

### **47 COM**

WHC/25/47.COM/INF.8B4 Paris, 7 July 2025 Original: English

### 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

**INF.8B4: Factual errors letters** 

#### **SUMMARY**

This document contains the factual errors notifications received from States Parties regarding nomination dossiers to be examined by the World heirtage Committee at its 47th session, and submitted in the appropriate form in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines.

# Alphabetical list by State Party of notifications of factual errors in the evaluation reports of the Advisory Bodies relating to the nominations to be examined at the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee

State Party	World Heritage nomination ID No		lo.	Recommenda tion	Рр
	NATURAL SITES				
Denmark	Møns Klint	1728		R	16
Mongolia	Eastern Mongolian Steppes	1729		D	38
Sierra Leone	Gola-Tiwai Complex	1746		I	47
	MIXED SITES				
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Mt. Kumgang – Diamond Mountain from the Sea	1642		I - I	19
	CULTURAL SITES				
Australia	Murujuga Cultural Landscape	1709		R	2
Cambodia	Cambodian Memorial Sites: From centres of repression to places of peace and reflection	1748		I	9
China	Xixia Imperial Tombs	1736		I	11
France	Megaliths of Carnac and of the shores of Morbihan	1725		I	21
Greece	Minoan Palatial Centres	1733		R	22
India	Maratha Military Landscapes of India	1739		D	25
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Prehistoric Caves and Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble of Khorramabad Valley (PCFEKV)	1744		I	30
Italy	Art and Architecture in the Prehistory of Sardinia – The domus de janas	1730		R	34
Malaysia	Forest Research Institute Malaysia Forest Park Selangor (FRIM FPS)	1734		R	37
Nepal	Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, the Archaeological Remains of the Ancient Shakya Kingdom	1741		D	41
Panama	The Colonial Transisthmian Route of Panamá	1582	Rev	ı	44
Russian Federation	Rock Paintings of Shulgan-Tash Cave	1743		I	45
Tajikistan	Ancient Khuttal	1627		R	48
Türkiye	Sardis and the Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe	1731		I	50
United Arab Emirates	Faya Palaeolandscape	1735		N	51
Viet Nam	Yen Tu-Vinh Nghiem-Con Son, Kiep Bac Complex of Monuments and Landscapes	1732		D	61

Factual errors notifications are presented in the language in which they have been submitted by the State Party and presented following the English alphabetical order.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Australia

EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE: Murujuga Cultural Landscape

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Page 56, right column, line 28	with joint management arrangements established in 2022 to protect the heritage and cultural values of the land.	with joint management arrangements established in 2022 2013 to protect the heritage and cultural values of the land  Explanation: Joint Management agreement for Murujuga National Park signed 1 January 2013	ICOMOS accepts this correction as a factual error. ICOMOS acknowledges that the Murujuga National Park management plan was signed on 1 January 2013 to protect the heritage and cultural values of the land, and further arrangements were formalised in 2022 concerning the islands of the archipelago ensuring that all of Murujuga's cultural heritage is protected. (cf. Nomination Dossier p.110)
Page 57 left column, line 47	In the process, acidic and nitrate-rich pollutants are emitted	In the process, acidic and nitrate-rich pollutants are emitted  Explanation The ongoing Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring Program (MRAMP) has found no evidence of direct emission of acidic pollutants. 'Acidic' should be deleted throughout.	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  Explanation: The Nomination Dossier mentions the presence of "high concentrations of acidic and nitrate-rich air emissions" (p.194).  ICOMOS observes that the major emissions from the industrial plants located in close vicinity of the nominated property, including Woodside's Karratha gas plant include Nitrogen Oxides (Nox), Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ), which are known to reacting with water and produce acids. Hence, the word acidic in this context refers to the capacity of the major emissions to generate acids and turn the precipitations and the rock surfaces acidic (pH below 7) – see also MRAMP Report 2024.
Page 57, left column, line 50	The articles point out in particular grave warnings from rock art scientists that Murujuga could be destroyed within a century	The articles point out in particular grave warnings from rock art scientists concerns raised by one person that Murujuga could be destroyed within a century	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment. Concerns are not raised by one individual only; and research has been carried out, even recently, involving multidisciplinary teams.

Page 57, right column, line 1	In its response in February 2025, the State Party submitted a draft copy of the Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring Program (MRAMP). The document includes a confidential report which presents the first two years of results of monitoring studies and research	In its response in February 2025, the State Party submitted a draft copy of the Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring Program (MRAMP): Monitoring studies report 2024 ("Year two technical report"). The document includes a confidential report which presents the first two years of results of monitoring studies and research  Explanation: Clarification of document title. The report provided in February 2025 was publicly released on 23 May 2025.	ICOMOS acknowledges the clarification concerning the title of the report. However, the report was confidential when it was provided to ICOMOS and when the ICOMOS' evaluation was finalised, therefore ICOMOS considers that this correction contains new information that cannot be taken into account at this stage.
Page 57, right column line 8	As the study is still being undertaken, the final results are yet to be made publicly available	As the study is still being undertaken, the final results are yet to be made publicly available. This report was published on 23 May 2025. The research project is ongoing, and further conclusions will be reported in future years.	ICOMOS appreciates this clarification, however, at the time of the finalisation of the ICOMOS evaluation, the report was not yet publicly released. Hence, ICOMOS considers that this correction contains new information that cannot be taken into account at this stage.
Page 57, right column, line 9	Also attached was a summary from the Western Australia Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on the Murujuga Rock Art Strategy, as well as the existing controls, mitigation measures and regulation of industry emissions, along with the framework for future control of industry emissions based on the results of the MRAMP.	Also attached was a summary from covering letter from Curtin University outlining the key findings from the second year of studies, and a summary from the Western Australia Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on the Murujuga Rock Art Strategy, as well as the existing controls, mitigation measures and regulation of industry emissions along with the framework for future control of industry emissions based on the results of the MRAMP	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  ICOMOS sentence is based on the information provided in the additional information:  "Attachment B also includes a summary from the Western Australia Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on the Murujuga Rock Art Strategy, as well as the existing controls, mitigation and regulation of industry emissions and the framework for future control of industry emissions based on the results of the Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring Program".
Page 57 right column, line 16	Information received by ICOMOS on 25 February 2025 from a third-party organisation <b>reveals</b> that the Australian government is currently considering approval of a major multi-decade extension to Woodside Energy Ltd's Karratha Gas Plant	Information received by ICOMOS on 25 February 2025 from a third-party organisation <b>reveals stated</b> that the Australian government is currently considering approval of a major multi-decade extension to Woodside Energy Ltd's Karratha Gas Plant <i>Explanation:</i> Use of the term 'reveals' implies this information was not provided. Detailed information on all projects under assessment was provided during the evaluation mission.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which modifies the meaning of the sentence.  This information was not provided during the evaluation mission, nor officially submitted to the World Heritage Centre for consideration.
Page 57 right column, line 20	the single most significant source of these acidic emissions, until at least 2070, and confirms the additional acidic industrial emissions,	the single most a significant source of these acidic emissions, until at least 2070, and confirms suggests the additional acidic industrial emissions,  Explanation: MRAMP found no evidence of direct emission of acidic pollutants. Annual emissions would not increase due to the extension of an existing project, as Western	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  Explanation: The Nomination Dossier mentions the presence of "high concentrations of acidic and nitrate-rich air emissions" (p.194).

		Australian Government approval requirements include reductions in annual emissions of Nitrogen Oxides, Sulphur Oxides and Volatile Organic Compounds by 2030, and compliance with standards set under MRAMP.	ICOMOS observes that the major emissions from the industrial plants located in close vicinity of the nominated property, including Woodside's Karratha gas plant include Nitrogen Oxides (Nox), Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ), which are known to reacting with water and produce acids. Hence, the word acidic in this context refers to the capacity of the major emissions to generate acids and turn the precipitations and the rock surfaces acidic (pH below 7) – see also MRAMP Report 2024.
Page 57 right column, line 28	Apparently, regulatory and technological mechanisms would be available to prevent on-site acidic emissions, however these measures do not seem to have been pursued.	Apparently ,rRegulatory and technological mechanisms would be available to prevent on-site acidic emissions, and information provided by the State Party demonstrates how however these measures do not seem to have been pursued.  Explanation: The State Party provided information relating to regulatory and technical mechanisms in the nomination dossier and during the evaluation mission.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which modifies the meaning of the sentence.  This information was not provided during the evaluation mission, nor officially submitted to the World Heritage Centre for consideration.
Page 57, right column, line 50	by industrial <b>acidic</b> emissions	by industrial <b>acidic</b> emissions	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.
Page 58 left column, line 1	acidic emissions, natural weathering	acidic emissions, natural weathering	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.
Page 58, left column, line 29	Severe pollution issues from chemical-producing industries outside the nominated property represent a significant adversely-affecting factor and a major threat against the petroglyphs within the site and their conservation in the next decades.	Third party sources have asserted that Ssevere pollution issues from chemical-producing industries outside the nominated property represent a significant adversely-affecting factor and a major threat against the petroglyphs within the site and their conservation in the next decades.  Explanation: The ongoing MRAMP is assessing the effects of pollution. This first statement therefore needs to be qualified as an assertion by a third party.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which modifies the meaning of the sentence.  ICOMOS is deeply concerned about emissions.
Page 58, left column, line 34	The ongoing monitoring programme (MRAMP), for which the <b>preliminary</b> draft report was submitted by the State Party in February 2025	The ongoing monitoring programme (MRAMP), for which the <b>preliminary</b> draft <b>year 2</b> report was submitted by the State Party in February 2025	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Page 58 right column, line 11	Therefore the total removal of degrading acidic emissions	Therefore the total removal of degrading <b>acidic</b> emissions	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  Explanation: The Nomination Dossier mentions the presence of "high

			concentrations of acidic and nitrate-rich
			air emissions" (p.194).  ICOMOS observes that the major emissions from the industrial plants located in close vicinity of the nominated property, including Woodside's Karratha gas plant include Nitrogen Oxides (Nox), Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ), which are known to reacting with water and produce acids. Hence, the word acidic in this context refers to the capacity of the major emissions to generate acids and turn the precipitations and the rock surfaces acidic (pH below 7) – see also MRAMP Report 2024.
Page 61 left column, line 38	the nominated property is extremely vulnerable to industrial pollution.	the nominated property is extremely petroglyphs may be vulnerable to industrial pollution.  Explanation: The MRAMP has found there is no evidence to suggest the property is vulnerable	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which modifies the meaning of the sentence.  This editorial change is not correct as if we consider the petroglyphs being part of the proposed OUV of the property, then them being vulnerable to industrial pollution means the nominated property as a whole is vulnerable too.
Page 61, right column, line 22	It undermines the long-term preservation of its attributes, particularly the petroglyphs, as acidic industrial emissions can lead to their rapid deterioration.	It would undermine s the long-term preservation of its attributes, particularly of the petroglyphs, as acidic if industrial emissions can lead to were shown to cause their rapid deterioration.  Explanation: This threat is specific to the petroglyphs, not all attributes. The MRAMP report shows that reactive emissions may have an impact on the geology, but only at significantly higher levels than is currently permitted under government regulatory frameworks.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which modifies the meaning of the sentence.  ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  Explanation: The Nomination Dossier mentions the presence of "high concentrations of acidic and nitrate-rich air emissions" (p.194).  ICOMOS observes that the major emissions from the industrial plants located in close vicinity of the nominated property, including Woodside's Karratha gas plant include Nitrogen Oxides (Nox), Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ), which are known to reacting with water and produce acids. Hence, the word acidic in this context refers to the capacity of the major emissions to generate acids and turn the precipitations and the rock surfaces acidic (pH below 7) – see also MRAMP Report 2024.
Page 61, right column, line 26	ICOMOS considers that the integrity of the nominated property has been demonstrated but is highly vulnerable due to its direct proximity to industries and exposure to their emissions.	ICOMOS considers that the integrity of the nominated property has been demonstrated but is highly may be vulnerable due to its direct proximity to industries and exposure to their industrial emissions.  Explanation: The MRAMP provided by the State Party shows emissions may have an impact on the geology, but only at significantly higher levels than is currently permitted under regulatory frameworks.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.

Page 62, left	ICOMOS considers	ICOMOS considers that the	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a
column, line	that the authenticity of	authenticity of the nominated	difference of assessment.
32	the nominated property has been demonstrated, although the capacity of the petroglyphs to reflect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value and to activate the Ngarda-Ngarli traditional practices is vulnerable due to exposure to polluting industrial emissions.	property has been demonstrated, although the capacity of the petroglyphs to reflect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value and to activate the Ngarda-Ngarli traditional practices is vulnerable due to exposure to polluting industrial emissions.  Explanation: There is no factual basis for this assessment, particularly as it relates to the living essence of a cultural landscape with deeply rooted cultural traditions, creativity, spirituality and ecological knowledge spanning tens of thousands of years.	
Page 62, right column, line 3	The boundary as proposed in the nomination dossier was defined in early 2007, when a heritage listing decision was deferred until a final boundary was discussed with several stakeholders, including industry partners. The boundary was subsequently revised to exclude several strategic industrial areas	The boundary as proposed in the nomination dossier was defined in early 2007, when a heritage listing decision was deferred until a final boundary was discussed with several stakeholders, including industry partners. The boundary was subsequently revised to exclude several strategic industrial areas  In 2007 an area was defined and protected on the National Heritage List, under Australian legislation. This National Heritage area, with existing national protections, includes industrial areas and was the basis for discussions with stakeholders about the definition of a proposed World Heritage property boundary. The proposed World Heritage property boundary, which encompasses a much larger area than National Heritage listed area and relates to a broader set of attributes, was defined in 2022.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Page 62, right column, line 8	The proposed World Heritage boundary excludes <b>these</b> heavily impacted areas, focusing on protecting cultural features within 930 hectares (0.9 percent) of industrial lease land that remain undisturbed.	The proposed World Heritage boundary excludes <b>these</b> heavily impacted <b>industrial</b> areas, focusing on protecting cultural features within 930 hectares (0.9 percent) of industrial lease land that remain undisturbed.  Explanation: for clarity	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Page 66, left column, line 40	However, the absence of a buffer zone remains a disadvantage in terms of management with regard to the industrial activities.	However, the absence of a buffer zone remains a disadvantage in terms of management with regard to the industrial activities.  Explanation: Australian legislation requires all actions that may significantly impact a World Heritage property (including actions outside its boundaries) be referred to the government, acting as a legislative unlimited buffer zone. Addition of a	ICOMOS considers that the corrections reiterate arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.

