

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

(in compliance with Paragraph 169 of the *Operational Guidelines*)



Name of World Heritage property:

Samarkand – Crossroad of Cultures (Uzbekistan, C 603rev).

1. Executive Summary of the report

This report informs about the progress made in the implementation of the Decision 44 COM 7B.40, Samarkand – Crossroad of Cultures (Uzbekistan) adopted at the 44th of the World Heritage Committee session (in Fajou, 2021).

The report was prepared by the Agency for Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Samarkand city administration, Samarkand regional department of cultural heritage and Samarkand region Main Department of Construction on response of the Decision 44 COM 7B.40.

Based on the requirements of this Decision, a relevant "Road Map" has been developed to protect the the World Heritage property, to accelerate the work on its preservation and to ensure the implementation of the decision of the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee.

2. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee

(Item 5)

Takes note of the 2020 joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission, and urges the State Party to implement fully its recommendations, having particular regard to:

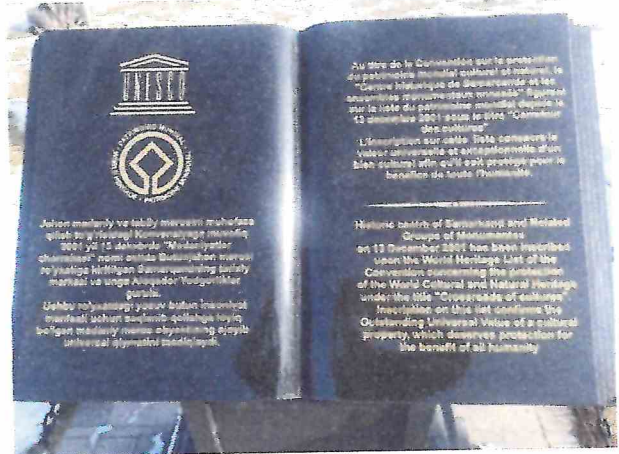
- a. Improved communication concerning World Heritage requirements, processes and procedures between the national, regional and municipal authorities of the State Party.

According to Resolution No. 371 of 14 June "On establishment and support of the International Consultative Committee on Cultural Heritage in cooperation with UNESCO" was created and the below scheme of cooperation of the Committee with other organizations was approved. According

d. The development of a public realm design code.

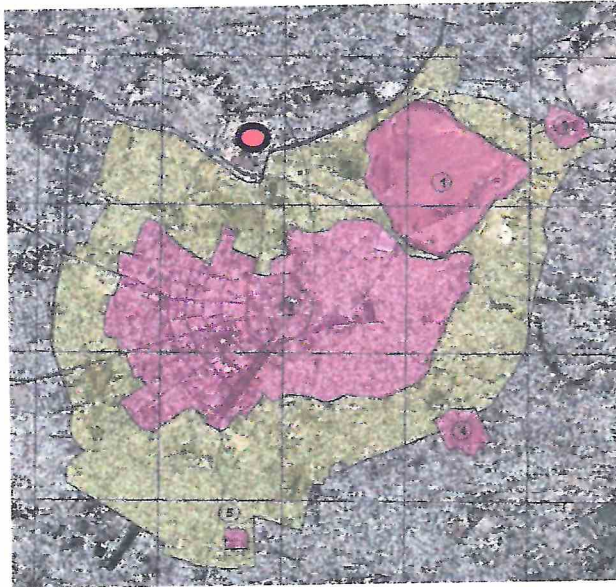
The boards with the historic information and information about well known people was provided on Klavikho Street in Samarkand.

Also, the information desks about *Samarkand-crossroads of cultures*, the World Heritage Property was also established in some places.



e. The removal or substantial revision of the illegal 'Imari' development and changes to the Hilton Hotel development.

The government is considering the issues to demolition of the Imari (Umar) building. The compensation to owners of the market prices or the provision of alternative area is under consideration of the local municipality. Once all these issues are resolved, the area will be demolished.



