

# **47 COM**

# WHC/25/47.COM/8B Paris, 26 May 2025

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# CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

# INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Forty-seventh session UNESCO, Paris 6-16 July 2025

# <u>Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda</u>: Establishment of the World Heritage List and of the List of World Heritage in Danger

# 8B. Nominations to the World Heritage List

#### **Summary**

This document presents nominations to be examined by the World Heritage Committee at its 47th session. It is divided into three parts:

- Part I Changes to names of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List
- Part II Examination of nominations of natural, mixed and cultural sites to the World Heritage List
- Part III Record of the physical attributes of each site examined at the 47th session.

The document presents for each nomination the proposed Draft Decision based on the recommendations of the appropriate Advisory Body(ies) as included in documents WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1 and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2.

#### Decisions required:

The Committee is requested to examine the recommendations and Draft Decisions presented in this Document, and, in accordance with paragraph 153 of the Operational Guidelines, take its Decisions concerning inscription on the World Heritage List in the following four categories:

- (a) sites which it inscribes on the World Heritage List;
- (b) sites which it decides not to inscribe on the World Heritage List;
- (c) sites whose consideration is **referred**;
- (d) sites whose consideration is deferred.

# I. CHANGES TO NAMES OF PROPERTIES INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

1. At the request of the Australian authorities, the Committee is asked to approve a change to the English and French name of the property **K'gari (Fraser Island)**, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1992.

# **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.1**

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Document WHC/25/47.COM/8B,
- 2. <u>Approves</u> the name change to K'gari (Fraser Island) as proposed by the Australian authorities. The name of the property becomes **K'gari** both in English and French.

# II. EXAMINATION OF NOMINATION DOSSIERS OF NATURAL, MIXED AND CULTURAL SITES TO THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST PROPOSED FOR EXAMINATION IN 2025

## Summary

2. At its 47th session, the Committee will be examining a total of 32 nomination dossiers. Out of the 32 nominations, 26 are new nominations, having not been presented to the Committee previously, 2 are significant boundary modifications and 4 nominations were deferred or referred by the Committee at its previous sessions. Of these nominations, ICOMOS and IUCN are recommending 14 nominations for inscription on the World Heritage List and 2 significant boundary modifications for approval.

#### Nomination withdrawn at the request of the State Party

- 3. The following nomination was withdrawn prior to the preparation of this document:
  - Spain, Olive Landscapes of Andalusia the timeless story of a sea of olive trees

# Nominations not evaluated for the 47th session

- 4. Due to security reasons, the Advisory Bodies were unable to evaluate the following nominations submitted by States Parties in 2020 and 2024 which will thus not be examined by the World Heritage Committee at its 47th session:
  - Lake Chad cultural landscape (Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Nigeria) submitted in 2020;
  - Hisham's Palace/ Khirbet al-Mafjar (State of Palestine), submitted in 2024.
- 5. Should the security situation allow their evaluation, these nominations will be presented for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 48th session, without impinging on national and overall quota of nominations to be examined (see Paragraph 61 of the Operational Guidelines). The evaluation process will be undertaken in accordance with the timeframe foreseen in Paragraph 168 of the Operational Guidelines. This point is also reported on under Agenda Item 8 in Document WHC/25/47.COM/8.

# **Presentation of Nominations**

6. In this working document, within the natural, mixed and cultural categories, nominations are presented in English alphabetical and regional order: Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America, Latin America and the Caribbean. For ease of reference, an alphabetical summary table and index of recommendations is presented on page 3. The order of presentation of nominations can be found on page 5.

# Alphabetical Summary Table and Index of IUCN and ICOMOS Recommendations to the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee

State Party	World Heritage nomination	ID	No.	Recommendation	Criteria proposed by the State Party	Pp
	NATURAL SITES					
Brazil	Cavernas do Peruaçu National Park	1747		R	(vii)(viii)	21
Denmark	Møns Klint	1728		R	(viii)	20
Guinea-Bissau	Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Bijagós Archipelago – Omatí Minhô	1431	rev	I	(ix)(x)	12
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Hin Nam No National Park [significant boundary modification of "Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park", Viet Nam, (viii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 2003, 2015]	951	ter	OK	(viii)(ix)(x)	17
Mongolia	Eastern Mongolian Steppes	1729		D	(ix)(x)	15
Mozambique	<b>Maputo National Park</b> [significant boundary modification of "iSimangaliso Wetland Park", South Africa, (vii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 1999]	914	bis	OK	(vii)(ix)(x)	9
Sierra Leone	Gola-Tiwai Complex	1746		ı	(ix)(x)	6
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Mt. Kumgang – Diamond Mountain from the Sea  CULTURAL SITES	1642		1-1	(iii)(vii)(viii)	22
Australia	Murujuga Cultural Landscape	1709		R	(i)(iii)(v)	30
Cambodia	Cambodian Memorial Sites: From centres of repression to places of peace and reflection	1748		I	(vi)	31
Cameroon	Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape of the Mandara Mountains	1745		I	(iii)(iv)	26
China	Xixia Imperial Tombs	1736		i	(ii)(iii)	34
France	Megaliths of Carnac and of the Shores of Morbihan	1725		i	(i)(ii)(iv)	45
Germany	The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria: Neuschwanstein, Linderhof, Schachen and Herrenchiemsee – From Dreams to Reality	1726		İ	(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)	48
Greece	Minoan Palatial Centres	1733		R	(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)	50
India	Maratha Military Landscapes of India	1739		D	(iii)(iv)(vi)	36
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Prehistoric Caves and Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble of Khorramabad Valley (PCFEKV)	1744		I	(iii)(v)	37
Italy	Art and Architecture in the Prehistory of Sardinia – The domus de janas	1730		R	(ii)(iii)(vi)	51
Jamaica	The Archaeological Landscape of 17th Century Port Royal	1595		I	(iv)(vi)	63
Malawi	Mount Mulanje Cultural Landscape (MMCL)	1201	rev	R	(iii)(vi)	28
Malaysia	Forest Research Institute Malaysia Forest Park Selangor (FRIM FPS)	1734		R	(ii)(v)	39
Mexico	Huichol Route through Sacred Sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuarí Huajuyé)	1704		I	(iii)(v)(vi)	60
Nepal	Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, the Archaeological Remains of the Ancient Shakya Kingdom	1741		D	(iv)(vi)	40
Panama	The Colonial Transisthmian Route of Panamá	1582	rev	see 8B.Add	(ii)(iv)(vi)	65
Poland	Gdynia. Early Modernist City Centre	1715		R	(ii)(iv)	52
Portugal	Álvaro Siza's Architecture: A Modern Contextualism Legacy	1737		D	(ii)(iv)	53
Republic of Korea	Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream	1740		I	(i)(iii)	41
Russian Federation	Rock Paintings of Shulgan-Tash Cave	1743		I	(iii)	54
Tajikistan	Ancient Khuttal	1627		R	(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)	42
Türkiye	Sardis and the Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe	1731		I	(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)	57
United Arab Emirates	Faya Palaeolandscape	1735		N	(iii)(iv)	29
Viet Nam	Yen Tu-Vinh Nghiem-Con Son, Kiep Bac Complex of Monuments and Landscapes	1732		D	(iii)(v)(vi)	44

# **KEY**

Recommended for inscription Recommended for referral R Recommended for deferral D

Significant boundary modification recommended for approval Not recommended for inscription OK

NA Significant boundary modification recommended for non-approval (i)(ii) etc. Cultural and/or Natural criteria proposed by the State Party

Nominations in **bold** are considered "new", having not been presented to the Committee previously.

# Order of presentation of nominations to be examined at the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee

Order	State Party	World Heritage nomination	Recomm.	Draft Decision
		CULTURAL SITES		
1.	Cameroon	Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape of the Mandara Mountains	I	47 COM 8B.10
2.	Malawi	Mount Mulanje Cultural Landscape (MMCL)	R	47 COM 8B.11
3.	United Arab Emirates	Faya Palaeolandscape	N	47 COM 8B.12
4.	Australia	Murujuga Cultural Landscape	R	47 COM 8B.13
5.	Cambodia	Cambodian Memorial Sites: From centres of repression to places of peace and reflection	I	47 COM 8B.14
6.	China	Xixia Imperial Tombs	I	47 COM 8B.15
7.	India	Maratha Military Landscapes of India	D	47 COM 8B.16
8.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Prehistoric Caves and Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble of Khorramabad Valley (PCFEKV)	I	47 COM 8B.17
9.	Malaysia	Forest Research Institute Malaysia Forest Park Selangor (FRIM FPS)	R	47 COM 8B.18
10.	Nepal	Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, the Archaeological Remains of the Ancient Shakya Kingdom	D	47 COM 8B.19
11.	Republic of Korea	Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream	I	47 COM 8B.20
12.	Tajikistan	Ancient Khuttal	R	47 COM 8B.21
13.	Viet Nam	Yen Tu-Vinh Nghiem-Con Son, Kiep Bac Complex of Monuments and Landscapes	D	47 COM 8B.22
14.	France	Megaliths of Carnac and of the Shores of Morbihan	I	47 COM 8B.23
15.	Germany	The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria: Neuschwanstein, Linderhof, Schachen and Herrenchiemsee – From Dreams to Reality	I	47 COM 8B.24
16.	Greece	Minoan Palatial Centres	R	47 COM 8B.25
17.	Italy	Art and Architecture in the Prehistory of Sardinia – The domus de janas	R	47 COM 8B.26
18.	Poland	Gdynia. Early Modernist City Centre	R	47 COM 8B.27
19.	Portugal	Álvaro Siza's Architecture: A Modern Contextualism Legacy	D	47 COM 8B.28
20.	Russian Federation	Rock Paintings of Shulgan-Tash Cave	I	47 COM 8B.29
21.	Türkiye	Sardis and the Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe	I	47 COM 8B.30
22.	Mexico	Huichol Route through Sacred Sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuarí Huajuyé)	I	47 COM 8B.31
23.	Jamaica	The Archaeological Landscape of 17th Century Port Royal	I	47 COM 8B.32
24.	Panama	The Colonial Transisthmian Route of Panamá	see 8B.Add	47 COM 8B.33
25.	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	MIXED SITES  Mt. Kumgang – Diamond Mountain from the Sea	1-1	47 COM 8B.9
	republic of Rolea	NATURAL SITES	I	
26.	Sierra Leone	Gola-Tiwai Complex	I	47 COM 8B.2
27.	Mozambique	Maputo National Park [significant boundary modification of "iSimangaliso Wetland Park", South Africa, (vii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 1999]	OK	47 COM 8B.3
28.	Guinea-Bissau	Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Bijagós Archipelago – Omatí Minhô	I	47 COM 8B.4
29.	Mongolia	Eastern Mongolian Steppes	D	47 COM 8B.5
30.	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Hin Nam No National Park [significant boundary modification of "Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park", Viet Nam, (viii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 2003, 2015]	OK	47 COM 8B.6
31.	Denmark	Møns Klint	R	47 COM 8B.7
32.	Brazil	Cavernas do Peruaçu National Park	R	47 COM 8B.8

- 8. In the text below, IUCN Recommendations and ICOMOS Recommendations are presented in the form of Draft Decisions, drawn from documents WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1 (ICOMOS) and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2 (IUCN).
- 9. Though the Draft Decisions are based on IUCN and ICOMOS Recommendations, in some cases few modifications were required to adapt them to this document.

#### Disclaimer

The Nomination files produced by the States Parties are published by the World Heritage Centre at its website and/or in working documents in order to ensure transparency, access to information and to facilitate the preparations of comparative analysis by other nominating States Parties.

The sole responsibility for the content of each Nomination file lies with the State Party concerned. The publication of the Nomination file, including the maps and names, does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever of the World Heritage Committee or of the Secretariat of UNESCO concerning the history or legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its boundaries.

#### A. NATURAL SITES

#### A.1 AFRICA

#### A.1.1 New Nominations

Property	Gola-Tiwai Complex
ID. N°	1746
State Party	Sierra Leone
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ix)(x)

See the 2025 IUCN Evaluation Book.

# **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.2**

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> **Gola-Tiwai Complex, Sierra Leone**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria** (ix) and (x);
- 3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### Brief synthesis

The Gola-Tiwai Complex is a serial property consisting of four component parts in two protected areas located in the Eastern and Southern Provinces of Sierra Leone: the Gola Rainforest National Park (GRNP) and the Tiwai Island Wildlife Sanctuary (TIWS). GRNP consists of three component parts – Gola North, Gola Central and Gola South – and TIWS as a single component part bounded by the Moa River. Together, they cover an area of 71,203 ha. GRNP and TIWS are part of the Greater Gola Landscape that extends eastwards into Liberia and constitutes, as a whole, the third largest remaining forest block in the highly fragmented Upper Guinean Forest. In contrast with other sites in the Upper Guinean Forest, deforestation in the Gola-Tiwai Complex is extremely low. It is

also a stronghold of the globally threatened Western Chimpanzee and Pygmy Hippopotamus and of the iconic White-necked Rockfowl, and of cichlid fish and other freshwater taxa.

**Criterion (ix):** The Gola-Tiwai Complex lies within the area of highest rainfall in the Upper Guinean Forest zone. It is the westernmost surviving block of intact moist tropical forest in the Guinean Forests of West Africa biodiversity hotspot. As a result of the unique hydrological conditions, the Northern Upper Guinea area has been designated as a distinct freshwater ecoregion characterised by tropical and subtropical coastal rivers with an intricate hydrological network. The Northern Upper Guinea freshwater ecoregion has a distinct fish fauna and high levels of endemism in other taxonomic groups. For instance, the regional rivers of the Upper Guinea freshwater ecoregion, including those of the Gola-Tiwai Complex, are a cradle for Tilapia evolution.

The forest structure in the Gola-Tiwai Complex shares many characteristics with the broader Upper Guinean Forest coastal belt in which it is located. It also shares plant species with Mount Nimba and other forests to the northeast and with remaining forest fragments to the northwest that are not present at sites further east. Once part of a single contiguous forest extending to the northwest, northeast and southeast, the Greater Gola Landscape shares characteristics and species with other remaining fragments, thanks to its central location, whilst being distinct from the other fragments. The probable reason for this is the expansion and contraction of forests over time caused by changes to the global climate. This evolutionary process helps explain the high species richness and endemism of the Greater Gola Landscape and provides continued resilience in the face of climate change and the continuing fragmentation of the Upper Guinean Forest.

**Criterion (x):** As a result of the landscape characteristics and ecological processes described above, the Gola-Tiwai Complex is correspondingly unique when it comes to the diversity of its habitats and biodiversity, notably of its freshwater fish, bats, butterflies and orchids. The most important family of freshwater fish in the Gola-Tiwai Complex are Cichlidae, consisting of the two genera Tilapia and Sarotheradon. Eight Tilapia species occur in the average Sierra Leonean river basin, which stands out among other African lakes and river basins.

Primate biomass in the Gola-Tiwai Complex is among the highest in the world. The highly threatened chimpanzee subspecies, the Western Chimpanzee, whose population trend overall is on the decline, occurs in the Gola-Tiwai Complex at comparatively higher densities than elsewhere and is one of just seven exceptionally stable or high Western chimpanzee density sites and is an important area for the survival of the subspecies. The Greater Gola Landscape, of which the Gola-Tiwai Complex is part, is also a stronghold for the equally threatened Forest Elephant in west Africa. The rich bird fauna of the Gola-Tiwai Complex includes up to 448 species including globally important populations of the White-breasted Guineafowl, the Timneh Parrot and the flagship White-necked Rockfowl which nests on rock faces under the forest canopy and whose survival in this landscape may be due in part to its cultural significance for the local Mende people. Thanks to its steep slopes and rocky outcrops, the Gola-Tiwai Complex includes an abundance of habitats suitable for nests of the White-necked Rockfowl. Invertebrates include over 500 species of butterfly and 140 species of dragonflies and damselflies.

#### Integrity

The majority of the Gola-Tiwai Complex consists of primary moist or semi-deciduous tropical rainforest that has never been commercially exploited. The remaining area consists of secondary vegetation that is regenerating naturally since commercial timber extraction and shifting cultivation ended in 2003. Deforestation rates are low compared to the Upper Guinean Forest more broadly. The four component parts that constitute the Gola-Tiwai Complex are sufficiently large together, and ecological connectivity between them sufficiently intact, to maintain viable populations of all but the widest-ranging

species. Inventories and monitoring conducted at Gola and Tiwai since the 1980s indicate that all the species that would be expected in a block of Upper Guinean Forest in this location are present and their populations stable.

Activities within the formal buffer zone and the sustainable collection of non-timber forest products within the protected areas are governed by agreements signed with local communities and enforced using the authority of the paramount chiefs, section chiefs and village chiefs. Hunting and artisanal mining were widespread in the past but occur now only at very low levels. Surveys of primates since 2012 indicate that, even for taxa that were heavily hunted during armed conflict, populations have returned to similar levels to those observed in the 1980s and – in terms of biomass – are once again among the highest in the world.

# Protection and management requirements

The effective protection and management of the Gola-Tiwai Complex is assured by the National Protected Area Authority of Sierra Leone, which has delegated the day-to-day management of the sites to the not-for-profit Gola Rainforest Conservation company (GRCLG) and the Tiwai Island Administrative Committee. The four directors of the GRCLG include the Government of Sierra Leone, the representatives of two national and international nongovernmental organisations, and an elected representative of the Paramount Chiefs of the seven chiefdoms around GRNP. At both Gola and Tiwai, the close engagement of local communities in the management of the protected areas is key for successful protection. Elsewhere, habitat fragmentation over the past two centuries has left very few large forest blocks intact.

Protection and management of GRNP is funded in part by carbon revenues from a Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) project that supports park management as well as the livelihoods of communities in the buffer zone. In addition, major donor agencies have consistently provided financial support for the conservation of the Gola-Tiwai Complex, indicating strong interest on the part of the global conservation community. Monitoring of biodiversity and park management indicators is conducted regularly and will be extended in coming years to include TIWS. Baseline monitoring data on biodiversity and the state of the forest dating back to the 1980s is available for both sites.

- 4. <u>Requests</u> the State Party to continue to explore the possibility of expanding the buffer zone of the Tiwai Island Wildlife Sanctuary component part in full consultation with the local communities concerned, towards developing a minor boundary modification request to provide a stronger layer of protection, ideally similar to the buffer zones of the property's other component parts;
- 5. <u>Encourages</u> the State Party of Sierra Leone to continue to build cooperation on management of the Gola-Tiwai Complex with the adjacent Gola Rainforest National Park (Liberia), and coordinate with the State Party of Liberia towards a significant boundary modification for a transboundary World Heritage property;
- 6. <u>Commends</u> the State Party for the close consultation and engagement with local communities, the high state of conservation in the Gola-Tiwai Complex and for the high-quality nomination dossier and supporting documentation.

# A.1.2 Significant boundary modifications of properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List

Property	<b>Maputo National Park</b> [significant boundary modification of "iSimangaliso Wetland Park", South Africa, (vii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 1999]
ID. N°	914 bis
State Party	Mozambique
Criteria proposed by State Party	(vii)(ix)(x)

See the 2025 IUCN Evaluation Book.

# **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.3**

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2.
- 2. <u>Approves</u> the significant boundary modification of **iSimangaliso Wetland Park**, **South Africa**, to include **Maputo National Park**, **Mozambique**, to become the **iSimangaliso Wetland Park Maputo National Park, Mozambique** and **South Africa**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (vii)**, (ix) and (x);
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

# **Brief synthesis**

The iSimangaliso Wetland Park – Maputo National Park transboundary property is one of the most outstanding natural wetland and coastal sites of Africa, lying along the southern limit of the East African coastal plain. Covering a combined area of 397,471 ha, it includes a wide range of undisturbed marine, coastal, wetland, estuarine, freshwater and terrestrial environments which are scenically beautiful and largely intact. These include coral reefs, long sandy beaches, coastal dunes, lake systems, swamps, extensive wetlands, mangroves and seagrass beds, providing critical habitat for a wide range of species from southern Africa's marine environments, wetlands and savannahs. The interaction of these environments with major floods and coastal storms in the property's transitional location has resulted in continuing speciation and significant species diversity. Among the property's important natural phenomena are communities of nesting turtles, terrestrial and marine megafauna and large aggregations of waterfowl.

Criterion (vii): iSimangaliso Wetland Park – Maputo National Park includes a diverse mosaic of terrestrial, coastal and marine land and seascapes of exceptional beauty, with superlative scenic vistas along its coastline. From the clear waters of the Indian Ocean punctuated by colourful coral reefs to wide intact sandy beaches, a forested cordon of dunes and a network of wetlands, grasslands, estuarine systems, forests, freshwater lakes, mangroves, seagrass beds, coral reefs and savannah, the property has a richly textured landscape and exceptional aesthetic qualities. Outstanding natural phenomena include the shifting salinity status within Lake St. Lucia linked to wet and dry climatic cycles, the spectacle of large numbers of nesting turtles on the beaches and the abundance of marine megafauna including dolphins and migrating whales and Whale Shark and the large aggregations of waterfowl and large breeding colonies of pelicans, storks, herons and terns and the site's contribution to the East Asia-East Africa global flyway for migratory birds along the east coast of Africa.

**Criterion (ix):** The combination of fluvial, marine and aeolian processes in iSimangaliso Wetland Park – Maputo National Park has resulted in a variety of landforms. The property's transitional geographic location between sub-tropical and tropical Africa, as well as its coastal setting, have resulted in significant species and ecosystem diversity, including freshwater lakes and coastal lagoons, mangroves, seagrass meadows, and

dunes. Speciation processes in the larger Maputaland Centre of Endemism, which this property sits within, are also ongoing and contribute another element to the diversity and interplay of evolutionary processes at work in the property. In the marine components of the site, the sediments being transported by the Agulhas Current are trapped by submarine canyons on the continental shelf allowing for remarkably clear waters for the development of coral reefs. The interplay of this diverse environmental processes is further marked by major floods and coastal storms.

