



**SEKRETARZ STANU
W MINISTERSTWIE KULTURY
I DZIEDZICTWA NARODOWEGO
GENERALNY KONSERWATOR ZABYTKÓW**

Piotr Żuchowski

Ref.no. NID-M/3673/524/14/DL

Warsaw, 7 May 2014

Mr. Kishore Rao

Director

UNESCO World Heritage Centre

Subject: Summaries of reports on the state of conservation of the Centennial Hall in Wrocław, Auschwitz Birkenau, German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945), Historic Centre of Warsaw, World Heritage Sites.

Dear Sir,

As requested by the letter of the Chairperson of the 38th session World Heritage Committee (ref. CL/WHC-13/23) to enhance transparency of the monitoring process of World Heritage sites, I would like to submit the summaries of reports on the state of conservation of the Centennial Hall in Wrocław (Ref. C 1165), Auschwitz Birkenau, German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945) (Ref. C31), World Heritage Sites.

On behalf of State Party I also agree on the publication on the web-site the report on state of conservation of the Historic Centre of Warsaw (Ref. C 30), World Heritage Sites.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Appendices:

1. Report on the state of conservation of the Centennial Hall in Wrocław (Poland) (Ref. C 1165) – summary
2. Report on the state of conservation of the Auschwitz Birkenau German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp (1940-1945), (Poland) (Ref. C31) - summary
3. Report on the state of conservation of the Historic Centre of Warsaw (Poland) (Ref. C 30)

Cc:

1. Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Poland to UNESCO
2. Polish National Commission for UNESCO
3. Monuments Preservation Department of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage

Warsaw, 31 January 2014

**Report on the state of conservation of the UNESCO World Heritage property
Centennial Hall in Wrocław, (Poland) (Ref. C 1165)**

Summary

The Report has been drawn up in response to the decision of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee 36 COM 7B.80 regarding the Centennial Hall, based on information obtained from Przedsiębiorstwo Hala Ludowa Spółka z o.o., the manager of the Centennial Hall, the Authorities of Wrocław, and in response to the ICOMOS technical review (14 November 2013; Ref.: CLT/WHC/6987/PL/AS/KR) assessing the materials concerning the projects in progress within the property and its buffer zone.

Re. 4

World Heritage property

Four Domes Pavilion

The State Party notes that in the spring of 2013 renovation started as well as work aimed to return the Four Domes Pavilion to its original exhibition function. We also want to note that the first information on the very poor state of conservation of the Pavilion and plans for its restoration were provided during the Reactive Monitoring Mission in November 2011. Extensive information on the planned works was provided in report on the state of conservation. Further materials were also transmitted. In view of the deteriorating state of conservation of the monument and the risk of collapse (e.g. one of the domes was cracked), as reported previously, works started immediately after funds were received, in May 2013. The State Party also wants to point out that, after many years, the building will be converted back to its original function, with great care for the historic fabric and appearance of the interior of the Pavilion. The commencement of the project was preceded by comprehensive historical and conservation research which included a meticulous analysis of all original elements of the Pavilion. The adopted design for re-use of the building interferes to a minimum extent with the historic fabric and is of a reversible nature. The project will make it possible to obtain a sufficiently large usable space, which is an economic condition for the reverting the Four Domes Pavilion back to its historic exhibition function, which is so important in terms of restoration of the original concept and character of the entire exhibition grounds.

Underground car park

To complement the plans and information submitted previously, we enclose a translation of the assessment of the impact of the technological excavation on the structures adjacent to the underground car park development at the Centennial Hall in Wrocław. The assessment shows clearly that the works currently in progress do not pose a threat to the Centennial Hall, the Restaurant Pavilion, and the Pergola: The heavy earthworks stage of the project has now been completed. The works were monitored on a continuous basis and, as expected, they had no adverse impact on the existing buildings and structures.

