

**THE SUBMISSION OF  
STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORTS  
BY THE STATES PARTIES**

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**Name of the Property: Historic City of Ahmadabad**

**State Party: India**

**Identification Number: 1551**

## 1. Executive Summary of the report

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Historic City of Ahmadabad was inscribed on the World Heritage List in the 41st session of the World Heritage Committee held in Krakow, in July, 2017 under criteria (ii) and (v). Ahmadabad is the first Indian City to achieve this UNESCO recognition, which has inspired few other India historic cities to vie for this coveted distinction leading to a kind of Urban Conservation movement in India. Ahmadabad, like most of other historic cities of India is organically developed through centuries of growth and evolution. The living historic city is also the Central Business District (CBD), of the Greater city of Ahmadabad. Therefore, has its inherent challenges, in terms of crowding and increased human activities, development pressures, traffic congestion, pollution migration and demographic changes. The state party and the Ahmadabad Municipal Corporation is quite conscious about these challenges and have taken a number of steps to ensure Integrity and Authenticity of the OUVs for which the city has been inscribed, as recommended by the World Heritage Committee. These steps are in different stages of progress and are summarized below for consideration of the World Heritage Committee:

**Recommendations No. 1:** - After setting required benchmark as per the set standards through sampling, multiple teams of experts are working for the detailed and accurate documentation of historic buildings. Due to large number of houses (over 2000), which are privately owned and in use and issues of consent of convenient timing and dates suitable to the occupants has resulted to rescheduling with working teams more often. Now as necessary systems and standards are established, state party request to kindly extend the time line up to July, 2021.

**Recommendation No. 2:** - Eight cases so far from the inscribed property & its buffer have undergone impact assessment between 2017 until now. Furthermore, as per the current regulations, it is mandatory to carry out impact assessment report before any approval of major construction and development projects within the inscribed area.

**Recommendation No. 3:** - The recent 2019 revision of Comprehensive General Development Control Regulations (CGDCR) have more focus on Heritage City of Ahmadabad with a dedicated section of regulations on heritage and more meaningful regulations for other building activities for non-listed heritage also. Recommendation No.3, therefore, is being complied in accordance and reinforced by Core walled city zone created in the development plan also.

**Recommendation No. 4 & 5:-** A special exercise involving National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), (Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India) is taken up to prepare a comprehensive Heritage Conservation Plan inclusive of aspects of Local Area Plan, Visitor Management Plan and further refinement of regulations pertaining to inscribed property as suggested in recommendation No. 4 and 5. timeline for recommendation No. 4 is requested to be extended up to Dec. 2020.

**Recommendation No. 6:** -With regard to enrichment of heritage department of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, it has established a special purpose vehicle (SPV) "Ahmedabad World Heritage City Trust" (AWHCT) to extend dedicated attention and appointed a Director, Conservation Architects, Architects and Social scientist with it. Heritage Department has Deputy General Manager, Engineers, Technical Supervisor and Town Development Inspectors with relevant domain expertise. The awareness and outreach programs being conducted in the city has helped in capacity building of the of the old city residents who are also stakeholders in conservation of the Historic City.

The State Party would like to express its deep regrets for not meeting the prescribed deadline for submission of this SOC. But, provide assurance for its preparedness and all possible efforts.