**Criterion (x):** The extensive range of interconnected habitats across terrestrial, coastal and marine areas within the property support a significant diversity of African biota, including numerous threatened and endemic species of flora and fauna. The species recorded for iSimangaliso are extensive, and population sizes for most of them remain viable. The over 6,500 plant and animal (including 521 bird) species recorded in

iSimangaliso Wetland Park include 11 species endemic to the protected area, 108 species endemic to South Africa, and 467 species listed as threatened in South Africa. Of the 4,935 species recorded in Maputo National Park at the time of the extension, 104 are assessed as threatened or near threatened according to the IUCN Red List of Threatened species, and 184 are endemic or near endemic to Mozambique (5), southern Africa (95) and the Western Indian Ocean (135). Notably, the vulnerable Loggerhead Turtle and Leatherback Turtle nest along the property's coastal dunes and sandy beaches, making it the second most important nesting site in the Indian Ocean. The extensive and diverse seagrass meadows in the waters of Inhaca Island's western shores in Maputo National Park, including vulnerable species such as Cape Dwarf-Eelgrass, shelter the last remaining Dugong population of Maputo Bay.

#### Integrity

The transboundary property is of sufficient size and retains most of the key attributes that are essential to express the scenic natural beauty, species diversity and maintain the long-term functioning of the ecosystems. The property consists of both marine and terrestrial elements: iSimangaliso Wetland Park consists of 13 separate but contiguous conservation units, whereas Maputo National Park follows the boundaries of the nationally designated national park (with the exclusion of the Futi Corridor). In South Africa the property possesses a nationally delineated buffer zone through a 'zone of influence', while in Mozambique, the buffer zone of the Maputo National Park, corresponding to the Maputo Environmental Protection Area, was recognised by the World Heritage Committee.

The state of conservation of the property is relatively secure, although the functioning of ecosystems and species diversity is prone to impacts from changes to the hydrological regime, extractive (subsistence or commercial) activities, development and tourism activities and therefore the impacts should be closely monitored, controlled and mitigated, to maintain the long-term integrity of the property and minimise threats.

# Protection and management requirements

The property is owned by the respective states and strictly protected by the respective national legislation in South Africa and Mozambique. iSimangaliso Wetland Park is a nationally protected area, and management responsibility is at the provincial level under Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (previously known as the KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation Service) and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority at the site level. Maputo National Park is also a nationally designed protected area and is managed by the National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) with the support of Peace-Parks Foundation through a co-management agreement. The management of the property is guided by two separate comprehensive management plans (the management plan of Maputo National Park, Mozambique, and the management plan of iSimangaliso Wetland Park, South Africa). However, an integrated management plan for the entire property

should be a long-term ambition, in addition to the maintenance of protected area specific plans.

The transboundary management of the property benefits from longstanding cooperation between Mozambique and South Africa, primarily through the General Protocol on the Lubombo Development Initiative and the 2001 bilateral established Transboundary Management Committee. The Transboundary Management Committee is legally empowered to take decisions regarding the management of the transboundary area and foster cooperation. There is agreement by both States Parties on the expansion of the mandate of this Committee to be the official joint management authority for the transboundary property.

The property is impacted by a number of threats that will require sustained management efforts and engagement with local communities, including marine resource use and species conservation, land conversion for agriculture (particularly in the South African component), concerns related to human-wildlife conflict, and anthropogenic induced hydrological regime changes. It is essential to ensure that any development and tourism-related projects within and beyond the boundaries of the property are carefully considered and regulated to ensure compatibility with the maintenance of Outstanding Universal Value in the long-term.

- Requests the State Party of Mozambique to continue its management efforts and monitoring of marine resources, including of sea turtle populations, and subsistence fisheries effort;
- 5. <u>Notes with appreciation</u> the commitment by the State Party of Mozambique to ensuring that the potential deep sea Techobanine Port Complex will not proceed within the property, and <u>also requests</u> the State Party to monitor and report the status of this proposed project over the long term, through the procedures of the Convention, considering the significant impact such infrastructure, and any potential risks associated with port use, would likely have on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, even if located outside its boundaries;
- 6. Takes note that none of the pending requests for extractive industry within the buffer zone have begun the necessary process of assessment, and further requests the State Party of Mozambique to ensure that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is undertaken for any potential extractive activity in the buffer zone of Maputo National Park, including prospecting and research, in accordance with the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context, to ensure that developments that could impact the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are not permitted, and to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2026, a report with updated information on the status of mining licenses and the outcomes of any Environmental Impact Assessment processes that may have been completed;
- 7. <u>Notes</u> that tourism development in Maputo National Park is expected to increase over the coming years, and <u>requests furthermore</u> the State Party of Mozambique to finalize the updating of its Tourism Plan and ensure that protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the transboundary property remains central to tourism management;
- 8. <u>Recommends</u> the prompt updating of the Community Action Plan for Maputo National Park to guide community engagement and <u>requests moreover</u> the States Parties of Mozambique and South Africa to continue efforts to develop and implement a joint human-wildlife conflict management project across the transboundary property;
- 9. <u>Finally requests</u> the States Parties of Mozambique and South Africa to expand the mandate of the Transboundary Management Committee and ensure it is equipped with the necessary capacity and financial resources to effectively manage the transboundary property;

10. <u>Also recommends</u> the States Parties to ensure a harmonised approach to buffer zone management given that the State Party of South Africa is in the process of establishing a formal buffer zone for recognition by the World Heritage Committee through the future submission of a minor boundary modification request.

# A.1.3 Nominations deferred or referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee

Property	Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Bijagós Archipelago – Omatí Minhô
ID. N°	1431 rev
State Party	Guinea-Bissau
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ix)(x)

See the 2025 IUCN Evaluation Book.

### Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.4

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2.
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the **Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Bijagós Archipelago Omatí Minhô, Guinea-Bissau**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ix)** and **(x)**;
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

The Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Bijagós Archipelago – Omatí Minhô include a continuous series of coastal and marine ecosystems, corresponding to the marine and intertidal environments of the best-preserved areas with the highest ecological value of the Bijagós Archipelago in Guinea-Bissau. The Bijagós Archipelago is the only active deltaic archipelago on the African Atlantic coast and one of the few in the world.

Shaped by important geological and ecological processes, such as upwelling, the convergence of longshore drift and other marine processes, favouring the mobilisation of sediments and the production and exchange of nutrients in the estuaries and mangroves of the Costa das Rias, these environments are fundamental to the productivity and diversity of marine and intertidal life; with mangroves, mudflats and sandbanks that ensure the maintenance of a rich marine biodiversity and important gatherings of aquatic birds; the presence of globally threatened and emblematic species, such as sea turtles, sharks, rays and manatees; and the crucial role in important migrations, such as the migrations of sea turtles in the Atlantic and the migration of birds in the important East Atlantic Flyway, among other ecological processes. Thus, the property is probably the most important site in Africa and one of the most important in the world in terms of sea turtle nesting, and the second most important foraging area in Africa for the East Atlantic Flyway, which is of global importance for migratory birds.

**Criterion (ix):** The Bijagós Archipelago is the only active deltaic archipelago on the Atlantic coast of Africa. The archipelago is particularly important, on the African continent as well as in the Atlantic Ocean and throughout the world, due in particular to the rugged coastline, the width of the continental shelf, the geological and ecological marine processes and land-sea interactions, and the presence of mangroves, estuaries and foreshore shoals. Its origin can be found in the characteristic layout of the islands and delta-shaped channels. The existence of the delta is determined by a series of processes

such as the tide, the sedimentary input from the Geba and Corubal rivers, the production and exchange of nutrients in the estuaries and mangroves of the Costa das Rias, upwelling and the convergence of the north and south littoral drifts, which favour the trapping of sediments. These dynamic processes, coupled with shallow areas and reefs, create conditions for high ecological productivity and an important food chain for the maintenance and conservation of life in the marine and intertidal environments where the availability of crustaceans, molluscs and other food sources favours large gatherings of water birds, sharks and rays, manatees, dolphins, sea turtles, among others, some of which are essential for the major migration routes.

The deltaic origin of the archipelago also explains the presence of freshwater species that have had to adapt to the progression of marine influences over the millennia. The most representative example is that of the Hippopotamus, the archipelago being the only place on the continent, and thus in the world, where the species lives in seawater on an almost permanent basis.

**Criterion (x):** The vast sand and mud banks and other foreshore habitats of the property constitute key environments for migratory and/or resident species, in particular wading birds, coastal and marine birds, and sea turtles, among other globally important and threatened species.

In these conditions, it constitutes the second most important feeding area in West Africa for the East Atlantic Flyway beyond the resident bird colonies. Total estimates range from around 200,000 to 850,000 birds. This includes nearly 105 species of waterbirds, including 53 resident Afrotropical species (from 18 families) and 50 Palaearctic and intra-African migratory species (from 19 families), out of a total of more than 283 species of birds throughout the archipelago.

Furthermore, it is probably the most important site in Africa and one of the most important in the world for nesting sea turtles. Five of the seven existing species of sea turtle frequent the Bijagós Archipelago: the Green Turtle, the Olive Ridley Turtle, the Hawksbill Turtle, the Leatherback Turtle and the Loggerhead Turtle. The nesting of Green Turtles is nevertheless the most remarkable, making the property the third most important area in the world, the second most important in the South Atlantic and the most important in the whole of Africa, in terms of the number of nests. Starting from an annual average of 27,251 Green Turtle nests between 2013 and 2017, the records have repeatedly reached almost 40,000 nests, and up to more than 62,000 in 2020, for the beaches of the islet of Poilão alone. Regional and transatlantic migrations of sea turtles have been recorded in association with the property.

The property is also a sanctuary for the diversity of sharks and rays, being probably the area with the greatest hopes among the three most important areas in the world for coastal elasmobranchs, and is renowned for the diversity of its fish populations, particularly cartilaginous fish, including the probable last specimens of sawfish on the West African coast. Further threatened species found in the property include African Manatee, dolphins – in particular the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin – and hippopotamuses living in marine habitats.

#### Integrity

The boundaries of the property encompass the best-preserved areas of the Bijagós Archipelago, which have the highest ecological value. The results of historical series and the monitoring data at the time of inscription show a high level of integrity of the property and its buffer zone, and do not show a declining trend in the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value. The main factors likely to affect the property and its buffer zone, such as pollution, fishing, navigation, infrastructure development, oil exploration, tourism and climate change, remain at very low and/or distant levels.

The components external to the property but which influence its functioning and its dynamic equilibrium are themselves in a remarkable state of integrity. The Geba and Corubal rivers, which supply the archipelago with sediment, have not been subject to major development to date. Their flow rates may be influenced by the climatic situation or by human activities likely to affect their catchment area, particularly in the Fouta Djalon massif in Guinea. However, they do not play a fundamental role in maintaining the functioning of the geo-ecological system of the Bijagós Archipelago.

The estuaries and mangroves of the Costa das Rias have not undergone any major transformation, with the exception of moderate pressure on the mangroves for the development of rice cultivation. The absence of industry or major infrastructure on the coastline, the very low intensity of maritime traffic and the low population densities result in a very low level of environmental degradation or minor marine pollution that finds little comparison elsewhere in the world. Although there may be places with some litter in the buffer zone (such as Bubaque), there is minimal evidence of pollution or contamination in the waters and sediments of the property, including possible damage to the birdlife that frequents it.

The geomorphological configuration of the archipelago, characterised by vast sand or mud banks and other intertidal habitats associated with shallow areas and reefs, constitute natural barriers to navigation in the Bijagós Archipelago. Artisanal and subsistence fishing remain relatively limited, and industrial fishing efforts are concentrated mainly in areas more than 10 nautical miles from the buffer zone and remain at very low levels (less than 100 hours of fishing effort on 8 km²). No oil exploration and/or exploitation operations are taking place within the property or its buffer zone, and the potential oil drilling areas known today are relatively far from the property. The tourism sector has developed within the archipelago over the past decades, but its development remains limited, however, with an average of only 45,000 visitors per year. In general, there are as yet no signs of significant changes in coastal patterns and the possibilities for transforming environments remain modest in view of technological capabilities.

However, there is a strong likelihood that climate change will bring about changes in water circulation patterns, as well as significant changes in sea level and, consequently, potential risks of erosion and sedimentation that differ from the current pattern.

#### Protection and management requirements

The exceptional state of conservation of the property is mainly due to the way the area is organised and the traditional management of resources by local communities and the efforts of various government departments and agencies of Guinea-Bissau since the 1980s and 1990s, which have made it possible to establish an adequate protection framework from a legal and/or customary point of view, notably the creation and sound management of the three marine protected areas of the Bijagós Archipelago – João Vieira and Poilão Marine National Park, Orango Islands National Park and the Formosa, Nago and Chediã Islands (Urok Islands) Community Marine Protected Area in 2000 and 2005. In addition, a development and integrated management plan for the Bolama-Bijagós Archipelago Biosphere Reserve, which encompasses the entire property and its buffer zone was adopted in 2023 and provides an overarching layer on top of the individual management plans for the protected areas.

At the international level, the Bijagós Archipelago is also recognised as a Biosphere Reserve and as a Wetland of International Importance (Ramsar site). The overall coordination of the management of the property is ensured by the Institute for Biodiversity and Protected Areas, Dr Alfredo Simão da Silva (IBAP). Since its creation in 2005, the work of the IBAP has been continuous and remarkable in the archipelago. It follows, deepens and improves the previous work of the Coastal Planning Office (Gabinete de Planificação Costeira - GPC), the National Institute of Studies and

Research (Instituto Nacional de Estudos e Pesquisas - INEP) and the Centre for Applied Fisheries Research (Centro de Investigação da Pesca Aplicada - CIPA), among other government bodies and secretariats. International technical and financial support has been systematic and significant throughout the process. IBAP has recently strengthened its guidelines for the archipelago, orienting the declaration of ecological corridors and the consideration of mangrove areas, shallows, sand and mud banks and other foreshore areas as fundamental elements of the Biosphere Reserve.

The inscription of the property shall therefore further strengthen its capacity to continue and improve the successful conservation work. In the future, it may be possible to extend the officially conserved area. In accordance with the proposal for official national recognition of the Bolama-Bijagós Archipelago Biosphere Reserve and its recent management plan, it is planned to carry out further studies and research and social dialogue in order to propose more than one protected area, around the Unhocomo and Unhocomozinho island complex, to propose the formation of areas reserved for fishing, particularly around the islands of Carache and Caravela and Enu, as well as areas for the reinforcement of land conservation on the islands of Caravela and Canhabaque, and the recovery of significant parts of Boloma island.

- 4. <u>Commends</u> the State Party for the successful implementation of the recommendations of Decision 37 COM 8B.17, and thanks the Bijagó people for their contribution to the conservation of migratory sea and flyways by ensuring the integrity of the Bijagós ecosystem and for their outstanding work towards establishing community-based management using local and traditional knowledge and good practices in land and sea management:
- 5. <u>Acknowledges</u> the contributions from the international community in providing financial support to the Bolama-Bijagós Archipelago Biosphere Reserve, marine protected areas and all activities supporting this revised nomination;
- 6. <u>Encourages</u> the State Party to continue expanding the Institute for Biodiversity and Protected Areas, Dr Alfredo Simão da Silva's capacity and resources, particularly for monitoring, surveillance and enforcement as well as to continue research towards a better understanding of the marine values of the property, including invertebrates and marine benthic habitat.

#### A.2 ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

#### A.2.1 New Nominations

Property	Eastern Mongolian Steppes
ID. N°	1729
State Party	Mongolia
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ix)(x)

See the 2025 IUCN Evaluation Book.

#### **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.5**

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2,
- 2. <u>Defers</u> the nomination of the **Eastern Mongolian Steppes, Mongolia**, <u>taking note</u> of the strong potential of the nominated property to meet criterion (ix), and potentially also

criterion (x), in order to allow the State Party, with the advice of IUCN and the World Heritage Centre, if requested, to prepare a fully revised and expanded nomination and to:

- a) unequivocally abandon any mining licenses and mining operations within the nominated property, restoring any affected areas according to internationally accepted standards, and provide effective legal guarantees that mining will not be permitted within the nominated areas,
- b) not expand any mining licenses and operations within the buffer zones of the nominated property and to ensure that any mining proposals and operations are subject to environmental and heritage impact assessment undertaken in accordance with the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context,
- c) finalise the boundaries of the protected areas of the nominated component parts of Jaran Togoo "A" Nature Reserve and Jaran Togoo "B" Nature Reserve,
- d) designate buffer zones for all nominated component parts and enhance connectivity between the nominated component parts through the creation of effectively functioning migration corridors,
- e) ensure valid management plans are in place for all nominated component parts, supported by adequate funding and staffing levels across all nominated component parts,
- f) complete and update species data for each nominated component part to enable a full assessment of the potential of the nominated property under criterion (x), including an update of the comparative analysis demonstrating potential Outstanding Universal Value under criterion (x);
- 3. <u>Recommends</u> the State Party to also consider, in proposing its revised approach to the nomination to:
  - a) include in the management plan information and measures on monitoring of population trends of threatened species as well as on threats,
  - b) ensure that the strengthened and effective long-term legal protection of all of the nominated component parts is demonstrated,
  - c) confirm the timeline and action plan to establish a joint management committee with an integrated management plan for the entire nominated property;
- 4. <u>Notes with appreciation</u> the State Party's efforts to include local stakeholders in the planning for the nominated property, and <u>requests</u> the State Party to assure in the conservation approaches to the property that the long-standing traditional herding communities are fully included in governance and management arrangements, and that their sustainable use of the property and wider landscapes is recognised and supported.

# A.2.2 Significant boundary modifications of properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List

Property	Hin Nam No National Park [significant boundary modification of "Phong Nha- Ke Bang National Park", Viet Nam, (viii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 2003, 2015]
ID. N°	951 ter
State Party	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Criteria proposed by State Party	(viii)(ix)(x)

See the 2025 IUCN Evaluation Book.

# **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.6**

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2,
- 2. <u>Approves</u> the significant boundary modification of **Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park**, **Viet Nam**, to include **Hin Nam No National Park**, **Lao People's Democratic Republic**, to become **Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park and Hin Nam No National Park**, **Lao People's Democratic Republic** and **Viet Nam**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria** (viii), (ix) and (x);
- 3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

The Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park and Hin Nam No National Park property is one of the most outstanding and intact limestone karst landscapes and ecosystems in the world. Located at the confluence of the Annamite Mountain Range and Central Indochina Limestone Belt, and straddling the border of Viet Nam and Lao People's Democratic Republic, the property comprises a combined area of 217,447 hectares. The karst formation has evolved since the Palaeozoic period approximately 400 million years ago and can be considered the oldest large-scale karst area in Asia. The diversity of ecosystems found within this complex landscape of interbedded rock types and depressions, include high-altitude, dry karst forest, moist and dense low-elevation forests and extensive subterranean cave environments. Among these underground formations are over 220 km of documented caves and underground river systems, many of which are spectacular and globally significant. The unique and globally significant biodiversity (including several endemic species) that inhabits these ecosystems is no less impressive.

Criterion (viii): The transboundary property is among the largest intact humid tropical karst systems globally. The distinctive topography and diversity of the karst landscape is formed from the complex interbedding of limestone karst with shales, sandstone and granite. On the surface, a diversity of polygonal karst features has been recorded nowhere else, at the time of extension. Underground, an extraordinary diversity of caves (including dry, terraced, dendritic and intersecting caves) provide evidence of past geological processes, from ancient, abandoned river passages or changes in river routes, to the deposition and later re-solution of giant speleothems. Of particular significance, are the Son Doong and Xe Bang Fai caves which contain the world's largest documented cave passage in terms of diameter and continuity and, largest active river cave passage and single cave gour pool (water formed by calcite deposits) respectively.

**Criterion (ix):** The property protects globally significant ecosystems within the Northern Annamites Rainforests terrestrial ecoregion, Northern Annam and Southern Annam freshwater ecoregions and Annamite Range Moist Forests priority ecoregions. The complexity and relative intactness of the limestone landscape has led to the creation of

multiple ecological niches and provided the opportunity for eco-evolutionary and speciation processes to occur at the landscape level. As a result, the Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park and Hin Nam No National Park property is home to various highly-specialised and endemic species of flora and fauna both aboveground (such as a number of orchid and begonia species) and below-ground (with some invertebrate and fish species restricted to single cave systems).

Criterion (x): A rich terrestrial, freshwater and subterranean biodiversity can be found within the transboundary property, and reported species numbers, at the time of inscription and of the extension, are likely to be a significant under-representation of the actual species diversity. The over 2,700 species of vascular plants and 800 vertebrate species recorded in Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park include 237 globally threatened species at the time of inscription and 400 species endemic to the central Lao People's Democratic Republic and/or Viet Nam. Over 1,500 species of vascular plants (from 755 different genera) and 536 vertebrate species have been recorded in Hin Nam No National Park, including many globally threatened and endemic species, including the Giant Huntsman Spider, the largest spider by leg span globally and endemic to the Lao Khammouane Province. The species richness of the property is likely to exceed the individual richness of the two national parks respectively due to topographical and niche differences. Importantly, the property hosts 10-11 species of primates, four of which are endemic to the Annamite Mountain range. These include the largest remaining population of Southern White-cheeked Gibbon and the endemic Black Langur.

