



# The State of Libya

## State of Conservation report

### The archaeological site of Sabratha C 184

For the year 2021  
Review date Feb 2022

## The archaeological site of Sabratha C 184

### **Executive Summary:**

The State Party (Libya) would like to express its gratitude to the World Heritage Committee (WHC) and its advisory bodies for the efforts and endeavors they have undertaken to monitor the status of the archaeological site of Sabratha (the property) in order to remove it from the World Heritage in Danger List.

This report has been prepared, in accordance with Annex 13 of the Operational Guidelines, for review in the upcoming 45th session of the World Heritage Committee Kazan, Russian Federation (19-30 June 2022).

The main threat to the Site of Sabratha remains the degradation of the monuments by the environment. Preservation of the monuments on the site requires substantial financial as well as technical support.

Following up on the recommendations provided at the joint meeting between UNESCO Arab unit, ICOMS and the Department of Antiquities (DOA) in Paris 4-6 March 2020, of which the damage to the Theatre of the World Heritage site of the city of Sabratha was discussed, it was agreed that the surface and subsurface structural strength loss associated with ballistic and small missile impacts must be determined, and a clear understanding of the different possible interventions and their long-term ramifications studied. Thus a project to study the theatre was conducted (Field work started on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 and ended mid-August 2021) in Collaboration between the DOA, Durham University, and University of West England and funded by Gerda Henkel Stiftung Patrimones. Due to the current travel restrictions and global challenges the project is developed by team members in the UK providing remote training and technical support for the members of the DOA carrying out the survey and data collection, the final report of finds will be shared with the world heritage committee and advisory bodies on completion.

During this year (2021), the second phase of the project funded by the UNDP in cooperation with the Municipal Council of Sabratha was launched and completed. The work included the rehabilitate the area around the theatre; mainly focusing on removal of the rusted metal fence (with its cement bases); restoration of the wooden floor of the stage of the theatre; removal of the rusted metal fence (with its cement bases) changing the old doors of the back stage rooms; installing a solar powered lighting in the theater and street leading to the theatre, in addition to installing a new metal fence at certain locations around the core zone to increase protection.

The Department of Antiquities (DOA) would like to reiterate their invitation to a joint WHC / ICOMOS mission to assess the status of the property on site and to provide advice to the DOA.