

State of Libya
Old Town of Ghadames (C 362bis)
World Heritage Site
Annual report (2024)

Property Data:

- Name of World Heritage Property; Old Town of Ghadamès
- State Party; Libya
- Identification Number; (C 362bis)
- Year of inscription on the List of World Heritage; 1986
- Type of Property; Cultural
- Geographic Information (Lat/Long); 30° 08' 00.44" N, 09° 29' 50.30" E
- Year of inscription on the List of World Heritage in danger; 2016
- Property Area; 287.590 ha.
- Government Institutions Responsible for the Property; Ghadames City Promotion and Development Authority (GCPDA)
- Criteria; (V)
- Previous Committee Decisions; Decisions 40 COM 7A.40, Decision 41 COM 8C.2 adopted at its 41st session (Krakow, 2017), Decision: 42 COM 7A.25 adopted at its 42st session (Manama, 2018). Decision 43 com 7A.26 adopted at its 43st session (Backu, Azerbaijan, 2019), Decision 44 COM 7A.14, adopted at its 44th session (Fuzhou (China)/Online meeting, 2021), Decision 45 COM 7A.36, adopted at its 45th session (Extended forty-fifth session Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 10-25 September 2023), and Decision WHC/24/46 com 7A.23 adopted at its 46st session with (New Delhi – India 21-31 July 2024).



January 2025

1. Introduction:

The year 2024 has gone through many challenges, while continuing to work in the property, The GCPDA, with the kind support of the World Heritage Center and ICOMOS, achieved many successes, as follows:

- 1. Decision: 44 COM 7A.14 Adopts the set of corrective measures and a timeframe for their implementation, as well as the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), elaborated in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies;**
- 2. Decision 44 COM 8E Adopts the retrospective Statements of Outstanding Universal Value, for the Libya, Old Town of Ghadamès as presented in Annex 1 of Document WHC/21/44.COM/8E.**
- 3. On the extended forty-fifth session (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 10-25 September 2023), Decision: 45 COM 8B.59; The World Heritage Committee examined the proposal for the minor modification to the boundaries of the Old Town of Ghadamès and to the buffer zone and decided to approve it.**
- 4. Decision WHC/24/46 com 7A.23 adopted at its 46st session, (New Delhi – India 21-31 July 2024), The Updated Management Plan according to the new statement of the outstanding universal value, the minor boundaries modification of the property and the buffer zone, and the adopted desired state of conservation for removing the property from the list of danger.**

2. Executive Summary:

The State of Party, (Libya) would like to express its gratitude to the World Heritage Centre (WHC) and its advisory bodies for the efforts and endeavor's they have undertaken to monitor the status of the Old Town of Ghadamès in order to remove it from the list of endangered sites.

This report has been prepared, in accordance with Annex 13 of the Operational Guidelines, and compiled in response to WH Committee Decisions;

The World Heritage Committee held its 46 *session*, WHC/24/46 com 7A.23 adopted at its 46st session (New Delhi – India 21-31 July 2024), in which:

- 1. Commends the important efforts made by the State Party in undertaking activities for the conservation of the property and its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), particularly those directed towards the implementation of corrective measures for the achievement of the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), as adopted by the Committee, and requests the State Party to continue its efforts in this regard;**

- 2. Notes with appreciation the finalization of a Management Plan for the property, with a Risk Preparedness Plan, taking into consideration the recommendations of ICOMOS' technical review, as well as incorporating action for the sustainability of green areas within the property and its buffer zone, and also requests the State Party to provide more information about the implementation of these projects in terms of available resources, timeframe and progress achieved;**
- 3. Also notes with appreciation the amendment of land use regulations within the boundaries of the Old Town of Ghadames, to integrate the modified boundaries of the property and its buffer zone;**
- 4. Welcomes the completion of the fully rehabilitated Visitor Centre and capacity-building activities and further requests the State Party to keep the World Heritage Centre informed about the progress in this regard;**
- 5. Further notes with appreciation the investigations undertaken by the State Party in response to the infestation by green scale insects in the palm groves, and requests furthermore the State Party to implement and monitor the proposed remedial actions and to provide further information about their efficacy;**
- 6. Acknowledges the request by the State Party to extend the timeframe for the implementation of corrective measures and adopts a revised timeframe with a two-year extension;**
- 7. Requests moreover that the invited joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission be carried out as soon as conditions permit in order to assess the Decisions adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 46th session (New Delhi, 2024) WHC/24/46.COM/17, p. 43 overall state of conservation of the property and progress made in implementing corrective measures;**
- 8. Requests the State Party to regularly inform the Committee on the evolution of the situation at the property, the implementation of corrective measures, and any future plans for major restoration or new construction projects that may affect the OUV of the property, in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;**
- 9. Continues to call for an increased mobilization of the international community to provide financial and technical support to the State Party, including through the**

UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, to implement the corrective measures that have been identified;

10. The GCPDA will continue to make the WHC aware of the evolving status of the property, of any new measures taken to ensure its protection and preservation and provide detailed information on the work accomplished.