# Integrity

The transboundary property completes representation of the large, dissected karst plateau and represents a block of intact forest ecosystems within the Annamite mountains and therefore retains all key attributes to manifest the outstanding geological, ecological and biodiversity-related values present within. The property follows the respective national protected area boundaries and zonation is split into three management zones – strictly protected, ecological restoration and administrative/service zone – for Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park, and into two zones – controlled use and totally protected zone – for Hin Nam No National Park. A buffer zone surrounds the entire property and covers 295,889 hectares and encompasses the respective watersheds of the karst.

The state of conservation varies across the property's area at the time of the transboundary extension in 2025 and is most secure in the Hin Nam No National Park although a number of issues persist and threaten future integrity. The geodiversity, ecosystems and biodiversity are particularly prone to impacts from illegal hunting and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources and forest products, invasive alien species particularly in the eastern part of the property, infrastructure development, landuse change and sustainable tourism. These impacts should be closely monitored and controlled and mitigated, ensuring they occur within the ecological carrying capacity of the property to maintain the long-term integrity of the property and minimise threats.

# Protection and management requirements

The property is owned by the respective States Parties and protected under the highest legal designation in Viet Nam and in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Phong Nha-Ke Bang is a nationally designated national park, first established in 1986 and then enhanced in 2001. Management responsibility falls under the Management Board at the site level with input from various ministries and levels of government. Hin Nam No is also a nationally designated national park, first established in 1993 and enhanced in 2020. It is managed by a complex and collaborative governance structure including representatives at the national, provincial, district and village level, including strong community involvement, and a management office at the site level. The management of the property is guided by two separate comprehensive management plans – the Hin Nam

No National Park Collaborative Management Plan and the Strategic Management Plan Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park World Heritage Site.

The transboundary management of the property benefits from several signed memoranda of understanding for joint activities such as law enforcement operations and the development of a joint transboundary action plan, which is essential for the integrated management of the property.

The Phong Nha Ke-Bang National Park and Hin Nam No National Park property is impacted by a number of threats that will require sustained management efforts and engagement with local communities, including unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, forest products and biodiversity, land conversion for agriculture and increased development and tourism pressures particularly in the eastern part of the property. It is essential to ensure that any development and tourism-related projects within and beyond the boundary of the property are carefully assessed, limited and regulated to ensure compatibility with the protection of the property's Outstanding Universal Value in the long-term.

- 4. <u>Commends</u> the State Party of the Lao People's Democratic Republic for the thorough participatory approach in developing this nomination and in obtaining the free, prior and informed consent, in addition to efforts to engage and include local communities in the governance and management of the property;
- 5. <u>Recommends</u> the State Party of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to further increase the capacity of the Hin Nam No National Park Management Office and ensure that sufficient staffing is available for the long-term protection of the property's Outstanding Universal Value;
- 6. <u>Encourages</u> the State Party of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to consider expansion of the property's buffer zone, through a minor boundary modification, to include the entirety of the Khun Xe Nong Ma National Protected Area as an important area to the functioning of the karst hydrological system;
- 7. <u>Also encourages</u> the States Parties of Viet Nam and Lao People's Democratic Republic to explore the potential of extending the southern boundary of the property in Viet Nam to be aligned with Hin Nam No National Park in the Lao People's Democratic Republic;
- 8. <u>Takes note</u> of the expected increased tourism development in Hin Nam No National Park, and considering the further planned expansion of tourism in Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park towards 2030, <u>requests</u> the States Parties of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam to ensure that the protection of the transboundary property's Outstanding Universal Value remains central to tourism management and that tourism is limited by the ecological carrying capacity of the property.

#### A.3 EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

#### A.3.1 New nominations

Property	Møns Klint
ID. N°	1728
State Party	Denmark
Criteria proposed by State Party	(viii)

See the 2025 IUCN Evaluation Book.

#### **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.7**

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2,
- 2. <u>Refers</u> the nomination of **Møns Klint, Denmark**, back to the State Party, <u>taking note</u> of the strong potential of the nominated property to meet criterion (viii), in order to allow the State Party to:
  - a) ensure local communities and relevant stakeholders and rightsholders are adequately consulted on the enlarged area of the nominated property and its buffer zone.
  - b) complete protection and management arrangements to fully meet the requirements of the Operational Guidelines, ensuring that the entire nominated property is adequately protected and land ownership clarified;
- 3. Recommends the State Party to explore strengthening the protection of geoheritage at the nominated property through the establishment of a geoheritage inventory, the development of a geoheritage management plan, including an ongoing programme of coastal erosion and climate change monitoring, detailing the governance for the enlarged area of the nominated property and its buffer zone, and determining gateway and access points and the ecological and social carrying capacity of the nominated property and its buffer zone;
- 4. <u>Commends</u> the State Party for the high-quality nomination dossier and the significant update provided through the supplementary information.

#### A.4 LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

#### A.4.1 New nominations

Property	Cavernas do Peruaçu National Park
ID. N°	1747
State Party	Brazil
Criteria proposed by State Party	(vii)(viii)

See the 2025 IUCN Evaluation Book.

#### **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.8**

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2,
- 2. Refers the nomination of Cavernas do Peruaçu National Park, Brazil, back to the State Party, taking note of the strong potential for the nominated property to meet criteria (vii) and (viii), in order to allow the State Party, with the advice of IUCN and the World Heritage Centre if requested, to provide a description that is consistent with the map of the boundaries of the nominated property and to either (a) provide confirmation of the agreement of the Xakriabá people, and the position regarding free, prior and informed consent, regarding the reduced nominated area and buffer zone, or (b) to obtain consent of the Xakriabá people on the originally proposed boundaries, and retain the nomination on those original boundaries;
- 3. <u>Recommends</u> the State Party to adapt the management plan for the nominated property to:
  - a) address the vulnerable geological and geomorphological features and processes for which Outstanding Universal Value is claimed in the management plan and that sufficient geological expertise is ensured through management staff, to complement a strong and continuing commitment to biodiversity conservation,
  - b) clarify the role of local indigenous people to assure their full and effective participation in the future governance and management of the nominated property, including in ecological tourism development,
  - c) include the conservation of the rock art sites of the nominated property and cultural values considered important by the indigenous, traditional and quilombola communities in the management plan and that conservation specialists and community representatives are invited to set out the parameters for visitation, necessary monitoring regimes, and the overall conservation constraints that might be necessary to limit visitor numbers,
  - d) indicate a time frame for consolidating the management structure, and demonstrate that the management requirements for inscription are communicated and understood by all stakeholders, rightsholders, landowners and management authorities:
- 4. <u>Encourages</u> the State Party to conduct further research and documentation on both the cultural and biodiversity values of the nominated property, in addition to the recognised potential Outstanding Universal Value related to geodiversity.

#### B. MIXED SITES

#### **B.1 ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

#### **B.1.1 New nominations**

Property	Mt. Kumgang – Diamond Mountain from the Sea
ID. N°	1642
State Party	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)(vii)(viii)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book and the 2025 IUCN Evaluation Book.

### Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.9

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. <u>Having examined</u> Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B, WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1 and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B2.
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the **Mount Kumgang Diamond Mountain from the Sea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea,** with the exception of component parts Haemanmulsang Area in Sea Kumgang (003) and Chongsokjong Area in Sea Kumgang (004), on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape, on the basis of **criteria (iii)** and **(vii)**;
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

Mount Kumgang – Diamond Mountain from the Sea is a long-celebrated place of exceptional natural beauty boasting outstanding scenery of lofty peaks, plunging valleys, waterfalls, pools and striking weathered rock formations. The property exhibits outstanding examples of geomorphological structure with several classic types of weathering. Spectacular near-white, polished granite geomorphology is set within pristine lush forests, grasslands, wetlands and sub-alpine shrublands at the higher elevations of nearly 1,600 metres above sea level. The mountain's dramatic impact is enhanced through constantly changing weather patterns of mists, rain, sunshine and clouds. The property's arresting landscapes are further transformed by each of the four seasons. Uninterrupted vistas from Mount Kumgang's ridgetops to the coastline attest to the intimate relationship of the property to the sea.

Mount Kumgang is an associative cultural landscape where there is a complex and intertwined relationship between the distinctive landforms and scenery, and the long history of Buddhism, pilgrimage and traditions of mountain worship in the Korean peninsula. As the eastern guardian of the Buddhist realm, the serial property of two component parts demonstrates exceptional aspects of Korean mountain Buddhist culture over many centuries, and is a place that many Buddhists aspire to visit within their lifetimes.

The landscape setting of steep granite peaks, rock formations, waterfalls and pools are integral to the long traditions of Buddhist pilgrimage, and the many famed literary and artistic representations of Mount Kumgang. The intangible cultural heritage of this landscape is further reflected in the naming of key features, poems and folk tales.

Buddhist hermitages date from the 5th century, and some of the very earliest remaining examples are found within the Outer Kumgang-Inner Kumgang Area component part. Temples, pagodas, steles, stupas, sculptures and stone lanterns attest to the sequence of development of Korean mountain Buddhism. The property also features significant

examples of carved calligraphy and historic trails to famed scenic viewpoints. Some of the cultural heritage attributes also contain evidence of the intermingling of Buddhism with Taoism and local spirituality, such as mountain gods, the Great Bear, and wild animals. Three of the temples within the Outer Kumgang-Inner Kumgang Area component part are continuing places of Buddhist practices.

Criterion (iii): Mount Kumgang is a sacred mountain and bears an exceptional testimony to Korean mountain Buddhism traditions from the 5th century CE to the present. The traditions and practices of Buddhism over many hundreds of years and the historical role of Mount Kumgang as a major place are central to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and demonstrate the ways in which the natural and cultural heritage attributes are intertwined. The extant temples, hermitages, stupas and stone engravings demonstrate these characteristics, in addition to the many songs, poems and artworks inspired by Mount Kumgang. The built attributes, together with continuing Buddhist practices and other associated intangible cultural heritage aspects demonstrate an exceptional inter-relationship between the tangible, intangible and scenic attributes of the associative cultural landscape.

Criterion (vii): The property exhibits an exceptionally rich diversity of distinctive near-white granite geomorphology, dramatically set within pristine biodiversity all subject to the interplay of seasonal variation and constantly changing meteorological conditions. Mount Kumgang – Diamond Mountain from the Sea possesses enormous variety in its landforms from the differing relief on both sides of the range, numerous waterfalls and ponds, pristine water quality and varied seasonal colour palettes. The awe-inspiring natural beauty of the property is evident in the long association between human cultures and the place, the physical expressions of calligraphy, hermitages, temples and other elements juxtaposed with natural features and in the inspiration that artists, poets, religious leaders, pilgrims and people of all walks have drawn from the place in the past and continue to do so. The property affords uninterrupted vistas to the nearby coastline, a central element in the recognition of Mount Kumgang's significance as a sacred mountain.

### Integrity

The property contains the cultural and natural heritage attributes required to demonstrate the Outstanding Universal Value. The substantial area enclosed by the boundaries is appropriate and provides sufficient protection of the cultural heritage attributes and the associative cultural landscape. The large buffer zone provides an added layer of protection, particularly against visual impacts on the integrity of the cultural landscape, and for the cultural meaning and importance of scenic locations and look-outs. The cultural heritage attributes are well-maintained with minimal threats, including those natural elements that can be considered to be attributes of the cultural landscape. Appropriate policies and management arrangements are in place to mitigate potential future threats from visitor pressures and tourism development.

The property includes all the elements and is of a sufficient size, design and boundary configuration to encompass the range of granitic geomorphological features and processes as well as the wide variety of attributes that collectively express the natural beauty and aesthetic value of the site. The property's naturalness is a key aspect of its exceptional natural beauty and protects near untouched natural ecosystems across six vertical vegetation zones reaching to the property's ridgetop at over 1,600 metres above sea level. The catchments of all streams, waterfalls, pools and lagoons are located within the property thereby ensuring high standards of water quality. The property protects critical geosites and scenic features as well as the processes which sustain them. Walking trails and lookout access allow a full appreciation of the property's natural and aesthetic value from ridgetop to the sea.

Areas surrounding the property have a history that is relatively free from large scale development and the natural systems of the property are in excellent to pristine condition due to low development pressure and long periods of strict protection. The wider region around Mount Kumgang is relatively undeveloped and the buffer zone has no reported industrial scale development, mining or commercial fishing activity. Agriculture and pastoralism in the buffer zone are restricted to small scale, mostly non-mechanised practices. The two most significant potential threats to the property are future tourism development; and climate change-driven increases in natural hazards.

# Authenticity

The authenticity of the property has been established on the basis of the condition of the historic temples and other Buddhist elements (stone carvings, steles, sculptures and pagodas), archaeological sites, key natural features, and historical paths. Wooden structures such as the Phyohun Temple, Jongyang Temple, Podok Hermitage, Pulji Hermitage, and Chilsong Shrine of Mahayon Buddhist School site exhibit a high degree of authenticity in relation to the Outstanding Universal Value, although they are vulnerable due to their fragile materials, the need for continuing cultural knowledge and the need for ongoing conservation and maintenance. These structures are part of continuing Buddhist practices that contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value of the cultural landscape. While there are satisfactory conservation policies in place, the overall authenticity of the timber buildings and their tanchong (polychrome schemes) varies due to these factors, as well as the impacts of past damages. Conservation plans for the temples is recommended in order to further secure their authenticity and state of conservation.

#### Protection and management requirements

The property is State-owned and principally protected by the Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the Protection of Cultural Heritage (amended and supplemented in 2018) and the Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the Protection of Scenic Spots and Natural Monuments (amended and supplemented in 2018). These laws are supplemented by a range of other laws and regulations covering land, nature reserves, environment, forestry, urban management and marine pollution. The World Heritage property and buffer zone sits almost entirely within the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve which affords an additional protective and sustainable development context.

A number of the individually significant cultural heritage sites within the property are listed on the national register as either National Treasures or Preservation Heritage sites. There is also one protective designation for intangible cultural heritage associated with the property (Mount Kumgang Legend).

The governance system, whilst complex, involves various levels of government and places the National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (NAPCH) as the central authority with oversight of the heritage values of the property. The management system, staffing and budgets are adequate given the low levels of use and low threats at the time of inscription. However, careful attention and anticipation will be needed to ensure a commensurate management capacity is in place in the face of planned significant tourism development within the property and the wider region.

While there are legal provisions for Environmental Impact Assessment, there are no explicit legal frameworks in place for Heritage Impact Assessment. The National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (NAPCH) conducts heritage impact assessments for developments within and near the property.

The management system is the responsibility of the Cabinet and the NAPCH. The NAPCH is responsible for the protection of both tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and both natural and cultural heritage, enabling cultural and natural heritage to be coherently administered. Day to day management and maintenance of the property is

provided by local caretakers. The Buddhist Federation of Korea closely cooperates with relevant institutions responsible for the protection and management of the property. The buffer zone is monitored and managed by the respective local authorities (the People's Committees of Kosong, Kumgang and Thongchon counties).

Management of the site is guided by a Management Plan (2021-2030), including an action plan for its implementation. It should be revised and updated in line with the proposed Mount Kumgang Tourism Development Plan to ensure the protection of Mount Kumgang's Outstanding Universal Value is paramount. The Mount Kumgang Tourism Development Plan elaborates the directions for future tourism development, based on the policy framework of the management plan. The configuration of the buffer zone coupled with use and development controls provides an effective layer of additional protection for the property and facilitates important connectivity from the property's ridgetops to the sea.

### 4. Requests the State Party to:

- a) Finalize the Mount Kumgang Tourism Development Plan as a matter of priority to understand tourism-related proposals at a detail sufficient to allow meaningful assessment of environmental and heritage impacts on the property's Outstanding Universal Value and to assess management capacity needs in light of projected increased tourism use and ensuring that the fragile cultural heritage attributes are protected,
- b) Undertake a holistic Strategic Environmental Assessment as a strategic planning tool to assess the collective and cumulative impacts, both positive and negative, of tourism development plans ensuring appropriate development that prioritizes the protection of the property's Outstanding Universal Value,
- c) Consider the best ways to incorporate Heritage Impact Assessment into relevant legal frameworks, and ensure that individual tourism-related and other developments are subject to project level environmental and heritage impact assessment undertaken in accordance with the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context,
- d) Update the current management plan for the property to take into account tourism development plans and to make the plan more operational with measurable indicators to assess outcomes,
- e) Develop a values-centred interpretation plan based on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property,
- f) Develop conservation plans and policies for the key cultural heritage attributes that set out a vision for their conservation, as well as preservation, interpretation and monitoring, in particular, develop conservation policies and plan for the wooden structures to ensure retention of their authenticity,
- Gomplete the inventory and assessment of the stone carvings and historic trails and paths found within the property in order to enable their inclusion in the national register,
- h) Review the registered boundaries of the temples and hermitages in the national register, taking into consideration the underlying geomancy of their locations and siting,
- i) Undertake capacity-buildings programmes and activities with caretakers,
- *j)* Develop a cultural heritage research plan for the property, including archaeological surveys, non-invasive studies and excavations within the component parts,
- k) Support the continuing traditions of Buddhist practice at the Buddhist temples and other sites within the property;

5. <u>Encourages</u> the State Party to enhance protection and management and management capacities and to seek external technical support on a range of issues including tourism planning and management, visitor infrastructure design and development (including climbing/walking trails and road upgrading), visitor safety measures, impact assessment and disaster risk management, and to apply relevant international standards and benchmarks in this regard, in consultation with IUCN and ICOMOS.

#### C. CULTURAL SITES

#### C.1 AFRICA

#### **C.1.1 New Nominations**

Property	Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape of the Mandara Mountains
ID. N°	1745
State Party	Cameroon
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)(iv)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

#### Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.10

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the **Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape of the Mandara Mountains, Cameroon**, on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape, on the basis of **criterion**(iii):
- 3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

### **Brief synthesis**

The Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape of the Mandara Mountains is located in the Far North Region of Cameroon. It is organised, in the form of terraces, around a group of sixteen archaeological ruins, or Diy-Gid-Biy, spread across seven villages associated with agricultural terraces. These dry-stone architectural structures were probably built between the 12th and 17th centuries. While the identity of their builders remains unknown, the property is currently mainly occupied by the Mafa people, who settled in the region between the 15th and 17th centuries. The expression "Diy Gid Biy" literally means "Ruin of the Chief's Residence" in the Mafa language. Today, the Diy-Gid-Biy are used by the communities as religious sites. On the slopes and at the base of the mountain there are agricultural terraces, residential buildings, tombs, places of worship and many artisan activities.

**Criterion (iii):** The Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape of the Mandara Mountains is a unique testament to a now-vanished civilisation, which created a remarkable dry-stone architecture, organised into terraces, that is very rare in sub-Saharan Africa. Although little is known about this civilisation, it shaped the landscape over a period of more than five centuries (from the 12th to the 17th century). These sixteen Diy-Gid-Biy ruins are characterised by their atypical dry-stone architecture, their location in a remote mountainous region, their designation as chiefs' residences and the pottery they contain, which was originally used for ritual purposes.

The Mafa who now live in the area play a significant role in perpetuating the landscape by continuing to use the structures as sacrificial and ritual sites.

#### Integrity

The integrity of the property lies in the archaeological structures and terraces, which are fully integrated into the Mandara Mountains area. All the attributes necessary to convey in a substantial manner the Outstanding Universal Value of the property are included within the boundaries of the property. However, the integrity of the property is very vulnerable, due to the degraded condition of the structures, combined with challenges related to political insecurity, the growing effects of climate change and environmental degradation.

# Authenticity

The property presents a high degree of authenticity, due to the richness of its built structures. The Diy-Gid-Biy, fully integrated into the cultural and worship practices that shape the daily lives of the Mafa people, are thus being actively preserved. Extensive scientific research should provide insights into the origins, techniques and construction processes of the Diy-Gid-Biy, their previous functions and, ultimately, the civilisation of the people who built them.

# Protection and management requirements

The Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape of the Mandara Mountains has been listed as a National Heritage Site by Ministerial Order No. 0002/MINAC/SG of 28 February 2019. It is also protected under the Law of 18 April 2013 governing the cultural heritage of Cameroon, which protects listed sites. The property is also subject to a set of traditional protections and taboos prohibiting access to the Diy-Gid-Biy ruins outside of rituals.

Careful monitoring and land-use planning instruments are essential complements to legal protection for the long-term protection, conservation and transmission to future generations of the property and its Outstanding Universal Value.

The management of the property, which falls under the responsibility of the Ministry of Arts and Culture (MINAC) in collaboration with local communities and decentralised local units, is carried out by three separate committees: a ministerial committee, a technical committee and a management committee. This system is reinforced at the traditional level by the appointment, in each village, of a guardian who serves as a sacrificer during rituals. A management plan has been developed for the period 2024-2028, and a curator has been appointed to oversee the management of all the Diy-Gid-Biy ruins, acting as an intermediary between the State, the guides and the guardians/sacrificers. However, representatives from municipal subdivisions are lacking in this management system, which would benefit from being restructured on the basis of an inter-village approach. Participatory management is crucial, and management methods should be focused on efficiency and the achievement of long-term goals, with the support of sufficient staff.

Conservation and research strategies are crucial to safeguard the attributes of the property and shed light on the people who built it. Tourist access should be carefully studied and planned, in order to preserve the authenticity of the property. Appropriate risk management should be integrated into management strategies and instruments to address natural and anthropogenic threats.

