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Item 7 of the Provisional Agenda: State of conservation of properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and/or on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Point 7 de l'Ordre du jour provisoire: Etat de conservation de biens inscrits sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial et/ou sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial en péril

MISSION REPORT / RAPPORT DE MISSION

Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) (C 366) / Zone Archéologique de Chan Chan (Pérou)
(C 366)

19- 23 February 2007/19 - 23 février 2007

This mission report should be read in conjunction with Document:
Ce rapport de mission doit être lu conjointement avec le document suivant:

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WHC-07/31.COM/7A.Add

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WHC-07/31.COM/7B.Add

**REPORT ON THE JOINT UNESCO – ICOMOS – ICCROM REACTIVE
MONITORING MISSION TO THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ZONE OF
CHAN CHAN, PERU
19- 23 February 2007**



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Report on the Joint UNESCO – ICOMOS – ICCROM reactive monitoring mission to the archaeological site of Chan Chan, Peru

19 – 23 February 2007

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1. Executive summary

Chan Chan, capital of the ancient Chimu kingdom, is one of the largest and most important prehispanic earthen architecture cities in the Americas. Its architectural ensembles and the complexity of its urban design reflect the high political, social, technological, ideological and economic levels attained by the Chimor society between the ninth and fifteenth centuries, not long before falling to the Incas. The earthen architecture walls are decorated with raised friezes in which abstract motifs, anthropomorphically and zoomorphic subjects add to the exceptional splendour of these large arrays of ruins. However, the site has a fragile state of conservation due to the very nature of the earthen architecture remains and the extreme climatic events that occur at the northern coast of Peru.

The archaeological site was inscribed both in the World Heritage List and in the in Danger List in 1986. Since the time of inscription, the Peruvian State has implemented several actions to mitigate decay at the site, including the development of a management plan, but insufficient resources and discontinuity in implementation have hindered the success of these actions.

The State Party has submitted annual conservation reports and progress on recommendations made by the World Heritage Committee in its diverse sessions. For the past years, these have focused on controlling the rising water table levels at the property as well as site management actions, security concerns and illegal occupations.

The joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM mission, carried out in February 2007, observed a variety of decay phenomena and processes caused by both from natural and cultural factors that, if left unattended, could potentially threaten the outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity of the property. As was noted at the time of inscription, the earthen architecture of the site continues to be extremely fragile and systematic and continuous maintenance is needed to comprehensively address these conditions.

The mission noted that the state of conservation varies in the different sectors; there is more impact in the areas adjacent to communities, where remains are not of the palace type but rather what has been called intermediate architecture, where garbage dumps exist, remains have been destroyed as a result of illegal activities, etc. In the core area, decay phenomena are the result of climatic conditions but also due to the lack of continuity in conservation and maintenance interventions. Although a precise course of action has been prescribed in the Management Plan, no systematic implementation has been carried out to date, and in some cases, the interventions undertaken have not addressed priority conditions. Criteria for interventions need to be adhered to, as has been prescribed, in accordance to the significance of the site and respectful of international principles.

Although significant work has been carried out to mitigate the rise of water table levels, research is still needed to understand the hydrology in the site and systems associated with its behaviour, so that a more proactive, rather than reactive, approach is implemented in the future.

Archaeological excavations should be further limited to respond firstly to conservation concerns, and subsequently to the prioritized course of action prescribed in the management plan, where a holistic approach has been defined for the excavation, conservation and presentation of sectors according to the availability of resources, both technical and financial.

An important threat to the site continues to be major development projects and urban expansion that continues towards the site; new constructions are very close to its boundaries. The setting of the site has been affected by new infrastructure, like a recent animal food plant, which impacts the integrity of the landscape and generates pollution, which might affect the site. New construction permits and other uses in the buffer zone need to be urgently regulated and collaboration with the pertinent municipalities should be a priority for the new management unit created.

A further source of urban problems is the variety of roads surrounding the site. There are at least ten ways to connect areas of the site, the principal being the Trujillo-Huanchaco highway that cuts the site in two. This condition encourages local people to easily settle along those roads. One important action would be the selection of a minimal number of roads, and restriction of the remaining ones just for public visits to the site (using them as visit routes). A significant response would be the construction of a highway bypass, so that the site could recover its integrity.

Also, a critical course of action is to strengthen institutional capacity for implementing the management plan. To date, there is no formal decision-making, professional team working full time at the site, there is lack of prioritization in implementing actions and some of these continue to be politically driven. Training and capacity development is critical for sustainable long-term implementation of the management plan, but also to disseminate the value of the invested efforts.

