



Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

LuangPrabang Province
LuangPrabang World Heritage Office

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REPORT

On the State of Conservation LuangPrabang World Heritage site – Lao PDR

- With the reference to the letter CLT/WHC/APA/FJ/NH/20/009 of the Director of the World Heritage Centre, dated 10 February 2020;

LuangPrabang World Heritage Office is very pleased to submit the additional information regarding the SOC of the Luang Prabang as per the decision of 38 COM 7B 98. At this occasion we would like to convey sincere gratitude from the Luang Prabang provincial authority to the WHC for your continuous support and valuable advice for sustainable management of the property. Awaiting the importance of preserving OUV and living historic town toward the improvement of the people wellbeing and socio-economic development, the local government has paid the great efforts to regulate and control all inappropriate activities which may cause adverse impact to the protection of the WH assets. In this regard during past years the Plan for Safeguarding and Enhancement of Luang Prabang WH site (PSMV) has been developed into world heritage preservation program and incorporated into the provincial strategy plan. It is aiming to put into concrete projects according to priority map not only remarkable buildings, but also the environmental aspects such.

I. Status for Preservation and Management of LuangPrabang World Heritage site

Through the past years LuangPrabang World Heritage Office (LWHO) in the name of Secretariat of Local Committee for World Heritage paid attention to carry out duty with high responsibility in conformity with its role in management of world heritage site especially strict implementation of the Plan for Safeguarding and Enhancement of Luang Prabang WH site (PSMV) and Buffer Zone regulations. Any construction-restoration and extension of building must be authorized by LuangPrabang World Heritage Office. In case of illegal construction (such as unauthorized construction or failed to follow authorized design) is found, LWHO takes measures such as education, advices for proper compilation and submission of documents, penalty and demolition of some parts. In case of mega project, LWHO had regularly coordinated with international experts for their advices and unanimity.

LuangPrabang World Heritage Office also took an ownership to update regulation of the Plan for Safeguarding and Enhancement of Luang Prabang WH site (PSMV) in conformity with actual situation of conservation. Moreover, LWHO also completed implementation of grant projects funded by international organizations.

II. Heritage Fund

Since last two decades Luang Prabang World Heritage Office has beneficiary an important international support for strengthening its management capacity and upholding the property as one of the world best tourist destination. Nevertheless the government always consciously recognized the necessity of special fund to nurture and secure the sustainable preservation of the property. Thus at the national level, the first 2005 National Heritage Law has envisaged the National Heritage Fund. In the past the local authority had made all possible efforts for making available funding at local level, notably at the micro level in 2009 the Luang Prabang provincial authority had established “Heritage Fund” of which the incomes are collected from touristic sites and tourist entrepreneurs. The Fund thus has been operated during two executive years. In elaborating the National Heritage Law, so the prime minister decree 362/govt, 7 october 2014 endorsed the “National Heritage Fund”, however due to certain overlapping aspects with “Tourism Promotion Fund” as well as centralized system of the single window national budget policy, so at the moment both National Heritage and Tourism Promotion Fund are to be revised.

Nevertheless considering to the necessity and urgency of world heritage preservation the government has advised to create an add hoc mechanism on the Luang Prabang case in order to allocate appropriate fund in the soonest time frame which means to be opened within 2020.

III. Infrastructure Development Plan

Through the past years LuangPrabang World Heritage Office took an ownership in creation of infrastructure development plan by expansion of LuangPrabang Provincial strategy and it aimed to seek funds from domestic and abroad. There are 10 priority programs which became 32 detailed projects; and surely, before implementation each project shall be comprehensively studied, surveyed, designed and assessed in order to be sure that the projects will not negatively impact world heritage conservation and that will receive unanimity from all parties concerned including international experts. Up till now the projects for infrastructure development are not conducted yet due to lack of funding supports. For the measures related to tourist development tasks LWHO has collaborated with parties concerned in order to participate in the tasks with high responsibility.

Therefore, LWHO is honored to report for your information, and please do not hesitate to contact us should you have further enquiries.

Director of LuangPrabang World Heritage Office



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