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World Heritage Convention

45COM

AMENDMENT/PROPOSAL

Agenda Item	7B
Draft Decision	45 COM 7B.14
Submitted by the Delegation of....	<u>Oman</u>
Co-author(s) (if any)	
Date of submission	

TEXT

Draft Decision: 45 COM 7B.14

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/23/45.COM/7B.Add.2,
2. Recalling Decisions 38 COM 7B.64, 41 COM 7B.25, 43 COM 7B.3 and 44 COM 7B.91, adopted at its 38th (Doha, 2014), 41st (Kraków, 2017), 43rd (Baku, 2019) and extended 44th (Fuzhou/online, 2021) sessions respectively,
3. Welcomes the State Party's continued efforts towards enhancing the protection of the property and the progress in implementing the recommendations of the 2019 joint World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring mission, undertaking effective conservation measures through planned forestation and requests ~~the State Party to fully continue to implement~~ all the mission recommendations as agreed by the State Party and previous Committee decisions;
4. Appreciates the national measures taken by the state party on the Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant (MSTP) to protect the OUV of the property. Further appreciates the decision of the State Party to revise the Power System Master Plan (PSMP) to replace the second unit of the MSTP with solar PV power plant and subsequent cancellation of 06 other coal-fired power plants as part of Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).
45. Notes with appreciation the completion of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the Strategic Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) for the South-West region of Bangladesh in 2021 and submission to the World Heritage Centre in 2023, Further notes ~~with concern~~ that the scale of potential degradation of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property through proposed development scenarios ~~remains unknown~~ have been identified by the SEA and requires further ~~research~~ monitoring, and that there is a risk of direct,

To be submitted to the Rapporteur at: wh-rapporteur@unesco.org

indirect and cumulative impacts from developments in the South-West region over the next 20 years if adequate mitigation measures are not implemented through the SEMP, and also requests the State Party to:

a) ~~undertake effective national measures *inter alia* SEMP advisory committee, coordination unit with defined hierarchy of responsibilities to prevent any direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on the OUV of the property. Further takes note that the SEMP addresses the alternative options considering factors such as climate change and freshwater flow. further studies to specifically assess the potential risks and impacts of development scenarios on the OUV of the property, including assessment of alternative options and considering factors such as climate change and freshwater flow,~~

b) ~~submit the further studies to the World Heritage Centre for review as soon as they are completed and ensure the findings are incorporated into adaptive management measures and in the implementation of the SEMP,~~

~~eb) ensure that decision making regarding large-scale industrial development in the vicinity of the property, including further development of the Mongla Port and any other development that might further increase traffic on the Pashur River, is based on a specific assessment of impacts on the OUV conducted in line with the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context, that it does not negatively impact OUV, and that it ensures the long-term protection of the OUV,~~

~~dc) keep the World Heritage Centre informed of any major project that may impact on the OUV in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;~~

~~56. Also notes with concern the delay in starting the implementation of the National Oil and Chemical Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCOP), and therefore further requests the State Party to implement the NOSCOP as soon as possible and expedite the development of a localized contingency plan to ensure immediate and coordinated actions to mitigate impacts in case of emergency; Appreciates the State Party for adopting the National Oil and Chemical Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCOP) 2020 during the difficult times of COVID-19. Further appreciates the state party for implementing NOSCOP and developing Localized Contingency Plan to mitigate the possible impact in case of emergency.~~

~~67. Noting that the India-Bangladesh Joint Working Group and the India-Bangladesh Joint River Commission are important bilateral mechanisms to address trans-national matters, reiterates its request to the States Parties of Bangladesh and India to strengthen cooperative action for the eco-hydrology of the property and the adjoining Sundarbans National Park in India;~~

~~8. Acknowledges that continued development is a shared responsibilities for all and State Party has obligation to implement the relevant targets of SDGs and therefore, requests the State Party to collate the SEMP for deciding on the large development projects and take adequate national measures to protect the OUV of the property.~~

~~78. Requests furthermore the State Party to ensure that consultations with communities take place throughout the development of the new 2021-2030 Integrated Management Plan for the Sundarbans; Takes note of the ongoing preparation of the new 2025-2035 Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP) for the Sundarbans and requests furthermore the state party to continue consultations with the communities.~~

~~98. Finally requests the State Party to engage with the World Heritage Centre on a regular basis and submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February ~~2024~~2029, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the Committee at its ~~46th~~51st session.~~