Although significant actions have been carried out, there are still many activities that need to be implemented to progressively contribute to mitigating decay problems, to raise awareness on the needs of the site and to enhance public and private collaboration in the conservation endeavours at the World Heritage property.

2. Background to the mission

Chan Chan, capital of the ancient Chimu kingdom, is one of the largest and most important prehispanic cities of earthen architecture in the Americas. Its architectural ensembles and the complexity of its urban design reflect the high political, social, technological, ideological and economic levels attained by the Chimor society between the ninth and fifteenth centuries, not long before falling to the Incas. The earthen architecture walls are decorated with raised friezes in which abstract motifs, anthropomorphically and zoomorphic subjects add to the exceptional splendour of these large arrays of ruins. However, the site has a fragile state of conservation due to the very nature of the earthen architecture remains and the extreme climatic events that occur at the northern coast of Peru.

2.1 History of the inscription of Chan Chan Archaeological Zone on the World Heritage List.

The World Heritage Committee at its 10th Session (24-28 November 1986, Paris), examined the nomination of Chan Chan archaeological zone (366), Peru, and decided to inscribe Chan Chan archaeological zone under Criteria (i)(iii).

On the recommendation of the Bureau and following a request from the Peruvian authorities, the Committee also decided to inscribe the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger. In so doing, the Committee recommended that appropriate measures be taken for the conservation, restoration and management of the site and specifically that the excavation work on the site be halted unless it was accompanied by appropriate conservation measures and that all possible steps be taken to control the plundering of the site.

2.2 Threats to the Site

The vast and fragile site of Chan Chan was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1986, the same year it was inscribed on the World Heritage List. Its adobe, or earthen, structures are quickly damaged by natural erosion as they become exposed to air and rain and they require continuous conservation efforts and substantial ancillary measures. The Committee recommended, therefore, that appropriate measures be taken for the conservation, restoration and management of the site, that excavation work be halted unless accompanied by appropriate conservation measures and that all possible steps be taken to control plundering of the site. A substantive state

of conservation report was prepared in 1993 and reported to the seventeenth session of the World Heritage Committee.

Since the time of its inscription, efforts of the site administrators have been directed towards the preparation of a master plan and training of conservation and management personnel, with substantial support from the World Heritage Fund. In 1999, a comprehensive master plan addressing conservation and management issues, as well as the interpretation of the site for visitors was completed.

A first Pan-American Course on the Conservation and Management of Earthen Architectural and Archaeological Heritage, which aimed to directly benefit the preservation and management planning of the site was held in Chan Chan in 1996. It was jointly organized by the Government of Peru, through the National Institute of Culture, ICCROM, CRATerre-EAG and the Getty Conservation Institute. A second course was held in November/December 1999.

In 1998, the impact of El Niño, the warm Pacific current that affects climate worldwide, was unusually strong, leading to torrential rains and flooding. Emergency measures had to be taken, with assistance from the World Heritage Fund, to protect Chan Chan. The impact of El Niño on the site has, however, been relatively modest and the protective measures, undertaken with emergency assistance from the World Heritage Fund, were effective.

At the time of the inscription of the site of Chan Chan, the Advisory Body's evaluation reported and posed problems and questions as follows:

Criterion I. The planning of the largest city of pre-Colombian America is an absolute masterpiece of town planning. Rigorous zoning, differentiated use of inhabited space and hierarchical construction illustrate a political and social ideal, which has rarely been expressed with such clarity.

Criterion III. Chan Chan bears a unique testimony to the disappeared Chimu kingdom.

Though there is no doubt about the intrinsic quality of this cultural property, ICOMOS considers that the only appropriate measure would be to include it on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The ruins of Chan Chan, which are located in one of the world's most arid regions, are literally melting away due to the combined effects of wind and rare atmospheric precipitation. The proximity of the water table and the salinity of the soil and air constitute additional dangers for the adobe structures, which are fragile due to the fragility of the material itself: unbaked bricks of clay mixed with dried straw. Houses and palaces alike were covered with terraces, but as the wooden beams, which supported them, disappeared in the 17th century, the walls are no longer sheltered.

The very existence of the immense network of screens toward which the Chan Chan site is beginning to evolve is raising serious problems of doctrine and strategy.