Page 66, right column, line 51	Pollution from these industries, particularly from acidic emissions, puts the petroglyphs under serious threat and makes the integrity and the authenticity of key attributes of the nominated property highly vulnerable	buffer zone would not have any material effect on how the impacts of industrial activities are assessed or managed. That is, actions that have potential significant impacts on the values of the property would need to be referred, whether or not they are within, directly adjacent to, or further away from the World Heritage property.  Pollution from these industries, particularly from acidic emissions, may put s the petroglyphs under serious threat and may make s the integrity and the authenticity of key attributes of the nominated property highly vulnerable	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  Explanation: The Nomination Dossier mentions the presence of "high concentrations of acidic and nitrate-rich air emissions" (p.194).  ICOMOS observes that the major emissions from the industrial plants located in close vicinity of the nominated property, including Woodside's Karratha gas plant include Nitrogen Oxides (Nox), Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ), which are known to reacting with water and produce acids. Hence, the word acidic in this context refers to the capacity of the major emissions to generate acids and turn the precipitations and the rock surfaces acidic (pH below 7) – see also MRAMP Report 2024.
Page 67, left column, line 3	However, these, together with the absence of an actual buffer zone for the nominated property and	However, these, together with the absence of an actual buffer zone for the nominated property and	ICOMOS considers that the corrections reiterate arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.
Page 67, left column, line 5	the <b>recent</b> information received regarding the approval of the multi- decade extension of Woodside Energy Ltd's gas plant in Karratha	the <b>recent</b> information received regarding the approval of the multi- decade extension of Woodside Energy Ltd's gas plant in Karratha	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which modifies the meaning of the sentence. This information was not provided during the evaluation mission, nor officially submitted to the World Heritage Centre for consideration.
Page 67 left column, line 10	of degrading <b>acidic</b> emissions	of degrading <b>acidic</b> emissions	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts

			precipitations and the rock surfaces acidic (pH below 7) – see also MRAMP Report 2024.
Page 67 left column, line 24	Finalise the ongoing studies on the impact of the industries on the petroglyphs and on the nominated property,	Finalise the Continue ongoing research studies and ongoing monitoring on the impact of the industries on the petroglyphs and on the nominated property,	Proposed corrections concerning ICOMOS recommendations exceed the scope of the factual error letter.
		Explanation: The Murujuga Rock Art Strategy and the MRAMP are ongoing and are reviewed every five years.	
Page 67 left column, line 27	Ensure the total removal of degrading acidic emissions, currently impacting upon the petroglyphs of the Murujuga Cultural Landscape	Ensure the total removal of degrading acidic emissions, currently impacting Maintain adequate management of industrial emissions to prevent impacts upon the petroglyphs of the Murujuga Cultural Landscape  Explanation: All existing industry has been approved with conditions that avoid impacts to cultural heritage and impose regulations on emissions.	Proposed corrections concerning ICOMOS recommendations exceed the scope of the factual error letter.
Page 67 left column, line 32	Develop an appropriate decommissioning and rehabilitation plan for existing industrial activities, as required.	Develop an appropriate In consultation with Ngarda-Ngarli, ensure compliance with existing decommissioning and rehabilitation plans for existing industrial activities, as required.	Proposed corrections concerning ICOMOS recommendations exceed the scope of the factual error letter.
Page 67 left column, line 35	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 strengthened protection measures, subject to Upon inscription, implement the Strategic Management Framework protection measures with the free, prior and informed consent of, and developed in close consultation partnership with, the Ngarda-Ngarli, ensuring the application of the precautionary principle  Explanation: The Strategic Management Framework establishes strong protections, led by Ngarda-Ngarli with their free, prior and informed consent. The precautionary principle is already a consideration of government legislation, and is included in the Strategic Management Framework	Proposed corrections concerning ICOMOS recommendations exceed the scope of the factual error letter.  The application of precautionary principle is at the core of conservation and sustainability.
Page 67 left column, line 30	Developing and implementing a Heritage Impact Assessment for development proposals	Developing and implementing Continue to implement the existing Heritage Impact Assessment process for development proposals  Explanation: Heritage Impact Assessment is an existing component of development approval processes under both Western Australian and Australian Government legislation	Proposed corrections concerning ICOMOS recommendations exceed the scope of the factual error letter.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Cambodia

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Cambodian Memorial Sites: From centres of repression to places of peace and reflection

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluatio n	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
68,1, paragraph 6, line 1	Included in the Tentative List  27 March 2020 as "Former M-13 prison/Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21)/Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former Execution Site of S-21)	Included in the Tentative List  7 May 2020 as "Former M-13 prison/Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S- 21)/Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former Execution Site of S-21)	ICOMOS does not consider this to be a factual error. The date of the Tentative List entry has been taken from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre website and accords with the ICOMOS Evaluation Report (https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/action=listtentativeℴ=states&state=kh)
69,1, paragraph 2, line 1	The Khmer Rouge imposed a radical revolution oriented at the Maoist-inspired "super great leap forward" that involved forced population movement,	The Khmer Rouge imposed a radical revolution that involved forced population movement,	ICOMOS considers that this is not a factual error as it uses text put forward in the nomination dossier (p. 91). ICOMOS further considers that the proposed change an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.
69,1, paragraph 5, line 2 and 8	Khmer Rouge were ousted from Phnom Penh by a combination of Vietnamese and dissident Cambodian forces, although they remained in control of some parts of the country during the 1980s Phnom Penh based government, as the latter was dismissed as a puppet of Vietnam.	Khmer Rouge were ousted from Phnom Penh by the United Front for National Salvation of Kampuchea with the support of volunteer Vietnamese soldiers Phnom Penh government, the People's Republic of Kampuchea.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification, which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.
70,1, paragraph 4, line 7	the location of <b>the</b> mass graves might <b>be under buildings</b> <b>in the buffer zone.</b>	the location of <b>some</b> mass graves might <b>be in the buffer zone.</b>	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.  ICOMOS considers this
70,1, paragraph 5, line 10	names of approximately 12,000 known victims.	names of approximately 12,000 victims known at that time.	correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.

70,2, paragraph 3, line 3	(the location of <b>graves is not known</b> ). <b>The</b> documentation	(the location of all the earlier graves is not known). Some documentation	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.
74, 2, paragraph 3, line 3	the second floor of <b>Building</b> C for the extensive documentary	the second floor of <b>Building B</b> for the extensive documentary	ICOMOS acknowledges this typing error.
75, 1, paragraph 3, line 17	It is further supported by the Law on the Prevention of Denial of Crimes Committed during the Period of Democratic Kampuchea (2013).	It is further supported by the Law on the Prevention of Denial of Crimes Committed during the Period of Democratic Kampuchea (2013 and 2025).	ICOMOS considers that this correction contains new information that cannot be taken into account at this stage.
75, 2, paragraph 1, line 4	for all <b>but one</b> remaining land parcel. <b>This process was expected to be completed by March 2025.</b>	for all remaining land parcels. [Delete final sentence]	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure (Additional Information, February 2025, p. 3).
76, 1, paragraph 3, line 1	Visitor ticket sales support the resourcing for components part B and C.	Visitor ticket sales ( <b>for foreigners only</b> ) support the resourcing for components part B and C.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.
76, 1, paragraph 5, line 1	Currently component part A is <b>not</b> accessible for visitors,	Currently component part A is accessible for visitors only with prior arrangement,	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure (nomination dossier, p. 186). It is assumed that this is a new arrangement following the construction of the access road during the course of the evaluation. In that case, ICOMOS considers that this is a clarification based on new information that cannot be taken into account at this stage.
78, 2, paragraph 4, line 5	Currently component part A is <b>not</b> accessible for visitors	Currently component part A is accessible for visitors only with prior arrangement	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure (nomination dossier, p. 186). It is assumed that this is a new arrangement following the construction of the access road during the evaluation procedure. In that case, ICOMOS considers that this is a clarification based on new information that cannot be taken into account at this stage.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): China

### **EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Xixia Imperial Tombs

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Page 80, Column 1, Brief description, Line 9	This archaeological burial site bears witness to the religious and socio-political history of the <b>Xixia Empire</b> , which lasted over ten imperial reigns, from the 11th century to the 13th century	This archaeological burial site bears witness to the religious and socio-political history of the Xixia Dynasty, which lasted over ten imperial reigns, from the 11th century to the 13th century	In this context, ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.  However, the dossier submitted by the State Party does not refer to the individual histories of members of a dynasty (in this case, the Xixia dynasty), but rather to a historical phenomenon, namely the founding of an empire by the Tangut people on the Silk Road. This is corroborated by the criteria (ii) and (iii) proposed by the State Party, and information provided in the nomination dossier.  "In summary, Xixia Imperial Tombs is the most comprehensive representation of the Xixia civilization. It bears features the Xixia Dynasty's imperial lineage, political system, ethnic groups, society, mixed livelihood, various beliefs, trade, economy, and cultural integration. It is also the largest and most well-preserved Xixia remains of the highest level, that can provide most sufficient and valuable insight into the Xixia civilization. State Party dossier XIXIA IMPERIAL TOMBS Justification for inscription p. 151
Page 80, Column 1, Brief description, Line 12-14	Founded in 1032 by the Tanguts, nomadic herdspeople who settled in what is now Ningxia Hui, the empire was inhabited, in addition to the Tanguts, by Han Chinese,	Founded in 1038 by the Tanguts, nomadic herdspeople who settled in what is now Ningxia Hui, the empire was inhabited, in addition to the Tanguts, by Han, Tubo,	1032/1038 ICOMOS acknowledges this typing error. Han, Tubo, Uighur, Khitan and Jurchen peoples. ICOMOS considers this

Page 80, Column 1, Brief description, Line 16	On the Silk Road, the Xixia Empire was crossed by merchants, caravans, monks and nomads, and developed a multicultural civilisation based on the Chinese imperial model, of which Buddhism was an essential part.	On the Silk Road, the Xixia Dynasty was crossed by merchants, caravans, monks and nomads, and developed a multicultural civilisation based on the Chinese imperial model, of which Buddhism was an essential part.	correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.  Han:  "During its 190 years of existence, Xixia coexisted with various neighboring states and regimes, including the Song Dynasty established by the Han Chinese, the Liao Dynasty and Western Liao Dynasty established by the Khitan, the Jin Dynasty established by the Mongols." State Party dossier XIXIA IMPERIAL TOMBS Description of the property P. 021 Tibetans:  "Historical records show that the Xixia Dynasty was home to not only the Tangut people but also many other ethnic groups, such as the Han, Tibetan, Uyghur, Tatar, Khitan, and Jurchen" State Party dossier XIXIA IMPERIAL TOMBS Justification for inscription P. 117  "The Xixia civilization excelled at assimilating other ethnic cultures, resulting in a Xixia culture that blended the distinctive features of the Tangut people with those of the Han, Tibetan, and Uyghur peoples" State Party dossier XIXIA IMPERIAL TOMBS Justification for inscription p. 131 In this particular context, it is important to consider that the central element is not a line of ruling families, but a specific geographical entity. It would be more appropriate to change the sentence as follows: On the Silk Road, the Xixia Dynasty developed a multicultural civilisation based on the Chinese imperial model, of which Buddhism was an essential part and was crossed by merchants, caravans, monks and
Page 80, Column 2, Description and history, Line 4	The nominated property is a necropolis containing the remains of nine imperial mausoleums, said to be those of seven Xixia emperors, and those of the father and grandfather of Emperor Li Yuanhao (1038-1048), founder of the Xixia Dynasty (1038-1227).	The nominated property is a necropolis containing the remains of nine imperial mausoleums, said to be those of seven Xixia emperors, and those of the father and grandfather of Emperor Li Yuanhao (reigned from 1038-	nomads.  ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.

		<b>1048</b> ), founder of the Xixia Dynasty (1038-1227).	
Page 80, Column 2, Description and history, Line 18-19	Each of the nine imperial tombs has its own unique characteristics, with the exception of twin tombs 1 and 2.	Each of the nine imperial tombs has its own unique characteristics, with similar layouts in three groups: Mausoleums No. 1, 2, 7 and 8, Mausoleums No. 3 and 4, Mausoleums No. 5 and 6.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification. Xixia Imperial Tombs P. 044 (3) Mausoleum No. 2 (LM2) "Mausoleum No. 2 features the same layout as Mausoleum No. 1".
Page 81, Column 1, Description and history, Line 15	In the south-west quarter of this enclosure lies a sacrificial hall; extending away from this is a long, straight mound covering an access ramp to the underground burial chamber, which is set slightly to the south of the <b>stupa</b> of the mausoleum.	In the south-west quarter of this enclosure lies a sacrificial hall; extending away from this is a long, straight mound covering an access ramp to the underground burial chamber, which is set slightly to the south of the <b>pagoda</b> of the mausoleum.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.  The evolution of the stupa eastwards across Asia over the next ten centuries gave rise to what is known in East Asian architecture as the pagoda.
Page 81, Column 1, Description and history, Line 22	Simple tombs, comprising a long, straight mound covering an access ramp to an underground vault, set in front of the <b>stupa</b> ;	Simple tombs, comprising a long, straight mound covering an access ramp to an underground vault, set in front of the <b>pagoda</b> ;	See above.
Page 81, Column 2, Description and history, Line 9	The state of conservation of the remains on the site does not allow us to describe with certainty the buildings that comprise it. Sometimes, only the foundations remain. Studies of the larger remains enable us to describe the architectural arrangements of the <b>stupas</b> .	The state of conservation of the remains on the site does not allow us to describe with certainty the buildings that comprise it. Sometimes, only the foundations remain. Studies of the larger remains enable us to describe the architectural arrangements of the pagodas.	See above.
Page 81, Column 2, Description and history, Line 10	The Xixia <b>stupas</b> are massive buildings, usually octagonal in shape or, more rarely, circular.	The Xixia <b>pagodas</b> are massive buildings, usually octagonal in shape or, more rarely, circular.	See above.
Page 81, Column 2, Description and history, Line 26	They demonstrate the importance of Buddhist funerary traditions in the <b>Xixia Empire</b> .	They demonstrate the importance of Buddhist funerary traditions in the <b>Xixia Dynasty</b> .	In this context, ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
Page 81, Column 2, Description and history, Line 35	Another specific feature of the Xixia Imperial Tombs compared with the funerary architecture of the Chinese Tang and Song Dynasties is the position of the burial chamber, which is not placed directly below the <b>stupa</b> .	Another specific feature of the Xixia Imperial Tombs compared with the funerary architecture of the Chinese Tang and Song Dynasties is the position of the burial chamber, which is not placed directly below the <b>pagoda</b> .	See above.
Page 81, Column 2, Description and history, Line 53	Li Jiqian and Li Deming were the first monarchs to reign over the Tanguts, but it was in 1038 that the <b>Xixia Empire</b> was proclaimed, during the reign of Li Yuanhao.	Li Jiqian and Li Deming were the first monarchs to reign over the Tanguts, but it was in 1038 that the <b>Xixia Dynasty</b> was proclaimed, during the reign of Li Yuanhao.	In this context, ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
Page 82, Column 1, Description and history, Line 1	The position of the territory of the <b>Xixia Empire</b> on the Silk Road increased its wealth and allowed it to develop a policy of trade with the interior regions, the western regions and Eurasia.	The position of the territory of the <b>Xixia Dynasty</b> on the Silk Road increased its wealth and allowed it to develop a policy of trade with the interior regions, the western regions and Eurasia.	In this context, ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
Page 82, Column 1, Description and history, Line 10	Sedentarisation, the diversity of the population that made up the <b>Xixia Empire</b> and contact with travellers using the Silk Road allowed the Xixia civilisation to flourish in the spheres of literature, art, music and architecture.	Sedentarisation, the diversity of the population that made up the <b>Xixia Dynasty</b> and contact with travellers using the Silk Road allowed the Xixia civilisation to flourish in the spheres of	In this context, ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.

		literature, art, music and	
		architecture.	
Page 82, Column 1, Description and history, Line 20	In 1227, after numerous offensives, the Mongol army of Genghis Khan put an end to the <b>Xixia Empire</b> and destroyed its capital.	In 1227, after numerous offensives, the Mongol army of Genghis Khan put an end to the <b>Xixia Dynasty</b> and destroyed its capital.	In this context, ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
Page 83, Column 1, Proposed justification, Line 8	The nominated property bears witness to the role played by the <b>Xixia Empire</b> in the economic, political, cultural and spiritual exchanges generated by the Silk Road from the 11th to 13th centuries in north-west China.	The nominated property bears witness to the role played by the <b>Xixia Dynasty</b> in the economic, political, cultural and spiritual exchanges generated by the Silk Road from the 11th to 13th centuries in north-west China.	In this context, ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
Page 83, Column 1, Proposed justification, Line 16	The nominated property, in terms of its landscape, architectural and technical make-up, and in spiritual or religious terms, is the result of the interactions between the various ethnic groups that made up the population of the <b>Xixia Empire</b> .	The nominated property, in terms of its landscape, architectural and technical make-up, and in spiritual or religious terms, is the result of the interactions between the various ethnic groups that made up the population of the <b>Xixia Dynasty</b> .	In this context, ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
Page 84, Column 1, Criteria under which inscription is proposed, Line 28	ICOMOS considers that the State Party has not provided sufficient information to demonstrate the interaction between the various ethnic groups that made up the population of the <b>Xixia Empire</b> .	ICOMOS considers that the State Party has not provided sufficient information to demonstrate the interaction between the various ethnic groups that made up the population of the <b>Xixia Dynasty</b> .	In this context, ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
Page 86, Column 1, Conservation	In the additional information sent in November 2024, the State Party indicates that Mausoleums No.7	In the additional information sent in November 2024, the State Party indicates that Mausoleums	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
measures, Line 27-30	and No.8, as well as the northern architectural complex, have been excavated, producing significant results in terms of understanding of the remains; the publication of the results was scheduled for 2024. The excavation of Mausoleum No. 9 will follow this publication, under the "Archaeological Work Plan for Xixia Imperial Tombs" programme (2024-2033).	No.7 and No.8, as well as the northern architectural complex, have conducted archaeological survey and explorations, producing significant results in terms of understanding of the remains; the publication of the results was scheduled for 2024. The archaeological survey of Mausoleum No. 9 will follow this publication, under the "Archaeological Work Plan for Xixia Imperial Tombs" programme (2024-2033).	State Party dossier 04-2 Xixia Imperial Tombs_Annex II P. 230 "2. Excavation The archaeological excavation of the Xixia Imperial Tombs was carried out in tandem with the surveys, and can be roughly divided into three stages:"
Page 86, Column 2, Conservation measures, Line 4	Flood protection works were created in 1998 and 2003 for Mausoleum No.3 and in 2013 for Mausoleums No.4 and No.6.	Flood protection works were created in 1998 and <b>2013</b> for Mausoleum No.3 and in 2013 for Mausoleums No.4 and No.6.	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  Xixia Imperial Tombs P. 082  "(2) Site conservation works Mausoleums No. 1 and No. 2 In 1998, Mausoleums No. 1 and No. 2 In 1998, Mausoleums No. 1 and No. 2 were reinforced and fenced with enclosures. In 2002, 2006 and 2014-2016, Mausoleums No. 1 and No. 2 were reinforced.  Mausoleum No. 3 In 1997, Mausoleum No. 3 was fenced with enclosures. In 1998 and 2003, flood control works were carried out in Mausoleum No. 3

			In 2000-2002 and 2005, Mausoleum No. 3 was reinforced."
Page 89,	The necropolis comprises nine	The necropolis comprises nine	ICOMOS considers this correction
Column 1,	imperial mausoleums of the Xixia	imperial mausoleums of the Xixia	to be a clarification.
Conclusion,	Dynasty, several hundred of	Dynasty, several hundred of	
Line 5-8	subordinate tombs and an	subordinate tombs, an	
	architectural complex.	architectural complex and 32	
		flood control works.	
Page 89,	this necropolis is a unique	this necropolis is a unique	ICOMOS considers this correction
Column 2,	testimony to the Xixia Dynasty and	testimony to the Xixia Dynasty	to be an editorial change which does
Brief	its imperial lineage, which lasted	and its imperial lineage, which	not modify the meaning of the
synthesis, Line	nearly 200 years and was	lasted nearly 200 years and was	sentence.
13	established by the Tanguts,	established by the Tanguts,	
	nomadic herdspeople who settled	nomadic herdspeople who settled	See above
	in a region crossed by the Silk	in a region crossed by the Silk	
	Road, and brought together a	Road, and brought together a	
	diverse population composed, in	diverse population composed, in	
	addition to the Tanguts, of Han	addition to the Tanguts, of Han,	
	Chinese, Tibetans, Uighurs,	Tubo, Uighur, Khitan and	
	Khitans and Jurchens.	Jurchen peoples.	



