

Republic of Iraq Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities State Board of Antiquities & Heritage International Organizations Department

State of Conservation report Babylon In response to the extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee, Fuzhou, China 2021

Decision: 44 COM 7B.14

By

Hussein F. Khalil Babylon WH Site / Manager Salman A. Sulaiman Al-khalidy Babylon WH Site /Assistant Manager

Ammar M. Abood SBAH Representative at WMF Zuhoor A. Al-Fatlawi Translation Division/ Intl. Orgs Dept.

Saba A.Omari Intl. Organizations Dept/Director

Baghdad

Nov.2022

Property name: Babylon State party: Iraq Governorate of Babil N32 32 31.09 E44 25 15 Date of Inscription: 2019 Criteria: (iii) (vi) Property: 1,054.3 ha Buffer zone: 154.5 ha Dossier: 278rev

Introduction

Babylon has an exceptional cultural and symbolic legacy of universal value. The archaeological remains and the animal carvings on the walls (such as the legendary creature (Mushhushshu) and the ox) represent models and symbols for more than two thousand years. Archaeological remains are considered source of inspiration for literary, philosophical and artistic works. Other urban buildings and landmarks within the borders of the residence place (external and internal city walls, gates, palaces, temples including the Ziggurat, possible inspiration for the Tower of Babylon, etc.), and all the characteristics are considered as unique testimony to Neo-Babylonian civilization, particularly its contribution to architecture and urban design. 85% of the property remains are undiscovered and are of great importance to support the site's Outstanding Universal Value through further conservation and excavation.

Executive Summary

This report can be summarized in several paragraphs as follows:

1. Projects of Babylon, the cultural capital of Iraq.

This report can be considered complementary to what was previously mentioned in the annual report on the ancient city of Babylon in 2021, where all the works mentioned previously were completed through the projects of Babylon, the cultural capital of Iraq.

- 2. The works of the Babylon Antiquities Inspectorate.
- 3. The work of the World Monument Fund Organization.