- Ought archaeological exploration be carried out at all cost without guaranteeing the protection of the structures, which are discovered?
- Should the salvation of the site be at the high cost of massive restoration, which was the case with the 'Palacio Tschudi' from 1964 to 1969? And, would there be a danger that this type of highly criticized pastiche might proliferate in order to satisfy the demands of mass tourism?
- Will the inclusion of the site on the World Heritage List be sufficient to halt dangerous development projects (a road crossing the site) and the endemic plundering of tombs, which continue to provide riches for private collections of precious artefacts (ceremonial knives, bracelets, breastplates, diadems, masks, necklaces, etc.)?

Since that time, a number of these questions have been addressed. Many responses to these questions were at the instigation of World Heritage Committee Decisions.

The following are the most pertinent World Heritage Committee Decisions on Chan Chan Archaeological Zone over the last 20 years:

X.17 Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) at its **23rd Session** (Marrakesh Morocco, Nov./Dec. 1999).

The Secretariat informed the Committee that it had received, some ten days before the Committee session, a copy of the very extensive and recently completed Master Plan for the site. This plan was prepared by an interdisciplinary group of experts with assistance from the World Heritage Fund. The Secretariat also reported that at the time of the meeting, the *Second Pan-America Course on the Conservation and Management of Earthen Architectural and Archaeological Heritage (Government of Peru, ICCROM, CRATerre-EAG, Getty Conservation Institute)* was being held in Chan Chan and that this course would directly benefit the preservation and management planning for the site.

The Observer of Peru thanked the Committee for the support it had allocated to the preservation of the site and for the preparation of its Master Plan. She announced that the President of her country would sign, within the next days, the Decree that would formally adopt the Master Plan and that the Management Unit had started its work already to obtain funding for its implementation. She said that periodic reports on the progress would be submitted to the World Heritage Committee.

The Committee congratulated the Government of Peru for the accomplishment of the preparation of the Master Plan and encouraged the State Party to implement it. It requested ICOMOS and ICCROM to examine the Master Plan and to present their observations to the Bureau at its twenty-fourth session. It further requested the State Party to submit a progress report on the implementation of the Master Plan by 15 September 2000 for examination by the Committee at its twenty-fourth session.

The Committee decided to retain the property in the List of World Heritage in Danger

Decision 27COM 7A.28 (Nov./Dec. 2001, Cairns)- **Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru)**

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Taking note of the measures and the studies undertaken by the State Party to protect the property;
2. Commending the State Party for the efforts made to monitor the water level;
3. Urges the State Party to adopt the draft legislation foreseen;
4. Strongly recommends that the State Party defines the limits of the property in order to avoid further encroachment;
5. Recommends that the State Party reviews the system of water canalisation, water distribution and considers requesting international assistance under the World Heritage Fund to identify the appropriate remedial measures;
6. Requests the State Party to submit a report to the World Heritage Centre by 1 February 2004, on the progress made in implementing the above-mentioned measures, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 28th session in 2004;
7. **Decides to retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

Decision 28COM 15A.30, (Suzhou, China, 28 June - 7 July 2004)

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Noting the information on the state of conservation provided by the State Party,
2. Urges the State Party to finalize the legislative procedure for Draft Legislation n° 3807 and to inform the Committee of the appropriate measures taken to relocate the squatters;
3. Invites the State Party, once again, to consider requesting International Assistance under the World Heritage Fund to identify appropriate remedial measures;
4. Requests the State Party to submit a progress report on the measures being applied to reduce the impact of the rising water levels in the aquifer of the property by 1 February 2005, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 29th session in 2005;
5. **Decides to retain the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

Decision 29COM 7A.30 (Durban, South Africa, 10-17 July 2005)

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document *WHC-05/29.COM/7A*,
2. Recalling its Decision **28 COM 15A.30**, adopted at its 28th session (Suzhou, 2004),
3. Noting the comprehensive information on the state of conservation provided by the State Party,
4. Commends the State Party of Peru for the actions taken to protect and preserve the World Heritage property of Chan Chan Archaeological Zone, in particular the progress made with regard to reducing the water level at the property,
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2006**, a report on the process of resettlement of illegal occupants and farmers from the property, as well as on the results obtained within the framework of the International Assistance provided under the World Heritage Fund, for examination by the Committee at its 30th session (Vilnius, 2006);
6. **Decides to retain Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

Decision 30COM 7A.32 (Vilnius, Lithuania, 8 to 16 July 2006)