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Continuing scientific research concerning the context of the establishment and evolution of the Diy-Gid-Biy ruins and the populations that created them,
  - b) Implementing measures to conduct agricultural practices in a way that they do not damage the Diy-Gid-Biy ruins,

- c) Implementing measures to control and limit the deterioration of the walls and the use of modern materials,
- d) Continuing ongoing studies and initiatives on mitigation of natural risks and integrating a risk management plan into the management plan,
- e) Adopting an inter-village management approach by integrating representatives from municipal subdivisions in the management system,
- f) Increasing the management and conservation staff and reinforcing their capacity, and securing a budget for conservation,
- g) Implementing a strategy to manage visitor access to the property and facilitating its presentation and interpretation.

# C.1.2 Nominations deferred or referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee

Property	Mount Mulanje Cultural Landscape (MMCL)
ID. N°	1201 rev
State Party	Malawi
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)(vi)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book

# **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.11**

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1.
- 2. <u>Refers</u> the nomination of the **Mount Mulanje Cultural Landscape (MMCL), Malawi**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Create a buffer zone around the nominated property and complete the required arrangements for the enforcement of buffer zone regulations,
  - b) Complete the declaration process of the nominated property as a national monument to ensure that a no-go zone for mining is created within the Mount Mulanje Cultural Landscape (MMCL),
  - c) Finalise the administrative framework for the management of the nominated property, with clearly defined cooperation modalities between different actors and interest groups, and particularly the inclusion of the local communities in the governance structure;
- 3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Undertaking community-based inventories of intangible cultural heritage and developing research to track the evolution of the cultural practices that sustain the associative cultural landscape,
  - b) Preparing an inventory of sites and natural features to which cultural meanings are attached, and assessing their state of conservation to inform the development of an appropriate conservation programme and management arrangements,
  - c) Informing the World Heritage Centre of the intention to undertake or authorise all major projects which may affect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property, in line with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines,

- d) Developing and implementing Heritage Impact Assessments as well as Social and Environmental Impact Assessments for all planned and ongoing development proposals (such as the visitor reception and information centre, the Lichenya Education Research Centre, and the sports arena),
- e) Restricting tourism development within the nominated property and its surroundings to minimal-impact projects and activities,
- f) Prohibiting extractive industries from the area of the nominated property and its surroundings,
- g) Strengthening protection of the nominated property, especially the measures to sustain the intangible cultural heritage of the Mang'anja, Yao and Lhomwe people, by ensuring institutional support for the preservation of their cultural and spiritual practices that constitute the traditional management system and are required for the sacred landscape of Mount Mulanje to exist, and by developing initiatives supporting the livelihoods and lifeways of local communities in order to maintain their association with the nominated property.
- h) Completing integration of the customary and formal legal systems,
- i) Preparing and implementing the Integrated Resources Management Plan that would combine the management of natural and cultural aspects of the nominated property,
- j) Developing further the monitoring system to encompass all the attributes of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, including the cultural and spiritual practices and beliefs on which the preservation of the cultural values of the nominated property depends, and addressing key threats,
- k) Exploring the qualities of Mount Mulanje in light of natural heritage criteria as initially envisaged in the Tentative List entry.

#### C.2 ARAB STATES

#### **C.2.1 New Nominations**

Property	Faya Palaeolandscape
ID. N°	1735
State Party	United Arab Emirates
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)(iv)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

#### **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.12**

- 1. <u>Having examined</u> Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Decides not to inscribe</u> the **Faya Palaeolandscape, United Arab Emirates**, on the World Heritage List.

#### C.3 ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

#### **C.3.1 New Nominations**

Property	Murujuga Cultural Landscape
ID. N°	1709
State Party	Australia
Criteria proposed by State Party	(i)(iii)(v)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

#### **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.13**

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Refers</u> the nomination of the **Murujuga Cultural Landscape, Australia**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Finalise the ongoing studies on the impact of the industries on the petroglyphs and on the nominated property,
  - b) Ensure the total removal of degrading acidic emissions, currently impacting upon the petroglyphs of the Murujuga Cultural Landscape,
  - c) Prevent any further industrial development adjacent to, and within, the Murujuga Cultural Landscape,
  - d) Develop an appropriate decommissioning and rehabilitation plan for existing industrial activities, as required,
  - e) Establish strengthened protection measures, subject to the free, prior and informed consent of, and developed in close consultation with, the Ngarda-Ngarli, ensuring the application of the precautionary principle,
  - Establish the Murujuga Cultural Landscape World Heritage Advisory Committee, incorporating local, cultural and scientific expertise to further strengthen governance and safeguard the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property;
- 3. <u>Recommends</u> that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Undertaking measures to ensure that interlinked cultural and natural values are fully protected, both in the terrestrial and the marine areas,
  - b) Undertaking measures to ensure that both cultural and natural values, and the impacts from the port and industries on the marine and terrestrial cultural artefacts and biodiversity are regularly monitored,
  - c) Continuing the research and studies underway on the underwater feature of the nominated property,
  - d) Informing the World Heritage Centre of the intention to undertake or authorise all major projects which may affect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property, in line with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines,
  - e) Developing and implementing a Heritage Impact Assessment for development proposals, such as the Tourism Precinct.

Property	Cambodian Memorial Sites: From centres of repression to places of peace and reflection
ID. N°	1748
State Party	Cambodia
Criteria proposed by State Party	(vi)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

# **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.14**

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the Cambodian Memorial Sites: From centres of repression to places of peace and reflection, Cambodia, on the World Heritage List on the basis of criterion (vi);
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

### **Brief synthesis**

The Cambodian Memorial Sites are testimony to one of the most serious abuses of human rights in the 20th century. Between 1971 and 1979, the Khmer Rouge regime established a nation-wide security system in order to repress political opponents and impose a classless agrarian society of collective farming. The network of security centres and execution sites throughout Cambodia touched every aspect of Cambodian life through imprisonment, forced transfers and labour, and denial of the necessities of life. In a single decade, one quarter of the population perished.

This serial property of three component parts illustrates the stages of the Khmer Rouge security system. The former M-13 prison (component part A) shows the initial phase during the civil war period, a prototype for subsequent developments. The centrally located former S-21 prison, now Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, (component part B) in Phnom Penh represents the apex of the system; and its associated execution site, now Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (component part C) reveals its final elimination stage. These three sites represent the full scope of the repressive system of imprisonment, interrogation, torture and execution.

Following the defeat of the Khmer Rouge regime, the Cambodian Memorial Sites became places of memorialisation to honour victims. As places of reflection and learning, the serial property encourages peaceful coexistence among peoples and fosters a commitment to never repeat such atrocities. The property provides an example of the ongoing process of navigating the joint goals of justice and national reconciliation.

**Criterion (vi):** The Cambodian Memorial Sites demonstrate the events of the Khmer Rouge repressive system of imprisonment, interrogation, torture and execution known internationally as the "killing fields". The scale and impact of these events and the impacts on the people of Cambodia are of outstanding universal significance. The three component parts were all managed directly by one man (Kaing Guek Eav, known as Duch) accountable to the senior leadership of the Khmer Rouge. All have direct tangible and intangible links with these events through their tangible attributes, documentary evidence and witness accounts.

#### Integrity

The serial property includes all the attributes necessary to convey the Outstanding Universal Value, and to support the continuing processes of memorialisation. The boundaries of the component parts are satisfactory but are tightly drawn, possibly requiring future revision in light of new discoveries. The component parts have a

satisfactory state of conservation, although they are vulnerable due to natural processes, visitor pressures, and urban development.

#### Authenticity

The serial property is associated with tangible evidence, written and oral information sources that provide insight into the Khmer Rouge security system. The above and below ground attributes of the component parts, together with the associated collections and archives demonstrate the authenticity of the serial property in relation to its Outstanding Universal Value. These information sources are relatively more abundant for the former S-21 prison and execution grounds (component parts B and C) than for the former M-13 prison (component part A). The material evidence of the physical attributes has been well documented using maps, photographs, archaeological investigations, exhumation of human remains and witness accounts. The Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum Archives, included in the UNESCO Memory of World International Register, are a rich resource for understanding these events and their tragic outcomes. In addition, the judicial records of the international Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) support the authenticity of these sites.

### Protection and management requirements

The three component parts are all owned by the Royal Government of Cambodia: two by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts (A and B) and one by the Phnom Penh Municipality (C). The Phnom Penh Municipality has given a contract to the JC Royal Company to provide the daily operations of the Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (C) as a tourism destination (until 2035).

The property is protected under several Royal Decrees, laws and regulations. Protection is operationalised by the relevant municipal/provincial master plans which require urgent development and finalisation.

A coordinated management mechanism for the property has been established by Royal Decree via an Inter-Ministerial Committee responsible for implementing the protection and management strategies across the three component parts. The Director of the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum is the overall Coordinating Officer, mandated to oversee the management, conservation, interpretation and other matters related to the property.

The Comprehensive Cultural Management Plan covers conservation of all attributes, visitor and property management, interpretation, protection and appropriate treatment of human remains for each component part. It also addresses the site-specific conservation requirements and regulation of their respective buffer zones. Many of the key actions will be facilitated by the grant from the Korea International Cooperation Agency and UNESCO (KOICA/UNESCO) for the period 2024-2028.

The three component parts have different levels and types of visitation. Two of them (B and C) are heavily visited destinations for tourism and are significant sites of memory visited by Cambodian people. Currently component part A is not accessible for visitors and memorial activities have recently begun. Careful strategic planning for this component part is required, accompanied by rigorous Heritage Impact Assessments. A masterplan for this site will be prepared.

There are few survivors of the Khmer Rouge regime still alive, but the families of victims are involved in the commemoration and educational activities of each of the component parts. The Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum has an extensive educational outreach programme for Cambodian students. There are further opportunities for community involvement in the management system.

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Establishing the practical operations of the planned coordinated management mechanism for the property as a priority, and considering the establishment of a

- coordinating office or other structure managed by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts,
- b) Developing and finalising as a priority the Master Plan for the Kampong Chhnang Province that ensures the regulation and protection of the buffer zone for component part A, and the Master Plans on Land Use Designation for component parts B and C,
- c) Developing an overarching interpretation plan for the property that brings together the overall story presented by the component parts (initially at least, this should be presented at component parts B and C),
- d) Completing the planned overarching Heritage Impact Assessment policy document for the property and considering the most effective means of embedding this mechanism in the legal framework; also ensuring that rigorous Heritage Impact Assessments are applied to all new developments in all three component parts,
- e) Developing an overarching research plan for the property,
- f) Developing a sustainable tourism plan for the property, including the integrated visitor itineraries that encompass all the component parts, along with a code of conduct for respectful visitation,
- g) Expand the opportunities for the involvement of local communities living and working around each of the component parts in the management of the property,
- h) Ensuring that sand dredging is prohibited in the wider setting of component part A, and implementing flood control measures to prevent damage to the attributes,
- i) Undertaking non-invasive research to determine the location of mass grave(s) at component parts A and B, and developing policies for how any future discoveries will be handled; revision of boundaries and/or buffer zones through a minor boundary modification request should be considered if discoveries outside the current delineations of the property occur,
- j) Developing a comprehensive maintenance plan for component part B,
- k) Strengthening the protection of future discoveries of sub-surface archaeological sites and materials (including graves and human remains) by linking them to the development approval regulations for the buffer zone and wider setting of component part B,
- I) Developing and implementing capacity and the needed ongoing resources to improve the standards of material conservation and storage of artefacts, documents and objects held by the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, including human remains,
- m) Developing master plans for component parts A and C; and including in the master plan for component part A, a clear vision for its interpretation that takes into account its rural location and fragile tangible remains.

Property	Xixia Imperial Tombs
ID. N°	1736
State Party	China
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)(iv)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

# Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.15

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the **Xixia Imperial Tombs, China**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (ii)** and **(iii)**;
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

### Brief synthesis

The Xixia Imperial Tombs are a necropolis of the Xixia Dynasty, located in the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region of north-west China, in the foothills of the Helan Mountains, and formed from the 11th to 13th centuries. Comprising nine imperial mausoleums, 271 subordinate tombs, a northern architectural complex and thirty-two flood control works, this necropolis is a unique testimony to the Xixia Dynasty and its imperial lineage, which lasted nearly 200 years and was established by the Tanguts, nomadic herdspeople who settled in a region crossed by the Silk Road, and brought together a diverse population composed, in addition to the Tanguts, of Han Chinese, Tibetans, Uighurs, Khitans and Jurchens.

Through contact with merchants, caravans, monks and nomads, the Tanguts developed a civilisation based on the Chinese imperial model, of which Buddhism was an essential part. This is evidenced by very large, diverse architectural sites, as well as a wealth of objects excavated at the property, including fragments of stelae in Tangut script.

**Criterion (ii):** The Xixia Imperial Tombs bear witness to cultural and religious influences from multiple sources, ranging from the traditions of the Song and Tang dynasties to the beliefs and funerary customs of the Tanguts, where adherence to Buddhism dominated and ancestral traditions persisted. These characteristics are fully reflected in the spatial organisation, design and architecture of the Xixia funerary complex.

**Criterion (iii):** The Xixia Imperial Tombs illustrate the spiritual and cultural originality of the Xixia Dynasty and the Tangut people. This civilisation developed for nearly 200 years in contact with the Silk Road through cultural and commercial exchange in north-west China, from the 11th to the 13th century.

#### Integrity

The property contains the only imperial tombs identified in the territory of the Tanguts that are associated with a set of subordinate tombs and supplementary constructions and works, allowing for a complete representation of the property and its architectural features in its historical setting. The remains forming the necropolis are in a generally good state of conservation, and the main factors affecting the property are the effects of climate change, tourism and urban growth. The boundaries are adequate, and the buffer zone provides an additional layer of protection.

#### Authenticity

The property is located in an unspoiled natural desert setting. Its visual and spiritual connection to the Helan Mountains is also preserved. Each tomb, whether a mausoleum or a subordinate tomb, the flood control works and the architectural complex are

preserved in place in their original location and have retained enough materials to remain coherent.

# Protection and management requirements

The property has been a National Priority Protected Site since 1988. Its perimeter was declared a conservation area by the regional authorities in 1991. All interventions on the property are governed by the national regime for the protection of cultural relics. A series of laws and regulations complete and strengthen this system.

Four competent administrative authorities are responsible for managing the property: the central government, the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, the Yinchuan Municipality and the Yinchuan Xixia Imperial Tombs Management Office, to which is attached the Xixia Imperial Tombs Cultural Tourism Development Co. Ltd. These authorities are tasked with ensuring, each at its own level, compliance with the legislative and regulatory framework for the conservation and management of the property.

To this end, these authorities have adopted the Conservation Plan of Xixia Imperial Tombs (2019-2035), approved and published by the People's Government of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region in January 2024. This plan builds on and supplements previous planning arrangements, and provides for a conservation area plan with management rules.

The Conservation and Management Plan of Xixia Imperial Tombs (2023-2035) assesses the state of conservation of the property and provides for enhanced measures as well as the implementation of actions for protection, management, use and research. It also defines a strategy for the coordinated development of heritage protection and its economic and social aspects at the local level. Finally, it provides for a set of measures to take into account natural risks as well as urban or tourism-related pressures.

In addition to these specialised conservation plans, the Territorial Spatial Master Plan of Yinchuan Municipality (2021-2035) integrates the conservation of the Xixia Imperial Tombs within the ecological protection of Helan. It also takes into account the protection of the mountains and the cultural heritage.

These provisions provide legal, institutional, and management guarantees for the protection of the conditions of integrity and authenticity of the property.

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Extending conservation works to all the subordinate tombs and remaining structures on the property,
  - b) Strengthening the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of the archaeological remains, particularly through preventative monitoring, the development of consolidation measures and the preparation of a comprehensive conservation plan for the subordinate tombs.
  - Continuing the measures to control the effects of the operation of the air force base and ensuring that air traffic does not increase in order to avoid any negative impacts on the property caused by vibrations,
  - d) Continuing research programmes related to climate change and its effect on the archaeological remains, including the subordinate tombs and structures.
  - e) Publishing research reports and the results of archaeological excavations on a regular basis,
  - f) Providing the human and material resources required to ensure the management of the property,
  - g) Regularly assessing the implementation of the measures of the Specialized Plan for Cultural Tourism of Xixia Imperial Tombs,

h) Considering the involvement of residents in decision-making mechanisms.

Property	Maratha Military Landscapes of India
ID. N°	1739
State Party	India
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)(iv)(vi)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

# **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.16**

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Defers</u> the examination of the nomination of the **Maratha Military Landscapes of India**, **India**, to the World Heritage List in order to allow the State Party, with the advice of ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre, if requested, to:
  - a) Refocus the current nomination around a hierarchical series of forts that reflects the complexity and ingenuity of the large-scale, territorial, defensive Maratha military strategy and its specific characteristics,
  - b) Given the sheer scope of the military system developed by the Marathas with its double line of defences, interconnected network of larger fortifications and smaller forts and outposts, which effectively provided territorial control and trade protection along the Western Ghats and the Konkan Coast, adopt a phased approach by proposing a two-phase serial nomination: the first phase should include selected fort clusters along the two defence lines on the Konkan Coast, the Sahyadri Range and Western Ghats; the second phase should constitute a significant boundary modification to the series through the addition of further fort clusters along the same defence lines to fully reflect the density, hierarchy and strategic locations of fortifications along both defence lines,
  - c) Re-frame the current nomination as the first submission of the extended series by focusing on representative clusters of coastal forts, including Khanderi Fort and Suvarnadurg, with their supporting forts, backed up by representative clusters of hill forts, including Raigad, Rajgad and Pratapgad, with both clusters including as separate component parts their supportive secondary and tertiary forts currently included in the buffer zones:
- 3. <u>Considers</u> that any revised nomination would need to be considered by an expert mission to the site:
- Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Protecting the secondary and tertiary forts in the buffer zones of the nominated component parts with cultural-heritage-specific designations,
  - b) Integrating the proposed implementation calendars for remedial or mitigation measures into the respective management plans of forts affected by adverse impacts of past inappropriate developments,
  - c) Preparing a Heritage Impact Assessment on the existing ropeway at Raigad as a basis for considering alternative means of accessibility in the future and for any project that may have an impact on the nominated forts and their relationship with their historic setting,

- d) Continuing with the documentation activity through its systematisation and integration into interoperable GIS for research, conservation and risk management purposes,
- e) Undertaking regular upkeep and maintenance of the fort structures to delay the need for extensive and complex conservation interventions and ensure recent interventions last longer,
- Strengthening the management of the buffer zones and more explicitly incorporating existing or planned management mechanisms and measures into the management plans;

Property	Prehistoric Caves and Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble of Khorramabad Valley (PCFEKV)
ID. N°	1744
State Party	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)(v)

#### Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.17

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the **Prehistoric Caves and Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble of Khorramabad Valley** (**PCFEKV**), **Islamic Republic of Iran**, with the exception of component parts Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble (7) and Shekaste Bridge (Shapouri Bridge) (8), on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (iii)**;
- 3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

The Prehistoric Sites of the Khorramabad Valley comprise five prehistoric caves and one rock shelter with evidence of human occupation dating back to 63,000 BP. These are the Kaldar, Ghamari, Gilvaran, Yafteh and Kunji caves, as well as the Gar Arjeneh Rock Shelter (component parts 1 to 6). The Khorramabad Valley is located in the Central Zagros Mountain Range, one of the key routes of human dispersal out of Africa. The numerous caves and rock shelters, ample water resources, rich fauna and flora, suitable stone sources for the tool industry, and relatively mild climate have created favourable conditions for human settlement since the Middle Palaeolithic period.

Archaeological excavations and study of the artefacts excavated on the sites have established the scientific chronology of human development in the valley. The Mousterian layers in Kunji Cave testify to the domination of the Neanderthals in the valley during the Middle Palaeolithic. During the transition between the Middle and Upper Palaeolithic periods, anatomically modern humans arrived in the valley, expanded their settlements and eventually supplanted the Neanderthals, illustrating the earliest transition phase in the Zagros region, which shed light on the debate over human migration routes out of Africa into Eurasia. The pendants and other decorative objects discovered at the sites, the evidence of using ochre pigments, as well as a decorated piece of terracotta mark the emergence of human cognitive behaviour and belief systems. The shell pendants were possibly sourced from the Persian Gulf, indicating the existence of communication and exchange routes between the Khorramabad Valley and the lowlands of the Persian Gulf during the Upper Palaeolithic period. Large numbers and varieties of stone tools discovered at the sites bear witness to the sophisticated

stone tool technologies of the Baradostian culture that surpassed contemporaneous developments in the Zagros Mountains.

**Criterion (iii):** The Prehistoric Sites of the Khorramabad Valley, with the shell pendants sourced from the distant Persian Gulf and ornaments fashioned from deer canine teeth, are an outstanding manifestation of the emergence and evolution of symbolic communication, a crucial aspect of modern human cognitive development. This evidence, alongside sophisticated stone tool technologies, is an exceptional testimony to the Upper Palaeolithic Baradostian culture on a global scale. The caves and shelters bear witness to the domination of the Neanderthals, to the arrival and expansion of the anatomically modern humans who eventually supplanted the Neanderthals in the valley, and provide insight into the migratory route of human dispersal out of Africa.

## Integrity

The prehistoric sites collectively illustrate the multifaceted life of the prehistoric communities and their evolution, and, individually, each of the six component parts contributes to the overall Outstanding Universal Value in a substantial, scientific, readily defined and discernible way. Each component part has been well preserved with affecting factors under control, and the buffer zones provide an additional layer of protection. Despite the development of human settlements in the Khorramabad Valley and the gradual urbanisation of the area, the component parts have maintained their spatial relationships with their relatively undisturbed surrounding environment.

# Authenticity

The prehistoric sites are authentic in their location, natural forms, and settings. Natural vegetation, seasonal and permanent rivers, water springs and historical paths have been maintained in these spaces. The archaeological resources are largely undisturbed, constituting a vast authentic knowledge reservoir for future research.

