

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 and Monuments- January 2024

Decisions of the World Heritage Committee

Decision:45 COM 7A.47

Decisions taken by the World Heritage Committee at its enlarged forty-fifth session regarding the historic city of Zabid (Riyadh, 2023).

Draft resolution: 44 COM 7A.38

1. After reviewing document WHC/23/45.COM/7AAdd and referring to Resolution 44COM 7A.25 adopted at its enlarged forty-fourth session (photosho/Online 2021), it is inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger.
2. The decision indicates. Referring to Resolution 44COM 7A.25 adopted at its enlarged forty-fourth session (Fuzhou / Online 2021).
3. **Expresses its continued concern** about the irreversible damage that the historic city of Zabid has suffered and is still vulnerable to climate change conditions, security challenges, and the continued limited support and resources for both heritage management and nature conservation.
4. **Commends the efforts made** in the field of capacity building, awareness raising, damage assessment, documentation and emergency interventions on the property and requests them to continue consulting with UNESCO and the advisory body.
5. **It reiterates its previous requests** for the State party to do the following:
 - A) Provide information on all major projects to the World Heritage Centre, in compliance with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines for review by advisory bodies.
 - B) Prepare proposals for clarifying boundaries and secondary boundaries and for amending boundaries in close coordination with UNESCO and its advisory bodies, so that they are submitted in line with paragraph 164 of the guidelines process.
 - C) Consider ratifying the Second Protocol (1999) to the 1954 Hague Convention, the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflicts.
6. Praises the results of the first phase of the joint cash-for-work program between UNESCO and the European Union project in Yemen, and the launch of the new UNESCO project funded by the European Union entitled (Youth) Employment through Culture and Heritage.
7. Notes with concern that the continuation of the current conditions and lack of resources have prevented progress on the National Strategy for Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Historic Cities in Yemen 2016-2020 and the implementation of the Emergency Action Plan to Protect Cultural Heritage in Yemen.
8. Reiterates the need for a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS interactive monitoring mission to advise on repair and conservation work and to contribute to the evaluation of required actions, including the implementation of corrective measures to enable the removal of the World Heritage List property in danger as soon as the situation in Yemen permits.
9. Continues to urge all parties involved in the conflict to refrain from doing anything further that would harm the cultural heritage of Yemen (and the exceptional universal value of property in Yemen), and to fulfill their obligations under international law, in particular the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of this Heritage, especially the sites listed on The World Heritage List and those included in the Tentative List of Yemen, and calls on all States Parties to cooperate in protecting cultural heritage during armed conflict in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 2347.

10. It reiterates its previous call to the international community to provide substantive and technical support, through the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, including financial support for the implementation of the emergency action plan to protect cultural heritage in Yemen, including financing capacity building, restoration, protection measures and emergency rescue work.
11. The State Party is also requested to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2024, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above for consideration by the World Heritage Committee at its forty-sixth session.
12. Decides to keep the historic city of Zabid (Yemen) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

First/Summary of the report:

The historic city of Zabid still faces many challenges.

The State Party, through its representative (GOPHCY).

The State Party has implemented several measures that limit the spread of construction violations by removing 6 violating buildings in Zabid during the year 2023. GOPHCY ZABED has received moral support through the activation of the Supreme Committee for the Protection of Zabid, to which all government agencies contribute.

Commends the efforts made in the field of capacity building, awareness raising, damage assessment, documentation and emergency interventions on the property and requests them to continue consulting with UNESCO and the advisory body.

Despite the country's deteriorating economic conditions and unstable security situation due to the war, many conservation measures have been implemented. The rescue of several traditional buildings in the historic city of Zabid was completed with support from the local authority in Hodiedah Governorate through the Executive Unit and (GOPHCY).

The implementation of a project to rescue several historical buildings in Zabid was also completed, funded by the local authority in Hodiedah Governorate.

(GOPHCY) confirms cooperation with UNESCO - Doha, as the cash-for-work project was implemented in Zabid, and studies were carried out for the project to save several buildings in the historic city of Zabid.

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 its continued communication and active contribution to the preservation of the property.

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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 in order to remove it from the list of risks immediately after the end of the war.