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document *WHC-06/30.COM/7A*,
2. Recalling Decision **29 COM 7A.30**, adopted at its 29th session (Durban, 2005),
3. Commends the State Party for the actions taken to protect and preserve the World Heritage site of Chan Chan Archaeological Zone, in particular the progress made with regard to reducing the water level at the property and the restoration of the buildings;
4. Congratulates the State Party for the efforts made to solve the problem of the resettlement of the occupants and farmers away from the property;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 February 2007, a report on the process of resettlement of the farmers and their sustainable livelihood, as well as progress on the stabilization of the phreatic levels in the property, and the results obtained within the framework of the International Assistance provided under the World Heritage Fund, for examination by the Committee at its 31st session in 2007;
6. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM mission to assess the state of conservation of the property, determine prioritized benchmarks for corrective measures and time-frames needed for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, and those needed for the continuing sustainability and its continuous monitoring, together with the necessary technical training;
7. Decides to retain Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Missions to the Archaeological Site of Chan Chan: An ICOMOS mission was carried out in 1997. The main threats identified pertained to the illegal occupations of the World Heritage Property, the unregulated farming activities and the continuous deterioration of earthen architecture structures and decorated surfaces from lack of conservation and maintenance

practices. The brief report mentioned how the State Party was addressing the threats, particularly in regard to the illegal occupations at the site.

2.3 Justification of Joint UNESCO/ICOMOS/ICCROM Mission to Chan Chan:

The 30th Session of the World Heritage Committee requested that the State Party invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM mission to assess the state of conservation of the property, determine prioritized benchmarks for corrective measures and time-frames needed for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, and those needed for the continuing sustainability and its continuous monitoring, together with the necessary technical training;

2.4 International Assistance

The amount of US\$ 48,650 was provided to the property for the elaboration of the Master Plan and for conservation courses:

- Technical Assistance for the formulation of the Master Plan for the Archaeological Zone of Chan Chan, in 1998, in the amount of: 8.700 USD.
- Training Assistance - Adobe Conservation Courses, Chan Chan, in 1995, in the amount of: 20.000USD.
- Technical Assistance for the Chan Chan Archaeological Zone, in 1987, in the amount of 19.950USD

Other Assistance from World Heritage Funds

The amount of 30,000 USD for sites on the List in Danger was decentralized by the World Heritage Centre to the UNESCO Lima Office, in October 2005, to provide funding (under budget line 198CSV4224.7.1) for the opening of a drain in the Huachaque Grande (Drain 13) to lower the water table level within the Archaeological Zone.

3. Legal and institutional framework

The National Institute of Culture in Peru (INC), through its decentralised office in La Libertad, is the main agency charged with conserving and defending Chan Chan, through a series of interdisciplinary actions. It often collaborates with agencies on the state and municipal level to implement actions, particularly concerning illegal occupations at the site.

Legislation

- Law 6634 (June 13, 1929): Recognises the exceptional value of Chan Chan and declares it as a monument, entrusting the State to defend and conserve it. Subsequently made ineffective by Law no. 24047.

- Supreme Resolution no. 25 (February 6, 1952): approves the plan of the archaeological city of Chan Chan.
- Ministerial Resolution no. 3089 (April 24, 1952): authorises the eviction of illegal occupants of the archaeological city of Chan Chan.
- Law no. 16208 (July 22, 1966): Creation of stamp for the restoration of Chan Chan.
- Supreme Resolution no. 0518-67 (June 14, 1967): establishes de archaeological area of Huaca La Esmeralda, Huaca Tacaynamo, Huaca Las Conchas, Huaca Tres Huacas and ruins of Chan Chan.
- Ministerial Resolution no. 048-84-ED (January 25, 1984): authorises the Public State Attorney in charge of judicial matters of the education sector to enforce the eviction of illegal occupants and undertake the demolition of constructions at the archaeological site.
- Supreme Resolution 0518-67 (May 15, 1985): inscribes the site as property of the Peruvian State in the Public Land Records of La Libertad.
- Supreme Decree no. 003-2000-ED: approves the Chan Chan Management plan, constituting an unprecedented case for cultural heritage sites in Peru.
- Supreme Decree no. no. 026-2006 ED: Creates at the Ministry of Education the "Special Project: Archaeological Complex of Chan Chan".
- Emergency Decree no. 032-2006: Declares in a state of emergency the Archaeological Complex of Chan Chan and creates the Executing Unit no. 110
- Ministerial Resolution no. 0714-2006- ED: Designates a director for the Management Plan for the Archaeological Complex of Chan Chan, who will also be responsible for the administration of the site.
- Emergency Decree no. 001-2007: modifies the emergency decree no. 032-2006 to authorise the implementation of emergency actions and update the management plan.