# Protection and management requirements

All the component parts have been included on the National Monuments List, conforming to the legislation in force, and are governed, together with their buffer zones, by specific regulations inherent to their protected heritage status. The Iranian Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicrafts (IMCHTH) is responsible for their research, conservation, monitoring, and management. These activities are implemented through the Research Base, which is a decentralised multi-disciplinary centre reporting to the IMCHTH and the management entity of the property. The management plan sets out management objectives and an action plan with short-, medium- and long-term conservation measures to preserve the values and maintain the integrity and authenticity of the property. The legal and management systems in place ensure the long-term preservation of the property and its immediate and wider setting, which is important to sustain and understand the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - Adjusting the current management system and the management plan, the monitoring system, and the interpretation strategy to focus on the reduced serial property.
  - b) Considering constructing a shelter to protect the sondage pit in front of the Gilvaran Cave (component part 3),
  - c) Establishing a research programme, in collaboration with international institutions as appropriate, and continuing regular scientific research on the prehistoric sites of the Khorramabad Valley to enhance data collection and management,
  - d) Integrating Heritage Impact Assessment mechanisms, as prescribed in the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context, in the decisionmaking process,

- e) Strengthening the involvement of local communities in the decision-making process of the property management;
- 5. <u>Decides</u> that the name of the serial property be changed to "The Prehistoric Sites of the Khorramabad Valley".

Property	Forest Research Institute Malaysia Forest Park Selangor (FRIM FPS)
ID. N°	1734
State Party	Malaysia
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ii)(v)

#### **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.18**

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Refers</u> the nomination of the **Forest Research Institute Malaysia Forest Park Selangor** (FRIM FPS), Malaysia, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Provide further information on the regional and global historical-cultural context in which the experimentation at FRIM FPS took place and fully develop the arguments for a revised justification for inscription on the basis of criterion (iv),
  - b) Withhold the concessions for opening additional quarries in the Bukit Lagong Forest Reserve and prepare an action plan to progressively remove all quarrying activity from it.
  - c) Expand the buffer zone to include, northwards, the entirety of the Bukit Lagong Forest Reserve to sustain the functional connectivity with the nominated property, and provide an additional layer of protection, and, southwards, the tertiary zone,
  - d) Clarify the protection status and regime of the small triangular portion of the nominated property to its eastern side, indicated on the map entitled "Amendment FRIM FPS BPK 4.1: Selayang Utama, Land Use Zone RTMPS 2030 (Replacement)" provided in the Local Plan of Selayang Municipal Council 2030;
- 3. <u>Recommends</u> that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Developing additional protection measures that ensure effective protection of the attributes of the potential Outstanding Universal Value from development in the southern part of the buffer zone.
  - b) Strengthening the protection and management system in order to guarantee that it is effective for the long-term protection of the nominated property,
  - c) Integrating a conservation architect into the staff for the monitoring and maintenance programmes of historical buildings,
  - d) Considering reducing the extension of Zone 3 controlled development area as it appears comparatively large vis-à-vis the whole size of the FRIM FPS,
  - e) Establishing an archive of the documentation of all buildings, structures, and humanmade landscape features within the nominated property, and collect documentation as a knowledge and reference base for any future intervention,
  - f) Systematically inventorying and documenting the built heritage and its state of conservation in the nominated property to ensure proper management, maintenance and monitoring of surviving historical buildings and facilities,

- g) Assessing the transformations that have occurred over time and determining whether they have maintained the legibility of the historical layout of the nominated property,
- h) Further documenting the biodiversity of the nominated forest,
- i) Developing a heritage-value-based visitor management focused on the potential global significance of the nominated property and aimed at reducing the impact of visitors on the ecological processes of the forest,
- j) Ensuring more substantial involvement of the Indigenous People associated with the nominated property in the nomination and management processes.

Property	Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, the Archaeological Remains of the Ancient Shakya Kingdom
ID. N°	1741
State Party	Nepal
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iv)(vi)

#### **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.19**

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Defers</u> the examination of the nomination of **Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, the Archaeological Remains of the Ancient Shakya Kingdom, Nepal**, to the World
  Heritage List in order to allow the State Party, with the advice of ICOMOS and the World
  Heritage Centre, if requested, to:
  - a) Complete the investigation of the apsidal temple and provide more accurate dating and history of the structure to strengthen the argument of the significance of Tilaurakot as an exceptional testimony to the veneration of the Buddha and his teachings to justify criterion (iii),
  - b) Pursue further research on the religious architecture at Tilaurakot testifying to the pilgrimage to the site, believed to be the hometown of Lord Buddha from at least the Mauryan period onwards, to demonstrate the exceptional way in which these structures reflect the association of Tilaurakot with the life and teachings of the Buddha and the development of Buddhist tradition, to justify criterion (vi),
  - c) Re-submit the nomination as a significant boundary modification of the World Heritage property of "Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha" (Nepal, 1997);
- 3. <u>Considers</u> that any revised nomination would need to be considered by an expert mission to the site;
- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Considering hydrological modelling in planning for the protection of the nominated property against flooding,
  - b) Completing archaeological risk mapping in the proposed buffer zone to better understand the archaeological potential of areas surrounding the nominated property,
  - c) Ensuring that the procedures and format for Heritage Impact Assessment are consistent with the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World

Heritage Context and that Heritage Impact Assessment is conducted before any development project within the nominated property and the immediate setting that has archaeological potential.

Property	Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream
ID. N°	1740
State Party	Republic of Korea
Criteria proposed by State Party	(i)(iii)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

## Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.20

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the **Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream, Republic of Korea**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (i)** and **(iii)**;
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

# **Brief synthesis**

The property is located along the Bangucheon Stream on the south-eastern coast of the Korean Peninsula. It extends for approximately three kilometres along this meandering waterway, in a landscape of stratified cliffs. Within this specific setting, there are two rock panels with remarkable concentrations of petroglyphs namely, the Daegok-ri Petroglyphs and the Cheonjeon-ri Petroglyphs. The petroglyphs depict a wide range of images engraved by successive generations of local artists, using stone and metal tools, spanning a period from the prehistoric to the historic eras, from 5,000 BCE to the 9th century CE.

The animals, human figures, hunting scenes, concentric circles, diamonds and writing carved into the rock show great realism and dynamism, while displaying a specific composition of figurative images and epigraphs. In particular, the petroglyphs representing animals, both aquatic and land-based, present a level of detail that makes it possible to discern the precise species of each animal.

These various images and inscriptions are an exceptional demonstration of this long tradition of rock engraving, extending from the Neolithic period through the Bronze Age and up to the Silla period.

**Criterion (i):** The Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream display a wide range of images executed with great artistic mastery over the course of millennia by the coastal inhabitants of East Asia. The acute sense of observation reflected in the realistic depictions of various motifs and their specific compositions demonstrate the exceptional aesthetic sense of these artists. Their creativity is particularly evocative in prehistoric images depicting whales and certain stages of whaling, a subject only rarely represented in rock art around the world.

**Criterion (iii):** The Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream attest to a tradition of rock carving that was practised for approximately 6,000 years within the landscape formed by the Bangucheon Stream. These rock carvings are exceptional because they demonstrate a complex form of artistic expression and concisely illustrate the cultural evolution of the coastal inhabitants of the peninsula over this long period.

# Integrity

The property includes all of the attributes that convey its Outstanding Universal Value. A dam constructed outside the southern boundary of the buffer zone has, in the past, created significant environmental pressures on one part of the petroglyphs of the property, but its negative impact has now been largely mitigated.

#### Authenticity

The property retains a high level of authenticity in its form and design, its materials and substance, location and setting. The dam outside the buffer zone caused some degree of topographical transformation, but this has been restored. Overall, the attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value of the property have been kept virtually intact until today.

# Protection and management requirements

The property is protected under the Cultural Heritage Protection Act and other relevant laws, such as the Water Supply and Waterworks Installation Act and the Forest Protection Act. The property and its buffer zone are designated nationally as protected areas (under the category of Scenic Site). The two rock panels that have a high concentration of petroglyphs are also listed as National Treasures. Conservation and restoration projects for the property are carried out by specialist institutes and nationally certified professionals in order to preserve its integrity and authenticity.

The local government has established a dedicated property management body that is responsible for drawing up an integrated management plan, coordinating inputs from various stakeholders, and performing other tasks related to the management of the property. The local government is working to control the environmental pressures on one part of the property, particularly with regard to the potential drying out of the Daegok-ri panel due to the redevelopment of the Sayeon Dam. The central and local governments continuously monitor a number of physical and biological parameters to ensure that the state of conservation of the property is maintained.

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Informing the World Heritage Centre of the progress of the Sayeon Dam works,
  - b) Ensuring the effective operationalisation of the Bangucheon Petroglyphs World Heritage Center,
  - c) Formalising the role of local communities and residents in the management system,
  - d) Informing the World Heritage Centre of the intention to undertake or authorise all major projects which may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, in line with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines.

Property	Ancient Khuttal
ID. N°	1627
State Party	Tajikistan
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.21

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1.

- 2. <u>Refers</u> the nomination of **Ancient Khuttal, Tajikistan**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Reduce the nominated series to include only the following component parts: Ajinatepa Buddhist monastery (1), Kalai Hulbuk (2a), Shahristoni Hulbuk (2b), Manzaratepa (3), Zoli Zard (4), Halevard (Kofirkala) (6), and Tohir Caravansarai (8),
  - b) Complete the state certification process for the Shahristoni Hulbuk (2b) and Manzaratepa (3) component parts,
  - c) Adjust the management and monitoring systems to fit the proposed reduced series,
  - d) Provide information on the management system for the reduced nominated series following the process of transferring responsibilities from the Ministry of Culture to the Agency of Historical and Cultural Heritage Protection,
  - e) Developing an overall management plan for the proposed reduced series as a whole, tourism management plan and interpretation plan for the revised nominated property,
  - f) Completing the management plans for each component part,
  - g) Preparing disaster risk preparedness plans for each component part;
- 3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Implementing mitigation measures to prevent the destruction of the Tohir Caravanserai (8) from Toirsu River erosion,
  - b) Conducting conservation interventions and daily maintenance for the exposed architectural structures of the Ajinatepa Buddhist Monastery (1), Kalai Hulbuk (2a), and Halevard (Kofirkala) (6) to address the issue of deterioration by natural elements and vegetation growth,
  - c) Backfilling the two areas excavated in the 2017-2020 campaign at Shahristoni Hulbuk (2b),
  - d) Establishing and implementing the monitoring system with improved indicators and administrative arrangements to ensure timely response to emergency events, to identify trends and to support the state of conservation in the long term.
  - e) Introducing a Heritage Impact Assessment procedure for any new developments in the buffer zones of the component parts,
  - f) Undertaking capacity building for the local custodians on a regular basis,
  - g) Enhancing the involvement of local communities and the role of local custodians in the decision-making process;
- 4. <u>Also recommends</u> that the name of the revised nominated property be changed to reflect the reduced series, to "The Cultural Heritage Sites of Ancient Khuttal".

Property	Yen Tu-Vinh Nghiem-Con Son, Kiep Bac Complex of Monuments and Landscapes
ID. N°	1732
State Party	Viet Nam
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)(v)(vi)

# **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.22**

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1.
- 2. <u>Defers</u> the examination of the nomination of the **Yen Tu-Vinh Nghiem-Con Son, Kiep Bac Complex of Monuments and Landscapes, Viet Nam**, to the World Heritage List in order to allow the State Party, with the advice of ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre, if requested, to:
  - a) Reconsider the nomination with a view to focusing the narrative on the development of Truc Lam Buddhism, founded to embody the idea of a secluded life without isolation, which promoted harmony between religious and secular lives and fostered the birth of a nation, and its physical expressions in the Yen Tu sacred mountain landscape,
  - b) Highlight the distinctiveness of Truc Lam Buddhism, in comparison to other Buddhist sects in the region, in terms of its ideals, physical expressions, use of space, and application of the tradition of "active engagement",
  - c) Envisage extending the boundaries of the revised nominated property to fully encompass an area of the Yen Tu sacred mountain landscape which includes the important structures, sites, and landscapes that reflect the origin and development of Truc Lam Buddhism,
  - d) Complete and implement on an urgent basis a systematic conservation and restoration process for the revised nominated property, taking into account the need to maintain the authenticity of the buildings, structures, archaeological sites, and other relevant elements;
- 3. <u>Considers</u> that any revised nomination would need to be considered by an expert mission to the site;
- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Preparing a comprehensive archaeological map of the Yen Tu area that will serve as the foundation for further research and facilitate the dissemination of Yen Tu heritage's characteristics both locally and internationally,
  - b) Approving and making operational all master plans for the Relic Areas, if not already the case,
  - c) Finalising the integration of a Heritage Impact Assessment mechanism in the Law on Cultural Heritage,
  - d) Including a general conservation plan in the management system of the nominated property that adheres to the principle of minimal intervention and is consistent with international charters and UNESCO recommendations.
  - e) Enhancing the conservation and restoration techniques for structures and sites that are set out in the framework of the conservation and management plans,
  - f) Improving the security measures currently in place, especially for the woodblocks,

- g) Improving the monitoring system by identifying key indicators that are more specific and measured over shorter cycles, that generate both qualitative and quantitative data, and whose results are processed centrally and stored in a database accessible to the relevant authorities,
- h) Planning for a future increase in the number of visitors, and consolidating the different visitor activities and projections in a formal tourism management plan,
- i) Creating visitor services that do not affect the heritage values of the nominated property and that harmonise with the surrounding landscape, including any planned on-site museums, and improving the existing infrastructures and facilities, as well as the information being delivered based on data obtained from the latest inventories and research programmes,
- Acquiring more detailed information about indigenous knowledge on intangible heritage in order to provide an essential context for the involvement of Indigenous Peoples in the nomination process and to clarify their role(s) within the nominated property,
- k) Ensuring adequate consultations, free, prior and informed consent, and equitable and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in the management of the nominated property,
- I) Increasing efforts to manage village growth and transportation infrastructure that may affect the nominated property, and addressing domestic wastewater and agricultural fertilizer run-off that is affecting rivers,
- m) Preventing sand mining in the upstream area of the buffer zones, as well as illegal coal mining, preferably by offering alternative sustainable livelihoods to people involved in the activity.

## C.4 EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

#### **C.4.1 New Nominations**

Property	Megaliths of Carnac and of the Shores of Morbihan
ID. N°	1725
State Party	France
Criteria proposed by State Party	(i)(ii)(iv)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

#### Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.23

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the **Megaliths of Carnac and of the Shores of Morbihan, France**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (i)** and **(iv)**;
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

Located in Brittany, in the west of France, in the area that spreads between the Quiberon peninsula and the Gulf of Morbihan, this serial property composed of four component parts comprises a high density of megalithic structures that showcase Neolithic

monumental architecture erected successively over more than two millennia (from approximately 5000 to 2300 BCE) in relation to the specific topographical features of the area – both relief and hydrography.

A variety of monumental stone structures, such as menhirs, standing stone (or stelae) alignments, stone circles (cromlechs), cairns, and funerary architecture of different types – such as passage tombs (dolmens) or cist graves – with tumuli or simple mounds, were constructed in specific locations, the intervisibility between them playing a role in their positioning.

The property preserves also a rich repertoire of parietal art engraved on stone slabs with representations of objects, animals, as well as abstract forms, all of which constitute a symbolic iconographic programme that must have been executed according to a predefined code. Although it is not yet possible to explain with certainty the reasons for erecting these structures, the logic of their implantation in the landscape, and the intended connections between them and the surrounding environment, this megalithic ensemble indicates a symbolic perception of the surrounding coastal and riparian landscape by the Neolithic populations that once inhabited this part of the European Atlantic Coast.

The associated deposits of precious objects made of rare materials of distant places found buried in particular places of the landscape, contribute to the understanding of the symbolic nature of the megalithic ensemble.

**Criterion (i):** By reason of their scale, density and diversity, the Megaliths of Carnac and of the Shores of Morbihan represent an exceptional testament to the technological sophistication and skilfulness of the Neolithic communities, which enabled them to extract, transport and handle monumental stones and earth to create a complex symbolic space that reveals a specific relationship of the people to their living environment. A rich repertoire of engravings of remarkable density includes representational art which is rarely documented in the megalithic contexts and constitutes one of the earliest examples of this type in Western Europe.

**Criterion (iv):** The Megaliths of Carnac and of the Shores of Morbihan, spread over a vast area, are an outstanding example of an architectural ensemble that represents the transition to a new way of human interaction with the environment, involving the construction of monumental structures according to a specific orientation towards topographical features, visual interconnections and in relation to the geomorphology of the area. The megalithism of the Morbihan region testifies to over 2,000 years of human activity in this territory and marks a significant stage in the human history of ideological transformations that accompanied the process of neolithisation of Western Europe.

#### Integrity

All component parts contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value, as they complement each other, having once been part of one coherent cultural landscape. The property encompasses the preserved megalithic structures and elements of the natural environment in relation to which the monumental architecture was constructed, oriented or which constituted the culturally meaningful setting for these structures. The megaliths and the accompanying parietal art are relatively well preserved though many have suffered the effects of the passage of time since their creation. Natural erosion, colluvium, and rise in sea levels, combined with the anthropogenic activity, including dismantling and reuse of the megalithic structures, have impacted the wholeness and integrity of some monuments, or led to their complete disappearance. The integrity of the property remains vulnerable due to developmental pressures, seaside tourism, afforestation practices, and climate change. While the perception of the spatial organisation of the megaliths in the landscape is today only partially preserved and its logic not well understood, the megalithic structures, seen together as an ensemble rather than individually, allow to appreciate the complexity of the megalithic project.

# Authenticity

The preserved ensemble of monumental structures comprising the property provides an insight into the megalithic phenomenon of the Neolithic period, even if archaeological research has confirmed that the original megalithic network included more structures. In spite of a certain amount of destruction and rearrangement of the stone architecture, the thorough documentation and scientific knowledge accumulated to date have ensured that the property retains a sufficient level of authenticity. Reconstructions represent a limited number of cases, and minimal intervention is practiced as a conservation approach. Although the natural setting of the megaliths has changed substantially – structurally, ecologically, and in terms of character and function – the spatial organisation of the structures in the landscape remains partly legible, while intervisibility between them and significant topographical features are preserved in certain locations.

# Protection and management requirements

The property is protected through numerous regulations under three French key legal documents – Heritage Code, Environment Code, and Town Planning Code. Forty-one per cent of megalithic structures are protected together with their immediate surroundings as listed or registered historical monuments. Additional protection is ensured through the designation of the Outstanding Heritage Site (SPR) of Carnac. The submerged megalithic structures remain unprotected, but the development of the coastline is legally controlled. Several sectors of the property benefit from the protection on account of their natural values. Multiple planification tools are also in place at the local level to control development, especially Local Urban Plans (PLUs, municipal level) and Territorial Coherence Schemes (SCoTs, supra-municipal level). The latter are the principal management tools through which the management of the property will be eventually implemented.

About a quarter of the megalithic structures in the property is in public ownership. Others are privately-owned.

At the national level, the Regional Directorate of Cultural Affairs (DRAC), the Regional Directorate for the Environment, Planning and Housing (DREAL), and the Regional Directorate for Nutrition, Agriculture and Forestry (DRAAF) are responsible for the protection and management of the property, together with their counterparts at the departmental level. At the local level, multiple local authorities, public and private entities and individuals oversee the maintenance and management of the property.

The governance system of the property includes a Steering Committee (COPIL) as the decision-making body, and a Technical Committee (COTECH) as its operational counterpart, while the association Paysages de mégalithes, composed of all types of stakeholders involved in the management of the megalithic sites and monuments, plays a coordinating role. The future management is envisaged in a partnership-focused way, the association becoming the ultimate management body of the property. The management plan has been prepared collaboratively by the association Paysages de mégaliths and is being implemented.

This scheme aims to secure knowledge, preservation and protection of the property and its component parts, as well as communication about it with a view to its collective appropriation by all stakeholders and visitors.

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Pursuing further the legal protection of the monuments and sites of the property that are not yet protected,
  - b) Ensuring adequate capacity and competence within the association Paysages de mégalithes, and putting at its disposal the necessary management and control tools to implement the management plan,

- c) Finalising the monitoring programme for the property, as well as the communication and promotion plan to harmonise the narrative presented to the public,
- d) Finalising the reference book (cahier de référence Mégalithes et Patrimoine mondial) and submitting it to the World Heritage Centre.

Property	The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria: Neuschwanstein, Linderhof, Schachen and Herrenchiemsee – From Dreams to Reality
ID. N°	1726
State Party	Germany
Criteria proposed by State Party	(i)(ii)(ii)(iv)(vi)

#### **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.24**

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria: Neuschwanstein, Linderhof, Schachen and Herrenchiemsee From Dreams to Reality, Germany, on the World Heritage List on the basis of criterion (iv);
- 3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria are located in the Free State of Bavaria, in Swabia and Upper Bavaria, Germany. Carefully sited in the Alps and their foothills, in landscapes of high natural and aesthetic qualities, they were designed and built as places of seclusion, according to the romantic vision and under the meticulous supervision of King Ludwig II of Bavaria during his reign from 1864 to 1886. These palaces were built solely as private residences and were intended to inspire the enjoyment of art and the appreciation of beauty. Lavishly decorated and varying in nature and appearance, Neuschwanstein Castle, Linderhof Palace and its garden and park, the King's House on Schachen, and Herrenchiemsee New Palace with its garden were conceived in the age of historicism and eclecticism. Being staged visual architecture for poetic, imagined worlds, the four palaces made full use of the stylistic trends and technical possibilities of the era. To achieve the desired results and effect of "total works of art" (Gesamtkunstwerke), the best artists, craftspeople, and latest technologies were used. The inspirations for their forms and appearances were derived from, among others, Wartburg Castle, the Palace of Versailles and its gardens, and Richard Wagner's operas.

