

Property Name	Country	-Identification No.
Old city of Sana'a	Republic of Yemen	C 385

STATE PARTY REPORT ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF OLD CITY OF SANA'A, YEMEN –
INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST IN DANGER

REPUBLIC OF YEMEN - MINISTRY OF CULTURE - GENERAL AUTHORITY FOR THE
PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC CITIES, YEMEN (GOPHCY). JANUARY 2025.

(Beijing ,2020) CONCERNING THE HISTORIC Old City Of Sanaa

World Heritage Committee 46th session (New Delhi, 2024)

Decision: 46 COM 7A.33

THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE,

1. HAVING EXAMINED DOCUMENT WHC/24/46.COM/7A.ADD,

2. RECALLING DECISION 45 COM 7A.49 ADOPTED AT ITS EXTENDED 45TH SESSION (RIYADH, 2023).

3. EXPRESSES ITS CONTINUING CONCERN THAT THE OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE (OUV) OF THE PROPERTY CONTINUES TO BE VULNERABLE BECAUSE OF THE DETERIORATING CONDITION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS, EFFECTS OF EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS, DAMAGE FROM CONFLICT, SECURITY CHALLENGES, AND CONTINUING LIMITED SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR BOTH HERITAGE MANAGEMENT AND PHYSICAL CONSERVATION;

4. COMMENDS THE EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN IN CAPACITY BUILDING, AWARENESS RAISING, DAMAGE ASSESSMENT, DOCUMENTATION AND REPAIR OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS AT THE PROPERTY, INCLUDING THROUGH THE SECOND PHASE OF THE 'EU-FUNDED PROJECT 'YOUTH EMPLOYMENT THROUGH CULTURE AND HERITAGE IN YEMEN' AND REQUESTS THAT THESE INITIATIVES CONTINUE IN CONSULTATION WITH UNESCO AND THE ADVISORY BODIES;

5. REQUESTS THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ICOMOS TECHNICAL REVIEWS OF THE AL-NAHRAIN MOSQUE PROJECT AND THE REHABILITATION PROJECT FOR SOUK AL-HALAQA AND ADJACENT SOUKS, INCLUDING PREPARATION OF HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDANCE AND TOOLKIT FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENTS IN A WORLD HERITAGE CONTEXT;

6. RECALLS THE OBLIGATION TO CONTINUE TO SUBMIT INFORMATION ON MAJOR PROJECTS (INCLUDING CONSERVATION PROGRAMMES) TO THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE, IN COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 172 OF THE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES, FOR REVIEW BY THE ADVISORY BODIES,

7. REITERATES ITS PREVIOUS REQUEST THAT PROPOSALS FOR A BOUNDARY CLARIFICATION AND A MINOR BOUNDARY MODIFICATION ARE ELABORATED IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH UNESCO AND THE ADVISORY BODIES, TO BE SUBMITTED IN LINE WITH PARAGRAPH 164 OF THE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES,

8. ALSO, REQUESTS THAT A REVIEW OF THE PROTECTION SYSTEM IS UNDERTAKEN FOR THE PROPERTY, AND TO SUBMIT THIS REVIEW TO THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE FOR REVIEW BY THE ADVISORY BODIES;



9. CONTINUES TO URGE ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE CONFLICT TO REFRAIN FROM ANY FURTHER ACTION THAT WOULD CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF YEMEN AND THE OUV OF THE PROPERTY, AND TO FULFIL THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, IN PARTICULAR THE 1954 HAGUE CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT, AND APPEALS TO ALL STATES PARTIES TO COOPERATE IN THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE DURING ARMED CONFLICT AS PER THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2347;

10. ALSO REITERATES ITS PREVIOUS CALLS TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT, INCLUDING THROUGH THE UNESCO HERITAGE EMERGENCY FUND, FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF 7 / 11 YEMEN'S CULTURAL HERITAGE, INCLUDING FUNDING FOR CAPACITY BUILDING AND FIRST-AID RESTORATION AND PROTECTION MEASURES;

11. FURTHER REITERATES THE NEED FOR A JOINT WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE/ICOMOS REACTIVE MONITORING MISSION TO ADVISE ON REPAIR AND CONSERVATION WORKS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE HISTORIC CITIES, SITES AND MONUMENTS 2016-2020 AND THE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF YEMEN'S CULTURAL HERITAGE, AND TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROCESSES REQUIRED TO ENABLE THE REMOVAL OF THE PROPERTY FROM THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER, INCLUDING THE PREPARATION OF THE DESIRED STATE OF CONSERVATION FOR REMOVAL OF THE PROPERTY FROM THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER (DSOCR) AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CORRECTIVE MEASURES, AS SOON AS THE SITUATION ALLOWS;

12. FINALLY REQUESTS THE STATE PARTY TO SUBMIT TO THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE, BY 1 FEBRUARY 2025, AN UPDATED REPORT ON THE STATE OF CONSERVATION OF THE PROPERTY AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABOVE, FOR EXAMINATION BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE AT ITS 47TH SESSION;

13. DECIDES TO RETAIN OLD CITY OF SANA'A (YEMEN) ON THE LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE IN DANGER.

1 / Summary of the report

The State Party appreciates the World Heritage Committee's concern about the deterioration of the property's condition due to climate change and economic conditions and is working to support, as much as possible, a number of conservation projects within the property that are being implemented in conjunction with projects funded by the European Union through UNESCO Doha, The State Party, through its representative (GOPHCY), appreciates the efforts made by UNESCO in implementing the second phase of the project funded by the European Union and requests continued support for other phases, as the previous phases covered only 15% of the damaged buildings within the city, It confirms that the list of reviews for the Nahrain Mosque was delivered by (GOPHCY) to the implementing agencies of the Nahrain Mosque, but the implementation of the project was advanced and it was difficult to implement those reviews. As for the reviews and recommendations of the Halqa Market project, (GOPHCY) pressured the implementers to stop the project until the recommendations and reviews were implemented, and the project has not started yet, It confirms its commitment to providing sufficient information before implementing any major projects within the property for review by UNESCO's advisory bodies, and confirms that there are no major projects at the present time, It is also preferable not to make any changes to the borders of the old city in the current situation until the situation in the country