4. Assessment of the current state of conservation of the site

- The World Heritage Centre received the annual conservation report in January 2007, which details actions carried out by the State Party and progress made on the recommendations made by the World Heritage Committee in Vilnius in 2006. These range from the continuous work to control the rising water table levels at the property to the clearing of vegetation that has grown as a result of increased humidity. It describes excavations, conservation and restoration interventions to open new areas for the public at the Velarde Palace, and actions for the management of the site, including the creation of a new implementation unit and addressing security concerns and illegal occupations.
- The joint WHC/ICOMOS/ICCROM mission, carried out in February 2007, observed a variety of decay phenomena and processes caused by both from natural and cultural factors that could threaten the outstanding universal value, authenticity and integrity of the property. As was noted at the time of inscription, the earthen architecture of the site is extremely fragile and systematic and continuous maintenance is needed to comprehensively address these conditions.

- The state of conservation varies in the different sectors; to organize the information, a division of the site into three main areas is suggested:
- *Nuclear or Core Area*: this area (south of the highway) has been explored historically in different archaeological projects, partially restored, and provided with some services. It concentrates the majority of visible monuments of the site (Chayhuac, Uhle, Bandelier, Gran Chimú and El Obispo, Squier, Velarde, Laberinto, and Tschudi). These monuments are related both physically and functionally to a number of Huachagues, wet spots that allowed some agricultural and other economic practices in prehispanic times.
- *Restricted Area* (not formally open to the public). This contains a number of less visible monumental complexes (called intermediate architecture in the Master Plan), such as: Martinez Compañón, Huamanchumo, and Huaca Las Vicuñas, Huaca El Obispo, and Toledo, and four more minor Huacas; El Higo, El Olvido, Las Langostas, and Las Conchas. The totality of complexes surrounded by protective walls.
- *Surrounding Area* (Buffer Zone, intangible area). This is the periphery ring that neighbours the site, and that has recently been dramatically altered by the construction of an animal food plant. Also, the problematic of the dump area at the North side of the site is a major threat to it.

State of Conservation of the Nuclear Area:

- Several natural and human factors (historical and present) have altered the conservation of the variety of monuments that constitute the Nuclear Area, as it has already been pointed out in the 2000 Master Plan released by the Instituto Nacional de Cultura (INC). In general, it could be observed that the most important causes of the current damages are due to the lack of continuity of those conservation works successfully initiated years ago and dramatically due to the lack of application of the several projects defined in the Master Plan for Chan Chan (INC 2000).
- Amongst the most visible and significant damages the following are worth noting: lost of materials on the capping layers and both original and restored decorative components, gaps in walls, salt deposits, bird excrement deposits, presence of microorganisms, pulverization of material, vandalism (graffiti), erosion channels in walls and huaqueo (clandestine excavations).
- No doubt that the best explored and restored palaces (Tchudi, Gran Chimú, Laberinto) present damages in minor scale compared to those still to be restored, some of the latter even present traces of old archaeological excavations from past projects. However, these constructions share threats and damages from tourism, to which it is open. The presence of a small services building, although providing some functional benefits, also represents a source of contamination, especially due to leaks in the plumbing from the toilets.
- Original surrounding walls in this area have different types of treatments. As one priority for the integral conservation of these palaces is the presence of that kind of massive walls, each time projects tend to come up with different kinds of responses and criteria for restoration.

As an example of this, it was observed that the criteria for the treatments that are currently applied to the walls are different from those applied few years ago. A closer example is the current decision of not differentiating the new from the original adobes in walls; or the decision to apply a finishing superficial layer against the old criteria (INC) of leaving the faces of adobes exposed and marked, so that the walls could be "read" properly in terms of the sequence of treatments.

- It is important to mention that it would be a great source of documentation to gather all sorts of graphics from the new interventions, in order to have sequences of before-during-after interventions. It was mentioned that detailed drawings are made for each wall where an intervention took place, but unfortunately the mission did not have access to that material.
- Moisture on walls and the presence of salts due to the recent elevation of the phreatic / water table levels seem to be diminishing gradually, especially due to the large drainage channels built, an intervention that is still underway but that has clearly benefited the conservation of the site.
- New archaeological excavations, such as the ones currently underway, generate additional conservation problems to the site. As far as it could be ascertained, these projects are not really a part of a master plan, this is to say, they are a product of archaeologist's enthusiasm, but not a priority for site conservation. In this respect, it is important to recommend postponing new excavations until the site has reached a reasonable state of stabilization of all its components.
- This illustrates how although a precise course of action for the nuclear area is prescribed in the Management Plan, no systematic implementation has been carried out to date, and in some cases, the interventions undertaken have not addressed priority conditions.

