STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORT

“APHRODISIAS”
TÜRKİYE

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1. **Executive Summary of the Report**

This report presents the works related to the implementation of the decisions adopted in the 44th meeting of the World Heritage Committee (44 COM 7B.55). The report was prepared by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums based on information and documents obtained from “Aphrodisias” Excavation Directorate, Aydın Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties, Site Management and Aphrodisias Museum.

In line with the Committee Decision, the studies carried out with the collaboration of the related institutions can be summarized as follows:

- The revision studies of the management plan were initiated and fully revised plan will be submitted to World Heritage Centre when it is completed.
- The issue of providing legal protection for the entirely buffer zone has been evaluated by the related institutions taking into consideration the scientific data within the mentioned area and national legislation.
- The monitoring devised for the quarry component is part of a larger documentation and conservation/maintenance programme. Systematic monitoring is part of this larger programme. The annual monitoring and the 3D models are compared to the documented condition in 2014. Any interventions, change or deterioration detected will be tackled with appropriate solutions within this programme.
- In collaboration with the regional directorate of State Hydraulic Works, two locations were selected to create caissons (water evacuation shafts) within the ancient city centre. Archaeological excavations were carried out at one of these spots in 2022. Ancient drainage channels found in a relatively good state of preservation were cleaned in 2021-2022 and will be repaired in 2023 to function in case of flooding.
- Sewerage and infrastructure work carried out in the buffer zone northeast of the walled city component are compulsory works and carried out in comply with national legislation.
- A fire prevention action was planned in accordance with the advised ‘best practice fire management strategies’ by the WHC (2021 - Decision 44 COM 7.2/29).