

## **Report on the State of Conservation of the World Heritage property**

### **Centennial Hall in Wrocław (Poland, C 1165)**

#### **1. Executive Summary**

This report is in response to the decision of the World Heritage Committee 46COM 7B.12, adopted in July 2024 at its 46th session in New Delhi, India. It presents the current state of conservation of the World Heritage property of the Centennial Hall in Wrocław and its surroundings and covers the period from the time of its adoption until the end of December 2024. Information received from the Plenipotentiary of the Mayor of Wrocław for the management of the area inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List was used to draw up this report.

The issue of updating the Management Plan was discussed during the WHC/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission in September 2024. Experts were informed that the declaration made from the level of the State-Party to implement this update by the end of 2024 is not feasible due to the lack of transfer of the declared funds for this purpose from the State budget to the City authorities. At the same time, the representative of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage has declared the transfer of these funds in 2025. Obtaining these funds will enable the City authorities to undertake the task.

In order to support the activities of the Site Managers in their efforts to implement the requirements arising from the status of a World Heritage site, the publications of the World Heritage Resource Manuals series 'Guidelines and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in the World Heritage Context' and 'Strengthening our Heritage. Toolkit 2.0'. The premise of these activities was to make the methodologies described in the manuals available to Site Managers in the national language, in order to facilitate their application in practice.

The final version of the WHC/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission report was submitted to the State Party by letter dated 23 December 2024 (CLT/WHC/ENA/24/15119). Due to the late date of receipt of the mission report, this report does not address its content, which needs to be thoroughly reviewed both at the State Party level and the Site Managers of the Centennial Hall in Wrocław.

As requested in advance of the reactive monitoring mission, additional information and documentation were provided by letter from Ms Bożena Żelazowska, General Conservator of Monuments, dated 23 April 2024.

## 2. Response to the decision of the World Heritage Committee

This report is in response to the decision of the World Heritage Committee No. 46 COM 7B.12, adopted in July 2024 at its 46th session in New Delhi, India. It presents the current state of conservation of the World Heritage property of the Centennial Hall in Wrocław and its surroundings and covers the period from the time of its adoption until the end of December 2024. Information received from the Plenipotentiary of the Mayor of Wrocław for the management of the area inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List was used to draw up this report.

In its decision 46 COM 7B.12, the World Heritage Committee:

3. Welcomes the intention of the State Party to finalise the revised management plan for the property by the end of 2024, and as part of this revision process, requests the State Party to:

- a) Strengthen the management system and related mechanisms to ensure that Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines is systematically implemented,
- b) Develop mechanisms to integrate Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) into the management system to ensure that appropriate assessments are carried out in accordance with the methodology of the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context, for all projects, irrespective of their scale and nature, on the attributes that convey the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and their capacity to convey it,
- c) Develop a cumulative HIA for all projects undertaken on the property, its buffer zone and wider setting since its inscription, as a basis for assessing potential negative impacts on the attributes conveying the OUV of the property, and identifying mitigation measures so that they can be integrated into the revised management plan,
- d) Submit the final draft of the revised management plan to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies prior to its formal adoption;

The issue of updating the Management Plan was discussed during the WHC/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission in September 2024. Experts were informed that the declaration made from the level of the State-Party to implement this update by the end of 2024 is not feasible due to the lack of transfer of the declared funds for this purpose from the State budget to the City authorities. At the same time, the representative of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage has declared the transfer of these funds in 2025. Obtaining these funds will enable the City authorities to undertake the task.

In order to support the activities of the Site Managers in their efforts to implement the requirements arising from the status of a World Heritage site, a Polish language version of the publication from the World Heritage Resource Manuals series 'Guidelines and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in the World Heritage Context' was published in 2023, while at the end of 2024, a Polish language version of the manual 'Strengthening our heritage. Toolkit 2.0'. The premise of these activities was to make the methodologies described in the resource manuals available to Site Managers in the national language, in order to facilitate their application in practice.

4. Takes notes of the invitation of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission by the State Party, which is scheduled to take place in the week of 9 September, but regrets that the timeframe proposed by the State Party did not allow the Committee to examine the resulting report at its current session;

The WHC/ICOMOS reactive monitoring mission took place from 10 to 12 September 2024. The final version of the mission report was submitted to the State Party by letter dated 23 December 2024 (CLT/WHC/ENA/24/15119). Due to the late date of receipt of the mission report, this report does not address its content, which requires detailed review at both the State Party and the Site Managers of the Centennial Hall in Wrocław.

5. Also requests the State Party to provide the World Heritage Centre, prior to the Reactive Monitoring mission, with clearer cartographic documentation showing whether and how the route of the Great Island Avenue would encroach upon the Szczytnicki Park and how many trees would need to be felled to widen the road in relation to the boundaries of the park;

As requested, documentation was provided by letter from Ms Bożena Żelazowska General Conservator of Monuments dated 23 April 2024 (DOZ-ZOZ.6480.27.2023.JM). This included additional information and materials, including:

- 1) Situational plan of the UNESCO World Heritage Site and buffer zone including Grand Island Avenue;
- 2) Indicative plan of the investment together with 5 location plans from the Land development design, phase I, dated January 2020 (which were already sent to the World Heritage Centre in 2022 as appendices to the response of State Party to the ICOMOS Technical Review);
- 3) Land development design- construction of service pedestrian routes, renovation and reconstruction of existing pedestrian and roadway routes, construction of small architecture objects together with building devices serving them and demolition of buildings, structures and small architecture together with building devices serving them as part of the investment entitled "Design of land development- construction of service pedestrian routes, renovation and reconstruction of existing pedestrian and roadway routes, construction of small architecture objects together with building devices serving them". "Project of land development together with demolitions of buildings and building devices at the junction of Adam Mickiewicz, Mikołaja Kopernika and 8 maja streets in Wrocław, plots no. 7/4,7/2,7/1,7/3,8,9/1, 11, 12/5, 13/2, 16, 17/1, 17/2", July 2023,M. Kowaluk, Ł. Reszka, A. Czubieli-Kocjan, J. Klimowicz - 2 plans and 4 visualisations;
- 4) "Query for the area bounded by Mickiewicza 8 Maja, Dembowskiego and Kopernika Streets, with particular reference to plots No.7/1,7/2,7/3, 7/4,8, 9/1, 11, 12/5, 12/3, 16, 17/1, 17/2, part of plot No. 13/2 (the length of plot No.12/5),AM-1, part of plot No.1 and 64/1 (outside the lane of the road under construction), AM-2,Sępólno precinct in Wrocław" Dr. Łukasz Krzywka.

**3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State Party (State Parties) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value.**

Not identified.

**4. In accordance with the provisions of section 172 of the Operational Guidelines, please describe any potential substantial renovation works, modifications and/or construction works planned within the property, the buffer zone (buffer zones) and/or corridors or other areas, if such changes may have an impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including its authenticity and integrity.**

Not identified.

**5. Public access to the Report on the state of conservation.**

The State Party hereby consents to the publication of the full version of the report on the World Heritage Centre website.

**6. Signature of the authority.**