State of Conservation of the Protection Area

- Farmers are using fields that are land extensions, mostly integrated by the so-called intermediate architecture, a practice that brings a variety of problems to the stability of the archaeological remains. Among them, the constant moisture generated by irrigation that affects all archaeological remains that are under and above the surface. Irrigation also brings the need for channels and ducts, and the majority of those are simply cut through the prehistoric adobe walls, destroying other archaeological remains.
- Paradoxically, water from a recent irrigation project (Chavi Mochic) created for the benefit of areas of Chan Chan, is promoting the use of the protected area by local people, by breaking holes in the surrounding walls, even demolishing parts of architectural units, with adverse effects for site conservation, to irrigate and farm certain areas. The elevation of the water table is suspected to be a result of the Chavi Mochic water project. However, technicians from that agency argue different sources for the condition; and have offered to carry out a technical report on the water behaviour to determine the real source of phreatic level variations.

- Housing for the families making their living from the crops is mostly made with local adobe; that is to say, indiscriminate excavation for construction is also a problem in that sector of the site. Along with these practices, huaqueo (vandalism excavations) is still a problem, since there is limited number of police and security presence at the site.
- Dumping large amounts of garbage inside the protected area is a common practice by local people; during the mission, large trucks were seen throwing garbage indiscriminately inside the area, with no apparent knowledge or appreciation of the site values.
- In summary, it is evident that the problematic of destruction of this Protection Area, clearly pointed out in the Master Plan (2000) has not significantly changed. The recent Chavi Mochic water project has had an adverse impact on the site, so a control system is urgent.
- In the same vein, at least two initiatives that would adversely affect the site were mentioned (neither of these were suggested in the 2000 Master Plan). One was a relocation project for those people living in the area to higher lands, based on the use of mineral charcoal energy to pump sufficient water and to generate other services. This scheme would bring as a consequence heavy pollution to the environment. The other initiative is for the construction of a monumental museum inside the site. This initiative, with political implications, entails new construction in areas of intermediate architecture and a contradiction in management actions, because on the one hand efforts will concentrate in relocating and demolishing house constructions, and on the other hand the official sector gives itself the permission to build not a minor, but a massive building inside the site. This would definitely send a wrong message to local people.
- No initiative was presented at the site level with the objective of rising awareness among local people about the significance of the site.

State of Conservation of the Surrounding Area (Buffer Zone)

- An important threat to the site continues to be urban expansion that continues towards the site and new constructions are very close to its boundaries. The setting of the site has been affected by new infrastructure, like a recent animal food plant, which impacts the integrity of the landscape and generates pollution, which might affect the site. New construction permits and other uses in the buffer zone urgently need to be regulated and collaboration with the pertinent municipalities should be a priority for the new management unit created.
- A further source of urban problems is the variety of roads surrounding the site. There are at least ten ways to connect areas of the site, the principal being the Trujillo-Huanchaco highway that cuts the site in two. This condition encourages local people to easily settle along those roads. One important action would be the selection of a minimal number of roads, and restriction of the remaining ones just for public visits to the site (using them as visit routes). A significant response would be the construction of a highway bypass, so that the site could recover its integrity.

Management

- Management contradictions and weak expressions for the management of a World Heritage Site were observed. Current legislative and institutional arrangements have been further developed, which in theory support the comprehensive implementation of the management plan. However, in daily practice, there is a limited capacity for decision-making, evidenced by the lack of expertise in conservation and a certain unwillingness to follow the prescribed course of action already defined in the management plan.
- Collaboration amongst different entities that have a direct and indirect impact on the site, which was strongly fostered during the planning process, is somewhat diluted today. Institutional commitment to the conservation of the site needs to be regained.
- Awareness and outreach activities with local communities have not been systematically implemented, as was the case in previous years. This has also limited social participation in heritage endeavours.
- Infrastructure and services for public use are deficient and have not been maintained in the past years, rendering the site unattractive. Although additional interpretation efforts were made at Tschudi, these have not been adequately maintained.
- Although projects were started to improve access and parking at the site, these have not been finalised. Current arrangements in place impact the quality of the visit and could potentially damage archaeological remains if left uncontrolled.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