What also requires clarification is the issue of location of the car park at a distance of 10m from the Centennial Hall Building. In the site development plan submitted, the so-called "investment boundary", i.e. the area covered by the design, is plotted at that distance, and

not the building line. In fact, the car park (the perimeter of the underground building) is situated 25 m from the nearest wall of the Hall. It is a distance that guarantees full safety of the Hall's structure while works are in progress.

The construction documentation of the underground car park does not include the design of above-ground structures to be built on top of the car park, as no such development is planned during the terms of the concession agreement (30 years).

We also want to explain once again that the area where the car park with two underground storeys is under construction has been used as a surface car park since World War II and it has never been part of Szczytnicki Park. The trees growing in the former park area were planted in contemporary times and were situated only at several points on narrow lawns separating the parking lot sectors.

Buffer Zone

WUWA Revitalisation

By letter of 17 May 2013, plans were sent to the World Heritage Centre for the revitalisation of the 1929 Wohnung und Werkraum Ausstellung (Dwelling and Workplace) exhibition complex. The planned works are aimed to revitalise the public space of the estate, with special focus on its historical character. The design process respects the rules of conservation as well as the authenticity and integrity of the site. As part of preparation for the above project, the former boiler house (built in the 1970s) was demolished. The building, which was deprived of its original function, did not form an integral part of the WUWA complex and was not subject to any protection whatsoever.

The project mentioned in the ICOMOS review as WUWA 2 is the newly designed model residential estate of Nowe Żerniki, implemented in the western part of Wrocław, the inspiration for its general concept, the 1929 "Dwelling and Workplace" exhibition. It is in no way related to the World Heritage site, its buffer zone and broadly-defined setting.

Re. 5

To complement the materials submitted previously, we enclose The development and management master plan of the Centennial Hall and its buffer zone together with graphical appendices.

Re. 6 Great Island Avenue

The State Party wants to reconfirm the decision of the Mayor of Wrocław of 13 October 2011 to design and construct a single-carriageway local street.

The proposed route will connect Krakowska St. with Mickiewicza St. as a single-carriageway Class Z road (1 x 2 collector road). The total width of the line intended to accommodate the carriageway, footways, cycleways, greenery and noise protection elements will be average approx. 25 m; main road length - approx. 3.5 km; traffic lane width - 3.5 m; footway width - 1.5-2.5 m; cycleway width - 2.0-3.0 m; lay-by width - 3.0-3.5 m; aggregate length of tram permanent way to be reconstructed - approx. 1 km. The proposed road will be closed to heavy vehicles except public transport and a 50 km/h speed limit will apply. All the above-mentioned parameters have been taken into account in compliance with the Polish law in the environmental decision and the Environmental Impact Assessment.

What is worth recalling is the fact that the road does not cross the site inscribed on the World Heritage List or its protection (buffer) zone. Only in its north-western part, the road

will run along the boundary of the buffer zone. The Eastern Bridge will be situated at a significant distance, outside the buffer zone, and it is additionally separated from the Hall by a building complex. Therefore, the proposed project does not pose a threat to the property inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List; on the contrary - it allows the buffer zone to be relieved of traffic, providing alternative access to the Great Island

The proposed road is not a part of the Wrocław Central Ring Road.

Road construction in the location concerned was planned in advance of the inscription of the Centennial Hall on the UNESCO World Heritage List (e.g. it was originally planned by Max Berg as early as 1919). It was confirmed by the materials enclosed to the nomination file.

Appendices:

1. The assessment of the impact of the technological excavation on the structures adjacent to the underground car park development at the Centennial Hall in Wrocław (+ polish version with illustrations.)
2. Visualisation of the above-ground part of the car park
3. Resolution of the Management Board of WP Hala Ludowa
4. Plan showing the distances of the car park from the Centennial Hall
5. Photograph of the car park area showing the actual tree population
6. Photographs of the boiler house on the WUWA complex
7. Location map of the Centennial Hall and the WUWA 2 project
8. The development and management master plan of the Centennial Hall and its buffer zone with four appendices (maps: App. 8a, 8b, 8c, 8d).
9. Location chart of the Centennial Hall and the Great Island Avenue relative to the ring roads