

FINLAND

I.01. Introduction

Year of adherence to the Convention: 1987

Organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for preparation of report

- National Board of Antiquities
- Ministry of Environment

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories

- Inventories for cultural and natural heritage are established at regional and national level, including thematic cultural inventories and inventories on macro nature types. The inventories are used as a basis for selecting World Heritage sites

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List submitted in 1990
- Revision submitted in 2004
- The National Board of Antiquities is responsible for identifying cultural sites
- Ministry of Environment is responsible for identifying natural properties on the Tentative List
- Tentative List was prepared by the same bodies in cooperation with experts from regional administration and museums, Finnish ICOMOS and DOCOMOMO, and took into account the Nordic Council of Ministers report "Nordic World Heritage" (NORD 1996:31)

I.04. Nomination of Cultural and Natural Properties for the World Heritage List

Nominations

- Central government is responsible for preparing World Heritage site nominations and carries out the work together with regional/local government and consultants/experts
- Motivations for nomination: honour/prestige, conservation of sites and working in partnership
- Difficulties during nomination: lack of funding and, in some cases, lack of support from landowners

Inscriptions

- 5 cultural sites: *Old Rauma* (1991), *Fortress of Suomenlinna* (1991), *Petäjävesi Old Church* (1994), *Verla Groundwood and Board Mill* (1996), *Bronze Age Burial Site of Sammallahtenmäki* (1999)

- 1 natural site: *Kvarken Archipelago / High Coast* (2000)¹

Benefits of inscription

- Working in partnership, Honour/prestige, and conservation of sites are considered benefits of inscription

I.05. General Policy and Legislation for the Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage

Specific legislations

- Legislation for the identification and protection of national heritage are The Ancient Monuments Act (1963), The Planning and Building Act (2000), The Building Protection Act (1985), The Building Protection Decree (1985), The Church Act (1994), The Nature Conservation Act (1996), and The Forest Act (1996)
- The Building Protection Act is under revision
- There is no specific planning legislation to protect World Heritage sites
- Management plans are only required for natural heritage sites

Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Protocol to the Hague Convention (1954), UNESCO Convention (1970), Granada Convention (1985), Valetta Convention (1992), Rome Convention (1995), Second Protocol to the Hague Convention of 1954 (1999), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES Convention (1973), Bonn Convention (1979), Bern Convention (1979), Basel Convention (1989) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)., Florence Convention (2000)

I.06. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- Key organisations: National Board of Antiquities, the Ministry of Environment, Regional Environmental Centres, the Finnish Forest and Park Service and the Finnish Forest Research Institute
- Services are provided at national and regional level
- The conservation of cultural and natural heritage is institutionally integrated
- Private sector is not involved, but the participation of local communities in the planning process is encouraged through the Building and Planning Act

¹ Extended in 2006. Also the transnational site *Struve Geodetic Arc* (2005)

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

- NGOs are members in committees and working groups that prepare the revision of legislation on cultural and natural heritage preservation

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- No information given

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- World Heritage sites are funded by State-Party budget allowance, local/regional authority budget allowance, the private sector and EU Programmes
- No national, public or private foundations/associations have been established for the funding of World Heritage

I.09. Training

Professional and Institutional training

- Training needs for institutions and individuals concerned with the protection of World Heritage have been identified
- Key training institution in the field of World Heritage protection is the ICCROM training courses, in particular in the field of Urban Conservation and Wood Conservation

I.10. International Co-operation

- Cooperation with other States Parties for the identification, protection, conservation and preservation of World Heritage has been carried out through bi- and multilateral agreements, hosting and/or attending international courses/seminars, financial support, and through the exchange of experts

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

Information and awareness raising on local, regional national or international level

- World Heritage sites are presented and promoted through publications, films, postcards, media campaigns, internet, and postage stamps
- The presentation and general awareness of World Heritage sites is not adequate, but the State Party is working towards measures to improve this
- The National Board of Education and the National Board of Antiquities have carried out a project ("The Oak of Finland") to enhance cultural heritage and World Heritage issues in primary and secondary level education

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strengths: national World Heritage Committee, set up in 2002, has improved cooperation between authorities; national legislation on heritage protection is considered adequate to preserve World Heritage sites in Finland; active participation of Finnish experts in cultural and natural heritage in international projects and campaigns; increased public awareness of the Convention following the hosting of the 25th session of the World Heritage Committee in Helsinki 2001; educational project "The Oak of Finland" has been successful
- Weaknesses: lack of external funding has slowed down the nomination process; comprehensive management plans are however still lacking; no strategy on how cultural and natural heritage preservation should be incorporated in the activities of the Finnish Development Agency; awareness in local communities could be increased, as there still is an attitude that World Heritage is 'separated' from its local setting

No proposed future actions