

# ICOMOS

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES  
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES  
CONSEJO INTERNACIONAL DE MONUMENTOS Y SITIOS  
МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ СОВЕТ ПО ВОПРОСАМ ПАМЯТНИКОВ И ДОСТОПРИМЕЧАТЕЛЬНЫХ МЕСТ

Our Ref. GB/AS/1599/IR

Charenton-le-Pont, 21 December 2018

H. E. Ms Krystyna Zurek  
Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Poland to  
UNESCO  
Maison de l'UNESCO  
1, rue Miollis  
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World Heritage List 2019

**Krzemionki prehistoric striped flint mining region (Poland) –  
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 "Krzemionki prehistoric striped flint mining region" was carried out by H el ene Collet (Belgium) in 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 17 October 2018, a letter was sent by ICOMOS to request further information regarding documentation, research, justification of the serial approach, factors affecting the property, protection, management and visitor facilities and infrastructures. Please convey our thanks to all the officials and experts for the additional information you provided on 14 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 provided by the State Party, 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 Monday 26 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.

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

**Integrity**

The ICOMOS Panel understands that one of the reasons for the rationale of inclusion of components K1, K2 and K3 is based on the lack of disturbance of the surface deposits associated with mining and working flint.

However, the ICOMOS Panel discussed about arable agriculture, which could adversely affect the integrity of the Gawroniec settlement (component K4) on an ongoing basis. Therefore, it would be appreciated if the State Party could clarify the approach to controlling the adverse impact of arable agriculture in Gawroniec (component K4).

The ICOMOS Panel would also be pleased if the State Party could provide additional information about the scale of quarrying of limestone in the Buffer Zone(s), specifically of Koryczna (component K3), and the potential negative impact on the nominated property.

### **Buffer Zones**

The ICOMOS Panel understands that the components parts are connected to each other by the River Valley. But it has also noted that there are further related flint mining areas located outside the nominated components boundaries and Buffer Zones. The ICOMOS Panel would be interested in receiving further information regarding the rationale for the delineation of the Buffer Zones. The ICOMOS Panel would like to know whether the creation of a single Buffer Zone gathering all component parts and surrounding mining flint areas could be or has been considered by the State Party.

### **Protection**

The ICOMOS Panel understands that the procedure to register Gawroniec (component K4) into the Register of Monuments under the Act on the Protection and Care of Monuments (2003) has been initiated, but that the process is still ongoing. The ICOMOS Panel notes that this component benefits from temporary protection during the process of registration. The ICOMOS Panel would appreciate updated information on the finalization of this procedure and its effective protective implementation.

The ICOMOS Panel would welcome additional information regarding the areas and regimes of protection, and their application. Could the State Party also provide a detailed map showing existing protection designations areas in relation to the boundaries of the nominated components and their Buffer Zones?

### **Management Plan**

The ICOMOS Panel understands that an overall Management Plan for the whole nominated property is not yet in place. However, a management system is in place for Krzemionki Opatowskie (component K1), and that the development of the Management Plan for all the components of the nominated property will be led by the Krzemionki Archaeological Museum. Based on the additional information already provided, the ICOMOS Panel notes that the deadline for the delivery of the Management Plan to the National Heritage Board of Poland is scheduled for 20 December 2018. The ICOMOS Panel would be grateful if the State Party could provide updated information as regards the formal approval and implementation of the Management Plan, and provide ICOMOS with the Management Plan.

The ICOMOS Panel considers that developing a Tourism strategy for the nominated property would be important as being part of the Management Plan. It would be helpful to understand if such a strategy is being developed and if so, to provide ICOMOS with the information.

The Nomination dossier mentions p. 306 that a Risk assessment and plan is in preparation for its inclusion into the Management Plan. Could the State Party provide ICOMOS with some updated information related to this Risk preparedness plan?

### **Research**

The ICOMOS Panel would appreciate if the State Party could provide reassurances regarding the need for the programme of archaeological research to be securely funded on a recurrent basis, to address key issues and to be clearly linked to the conservation plan.

### **Cultural Park**

The ICOMOS Panel discussed about the project to create a Cultural Park, which would cover the whole archaeological inventoried sites in the Middle Valley of the Kamienna River, extending beyond the proposed nominated property boundaries, and that its delineation is still under discussions. ICOMOS understands that Cultural Parks are protected under the Act on the Protection and Care of Monuments (2003). However, the ICOMOS Panel noted that putting in place this Cultural Park appears to be under consideration even before the Management Plan for the nominated property has been finalized or implemented. The ICOMOS Panel would be pleased if the State Party could provide additional information on how the Cultural Park will be linked to the nominated property, in terms of protection and management. In addition, it would be helpful to understand the timeframe for the creation and implementation of the Cultural Park.

### **Visitor Facilities and Infrastructure**

The ICOMOS Panel discussed the issue of planned facilities for visitors at Krzemionki Opatowskie (component K1), Borownia (component K2) and Korycizna (component K3), and would be pleased to receive some clarifications regarding their potential impacts on the integrity of the nominated components. The ICOMOS Panel would be pleased if the State Party could provide additional information regarding the location of these visitor facilities and infrastructure within the component parts of the nominated property.

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 would be grateful if the State Party could keep its 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 - Muzeum Historyczno-Archeologiczne w Ostrowcu Świętokrzyskim  
Centre for World Heritage - National Heritage Board of Poland  
UNESCO World Heritage Centre