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Denmark

### **EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Møns Klint

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Page 76, column 1, line 51-53	The meadows sustain a rich butterfly diversity, including the recently reintroduced and near-threatened (NT) Large Blue (Phengaris arion)	Proposed correction – The meadows sustain a rich butterfly diversity, including the near-threatened (NT) Large Blue (Phengaris arion) which, until recently, remained solely in one Danish location – Høvblege, part of the revised property. It is now being reintroduced to nearby areas through the nature restoration project: Life Orchids.	Clarification.  IUCN agrees with this clarification. As the boundaries of the nominated property have been expanded, the nominated area now includes Høvblege; thus, the Large Blue (Phengaris arion) is found within the revised nominated area and not reintroduced to the revised nominated area.
Page 77, column 1, line 32-35	It is noted that the nominated property has yet to be covered by measures focusing on the protection and management of geoheritage.	Proposed correction – It has been clarified that the revised nominated property is covered by appropriate legal and effective protection measures focusing on the protection and management of geoheritage. Justification – The decision to revise and expand the nominated area was ultimately prompted by dialogue and consultation throughout the evaluation process – from the technical evaluation mission through subsequent supplementary information exchange. These interactions effectively highlighted a key issue in a timely and constructive manner.  Following the submission of supplementary information by 28 February 2025, it became apparent that the description of protection measures was both unclear and remained insufficient. This shortfall was especially notable in contrast to the detailed emphasis placed on the geoscientific rationale for the revised boundary. Accordingly, clarification of the legal and effective protection already in place is warranted.	Not a factual error.  New information.  The additional explanation provided as a justification to the Factual Error submission expands on information provided e.g. on p. 31 of the Management Plan. However, the provisions for the explicit protection of geological heritage under the Planning Act in the Vordingborg Municipality have not been seen or assessed by the IUCN World Heritage Panel.

		According to the Danish Planning Act, municipalities are required to designate and safeguard geological and landscape conservation values in their municipal plans. In Vordingborg Municipality, these designations cover the entire nominated property, which is therefore subject to regulatory protection implemented through two sets of guidelines in the local Municipal Plan. With an overall purpose to ensure conservation and protection of natural heritage, the guidelines require all projects and plans to incorporate consideration for the important geological features and exposed profiles that to a special degree illustrate the structure of the landscape. As a consequence, limitations are imposed on, for example, constructions, technical facilities, planting etc., that could potentially hide the geomorphology of the landscape.  The regulation is restrictive and effectively managed by Vordingborg Municipality. Municipal Plans are in general valid for 12 years with the possibility of revision every four years. Revision must always comply with national legislation and safeguard national interests, including geological and landscape interests. The current Municipal Plan was formally adopted and entered into force in 2022.	
Page 77, column 1, line 36-39	Importantly, to the west of the new area, an inland part of the revised nominated property around the village of Magleby has no legal protection, according to the supplementary information.	Proposed correction – Suggest to delete this paragraph.  Justification – In addition to the regulatory protection of geological and landscape values mentioned above, the entire nominated property – including the area surrounding the village of Magleby – is subject to the provisions of the Danish Planning Act concerning the so-called rural zone. The rural zone refers to non-urban areas typically used for agriculture, forestry, natural landscapes, and dispersed rural housing. This zoning designation aims to preserve open landscapes, protect natural and cultural values, and prevent urban sprawl.  Within the rural zone, construction and changes in land use require special permission from the municipality. Regulatory measures are outlined in the Municipal Plan and are effectively implemented by Vordingborg Municipality.	Not a factual error.  New Information.  The additional explanation provided as a justification to the Factual Error submission contains information that has not previously been detailed to IUCN. Maps 2-8 on pages 69-72 of in the supplementary information suggested that the area in question has no legal protection for the proposed World Heritage values. The provisions for the explicit protection of geological heritage under the Planning Act in the Vordingborg Municipality have not been seen or assessed by the IUCN World Heritage Panel.
Page 78, column 2, line 23-27	Further supplementary information is required to document if, or how, other landowners, stakeholders and rightsholders will participate in the management of the revised nominated property	Clarification – In addition to the large state-owned area (825 ha), the revised nominated property includes 412 private landowners. Of these, 33 hold land parcels larger than 10 hectares, including two of the largest private owners: Klintholm Estate (1,406 ha) and Liselund Estate (295 ha), both of which manage nature, agriculture, and forestry. The remaining landowners hold small private farms (58 larger than 2 ha) or small private parcels (354 smaller than 2 ha).	Not a factual error.  New information.  Whilst IUCN welcomes the approval of the revised boundaries by the Municipal Board on 26 February 2025 and the consultation meeting held on 3 June 2025, IUCN notes that local consultation and participation of the landowners, stakeholders and

		These are primarily clustered in the villages of Magleby (107), Busemarke (61), Sømarke (25), Mandemarke (19), Ålebæk (15), and Stubberup (14).  The largest private owner Klintholm Estate owns key parts of the nominated property and has therefore been part of the steering committee throughout the entire process of developing the nomination. Appropriate representation and communication will be accommodated for the numerous additional private landholders, e.g. through local stakeholder associations.  The proposal for the revised nominated property was politically approved by the Municipal Board at a board meeting on 26 February 2025. The broader local community, including landowners, was consulted about the expanded property and its potential implications at a public information and debate meeting held on 3 June 2025. Although local concerns remain regarding increased visitor numbers and pressure on infrastructure, there is a general sense of pride and consensus of support for the nomination of Møns Klint to the World Heritage List, including from the local chamber of commerce, the tourism association, and NGOs such as the Danish Outdoor Council and the Danish Society for Nature Conservation.	rightsholders for the revised nominated property remains to be completed (see also next point below).
Page 79, column 1, line 45-49	Community engagement in the governance structure has been planned through a local advisory board, although the extent to which this body is represented in the World Heritage Steering Committee remains unclear.	Clarification — In connection with the above-mentioned public meeting on 3 June 2025, the local stakeholder association (Østmøn Lokalforum) has tentatively accepted an invitation to participate in the World Heritage Steering Committee (to be formalized).  All parties behind the nomination intend to develop a plan to ensure strengthened and ongoing consultation and engagement with the local community, stakeholders, and landowners. The specific format and activities are yet to be determined, and relevant guidance and tools from within the World Heritage system will be consulted.	Not a factual error.  New information.  See previous comment above.
Page 79, column 1, line 50-54	The size of the population within the revised nominated property boundaries was not presented in the supplementary information provided by the State Party in February 2025.	Proposed correction – The population living within the revised nominated property boundaries was estimated to be 471, as stated on page 10 of the supplementary information provided by the State Party in February 2025.	Factual error.  IUCN acknowledges this omission and thanks the State Party for the correction.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Democratic People's Republic of Korea

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Mt. Kumgang – Diamond Mountain from the sea

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
316 page, left column, line 22	For the elites in the <b>Joseon Dynasty</b> , traveling to the Mount Kumgang was an aspiration for those wanting to show their refinement, metaphysical ambition and prestige.	feudal Joson dynasty (Joseon Dynasty)	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
321 page, right column, line 28	Universities and the Academies of Science and Technology and Social Science have archaeological teams, and the Korean National Heritage Preservation Agency has a research group in archaeology.	the State Academy of Sciences and the Academy of Social Sciences	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
323 page, right column, line 38	From the early 2000s, international visitors were able to travel to Mount Kumgang and some tourist hotels were built in the vicinity in a joint venture with <b>South Korean entities.</b>	the entities of the Republic of Korea.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Democratic People's Republic of Korea

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Mt. Kumgang – Diamond Mountain from the sea

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
108 page, right column, line 50	The plan focuses development in six locations: 1) Kosong Port; 2) Lagoon Samil area; 3) Haemanmulsang area; 4) the <b>Onjonri</b> village and hot springs area; 5) <b>Kumsaemri</b> village area; and 6) an area in Inner Kumgang.	Onjong-ri Kumsaem-ri	Typo.  IUCN thanks the State Party for the correction.
112 page, left column, line 2	The property is State- owned and principally <b>protected two State laws</b> : the "Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the Protection of Cultural Heritage" (2018); and the "Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the Protection of Scenic Spots and Natural Monuments" (2018).	protected by two State laws	Grammatical error.  Proposition missing. IUCN thanks the State Party for the correction.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

<b>ÉTAT(S) PARTIE(S) :</b> France	

ÉVALUATION DE LA PROPOSITION D'INSCRIPTION DU SITE : Mégalithes de Carnac et des rives du Morbihan

#### ÉVALUATION DE L'ORGANISATION CONSULTATIVE CONCERNÉE : ICOMOS

Page, colonne, ligne de l'évaluation de l'Organisation consultative	Phrase incluant l'erreur factuelle (l'erreur factuelle devrait figurer en gras)	Correction proposée par l'Etat partie	Commentaire (s'il y en a) de l'Organisation consultative et/ou du Centre du patrimoine mondial
Toutes les pages, version anglaise	Titre et nom du bien dans toutes les pages: Megaliths of Carnac and of the Shores of Morbihan	Megaliths of Carnac and of the shores of Morbihan	ICOMOS acknowledges this correction



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Greece

#### **EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Minoan Palatial Centres

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
p.211, c.L, 1.16	Zakros	Zakros	ICOMOS accepts this correction as a factual error. The regional
	Municipality of Sitia	Municipality of Sitia	unit should be Lasithi, not Sitia.
	Regional Unit of Sitia	Regional Unit of <b>Lasithi</b>	
p.211, c.L, 1.26-30	The Minoan Palatial Centres consist of six archaeological sites located on Crete – Knossos, Phaistos, Malia, Zakros, Zominthos, and Kydonia – dating from 2800 BCE to 1100 BCE. These sites exemplify the Minoan Civilization, a significant prehistoric society in the Mediterranean.	The Minoan Palatial Centres consist of six archaeological sites located on Crete – Knossos, Phaistos, Malia, Zakros, Zominthos, and Kydonia – dating from 1900 BCE to 1100 BCE. [Nomination File, p.77]  These sites exemplify the Minoan Civilization (2800 BCE to 1100 BCE), a significant prehistoric society in the Mediterranean. [Nomination File, p.25]	ICOMOS accepts this correction as a factual error and acknowledges the clarification. The distinction between the chronology of the Minoan civilization (c. 2800 BCE) and the emergence of the palatial centres (c. 1900 BCE) is acknowledged.
P.213, c.R, 1.25-28	Although adequate protection measures are in place, it is recommended that a specific monitoring system be established to oversee permits and building activities in the area.	This issue is answered in the Additional Information provided in November 2024 [p.33] where, further to the legal protection system, it is mentioned that "throughout the section of the city where remains of the Minoan settlement have been uncovered, oversight of the Ministry of Culture has remained continuous, unwavering, and particularly strict since 1967. The goal is to safeguard cultural heritage, prevent any interventions that could alter the archaeological site"	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification. While legal protection exists, strengthened monitoring mechanism in the urban context of Kydonia is needed.
p.216, c.L, l.11-13	Despite debates about the continuity of traditions such as olive oil production	Continuous cultivation of olives and the production of olive oil in Minoan Crete has never been debated in bibliography. On the contrary, a lot of evidence related to the presence of olives and oil production is constantly yielded during excavations	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment. While the archaeological record is strong, scholarly debate exists regarding the continuity and scale of practices over millennia.

			ICOMOS maintains that ongoing academic discussions exist regarding the scale, function, and economic context of oil production in specific periods and locations. Thus, this is considered a matter of scholarly interpretation, not a factual error. The evaluation does not deny olive oil production but reflects nuanced academic discourse on its implications.
p.218, c.R, 1.55-60	A multidisciplinary Scientific Committee, established in 2001, specifically for the Knossos component part (001) and involving foreign archaeological schools, now provides a global approach to conservation with ongoing reviews and research for each of the six component parts.	This Committee was only in charge of the arhaeological site of Knossos during the period 2001-2013 and is no longer functioning [See Nomination File, p. 239, l. 30-33]	ICOMOS accepts this correction as a factual error. The Knossos Scientific Committee was dissolved in 2013, as stated in the nomination dossier.
p.219, c.L, 1.10-11	In the additional information of February 2025, the State Party indicated that conservation relies on detailed restoration studies, with <b>short-term plans</b> in place, such as for Malia (003), under the Ministry of Culture.	Detailed conservation and restoration measures with <b>short, medium and long term planning are in place</b> , as demonstrated in the Nomination Dossier [Annex I, p.353-368] as well as in the dditional information submitted in February 2025 [p.31].	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
p.219, c.R, 1.25-30	ICOMOS considers that all the nominated component parts should be given protection under the same special protection zone regime (Zone A) and that a specific monitoring system to oversee permits and building activities in Chania, where Kydonia (006) is located, should be developed.	The implementation of Zone A (non-construction zone) in the Kydonia component is not applicable under national legislation, as the area is located within a residential, urban zone—specifically, the city of Chania. Regarding the recommendation to develop a monitoring system to oversee permits and building activities, such a system is already in place. As noted by ICOMOS on the same page, lines 24–25 state that "construction is permitted only by the Ministry of Culture," and lines 45–46 confirm that "the Ministry is also responsible for delivering construction permits in Zone B," which, according to Greek legislation, designates an area of enhanced protection.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification. While Zone A cannot be applied in urban contexts, strengthening monitoring system at Kydonia is needed.
p.220, c.L, l. 1-4	The Ministry of Culture oversees legal protection, permits, and the management of the <b>five</b> government- owned component parts, coordinating with other ministries and agencies to ensure a collaborative approach	The Ministry of Culture oversees legal protection, permits, and the management of <b>all six</b> component parts	ICOMOS accepts this correction as a factual error. All six components, including Kydonia, are state-owned. The original distinction was based on functional visibility and site access, not legal tenure.
P.220, c.R, l. 14-16	ICOMOS considers that a comprehensive tourism management plan should be developed to unify interpretation across the nominated property and should be integrated to the management plan.	Tourism management issues are addressed and integrated to the managemnet plan as AXIS 4 [see p. 377-380 of the Nomination File] whereas Additional Information was provided in November 2024[see chapter B.Strategy and Tourism Development plan of the Region of Crete, p.35-36) and February 2025 (see	The nomination outlines cultural route and visitation strategies; however, ICOMOS recommendation is focused on an integrated tourism management plan specifically focused on the series as a whole.  Therefore, ICOMOS encourages the integration of these measures

		chapte C.Tourism Management Strategy p. 32-34]	into a comprehensive, site-wide Tourism Management Plan, including unified interpretation across the series, especially given anticipated visitor increases.
p.22, c.R, l. 37-39	However, the Kydonia component part (006) should be provided with the highest level of legal protection (Zone A)	Implementation of Zone A (non construction zone) to Kydonia component is not applicable according to the national legislation because it is situated within a residential, urban area [see comment above]	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification. The non-applicability of Zone A at Kydonia is noted; however, enhanced protection mechanism at Kydonia is needed.
p.220, c.R, 1.44-47	It should be further developed to include detailed long-term  conservation strategies, a risk preparedness strategy that  further addresses climate change	Detailed long term conservation strategies and specific measures have been submitted [Nomination File, Annex I, p.345-368] as well as strategies for risk management (e.g. emergency evacuation plans, fire prevention, early warning systems, etc), addressing also climate change [Nomination Dossier, p.370-373, Annex III, Additional Information, February 2025, p.31-32.]	Measures on climate and disaster risks are noted, however integration into a coordinated framework focused on the series as a whole for long-term conservation is needed.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): India

EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE: Maratha Military Landscapes of India

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
P.92 Column 1, Brief description Line 2 and P. 93 Column 1, Description and history, Line 2	The Maratha Military Landscapes of India comprises twelve large-scale fortifications with <b>immediately adjacent</b> topographic, geomorphological and environmental features.	Either delete "immediately adjacent' or mention "including topographic, geomorphological and environmental features within and in the surroundings' (As these features are integral to the twelve large-scale fortifications comprising of entire hill, multiple hills or islands with these features).	ICOMOS does not consider this a factual error.  This is an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.
P.92 Column 1, Brief description Line 10	Sahyadri Range (also known as Western Ghats), namely, Salher-Salota, Shivneri, Lohagad-Visapur, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad and Panhala, all in Maharashtra, whilst Gingee Fort is located on the Eastern Ghats, in Tamil Nadu	Panhala-Pawangad	ICOMOS has mentioned the inclusion of Pawangad in the component part at p. 94, column 2, lines 11 and 12.  ICOMOS accepts this editorial change.
P.92 Column 2, Line 2	second half of the 17th century and the early 19th century, until their rule was ended by the British <b>Empire</b> .	British East India Company (British Crown took over the Company in 1858)	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
P.93 Column 1, Description and History, Para 3, Line 7	Thanks to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the Bhonsle clan emerged in the 17th century among other clans amidst the power vacuum left by the weakening of the Deccan Muslim polities in their attempts to resist the Mughal efforts to control the region	Delete the phrase.  (The Deccan Muslim polities like Bijapur sultanates were strongest opponents of Mughals in the early 17th centuries. There was no power vacuum when the Bhonsle clan emerged under Shivaji Maharaj)	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
P. 93 Column 2,	This strategy was based on guerrilla warfare,	'extra tax on the land that they claimed as their hereditary rights (sardeshmukhi)'	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.

Para 1, Line 4 and Line 5	extracting protection tolls from competing powers to protect trade from depredators (chauth), revenue tax on crops (sardeshmukhi), and negotiations.	(It is important to correct this definition as explained on p.56 of Additional Information, Feb 2025 as it has direct implication on the Maratha Territory and the nominated boundary).	
P. 93 Column 2, Para 4, Line 3	The nominated series includes coastal, island and hill forts, which the Marathas either built, conquered, and/or rearranged during their initial phase of expansion in the 17th and early 18th centuries	'rebuilt and/or extended' (None of the nominated forts were only conquered and/or rearranged. Forts were conceived, constructed, reconstructed, extended or reinforced showing distinct Maratha layer, Refer Additional Information, Annexure 1, Feb 2025 for details of Maratha period construction in each of the nominated components )	ICOMOS has taken in full account the additional information provided by the State Party.  ICOMOS considers that the correction reiterates arguments/justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.
P.93 Column 2 Component part 01: Salher Fort, Line 7	Shivaji captured it from the Mughals in 1672 during the Battle of Salher and used it as a base for expanding Maratha control northward	Shivaji captured it from the Mughals in 1671. Later in 1672 he defeated the Mughal forces in the Battle of Salher when the fort was under Maratha control. (Refer Additional Information Feb 2025 Annexure 1)	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.  ICOMOS has used the nomination dossier for the chronology.
P. 94 Column1 Component part 06: Rajgad, Line 5	The multi-tiered architecture of the fort includes palaces, bastions, maachi (vast expanses of open ground) and storage facilities.	maachi (fortified extended portions of hills or spurs)	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
P. 94 Column1 Component part 03: Lohagad, Line 9	Shivaji recaptured it from the Mughals in 1670, and it was later held by the Peshwa.	Shivaji captured the fort in 1648 from the Mughals and extended it. After few tussles between Marathas and Mughals it was finally recaptured by Marathas in 1704, and it was later held by the Peshwas under the Chhatrapatis. (Both Peshwas and Chattrapatis are Marathas. Refer Additional Information, Feb 2025, Annexure 1-Lohagad Historical Timeline	The chronology in the nomination dossier mentions that Shivaji captured the fort in 1648, was forced to surrender it to the Mughals in 1665 and recaptured it in 1670.  ICOMOS has used the nomination dossier for the chronology.  ICOMOS acknowledges the factual error.
P. 94 Column 2 Component part 09: Panhala fort. Line 3	it includes rock-cut caves, a citadel, fortifications, seven bastions, gateways, water tanks, granaries, tunnels, a "hidden well"	seven cavalier bastions among total of twenty-three bastions	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
P. 94 Column 2 Component part 09: Panhala fort	It was fiercely contested between the Maratha and <b>Mughal</b> powers	Bijapur sultanates (Adil Shahi dynasty) (There was no contestation with the Mughals who conquered the fort at a later stage)	ICOMOS acknowledges this factual error.

D 04 W11	it was dome- J-Jh- 1.1. d	It was siver to the NA of	ICOMOS mof
P. 94 World Column 1 Para 1, Line	it was demanded back by the Marathas in 1716. However, it was only transferred back to the Marathas in 1760, before	It was given to the Marathas in1718 after the death of Mughal Emperor Farrukhsiyar through negotiations by	ICOMOS referred to the more detailed timeline in the nomination dossier p. 178.  ICOMOS has assessed the
5-Line 8	being ceded again to the Mughals in 1762 after a military defeat	Peshwa Balaji under Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj and it remained with the Marathas (except through subsequent demands by Peshwa Baji Rao 1 and others), until captured by the British East India Company in 1818 CE. (Refer Additional Information, Feb 2025 Annexure 1, Shivneri timeline)	additional information provided in response to the interim report, which did not raise issues concerning chronology.  ICOMOS has used the nomination dossier for the chronology.  ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
P. 95 Column 2 State of Conservation,	Substantial conservation works have been carried out at some of the nominated forts, i.e., Shivneri (02), Rajgad (06),	Substantial conservation works are also carried out on Pratapgad (07) and Gingee fort (12)	ICOMOS does not see any factual error highlighted in the sentence of the evaluation.  ICOMOS considers the correction
para 2, last line	Raigad (05), Sindhudurg (11), and Lohagad (03).		an addition proposed by the State Party.
P. 96  Column 2  Proposed  Justification for inscription, Para 2, Line 2	The selected component parts make up a series of forts and fortifications that were either <b>captured</b> , conceived, constructed, reconstructed or reinforced	Delete  (None of the nominated forts were only captured. They were conceived, constructed, reconstructed or reinforced showing substantial Maratha period construction. Refer Additional Information,	ICOMOS has taken in account the additional information provided by the State Party in response to the interim report.  The sentence in the evaluation does not contradict this information.  ICOMOS does not consider this a
		Annexure 1, Feb 2025 for details of Maratha period construction in each of the nominated components)	factual error.
P. 97 Proposed Justification Column1, Para 2, Line 1	As a network of primary, secondary and subsidiary fortifications, structures and paths that skilfully used the topography	As a serial nomination of 12 primary forts that are most extant representative anchors/pivots of the network. (Dossier clearly mentions this point. The network is not	In p. 96, column 2, lines 57-60, ICOMOS reports mentions that the nominated series is "the most representative sample" of several forts in the region.
		nominated.)	The nomination dossier, under Justification for the inscription, p. 196 states "this network of forts served as the foundation of the Maratha rule"
			The comparative analysis (p. 260) concludes by referring to the dense network of forts.
			The February 2025 additional information elaborates on the network of forts using text and images.
			ICOMOS does not consider this to be a factual error.
P. 97 Comparative analysis Para 2,	The first selection led to the identification of sixty primary forts, which were further screened against two of the attributes: the fort typology,	A list of sixty primary and secondary forts and a list of twenty-nine primary forts within the Maratha State boundary was thus generated	In the first highlight, ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.  Regarding the second highlight, ICOMOS considers that the
Line 4-Line 8	purpose and role in the narrative, and the strategic location or illustration of the	after understanding of role of forts in each cluster along the 3 lines of defence. (Refer	reference to "strategic location and illustration of defence strategy planning of the Marathas" in the

	defence strategy planning of the Marathas. This led to the retention of twenty-nine which were further filtered through the lens of the attribute	additional information Oct 2024, p. 34 and Additional Information, Feb 2025, p.61, point 5 where the numbers and hierarchy are mentioned clearly).	evaluation sentence covers the argument presented in the proposed correction.  ICOMOS does not consider this a factual error.
P. 98 Column 1 Para 1 Line 15-end of para	Finally, it was explained that Gingee Fort (12) was included as it would reflect the intention of Shivaji to extend his control over the Karnataka plains and the Coromandel coast on the east to obtain revenue from crops and port control. However, the additional information provided by the State Party in October 2024 did not address the reasons for changing the selected component parts from the Tentative List to the nominated series.	Misquoted. We request ICOMOS to correct this para as per information shared by the State Party.  (1. Gingee Fort is selected being essential to integrity of the series -due its role being critical in Maratha defense system and the tangible military innovations of the Marathas in the fort.  (Additional Information, Oct 2024, Rationale for inclusion of Gingee Fort, p. 43 further illustrated in Additional Information, Feb 2025, Anneure 1 Gingee Fort)  2. The reasons for changing the selected component parts from the Tentative List are clearly mentioned in both sets of Additional Information, Oct 2024, p. 42)	In the October 2024 additional information, p. 25, it is explained that "The primary intention of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's campaign of the Karnataka was to gain the control of the seaports on the Coromandel coast by snipping the supply lines of the Adilshahi sultanate by virtue of cutting through its territory. [] As the territory was fertile, it would bring in additional revenue through taxes on crops."  The paragraph at p. 43 in the October additional information clearly refers to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's intentions and actions and his son's in explaining the inclusion of Gingee fort.  The October additional information does not address the changes from the Tentative List to the Nomination. It explains why the 12 nominated forts have been selected and provides information on the forts in the Tentative List entry but does not explain the change in selection.  ICOMOS has taken into account the whole additional information to draft its report and does not consider this a factual error.
P. 98 Column 2 Para 2, Line 5	It was only returned to the Marathas in 1760, well after Shivaji's death and at a time when the expansionistic vision of the Marathas was mainly achieved	Demanded in 1716 and returned in 1718, remained with Marathas till 1818 CE through constant negotiations and treaties in this period (Refer Additional Information, Feb 2025 Annexure 1, Shivneri timeline)	ICOMOS referred to the more detailed timeline in the nomination dossier p. 178.  ICOMOS has assessed the additional information provided in response to the interim report, which did not raise issues concerning chronology.  ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
P. 98 Column 2 Para 3	Therefore, despite the assurances that the nomination is not focused on the association with the biographical figure of Shivaji, this association lingers on in the nomination and seems to at least underlie the selection of these two forts.	Misquote (The selection of these two forts is based on the official territory of the Maratha land as recorded in several treaties with the Mughals which included Shivneri and Southern areas around Gingee under the Maratha territory known as Swarajya.  Refer Additional Information, Feb 2025, IV. Rationale for	At p. 98, column 1, paragraph 3, ICOMOS evaluation report reads: "The State Party also explained that the rationale for the selection of the forts is based on the territorial boundaries of the Maratha Kingdom as of 1680"  ICOMOS has taken into account the additional information and justification provided by the State Party.

		the selection of the component parts P.56-59)	ICOMOS considers that this sentence in ICOMOS report reflects a difference of assessment.
P.98 Column 2 Para 5, Line 8	differences and specificities of territorial control strategies and the tangible legacy of other important powers that ruled the Indian peninsula, such as the Chola, the Chalukya, the Tughluq dynasties, or the Vijayanagara empire.	Delete (As the Cholas did not have a fortifications network as a territorial strategy, this is a phenomenon in later centuries as explained in the additional information, Feb 2025, the Tuglaqs only reused and strengthened 1 fort in the Deccan which is mentioned, their descendants Bahmanis besides the the Chalukyas and Vijaynagara empire are covered in the additional information, Feb. 2025, p.2).	The section of the report which is highlighted discusses the evaluation process and exchanges with the State Party.  ICOMOS has acknowledged the additional information provided in February 2025 in the sentence at p. 98, column 2, paragraph 6: "In its interim report, ICOMOS requested further information on these aspects, and the State Party elaborated on similarities and differences between the Marathas and other previous and contemporaneous polities".  ICOMOS does not consider this as a factual error.
P. 99 Column 2 Criteria under which inscription is proposed Para 6 Line 2	Only three out of the twelve nominated forts were completely built by the Marathas; the others existed already and were more or less extensively adapted and reinforced by Shivaji or subsequent Maratha rulers	Apart from three newly constructed, four were reconstructed with major extensions (almost 3 times the original area) and five had minor extensions to existing fortification (increasing size area by half) (Refer fig 35, page 62 of Additional document February 2025)	ICOMOS has taken in account the additional information provided by the State Party in response to the interim report.  The sentence in the evaluation does not contradict this information.  ICOMOS considers that the correction reiterates arguments/justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.
P.105, Column 2 Para 6 Line 3-4	Pawangad Fort – is protected at the state level <b>but awaits finalisation of the legal protection designation at the national level.</b>	Delete  (The State Party has always mentioned protection for Pawangad under the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Maharashtra. It does not need any additional protection at national level)	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
P.107 Column 1 Para 4, Line 5	Between the 17th and the <b>18th</b> century, the Marathas managed to control most of the territory once under Mughal rule.	19th	ICOMOS acknowledges this typing error.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Iran (Islamic Republic of)

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Prehistoric Caves and Falak-ol-Aflak Ensemble

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Page 110 Left column Paragraph 2 Line 10	The artefacts discovered include stone tools such as Levallois byproducts, limace points, and side-scrapers, fractured, retouched, and unmodified blades, pointed flakes, and potsherds. A large number of faunal remains were also recovered from the cave.	The artefacts discovered include stone tools such as Levallois byproducts, limace points, and sidescrapers, fractured, retouched, and unmodified blades, pointed flakes, and potsherds. A large number of faunal remains were also recovered from the cave. As a part of research programme and continuing regular scientific research on the prehistoric sites of the Khorramabad Valley to enhance data collection and management, archaeological excavation and research is in progress and its preliminary results has been reported widely in international media.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Page 110 Left column Paragraph 3 Line 1	At the Pa Sangar Rock-Shelter, artefacts such as lithic artefacts and faunal remains were found, indicating that the Zarzian culture originated from the Baradostian. The discovery of two large scallop shells suggested a long distance trade, or less likely migrations, with the Persian Gulf.	At the Pa Sangar Rock-Shelter, Upper Palaeolithic and Epipalaeolithic artefacts such as lithic artefacts and faunal remains were found, indicating that the Zarzian culture originated from the Baradostian. The discovery of two large scallop shells suggested a long distance trade, or less likely migrations, with the Persian Gulf.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Page 110 Right column Paragraph 3 Line 15	remains of more than twenty individuals, and over thirty partially or completely restorable vessels. The absolute age of the tombs remains uncertain.	A complex of tombs contains the remains of more than twenty individuals, and over thirty partially or completely restorable vessels. There is no absolute age for the tombs but these structures were found alongside a combination of various artifacts dating mostly to a period	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification on the basis of the information received on 28 February 2025.  ICOMOS would like to recall that any documentation sent after 28

		beginning from Jemdet Nasr to Early Dynastic II (3100-2600).  The tombs uncovered in this cave revealed a diverse range of vessel forms and decorative techniques, all of which were found to be contemporaneous and indicate a possible affinity with Jemdet Nasr culture to Early Dynastic II periods. Many of the ceramic evidence suggests a date in the Early Dynastic II period, around 2700-2600 BC, when both painted jars and fruit stands coexisted in lowland Mesopotamia.  • Please see the Additional Information sent on 28 February 2025 and additional information enclosed to this factual errors letter	February 2025 cannot be taken into account at this stage.
Page 111 Left column Paragraph 4 Line 1	possibly since the Middle Palaeolithic, while the mud- brick fortress atop the hill dates back to the Iron Age. These architectural remains were	The hill has been occupied possibly since the Middle Palaeolithic, while the mud-brick fortress atop the hill dates back to the Iron Age and Bronze Age and the archaeological remains of Late Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods (5000-3200, BCE) have been found beneath them. These architectural remains were continuously used and expanded into the current form in subsequent eras.  • Please see the Additional Information sent on 28 February 2025 and additional information enclosed to this factual errors letter	ICOMOS considers that the corrections re-iterate arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.  ICOMOS considers that the archaeological potential of the Falak-ol-Aflak mound has yet to be established. Indeed, as scientific research has only just begun there, its contribution to the potential Outstanding Universal Value cannot be firmly demonstrated at this stage. Therefore, ICOMOS considers that the Falak-ol-Aflak mound should not be included as part of the reduced series. Nonetheless, the State Party could at a later stage consider including the mound in the nominated series through a minor boundary modification request, should further archaeological and scientific research uncover more significant tangible evidence dating from the Upper Palaeolithic period, and should this contribute to the potential Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed reduced series.  ICOMOS would like to recall that any documentation sent after 28 February 2025 cannot be taken into account at this stage.
Page 112 Right column Paragraph 2 Line 3	Zarzian cultures, and provides insight into human evolution	It reflects the Zagros Mousterian, the Baradostian and Zarzian cultures, and provides insight into human evolution from the time of the Neanderthals until the present day.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Page 113  Left column  Paragraph 5	ICOMOS notes that the mound beneath the Falak-ol-Aflak Castle (located in component part 7) is still included in this revised narrative on the basis that	ICOMOS notes that the mound beneath the Falak-ol-Aflak Castle (located in component part 7) is still included in this revised narrative on the basis that lithic tools, possibly	ICOMOS considers that the corrections re-iterate arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.

