plans developed to identify suitable locations for infrastructure for visitors, including parking lots, outside the nominated property and its immediate vicinity, in order to contain pressures on the landscape and its horse and human community.

We look forward to your responses to these points, which will be of great help in our evaluation process.

We would be grateful if you could provide ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre with the above information by **28 February 2019 at the latest**, the deadline set out in paragraph 148 of the Operational Guidelines for supplementary information on nominations to be received. Please note that any information submitted after this date will not be considered by ICOMOS in its evaluation for the World Heritage Committee. It should be noted, however, that while ICOMOS 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.

We thank you for your support of the World Heritage Convention and the evaluation process.

Yours faithfully,



Gwenaëlle Bourdin
Director
ICOMOS Evaluation Unit

Copy to

- Ministry of Culture
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry for Regional Development
- National Heritage Institute
- Agency for Conservation and Landscape
- UNESCO World Heritage Centre