● “Hilton” Hotel

“Hilton” Hotel will be located outside the boundaries and buffer zone of *Samarkand-crossroads of cultures*.

f. Improved public consultation and communication of World Heritage values to the local stakeholders:

In order to accelerate the development of international cooperation in the field of education, science and culture, to actively promote the cultural, spiritual and historical heritage of Uzbekistan among the community, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted a Resolution No. 957 “On improving the activities of the National Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan”.

According to the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated June 19, 2021 "On the organization of the Agency for Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of the Republic of Uzbekistan and measures for innovative development of the industry" No. PP-5150, it is prohibited to carry out construction, demolition and “beautification” of properties located within the World Heritage site and its buffer zone.

Taking into account the above issues, in cooperation with partner organizations, the World Heritage property "Samarkand – crossroad of cultures" and its buffer have been promoted on social networks, media, among individuals and legal entities to prevent unauthorized construction, demolition and “beautification” of its buffer zone.

(Item 6)

Also requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies:

a. Regulations and guidelines for the development, restoration, and adaptive reuse of the historic centre and its buffer zones, as previously requested.

In order to preserve the historical center of "Samarkand-crossroads of cultures" and its buffer zones, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on March 30, 2019 and based on the Regulation approved by the Resolution No. 265 "On approval of certain normative legal acts on the protection and use of cultural heritage sites", the Scientific-Expert Council of the Agency for Cultural Heritage was established.

Based on Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PP-5150 of June 19, 2021 "On measures to organize the activities of the Agency for Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of the Republic of Uzbekistan and innovative development of the industry" all construction and demolition works, including any “beautification” of tangible cultural heritage, especially protected historical and cultural areas, areas included in the World Heritage List and its buffer zones must be agreed and approved by Agency for Cultural Heritage. It is noted that the

any development within the World Heritage area must be agreed by the Agency and the World Heritage Center through the National Commission for UNESCO.

b. A comprehensive programme of intended conservation projects.

c. Details of the proposed physical conservation programme for Bibi Khanoum Ensemble and Mosque, which should be undertaken in logical stages, with priority given to urgent stabilisation works, and guided by expert advice and a comprehensive site-specific conservation plan.

Conservation of Bibihanim ensemble and mosque is planned to be carried out in 2022-2023 in cooperation with ICOMOS experts.

The conservation plan is being prepared and it is under consideration on the local level. The International experts from Iran, Turkey, National commission, Minister of Tourism arranged several discussion of this project. Once the project is prepared it will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre.

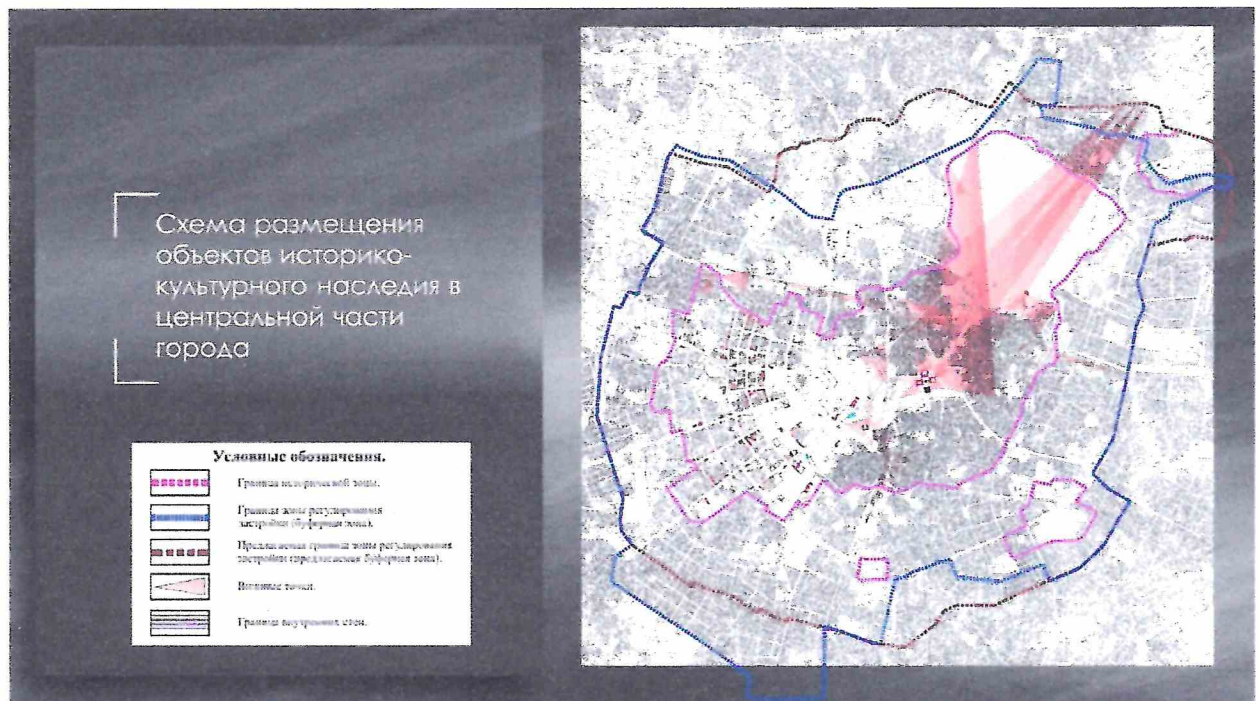
d. The revised Traffic Scheme for the City.