### Line 4 lithic tools, possibly dating to the Middle Palaeolithic, have been found in this location during the scientific appraisal of the archaeological potential of the rock shelters carried out in 2023-2024. It is also assumed by the State Party that its strategic location offered favourable settlement conditions to the prehistoric communities. Page 113 However, ICOMOS considers that the archaeological potential Left column of the Falak-ol-Aflak mound has Paragraph 6 yet to be established. Indeed, as scientific research has only just Line 5 begun there, its contribution to

dating to the Middle Palaeolithic, have been found in this location during the scientific appraisal of the archaeological potential of the rock shelters carried out in 2023-2024. And also apart from Middle Palaolithic remains, the mound prehistoric encompasses archaeological settlements of Late Neolithic, Chalcolithic Periods (5000-3200, BCE), Bronze Age, as they are discovered in Prehistoric caves. It is also assumed by the State Party that its strategic location offered favourable settlement conditions to the prehistoric communities.

\*Please see the Additional Information sent on 28 February 2025 and additional information enclosed to this factual errors letter ICOMOS considers that the archaeological potential of the Falak-ol-Aflak mound has yet to be established. Indeed, as scientific research has only just begun there, its contribution to the potential Outstanding Universal Value cannot be firmly demonstrated at this stage. Therefore, ICOMOS considers that the Falak-ol-Aflak mound should not be included as part of the reduced series. Nonetheless, the State Party could at a later stage consider including the mound in the nominated series through a minor boundary modification request, should further archaeological and scientific research uncover more significant tangible evidence dating from the Upper Palaeolithic period, and should this contribute to the potential Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed reduced series.

ICOMOS would like to recall that any documentation sent after 28 February 2025 cannot be taken into account at this stage.

potential Outstanding Universal Value cannot be firmly demonstrated at this stage. Therefore, ICOMOS considers that the Falak-ol-Aflak mound should not be included as part of the reduced series. Nonetheless, the State Party could at a later stage consider including the mound in the nominated series through a minor boundary modification request, should further archaeological and scientific research uncover more significant tangible evidence from dating the Upper Palaeolithic period, and should this contribute to the potential Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed reduced series.

However, ICOMOS considers that the archaeological potential of the Falak-ol-Aflak mound has been shown preliminarily in two excavations which according to the state party, is programed to be continued. The previous excavations and current scientific research has revealed the potential of this mound (Archaeological settlements of Late Neolithic, Chalcolithic Periods and Bronze Age) as a part of prehistoric sites of the Valley particularly related to the sequences of the Prehistoric caves.

Therefore, ICOMOS considers that the Falak-ol-Aflak mound may include as part of the reduced series if the state party prioritize its research programme and continuing scientific research on this mound as one of the Prehistoric sites. Thus including the mound in the nominated series through a minor boundary modification contribute to the potential Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed reduced series since this mound located on one of the most important water source of the valley.

\*We insist ICOMOS to consider the Falak-ol-Aflak mound and its prehistoric archaeological evidence ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of opinion.

	1		
		located on the main karst spring of	
		the valley that makes this	
		prehistoric site related to other	
		nominated prehistoric sites.	
Page <b>113</b>	While the Falak-ol-Aflak mound	While the Falak-ol-Aflak mound (the	ICOMOS considers that this reflects
Left column	(the foundation hill of component part 7 of the original	foundation hill of component part 7 of the original nomination) also	a difference of opinion.
Paragraph 6	nomination) also includes a prehistoric site, its	includes a prehistoric site and its preliminary archaeological	
Line <b>12</b>	archaeological relevance and scientific significance have yet	relevance and scientific significance have established.	
	to be firmly established. For this reason, ICOMOS considers that	ICOMOS considers that the mound may include as part of the	
	the mound should not be included as part of the proposed	proposed reduced series if the state party prioritize its research	
	reduced series. Nonetheless, if in the future further archaeological	programme and continuing scientific research on this mound	
	investigations and scientific research can corroborate the	as one of the Prehistoric sites.  Thus including the mound in the	
	initial findings and establish the capacity of this site to	nominated series through a minor boundary modification contribute	
	substantially and scientifically complement the attributes of the	to the potential Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed	
	proposed reduced series in conveying the proposed	reduced series since this mound located on one of the most	
	Outstanding Universal Value, the mound might be included in	important water source of the	
	the nominated property via a	valley.	
		* We insist ICOMOS to consider the Falak-ol-Aflak mound and its	
		prehistoric archaeological evidence located on the main karst spring of	
		the valley that makes this prehistoric site related to other	
		nominated prehistoric sites.	



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Italy

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Art and Architecture in the Prehistory of Sardinia – *The domus de janas* 

Page, column, line of th0e Advisor y Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
p. 224, col. 1, ll. 11-12	The varied structure of the nominated property represent two cultural phenomena -hypogeism and megalithism	The varied structure of the nominated property can be framed within the well-known cultural phenomena - hypogeism and megalithism	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which modifies the meaning of the sentence.
p. 225, col. 1, ll. 44-47	Due to their remote locations, some component parts suffer from neglect. Animals occasionally seek shelter in the tombs, causing damage to the carved motifs and polluting the spaces".	Some of the component parts are located in the countryside and sometimes, in the past, suffered damages for animal sheltering. Today the monitoring activities carried out through the specific offices lead to avoid all these situations.	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  Please see nomination dossier p. 481:  "In general, the greatest risk may come from the failure to safeguard hypogea, where even large wild animals can find shelter. Their presence can damage surfaces both by leaving organic waste, moving inside them and passing through their hatches."
p. 225, col. 1, ll. 51-52	"Erosion, vandalism, and deliberate removal of rock carvings are the negative effects of tourism"	Erosion, vandalism, and deliberate removal of rock carvings are not recent and were generally causedby improper uses (e.g., shepherds staying in the area), which have no longer been recorded since the implementation of protection measures and the consequent monitoring and control activities carried out by the competent authorities." (see also Additional Information, November 2024, p. 7)	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  Please see nomination dossier p.481:  "The visitability of hypogea is a vulnerability-related

p. 225,	ICOMOS notes that the	All aspects of Sardinia's Prehistory have	element considering the physical access of visitors inside the tombs. Many of them are indeed hardly accessible or may only be accessed on all fours. This increases the risk of contributing, due to the scraping of surfaces as a result of passing through the narrow passageways, to the gradual erosion of hatches and engraved, relief or painted surfaces. [] In general, the nature of the monuments and their location in rural, including mountain, environmental settings will favour in most of the sites low-impact visitation, both considering the number of visitor and to the type of users who is informed and sensitive to the vulnerability of the artifacts. Adequate surveillance or, at least, signs will need to be in place in built megalithic sites to raise awareness among visitors and avoid behaviours which may be detrimental to the conservation of the structures."
p. 226, col. 1, II.	current nominated series does not depict the full picture of the prehistory of Sardinia as was initially intended in the nomination dossier."  As the scarcity of scientifically investigated settlements makes it difficult to reconstruct some aspects related to social organisation and daily life of the local communities,	been illustrated through the various architectural typologies presented and their decorations, which reflect the lifestyles, social and economic organization, as well as the beliefs and rituals related both to daily life and to the funerary world  All the proposed settlement typologies have been scientifically investigated, as is also evident from the bibliography (see Nomination Format, pp. 655-679).  Furthermore, the scarcity of known settlements is due to the fact that the huts of prehistoric villages were built using perishable materials, such as straw and wood, and therefore have not been	ICOMOS considers that this comment provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  Please see nomination dossier p.321:
	"	preserved. The settlements included in the nomination feature huts with stone foundations.	"The scarcity of settlements known and scientifically investigated makes it hard to reconstruct some aspects related to the social organization and daily life of the sedentary communities that inhabited the island []" and p.336: "The scarcity of scientifically investigated settlements makes it difficult to reconstruct some aspects related to social organization and daily life."

elected component flect much more the v practices of the ons over two a  eyer, the contribution egalithic sites tothis f the nominated appears to be less ant than that of the is typical hypogeal is, known as the e janas".	Certainly, the numerous necropolises and tombs built and/or carved into the rock, due to their durability, are highly representative of the funerary practices of Sardinia's prehistoric populations. However, they are also representative of the reconstruction of lifestyles, religious beliefs, and the economic and social organization of these communities.  The proportion of existing assets that can be classified within these two macro-phenomena reflects their differing quantitative distribution within the serial site. Given the selection criteria, it is more than evident, for instance, that the	ICOMOS considers that the comment re-iterates arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.  ICOMOS considers that the comment re-iterates arguments/ justification put forward in the
egalithic sites tothis  f the nominated  appears to be less  int than that of the  is typical hypogeal  is, known as the	classified within these two macro-phenomena reflects their differing quantitative distribution within the serial site. Given the selection criteria,	comment re-iterates arguments/
	number of <i>domus de janas</i> (related to hypogeism) is greater than the number of nominated menhirs (related to megalithism). Both are, in fact, represented in their various possible forms—domus in different environmental contexts, with simple and complex floor plans, decorated and undecorated, and with different decorative techniques; menhirs as single elements, in groups, in alignments, or in circles."	nomination dossier that have been fully considered.
S considers that the why this nge is significant co-cultural or global are not clearly aed.	The reasons why this interchange is significant in the geo-cultural or global context are well defined.  Commercial, economic, and cultural exchanges—well known to all researchers—are evidenced not only by the prehistoric architectural structures nominated in Sardinia, but also by the widespread distribution of Monte Arci obsidian and by the discovery of Sardinian archaeological artifacts across the broad geographical area considered in the comparative analysis (see Nomination Format, pp. 326-335). These findings further demonstrate that such exchanges are not limited solely to hypogeism and megalithism.	ICOMOS considers that the comments re-iterate arguments put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.  It repeats the fact that there was interchange, but has not explained why this interchange is significant in the geo-cultural or global context.
OS considers that the cy of monitoring s is low, with the ones being only ear. S is also ed about the lack of ion between ing and decision?	The monitoring of all properties included in the component parts of the nominated site—meaning the monitoring of their state of conservation and protection—is constant and ongoing, carried out by the various responsible authorities. Since all the assets are archaeological, the monitoring indicators must be the same (also to ensure a consistent assessment across the entire nominated property), and the time frame does not appear too short, given that the state of conservation of the various assets is generally good, as also acknowledged by ICOMOS.  The monitoring referred to by ICOMOS is that which will be conducted across the entire site by the same team that produced the analysis of the state of conservation and the factors affecting the property for the nomination format. This monitoring will be carried out using a defined set of indicators that considers multiple aspects beyond conservation and protection, and it will serve as the basis for future strategic actions, just as the analyses already conducted have guided the	ICOMOS considers that the first comment concerning the frequency of monitoring activities reflects a difference of assessment.  The second part of the comment contains new information that cannot be taken into account at this stage.
ed ioi in	about the <b>lack of</b> n between	consistent assessment across the entire nominated property), and the time frame does not appear too short, given that the state of conservation of the various assets is generally good, as also acknowledged by ICOMOS.  The monitoring referred to by ICOMOS is that which will be conducted across the entire site by the same team that produced the analysis of the state of conservation and the factors affecting the property for the nomination format. This monitoring will be carried out using a defined set of indicators that considers multiple aspects beyond conservation and protection, and it will serve as the basis for future strategic actions, just



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Malaysia

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Forest Research Institute Malaysia Forest Park Selangor

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
p.126, 2 <sup>nd</sup> column, line 45 <sup>th</sup> and 46th	Regarding the tertiary zone to the south, the State Party responded that there is no need to add it to the buffer zone as it enjoys protection mechanisms under the National Heritage Act (Act 645) of 2005.	Regarding the tertiary zone to the south, the State Party responded that there is no need to add it to the buffer zone as it enjoys protection mechanisms under the National Heritage Act 2005 (Act 645).	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.
		Regarding the tertiary zone located to the south, the State Party indicated that there is no necessity to include it within the buffer zone, as it is already protected under the National Heritage Act 2005 (Act 645)	
p.128, 1 <sup>st</sup> column, line 40 <sup>th</sup> and 41 <sup>st</sup>	The nominated property is protected under the National Heritage Act (Act 645) of 2005, which sets out the framework for protecting and conserving national heritage. This Act also sets out an administrative and management framework.	The nominated property is protected under the National Heritage Act 2005 (Act 645), which sets out the framework for protecting and conserving national heritage. This Act also sets out an administrative and management framework.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence
p.128, 1 <sup>st</sup> column, line 54 <sup>th</sup>	In addition to the <b>National Heritage Act</b> , other relevant laws include the 2016 Forest Research Institute Malaysia Act (Act 782), the 2010 Wildlife Conservation Act (Act 716), the 2008 International Trade in Endangered Species Act (Act 686), and the 1976 Town and Country Planning Act (Act 172).	In addition to the National Heritage Act 2005 (Act 645), other relevant laws include the 2016 Forest Research Institute Malaysia Act (Act 782), the 2010 Wildlife Conservation Act (Act 716), the 2008 International Trade in Endangered Species Act (Act 686), and the 1976 Town and Country Planning Act (Act 172).	ICOMOS specified in previous lines the full name of the Act and, for the sake of brevity, did not repeat it again.  ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

### **EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Eastern Mongolian Steppes

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Page 26, Map 8 of the Nomination dossier		Picture1.jpg	IUCN notes the updated map provided by the State Party.
Page 26, line 2 of the Nomination dossier	eastern portion of Inner Mongolia and western and central Manchuria in CPR.	eastern part of Xilingol League and the western part of Hulunbeier City in Inner Mongolia of People's Republic of China (PRC).	IUCN notes the updated terminology in referring to this region.
Page 26, line 7 of the Nomination dossier	Most of the grasslands in The People's Republic of China (PRC) have been converted into agricultural land and/or degraded.	Delete the complete sentence	IUCN notes the correction to remove this sentence from the Nomination dossier.
Page 29, line 7 of the Nomination dossier	in CPR (He et al. 2022).	in PRC (He et al. 2022).	IUCN notes the updated acronym used in this part of the Nomination dossier.
Page 80, line 7 of the Nomination dossier	Manchurian Plains	Northeast China Plain	IUCN notes the updated terminology in referring to this region.
Page 93 of the	4.b Factors affecting the nominated property	4.b Factors affecting the nominated property	IUCN notes the clarification. The correction does not

Nomination dossier

4.b (i) Development pressures and management response

The Eastern Mongolian Steppe is one of the last remaining intact temperate grasslands in the world. However, threats and development pressures Eastern on Mongolian Steppe have increased dramatically especially over the last 20 years. Three major development pressures can be singled out in the Eastern Mongolian Steppes. These are exploration for and exploitation of oil and other mineral resources; expansion of linear infrastructure for transportation and energy transmission; and overgrazing leading to degradation and even desertification, particularly near rural population centers and water sources.