Management and context issues

- There needs to be a full and systematic implementation of the management plan. For this to occur, it is critical to secure sustainable funding and guarantee that the appointed site directors abide by the courses of action and policies prescribed in the Management Plan and also adhere to agreed institutional arrangements.
- A critical course of action is to strengthen institutional capacity for implementing the management plan. To date, there is no formal decision-making, professional team working full time at the site, there is lack of prioritization in implementing actions and some of these continue to be politically driven. Training and capacity development is critical for sustainable long-term implementation of the management plan, but also to disseminate the value of the invested efforts.
- There needs to be adequate enforcement of the legislative and regulatory frameworks already passed by the State Party to address the issues of illegal occupations and activities at the property. Collaboration with pertinent authorities for the relocation of invaders is necessary for this to successfully occur. Land tenure issues need to be resolved in the future according to legislation already passed and in coordination with the municipalities.
- The Management Plan needs to be broadly disseminated amongst interest groups so that its contents are widely known and so as to strengthen public and private support in its implementation;
- Efforts should continue to foster collaboration with allied entities to define regulatory measures for the management of the buffer zone and of the World Heritage Property. If possible, these efforts should be linked to territorial development plans already proposed by the Regional Government.
- The precise plan of the property, based on current research, needs to be formally approved. The updated plan and the proposed zoning plans will need to be circulated amongst stakeholders so that components are clearly recognized and provisions made on the local levels for their protection;
- Physical delimitation of the property is still needed. This could take the form of physical vegetation barriers, perimeter walls, etc. Notwithstanding the choice of barriers, strong outreach activities need to be undertaken prior to delimiting the site, so as to guarantee their permanence and the support of the communities in implementing such an action.
- Coordination with the Municipalities is needed to guarantee that no garbage is dumped at the World Heritage property. This task will also entail significant community outreach activities, to raise awareness on the significance of the site and its World Heritage status.

State of conservation

- The fragile state of conservation of the site has been noted since the time of inscription. The site is currently not in a good state and this will only be achieved through significant investments and continuous work that follows the course of action clearly delineated in the management plan.
- Several priority conservation measures need to be undertaken including the control and mitigation of water table levels, the conservation of perimeter walls and the reburial / backfilling of fragile areas with decorated surfaces;
- Interventions at different sectors of the site should be prioritised according to their significance, as has already been stated in the Management Plan. Conditions need to be thoroughly reassessed to establish rates of decay and correlated phenomena with velocity of change.
- Archaeological and conservation actions at the site need to be closely monitored by adequately trained professionals.
- Precise indicators and timetables need to be defined to gauge the success of interventions. Several actions, such as the conservation of the perimeter walls, will need to be closely monitored to assess their efficacy and adequacy.
- Material analysis are still needed to understand the behaviour of earthen constructions and decorated surfaces so as to define longer lasting interventions.
- It is critical that an emergency and disaster preparedness plan is further developed, to adequately respond to new conditions at the site, including potential threats from seismic activities, El Niño phenomena, Tsunamis, Fires, increase in water table levels, robberies, etc.
- The course of action prescribed in the management plan for the conservation, presentation and revalorization of the World Heritage Property needs to be implemented. Although several actions were successfully carried out in the past, their impact has been somewhat limited because of the lack of continuity.
- Even though significant work has been carried out to mitigate the rise of water table levels, research is still needed to understand the hydrology in the site and systems associated with its behaviour, so that a more proactive, rather than reactive, approach is implemented in the future.
- Criteria for interventions need to be adhered to, as has been prescribed, in accordance to the significance of the site and respectful of international principles.
- Archaeological excavations should be further limited to respond firstly to conservation concerns, and subsequently to the prioritized course of action prescribed in the management plan, where a holistic approach has been defined for the excavation, conservation and presentation of sectors according to the availability of resources, both technical and financial.

- The implementation of projects related to environmental recovery, reforestation, productive use of *huachiques* and *totorales* should be explored with allied agencies for the positive social, economic and environmental impact they could have. It would also limit additional decay derived from inappropriate or uncontrolled use of areas destined for that purpose, as prescribed in the Management Plan.
- New construction at the site, including works for the museum, watchtowers, electricity and other services for public use, should closely adhere to international set standards and should again follow what has already been defined in the Plan. These works, if uncontrolled, could pose significant threats to the integrity and authenticity of the property.
- Although significant actions have been carried out, there are still many activities that need to be implemented to progressively contribute to mitigating decay problems, to raising awareness on the needs of the site and to enhance public and private collaboration in the conservation endeavours at the World Heritage property.

Benchmarks for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger

- Adequate and efficient management system in place;
- Functioning institutional arrangements and collaboration with involved stakeholders in for the implementation of the management plan;
- Secure and sustainable funding for implementation of priority conservation and management activities;
- Macro natural decay factors controlled / mitigated: risk preparedness for El Niño phenomena and monitor and control of phreatic water levels;
- Control and regulation of activities and development in the buffer zone;
- Full protection from illegal invasions and other illegal or non regulated activities;
- Full implementation of protective measures (legislation and regulations already passed by the national government).