According to the Master Plan, the main transport routes in the historical and buffer zone of the Samarkand-Crossroads of Cultures area will not be expanded. If there is a need to expand the roads in the future, this issue will be consulted with the World Heritage Center.

e. The foreseen proposal for a minor boundary modification concerning the adjustment of the buffer zone to align it with mahalla boundaries, to be prepared and submitted in accordance with paragraph 164 and Annex 11 of the Operational Guidelines;

ToshBoshPlanLITI in consultation with ICOMOS expert develop a proposal for the buffer zone "Samarkand-crossroads of cultures".

It will be prepared and submitted in accordance with paragraph 164 and Annex 11 of the *Operational Guidelines*



f. Reports on the social and other measures taken relating to communication and enforcement of the moratorium on demolition of houses and residential areas at the property;

Such kind of issues as compensation for owners or the provision of alternative area which is compliance with the moratorium on demolition of houses and apartment buildings are being considered by the government. Once the issue is resolved, the area will be demolished.

(Item 7)

Further requests the State Party to pursue alternative locations for the proposed astronomical complex near the observatory Mirzo Ulughbek, in accordance with the ICOMOS Technical Review;

The astronomical complex will not be built near the Mirzo Ulugbek Observatory. This offer was declined. The astronomical complex is planned to be constructed on the territory of "Samarkand Tourism Center", which is being built 4.0 km from the buffer zone of the historic city. The construction of the astronomical complex was moved out of the city.

(Item 8)

Reminds the State Party that it is invited to submit, in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, detailed project documentation related to any pressing priority projects, which are proposed to proceed, despite the general moratorium;

In accordance with the Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, any current projects will be implemented according to the recommendations of the UNESCO World Heritage Center in cooperation with ICOMOS experts.

(Item 9)

Encourages the State Party to pursue the establishment and operation of the International Advisory Committee (IAC) for all cultural World Heritage properties in Uzbekistan, which should include representatives of regulatory authorities and appropriately skilled and experienced experts, to oversee the conservation of the property, the protection of its OUV, and the implementation of decisions and mission recommendations;

The International Advisory Committee was established in accordance with Resolution No. 371 of 14 June 2006 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value

[Note: this includes conservation issues which are not mentioned in the Decision of the World Heritage Committee or in any information request from the World Heritage Centre]

4. In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.

5. Public access to the state of conservation report

[Note: this report will be uploaded for public access on the World Heritage Centre's State of conservation Information System (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/soc>). Should your State Party request that the full report should not be uploaded, only the 1-page executive summary provided in point (1.) above will be uploaded for public access].

6. Signature of the Authority

Shaxriyor Nurulloev

Director of the Cultural Heritage Agency

