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World Heritage Convention

47 COM

AMENDMENT/PROPOSAL

Agenda Item	WHC/25/47.COM/7B
Draft Decision	47 COM 7B.79
Submitted by the Delegation of:	Republic of Türkiye
Co-author(s) (if any)	India, Kenya, Japan, Qatar, Rwanda, Republic of Korea
Date of submission	09.07.2025

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/25/47.COM/7B,
2. Recalling Decision 45 COM 7B.42, adopted at its extended 45th session (Riyadh, 2023),
3. Welcomes the three-year comprehensive scientific research programme (2023-2025), which includes various studies on the physical fabric of the Mausoleum, the outcomes of which are evaluated by the Advisory Group, which has replaced the Scientific Methodological Council, on the preservation of the Khoja Ahmed Yasawi;
4. Also welcomes the establishment of a monitoring centre that allows for the continuous monitoring of the Mausoleum and the continuing digitisation of archival material, and notes with satisfaction that the Advisory Group holds regular meetings to discuss research and preservation strategies;
5. ~~Notes~~ Welcomes ~~that~~ the ~~draft~~ adoption of the law 'On the Special Status of the City of Turkestan' ~~that~~ also ~~aims to~~ includes regulations for cultural heritage protection, sustainable tourism management, and urban planning, ~~including and takes note of~~ a height limit of seven metres for structures located within 100 meters of the limits of the

~~buffer zone of the Khoja Ahmed Yasawi Mausoleum, and acknowledges the State Party's efforts but that the details provided do not allow for an assessment of the consequences of this new legislation for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, and requests that the State Party provide further details of this law to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before it is adopted;~~

6. Acknowledges the submission of an adopted Management Plan for emergency situations, but considers that such a Plan should be aligned with the overall Management Plan for the property and, recalling that it has repeatedly requested the State Party to complete an update of the Management Plan for the property, reiterates its request that the State Party finalise the revision of the Management Plan by extending its scope and including:

- a) Clearly articulated attributes of OUV that need to be protected and managed, developed in cooperation with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies,
- b) Principles and operationalisation measures for future development,
- c) A Disaster Risk Management Plan,
- d) A Visitor Management Plan for the property;

7. Commends the State Party on the restoration of the doors to the Gurkhana tomb, an important attribute of the site's OUV, and~~but requests conducting a study into the feasibility of reinstating that these doors be reinstated in their original position, as the removal of these attributes from the property would negatively impact its OUV;~~

8. Also notes the submission in April 2025 of the Heritage Impact Assessment report on the Azret Sultan Reserve-Museum Territory Improvement Phase 5.1 project, which is currently under review by ICOMOS and, considering that this project is located in the territory of the Ancient Settlement of Yassy-Turkestan (Kultobe Settlement) component part of the Silk Roads: Fergana-Syrdarya Corridor Serial Transnational World Heritage nomination, further requests the State Party to not implement any components of this proposal until it has been positively reviewed by ICOMOS~~and an agreement has been reached with the World Heritage Centre on its design;~~

9. ~~Regrets~~ Acknowledges the information provided that~~by~~ the State Party to address~~has not responded to~~ several requests recorded in its previous decisions, and ~~reiterates its requests to the State Party to~~ encourages further progress on the following aspects:

- a) Implementing the recommendations of the February 2022 report by the International Institute of Central Asian Studies (IICAS),
- b) Ensuring that the Master Plan recognises the OUV of the property, and includes a View Axis Protection Area that prohibits any new development within the area from exceeding the seven-metre height limit,
- c) Submitting to the World Heritage Centre, for review by the Advisory Bodies, the amended Master Plan, including ~~high-resolution~~ copies of the 'Historical and Architectural basic plan' and the 'Master plan with the marked visual access protection zone', along with the relevant written regulations and any other relevant

documentation, in one of the two working languages of the Convention (French or English);

10. Reiterates its request to the State Party to **continue** informing it in due course, via the World Heritage Centre, about any projects that may affect the property's OUV, with necessary documentation based on rigorous independent impact assessment procedures before they are approved or implemented, and before any irreversible decision is made, in line with Paragraphs 118bis and 172 of the Operational Guidelines and in conformity with the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context;

11. Encourages again the State Party to request the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM to provide on-site training and capacity building on the Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context and assist it in improving its impact assessment practice, **and notes with appreciation holding of a regional seminar on the impact assessment on World heritage organized jointly by UNESCO Almaty Regional Office, ICCROMOMOS, and World Heritage Leadership Program on June 17-19, 2025, in Almaty, Kazakhstan;**

12. **Acknowledges the efforts made by the State Party to address conservation and development challenges around the property, including those related to planning regulations and development pressures, and encourages it to further strengthen the planning regime and finalize a functional Management Plan capable of guiding future developments, while also continuing to provide comprehensive information to the World Heritage Committee on issues previously raised, in order to ensure the sustained conservation of the property's Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).** ~~Expresses its concern regarding the continued conservation and maintenance of the OUV of the property due to the ongoing development pressures around the property; changes to the special planning regime, the absence of a functional Management Plan capable of guiding future development, and the lack of full reporting on issues raised by the Committee;~~

~~13. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess its state of conservation, review the effectiveness of existing protection and management systems, examine development frameworks and ongoing projects in the buffer zone and wider setting, provide guidance to the State Party on identification of attributes, and provide guidance to ensure future development supports the property and its OUV;~~

14. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 December 2026**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its **49th** session.