

## **Executive Summary of the Report**

The State of Conservation (SoC) report responds to the points of Decision 45 COM 7B.50 of the Samarkand – Crossroad of Cultures (Uzbekistan) (C 603rev) at the 45th extended session of the World Heritage Committee in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It also responds to the recommendations made by the 2020 Joint World Heritage Center / ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring Mission.

Following the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (2023), the SoC report is divided into 8 parts:

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
3. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee
4. The state of conservation of historical monuments
5. Planned development and reconstruction works in the region
6. International cooperation and provision of financial resources
7. Public access to the SoC report
8. Signature of the State Party, followed by a series of appendices.

The State Party continues applying every effort to update and improve its legal framework to manage change in the World Heritage property and its buffer zone, specifically legal enforcement regarding development projects proposed within the buffer zone. The management framework has also been optimized to address pertaining challenges and define more clearly the division of roles and responsibilities. Management approaches are clearly showing a significant shift towards sustainable practices that also promote cooperation with international organizations to develop human resource capacity and improve facilities.

The International Advisory Committee (IAC) along with the Scientific Expert Council under the Agency for Cultural Heritage and the local Public Scientific Advisory Committee constitute the multilevel control over the quality of the decision-making process concerning the World Heritage property.

In order to ensure the protection of cultural heritage objects, additional powers were granted to the Agency for Cultural Heritage and additional control tasks were assigned to the General Prosecutor's Office, where a separate unit was created for these tasks.

The SoC Report provides relevant technical details, as well as information on ongoing conservation and restoration works at key cultural heritage sites, including public space development projects at Amir Temur Mausoleum, Registan Complex, Shokhi-Zinda, restoration and conservation projects of the Museum of Afrasiab, Khan Said Imam Mosque, Sarai Mulk Khanum mausoleum.

The review of the detailed documents revealed that the conservation activities are carried out following the design approved by the Agency for Cultural Heritage and address the most urgent structural challenges and maintenance needs.