

Property Name	Country	Identification No.
Historic Town of Zabid	Republic of Yemen	C 611

STATE PARTY REPORT ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC TOWN OF ZABID, YEMEN –  
INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST IN DANGER

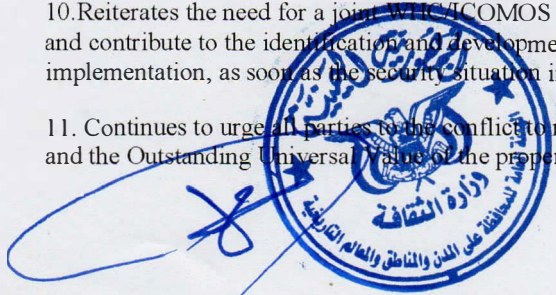
REPUBLIC OF YEMEN - MINISTRY OF CULTURE - GENERAL AUTHORITY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF  
HISTORIC CITIES, YEMEN. JANUARY 2021.

**DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE AT ITS 44<sup>ST</sup> SESSION**

(Beijing ,2020) CONCERNING THE HISTORIC TOWN OF ZABID

**Draft Decision: 44COM 7A.38 The**

1. Having perused document WHC/21/44.COM/7AAdd.2, Conservation Status of Property WHC/21/44.COM/7AAdd.2, p. 23 inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger
2. Recalling Resolution 43 COM 7A.38 adopted at its forty-third session (Baku, 2019)
3. Expresses its continuing concern that the historic city of Zabid has suffered irreversible destruction and remains at risk due to the current security situation, ongoing social change, and limited support and resources for both heritage management and physical preservation,
4. Commends the efforts of local actors as well as international agencies on initiatives taken to protect the features that contribute to the properties' OUV and the restoration of individual buildings
5. Requests the State party to consult with UNESCO and its advisory bodies, to prioritize urgent maintenance and stabilization procedures, and to restore damaged buildings, based on surveys and documentation, using traditional building techniques and materials, and to ensure that building permits comply with building standards. Regulations to avoid increasing impact on OUV.
6. Welcomes the completion of the first phase of the project "Cash for Work: Enhancing Livelihood Opportunities for Urban Youth in Yemen" and encourages continued cooperation with the UNESCO Office in Doha in its implementation.
7. Indicates the obligation to provide information on major projects to the World Heritage Center in accordance with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, for the evaluation of the Advisory Bodies, and also requests information regarding the planned removal of AI-shops in the vicinity of the Ash'ari Mosque.
8. It also requests the State party to report on the progress made in the national strategy for the preservation of cities, historical sites and monuments 2016-2020, and the implementation of the emergency action plan for the safeguarding of the Yemeni cultural heritage, adopted at the UNESCO expert meeting.
9. Also encourages the State party to develop proposals for delineation and minor modification of the boundary, in close coordination with the UNESCO Office in Doha and in consultation with the World Heritage Center and the advisory bodies, to be submitted in line with paragraph 164 of the Operational Guidelines.
10. Reiterates the need for a joint WHC/ICOMOS Interactive Monitoring Mission to advise on restoration and conservation work and contribute to the identification and development of a set of corrective actions and a time-risk DSOCR framework for their implementation, as soon as the security situation in Yemen permits;
11. Continues to urge all parties to the conflict to refrain from any further actions likely to harm the cultural heritage of Yemen and the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and to fulfill their obligations under international law, in particular the 1954



Hague Convention relative to the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, by taking all measures possible to protect this heritage, especially the sites included in the World Heritage List and those included in the provisional list of Yemen, and appeals to all state parties to cooperate in the protection of cultural heritage. Heritage during armed conflict in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2347.

12. It further encourages the State party to consider ratifying the Second Protocol (1999) of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

13. Reiterates its previous calls to the international community to provide technical and financial support, including through the UNESCO Emergency Heritage Fund, for the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan for the Protection of the Cultural Heritage of Yemen, which was approved at the UNESCO Expert Meeting in July 2015, including funding for capacity building and first aid recovery Primary and protective measures.

14. The State Party is also requested to submit to the World Heritage Center, by February 1, 2022, an updated report on the state of preservation of property and the implementation of the above, for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its forty-fifth session.

#### **14. Decides to retain Historic Town of Zabid (Yemen) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

##### **1. Summary of the report:**

The historic city of Zabid still faces many challenges and threats, and GOPHCY calls on all parties to neutralize the city.

The State party, through its representative (GOPHCY), expresses its concern over the arrival of armed men to the historic city of Zabid, as the town is located close to the conflict zone.

The State party has implemented a number of measures to limit the spread of construction violations by suspending licenses and removing 4 violating buildings in Zabid during the year 2021. GOPHCY ZABED has received moral support through the activation of the Higher Committee for the Protection of Zabid, to which all government agencies contribute.

Despite the deteriorating economic conditions of the country and the precarious security situation due to the war, many conservation measures were implemented. Where a number of projects have been implemented in Zabid by (GOPHCY), (SFD), the local authority in Al Hudaydah Governorate and the Public Works Project.

A project to save a number of historic buildings in Zabid is also being implemented with funding from the local authority in Al Hudaydah Governorate through the Executive Unit and (GOPHCY).

(GOPHCY) confirms cooperation with UNESCO Doha, where the cash-for-work project was implemented in Zabid and 10 projects were implemented.

The State party appreciates the invitation of the World Heritage Center to support Zabid financially and technically, and GOPHCY commends UNESCO Doha and its representative in Sana'a for their continuous communication and active contribution to the preservation of the property.

It also calls on everyone to continue technical and financial support to preserve cultural property in a way that preserves the authenticity and integrity of the property to remove it from the list of dangers immediately after the end of the war.