Criterion (iv): The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria are remarkably well-preserved, and display a varied range of architectural and artistic styles. They testify to great intellectual and symbolic depth, and demonstrate a high level of artistic and technological skill. The four component parts individually and collectively represent a symbiosis of popular architectural trends during the second half of the 19th century, particularly the penchant for historicism and eclecticism. Conceived as places of seclusion, the four castles were built under the meticulous direction of King Ludwig II. They were designed as total works of art of remarkable beauty, scale and luxury, and incorporate scenic and theatrical effects.

#### Integrity

The serial property contains all the attributes necessary to convey the Outstanding Universal Value, including buildings, structures, and associated parks and gardens. All the component parts of the property are in a good state of conservation and remain

largely unchanged since the death of King Ludwig II. They are characterised by their exceptional locations, outstanding natural beauty of their settings, and deliberately chosen seclusion. None of the component parts suffer from the adverse effects of development or neglect.

#### Authenticity

The component parts of the series are in their original locations, and their settings remain highly evocative of the past. The key attributes are authentic in terms of their forms and designs, and their historic materials and substances have been conserved to the degree possible. The associated gardens and parks have been managed with sensitivity to their historical configurations. The feeling of the visual world of King Ludwig II has been maintained.

# Protection and management requirements

Statutory protection for the four component parts is governed by the Law on the Protection and Preservation of Monuments (Bavarian Monument Protection Law – BayDSchG) of 25 June 1973, as amended. The component parts have been registered as monuments since the 1970s. Additionally, according to the BayDSchG, a World Heritage property has special protection status, and all alterations require relevant consent. Furthermore, the laws and regulations relating to the protection of nature and landscapes, and of water resources, as well as other regulations also apply within the boundaries of the property and its buffer zones.

The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria are owned by the Free State of Bavaria. The responsible authority for the management of the property is the Bavarian Palace Department, which, in close cooperation with the Bavarian State Office for the Preservation of Monuments and other parties involved, coordinates and supervises all structural, restoration, and conservation works. A steering group will monitor the conservation of the component parts and the protection of their respective buffer zones.

A draft management plan has been prepared to be used as a communication and coordination instrument that facilitates participatory management of the serial property and its settings. It should be revised to include a visitor management strategy that responds to the factors affecting the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, and to address issues relating to the natural and cultural environment of the property that should be effectively synchronised and fully integrated into management practices.

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Approving and implementing the draft management plan after revising it to include a forward-looking strategy that responds to the factors affecting the Outstanding Universal Value, the role and impact of tourism on the local and regional economy, the role of local communities, and issues relating to the natural and cultural environment of the property that should be further synchronised and fully integrated into management practices,
  - Making operational the proposed steering group chaired by the Bavarian Palace Department that will monitor all construction and design measures affecting the component parts and coordinate World Heritage-relevant projects planned in their immediate settings,
  - c) Identifying more precisely the key attributes that support the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and thereby form the focus of protection, conservation, and management actions,
  - d) Developing specific monitoring indicators that relate to the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value, on the basis of more structured, purpose-related, and detailed data, to facilitate effective conservation and management in the future,

- e) Developing and implementing an overall visitor strategy as a priority to mitigate the impacts of mass tourism,
- f) Ensuring that participatory processes with the local community are developed and integrated into the management plan and are part of the daily management of the property,
- g) Better integrating the local authorities and agencies which have responsibility over the buffer zones and wider settings into the management and governance system of the property, given the vital role the surrounding landscape plays in each component part.
- 5. <u>Decides</u> that the name of the serial property be changed to "The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria: Neuschwanstein, Linderhof, Schachen and Herrenchiemsee".

Property	Minoan Palatial Centres
ID. N°	1733
State Party	Greece
Criteria proposed by State Party	(i)(ii)(ii)(iv)(v)(vi)

#### Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.25

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Refers</u> the nomination of the **Minoan Palatial Centres, Greece**, back to the State Party to allow it to:
  - a) Consider aligning the status of protection of the Kydonia component part (006) on the status of the other component parts (Zone A), to provide it with the highest level of legal protection, and establish a specific monitoring system to oversee permits and building activities in Chania, where Kydonia is located,
  - b) Further develop the management plan to include:
    - i) detailed long-term conservation strategies, and a risk preparedness strategy that further address climate change and encompass the attributes of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value for the overall series and each component part,
    - ii) a comprehensive tourism management strategy including the presentation and interpretation of the overall series and each component part, ensuring that visitor management initiatives extend beyond individual sites to create a unified framework that balances accessibility with conservation;
- 3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Refining and aligning the boundaries of the buffer zones with natural features on the ground for the Knossos (001), Phaistos (002), Malia (003), Zakros (004) and Zominthos (005) component parts, in order to protect the sites from visual impacts on their integrity and preserve the contextual relationship with their natural environment, through minor boundary modification requests once legal and practical parameters allow them,
  - b) Clearly distinguishing between authentic archaeological remains and later reconstructions carried out in the early 20th century by Sir Arthur Evans to ensure that the justification of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value is based on authentic material.

- c) Applying in practice the key monitoring indicators, and gathering baseline data to establish a robust monitoring record,
- d) Expanding the digital documentation for all component parts,
- e) Continuing to provide the World Heritage Centre with updates on the ongoing excavations and conservation efforts at the Kydonia component part (006),
- f) Informing the World Heritage Centre of any intention to undertake or authorise major projects which may affect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property, in line with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines; this should include, but not be limited to, development activities within the buffer zones, urban expansion around the Kydonia component part (006), and any construction work in proximity to the component parts, with a clear protocol for impact assessments and pre-emptive mitigation strategies,
- g) Developing and implementing a Heritage Impact Assessment mechanism for all development proposals, including but not limited to urbanisation, tourism infrastructure, and potential alterations related to the component parts, in accordance with the latest ICOMOS heritage impact guidelines.

Property	Art and Architecture in the Prehistory of Sardinia – The domus de janas
ID. N°	1730
State Party	Italy
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ii)(iii)(vi)

#### Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.26

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1.
- 2. <u>Refers</u> the nomination of the **Art and Architecture in the Prehistory of Sardinia The domus de janas**, *Italy*, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Reformulate the justification for inscription to focus on the ways the domus de janas reflect the development of the funerary practices and beliefs of the prehistoric communities, including ideological, spiritual, social or other changes over time that can be observed thanks to the longevity of use of these funerary structures,
  - b) Reduce the series by including only the hypogeal structures known as the domus de janas, and reconsider the selection of component parts to ensure that each of them contributes individually in a substantial way to the potential Outstanding Universal Value, while ensuring that cultural, social or functional links between the component parts over time provide a sense of connectivity to the whole revised series,
  - c) Establish an adequate governance system for the revised nominated property, taking into consideration all relevant stakeholders;
- 3. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - Establishing centralised repository for all the relevant documents and incoming monitoring and research data regarding the selected nominated domus de janas, and make it accessible to all.

- b) Implementing a Heritage Impact Assessment mechanism as defined in the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context for any development proposals within the revised nominated property (such as visitor infrastructure) before any irreversible decisions are made,
- c) Developing small-scale monitoring systems tailored to the selected component parts, with monitoring indicators designed for assessing the conditions of the sites, as well as development trends and rates of affecting factors.
- d) Developing a comprehensive tourism management plan, including an interpretation strategy,
- e) Strengthening the involvement of the local communities in the decision-making process for the management of the revised nominated property.

Property	Gdynia. Early Modernist City Centre
ID. N°	1715
State Party	Poland
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ii)(iv)

#### Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.27

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Refers</u> the nomination of **Gdynia. Early Modernist City Centre, Poland**, back to the State Party in order to allow it to:
  - a) Re-examine the delineation of the boundaries of the nominated property to ensure they are consistent, systematic and include additional attributes that support the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, namely the Post Office and Sorting Hall at the Konstytucji Square, the former Swedish Sailor's Church, and the historic row of attached houses for fishermen on Jerzego Waszyngtona Street,
  - b) Clarify the rationale for the delineation of the buffer zone, and consider including the contextual waterfront port industry and water bodies towards the south and the east of the Baltic Sea, as well as the entire Kamienna Góra residential area, so that the scale of the interwar modernist development of the city is more easily perceived,
  - c) Ensure that the legal provisions applicable to the buffer zone effectively provide an additional layer of protection to the nominated property.
  - d) Identify more precisely the key attributes that support the proposed Outstanding Universal Value and form the focus of protection, conservation, and management actions;
- Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Implementing the key measures of the management plan as soon as possible,
  - b) Reviewing the state of the inner courtyards, whose auxiliary outbuildings make it difficult to perceive the original idea of open "green" spaces, and planning the removal of these auxiliary outbuildings accordingly,
  - c) Establishing an inventory of historical interiors of registered state and municipal monuments that are accessible to the public (such as semi-public entrance areas, foyers, stairwells, common areas, etc.),

- d) Developing a strategy for the conservation of earlier gable-roofed houses, and integrating it into the conservation plan for the nominated property,
- e) Providing additional evidence and documentation of the participatory consultation process, including on how the complex private ownership issue that characterises the nominated property is being addressed as part of this consultation process,
- f) Developing and implementing as soon as possible a Heritage Impact Assessment mechanism for development proposals (such as, inter alia, the Nova Marina Gdynia project, the development at the base of South Pier, the development in Żeromskiego Street, and the development near the "InfoBox Observatory of Change"), before any irreversible decisions are taken,
- g) Informing the World Heritage Centre of the intention to undertake or authorise all major projects which may affect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property, in line with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;
- 4. <u>Also recommends</u> that the name of the nominated property be changed to "Gdynia Modernist City Centre".

Property	Álvaro Siza's Architecture: A Modern Contextualism Legacy			
ID. N°	1737			
State Party	Portugal			
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ii)(iv)			

# **Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.28**

- Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Defers</u> the examination of the nomination of **Álvaro Siza's Architecture: A Modern Contextualism Legacy, Portugal**, to the World Heritage List in order to allow the State Party, with the advice of ICOMOS and the World Heritage Centre, if requested, to:
  - a) Reconceptualise the nomination to comprise a reduced selection of internationally early influential examples of the works of Álvaro Siza that testify convincingly to the evolution of the Modern Movement towards a contextual approach that integrates local references with global models,
  - b) Ensure that the selected component parts are registered as National Monuments,
  - c) Complete and make operational the Joint Management Plan and the individual management plans for the selected component parts, as well as the accompanying risk management plans, interpretation and communication plans, maintenance plans, and user manuals,
  - d) Create and make operational the association that will be responsible for the overall management of the reconfigured nominated property,
  - e) Reconsider the boundaries of the selected component parts to ensure that they fully incorporate entire buildings, and include a sufficiently wide immediate setting to meet the conditions of integrity,
  - f) Reconsider the buffer zones for the selected component parts to ensure that they provide an adequate layer of additional protection to the nominated property;

- 3. <u>Considers</u> that any revised nomination would need to be considered by an expert mission to the site:
- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Rationalising the management of the extensive documentation that is currently spread across numerous locations and institutions in order to better support management, conservation, and monitoring initiatives,
  - b) Informing the World Heritage Centre of the intention to undertake or authorise all major projects which may affect the potential Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property, in line with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines,
  - c) Developing and implementing a Heritage Impact Assessment for development proposals before any irreversible decisions are made.

Property	Rock Paintings of Shulgan-Tash Cave		
ID. N°	1743		
State Party	Russian Federation		
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)		

**Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.29** 

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the **Rock Paintings of Shulgan-Tash Cave, Russian Federation**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion** (iii);
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

# **Brief synthesis**

The Rock Paintings of Shulgan-Tash Cave, also known as Kapova Cave, are located in the western foothills of the Southern Ural Mountains within the Burzyansky district of the Republic of Bashkortostan, below a karst massif bounded by the Belaya River and the Shulgan River canyon. The property features large halls, galleries, steep passages, and interconnected siphons and contains extensive Upper Palaeolithic rock paintings in the aphotic zone of the cave.

The rock paintings are found in several chambers at different levels and primarily depict the characteristic fauna of the steppe ecosystem – mammoths, woolly rhinoceroses, bison, horses, and one complete image of a Bactrian camel – as well as anthropomorphic representations, abstract signs, and geometric patterns, including the renowned "Kapova trapezoids". These rock paintings were created during the Last Glaciation Maximum and at the beginning of the deglaciation, between 20,600 and 16,500 calibrated years BP. The climate in the Southern Urals was severe and the temperature in the cave was constantly below 0°C, making it extremely difficult to produce paintings there in comparison with other caves known to display Palaeolithic art.

The rock paintings bear witness in an outstanding way to commonalities in human perceptions of the world and of external phenomena from Western Europe to the Urals during the Late Pleistocene. The peculiarities of these paintings also suggest that a centre of ancient culture existed in the Southern Urals during the Palaeolithic period. They provide insight into shared and different domestic and cultural practices covering vast areas of Europe. In addition, archaeological finds and speleothems provide rare and

outstanding evidence of the artistic process, and of the domestic activities carried out by humans in the Shulgan-Tash Cave in the Late Palaeolithic. The property offers a vast potential for future investigations and the advancement of knowledge on production tools for rock art, imagery and paintings in the cave.

The forested immediate and wider setting is mainly intact, with no impact from urbanisation, and contributes to the understanding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

**Criterion (iii):** The Rock Paintings of Shulgan-Tash Cave provide outstanding evidence of the cultural and domestic practices of the Southern Urals Upper Palaeolithic inhabitants. The numerous paintings on the cave walls and the rich archaeological materials found in the cultural layers of the cave sediment offer important comparative and differential perspectives on domestic and cultural practices across vast areas of Europe, highlighting both common and distinctive elements in the use of cave and production of rock art.

Paleontological finds, spores and pollen, charcoal, and dripstones reflect the temporal, climatic and environmental contexts of the Palaeolithic human occupation of the cave. Wall paintings and other evidence of non-utilitarian activities provide additional cultural and anthropological context.

The property offers significant potential for further research and knowledge production.

#### Integrity

The integrity of the property depends on the preservation of the karst system and the stability of its parameters. The geological, geochemical and microclimatic factors of the deep section of the cave appear stable, ensuring the long-term preservation of the wall paintings and loose sediments containing archaeological materials. Although some painting panels suffered contamination and defacement by graffiti during the initial exploration of the cave, the State Party rapidly protected the property. The attributes are therefore adequately conserved and convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the property; they are not in danger of natural decay or neglect.

Factors affecting the property mainly relate to housing and agricultural activities in the buffer zone. These risks are considered low and are closely monitored. However, impacts on the inner part of the cave due to increased visitor numbers in its outer part need constant monitoring, and prompt corrective measures if necessary.

The almost intact character of the remote rural environment of the property needs to be preserved.

#### Authenticity

The authenticity of the property relies on the numerous paintings on the cave walls depicting Late Pleistocene fauna (mammoth, rhinoceros, bison, horse, camel), as well as the archaeological materials found in the sediments. The paintings were dated using uranium-thorium dating, and are over 14,500 years old. Radiocarbon dating of charcoal has made it possible to determine the age of the cultural layer, which is estimated to be between 20,600 and 16,500 calibrated years BP. This comprehensive collection of data and objects, unequivocally ascribing the Shulgan-Tash paintings to the Upper Palaeolithic era, is genuine in its materials and substance. Palaeontological relics such as spores and pollen, charcoal, and dripstones reflect the time, climate, and environmental background of human occupation of caves in the Palaeolithic era.

#### Protection and management requirements

The property has been protected as a federal cultural heritage site since 1960. The protection and management of cultural heritage is governed by the Federal Law No. 73, dated 25 June 2002. The property, the buffer zone and the broader setting enjoy additional layers of protection through the designation of this territory as the Shulgan-

Tash State Nature Biosphere Reserve and the Altyn-Solok State Wildlife Reserve, both part of the UNESCO Bashkir Urals Biosphere Reserve, and the Bashkirya National Park. The property and its buffer zone are included in the cultural heritage site Land of Ural-Batyr. This territory is covered by a special town-planning regulation that limits economic activities to preserve natural, historical, and cultural monuments.

The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Department for State Protection of Cultural Heritage Sites of the Republic of Bashkortostan, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation and the Ministry for Natural Resources and the Environment of the Republic of Bashkortostan ensure the protection, financing, control, planning and management of the property and its buffer zone. The Shulgan-Tash Cave Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve, is the key management entity for the property and surrounding area, and the Shulgan-Tash State Nature Biosphere Reserve exercises responsibility over the Biosphere and part of the buffer zone.

The cave holds significant sacral importance for the Indigenous Bashkir people. Careful surveillance by the local community provides further protection to the property. Coordination and cooperation among all responsible entities, including local authorities, via a collegial governance and management framework, is essential for effectively protecting, planning and managing the property, its buffer zone and its wider setting.

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Strengthening the current governance by involving, at the appropriate levels, all relevant actors responsible for managing the property, its buffer zone and wider setting, including the local authorities,
  - b) Updating the multiple bilateral agreements under one management agreement involving all relevant actors responsible for the property,
  - c) Ensuring that the planning documents in force for Gadelgareevo include measures regulating any potential future building development in the village territory to avoid negative impacts on the property and its setting,
  - d) Designing and implementing a research programme for the conservation of the rock paintings with a long-term workplan, and integrating a conservator-restorer into the research team,
  - e) Strengthening the management plan by integrating a risk preparedness management plan,
  - f) Strengthening the monitoring system by detailing the geo-structural and microbiological factors and cross-referencing the internal climatic data with periodic assessment of the state of conservation of the paintings,
  - g) Strictly limiting access to cave spaces containing paintings to scientists, and only if access is necessary for research or conservation purposes,
  - h) Considering removing the replica of rock art paintings at the entrance of the cave or carefully presenting it as a replica to avoid confusion with the authentic rock paintings,
  - Including the museum visit into the route of the cave tour to introduce visitors to the cultural significance of the rock paintings and their creation before the visit to the outer section of the cave,
  - j) Considering building a wastewater collector and treatment plant for the Gadelgareevo village, especially if the number of residents increases due to the attractivity of the World Heritage designation,

- k) Envisaging more flexible protective mechanisms for the buffer zone and continuing the dialogue with local communities with a view to extending the buffer zone to cover the Gadelgareevo village territory and possibly the entirety of the Land of Ural-Batyr cultural heritage site,
- I) Integrating into the management and decision-making system Heritage Impact Assessment processes for all developments planned in the buffer zone or the wider setting, as this setting is key in contributing to the understanding and appreciation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

Property	Sardis and the Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe
ID. N°	1731
State Party	Türkiye
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)

# **Draft Decision**: 47 COM 8B.30

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> **Sardis and the Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe, Türkiye**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criterion (iii)**;
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

Sardis was one of the pre-eminent Iron Age cities of the ancient world. Located in western Türkiye, it was the capital and only city of the Lydians. The Lydians rose to prominence in the 8th-6th centuries BCE, conquering most of western Anatolia and establishing the first empire in the region during the Iron Age. They invented coinage, an innovation that was quickly adopted by their neighbours, with long and widespread impacts on global economies. Located at a crossroads between the Greek world and contemporary Near Eastern cultures, the Lydians established cultural, economic, military, and diplomatic ties to both the Greeks to their west, and the great empires to the east and south, the Assyrians, Babylonians, Egyptians, Phrygians, and others. The downfall of the Lydians despite their wealth, and the perils of the hubris of King Croesus has been reflected in literature since ancient times.

The Lydians developed their capital city with a distinctive system of monumental terraces, creating a scheme of urban planning unlike those of the Greeks, Egyptians, or other peoples of the Near East. They protected the city with a regionally distinctive twenty-meter-thick fortification wall. The necropolis of Bin Tepe is located seven to seventeen kilometres north of the citadel of Sardis, which includes more than 119 tumuli. The three large tumuli at Bin Tepe are amongst the largest tumulus tombs in the world, and amongst the first to include features such as the crepis wall and marker stones.

**Criterion (iii):** Sardis and the Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe testify to the Lydian civilisation, a native Anatolian people in western Asia Minor during the 1st millennium BCE. The property bears testimony to a vanished culture that had a profound impact on the history of the ancient world though its architecture, customs, and cultural practices. The Lydians had their own language and worshipped a unique pantheon of gods. The city of Sardis had a distinctive urban plan and architecture, and its terracing system served as a prototype for other terraced cities. The tumuli in Bin Tepe are amongst the largest in the

world. The Lydians also invented the world's first coinage, and their rapid expansion was facilitated by immense wealth, based on gold.

#### Integrity

The serial property comprised of two component parts includes all the attributes needed to convey its Outstanding Universal Value, including the full extent of the Lydian city of Sardis and the associated tumuli at Bin Tepe. The boundaries are appropriate, and the buffer zones provide protection to the settings of the component parts. The important visual connection between the two component parts will be strengthened once a single encompassing buffer zone has been implemented. The property exhibits overall an adequate state of conservation, supported by ongoing maintenance and continuing research.

#### Authenticity

The serial property is a well-preserved archaeological site that retains a high level of authenticity in relation to the Outstanding Universal Value. More than seventy years of excavation and research have revealed a remarkable quality, quantity and variety of archaeological remains with a high level of preservation. Work has been carried out to consolidate excavated structures throughout the Sardis component part. There is a substantial archive of archaeological reports and data, alongside significant artefact collections derived from Sardis. Nonetheless, some past actions have reduced the authenticity of the property, such as some of the reconstructions at Sardis, and looting of the tumuli at Bin Tepe. There are challenges to presenting the Lydian city because of the important structures and layers of archaeological material associated with later civilisations that inhabited it. The wider landscape setting connects the two component parts (and the features they contain) and underpins the authenticity in terms of their location and setting.

