



## State of Conservation Report

### Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region (Sudan) (C 1073)

#### 1. Executive Summary

In response to Draft Decision 43 COM 7B.54 (7 June 2019) and the report of the Reactive Monitoring Mission to Sudan (12 September 2019), the National Corporation of Antiquities and Museums of Sudan (NCAM) is submitting the following revised State of Conservation Report to address concerns regarding threats to conservation and to the Outstanding Universal Value of the site.

The WHC Draft Decision requested responses to the recommendations of the 2019 monitoring mission and also submission of a Minor Boundary Modification proposal. The 2019 mission listed 25 specific recommendations in its executive summary, including 4 that were marked as urgent.

NCAM's response to these reports has been greatly complicated by the April 2019 revolution in Sudan, the appointment of a new transitional government beginning in September 2019, and ongoing efforts to reform policies and procedures at every level of government. The current coronavirus pandemic has further complicated responses. NCAM respectfully requests an additional year to organize a fuller response to the issues raised in the UNESCO reports before the site is considered for placement on the list of World Heritage in Danger.

Despite these challenges, one of the recommendations of the monitoring mission has been fully implemented, some have been partially implemented, and others would be addressed by grant applications that have been proposed by UNESCO, NCAM, and/or archaeological missions and are planned for coming seasons. A number of the recommendations require clarification or changes in laws, which has not been possible to complete with the ongoing changes in government at both the national and local levels, although NCAM has the full support of the Minister of Culture and Information and of the Cabinet of Ministers.

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