As water sources are also critically important for wildlife and other biodiversity, the concentration of human activities near water sources and water bodies is particularly problematic.

Oil, gas and mineral exploration and extraction Mineral resources exploration and exploitation have increased dramatically throughout Mongolia, especially over the last two decades. Among other consequences, the resource boom has driven the expansion of the railroad system to connect the mineralrich southern desert region to the existing Trans-Siberian railroad network and to two additional border crossings to China. Additional railroads have been proposed and may be built in the future. The same holds true for road construction. Needless to say that such infrastructure results in disturbance and roadkill, while also facilitating access to previously remote areas and, when fenced. even serving as a full barrier to wildlife movements. Developments in the Eastern Mongolian Steppes mirror the national trend: a stunning 60.5% of the total territory of Mongolia's three eastern provinces have been identified as having potential for oil exploration, some 4.5% has been leased for exploration and exploitation with production share contract (PSC) of other minerals (see https://ereporting.eitimongolia.mn/, accessed online on 14 March 2023).

Page 95, paragraphs 1-2 of the Nomination dossier Linear infrastructure development

There are two major direct adverse impacts from linear infrastructure developments especially on Mongolian gazelle and birds of prey, namely interruption of migration routes of Mongolian Gazelle and increased mortality of birds through electrocution and collision.

Although the nominated components are protected by the law from infrastructure development such as railway or roads, transportation and energy infrastructure

4.b (i) Development pressures and management response

The Eastern Mongolian Steppe is one of the last remaining intact temperate grasslands in the world. However, threats and development pressures on the Eastern Mongolian Steppe have increased dramatically, especially over the last 20 years. Three major development pressures can be singled out in the Eastern Mongolian Steppes. These are: exploration for and exploitation of oil and other mineral resources; expansion of linear infrastructure for transportation and energy transmission; and overgrazing, leading to degradation and even desertification, particularly near rural population centers and water sources. As water sources are also critically important for wildlife and other biodiversity, the concentration of human activities near water sources and water bodies is particularly problematic.

Oil, gas and mineral exploration and extraction

Mineral resources exploration exploitation have increased dramatically throughout Mongolia, especially over the last two decades. Among other consequences, the resource boom has driven the expansion of the railroad system to connect mineral-rich regions with the existing national and international rail networks. Additional railroads and roadways have been proposed and may be built in the future. Such infrastructure has resulted in disturbance, roadkill, and increased access to previously remote areas. In some cases, fencing associated with infrastructure has served as a full barrier to wildlife movements. Developments in the Eastern Mongolian Steppes mirror this national trend: a substantial 60.5% of the total territory of Mongolia's three eastern provinces has been identified as having potential for oil exploration, with some 4.5% already leased for exploration and exploitation under production share contracts (PSC) for various minerals (see https://ereporting.eitimongolia. mn/. accessed online on 14 March 2023).

concerns regarding the scale and proximity of extractive pressures and linear infrastructure in relation to the nominated property.

alter the underlying

Linear infrastructure development

There are two major direct adverse impacts from linear infrastructure developments especially on Mongolian gazelle and birds of prey, namely interruption of migration routes of Mongolian gazelle and increased mortality of birds through electrocution and collision.

Although the nominated components are protected by law from infrastructure development such as railway or roads, transportation and energy infrastructure

IUCN acknowledges the clarification. However, the correction does not change the relevance of infrastructure-related impacts on ecological connectivity, which remain a key consideration in IUCN's evaluation.

outside of them can significantly impact the overall integrity of the property. Such developments cause habitat fragmentation leading to restricted wildlife movement because animals avoid linear barriers or are physically impeded from crossing through construction design or fencing. If so, migration and access to resources such as food, water and undisturbed mating or calving grounds suffer or even break down. This can have significant impacts on the populations of wildlife that rely on the steppe ecosystem, potentially leading to complex declines in biodiversity beyond the species directly affected by barriers. There is a famous and well-documented example of such effects from the 1950s, when the long migrations of the ungulates were interrupted by the construction of the railway from Ulaanbaatar to Beijing (Figure 18). The fenced railway crosses the entire country of Mongolia from North to Southeast forming a major barrier to migrating wildlife. Studies have confirmed the separation and decline of affected populations. While there is currently no railroad crossing the Eastern Mongolian Steppes, there is a development plan for railroad and paved roads between the components of Jaran Togoo Nature Reserve Part A and B which would connect the existing railway to the Chinese-Mongolian border at Bichigt.

outside of them can significantly impact the overall integrity of the property. Such developments cause habitat fragmentation, leading to restricted wildlife movement because animals avoid linear barriers or are physically impeded from crossing through construction design or fencing. If so, migration and access to resources such as food, water, and undisturbed mating or calving grounds suffer or even break down. This can have significant impacts on the populations of wildlife that rely on the steppe ecosystem, potentially leading to complex declines in biodiversity beyond the species directly affected by barriers. There is a well-documented example of such effects from the 1950s, when the long migrations of ungulates were interrupted by the construction of fenced railways within Mongolia, forming major barriers to migrating wildlife. Studies have confirmed the separation and decline of affected populations. While there is currently no railroad crossing the Eastern Mongolian Steppes, there are development plans for new railroad lines and paved roads aimed at enhancing domestic connectivity and economic activity, including between components of the Jaran Togoo Nature Reserve.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the *Operational Guidelines*)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Nepal

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, the Archaeological Remains of the Ancient Shakya Kingdom

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Generally	The evaluation often refers to the nominated site just as "Tilaurakot".	The shortened name of the nominated site should reflect that officially proposed by the State Party, which is "Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu".	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.  ICOMOS does not use Tilaurakot as a shortened name of the nominated property but simply to refer to the area/the archaeological site, in line with Gazeteer (ND, p. xxiii).
133, 2, 1-4	The World Heritage Committee examined this initial nomination at the 17th session of its Bureau (Cartagena, 1993) and deferred the nomination (WHC.93/CONF.002/2).	The World Heritage Committee examined this initial nomination at the 17th session of its Bureau (Paris, 1993) and deferred the nomination (WHC.93/CONF.002/2). At the 17th extraordinary session of the Bureau (Cartagena, 1993), it decided to revise the text of its report (WHC.93/CONF.002/2bis).	ICOMOS acknowledges the first correction as a factual error.  As regards the second sentence, ICOMOS notes that the Report of the Rapporteur of the 17 <sup>th</sup> session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee (Cartagena, 4-5 December 1993) (WHC.93/CONF.002/2bis) doesn't include reference to the nomination.
133, 2, 4-7	The State Party was advised to combine the sites of Kapilavastu (Tilaurakot) and Ramagrama with Lumbini and propose them as a serial nomination.	While noting the remarkable group of sites, the Bureau also recommended appropriate measures (WHC.93/CONF.002/2bis).	ICOMOS notes that the Report of the Rapporteur of the 17 <sup>th</sup> session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee (Cartagena, 4-5 December 1993) (WHC.93/CONF.002/2bis) doesn't include reference to the nomination.
133, 2, 22-24	The property was inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria (iii) and (vi) at the 21st session of the World	The property was inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of criteria (iii) and (vi) at the 21st session of the World Heritage Committee (Naples, 1997), and it is	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
	Heritage Committee (Naples, 1997).	noted in the decision that the Delegate of Thailand declared that apart from Lumbini, there are two other sites closely associated with Buddha which are in the process of preparation to be presented as serial nominations and that he hoped that the Committee would consider them in this context.	
135, 1, 46-52	ICOMOS considers that the presentation by the State Party of the archaeological remains documented at Tilaurakot is devoid of broader historical context and done in a cultural vacuum, which does not allow to appraise the significance of the urban form within the frame of the relevant developments in the region at any particular stage.	This statement ignores the clear contextualisation which is offered throughout the dossier, for example, on p.20 of Vol.1 with reference to Attributes 1.2 and 1.3 and other urban forms within the region. Similarly, the discussion of the Uttarapatha on p.10-11 of Vol.2 and the Arthasashtra on p.9-10 of Vol.2 both offer broader historical context and cultural context. Moreover, the comparative section on p.91-101 of Vol. 1 offers additional overviews of the significance of the urban form within the frame of the relevant developments in the region.	ICOMOS considers that this comment re-iterates arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.
135, 1, 53 – 135, 2, 7	ICOMOS further considers that the scholarly debate on the interpretation of the site as the ancient city of Kapilavastu continues since the end of the 19th century and the present state of research does not allow to unanimously accept or reject the presented claim. While ICOMOS notes the fact that Tilaurakot is currently the only known archaeological site in the region which could be interpreted as Kapilavastu due to its scale and complexity, this negative evidence constitutes an indirect association between the site and the historic city, and by extension also an indirect association with the life of the Buddha.	This statement ignores the clear acknowledgements by both Debala Mitra (Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India) and Dr Srivastava (Archaeological Survey of India excavator of Piprahawa and Ganwaria) that the region of Tilaurakot "was an independent state" issuing its own coins (Mitra 1972: 85; Srivastava 1996: 137) and was not just another historic city – as stated on p.6 of Volume 2 of the nomination.	ICOMOS considers that this comment re-iterates arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.
137, 1, 3-6	Therefore, the potential to demonstrate the significance of the urban form at Tilaurakot based on its potential association for a short period with the Shakya Kingdom is not very strong.	It is not claimed that the significance of the urban form is based on this association. The claim relates to the Early Historic period, and additional information provided clarifies this period as between the sixth century BCE and the start of the Common Era.	ICOMOS considers that this comment re-iterates arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.  ICOMOS refers to the statement in the justification of criterion (iv), in which the archaeological remains uncovered at the site are said to be 'reflective of the importance of the city and

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
			resources of the Shakya Kingdom'. (ND, p. 79)
140, 1, 18-22	ICOMOS considers that undertaking archaeological risk mapping in the buffer zone should provide a better understanding of possible archaeological deposits in the immediate setting of the nominated property and possibly help establish the extent of the urban form at Tilaurakot.	Additional information provided confirmed that the current boundaries of the nominated property reflect the full known extent of the city between the eighth century BCE and the fifth century CE.	ICOMOS considers that this comment re-iterates arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.  ICOMOS differentiates in this instance between the 'extent of the urban form' in historic times and the 'known extent of the city' which was the basis for the delineation of the boundaries.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Panama

EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE: The Colonial Transisthmian Route of Panamá

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Page 4, Column 2, Lines 21-24	Omission in sentence:  "The presence of important buildings such as the cathedral, churches and colonial houses provide evidence of the evolution of the historical town."	Include Salón Bolívar, associated with criterion vi of the original inscription: "cathedral, churches, colonial houses and the Salón Bolívar provide evidence of the evolution of the historical town."	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  This section of the evaluation covers description of the 6 component parts of the first phase of this serial nomination.  Based on the nomination dossier (pp.147-161), Salón Bolívar is not mentioned in the description of the Historic District of Panamá as a proposed attribute of the nominated property. It has not been presented as a potential attribute justifying criterion (vi) in this nomination. In addition, ICOMOS has not considered that criterion (vi) is justified for this nomination.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Russian Federation

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Rock Paintings of Shulgan-Tash Cave

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Page 258, Column 1, Lines 19-23	Paintings are found in the deepest cave chambers: the Dome Hall, the Hall of Signs, and the Hall of Chaos on the first level, and the Hall of Paintings, Temple Hall, Upper Hall, Diamond Hall, and Rainbow Hall, on the second level.	The paintings are presented in only four cave chambers: three are located on the first level and one is on the second level (Dossier, Vol. 1, p. 49-64): These parts of the cave are distant but not deepest ones.  The paintings are found in the distant cave chambers: the Dome Hall, the Hall of Signs, and the Hall of Chaos which are located on the first level, and the Hall of Paintings located on the second level.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.  ICOMOS accepts this correction as a factual error.
Page 259, Column 2, Lines 18-23	In the late 20th century, interdisciplinary teams used advanced techniques, such as radiocarbon and uranium-thorium dating methods, to date calcite deposits and refine the chronology of the artefacts and geological formations of the cave.	Uranium-thorium dating techniques were used from 2016 to 2018 (Dublyansky et al., 2018). Suggested correction:  Since the late 20th century and to present time, interdisciplinary teams used advanced techniques, such as radiocarbon and uranium-thorium dating methods, to date calcite deposits and refine the chronology of the artefacts and geological formations of the cave.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Page 262, Column 2, Lines 35	In November 2024, the State Party replied <b>that both</b> <b>banks</b> of the Belaya River have been excluded from the buffer zone	The buffer zone excludes only the left bank (Dossier, Vol. 1, p. 14):  In November 2024, the State Party replied <b>the left bank</b> of the Belaya River have been excluded from the buffer zone	The additional information provided in writing in November 2024 in response to the ICOMOS additional information letter at p. 14 states the following "The areas on both the right and left banks of the Belaya River are excluded from the buffer zone".ICOMOS considers that the

Page 264, Column 1,	Furthermore, replicas of the	The used here name belongs to	proposed correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Lines 4-5	painted panels have been made and are installed in the ShulganTash Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve	official designation of the organization ( "Museum-Reserve"), however, when the museum infrastructure (buildings etc.) is meant, then the name "Museum complex" should be used.	ciarincation.
		Furthermore, replicas of the painted panels have been made and are installed in the Shulgan-Tash Cave Historical and Cultural Museum Complex.	
Page 264, Column 1, Lines 10-12	The State Party has also informed that, after the construction of the Shulgan-Tash Cave Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve	The State Party has also informed that, after the construction of the Shulgan-Tash Cave Historical and Cultural Museum Complex	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Page 264, Column 1, Lines 35	Since 2011, microclimatic measurements have been carried	Since 2017, microclimatic measurements have been carried	ICOMOS acknowledges this typing error.
Page 265, Column 2, Lines 24-26	The State Party explained that establishing a single decision-making body is not possible and proposes to merge the existing advisory councils established respectively in 2014	The following formulation is most suitable on the style here:  The State Party explained that establishing a single management organization is not possible and proposes to merge the existing advisory councils established respectively in 2014	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.
Page 266, Column 2, Lines 15-16	The recently completed Shulgan-Tash Museum- Reserve, located in Murat- Tugai along the Belaya River	The recently completed Shulgan-Tash Cave Historical and Cultural Museum Complex, located in Murat- Tugai along the Belaya River	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Sierra Leone

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Gola-Tiwai Complex

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Page 40, column 2, line 3	5. Encourages the State Party of Sierra Leone to continue to build cooperation on management of the GTC with the adjacent <b>Gola Rainforest National Park</b> (Liberia), and coordinate with the State Party of Liberia towards a significant boundary modification for a transboundary World Heritage property	5. Encourages the State Party of Sierra Leone to continue to build cooperation on management of the GTC with the adjacent <b>Gola Forest National Park</b> (Liberia), and coordinate with the State Party of Liberia towards a significant boundary modification for a transboundary World Heritage property	Factual error.  IUCN used the title of the Preliminary Assessment request submitted by Liberia (see document WHC/25/47.COM/8, p. 6). IUCN thanks the State Party and takes note of the correction.
Page 34, column 1, line 5	The mission was able to meet with representatives of the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security, National Protected Area Authority (NPAA), Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Gola Rainforest Company, Tiwai Island, Njala University, National Tourist Board, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Environmental Foundation for Africa (EFA), and Conservation Society of Sierra Leone (CSSL).	The mission was able to meet with representatives of the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, National Protected Area Authority (NPAA), Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Gola Rainforest Company, Tiwai Island Wildlife Sanctuary, Njala University, National Tourist Board, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Environmental Foundation for Africa (EFA), and Conservation Society of Sierra Leone (CSSL).	New information  IUCN based the references to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security on the nomination dossier (see e.g. p.12). IUCN thanks the State Party and takes note of the update.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Tajikistan

### **EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** Ancient Khuttal

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
154, column 2, lines 37-40	Located at the intersection of the Silk Road network linking Bactria with the east and north, the medieval kingdom maintained its independent or semi-independent state,	Located at the intersection of the Silk Road network linking Bactria with the east and north, the medieval kingdom maintained its independent or semi-independent state,	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.  ICOMOS notes in ND, p. 52: 'Ancient Khuttal was located in the northeastern part of historical Bactria. It was on the routes network connecting Bactria with the east and north, and therefore its role in trade and exchange was significant'.
155, column 1, lines 12-16	Under the Turkic rule, significant development of the culture of the region was achieved in the 7th-8th centuries, new cities were built, Buddhism flourished with the construction of Buddhist Monasteries, and the 100-kilometre Kafir Canal was constructed.	Under the Turkic rule In the 6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> centuries, significant development of the culture of the region was achieved in the 7th 8th centuries, new cities were built, Buddhism flourished with the construction of Buddhist Monasteries, and the 100-kilometre Kafir Canal was constructed.	ICOMOS acknowledges both clarifications.
155, column 1, lines 16-17	Buddhism, ancient Turkic beliefs, and Zoroastrianism were the main religions.	Buddhism, ancient Turkie beliefs, and Zoroastrianism were the main religions.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.  ICOMOS notes in ND, p. 185: 'Along with Buddhism and ancient Turkic beliefs, the ideas of the Zoroastrian circle were preserved in the region'.
155, column 1, lines 28-31	The Mongol conquest of Central Asia undermined the economy and the settlements of the region, and the Vakhsh Valley was abandoned until the 20th century.	The Mongol conquest of Central Asia undermined the economy and the settlements of the region, and the Vakhsh Valley was abandoned until the 20th century.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.  ICOMOS notes in ND, p. 187: 'The destructive campaigns of the Mongols undermined the economy and the settlements of the region.