Timeframe for the implementation of the corrective measures

- Secured funding for the implementation of the management plan in 2008;
- Functioning institutional arrangements in 2008 (as per management plan);
- Illegal occupations addressed and activities at the site regulated in 2009 and beyond;
- Emergency and risk preparedness plan in 2008;
- Drainage works completed end of 2007;
- Priority conservation works in 2009;
- Other conservation and maintenance works 2008 and beyond;
- Management and coordination of works carried out by other sectors in the buffer zone in 2008 and beyond.

6. Annexes

6.1 Composition of the mission team

UNESCO (WHC)	Jim Williams
ICOMOS	Carolina Castellanos
ICCROM	Nelly Robles

6.2 Decision of the Committee requesting the mission

Decision 30COM 7A.32 (Vilnius, Lithuania, 8 to 16 July 2006)

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document *WHC-06/30.COM/7A*,
2. Recalling Decision **29 COM 7A.30**, adopted at its 29th session (Durban, 2005),
3. Commends the State Party for the actions taken to protect and preserve the World Heritage site of Chan Chan Archaeological Zone, in particular the progress made with regard to reducing the water level at the property and the restoration of the buildings;
4. Congratulates the State Party for the efforts made to solve the problem of the resettlement of the occupants and farmers away from the property;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1** February 2007, a report on the process of resettlement of the farmers and their sustainable livelihood, as well as progress on the stabilization of the phreatic levels in the property, and the results obtained within the framework of the International Assistance provided under the World Heritage Fund, for examination by the Committee at its 31st session in 2007;
6. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM mission to assess the state of conservation of the property, determine prioritized benchmarks for corrective measures and time-frames needed for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger, and those needed for the continuing sustainability and its continuous monitoring, together with the necessary technical training;

7. Decides to retain Chan Chan Archaeological Zone (Peru) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

6.3 Itinerary and programme of the mission

February 18, 2007

Arrival Lima

February 19, 2007

AM Meetings at the INC (Lima)

Meetings at Unesco Peru

PM Review of available materials (reports, bibliography, etc.)

February 20, 2007

Travel Lima – Trujillo

AM Meeting with Regional Governor

Meeting with Mayors of Trujillo and Huanchaco

Meeting with regional government agencies: Tourism, Agriculture, Education, Chavimochic

Special Irrigation Project

PM Site visit: Tschudi Palace

February 21, 2007

AM/ PM Site assessment

February 22, 2007

AM Sites visit

PM Meeting with site administrator / INC staff to discuss preliminary results

February 23, 2007

AM Travel Trujillo – Lima

PM Meeting with ICOMOS Peru (C. Castellanos)

Meeting with INC National Director to discuss preliminary results

February 24, 2007

Departure Lima

6.4 List of persons met

1. Regional Government

- José Murgia Zannier, Regional Governor, La Libertad
- Bernardo Alva Perez, Regional Director for External Commerce and Tourism
- Elmes Robles Ortiz, Regional Director for Education
- Francisco Rabanal Salazar, Regional Director for Agriculture
- Elena Barturen de Lucio, Dircetur
- Edgar Odar, Chavimochic Special Irrigation Project
- Gerardo Alegria, Chavimochic Special Irrigation Project
- Andrés Calderón, Chavimochic Special Irrigation Project

2. Municipal Governments

- Cesar Acuña, Mayor of Trujillo
- Fernando Bazan, Mayor of Huanchaco
- Mercedes López, Municipal manager, Municipality of Trujillo
- Eduardo Rabines, Regidor, Municipality of Trujillo

3. INC (National and Regional)

- Cecilia Bákula, National Director, National Institute for Culture (INC)
- Ana María Hoyle, Director of World Heritage Sites, INC Lima
- Javier Ugaz, Director of Management, INC Lima
- Enrique Sanchez Maura, Director INC Trujillo
- Ronald Salas, Conservador, INC Trujillo
- César Gálvez, Archaeologist, INC Trujillo

4. Others

- Cristóbal Campa, Director Executing Unit no. 110 Chan Chan
- Arturo Paredes, Archaeologist, Executing Unit no. 110 Chan Chan
- Carlos Amezaga, Ministry of Foreign Relations, Lima
- Katherine Muller – Marin, UNESCO Peru
- Ruth Shady, Archaeologist, President ICOMOS Peru

6.5 Photographs



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