#### Protection and management requirements

All necessary measures for the protection of the archaeological site and its setting are in place.

Each of the component parts is designated as a 1st and 3rd degree archaeological conservation areas by the Izmir No. 2 Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties, ensuring their protection through the provisions of the national Law on the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Property No. 2863 (23 July 1983), as amended by Law No. 5226 (14 July 2004). In addition, some attributes in each of the component parts have been registered individually as cultural properties. Some portions in the southern part of the Sardis component part are not protected to the same level within the national laws. It is encouraged to align the 1st degree archaeological conservation areas with the boundaries of the component parts in future.

The buffer zones and wider setting are designated as 3rd degree archaeological conservation areas by the Izmir No. 2 Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties. This protection is also provided by the implementation of strategic national and regional plans, and through plans relating to specific locations. Many of these, including the mandatory regional conservation plans are currently in preparation.

Regular maintenance of archaeological features is planned, implemented and monitored through the Sardis Expedition (Harvard Art Museums) conservation programme. A Site Management Plan has been developed to meet the future management needs of the component parts and buffer zones, and to coordinate efforts from many bodies, groups, and individuals. Visitor management actions are planned, as well as improvements to the interpretation of the Lydian elements and of the property as a whole.

4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

- a) Continuing the programme of digitising the archive of records in order to improve access, provide a basis for monitoring and management, and enhance awareness of the property,
- b) Providing a single buffer zone, through a minor boundary modification request, integrating the two existing buffer zones in order to recognise and protect the significance of the wider setting and the importance of the visual connections between the two component parts,
- Revising the delineations of the 1st degree archaeological conservation areas to align with the boundaries of the component parts in order to ensure consistent levels of protection,
- d) Considering the possibility of extending the buffer zone to include all of Lake Marmara once projects to return water to the lake have been completed,
- e) Continuing to develop and finalising the following conservation plans and programmes as a priority:
  - i) Comprehensive property-wide conservation strategy and maintenance programme to enable the appropriate allocation of human and financial resources,
  - ii) Conservation Development Plans for Sardis and Bin Tepe (1:5000 and/or 1:1000 scale and associated planning guidance),
  - iii) Urban Design Guidelines for each village in and near the property and buffer zones,
  - iv)Landscape Plan that will, in part, assist in the appropriate location of new tourism infrastructure.
  - v) Izmir Regional Conservation Plan to provide a base line for future decision making.
  - vi) Sustainable tourism plan and an interpretation plan that coherently addresses the opportunities, issues and significance of both component parts, and better illuminates the Lydian attributes,
- f) Implementing the planned measures outlined in the Site Management Plan to address the impacts of agricultural uses of private land within the component parts and buffer zones, including engagement with landowners and effective monitoring and enforcement.
- g) Implementing actions outlined in the Site Management Plan to counter looting and illicit excavation as a matter of urgency, including through protection solutions that engage the local community,
- h) Prohibiting all new mining and quarrying licences within the property and the buffer zones,
- i) Incorporating Heritage Impact Assessment processes into relevant legal frameworks.
- j) Enhancing collaboration with the relevant national and regional authorities to ensure that any future transportation infrastructure and other developments avoid impacts on the property, buffer zones and wider setting and fully integrate the conservation of cultural heritage,
- k) Building on the programme established in cooperation with the Sardis Expedition to develop a research agenda and strategy that encompasses both component parts with a focus on exploiting existing data and research, together with ongoing and new programmes of non-invasive fieldwork,

I) Providing additional means of including local community representation in the management system to strengthen the long-term conservation and presentation of the property.

#### C.5 LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

#### C.5.1 New Nominations

Property	Huichol Route through Sacred Sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuarí Huajuyé)
ID. N°	1704
State Party	Mexico
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iii)(v)(vi)

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book.

#### Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.31

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. Having examined Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> the **Huichol Route through Sacred Sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuarí Huajuyé), Mexico**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii)** and **(vi)**;
- 3. Adopts the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

The Huichol Route through Sacred Sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuarí Huajuyé) is a serial property of twenty component parts that span an area across north-central Mexico of more than 500 kilometres, traversing a number of ecological regions, some of which are important for their biodiversity and other natural values. The rituals along the route are practiced in order to maintain relations with the natural elements considered as ancestral deities, to ensure the success of the milpa agricultural cycle, and to support the general welfare of the people. Together, the component parts comprise the sacred route to Wirikuta - the Path of Our Grandfather Fire - "Tatehuarí Huajuyé".

The intimate relation of the Wixárika with their territory is expressed throughout the sacred sites and landscapes that occur within the twenty component parts. These express bonds with the worldview of the Wixárika culture, especially with features such as maize, the Golden Eagle, deer, and peyote. The annual pilgrimage involves a sequence of traditional ritual activities that comprise the ceremonial cycles. The property is an exceptional and representative continuing example of the ancestral ceremonial and trade routes that have connected and culturally enriched the peoples of the American continent for millennia.

The attributes of the route include the intangible heritage traditions and practices of the Wixárika, including the veneration of living ancestors in nature, their rich oral tradition passed on through stories, songs, prayers and sacred tales, the ceremonial centres and temples, as well as the crafting of traditional objects. The route is also associated with the milpa traditional agricultural and land-use system.

**Criterion (iii):** The Huichol Route through Sacred Sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuarí Huajuyé) is one of the most representative pre-Columbian routes still in use in the Americas and is an exceptional testimony of the continuing cultural traditions of the Wixárika people. The annual pilgrimages of the Wixárika to Wirikuta and other sacred sites are a clear

manifestation of a spiritual tradition, reflecting a specific worldview that connects humans with nature and the sacred realm. The route bears witness to the intimate cultural knowledge that the Wixárika have of these lands, plants and animals.

**Criterion (vi):** The Huichol Route through Sacred Sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuarí Huajuyé) is an outstanding illustration of the inter-relationship between culture and the natural environment in the spiritual practices of the Wixárika. The sacred sites are imbued with a deep spiritual meaning, representing different elements of the Wixárika worldviews and beliefs. Specific landforms, weather, plants and animals reveal the ancestors, and each component part has specific ritual meaning. Flora and fauna with ritual meaning include tobacco, peyote, deer, and the Golden Eagle. During the travels through this route, elders transmit their knowledge to younger generations through oral traditions, dance, stories, art, music and rituals.

#### Integrity

This serial property of twenty sites includes the principal sacred sites and landscapes of the Tatehuarí Huajuyé that were selected in close collaboration with Wixárika authorities, and encompasses the necessary attributes that reflect its cultural meaning and historical development. The component parts reflect the sequence of ritual activities performed and stories told by the shamans (maraacames) during the annual pilgrimage and ceremonies.

The annual pilgrimage is a central and continuing element of the Wixárika worldview and culture, reaffirming the spiritual bond between the Wixárika people and its sacred territories. The state of conservation of the component parts is generally good, although they are potentially vulnerable due to a range of factors such as extractive mining, instances of restricted access through private property, urban expansion and inappropriate tourism and peyote consumption.

#### Authenticity

The authenticity of the property is based on the safeguarding of the spiritual practices, the conservation of the natural landscape (including ecosystems, water quality, species and landforms), and the transmission of cultural traditions within Wixárika communities. The landscapes, ritual practices, vernacular architecture, and artistic expressions reflect the continuity of the Wixárika traditions. The serial property meets the conditions of authenticity based on the safeguarding of both its tangible (form, materials, location) and intangible (language, traditions, spirituality) characteristics. The cultural value of the property is truthfully expressed through the attributes present in its component parts.

#### Protection and management requirements

The legal protection of the property is provided by a number of state and federal government laws. The National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) is the federal agency responsible for the conservation of cultural heritage, and the National Commission for Protected Natural Areas (CONANP) has responsibilities for Nature Conservation Areas. The General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection (LGEEPA) establishes the framework for the creation and management of Natural Protected Areas, the protection of natural settings of archaeological and historic zones, and areas that are important for indigenous culture and identity. Land-use changes are regulated by the Federal Attorney for Environmental Protection (Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente, PROFEPA).

The legal protection has been further strengthened by the recently adopted Federal Law for the Protection of the Cultural Heritage of Indigenous and Afro-Mexican Peoples and Communities (2023); the Decree amending, adding, and repealing various provisions of Article 2 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States Regarding Indigenous and Afro-Mexican Peoples and Communities (2024); and the Decree recognizing, protecting, preserving, and safeguarding the sacred places and pilgrimage routes of the

Wixárika, Náayeri, O'dam or Au'dam, and Mexikan Indigenous Peoples, and creating the Presidential Commission for its compliance (2023).

A Management Unit will be established to coordinate the management of the serial property and the implementation of the Integrated Management, Conservation and Safeguarding Plan (2024-2030), which has a biocultural approach. This plan establishes guidelines for protecting and managing the serial property and was developed in collaboration with the Wixárika communities, federal, state and local authorities, and the organisation Conservación Humana A.C, reflecting an inclusive and participatory approach. A protection and monitoring system is in place, managed by the Wixárika Regional Council (Consejo Regional Wixárika, CRW).

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Prohibiting mining activities in the component parts and buffer zones, and mitigating the effects of existing extractive mining activities within and around the component parts, buffer zones and wider settings,
  - b) Strengthening regulations to protect the component parts and buffer zones from uncontrolled urban expansion,
  - c) Establishing the Management Unit and Site Manager as a priority along with administrative measures and management mechanisms, to ensure the right of way or transit along the pilgrimage route, including both private and public lands,
  - d) Developing site- and/or area-specific management plans for the component parts to complement the provisions of the Integrated Management, Conservation and Safeguarding Plan (2024-2030), enabling their particular conservation issues to be addressed.
  - e) Developing a sustainable tourism strategy that promotes responsible and culturally appropriate tourism and generates economic benefits for the associated Indigenous communities,
  - f) Continuing and further strengthening mechanisms for the participation of the Wixárika in decision-making processes and management of the component parts,
  - g) Improving the documentation of the component parts (including detailed mapping and photographs), and collaborating with Wixárika communities to develop a detailed map of the network of the route, including primary, and secondary routes where necessary, and indicating associated tangible attributes, in order to improve the understanding of the connections between sacred sites and landscapes for the purposes of protection, effective coordinated management, risk identification, and interpretation,
  - h) Developing a research and documentation plan in collaboration with Wixárika communities to deepen knowledge of the cultural and environmental aspects of the route, including archaeological research, a deeper understanding of socioecological connections, and the relationship between traditional agricultural practices and natural values (including agrobiodiversity), ensuring that the communities have access to this information as a tool in inter-generational cultural transmission,
  - i) Developing and implementing a Heritage Impact Assessment for development proposals,
  - Developing effective monitoring mechanisms that are directly based on the identified values of the component parts of the route, including the creation of additional qualitative and quantitative indicators, and capacity building for communities and local organisations,

k) Providing updated maps and figures for the areas and the number of inhabitants for the overall property and the component parts in light of the addition of the twentieth component part (20DUR) in Durango.

# C.5.2 Nominations deferred or referred back by previous sessions of the World Heritage Committee

Property	The Archaeological Landscape of 17th Century Port Royal				
ID. N°	1595 rev				
State Party	Jamaica				
Criteria proposed by State Party	(iv)(vi)				

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Book

#### **Draft Decision**: 47 COM 8B.32

The World Heritage Committee,

- 1. <u>Having examined</u> Documents WHC/25/47.COM/8B and WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B1,
- 2. <u>Inscribes</u> **The Archaeological Landscape of 17th Century Port Royal, Jamaica**, on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria** (iv) and (vi);
- 3. <u>Adopts</u> the following Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:

#### **Brief synthesis**

The town of Port Royal is situated on a spit of land (Palisadoes) at the mouth of Kingston Harbour in south-eastern Jamaica. In 1692, a severe earthquake devastated the town and submerged a large portion of it under water and sand. Today, the vestiges of the terrestrial and underwater elements of Port Royal are exceptional illustrations of an English urban settlement of the 17th century.

Its well-protected deep-water port allowed the town to quickly become one of the wealthiest and most significant port cities of the British Empire, and its most important regional and transatlantic trade hub in the Americas for goods – and for enslaved Africans. Surviving vestiges include the remains of six forts that guarded the town, some of which are now underwater, and the archaeological evidence of the ensemble of residential, religious, and administrative buildings of the 17th-century town.

**Criterion (iv):** The Archaeological Ensemble of 17th Century Port Royal is an exceptional illustration of an early English colonial settlement during the period of European expansion and rivalry, which is a significant stage in the history of the Americas. With its deep natural harbour and strategic location in the centre of the Spanish Main, Port Royal developed in just thirty-seven years from a colonial frontier settlement to a pivotal 17th-century port town, documented as the most important English settlement in the Western Hemisphere. The global network of trade that converged here is reflected in the rich volume of recovered artefacts from as far away as Asia and Europe.

**Criterion (vi):** The Archaeological Ensemble of 17th Century Port Royal exemplifies England's decisive role in the trafficking of enslaved Africans to the Americas. The fortifications and infrastructure are tangible evidence of the contribution of enslaved Africans to the rise, growth, and sustainability of Port Royal, as well as to the transfer of knowledge and skills. The 1692 earthquake caused the deaths of many people, making the property a grave site not only for the merchants and the wealthy, but also for the poor and enslaved.

# Integrity

The integrity of the property is based on the terrestrial and underwater evidence of the 17th-century town of Port Royal. The archaeological ensemble contains all the attributes necessary to convey the Outstanding Universal Value, including the entire town encircled by the six fortifications present at the time of the devastating earthquake in 1692, and its 17th-century urban plan. Although there are only a few standing structures from preearthquake Port Royal remaining today, due to numerous natural and anthropogenic disasters, new buildings have followed the intent and alignment of the 17th-century layout of the town, preserving the foundations of pre-1692 Port Royal. The underwater sections of the town are exceptionally well preserved under layers of sediments.

#### Authenticity

The property is in its original maritime location, and though its setting has evolved, it remains evocative of its past vocations. The forms, designs, materials, and substances of its urban plan, as well as the terrestrial and underwater archaeological evidence of its 17th-century past remain largely intact and legible. Fort Charles, for example, has undergone several restorations over time, but its materials and design can be considered largely intact. Underwater features are completely unchanged and have been preserved in situ; their authenticity is unquestionable. In terms of uses and functions, the property continues to play an important role in the maritime activities of the Kingston and Port Royal harbours.

# Protection and management requirements

The property is protected under two national legislations: the Jamaica National Heritage Trust (JNHT) Act of 1985, and the Natural Resources Conservation Authority (NRCA) Act of 1991. Under the 1985 JNHT Act, the area was designated as Protected National Heritage in 1999, while Palisadoes and Port Royal were designated as Protected Area in 1998, under the 1991 NRCA Act. The latter is enforced through the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA). The property and its buffer zone are also protected under the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (UNESCO, 2001) since 9 August 2011.

With these national and international legislations, a collaborative approach is employed by the government agencies with legal jurisdictions in the protected area, the Jamaica National Heritage Trust (JNHT) and the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA). These agencies co-manage the protected area to ensure the effective management and monitoring of the property.

The Port Royal & the Palisadoes Management Plan 2022-2027 developed by the JNHT, as well as the Final Draft Palisadoes-Port Royal Protected Area Management Plan 2021-2031 prepared by the NEPA, collectively provide the necessary conservation, management and monitoring of the protected area. Local stakeholders and duty bearers are involved in the management and decision-making processes.

- 4. Recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:
  - a) Revising, updating, and approving the Zoning Plan for the Palisadoes-Port Royal Protected Area 2014-2019.
  - b) Approving the draft Port Royal & Palisadoes Disaster Risk Management Plan 2022-2026,
  - c) Identifying key monitoring indicators that help to describe more specifically the state of conservation of the property in quantitative terms and that can be used as baseline data for protection, conservation, and management,
  - d) Ensuring that the inventory of terrestrial and submerged cultural resources related to the 1692 town has an adequate level of detail to support management objectives,

- e) Rehabilitating the 19th-century sea wall that protects the 17th-century streets of Port Royal from erosion caused by storm surges,
- f) Organising the existing documentation of the property (historic documents, research documentation, etc.) in an accessible centrally held or systematically archived manner,
- g) Defining clear objectives for future research activities in a detailed research plan, which will also help to coordinate the work of different institutions at the property,
- h) Developing and implementing a conservation plan that employs locally trained specialists, thereby fostering local expertise in conservation,
- i) Finalising the formal interpretative plan and the tourism management plan and, based on these, upgrading the information available to visitors at the property and in the museums,
- j) Finalising the installation of the Port Royal Museum in order to give more visibility to the artefacts recovered from the property,
- k) Developing and implementing a Heritage Impact Assessment for development proposals;
- 5. <u>Decides</u> that the name of the property be changed to "The Archaeological Ensemble of 17th Century Port Royal".

Property	The Colonial Transisthmian Route of Panamá			
ID. N°	1582 rev			
State Party	Panama			
Criteria proposed by State Party	(ii)(iv)(vi)			

See the 2025 ICOMOS Evaluation Addendum Book.

**Draft Decision: 47 COM 8B.33** 

[See Addendum: WHC/25/47.COM/8B.Add]

# III. RECORD OF THE PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES OF EACH SITE EXAMINED AT THE 47TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Of the 32 sites examined, 18 are serial nominations, containing a total of 147 component parts. The following table displays the relevant figures for the last years:

Session	Number of sites	Ratio of Natural and	Total hectares	Ratio of Natural and Mixed to	Number of serial
	proposed (including	Mixed to Cultural sites	proposed for	Cultural sites	nominations (including
	extensions)		inscription		extensions)
27 COM (2003)	45	33% N/M - 66% C	7.8 mil. ha	94.6% N/M - 5.4% C	22
28 COM (2004)	48	25% N/M - 75% C	6.7 mil. ha	94.4% N/M - 5.6% C	18
29 COM (2005)	47	30% N/M - 70% C	4.5 mil. ha	97.9% N/M - 2.1% C	22
30 COM (2006)	37	27% N/M - 73% C	5.1 mil. ha	81.9% N/M - 18.1% C	16
31 COM (2007)	45	29% N/M - 71% C	2.1 mil. ha	88.5% N/M - 11.5% C	17
32 COM (2008)	47	28% N/M - 72% C	5.4 mil. ha	97% N/M - 3% C	21
33 COM (2009)	37	22% N/M - 78% C	1.3 mil. ha	62% N/M - 38% C	22
34 COM (2010)	42	24% N/M - 76% C	80 mil. ha	99.7% N/M - 0.3% C	18
35 COM (2011)	42	31% N/M - 69% C	3.4 mil. ha	83.5% N/M - 16.5% C	17
36 COM (2012)	38	24% N/M - 76% C	3.4 mil. ha	94.9% N/M - 5.1% C	19
37 COM (2013)	36	36% N/M - 64% C	10 mil. ha	99.5% N/M - 0.5% C	12
38 COM (2014)	41	29% N/M - 71% C	4.8 mil. ha	80% N/M - 20% C	16
39 COM (2015)	38	16% N/M - 84% C	3.3 mil. ha	84% N/M - 16% C	16
40 COM (2016)	29	45% N/M – 55% C	10 mil. ha	99.7% N/M - 0.3% C	14
41 COM (2017)	35	23% N/M - 77% C	8.4 mil. ha	85.7% N/M - 14.3% C	15
42 COM (2018)	31	29% N/M - 71% C	8 mil. ha	94.3% N/M - 5.7% C	13
43 COM (2019)	38	21% N/M - 79% C	70 mil. ha	99.8% N/M - 0.2% C	23
44 COM (2020)	26	23% N/M - 77% C	0.33 mil ha	69% N/M - 31% C	13
44 COM (2021)	19	11% N/M - 89% C	0.5 mil ha	75% N/M - 25% C	14
45 COM (2022)	25	20% N/M - 80% C	3.05 mil ha	68% N/M - 32% C	12
45 COM (2023)	28	32% N/M - 68% C	5.6 mil ha	98.7% N/M - 1.3% C	15
46 COM (2024)	28	25% N/M - 75% C	1.6 mil ha	91.8% N/M – 8.2% C	13
47 COM (2025)	32	25% N/M - 75% C	3.2 mil ha	91.1% N/M – 8.9% C	18

The tables below present the information in two parts:

- **A.** A table of the total surface area of each site and any buffer zone proposed, together with the geographic coordinates of the site's approximate centre point of the 32 sites proposed for examination.
- **B.** Separate tables presenting the component parts of each of the 18 serial sites proposed for examination.