			After them, the Vakhsh valley was abandoned until the 20th century'.
155, column 2, lines 12-14	Constructed on a plan of two mandalas, the layout of the monastery has a rectangular shape of 100 x 50 metres and is divided into two parts, the temple and the living quarter.	Constructed on a plan of two mandalas, the layout of the monastery has a rectangular shape of 100 x 50 meters and is divided into two parts, the temple and the living quarter monastery.	ICOMOS accepts both corrections as factual errors.
155, column 2, lines 25-26	The living quarter resembles the layout of the temple on a smaller scale.	The living quarter monastery resembles the layout of the temple on a smaller scale.	ICOMOS accepts this correction as factual error.
156, column 1, lines 44-47	In the buffer zone, there are remains of a bathhouse twenty metres from the north-eastern tower of the Kalai Hulbuk and remains of a mausoleum that was converted from a caravanserai.	In the buffer zone, there are remains of a bathhouse twenty meters from the north eastern tower southern part of the fortification wall of the Kalai Hulbuk and remains of a mausoleum that was converted from a caravanserai.	ICOMOS acknowledges both corrections to be a clarification.  ICOMOS notes in ND, p. 105: 'The buffer zone of the 2a Kalai Hulbuk and 2b Shahristoni Hulbuk contain several remains of archaeological features that have a potential for further research. In this regard it is necessary to mention the remains of the bathhouse located 20 m from the north-eastern tower of 2a Kalai Hulbuk'.
161, column 2, lines 10-15	Furthermore, the State Party emphasises that Ancient Khuttal was not only a station on the way but was the easternmost edge of the spread of the Hellenistic civilisation, and its salt, gold, horses and horse equipment were very highly valued and widely sold throughout the East.	Furthermore, the State Party emphasizes that Ancient Khuttal was not only a station on the way but was the easternmost edge of the spread of the Hellenistic civilization, and its salt, gold, horses and horse equipment were very highly valued and widely sold throughout the East.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Türkiye

EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE: Sardis and the Lydian Tumuli of Bin Tepe

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
p. 271, column 2, line 28- 30	located in western Türkiye. The first is the <b>citadel</b> of Sardis (1,656 hectares), <b>surrounded by sheer cliffs created by massive fortifications</b> ; and the second is the Lydian Tumuli	located in western Türkiye. The first is the citadel city of Sardis (1,656 hectares), with its citadel and surrounded by sheer cliffs created by massive fortifications; and the second is the Lydian Tumuli	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
		Please refer to text included under "textual description of the boundaries of the nominated property" (p.4) of the nomination dossier; Feb. 2024	
p. 272, column 1, line 15- 17	the Pactolus River, and the Lydian gold <b>refining house.</b>	the Pactolus River, and the Lydian gold refining house refinery.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
p. 272, column 2, line 5	were continuously occupied for over <b>1,000</b> years. Many of	were continuously occupied for over 1,000-3,000 years. Many of	ICOMOS acknowledges this factual error.
p.273, column 2 line 56	and gravel, and to a <b>small</b> , <b>extent gold.</b> This operation	and gravel, and to a small, extent gold. This operation	ICOMOS acknowledges this typing error.



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): United Arab Emirates

EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE: Faya Palaeolandscape

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
p. 43, c. 1, l. 35	Included in the tentative list: 1 February 2023	Included in the Tentative List: 30 January 2012 as "Archaeological sites in the Central Region of Sharjah" (with the name of the tentative list entry changed on 1 February 2023 in line with a slightly refocused nomination strategy)	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.  The date of the Tentative List entry has been taken from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre website.
p. 43, c. 2, l. 31	It includes limestone outcrops called "jebels" and parts of the Hajar Mountains, Rub' al-Khali sand desert, and Mleiha- Madam Plain inland basin.	It includes limestone outcrops called "jebels" and is located ca. 20km north-west of the Hajar Mountains foothills, between Rub' al-Khali sand desert, and Mleiha-Madam Plain inland basin.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence
p. 43, c. 2, 1. 45	Some, such as Mleiha and Faya, include serpentinite layers from the Oman-United Arab Emirates ophiolite.	Some, such as Buhais and Faya, include serpentinite layers from the Oman-United Arab Emirates ophiolite.	The ICOMOS sentence is based on information available on pp.15-16 of the nomination dossier: "Layers of serpentinite, belonging to the Oman-UAE ophiolite, form the base of the geological formation. These ophiolite structures represent []. The marks of the described geological phenomena are visible in several locations within the property, such as at the southern end of Jebel Mleiha and the southeastern side of Jebel Faya (Figure 7)."
p. 44, c1, l. 22	From the Hajar Mountains, two primary geohydrological features emerge, Wadi Yudayyah and Wadi Baraq, which flow through vegetated riverbeds, channelling water westward.	From the Hajar Mountains' runoff water, two primary geohydrological features emerge, Wadi Yudayyah and Wadi Baraq, which flow through vegetated riverbeds, channelling water westward.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence

p. 44, c. 1, l.	In the lower reaches of the	Smaller wadis were created by	ICOMOS considers this correction
29	wadis [referring to Wadi Yudayyah and Wadi Baraq], potholes accumulate water after precipitation, ensuring a relatively longer period of availability.	water runoff within the Jebel structures. In the lower ranges of these, potholes accumulate water after precipitation, ensuring a relatively longer period of availability.	to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence
p. 44, c. 1, 1. 31	These potholes work with freshwater springs, allowing water to be utilised after increased rainfall, and are formed by the grinding action of stones or coarse sediment (sand, gravel, pebbles, boulders), which are moved by the stream current of the activated wadi after rainfall.	These potholes store rain water and are a secondary water provision independent of freshwater springs, allowing water to be utilized after increased rainfall. They are formed by the grinding action of stones or coarse sediment (sand, gravel, pebbles, boulders), which are moved by the stream current of the activated jebel wadis after rainfall.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence The ICOMOS sentence is based on information available on p.22 of the nomination dossier: "Potholes as those found at the Faya Range are created by the grinding action of stones or coarse sediment (sand, gravel, pebbles, boulders), which are moved by the stream current of the activated wadi after rainfall. Surface water fed sources for drinking water such as potholes crucially complement possibilities for freshwater access from groundwater fed springs in the Faya Palaeolandscape."
p. 44, c. 2, 1. 22	Buhais Rockshelter at the southern end of Jebel Buhais preserves Upper Palaeolithic layers, with systematic blade production from approximately 36,000 to 17,000 years ago.	Buhais Rockshelter at the southern end of Jebel Buhais preserves Middle and Upper Palaeolithic layers, both with systematic blade production from approximately 59,000 to 17,000 years ago.	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  In the description of the archaeological sites at jebel Bauhaus p.33, the dossier states the following: ''Sediment samples from these layers were OSL-dated to reveal phases of human occupation approximately 36,000 and 17,000 years ago. This supports that systematic blade production took place here during the Upper Palaeolithic period, and that Buhais Rockshelter was occupied.''
p. 46 c. 2 l. 7	[] the analysis states that the intermittent periodic occupation of the Nefud Desert provides evidence that it was not inhabited during the drier periods, in contrast to the nominated property. These claims do not appear to be supported by adequate scientific research.	[] the analysis states that the intermittent periodic occupation of the Nefud Desert provides evidence that it was not inhabited during the drier periods, in contrast to the nominated property. These claims are well supported by comprehensive scientific research.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.
p. 45, c. 2, l.	The development pressures encompass the introduction of visitor infrastructure, including hotels, cafés, and a sports stadium, in addition to a recreational activity park for driving all-terrain vehicles.	The development pressures encompass the introduction of visitor infrastructure, including one hotel, and cafés, in addition to a recreational activity area at the very southern end of the property for controlled driving all-terrain vehicles.	ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.  The ICOMOS sentence is based on information available on p.118 of the nomination dossier: "Along with new and existing housing

p. 45 c. 2 l. 43	[] the State Party indicates that the geographic position of the nominated property suggests it may have been an integral point on a problem of the point of t	We agree with the first part of the statement. However the final sentence must be removed/deleted from this statement. We note that the State Party nomination is	developments within the Mleiha-Madam Plain, there has also been an increase in tourism and recreational activities within the property. This has contributed to continuous developments that directly and indirectly affect the property such as construction of hotels, cafés, and a sports stadium, as well as construction of and affiliated invasive activities from dune buggy rental facilities".  ICOMOS considers that this correction provides information which contradicts information provided at earlier stages of the evaluation procedure.
	prehistoric migration route out of Africa, potentially making it an exemplary site for illustrating human behavioural evolution and dispersal. However, this aspect is not explicitly included in the proposed justification for Outstanding Universal Value.	explicitly and firmly grounded in the property's direct archaeological and palaeoenvironmental evidence, which demonstrates the site's unique cultural and scientific value. Potential/probable migration routes cannot be included for justification of OUV. Only tangible, in situ evidence of human occupation and cultural processes can be included. Therefore, this statement does not conform to the Operational Guidelines and criteria for OUV and should be removed.	
p. 46 c. 2 l. 29	ICOMOS considers that the absence of recorded climatic shifts does not imply their non-existence []	ICOMOS considers that the absence of recorded climatic shifts does not imply their non-existence [] However, the decades-long research and the actual existing records in the nominated property stand out.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.  See Evaluation text:"  ICOMOS also considers that the proposed comparative analysis did not allow to contextualise the significance of the Faya Palaeolandscape within the broader framework of early human dispersal out of Africa and climate history in the Arabian Peninsula, whereas this would be essential to understanding its role within larger-scale migratory patterns and environmental adaptation." P. 52
p. 46 c. 2 l. 37	ICOMOS considers that, on the contrary, the comparison reveals that the lack of available documentation represents a significant obstacle to understanding prehistoric human occupation and climate history in Arabia, rather than highlighting the distinctive character of the Faya Palaeolandscape.	ICOMOS considers that while research on Stone Age Archaeology and Paleoclimate of Arabia is still ongoing in different locations, the available documentation on Faya Paleolandscape presents dense and detailed data on prehistoric human occupation and climate history of the area.	ICOMOS considers that this correction contains advocacy for the proposals made in the nomination dossier.
p. 46 c. 2 l. 52	given that scientific projects are still uncovering crucial data and numerous potential sites remain inadequately researched or	[Remove, normally not considered in archaeological nominations to be relevant e.g. for the Emergence of Modern Human Behaviour, South Africa. Also only information that is	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.  See Evaluation text:

	poorly documented, it is evident that these initiatives have yet to provide a sufficient basis for a comprehensive regional analysis.]	known, rather than what is unknown, can be considered as per the Operational Guidelines 132.] This argument is flawed and can be stated for any archaeological property, as potential new finds elsewhere are always possible.	"ICOMOS notes that given the early stage of research on migration routes out of Africa and of the construction of the climate history of Arabia, it is not possible to assess the contribution of the nominated property to these dynamics without a comprehensive understanding of the interconnections of the wider context and a unified coherent narrative, based on a stable state of advanced research allowing for a holistic interpretation of the patterns of human-environment interactions at a larger scale." P. 52
p. 47 c. 1 l. 1	[] gap in archaeological and environmental records makes it difficult to assess the role of the nominated property in a wider landscape, particularly in terms of its contribution to migration routes out of Africa or its environmental history.	[] gap in archaeological and environmental records from other comparative sites makes the Faya Palaeolandscape the most complete record to date.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.
p. 47 c. 1 l. 6	The comparative analysis, conducted as a checklist of parameters, provides a structured approach but oversimplifies the relationships between the attributes and the potential Outstanding Universal Value. Furthermore, the interdependent parameters do not allow for the assessment of the standalone value of each group of attributes. The typological approach based on the nominated property being a desert landscape limits the possibility of comparison with sites that do not exhibit a sand desert landscape.	The comparative analysis, conducted as a checklist of parameters, provides a structured approach following standard UNESCO practice (Operational Guidelines Annex 3) for comparative analyses of prehistoric and desert sites. It reflects the limited number of comparable desert landscapes and helps highlight the unique cultural sequence at Faya.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.
p. 47 c. 1 l. 22	ICOMOS does not consider that the comparative analysis justifies consideration of this property for the World Heritage List	ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis justifies consideration of this property for the World Heritage List.  We note that ICOMOS recommends that evidence from other sites that either do not exist or are yet to be discovered and researched should be included. Such an approach is irrational and inconsistent with the Operational Guidelines 132 and would preclude the nomination of any unique or regionally distinctive paleoarchaeological site.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment. The evaluation text clearly explains why the nominated property does not stand out in comparison to its identified comparators.
p. 47 c. 2 l. 11	Faya lacks distinctive technological traits that would differentiate it as an independent centre of innovation.	The Faya Palaeolandscape provides distinctive technological traits that differentiate it as an independent centre of innovation. With AH II from Jebel Faya (FAY-NE1), the	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.