# A. Table of the surface areas and buffer zones of the sites proposed for examination

-- = site has no buffer zone ng = information not given

State Party	World Heritage nomination	II	) N	Area (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates		
	NATURAL SITES							
Brazil	Cavernas do Peruaçu National Park	1747		38003	100354	S15 04 30 W44 12 30		
Denmark	Møns Klint	1728		4123	3628	N54 58 04 E12 33 01		
Guinea-Bissau	Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Bijagós Archipelago – Omatí Minhô	1431	Rev	394067.28	636836.19	N11 7 12 W15 56 56		
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Hin Nam No National Park [significant boundary modification of "Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park", Viet Nam, (viii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 2003, 2015]		Ter	217447	295899	See serial nomination table		
Mongolia	Eastern Mongolian Steppes	1729		1820604	1299480.6	See serial nomination table		
Mozambique	Maputo National Park [significant boundary modification of "iSimangaliso Wetland Park", South Africa, (vii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 1999]		Bis	153992	ng	See serial nomination table		
Sierra Leone	Gola-Tiwai Complex	1746		71202.7	91471	See serial nomination table		

State Party	World Heritage nomination	II	O N	Area (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
			TOTAL	2699438.98	2427668.79	
	MI	XED S	ITES			
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Mt. Kumgang – Diamond Mountain from the Sea	1642		21114.7	69062.76	See serial nomination table
Tropublic of Profes			TOTAL	21114.7	69062.76	
	CULT	URAL	SITES			
Australia	Murujuga Cultural Landscape	1709		99.881		S20 33 54.1 E116 40 6.7
Cambodia	Cambodian Memorial Sites: From centres of repression to places of peace and reflection	1748		3.9	23.07	See serial nomination table
Cameroon	Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape of the Mandara Mountains	1745		2500	2372.3	N10 54 12 E13 47 44
China	Xixia Imperial Tombs	1736		3899	40569.5	N38 24 57 E105 58 16
France	Megaliths of Carnac and of the Shores of Morbihan	1725		19598	98029	See serial nomination table
Germany	The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria: Neuschwanstein, Linderhof, Schachen and Herrenchiemsee – From Dreams to Reality	1726		75.875	10616	See serial nomination table
Greece	Minoan Palatial Centres	1733		29.512	1586.923	See serial nomination table
India	Maratha Military Landscapes of India	1739		1577.63	96500.43	See serial nomination table
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Prehistoric Caves and Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble of Khorramabad Valley (PCFEKV)	1744		414.7	7103.88	See serial nomination table
Italy	Art and Architecture in the Prehistory of Sardinia – The domus de janas	1730		ng	ng	See serial nomination table
Jamaica	The Archaeological Landscape of 17th Century Port Royal	1595	Rev	27	292.27	N17 56 19.01 W76 50 36.16
Malawi	Mount Mulanje Cultural Landscape (MMCL)	1201	Rev	89549		S15 54 42 E35 39 29
Malaysia	Forest Research Institute Malaysia Forest Park Selangor (FRIM FPS)	1734		589	767	N3 13 45.3 E101 37 38.2
Mexico	Huichol Route through Sacred Sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuarí Huajuyé)	1704		135420.66	513966.18	See serial nomination table
Nepal	Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, the Archaeological Remains of the Ancient Shakya Kingdom	1741		102.67	1111.91	N27 34 30 E83 3 20
Panama	The Colonial Transisthmian Route of Panamá	1582	Rev	689.88	37 519.43	See serial nomination table
Poland	Gdynia. Early Modernist City Centre	1715		87.9	168.9	N54 31 00 E18 32 00
Portugal	Álvaro Siza's Architecture: A Modern Contextualism Legacy	1737		22.54	96.9	See serial nomination table
Republic of Korea	Petroglyphs along the Bangucheon Stream	1740		43.69	144.15	N35 36 30 42 E129 10 26 39
Russian Federation	Rock Paintings of Shulgan-Tash Cave	1743		288.5	4038.9	N53 02 58.0 E57 04 19.3
Tajikistan	Ancient Khuttal	1627		152.309	408.9749	See serial nomination table
Türkiye	Sardis and the Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe	1731		9244	6835	See serial nomination table
United Arab Emirates	Faya Palaeolandscape	1735		29.085	65.841	N25 4 58 10 E55 48 23 70
Viet Nam	Yen Tu-Vinh Nghiem-Con Son, Kiep Bac Complex of Monuments and Landscapes			628.488	5838.26	See serial nomination table
	<u> </u>		TOTAL	265073.22	828054.8189	

# ${\bf B. \ \ Serial \ nomination \ tables \ of sites \ proposed \ for \ examination}$

Serial component names are listed in the language in which they have been submitted by the State(s) Party(ies).

# Natural sites

	Lao People's Democratic Republic					
N 951ter	Hin Nam No National Park [significant boundary modification of "Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park", Viet Nam, (viii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 2003, 2015]					
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates		
951-001	Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park (Viet Nam)	123326	220055	N17 25 39.2 E105 54 19.0		
951ter-001	Hin Nam No National Park (Lao PDR)	94121	75834	N17 22 32 E105 53 03		
	TOTAL	217447	295899			

	Mongolia						
N 1729	Eastern Mongolian Steppes						
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates			
1729-001	Dornod Mongol Strictly Protected Area	589904.5	1092229.7	N46 32 49.364 E117 5 8.744			
1729-002	Tosonkhulstai Nature Reserve	458509.8	207250.9	N48 8 11.961 E112 57 42.867			
1729-003	Yakhi Nuur Nature Reserve	251217.9	-	N48 50 27.275 E114 26 19.218			
1729-004	Bayantsagaan Steppe Nature Reserve	332362.3	-	N47 23 55.917 E113 19 2.301			
1729-005	Jaran Togoo "A" Nature Reserve	91095.3	-	N47 8 35.520 E114 45 19.320			
1729-006	Jaran Togoo "B" Nature Reserve	97514.2	-	N47 28 32.127 E115 21 49.036			
	TOTAL	1820604	1299480.6				

	Mozambique			
N 914bis	Maputo National Park [significant boundary modification of "i	Simangaliso Wetla	and Park", South Africa, (v	ii)(ix)(x), inscribed in 1999]
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
914-001	iSimangaliso Wetland Park (South Africa)	243479	-	S27 50 20 E32 33 00
914bis-001	Maputo National Park (MNAP) (Mozambique)	153992	ng	S26 26 11 E32 52 14
	TOTAL	397471	ng	

	Sierra Leone			
N 1746	Gola-Tiwai Complex			
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
1746-001	Tiwai Island	1250.8	606.4	N7 32 28.2 W11 20 52.4
1746-002	Gola South	26012.2	39405.7	N7 22 W11 12
1746-003	Gola Central	38571.9	51458.9	N7 39 W10 52
1746-004	Gola North	5367.8		N7 48 W10 40
	TOTAL	71202.7	91471	

# **Mixed sites**

	Democratic People's Republic of Korea			
C/N 1642	Mt. Kumgang- Diamond Mountain from the Sea			
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
1642-001	Outer Kumgang-Inner Kumgang Area	19657.13	69062.76	N38 39 37 E128 08 15
1642-002	Lagoon Samil Area in Sea Kumgang	170.73		N38 41 07 E128 18 06
1642-003	Haemanmulsang Area in Sea Kumgang	1270.55		N38 39 19 E128 21 34
1642-004	Chongsokjong Area in Sea Kumgang	16.29		N38 57 56 E128 54 17
	TOTAL	21114.7	69062.76	

# **Cultural sites**

	Cambodia				
C 1748	Cambodian Memorial Sites: From centres of repression to places of peace and reflection				
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates	
1748-001	Former M-13 prison	1.4	8.1	N11 46 12.576 E104 23 5.3304	
1748-002	Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)	1.17	11.4	N11 32 58.221 E104 55 3.2808	
1748-003	Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former execution site of	1.33	3.57	N11 29 3.9228 E104 54 7.596	
	S-1)				
	TOTAL	3.9	23.07		

	France			
C 1725	Megaliths of Carnac and of the Shores of Morbihan			
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
1725-001	Plateau de Carnac - Bassin du Gouyanzeur (Aire 1)	8702	98029	N47 36 58 W3 5 14
1725-002	Presqu'île de Quiberon - Bassin de Kerboulevin (Aire 2)	1054		N47 30 16 W3 7 47

1725-004	Confluence des rivières du Bono et d'Auray (Aire 4)	886		N47 38 20 W2 58 4
	TOTAL	19598	98029	

	Germany			
C 1726	The Palaces of King Ludwig II of Bavaria: Neuschwanstein,	Linderhof, Schach	en und Herrenchiemsee –	From Dreams to Reality
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
1726-001	Neuschwanstein Castle	0.85	2114	N47 33 27 E10 44 58
1726-002	Linderhof Castle	57	4507	N47 34 15 E10 57 54
1726-003	King's House on Schachen	0.025	3773	N47 25 11 E11 06 46
1726-004	Herrenchiemsee New Palace	18	222	N47 51 39 E12 23 51
	TOTAL	21114.7	10616	

	Greece				
C 1733	Minoan Palatial Centres				
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates	
1733-001	Knossos	8.821	647.690	N35 17 50 E25 9 45	
1733-002	Phaistos	2.147	91.970	N35 3 4 E24 48 51	
1733-003	Malia	6.736	226.165	N35 17 36 E25 29 33	
1733-004	Zakros	5.519	296.696	N35 5 54 E26 15 39	
1733-005	Zominthos	1.019	260.400	N35 14 55 E24 53 14	
1733-006	Kydonia	5.270	46.002	N35 31 2 E24 1 11	
	TOTAL	29.512	1586.923		

	India			
C 1739	Maratha Military Landscapes of India			
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
1729-001	Salher Fort	335.96	18431.67	N20 43 21 E73 56 33
1729-002	Shivneri Fort	78.97	7345.84	N19 11 48 E73 51 30
1729-003	Lohagad	26.60	14382.72	N18 42 36 E73 28 36
1729-004	Khanderi Fort	6.65	3294.60	N18 42 14 E72 48 48
1729-005	Raigad	340.77	26228.86	N18 14 10 E73 26 40
1729-006	Rajgad	269.26		N18 14 46 E73 40 57
1729-007	Pratapgad	79.30	12789.51	N17 56 09 E73 34 43
1729-008	Suvarnadurg	5.23	107.10	N17 48 59 E73 05 04
1729-009	Panhala Fort	181.02	8349.30	N16 48 40 E74 06 29
1729-010	Vijaydurg	9.27	2011.90	N16 33 39 E73 20 00
1729-011	Sindhudurg	19.11	783.59	N16 02 33 E73 27 35
1729-012	Gingee Fort	225.49	2775.34	N12 15 02 E79 24 05
	TOTAL	1577.63	96500.43	

	Iran (Islamic Republic of)				
C 1744	Prehistoric Caves and Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble of Khorramabad Valley (PCFEKV)				
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates	
1744-001	Kaldar Cave	83.3	4973.01	N33 33 26 34 E48 17 33 49	
1744-002	Ghamari Cave	38.3		N33 29 31 59 E48 20 44 06	
1744-003	Gilvaran Cave	5.59		N33 28 12 34 E48 18 56 20	
1744-004	Yafteh Cave	252.65	1826.79	N33 30 29 76 E48 12 41 24	
1744-005	Kunji Cave	11.39	185.34	N33 26 33 46 E48 21 24 07	
1744-006	Gar Arjeneh Rock-shelter	3.23	43.14	N33 26 30 65 E48 20 21 64	
1744-007	Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble	19.4	38.2	N33 29 1 13 E48 21 11 82	
1744-008	Shekaste Bridge	0.84	37.4	N33 28 4 28 E48 20 18 93	
	TOTAL	414.7	7103.88		

	Italy			
C 1730	Art and Architecture in the Prehistory of Sardinia - The dome	ıs de janas		
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
1730-001	Necropolis of Anghelu Ruju	7.07	779.48	N40 37 57 E8 19 36
1730-002	Necropolis of Puttu Codinu	2.70	520.39	N40 29 14 E8 31 8
1730-003	Necropolis of Monte Siseri or S'Incantu	4.87	2369.10	N40 36 23 E8 25 48
1730-004	Fortified complex of Monte Baranta	79.44	-	N40 37 55 E8 23 50
1730-005	Necropolis of Mesu 'e Montes	6.57	471.81	N40 37 51 E8 37 5
1730-006	Sanctuary of Monte d'Accoddi	37.39	1272.64	N40 47 23.2 E8 26 59.4
1730-007	Necropolis of Su Crucifissu Mannu	9.85	-	N40 48 39 E8 26 34
1730-008	Domus de janas of Orto del Beneficio Parrocchiale	0.31	44.0	N40 47 20 E8 35 40
1730-009	Domus de janas of Roccia dell'Elefante	4.71	2220.74	N40 53 22 E8 44 46
1730-010	Necropolis of Li Muri	21.32	753.12	N41 04 13 E9 19 18
1730-011	Petroglyph Park-a	1.78	ng	N40 29 08.9 E8 43 49.9
1730-012	Petroglyph Park-b	ng		N40 28 55.98 E8 43 51.13
1730-013	Dolmen of Sa Coveccada	1.22	1423.19	N40 30 29 E8 52 00
1730-014	Shelter of Luzzanas	0.59	938.88	N40 38 58 E8 53 27
1730-015	Necropolis of Sant'Andrea Priu	3.61	2132.29	N40 25 18 E8 50 50
1730-016	Necropolis of Sa Pala Larga	6.31	-	N40 24 37 E8 52 18
1730-017	Necropolis of Sos Furrighesos	3.67	825.53	N40 28 53 E8 58 17
1730-018	Village of Serra Linta	22.87	760.19	N40 8 35 E8 54 20
1730-019	Necropolis of Ispiluncas	ng	-	N40 09 30 E8 54 09
1730-020	Necropolis of Mandras/Mrandas	0.39	385.33	N40 05 06.5 E8 57 04.8
1730-021	Necropolis of Brodu	15.00	558.85	N40 19 19 E9 10 24
1730-022	Necropolis of Istevéne	0.67	559.68	N40 11 36 E9 17 30
1730-023	Grotta Corbeddu	1.34	3601.68	N40 15 19 E9 29 10
1730-024	Menhir of Monte Corru Tundu	1.59	240.88	N39 52 33.07 E8 54 04.87
1730-025	Shelter of Su Forru de is Sinzurreddus and the stone tool workshops of Sennixeddu	0.94	822.34	N39 48 24.1 E8 46 33.4
1730-026	Archaeological Park of Pranu Mutteddu	45.07	388.55	N39 34 00.8 E9 16 10.6
1730-027	Necropolis of Montessu	40.63	759.50	N39 8 1 E8 40 6
	TOTAL	ng	ng	

	Mexico				
C 1704	Huichol Route through Sacred Sites to Huiricuta (Tatehuarí Huajuyé)				
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates	
1704-001	Tuapurie	56639.69	97240.39	N22 15 05.61 W104 06 03.43	
1704-002	Cuyetsarie	9160.62	31301.98	N22 23 37.8 W103 35 37.7	
1704-003	Xurahue Muyaca	29063.01	85515.86	N22 35 52.31 W103 16 48.55	
1704-004	Cupuri Mutiu	3.67	139.64	N22 38 47.50 W102 57 59.57	
1704-005	Cacai Mutijé	604.55	3272.44	N22 42 22.82 W102 46 50.71	
1704-006	Macuipa	26.01	46.65	N22 45 14.18 W102 34 58.04	
1704-007	Tatei Nihuetucame	44.90	121.04	N22 46 36.77 W102 33 36.71	
1704-008	Huahuatsari	128.83	3726.69	N22 47 51.31 W101 53 39.27	
1704-009	Cuhixu Uheni	139.05	3726.69	N22 50 06.28 W101 53 16.69	
1704-010	Tatei Matiniere	14.34	289602.84	N22 53 54.15 W101 41 04.71	
1704-011	Nihuetaritsié	1227.38		N22 50 58.21 W101 37 24.12	
1704-012	Natsitacua	162.18		N22 58 38.81 W101 31 22.98	
1704-013	Uxa Tequipa	1121.84		N23 04 46.51 W101 27 15.76	
1704-014	Tuy Mayau	111.09		N23 07 50.62 W101 22 25.19	
1704-015	Huacuri Quitenie	922.69	-	N23 19 07.55 W101 11 17.09	
1704-016	Huiricuta: Mucuyahue	23030.42	-	N23 32 25.69 W101 06 25.34	
1704-017	Huirjcuta: Raunax	2982.82		N23 39 47.26 W100 54 21.62	
1704-018	Huiricuta: Mawa Yaritsié	9625.26	-	N23 30 23.99 W100 52 40.52	
1704-019	Tatei Jaramara	352.29	1505.52	N21 32 15 14 W105 17 59 91	
1704-020	Cerro Gordo	60	1493.13	N23 12 22.3 E104 56 37.7	
	TOTAL	135420.66	513966.18		

	Panama			
C 1582rev	The Colonial Transisthmian Route of Panamá			
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
1582rev-001	Castle of San Lorenzo	24.72	12 384.93	N9 19 23.42 W79 59 59.19
1582rev-002	Camino de Cruces Section 1	508.38		N9 17 41.85 W79 58 18.04
1582rev-003	Camino de Cruces Section 2	103.13	24 324.5	N9 5 3.86 W79 36 16.65
1582rev-004	Camino de Cruces Section 3	2.95		N9 0 56.21 W79 34 33.23
1582rev-005	Archaeological Site of Panamá Viejo	28.7	619.9	N9 0 23.97 W79 29 6.98
1582rev-006	Historic District of Panamá	22.0	190.1	N8 57 8.75 W79 32 5.07
	TOTAL	689.88	37519.43	

	Portugal			
C 1737	Álvaro Siza's Architecture: A Modern Contextualism Legacy			
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
1737-001	Boa Nova Tea House and Restaurant	0.02	14.66	N41 12 10.544 W8 42 54.392
1737-002	Ocean Swimming Pool	0.10		N41 11 34.0 W8 42 27.0
1737-003	Alves Costa House	0.12	2.15	N41 51 2.275 W8 51 50.345
1737-004	Bouça Housing Complex	0.10	5.46	N41 9 23.458 W8 37 1.774
1737-005	Faculty of Architecture of the University of Porto	2.05	8.67	N41 9 0.481 W8 38 9.015
1737-006	Santa Maria Church and Parish Centre	0.51	9.76	N41 11 19.451 W8 8 44.565
1737-007	Portuguese Pavilion	1.28	3.16	N38 45 56.81 W9 5 42.095
1737-008	Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art	18.36	53.04	N41 9 32.774 W8 39 33.642
	TOTAL	22.54	96.9	

	Tajikistan Ancient Khuttal				
C 1627					
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates	
1627-001	Ajinatepa Buddhist monastery	1.508	13.792	N37 47 53.042 E68 51 15.968	
1627-002	Kalai Hulbuk	2.585	195.6869	N37 46 39.868 E69 33 24.229	
1627-003	Shahristoni Hulbuk	14.275		N37 47 1.105 E69 33 37.858	
1627-004	Manzaratepa	22.06	33.634	N37 49 45.004 E69 35 23.364	
1627-005	Zoli Zard	8.929	18.902	N38 7 42.403 E69 19 37.076	
1627-006	Makbarai Mavlono Tojiddin	20.88	25.478	N38 8 5.029 E69 20 39.687	
1627-007	Halevard (Kofirkala)	20.397	24.284	N37 35 19.260 E68 38 47.863	
1627-008	Shahristoni Zoli Zar	55	59.572	N37 38 58.390 E69 28 4.018	
1627-009	Tohir Caravansarai	0.861	9.218	N37 44 39.817 E69 17 55.366	
1627-010	Shahrtepa	5.748	20.643	N37 32 50.900 E69 22 12.732	
1627-011	Khishttepa Buddhist temple	0.166	7.667	N38 19 11.286 E69 56 1.134	
	TOTAL	152.309	408.9749		

	Türkiye			
C 1731	Sardis and the Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe			
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates
1731-001	Sardis	1656	1652	N38 28 55 E28 2 43
1731-002	Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe	7588	5183	N38 34 37 E27 59 36
	TOTAL	9244	6835	

	Viet Nam				
C 1732	Yen Tu-Vinh Nghiem-Con Son, Kiep Bac Complex of Monuments and Landscapes				
Serial ID No.	Name	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Centre point coordinates	
1732-001	Thai Mieu (Imperial Ancestral Shrine	0.53	2.92	N21 10 19.7 E106 34 27.9	
1732-002	An Sinh Temple	1.97	1.18	N21 7 9.32 E106 32 7.43	
1732-003	Thai Lang Mausoleum	0.41	1.67	N21 8 16.85 E106 33 9.47	
1732-004	Kiep Bac Temple	3.44	247.65	N21 09 03.8 E106 19 39.2	
1732-005	Bi Thuong Pagoda	0.76	2.65	N21 2 27.01 E106 42 41.76	
1732-006	Suoi Tam Pagoda	2.55	5.59	N21 4 41.34 E106 42 47.7	
1732-007	Cam Thuc Pagoda	7.06	28.76	N21 5 17.93 E106 42 56.51	

	TOTAL	628.488	5838.26	
1732-020	Dong Ma Ngua Stake-yard	0.17		N20 54 45.82 E106 47 35.31
1732-019	Dong Van Muoi Stake-yard	36.13	134.22	N20 55 30.82 E106 46 54.94
1732-018	Yen Giang Stake-yard	16.08	9.48	N20 56 10.2 E106 47 1.67
1732-017	King Chu Cavern	56.134	25.271	N21 01 54.1 E106 30 33.4
1732-016	Nham Duong Pagoda	11.864	34.347	N21 02 16.9 E106 32 11.0
1732-015	Bo Da Pagoda	27.5	99.65	N21 14 35.85 E106 3 2.46
1732-014	Con Son Pagoda	5.85	581.72	N21 9 5.64 E106 22 48.6
1732-013	Thanh Mai Pagoda	0.5	0.25	N21 13 5.82 E106 27 41.29
1732-012	Vinh Nghiem Pagoda	4.79	35.21	N21 12 48.3 E106 19 26.8
1732-011	Ho Thien Pagoda	53.69		N21 10 8.85 E106 37 4.44
1732-010	Ngoa Van Hermitage Pagoda relic cluster	195.93		N21 10 33.01 E106 34 44.01
1732-009	Hoa Yen Pagoda relic cluster	193.45	4577.38	N21 9 11.22 E106 42 55.69
1732-008	Chua Lan Pagoda	9.68	50.31	N21 6 38.44 E106 43 38.56