		property provides an assemblage containing a distinct technological trait that differentiates it within Arabia as an independent centre of innovation.	
p. 47 c. 1 l. 46	[] the nomination dossier does not explain how occupation during hyperarid conditions makes the nominated property stand out as compared to other sites in Arabia, nor does it provide evidence that this is unparalleled elsewhere.	[] the nomination dossier explains how occupation during hyper-arid conditions makes the nominated property stand out as compared to other sites in Arabia, and provides evidence that this is unparalleled elsewhere.  This is supported by ICOMOS's own admission in the comparative section that "other sites in Arabia remain inadequately researched or poorly documented" (p. 46, column 2, final paragraph), highlighting that no comparable record exists in southeastern Arabia for the timeframe and environmental contexts preserved at Faya.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment. See Evaluation text: "ICOMOS considers that the nomination dossier does not clearly explain how the Faya Palaeolandscape was occupied during hyper-arid climatic phases such as MIS 6, when survival would have required highly adaptive strategies. There is no sign of long-term adaptation at the site. On the contrary, the archaeological sequence suggests an intermittent and likely opportunistic use of the landscape, rather than continuous occupation or in situ cultural development. "p. 50
p. 47 c. 1 l. 28	Further fossil evidence would be necessary to resolve this uncertainty.	[Remove Whilst we agree with this statement, it should be removed as UNESCO's cultural criteria do not require fossil evidence. Numerous inscribed Palaeolithic and Stone Age sites, such as the Caves and Ice Age Art in the Swabian Jura (Germany) and the Decorated Cave of Pont d'Arc (France), lack hominin fossils.]	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.  ICOMOS considers that this
p. 48 c. 1 l. 29	Skeletal evidence of early modern humans dating to around 55,000 years ago is notably absent, [] Therefore, the claim that the site provided resilience during hyper-arid periods remains unproven.	While skeletal evidence of early modern humans is absent in this particular paleoarcheological horizon, archaeological evidence from Buhais Rockshelter dating to 59,000 years ago and 16,000 years ago clearly demonstrates that the site provided resilience during hyper-arid periods.	correction contains advocacy for the proposals made in the nomination dossier.  Scheletal evidence is not the same as archaeological evidence.
p. 48 c. 1 l. 37	Instead, brief phases of increased rainfall and vegetation development during periods such as Marine Isotope Stage 15, and likely Stage 13, made human occupation possible.	[Remove, This nomination dossier is not at all about Marine Isotope Stages 15 and 13]. The statement is hence completely irrelevant to its evaluation.	ICOMOS acknowledges this typing error. The ICOMOS sentence should read has follows: "Instead, brief phases of increased rainfall and vegetation development during periods such as Marine Isotope Stage 5, and likely Stage 3, made human occupation possible".
p. 48 c. 1 l. 42	[] the absence of fossilised evidence is attributed to climate conditions	[] the absence of fossilized evidence is attributed to geological conditions and taphonomical processes	ICOMOS considers this correction to be a clarification.
p. 48 c. 1 l. 43	However, this contrasts with neighbouring sites where such remains are present.	[Remove, there are NO neighboring sites, the closest known sites with fossils from the time range considered here are more than 1500 km away! The statement is factually incorrect]	There are sites around 650km away that have fossil evidence. Proposed text: "However, this contrasts with other sites in the region, where hominin fossil remains are present".
p. 48 c. 1 l. 44	[] there is no evidence of physical modifications to the environment that might demonstrate human ingenuity.	[Remove, there is no visible modification of the landscape as is to be expected in early huntergatherer societies] To require evidence which generally does not exist anywhere	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment. See also Evaluation text: "In addition, there is no evidence of physical modifications to the environment that might demonstrate

p.48 c.2 l.1	[] the Palaeolandscape Model presented as evidence of adaptation primarily highlights environmental facilitation rather than cultural	in the represented historic timeframe is neither fair nor helpful.  The Palaeolandscape Model captures how technological flexibility and cultural strategies enabled human communities to thrive despite fluctuating climatic conditions.	human ingenuity. While the nominated property offers insights into immediate survival strategies, the lack of such key elements prevents it from providing sufficient evidence of continuous long-term processes of behavioural changes that would demonstrate in situ adaptation." P. 48  ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.
p. 48, c. 2, l. 45	adaptation  While surface water no longer flows and the landscape no longer displays similar hydrological dynamics, the underground water system remains functional.	Surface water in the wadis flows after periodic rainfall, when also the potholes fill with standing water. This allows the landscape to display hydrological dynamics of prehistoric times. In addition, the underground water system remains functional.	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence.  The ICOMOS sentence is based on information available on p.90 of the nomination dossier: "The contemporary arid landscape no longer involves active surface water flows coming from the western flanks of the Hajar Mountains".
p. 49, c. 1, l. 15	Past and current research activities have been non-intrusive. The State Party indicates the need for further excavation, with the methods yet to be determined.	Past research combined intrusive, including the excavation of archaeological trenches, and non-intrusive methods. Current research is focused on analyzing and documenting the findings of previous research campaigns. The management plan dedicates a complete chapter to future research and excavation strategies including the methods to be applied.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification
p. 49, c. 2, 1. 50	Additionally, only a small portion of the Rub' al-Khali sand desert is included within the proposed boundaries – that is just 0.03 percent of its total surface area – which is insufficient to represent the dynamics of occupation and adaptation in the largest area of continuous sand in the world.	[Remove While indeed an adequate portion of the Rub' al-Khali sand desert is included that shows sufficient scientific evidence, the statement is irrelevant. It is not the aim or ambition of the nomination to represent the dynamics of occupation of this desert as a whole.]	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.
p.50 c.1 l.11	[] With ongoing research in the Arabian Peninsula it remains challenging to objectively assess the contribution of the Faya Palaeolandscape to these processes across Arabia	[Remove - can only assess what is known rather than what is unknown. The ICOMOS statement does not conform to the Operational Guidelines in this respect. ICOMOS should note that the Faya Palaeolandscape presents the most continuous, stratified, and well-dated archaeological sequence in Arabia, spanning from 210,000 to 6,000 years ago. While we agree that research is ongoing across Arabia, the Faya sites offer a unique regional record unmatched by other known sites, providing a crucial anchor for understanding	ICOMOS considers that this correction contains advocacy for the proposals made in the nomination dossier.  ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment. See evaluation text:  "Without firmly established potential global significance, it is not possible to justify the criteria and therefore, it is not possible to determine with certainty what might constitute the potential Outstanding Universal Value and its supporting attributes, or whether certain attributes would reflect

		L I'm I'm I I I I	1:00
		human dispersals and adaptations in the region.	different processes and values" p. 53
p.50 c.1 l. 17	[] the comparative analysis fails to demonstrate how the nominated property stands out, as its structure limits comparison with relevant comparators	The comparative analysis (p.55-88 of nomination dossier) explicitly demonstrates that the Faya Palaeolandscape has no regional equivalent in southeastern Arabia in terms of the density, stratigraphic integrity, and chronological depth of archaeological deposits. While regional comparators such as the Nefud in northern Arabia also document Palaeolithic occupation, these sites lack the same continuous stratigraphy and distinct lithic technological adaptations seen at	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.
p.50 c.1 1. 22	[] the nomination does not demonstrate how the Faya Palaeolandscape reflects long-term human adaptation, as opposed to short-term survival responses []	Faya.  The Faya Palaeolandscape demonstrates repeated, proactive cultural adaptations to climatic fluctuations and resource scarcity. These technological and behavioural changes do not simply reflect opportunistic occupation; they demonstrate deep-seated cultural transitions. This is evidenced by archaeological finds.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.
p.50 c.1 l. 28	[] criteria (iii) and (iv) have not been demonstrated. Accordingly, the conditions for authenticity and integrity have not been demonstrated the scope of the nominated property may be incomplete.]	criteria (iii) and (iv) have been demonstrated. The Faya Palaeolandscape encompass archaeological sites with multiple dated stratigraphic sequences, well-documented lithic industries, and clear palaeoenvironmental context. The Faya Palaeolandscape provides an outstanding record of human adaptation, technological innovation, and landscape use, which directly addresses Criterion (iv) as an outstanding example of a technological and behavioural ensemble illustrating significant stages in human history. It also addresses Criterion (iii) through its demonstration of the emergence and persistence of complex cultural strategies.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.
p. 50 c. 2 l. 3	ICOMOS acknowledges that the ongoing research has enabled documenting archaeological discoveries, but considers that this does not replace a comprehensive baseline conservation assessment of the state of conservation. A complete holistic inventory of the significant geomorphological, geohydrological, and archaeological features of the landscape, as well as a comprehensive conservation plan, must be established to constitute a basis for monitoring and decision making.	ICOMOS ignored the contents of the nomination file and management plan regarding documenting the site's attributes in a table and maps. It also included a presentation of the current conservation status and a description of the legal, administrative, and technical structural management plan for evaluation and monitoring processes, and how intervention decisions are made based on the site's protection and conservation guidelines.  ICOMOS confirmed on the same page (p.50) that: "While the monitoring framework is well-structured ()."	ICOMOS considers that the corrections re-iterate arguments put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.  The ICOMOS paragraph is not about legal frameworks and the description of management processes. It is rather about the baseline for the state of conservation that is necessary for establishing a conservation management plan.

50	ICOMOS 4 3	ICOMOS: 1d · · ·	ICOMOS 11 d cd
p. <b>50</b>	ICOMOS notes the	ICOMOS ignored the strict	ICOMOS considers that the
c. 2	importance of a	conservation guidelines for the core	corrections re-iterate arguments put
1. 24	conservation programme for	zone and the restrictive and specific	forward in the nomination dossier
	maintaining integrity. Its	protective guidelines for the buffer	that have been fully considered.
	implementation should therefore be continued and	zone contained in the management	The restrictions in the management
	supported by a reliable flow	plan. The management plan also included a comprehensive inventory	The restrictions in the management plan do not replace the conservation
	of resources. It further	of all potential projects within the	programme, and its coherence.
	stresses the importance of	site's boundaries, subject to a	programme, and its concrence.
	developing a framework to	heritage impact assessment, in	
	guide conservation	accordance with the administrative	
	activities and ensure their	and approval systems.	
	coherence throughout the		
	nominated property.		
p. 51	ICOMOS acknowledges	[Remove second part of sentence	ICOMOS considers that the
c. 1,	that there is legal protection	following, "but consider"	corrections re-iterate arguments put
1. 55	in place at the national and	ICOMOS recognises that the site is	forward in the nomination dossier
and	regional levels through	protected under multiple (both	that have been fully considered.
c. 2	various laws, decrees, and	archaeological and environmental)	
1. 1	regulations, but considers that the current legal	decrees at the highest national	
	protection measures might	level. However, it concludes with the broad assumption that "the	
	not be sufficiently effective	legal protection measures might not	
	in light of the current state	be sufficiently effective considering	
	of conservation of the	the current state of conservation of	
	nominated property.	the property". This conclusion	
		appears inconsistent with the	
		reports own earlier statement that	
		the archaeological attributes	
		"remain unaltered" and are only	
		subject to natural erosion (p. 45,	
5.1	ICOMOS 11 1 1	column 1).]	ICOMOS
p. 51	ICOMOS considers that the	The protection and conservation	ICOMOS considers that the
c. 2 l. 47	management plan provides	guidelines contained in the	corrections re-iterate arguments/
1. 4/	a comprehensive framework to address the pressing	management plan, which aim to mitigate impacts and damage (both	justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been
	conservation and	environmental and human) to the	fully considered.
	management issues of the	characteristics of the nominated	
	nominated property.	site, are based on the current	The ICOMOS paragraph is about
	Nevertheless, it must be	conservation status (periodic	the need to synchronise the baseline
	synchronised with the	conservation report) of these	report with the management
	baseline report on the state	characteristics. These guidelines	framework for informed decision
	of conservation once the	clearly and explicitly define the	making on conservation.
	latter is completed, to	permissible intervention	
	ensure that the conservation	requirements (strict in the core area)	
	interventions are based on an accurate assessment. The	and (restricted in the buffer zone),	
	implementation of the	according to the three following levels: (1) A clear legislative	
	management plan is of	reference, federal and local; (2) A	
	outmost importance.	clear management structure and	
		approval system that defines the	
		relationship between institutions,	
		determines decision-making,	
		implementation, and monitoring;	
		(3) And local multidisciplinary	
	G 1 1 1 1 1	technical bodies and teams.	rantos :: :
p. 52	Currently, the sand desert	This statement is contrary to the	ICOMOS considers that the
c. 1,	landscape west of the Faya	description provided by ICOMOS	corrections re-iterate arguments/
1. 29	Range is experiencing a touristic overuse due to an	itself on the same page and in the	justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been
	unsustainable number of	same column in the preceding paragraphs. Especially since the	fully considered.
	sand-dune safaris, thus	safari trips are coordinated by the	runy considered.
	risking the integrity – and	Mleiha Visitor Centre (Shurooq)	The ICOMOS sentence is based on
	potential destruction – of	according to specific routes and	information available on p.98 of the
	different sand dune	conducted by professional drivers	nomination dossier: "Direct and
	formations. Some major	hired by the property management.	indirect modern human activities
	tourism accommodations	Private driving in the fenced area is	and developments in the area
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

	T		
	and their associated recreational infrastructure have also been affecting the Faya Palaeolandscape.	no longer permitted or possible since 2021, while we note that fotos of the situation prior are still to be found in the internet. As for the tourist and entertainment buildings, they are limited to only three tourist lodges (composed of tents which are on surface and completely reversible) distributed over very small areas, one of which is originally located in the buffer zone, and they are located in places that do not affect the characteristics of the site and are in harmony with the general landscape. Other activities and events are very few and rare (such as camping, for example), They do not include fixed facilities, but rather are demountable and implemented with	including sand dune safaris and ATV tours have been noticed to disturb some of the dunes' shapes []".
		environmentally compatible materials and specifications that comply with the site protection and preservation requirements contained in the management plan.	
p. 52 c. 2 l. 15	A management system is in place, and the management plan provides a comprehensive framework to address the pressing conservation and management issues, which must be synchronised with the baseline state of conservation report once finalised. "However, the effectiveness of management depends on the execution of the management plan."	ICOMOS acknowledges that "the management plan provides a comprehensive framework to address the pressing conservation and management issues of the property" (P.51), it nevertheless arrives at a negative conclusion using the following generic sentence: "However, the effectiveness of management depends on the execution of the management plan". We respectively note that this observation could apply to any World Heritage property at any time and does not provide any specific indication that the management plan for the Faya Palaeolandscpae is not being effectively executed.	ICOMOS considers that the corrections re-iterate arguments/ justification put forward in the nomination dossier that have been fully considered.  While a management framework is in place, its effectiveness in protecting the nominated property and its proposed attributes raises concerns.
p.53 c.1 1.3	Regarding criterion (iv), the nomination does not demonstrate long-term processes associated with behavioural changes demonstrating adaptation rather than temporary human survival	Regarding criterion (iv), the nomination demonstrates long-term processes associated with behavioural changes demonstrating adaptation rather than temporary human survival.  The rest of the paragraph should be deleted as the statement made is unfounded.	ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.
p.53 c.2 1.3	An appropriate nomination strategy might be determined based on research findings, which may involve collaborative efforts with neighbouring countries within the framework of a transboundary nomination dossier.	[Remove - This statement overlooks the clear and compelling evidence already presented in the nomination dossier. While transboundary collaboration can be valuable in certain contexts, it is not a prerequisite for demonstrating the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Faya Palaeolandscape as defined under UNESCO's Operational Guidelines. In addition, ICOMOS recommend non-inscription, which	ICOMOS considers that this correction contains advocacy for the proposals made in the nomination dossier.  ICOMOS considers that this reflects a difference of assessment.  The recommendation for non inscription is based on the fact that the nomination is still premature and that the evidence does not

the new nomin focused on the scientific argu	upe from being s to occur, given that eation would still be same evidence and ments. This a lack of procedure  Universal Value. At the same time, encouraging a future serial or transboundary nomination is fully in line with the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World
--	--



(in compliance with Paragraph 150 of the Operational Guidelines)

STATE(S) PARTY(IES): Viet Nam

**EVALUATION OF THE NOMINATION OF THE SITE:** The Yen Tu – Vinh Nghiem – Con Son, Kiep Bac Monuments and Landscape Complex

Page, column, line of the Advisory Body Evaluation	Sentence including the factual error (the factual error should be highlighted in bold)	Proposed correction by the State Party	Comment (if any) by the Advisory Body and/or the World Heritage Centre
Page 170, column 1, lines 12-14	It was <b>the territory</b> of the Tran dynasty in the 13 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> centuries	It was <b>a part of territory</b> of the Tran dynasty in the 13 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> centuries	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.
Page 171, column 1, line 37	The Yen Tu Mountain Range and surrounding areas are historically significant as <b>the heart of</b> Giao Chau (ancient Viet Nam)	The Yen Tu Mountain Range and surrounding areas are historically significant as <b>the backbone of</b> Giao Chau (ancient Viet Nam)	ICOMOS considers this correction to be an editorial change which does not modify the meaning of the sentence
Page 171, column 2, lines 20-25	The Truc Lam sect gradually <b>faded over the following centuries, disappearing</b> for the most part until the late 20 <sup>th</sup> century when Truc Lam re-emerged as a popular movement. By early 21 <sup>st</sup> century, Truc Lam Buddhism had spread from Viet Nam as <b>far afield as Ukraine and the United States of America</b> .	The Truc Lam sect gradually faded over the 15-16th centuries, strongly revived during the 17-18th centuries before fading again but never disappearing until the late 20 <sup>th</sup> century when Truc Lam re-emerged as a popular movement. By early 21 <sup>st</sup> century, Truc Lam Buddhism had spread from Viet Nam as far afield as Thailand, Hongkong, Ukraine, the United States of America, France, Australia, United Kingdom and Canada.	ICOMOS considers these corrections to be clarifications.
Page 175, column 1, line 4	Additional information on the selection of the component parts supplied by the State Party in November 2024 indicated that the component parts were selected from hundreds of sites in <b>Viet Nam</b> that are related to the general theme of the nomination.	Additional information on the selection of the component parts supplied by the State Party in November 2024 indicated that the component parts were selected from hundreds of sites in <b>the Yen Tu Mountain Range</b> that are related to the general theme of the nomination.	ICOMOS acknowledges this clarification.